

Newsletter

Avoca Beach Public School

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Monday 18th October 2021

*Avoca Beach Public School is committed to providing a safe and caring environment where individuals are respectful, responsible and strive for their personal best.
Our innovative, collaborative and inclusive culture empowers and supports every learner.*

Dear Parents,

The best learning environment for students is in the classroom and we are looking forward to welcoming back our staff and students over the next two weeks. We know that while there will be excitement, there will also be some anxiety and uncertainty about being back together at school. The teachers have been working through a range of wellbeing resources over the past few weeks to prepare themselves to support the return to school for all students. They have also been involved in extra personal professional learning, to further understand and be better equipped to support students experiencing sadness, fear, anxiety and worry.

I have listed below, further updates from the Department of Education, to support families in understanding how the school will operate upon returning.

School attendance

All students should be at school on the date indicated for their year group, unless:

- they have a medical certificate which says they can't return to school due to a condition or illness
- they are currently unwell
- they have been asked by NSW Health to self-isolate.

Wellbeing

If you are worried that the impacts of COVID-19 or going back to face-to-face learning may be affecting your child's wellbeing, please discuss this with your child's teacher. You can find more information to help your child's wellbeing through the mental health and wellbeing resources on the department's website. <https://education.nsw.gov.au/parents-and-carers/wellbeing>

The website below also has some great resources and practical tips for how to talk with your child about adversity.

<https://emergingminds.com.au/resources/communicating-with-your-primary-school-age-child-during-adversity-or-tough-times/>

Physical Distancing

All adults must keep 1.5 metres distance from each other, including teachers and support staff, and parents and carers waiting outside the school grounds to collect children. Physical distancing between children in the same class is not required under the latest health guidelines. Mixing between class groups will be minimised and students will be supported to follow strict hygiene practices like:

- regularly washing hands
- not sharing drinks or food
- coughing or sneezing into their elbow, or else using a tissue which should be put in the bin straight away
- filling water bottles from bubblers rather than using the bubbler directly.

School Cleaning & Hygiene Supplies

Schools will continue to receive additional cleaning in line with advice from NSW Health. Schools have received extra supplies of soap, hand sanitiser, toilet paper, paper towels, disinfectant wipes and personal protective equipment and can order more as needed.

Visitors

Only essential visitors are allowed on school sites at this time. When dropping off or picking up your child, parents and carers need to stay outside school grounds and continue to physically distance.

Responding to COVID-19 cases

Where there is a case of COVID-19 in the school community, the department has established systems and protocols with NSW Health to manage and respond accordingly to keep our staff and students safe. These protocols include communication with parents or carers if their child has been in contact with someone who has tested positive to COVID-19 while at school or if the school becomes closed.

If the school becomes closed due to a COVID-19 case

Parents and students will be notified when a decision is made to make the school closed for onsite attendance due to a confirmed case of COVID-19 or other events that require the school to close. Information about the operational status of the school will be distributed through the school's information channels, including the school website, School App, school email distribution list and the department's website. During this period, the school will continue to provide learning activities for your child to do at home and will communicate with you about their learning. Parents and students will be informed by the department when the school is ready to resume onsite learning.

Drop off

If dropping students from cars at our kiss and drop area, please remain in your car and move from the kiss and drop area as soon as possible.

If walking with your child, please drop them at the front gate. Parents are unable to come onto the school grounds at this point in time.

Before School Morning Routine

Supervision of students begins at 9am. Upon arrival at school, Kindergarten and Year 1 students should put school bags at their classroom and then go straight to the bottom playground area. Year 2 will also do this, starting from Monday 25th October.

Students in Yrs 2 – 6, who must attend school due to families being unable to support working from home, should put bags at their classroom and then go straight to the top playground. Teachers will be placed around the school grounds to meet students and direct them to the correct area.

Uniforms

It is now time to wear the summer uniform. We understand that some of our students may have grown out of this and are waiting for new uniforms. The uniform shop is starting to operate again and we will try to get uniforms out as soon as possible. We completely understand if students are not in full uniform for the first few weeks.

Canteen

The canteen will not start operation again until Monday 25th October.

Pick up

Kiss & Drop- Please do not arrive for collection at kiss and drop before 3.20pm. Display your surname place card in the windscreen (let the office know if you need a replacement) so we can get your child ready for pick up and make collection as fast as possible.

Bottom Gates- Please remain outside the school gates and adhere to physical distancing guidelines. Teachers will be there to dismiss the students.

Bus- Students will line up in their stage groups at the normal location.

Wall of Fame

I am so proud to announce this week’s students for the wall of fame. Matilda Coleman, Matilda Harvey and Violette Wolters were acknowledged by Surf Lifesaving NSW and local media last month for their quick thinking and bravery when they rescued a man caught in a rip at Avoca Beach. This is such an amazing achievement for these 3 girls, who showed maturity and skills beyond their years, and we could not be prouder of them. It is great to see all that nipper training paying off too.



<https://www.surflifesaving.com.au/news/young-trio-behind-brave-avoca-beach-rescue>

Ben Thomas
Principal

Quote of the Week

“We rise by lifting others.” – Robert Ingersoll

Congratulations to the students who received Merit Awards.

KH	Max Farrell, Ruby Ramsay	3S	Oliver Blakely, Mackenzie Cruikshanks Finn
KJ	Sol Rolph, Olivia Adamson	3/4T	Abigail Armytage, Payton Arnold
KT	Lucy O’Brien, Thomas Grace	4B	Rosie Williams, Soraya Mathieson
K/1B	Henry Viles, Estella Filo	4J	Ella Williams, Ava Knight
1G	Leni Zimmer, Alexis Sedgwick	5F	Cooper Thomson, Poppy Hilton-Foster
1R	Hamish Peterson, Pippa Blakely	5M	Ollie McDonald, Cohen Jones
1/2C	Elijah Hanson, Bonnie Hurrell	5/6D	Callum Krumm, Brianna Haydon
2D	Phoebe McKinnon, Kingsley Boyle	6A	Josh Lyons, Khloe Richmond
2W	Stevie Fraser, Ryan Bradshaw	6M	Omeo Armytage, Jasper Bennett
3B	Lachy, Eda Portelli		



Hi everyone, I hope you are all enjoying some new freedoms and have come out of (or almost come out of) home schooling and lock down relatively unscathed. 2020 and 2021 have been testing years for us all, remember to take the time to look after yourself.

P&C Fundraising and initiatives

This year the P&C have been able to fund some amazing projects at the School, we have funded \$3,000 for decodable readers for K-2's, \$1,000 for new singlets for our sporting teams and contributed \$5,000 towards the resurfacing of the basketball court which will make it safer for our children.

Also watch this space regarding some very exciting developments to our K-2 playground!

Another initiative the P&C have put in place is to provide each of our hardworking teachers with some funds to help them to purchase much needed equipment for their classrooms. Our incredible teachers at the School quite often spend money from their own pockets on things they use to help teach our children, and it's something that hasn't gone unnoticed, and thanks to the great suggestion from Paula Jamal, we are giving each of our teachers \$500 to spend on creating amazing spaces and learning environments to inspire and help our children be the best they can be. Never has there been a more important time to be thankful to our amazing teachers' staff at ABPS. Teachers, your vouchers will be coming your way very soon!

We couldn't do all of this without our wonderful families at Avoca supporting our fundraising endeavours, and of course without the dedication of our P&C members, who work so hard and tirelessly for our wonderful School. Thank you to everyone involved.

School Uniform

Following feedback from parents and discussions with the school and the P&C, we are reviewing the ABPS uniform.

Please take the time to complete the survey (it takes less than 2 minutes), your feedback is important to us implementing potential change and is the best way of ensuring you have your say. The link can be found [here](#).

Canteen

A reminder that the canteen will be back up and running on Monday, 25th October when all students return. The canteen will be operating a limited menu, with **no** counter service, to comply with COVID safe regulations. At this stage we are asking for no volunteers in the canteen.

I look forward to bringing you more P&C news in the coming months.

Laura Day

Email: avocabeachpandc@gmail.com

Ph: 0432 015 588

AVOCA BEACH NIPPERS IS BACK!

START DATE SUNDAY, 31ST OCTOBER.

REGISTRATION OPEN ONLINE

USING THE PROCESS BELOW

OR COME DOWN TO THE SURFCLUB THIS FRIDAY NIGHT (22nd Oct.)

4-6PM

AND WE WILL HELP.

HOW TO REGISTER
A STEP BY STEP, INTERACTIVE GUIDE

MEMBERS & NEW MEMBERS

MEMBERS

EXISTING? **LOG IN**

NEW? **JOIN** [Click here to join](#)

- Click Renewal Membership for Family Group
- Review Family Group Members
- Add New Member if necessary*
- Tick all names you wish to renew
- Click Declaration
- Submit

- Add family members, start with each adult (>18 yrs old) and then add children
- Once all members have been added click 'Next: Add Contact Details, Click Next'
- Summary Page - check details and add Preferred Username and Password
- Click Declaration & Submit

MAKE A PAYMENT

Type in the number from your voucher

REGISTRATION COMPLETE!

Notes:

- * Kids will be listed as separate payments (\$100 per child)
- * Parents/guardians: if you're not a patrol member add a membership payment line for both parents (add both parents to the line) for \$100 total
- * If you're a patrol member please add a line for payment for your status & add your name (see list below)
- * Add extra payment line for 2nd adult & add the 2nd name. If you're not patrol member the cost will be \$50
- * Once you've entered all payment lines follow the prompts and make payment

Costs
\$100 per child (7-15 yrs). Does not include carnivals
\$100 (total) for 2 parents/guardians (non-patrol members)

Patrol Members
\$40 - Covid Discount for Patrol Members*
\$40 - Covid Discount on 100% attendance/33 hrs**
\$50 - 2nd adult cost if not a patrol member
*if you receive an email



High Performing Students Team

Placement in selective high schools for Year 7 entry in **2023** Information for applicants

Thinking of applying for a government selective high school for Year 7 in 2023?

You must apply online at:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7>



Key Dates

Application website opens:
19 October 2021

Application website closes:
17 November 2021
You must apply before this date.

Test centre and test authority advice released:
24 February 2022

Selective High School placement test:
10 March 2022

Placement outcome expected to be released:
8 July 2022

Please read this booklet carefully before applying.

There may be changes to the procedures in this document.

Check the website at education.nsw.gov.au/shs-oc regularly for updates throughout the application and placement process.

Please check the website for information before you contact the Team.

After applying, you will be able to log into your application dashboard to change details and send and receive messages.

The Selective High Schools placement process for Year 7 entry is administered by the High Performing Students Team. It is referred to as 'the Team' in this document.

Contact Details:

High Performing Students Team, NSW Department of Education
<https://education.nsw.gov.au>
 Telephone: 1300 880 367
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/772251106301086/>