



# AVOCA BEACH PUBLIC SCHOOL

*Providing opportunities and success in a caring, safe environment*

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## Stage One 2022 Newsletter - Term 1

7th February, 2022

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to a new school year! Thank you for your support during the first week of term. It can take a little time to confirm numbers and classes but we managed to do this by Wednesday morning and the students were building relationships and routines throughout the remainder of the week.

All teachers at ABPS are focused on building and maintaining a positive culture inside and outside of our classrooms. The Stage will meet regularly to ensure that there is a network of people that the students can go to at any time. We will also work collaboratively to plan, implement and review teaching programs and assessments. This year Mrs Coleman will be working with the Stage to relieve teachers so that they can continue to undergo professional learning and develop best practice.

### **Our Stage One Classes and teachers for this year are:**

1M - Mr Angus McBride

1R - Miss Gabrielle Remy

1G - Mrs Emma Gould

2A - Mrs Donna Ayton

2M - Mr Brett MacDonald

2D - Ms Roxanne Davies

### **Parent Information Evening**

Unfortunately, due to current restrictions a physical parent information session will be unable to go ahead this term. As a substitute, Stage 1 are currently putting together a presentation that will be made available to all families. This presentation will go through each of the Key Learning Areas and provide you with some clarity as to what will be covered and how it is done in the classroom. We understand that this doesn't allow for any questions that you may have to be answered. Communication is important so if you have information that you would like to share or you are uncertain of something please email the school or call to make a time for the class teacher or myself to call you back. An interview can be arranged at an alternative time.

### **Sport / PE Times**

On Wednesday Stage 1 students will engage in fitness/ fundamental movement skills. Sport day will be Fridays. Ideally students will wear shoes and uniform that allow them to participate in comfort and with confidence.

## **Home Reading / Homework**

Home reading programs and homework will commence in Week 3 (14/2/22). We encourage every student to read or be read to each night when possible. Physical books can be taken home or a digital book can be accessed using PM readers. By offering both options it will give families the flexibility to choose. It is perfectly fine to read the same text throughout the week. This allows students to gain confidence and fluency.

Home reading should be a pleasurable thing to do. Students should be able to read the text with relative fluency. If you have concerns please contact your child's teacher.

## **Communication**

Open, honest and regular communication is important in any relationship. The relationship between home and school is no different. If you have any concerns or would like to celebrate an achievement, please contact your child's class teacher as the first port of call. As the Stage supervisor, I am also available to assist you in any way that I can.

At the conclusion of Term 1, a parent/ teacher interview will be offered. As communication is a two-way responsibility, teachers will proactively contact you throughout the year to recognise strengths and areas for improvement.

## **Positive Behaviour for Learning**

Embedded in our school culture is a commitment to building respect, responsibility and personal best. It is these traits that underpin our school values, not just for our students but for all staff and the school community. This term the focus will be on respect. Each week there will be an explicit learning opportunity within the classroom. 'Stellars' will be handed out to students in the classroom and playground for demonstrating the school values. In the event that a student's behaviour doesn't reflect the value, they will be supported by their teacher or an executive member of staff to manage future situations. If this occurs, you will be contacted and will be an important part of the resolution.

## **House Families**

House families is an initiative that will continue this year. The aim is to develop a strong sense of belonging for all students, staff and community. Building authentic and genuine connections across the school is embedded in our school plan. Each Monday afternoon (beginning this week) 'families' will gather outdoors to engage in activities designed to promote positive wellbeing and belonging.

We look forward to the year ahead and the many and varied opportunities and experiences we will share with your children.

Regards

Roxanne Davies  
Assistant Principal