

ALEXANDRIA PARK
COMMUNITY SCHOOL
Community Opportunity Success



Yarramundi



Alexandria Park Community School is on Cadigal Land



Yarramundi

Alexandria Park Community School is on Cadigal Land.

We would like to acknowledge and pay respect to the Cadigal people of the Eora nation, the traditional owners of the land on which we teach and learn. We acknowledge their living culture and their unique role in the life of this region. We would also like to pay respect to elders past, present, and emerging.

In Gomberee, the language of the Cadigal people, the word Yarramundi (yarra'-mu-ndi) means flowing mouth which is an analogy for story telling or a story teller. We name our newsletter Yarramundi as it tells the stories of Alex Park as we progress through each school year. Yarramundi also means amphitheater or a place where stories are told. This is why we have named the gathering space in the primary playground Yarramundi.

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School Calendar

23 September.....	High School Tour
24 September.....	Year 12 Graduation Ceremony
26 September.....	Last Day of School
14 October.....	First Day Back at School
15 October.....	Year 12 Kick Start Program
21 October.....	High School Tour
21 October.....	Year 7 Geography Excursion
23 October.....	Year 6 Fun Day Out Luna Park
28 October.....	Primary School Tour
29 October.....	Kindy Orientation 2026
30 October.....	Year 6 Fundraising

Principal's Report



As we approach the end of Term 3, I would like to acknowledge the continued dedication of our teachers in supporting every student to achieve their personal best. Our commitment is to continue to maintain engaging learning environments to promote academic and wellbeing results.

Across the school, students are developing essential skills in critical thinking, collaboration, and creativity. Teachers are working closely with students to personalise their learning and ensure high expectations are consistently met. We encourage families to have meaningful conversations about learning goals, challenges, and successes.

To maintain a focused and supportive learning environment, students are reminded that mobile phones must be switched off and put away during the school day. This policy enhances student wellbeing, encourages positive social interactions, and supports effective learning. We appreciate your continued support in reinforcing this expectation at home.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our dedicated Year 12 teachers for guiding our senior students through their final year of schooling and preparing them for the upcoming HSC exams. Our Year 12 cohort has demonstrated creativity, determination and talent across a range of subjects

and I commend them on the completion of their major works in Music, Design & Technology, Visual Arts, and Society & Culture and wish them every success in their exams.

We are looking forward to celebrating the achievements of our Year 12 students at the Graduation Ceremony on 24 September. We warmly invite all Year 12 families to join us for this significant milestone.

This term, we also acknowledged the incredible contributions of our School Administrative and Support (SASS) staff. Their commitment, care and hard work make a huge difference to the daily life of our school. We thank them for all they do.



Looking ahead, we have begun a supported transition program for our incoming 2026 Kindergarten cohort. Our team is excited to welcome new families and will be hosting three orientation sessions to help our youngest learners feel confident and connected as they start their school journey.

If you have not yet enrolled your child, or know families who are planning to join our school community, please visit the APCS website or contact our administration team to begin the Kindy enrolment process.

Additionally, we are preparing for our Year 7 2026 cohort and have scheduled school tours. We will release information

about Year 7 activities by the end of this term.

Thank you for your continued support in making Alexandria Park Community School a place of excellence in both learning and wellbeing. We are proud of the strong partnerships we share with our families and look forward to a positive and productive end to the term.

Debra Lade
Principal



Aboriginal Education Officers



Auntie Deb Daley



Uncle Hilton Donovan

NAIDOC Week

The last week of Term 2 was full of events and celebrations. We celebrated 2025 NAIDOC week through honouring this year's NAIDOC theme "The Next Generation: Strength, Vision & Legacy". Students and staff welcomed their parents, carers, guardians and elders for the event.

We are very proud of all the students and staff who put in such hard work preparing for the day. Their presentations and performances were amazing.



**THE NEXT
GENERATION:
STRENGTH,
VISION &
LEGACY**
6-13 JULY 2025

Ancestral Lines by Jeremy Morgan Worrall

This artwork is a visual representation of the generational lines that carry through my mob. When I think of the next generation, I think towards my ancestors—Lucy Wright, Enoch Wright, Nonie Wright—through to my Nanna Audrie and my Mother Vanessa. Looking back gives me the strength and vision to look forward. Each figure in the painting is tied to family lines, like songlines, reflecting what they knew and what they passed on. The first represents lore, hunting, and tracking. The second reflects care, weaving, and love. The third shows the two combined, while the final two carry unfinished elements—symbols of knowledge and care in motion. Above them sits the essence of Country—swirling skies and a giant moon over Emmaville. It is by the fire, under these cool skies, where the next generation finds their strength, vision, and legacy.



Aboriginal Flag designed by Mr Harold Thomas. Torres Strait Islander Flag reproduced by kind permission of the Torres Strait Island Regional Council, designed by the late Mr Bernard Namook.

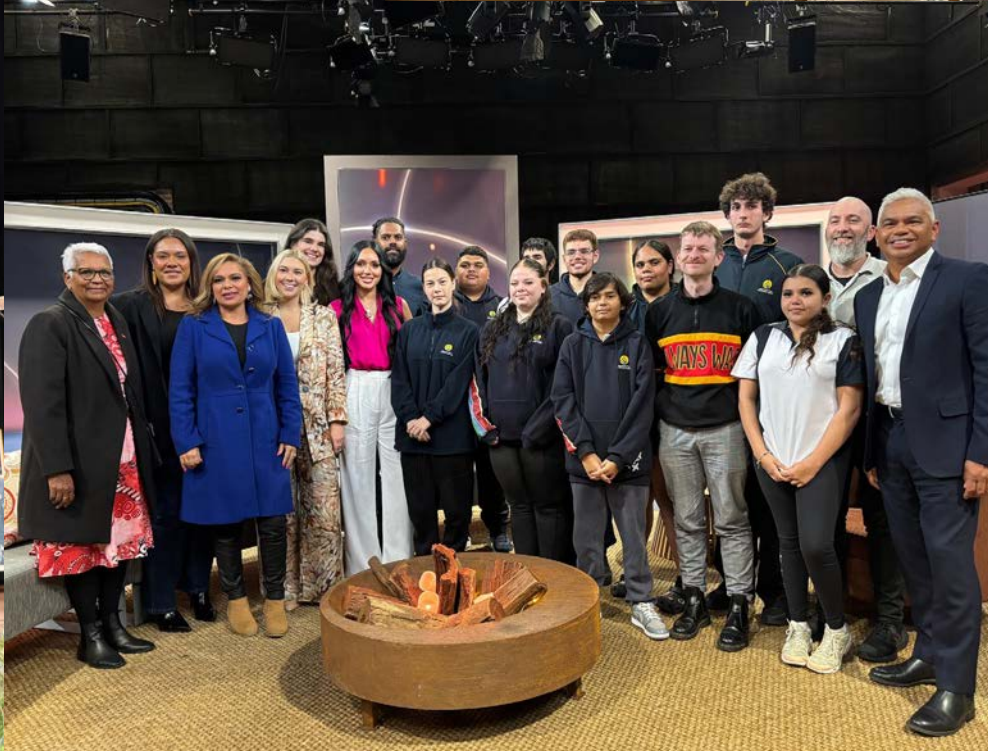
#NAIDOC2025

#BLAKLOUDPROUD

@naidocweek

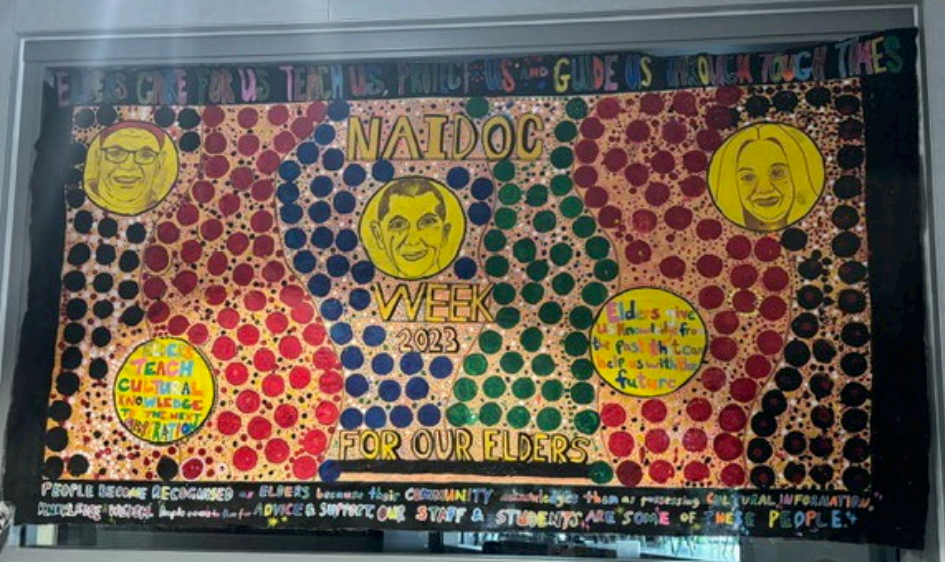
@naidocweek

facebook.com/NAIDOC









The Next Generation: Strength, Vision & Legacy





A large, colorful, circular artwork featuring many small, circular images and patterns. The artwork is displayed on a wall, and it is made up of many small, circular pieces that are arranged in a larger circular pattern. The pieces include various images, such as people, animals, and nature, as well as abstract patterns and designs. The artwork is a central feature of the display, symbolizing unity, diversity, and community.





NAPLAN Results

Reading and Numeracy are our focal points in our school plan, and we are pleased that the 2025 NAPLAN results are showing success in both the Primary and High school these areas.

PRIMARY SCHOOL RESULTS

Year 3

In Year 3, 86% of students were in the Exceeding or Strong section for Reading. In Numeracy we had 86% also in the top category of Exceeding or Strong and this represented a 25% increase from our 2024 results.

Year 5

In Year 5 NAPLAN Reading we had 83% of students in the Exceeding or Strong category which was a rise of

11% from 2024.

In Year 5 Spelling was a fantastic result in NAPLAN with 47.6 % of students scoring in the “Exceeding” domain. In Year 3 we were 4.9 points above the state average in Spelling.

In Numeracy we had 81% in the Exceeding or Strong category which represented a 3.5% rise from 2024.

HIGH SCHOOL RESULTS

Year 9

APCS is proud of our excellent results in

Numeracy NAPLAN 2025.

Our cohort of 123 students in Year 9 scored 24.6 points above the state average and those demonstrating top results in “Exceeding” numeracy proficiency has grown 7% from 2024.

In Reading 61% of our students are in the Exceeding or strong category.

Year 7

In Numeracy we have 58% of student in the top categories of Exceeding or strong and In Reading 52% in the same top categories.

Primary Deputy Principal News



As we approach the end of what has been an exceptionally busy Term 3, we want to take a moment to reflect on all the hard work, achievements, and exciting activities that have kept students engaged in their learning. From enriching classroom projects and extra-curricular activities to important assessments and community events, this term has been filled with opportunities for learning and growth.

We are incredibly proud of the dedication shown by our students. This includes completing important assessments, which are a key part of their learning journey. Our Year 1 students completed the 'Year 1 Phonics Screening

Check', which assesses how students blend sounds together to read a word. The 'Check-in assessment' was also completed by all students in Years 3-6. This assessment involves literacy and numeracy components and a writing test for Year 6 students. Whilst these tests offer only a 'snapshot' of student learning, they complement in-class assessment and assist teachers to target areas of improvement.

In addition to academic achievements, we've loved seeing our students show keen sportsmanship during recent athletics carnivals and PSSA competitions. Their teamwork, respect, and positive attitude both on and off the field really show the values we care about

in our school community. We had an impressive 48 students competing at the zone athletics carnival this year, which must be a record!

Thanks to all the families for your ongoing support throughout this bustling term. Your encouragement plays a vital role in our school community's success. We look forward to a well-deserved break and an equally exciting final term ahead.

David Olsen,
Primary Deputy Principal

Paul Keevers,
Primary Deputy Principal

Primary News

Early Stage 1

Kindergarten

Kindergarten have had an exciting start to the term. Term 3 is one of our favourites with the exploration of The Farm unit. It's such a delight to see the children gain a greater understanding in caring for animals as they experience The Hatching Chicks program.

Students have observed eggs incubate over several days and hatch into either ducks or chickens. Students have been learning how to care for animals with gentle handling and providing clean water, food and a safe and warm shelter. Students

have been learning about products produced by different types of farms and have role-played and read books about this in the play area. The Farm has also provided an inspiration to some of the student's writing and artwork.

Students have also been furthering their understanding of number concepts. They have been using teddy bears and other concrete materials to practice addition and subtraction problems. All students can be very proud of their progress.

Stage 1

Years 1 & 2

Stage One students had a fantastic time dressing up for the Book Week parade, showing off their creative costumes despite the event being nearly rained out. Their excitement and enthusiasm were truly infectious, bringing a joyful atmosphere to the day.

The students were also thoroughly entertained by an engaging author talk with Kate and Jol Temple, the talented writers of Bin Chickens, which added an inspiring and memorable highlight to the celebrations.

The Farm has provided an inspiration to some of the Kindergarten student's writing and artwork.





The Hatching Chicks program gives children a greater understanding in caring for animals.



Stage 1 students were thoroughly entertained by an engaging author talk with Kate and Jol Temple.



Primary News

Stage 2

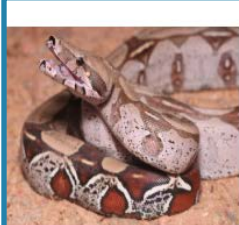
Years 3 & 4

This term Stage 2 have been learning about rainforests, including the classification of animals and life cycles of living things. We have been reading information texts to gather information and writing reports about rainforest animals. The students have been working hard to use all the text and language features of informative texts in their own writing. The teachers are all very impressed by the quality of the students' writing. Well done Stage 2!

Can you spot the following features in these excellent writing samples?

- Technical vocabulary (scientific words)
- Compound sentences (two ideas joined with words like and or but)
- Complex sentences (an extra idea added to a sentence using words like although, since, after, when, while)
- Different sentence starters and pronoun references to make the writing interesting

Can you spot the listed writing features in the student examples below?



by:D'annam
Introduction

Boas are fearless animals that play an important role in the world's environment. These informative paragraphs tell you about their amazing lives.



Animal: tarantula

By:Malcolm



Classification

Tarantula are arachnids, which means they have eight legs. They're hundreds of species of tarantule in the world, which is a lot. Tarantule are very large spiders.

Size and appearance

Tarantule have a leg span of 8-30cm, and are quite big. The average tarantule size is 12.069cm ,and 1.36078kg. These deadly creatures can rub their back legs against their abdomen, and fling hair into the opponents eyes blinding them.

Habitat and Lifestyle

They are alive for only up to thirty years, which isn't that long. Tarantules live in tropical and subtropical desert regions. These amazing creatures are found around borders of AUS and africa

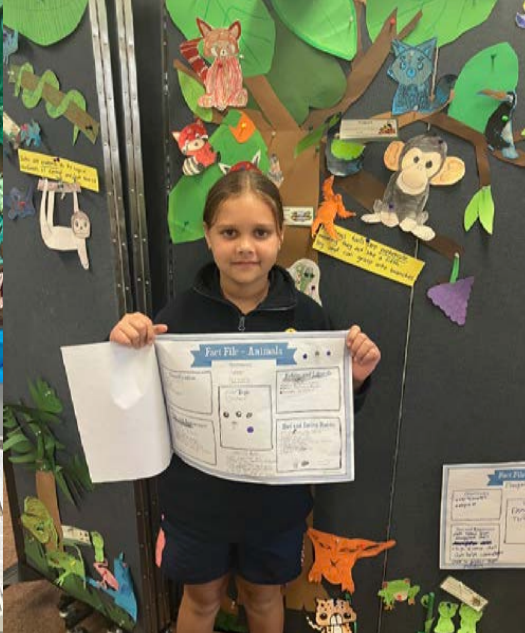
Classification

Boas are non-venomous reptiles that live up to twenty to thirty five years. There are over forty known species of them and they fit into the *Family Boidae*.

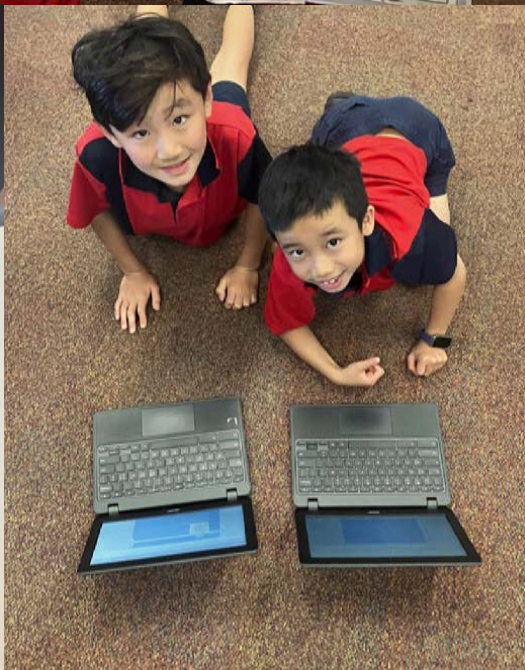
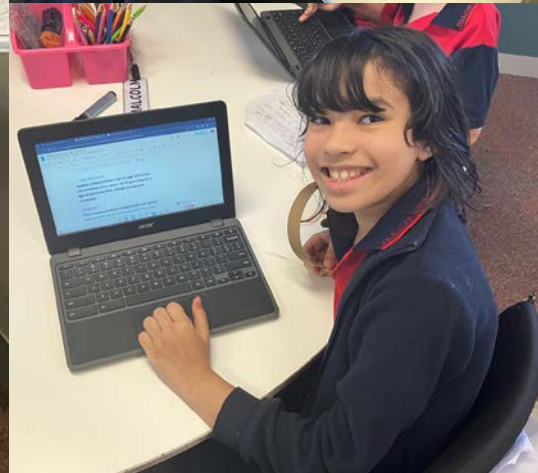
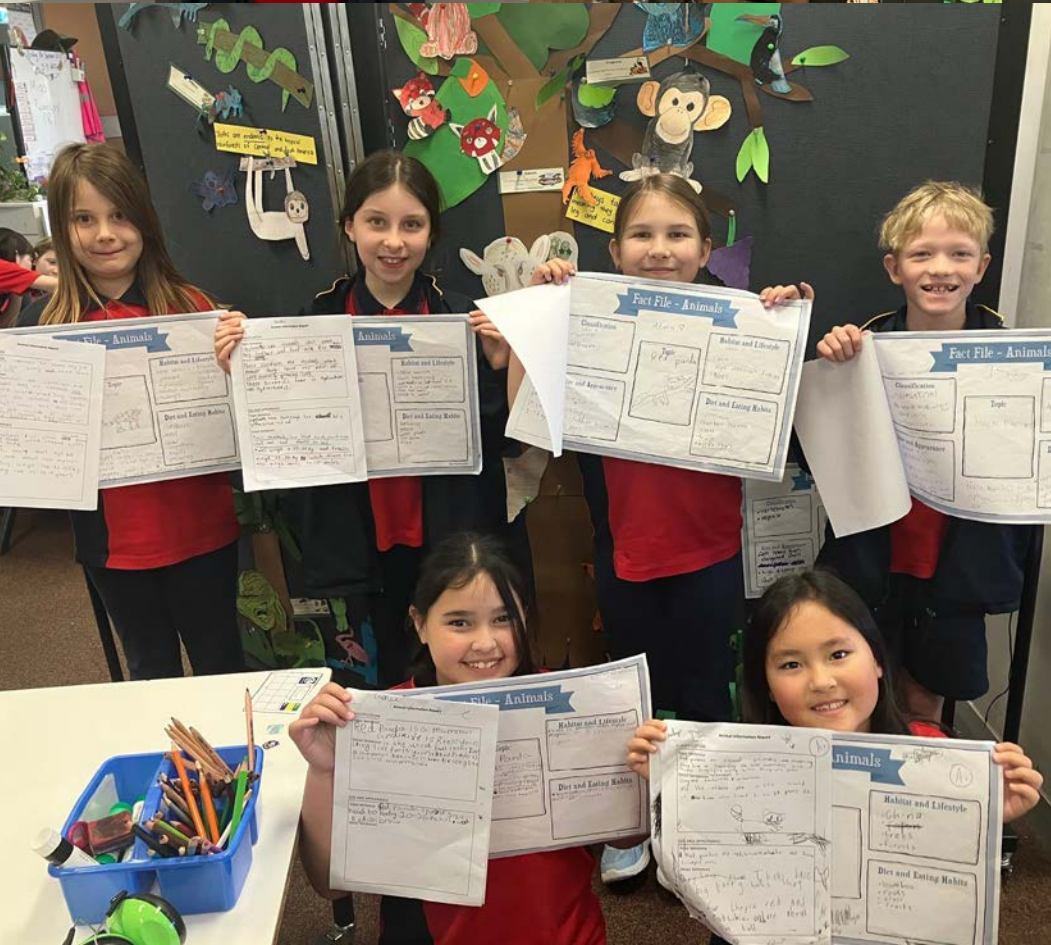
What makes them a boa is that they have two hind limbs.
Anacondas also fits in the *Family Boidae*.

Appearance and Size

Boas are large, muscular snakes with an arrow shaped head. They usually have dull scales with blotches of brown, cream or grey. These cool reptiles weigh between ten and fifteen kilograms, but females are usually heavier than males. Male boas grow up to be 1.8-2.4 metres, while females grow up to be 2.1-3.0 metres long.



Our Stage 2 students have been learning about rainforests, animal classifications, and life cycles.



Primary News

Stage 3

Years 5 & 6

Stage 3 students have been exploring portraiture in Visual Arts this term, developing their continuous line drawings into drypoint etchings. Scratching lines into a plastic plate, the students then pushed the ink into the drawn texture.

On an etching press the ink is transferred onto dampened paper with striking results.

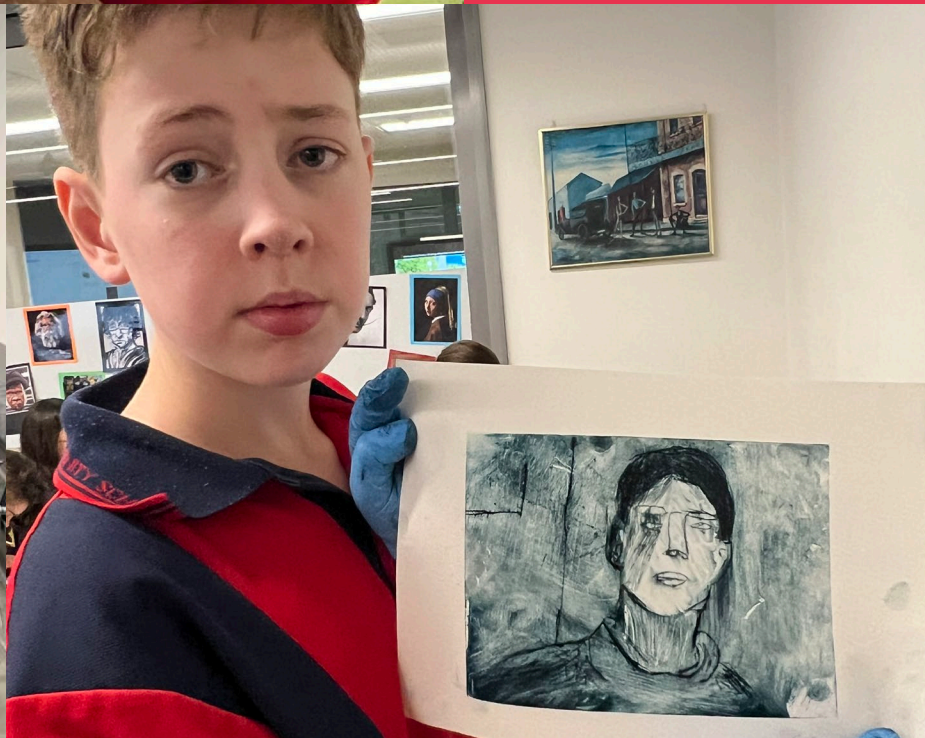
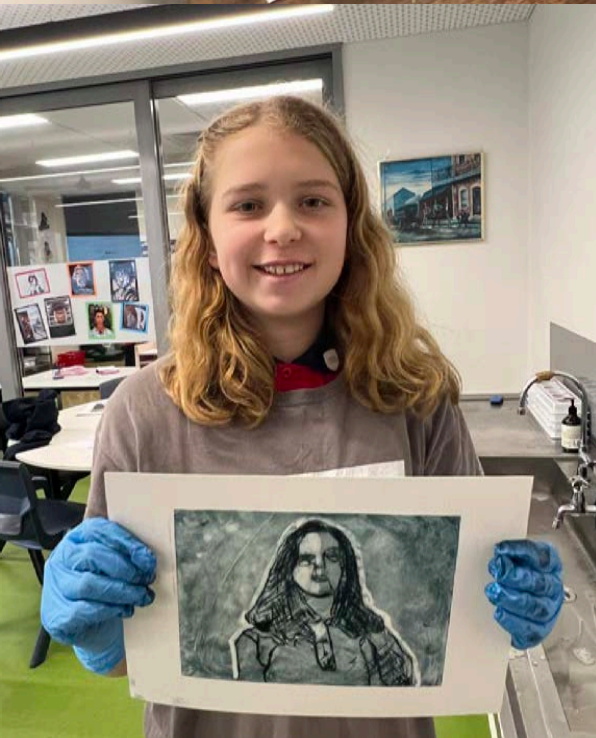


Students have been developing their continuous line drawings into drypoint etchings.





Stage 3 students have been exploring portraiture in Visual Arts this term.



Primary News

Primary Support Unit

It's been a busy and exciting term in the Primary Support Unit!

Our students have been actively engaged in a variety of learning experiences across the classroom and during specialist lessons such as library, music, and kitchen garden.

In kitchen garden lessons, students have loved spending time in the Maani, feeding the chickens and observing their behaviours up close. They've also been getting hands-on with fresh ingredients, making delicious guacamole and enjoying it with crackers for a healthy, tasty treat.

A highlight of the term was visiting the high school science lab, where students explored fun experiments with Ms Phillipa, sparking

curiosity and enthusiasm for science. They also participated in the Athletics Carnival, where they had the chance to run in races, show off their skills, cheer on their classmates, and enjoy being part of the school's sporting community.

We're so proud of the learning, teamwork, and joyful experiences our students have shared this term!



Our Support Unit students have loved spending time in the Maani, feeding the chickens and observing their behaviours.



Students had the chance to run in races and show off their skills at the Athletics Carnival.



Primary News

Library

Yakka Taka Primary School Library

There were strong winds and horizontal rain at this year's Book Week celebrations. What an incredible adventure we've all shared!

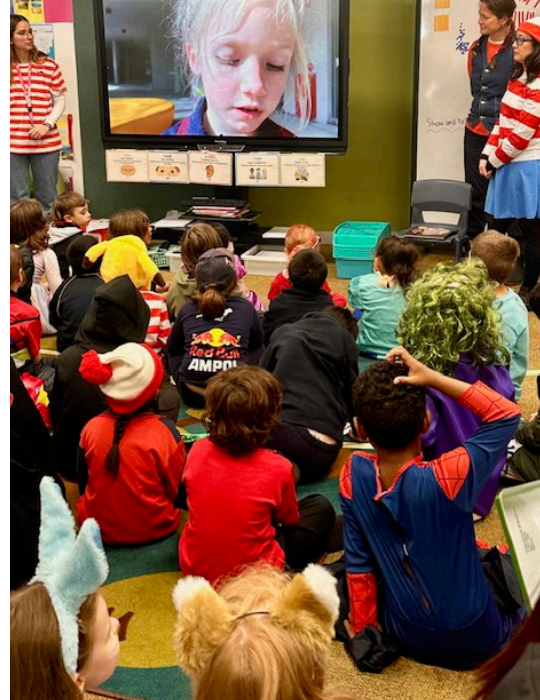
Our Book Week Authors Kate and Jol Temple entertained students and teachers. Warning - photos contain a giant undie sling shot.

We had 51 Where's Wally Characters at school for our Book Week Parade this year! Congratulations to our winners for finding and counting them all: 2W Elliot S; 3/4K Ezekiel S; 5E Elisha L; 3/4P Asher R and 3/4P Michelle O.

Thank you so much to our Book Fair parent and staff volunteers. Their incredible warm service to our school community, whilst surrounded by freezing

conditions, was a highlight of this year's Book Week. We had \$2171 in sales and our school has raised \$543 in commission to spend on Scholastic Products. We are most grateful.

Every single one of you has made this Book Week parade special. Thank you. Remember, the adventure doesn't end here - keep reading, keep exploring, and keep discovering new worlds through books.



What an incredible Book Week we've all shared this year!



We had 51
Where's Wally
Characters at
school for our
Book Week
Parade this year!



Primary News

Science Week

Primary School enjoyed Science Week with activities prepared and hosted by our High School Leaders.

Year 1 and 2 students tested how liquid can travel upwards through string and paper, as their experiment produced beautiful rainbows across two petri dishes.

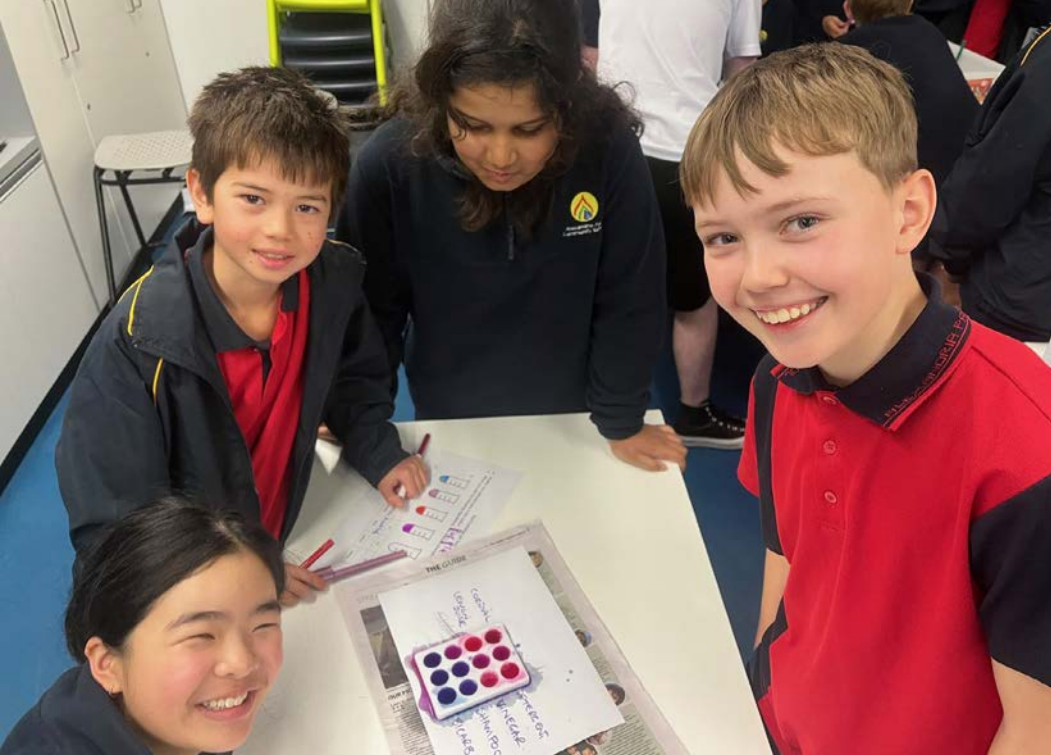
The leaders engaged Year 5 students in an experiment to make a PH indicator with cabbage juice to show the base and acidity of everyday products including dishwashing liquid, lemon juice and soap. With the safe and clear directions from the senior students, the younger students successfully achieved the colour changes indicative on the PH scale.

For Year 6, the students prepared Obleck by combining cornstarch and water, which resulted in it being both a liquid when poured and a solid when force was applied.

Students enjoyed learning together with the high school mentors through the carefully prepared scientific experiments. Great collaboration from K-12 at APCS.



Students enjoyed learning together during the K-12 Science Week collaboration.



Year 5 students made a PH indicator with cabbage juice to show the base and acidity of everyday products.





High School Deputy Principal News

We'd like to take the opportunity to share some highlights from across our school and acknowledge the fantastic efforts of our High School students and staff over this term..

YEAR 12 TRIAL EXAMS – WELL DONE!

A huge congratulations to our Year 12 students who have recently completed their Trial HSC Examinations. These exams serve as both a benchmark and a vital preparation tool ahead of the final HSC exams. I encourage all students to reflect on their performance, identify any knowledge gaps, and refine their study strategies. With focus and determination, this final stretch can be a

period of great personal growth and academic achievement.

SPORTING SUCCESS AND CELEBRATION

We continue to see outstanding participation and spirit across our sporting programs at APCS:

- **Year 8 Gala Day**
Congratulations to the PDHPE Department, led by Head Teacher Mrs Baker, for organising a vibrant and energetic Gala Day. Our Year 8 students had the opportunity to compete in a variety of sports against our partner schools in the zone — a fantastic day that celebrated teamwork,

school spirit, and healthy competition.

- **NSW U16 Basketball School Cup**
A special congratulations to all our Basketball squads, coached by Mr Guinness and Mr Cutts. All Alexandria Park teams fought their way into the Grand Finals — an incredible achievement! Our Girls team emerged victorious in a close contest, while our Boys teams played valiantly and just fell short. A big thank you to Mr Sharp and Mrs Kasz for their coaching and ongoing support of our teams.

The continued high levels of student participation in sport speak to our



school's commitment to the holistic development of our students — mind, body, and character.

HSIE FIELDWORK EXCURSION – YEAR 7

Our HSIE Department, led by Head Teacher Ms Padovan took our Year 7 students on an excursion to The Rocks as part of their upcoming assessment task. This fieldwork provides a valuable real-world learning experience and helps students make deeper connections with the history and geography they study in class. We hope all students enjoyed the day and took full advantage of the opportunity.

HSC MAJOR WORKS – TAS FACULTY

Congratulations to our TAS Faculty, led by Mr Viegas, and our Year 12 students who have now finalised their HSC major projects. These works represent countless hours of planning, designing, building, and refining, and are a true reflection of each student's dedication and creativity. Their projects will now be assessed by NESA-appointed markers, and we wish them all the very best.

YEAR 12 MUSIC SOIRÉE

We had the pleasure of attending the Year 12 Music Soirée on Monday, 1st September — a truly inspiring event that showcased the exceptional

musical talents of our graduating class. The evening offered a wonderful preview of what's to come in their HSC performances. Congratulations to Ms Winfield for her leadership and best wishes to all of our Music students in their final assessments.



High School Deputy Principal News

Reminder: APCS is a Phone-Free Learning Environment

We'd also like to remind all students, parents, and carers that Alexandria Park Community School is a mobile phone-free environment – Gate to Gate. This means phones must be locked in pouches from the moment students enter the school gates until the moment students exit the school gates.

This policy plays a vital role in fostering a focused, safe, and respectful learning environment. Not only does it reduce classroom distractions, but it also improves social interactions and helps combat bullying.

Some of our expectations and questions you may have about our policy:

Please note that the school mobile phone policy serves at all times and in all circumstances, unless granted an exemption via an exemption form which is approved by a Deputy Principal or Principal.

Some further clarity around some common responses can be found below:

1. ***'I need to call my parents or, my parents called me'***
Students are given opportunities to use a school office phone in the

event of an emergency, in addition, Parents / Carers may also phone the school office and request to see or speak to their child in an event of an emergency.

2. ***'I need to use my debit card to buy food at the canteen'***

The school has instructed the canteen not to accept tap methods from mobile phones, students may use a debit card, or have an account opened. In addition, students may also access the food pantry or ask for a canteen voucher.

3. ***'Okay, Okay, I'll just put my phone away'***

When a student is seen with a phone, students must comply with instructions by all School staff, they are to submit their phone to the phone locker and follow the mobile phone flowchart.

4. ***'I need to check my timetable'***

Under no circumstances are students to access their phone, even if trying to refer to their timetable, they may ask any staff member or the Jenla office who may print them out a new timetable

We ask for your continued support in reinforcing this message at home and helping us maintain a productive and respectful school culture.

Thank you again to our incredible staff, students, and supportive parent community. Your commitment and involvement help us deliver a rich and meaningful educational experience for all our learners.

Steven Marcos,
Deputy Principal

Jessica Garcia,
Relieving Deputy Principal

<u>Expectation</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Benefits</u>
Phones locked in pouches or not brought to school	Phones must be either locked away in pouches or not brought to School.	Reduces distractions during lessons.
Phones submitted to phone locker and parents / carers called	Students seen using phones during school hours will be required abide by the school phone policy .	Deters misuse and encourages accountability.
Improved Learning Environment	Overall aim is reduced distraction and increased engagement.	Boosts academic performance and wellbeing.

High School News

Mathematics

Mathematics Faculty News

This term has been an exciting one for the Mathematics Department, with students across all year groups engaging in rich investigation tasks. Classes have been exploring mathematical concepts in depth, working collaboratively on problems involving angles, geometry, area, and volume. These investigations have encouraged students to apply their knowledge in creative and practical ways, building strong problem-solving and reasoning skills.

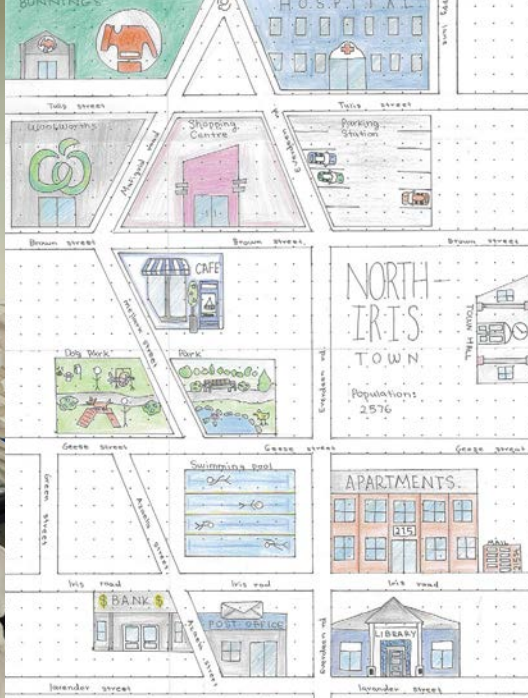
We are also thrilled to celebrate the outstanding achievements of our students in the Australian Mathematics Competition. A special congratulations goes to Aaron Rattanachaipipat, who received a prestigious Special Prize for placing in the top 0.01% nationwide—an extraordinary accomplishment that

reflects both his talent and dedication. We are proud of all students who participated and represented our school with distinction.

Finally, as our Year 12 cohort prepares to graduate, we extend our warmest wishes for success in their upcoming HSC examinations. The hard work and persistence they have shown throughout their studies in Mathematics will serve them well as they move into the next stage of their lives. The whole faculty is cheering them on and looks forward to celebrating their achievements.



Congratulations to Aaron Rattanachaipipat who received a Special Prize for placing in the top 0.01% in the Australian Mathematics Competition.



Mathematics students have been exploring mathematical concepts involving angles, geometry, area, and volume.



High School News

Science

Term 3 2025 has been an exciting Term for Science at APCS.

Students from Year 7 to 12 have been engaging in a diverse range of activities, competitions and hands-on learning experiences.

For the first time, our Year 11 and 12 students participated in the Biology, Earth and Environmental, Chemistry and Physics Science Olympiad Exams held in Week 3. This incredible opportunity, organised by our Physics teachers Mr Andonov and Ms Zhang, allowed students to challenge themselves against the best young scientific minds in Australia - a huge thank you to both for their support and leadership.

Science Week 2025, held in Week 4, was a highlight of the term. Students from Year 7 to 11 took part in a variety of events including lunchtime DIY science competitions, the daily "Hunt for the Missing Scientist," and a poster competition. The centrepiece was the peer-

teaching program, where our high school students delivered engaging science lessons to our Stage 1 and Stage 3 primary students. A warm thank you to Ms O'Malley, Mr Bashir, Ms Franks, Ms Zhang and Ms Stanmore for making this week a resounding success.

In Week 6, Fizzics Education visited APCS for an incursion that explored the fascinating intersection of aviation, robotics, AI, and autonomous systems within the defence industry. Students were inspired by the potential career paths in tomorrow's high-tech industries. The robotic dog that could sit, run, and even stand on its hind legs was undoubtedly the star of the show!

Inside the Science labs, our students have continued to explore the wonders of the scientific world: testing helicopter wing spans in Year 7, designing green building protocols for APCS in Year 8, building

atomic models in Year 9, investigating Newton's Laws of Motion in Year 10, and conducting rat dissections in Year 11. We also wish our Year 12 Biology, Physics and Chemistry students every success in their HSC examinations.

Finally, a heartfelt "enjoy yourself" to Mr Bashir, who will be taking a well-earned long service leave block in Term 4 - we will miss you!



Science Week 2025, held in Week 4, was a highlight of the term.

Inside the Science labs, our students have continued to explore the wonders of the scientific world.



High School News

CAPA

LOTE Language Classes

Yr8 LOTE language classes went on an excursion to Chinatown. We went to the Chinese Gardens first, and it was incredible. As soon as we stepped in, it felt like a different world, with the bustling city right outside. Everyone really enjoyed seeing the waterfalls, bridges, and generally just nature. The koi fish in the ponds were enormous and the water lizards were very friendly. We all took heaps of photos and finished up our drawings. Then, we went on to the yum cha restaurant.

As soon as we got to the restaurant, food was brought to our tables, and it didn't seem to stop coming. When the chicken

feet arrived, we questioned it. Then some students began to taste it and others just leaving it. We had fried noodles, barbeque pork buns, chicken feet, Chinese broccoli, prawn dumplings, dim sum, egg tarts and others. Everyone mainly agreed that the barbeque pork buns were the best. At the end of the day, everyone was very full and happy about how the day had gone.

Jo, Jamie, Arlo and Luka M
Class 8X



**Year 8 LOTE
Language
classes had
an incredible
time on their
excursion to
Chinatown.**



Yr8 LOTE language classes have been learning brush writing (a form of calligraphy using a brush & black ink). This is a form of artistic expression via which Chinese characters are written to convey a moral message, an inspirational idea or a good luck wish.



High School News

TAS

Our Year 12 Design and Technology students have reached an exciting milestone, completing their Major Design Projects after months of hard work, creativity, and perseverance. Each project showcases not only their technical skills and design thinking, but also their ability to solve real-world problems through innovation.

From the initial brainstorming and research, through prototyping and testing, to the final production and folio, students have demonstrated outstanding commitment and resilience. Their projects reflect a diverse range of ideas and highlight the creativity and capability of our senior TAS cohort.

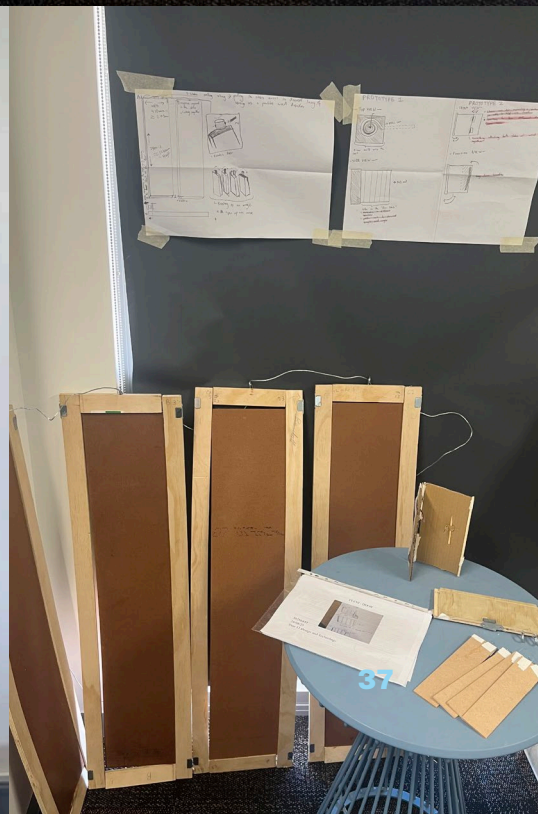
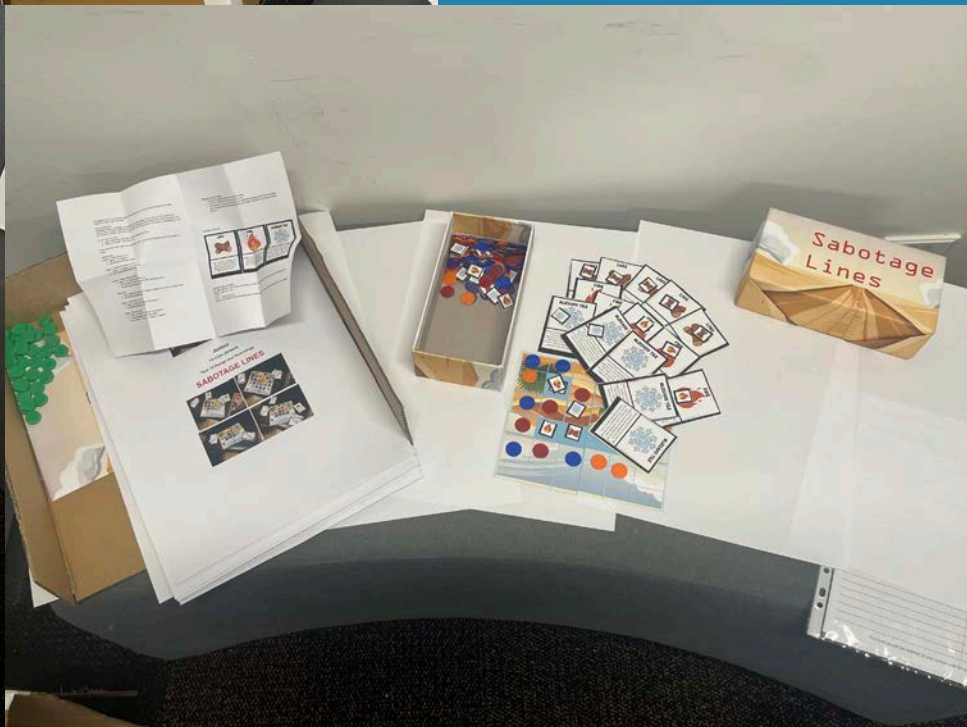
Congratulations to all Year 12 students and Mr Fitzroy for their dedication and achievements – we are very proud of the quality and originality of the work produced. We look forward to seeing these projects celebrated at the Term 4 showcase assembly.



Our Year 12 Design students have completed their Major Design Projects after months of hard work.



**Congratulations
to all Year 12
students and Mr
Fitzroy for their
dedication and
achievements.**



High School News

HSIE

Congratulations to Fitria Ranau on being accepted into the UBS Young Womens Leadership Academy. She was nominated for her academic progress and commitment to learning in Economics and was successful in her application to attend a 3 day workshop in finance, banking, networking and mentorship programs.

Congratulations also to Kevin Nguyen, who after meeting with the famous Ross Goittens, was inspired to apply for early entry into a double degree in a Bachelor of Economics and Bachelor of Education at UNSW. He has received an offer already based on his excellent progress in Economics.

Students in Economics and Commerce will also be involved with UNSW's Playconomics. APCS was one of the first schools involved in the trial 3

years ago. Last year it had expanded across 14 other schools. Playconomics allows students to learn Economics and Business at their own pace and to learn about it by experiencing it. Besides its teaching capabilities, Playconomics has the potential to increase overall literacy (language, maths, financial skills), planning, analytics, decision-making, governance, emotional intelligence and peer learning. Established by LionsHeart Studios an award-winning Ed-tech company developing university courses that use the theory of gameplay to boost student engagement and improve academic performance. Established in 2014 by Isabella Dobrescu and Alberto Motta – professors of Economics in the UNSW Business School and spun out of UNSW's Gamification Research Group.

Since then, it won prestigious national and international awards, including:

- **Australian Government Citation for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning, and**
- **Gold Medal in Social Sciences at the 'Reimagine Education' International Awards organised by Wharton School (the #1 Business School worldwide).**

High School News

Library

Yakka Taka High School Library

APCS has just celebrated CBC book week (16/8/25 - 23/8/25) with many events such as Secondary school mufti day, voting for shortlisted books and 2nd hand book sales. Here is an announcement of the prize winners:

1. HS Mufti day dress up winner is **Matteo A.** (Yr7)

2. The shortlisted books voting winner is **Mikhail Y.** (Yr8)

3. Lolly guess & books sale winner is **Cloud H.** (Yr7)

Please check out these photos of the high school mufti day & event competition winners.

Alexandria Park Community School celebrates CBC Book Week!



High School News

PDHPE

School Sport this term was **significantly impacted by wet weather**, with four weeks in a row of cancelled outdoor sessions. Despite this, our students made the most of the situation by taking part in **board games, mindfulness activities, indoor yoga sessions, and sport trivia challenges.**

These activities gave students the chance to:

- strengthen **peer relationships**
- develop **interpersonal skills** such as teamwork and communication
- practise **problem-solving and decision-making** through board game challenges
- and explore ways of taking care of their **health in a holistic way.**

Even without the sunshine, our students showed resilience and adaptability, making the most of every opportunity to stay active, connected, and engaged. Check out our Stage 4 Students engaging in wet weather activities.

However, despite the weather, it's still been

another action-packed term of sport at APCS, and we are so proud of the incredible effort, determination, and achievements our students have shown – both at school events and in the wider community. Here are some of the highlights worth celebrating!

A huge congratulations to **Lara Williams (Year 9)** who has qualified for the **CHS State Athletics Carnival** in the **90m hurdles.**

Both our **U15 boys' and girls' basketball teams** have been on fire! Check out the updates below:

- The Under 15's Girls Basketball team has been progressing well through the CHS competition. In their first game **Alex Park faced off against Georges River College (Peakhurst) as an away game where we won convincingly 74-16.** Amazing play all round with **AJ** and **Kymeesha** taking advantage of a lot of bad passes and running successful fast

breaks whilst also raining many threes down over the game. In the next round, we hosted Randwick High School. The game was close throughout the second half, but Alex Park was again able to come away **with a strong win 67-42.** Again, excellent play all round with more solid defensive play and strong work on fast breaks and outside shooting.

- Additionally, Alex Park attended the Basketball NSW Tournament for Under 16's in Wollongong on Tuesday 2nd September to play off against three other schools. The girls' team were represented by seven players: **AJ de Leon, Kymeesha Shillingsworth, Alkina Link Hickey Button, Kaliyan Pavlovic, Matisse Hurps-Moa, Rasharni West and Charlotte Enkhbold.** The girls went through the tournament **undefeated with big wins** in the first two pool games and a comfortable win



Check out
our Stage
4 Students
engaging in
wet weather
activities.



Congratulations
to Lara Williams
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High School News

PDHPE

over Illawarra Sports High in the final pool game. As Alex Park and Illawarra were the top two teams based on pool results, we played off in the Grand Final for the day. **In the Grand Final**, Illawarra got off to a better start and established a small lead. Alex Park chipped away at the lead throughout the second half and **with around a minute left AJ put Alex Park ahead with a clutch three-pointer**. With some excellent defense and timely field goal from Kymeeshia (who was on four fouls) plus some strong hustle play all round, Alex Park managed to hold onto a **win** by three points. The girls were very happy with their medals! Due to winning the tournament, the girls moved onto the next round.

- Over the past few weeks, our U15 boys' basketball teams have been in action with some outstanding results. Team 1 has continued its strong run

in the CHS knockout competition. After a **dominant 119–37 win over Matraville Sports High** in the second round, the boys backed it up with a gritty **51–28 victory against James Cook High**. The game remained tight well into the fourth quarter, but despite missing key big men, the boys showed tremendous resilience, matching their opponents' height with sheer toughness and defensive grit. A fantastic effort that now sees the team through to the Top 8 competition in Sutherland on September 15th. At the Basketball NSW Invitational Tournament in Wollongong, both Team 1 and Team 2 shone, each **securing silver medals** and keeping their hopes alive with possible wildcard entries into the next stage of this Statewide event. Competing mainly against sports selective schools, both teams went undefeated through four games before falling just short

in their respective grand finals. (Report by Mr Cutts)

As always at Alexandria Park Community School, our basketball teams continue to excel. We wish our U15 boys and girls the very best of luck as they head into their upcoming competitions!

The **Year 8 Gala Day** was a massive success, with the whole year group getting involved in soccer, oz-tag, mixed netball, and ultimate vortex. The energy, teamwork, and school spirit on display made us proud.

What made the day even more special was seeing a group of Year 9, 10 and 11 students step up into leadership roles. These students assisted with refereeing, coaching, and scorekeeping – and they were absolutely outstanding. Teachers were blown away by their level of professionalism, ownership of their roles and responsibilities, and their ability to manage games with confidence. A huge thank you goes to:



As always at
APCS, our
basketball
teams continue
to excel.



High School News

PDHPE

- **Frank Clarke (Year 11)** – assisted with Ultimate Vortex
- **Breanda Au Duong, Chelsea Wu (Year 10) and Kalia Lui (Year 9)** – assisted at Mixed Netball
- **Arlo Fermor, Munkh-Od Altangerel, Luqman Juma, and Nathan Kantor (Year 10)** – assisted for Soccer
- **Michael Bell-Link and Kali-Ann Williams (Year 10)** – assisted for Oz-Tag
- Our student leaders did a **fantastic job** and really showcased the values of responsibility, teamwork, and school pride.

For the first time ever, APCS sent a team to the NSW Volleyball State Championships! Our Open boys' volleyball team headed to Sydney Olympic Park in Week 8 for a two-day competition. Congratulations – you're making history for our school!

Our **junior girls' soccer** and **boys' football (soccer)**

teams played a friendly game on Thursday 12 September against Newtown High School at Perry Park, Alexandria. This event is all about building teamwork in a full-field setting, preparing our players for future competitive matches. It's also a fantastic chance for students to proudly represent APCS, strengthen friendships, and build school spirit.



**The Year 8
Gala Day was
a massive
success.**



It's been
another action-
packed term of
sport at APCS.



High School News

Sport

Shining Stars Beyond the School Gate

We are also proud to acknowledge the outstanding efforts of APCS students who continue to excel in community sport:

- **TJ (Tino-Jerome) Bayles (Year 8)** was one of just 50 athletes across NSW selected for the **U14 Talented Athlete Program (TAP) Camp** with Basketball NSW. Over three days, he trained with top coaches, learned new sports science techniques, and gained invaluable experience. Such an amazing opportunity – well done TJ!
- **Ben Bullivant (Year 10)** and **Brian Riley-Cubby (Year 9)** celebrated a huge win with his rugby league team Reown United U15 against Brighton Seagulls, taking out the **grand final 22 to 4**. Congratulations Ben and Brian – a well-deserved victory!
- **Armarni Bentley (Year 12)** continues to impress in rugby union. Not only was she named

Player of the Match in the **Premiere Women's B Competition Grand Final**, but she's also been selected to play for the **Sydney Women's Squad** in the **Australian Rugby Shield competition** this October. An incredible achievement – we'll be cheering her on all the way!

A massive well done to all our students who represented APCS and their community this term. Your hard work, talent, and sportsmanship make us all so proud. Keep shining and keep aiming high – the best is yet to come!

Finally, we wish all our members in the community that may be travelling to Tamworth in the school holidays to play at the annual Koori Knockout Competition. In the past, we've had strong representation from our local community with their respective teams winning various divisions. APCS can't wait to hear about the results for this year.



Pictured above:
TJ Bayles, Armani Bentley, Ben Bullivant, and Brian Riley-Cubby.

High School News

Basketball

Over the past few weeks, our U15 basketball teams have been in action with some outstanding results.

Team 1 has continued its strong run in the CHS knockout competition. After a dominant 119–37 win over Matraville Sports High in the second round, the boys backed it up with a gritty 51–28 victory against James Cook High. The game remained tight well into the fourth quarter, but despite missing key big men, the boys showed tremendous resilience, matching their opponents' height with sheer toughness and defensive grit.

A fantastic effort that saw the team go through to the Top 8 competition, where they won their final and moved on to the State Top 20. In our region, from 35 original teams, Alex Park finished equal first with Endeavour Sports, and did it the hard way with a win over the heavily favoured Sydney Boys in the qualifying final.

At the Basketball NSW Invitational Tournament in Wollongong, both Team 1

and Team 2 shone, each securing silver medals and keeping their hopes alive with possible wildcard entries into the next stage of this Statewide event. Competing mainly against sports selective schools, both teams went undefeated through four games before falling just short in their respective grand finals.

Not to be outdone, our U15 girls team also made their mark, going undefeated and winning their grand final, making it through to the CHS Top 20 Competitions.

As always at Alexandria Park Community School, our basketball teams continue to excel. Thank you to all staff who supported our students and we look forward to competing again next year.

Mr T Cutts

Our friendly junior Boys match against Emmanuel College - Randwick.



High School News

Health and Movement

This term, our **Year 11 Health and Movement Science** students have been busy working on an exciting collaborative investigation assessment task as part of their unit of work, Body in Motion. The project challenged students to think, research, and perform like real scientists while working as a team to explore the research question:

“How do the various methods of aerobic training – Continuous Training, Fartlek Training, Aerobic Long-Interval Training, and Circuit Training – impact the physiological responses of an individual?”

To ensure the investigation was both rigorous and authentic, students took on different roles: some as active participants completing the training, and others as data collectors/conductors, carefully monitoring and recording results to maintain control measures.

Students began by completing a baseline beep test, giving them an initial measure of cardiovascular

endurance (VO_2 max). Over the next three weeks, active participants completed 20-minute aerobic training sessions, three times per week, each following one of the training methods. During each session, students used pulse oximeters to record:

- resting heart rate before exercise
- heart rate during training to ensure they were working within the aerobic training threshold (65–85% of max HR)
- students were also skilled on how to use the Borg’s Rating of Perceived Exertion scale at the end of the session, which is a chart to measure the level of breathlessness, fatigue, profuse perspiration and muscle exertion during physical activity to determine how hard the activity is.

After three weeks, students undertook a post beep test to see how their cardiovascular endurance and VO_2 max had improved.

The investigation didn’t stop at data collection – students then:

- organised their quantitative results into visual graphs
- researched peer-reviewed journal articles to compare their findings with secondary data
- and finally, created and delivered a presentation to showcase their conclusions.

Throughout this task, Year 11 demonstrated outstanding effort and commitment. They developed not only their knowledge of course content, but also vital research skills, critical thinking, and interpersonal skills that they will be able to transfer either into the workforce or to use at university in the future. The class embraced the challenge of working collaboratively, supporting one another to ensure the investigation was both fair and meaningful.

We are incredibly proud of the way our students approached this project with maturity, teamwork, and enthusiasm. Well done to our Year 11 Health and Movement Science class on an excellent achievement!



Students used pulse oximeters to record their heart rate during aerobic training sessions.



Students have been busy working on an exciting collaborative investigation assessment task as part of their unit of work, Body in Motion.



High School News

HS Support Unit

YEAR 7 CAMP- COLLAROY CENTRE

On the 3rd day of term 3, our Year 7 SU students joined year 7 camp at the Collaroy Centre in North Sydney for a two-night adventure. For many, this was their first ever overnight school camp. They were all so excited in the lead up, and Audrey was packed days in advance with her 2 pink suitcases.

Lucky with perfect weather, the students challenged themselves with high ropes, team-building games, archery, skirmish, and even bubble soccer. Some of the activities looked so nerve-racking for us teachers when their photos were shared with us daily. They stayed in cabins, tried new food with shared meals in the dining room, and discovered the value of looking out for one another as new friendships were formed. A special highlight was seeing Mitchell take part in every single activity, including the highest and fastest challenges showing

incredible bravery and determination!

Our SU students developed valuable skills in resilience, cooperation, problem-solving, and independence. Most importantly, they created memories that will last a lifetime. We would like to thank the mainstream staff who joined us on camp and supported our students so wholeheartedly, especially Ms Kelly and Ms Tessa. Your care and encouragement made a big difference. The students returned home on Friday VERY tired, but a lot braver and so proud of what they achieved together. We were very proud too.

ENGLISH AND ART

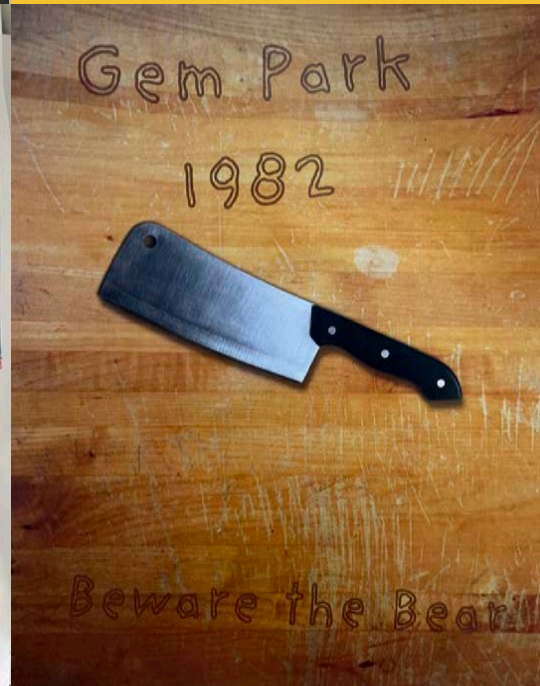
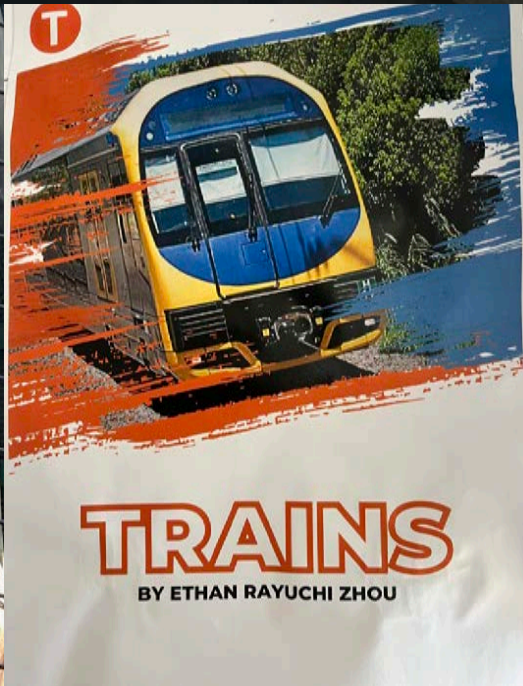
This term we have integrated our English and Art unit, focusing on graphic novels, currently studying “American Born Chinese” with the themes of cultural identity, inclusion and belonging, and learning how stories can be told via images. In Art we are

applying these ideas by learning the techniques of Manga and Anime illustration. Students are creating characters, panel composition, and visual storytelling to create their own comic-style short stories.

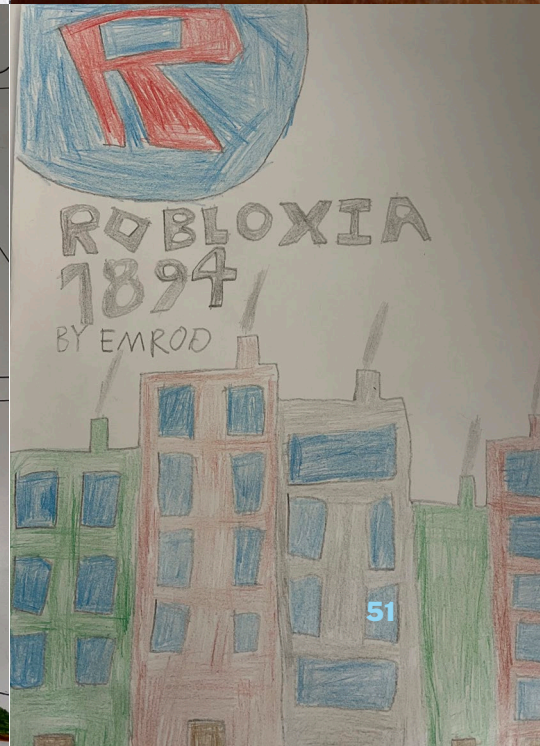
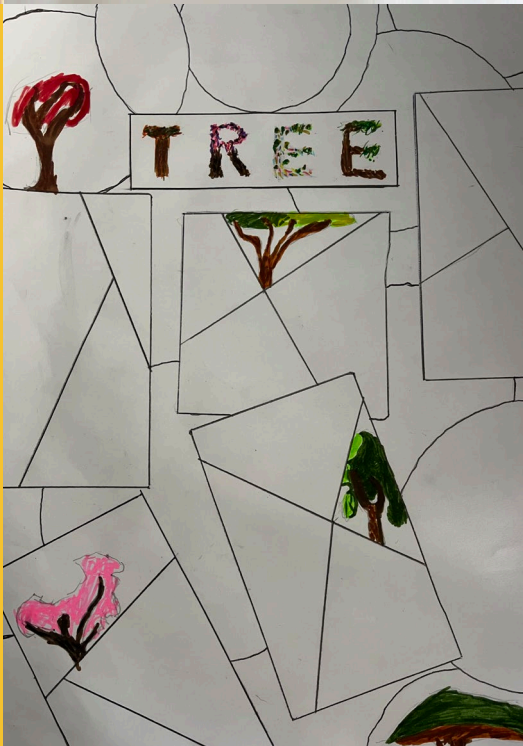
SUP1 were assigned a tough task in creating a graphic novel of their choice after reading ‘American Born Chinese’. The assignment required the students to get creative with their chosen topics (snapping turtles, trains, trees, thriller, and Roblox). The students drew, used Canva, coloured and wrote to create their front page and blurbs. They then had to present it to SUP2 and did so successfully with such enthusiasm and positivity. Well done SUP1!



Our Year 7 Support Unit students joined year 7 camp at the Collaroy Centre in North Sydney for a two-night adventure.



In Art, students have been learning the techniques of Manga and Anime to create their own comic-style short stories.



High School News

Learning & Support

Welcoming Ms Francesca Nolan to the Learning & Support team.

This term I joined the school as Learning Support Teacher for Years 8, 10 and 12, with a focus on students receiving Intervention Funding Support. This term, I have been assisting Year 12 students with Disability Provisions during their Trial HSC exams and will also be supporting Year 11 students in their upcoming exams. My role will then shift to updating Personalised Learning and Support Plans and providing strategies to assist both students and teachers in the classroom.

I am passionate about creating a safe, welcoming environment where all students feel valued and inspired to learn. Outside of school, I enjoy travelling, playing netball, and getting lost in a good fantasy or sci-fi book.

Francesca Nolan

Learning Support Teacher

Ms Francesca Nolan has joined the school as Learning Support Teacher for Year 8, 10 and 12.



High School News

Wellbeing

At school we see every day how a strong partnership between home and school lifts both wellbeing and learning. When routines are steady, communication is open, and help is sought early, students feel safer, more engaged, and more confident to take on challenges.

What helps most at home

- Keep attendance regular and punctual. If your child is unwell or facing barriers, let us know so we can problem-solve together.
- Build simple routines for sleep, nutrition, homework, and downtime. Consistency reduces stress and supports focus.
- Talk early and often. Ask how your child is coping and listen without judgement. If something feels off, share that with us.
- Encourage balanced involvement in sport, arts, leadership, and service. A sense of belonging is protective.
- Model and reinforce respectful behaviour in person and online. Agree

on device habits that support sleep and study.

- Stay informed through the parent portal and Google Classroom so you can celebrate progress and catch issues early.

When life feels overwhelming

Senior school brings real pressures, from assessments to friendships and part-time work. Young people do not need to manage these alone. Support is available at school through Year Advisers, the Wellbeing Team, and our School Counsellor. There are also confidential external services that students and families can use.

Headspace is Australia's National Youth Mental Health Foundation, offering free and confidential support for young people aged 15 to 25 and their families. Help is available for mental health and emotional wellbeing, physical and sexual health, alcohol and other drug concerns, and study or employment. Support can be accessed in



Robin Riedstra

person at a local centre or online via eHeadspace.

- Website: <https://headspace.org.au/>
- Phone: 1800 650 890

If the first option does not feel like a good fit, encourage your child to try again or request a different clinician. Persistence matters.

How to work with us:

- If you are worried about your child's wellbeing or attendance, please contact the Year Adviser or myself (robin.phillips2@det.nsw.edu.au).
- If a concern is urgent, call the school so we can respond on the day.
- If you think your child would benefit from seeing the School Counsellor, we can guide you through the process.

Thank you for partnering with us. Together we can help every student feel safe, connected, and ready to learn.

Upcoming Community Events...

Register a
full team
OR
Join one
of our
teams!

**ACTIVE
KIDS**

CLAIM YOUR \$50 VOUCHER TODAY.
SPORT.NSW.GOV.AU/ACTIVEKIDS

• WHAT'S ON AT 5V5 •

KIDS & YOUTH FUTSAL AGES 4 - 14

Comps Friday Evenings OR Sunday Mornings + Coaching Weekday Evenings

- 12 Week Competitions (Spring starting 5th & 7th September)
- Coaching (Weekday Evenings)
- Holiday Camps (Tue - Thu, 9AM - 3PM)

Competition Pricing

- \$1200/Team
- \$170/Individual

*Team organisers pay a team fee (with the option to split it),
solo players pay an individual fee - no annual player
charges or hidden registration fees.*

MUTCH PARK, PAGEWOOD

ADDRESS | 53 Wentworth Ave
Pagewood
NSW 2023

AMENITY | Free Parking
Outdoor Synthetic
Caged Courts • Music

CONTACT US

0415 548 255



INDOOR/OUTDOOR AVAILABLE

OTHER VENUES

Five Dock – North Ryde
Chatswood — Ryde

YOUTH IN THE CITY

SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2025 SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

for young people aged 13-18 year (or younger if in high school)

	WEEK 1	WEEK 2
MONDAY	NO PROGRAM	NO PROGRAM
TUESDAY	Tuesday 30 September MOVIE AT GEORGE 10am to 2:30pm Movie to be decided on the day by the group BYO lunch, snacks and drink bottle or money to buy Cost: \$10	NO PROGRAM
WEDNESDAY	Wednesday 1 October BOWLING AND LASER TAG 10am to 4pm Lunch included included, please wear appropriate clothing, shoes and socks. Cost: \$30	Wednesday 8 October RELICS LEGO @ Australian Museum 10:30am to 2pm BYO lunch, snacks and drink bottle or money to buy Cost: \$10
THURSDAY	Thursday 2 October BUSHWALKING - KU-RING-GAI 9.30am to 4pm BYO lunch, snacks and drink bottle. Closed toed walking shoes and appropriate hiking clothes. There will be no shops so bring lunch, snacks and water bottles. Cost: \$5	Thursday 9 October FORTRESS SYDNEY 11.00am to 4pm BYO lunch, snacks and drink bottle or money to buy Cost: \$10
FRIDAY	NO PROGRAM	NO PROGRAM

BOOKING AND PAYMENT SYSTEM:

TO BOOK ONLINE:

<http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/school-holidays>

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT 9265 9333

Youth school holiday program has one pick-up and drop off location: 456 Kent Street, Sydney

A Fee Waiver for people experiencing Financial Hardship will be considered.

ALEXANDRIA PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Community Opportunity Success

TERM 3 **2025**

📍 Park Road, Alexandria, NSW, Australia, 2015

☎ 02 9869 9800

✉ alexparkcs-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au

🌐 alexparkcs-c.schools.nsw.gov.au

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Community Opportunity Success



Yarramundi

Alexandria Park Community School is on Cadigal Land