



THE PEPPERCORN PRESS

WEEK 5A TERM 1

Respect, Honesty and Resilience

ARIAH PARK CENTRAL SCHOOL
1 Harrison Street Ariah Park NSW 2665
02 6974 1105 ariahpark-c.schools.nsw.gov.au

KEY DATES

FEB 23

**CHS Swimming
Carnival Barellan***

FEB 24

**PSSA Swimming
Carnival Barellan***

MAR 3

**Whole School
Assembly 9.53am**

MAR 27

School Photos

***Please note the
dates for the
CHS & PSSA
Swimming
Carnivals were
incorrect in
the previous
newsletter**



Principal's Report

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Community Members,

Thank you to all the parents who were able to come to the P&C Meeting on Tuesday. I was able to share information on our class structures, our Strategic Improvement Plan, finance and other bits and pieces. If you would like a copy of my report, please don't hesitate to contact the front office.



It was great to see many of you at the Parent Information sessions as well. The recordings for these have been uploaded as well. Obviously, if you have any specific questions don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher. At the information session I presented a survey to gather feedback on our School Vision and Strategic Directions based on the data from last years survey. I have also asked a question about how best to consult with the community as well. Please provide feedback to us through the QR code or the link here: <https://forms.office.com/r/Peeui5KXYA>

I will be taking extended leave from Wednesday 15th March until the end of the school holidays to travel overseas with my family. Mrs Kate Anderson is the successful candidate to relieve as principal for the duration while I am away. There will be a process to appoint a Relieving Assistant Principal for the duration as well.

We are trying to streamline communications this year so please be patience as we work through any glitches. We are obviously always happy for feedback. If you're not sure of anything please get in contact with your child's class teacher or the front office. A note will go home for permission for some of the digital programs we use- this is a new requirement by the NSW Department of Education. We ask that you return this note promptly, so we are able to complete.

We've formed a uniform committee involving two staff members and two P&C representatives. We will also have some representatives from the student body. If you're interested in being a community representative on the committee please let me know by Friday 24th February. This committee will be reviewing our uniform and consulting with the community throughout the year.

Principal's Report

Remember any questions please don't hesitate to contact the school. Have a wonderful week.

Yours in Education,

Allan Johnston
Principal

*Every student matters every day.
Every student can succeed.*

Strategic Improvement Plan 2023-
2026 Consultation Pulse Check



SAVE THE DATE ARIAH PARK CENTRAL SCHOOL FETE

THURSDAY 6TH APRIL 2023





Education

ARIAH PARK CENTRAL SCHOOL

Respect | Honesty | Resilience



Principal: Allan Johnston

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20 February 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian/Carer

I am writing to advise you that we suspect that nits/head lice are present in the hair of some students within the school.

Please check your child's hair for nits/lice tonight using the methods recommended in information from NSW Health (<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/environment/headlice/Pages/treatment.aspx>).

If you find any eggs or lice please commence treatment as recommended.

Further information on head lice is available on the NSW Health website (details above) or through the Department's website at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/student-wellbeing/health-and-physical-care/health-care-procedures/conditions/head-lice>.

I appreciate your assistance in this regard.

Yours sincerely

Allan Johnston
Principal

\$500 towards you or your children's education



**saverplus**

Saver Plus is a free financial education program that matches your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500

What can the \$500 be used for?



Laptops & tablets



Lessons & activities



Uniforms & shoes



Books & supplies



Vocational education



Camps & excursions

To join Saver Plus, you must meet all of the below criteria:

- Be 18 years or over
- Have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself
- Have regular income from paid employment (you or your partner)
- Have a current Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card
- Be in receipt of an eligible Commonwealth social security benefit, allowance or payment*

*Many Centrelink payments are eligible

Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Berry Street and The Smith Family. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services.

To find out more:

Enquire online at saverplus.org.au
Email saverplus@bsl.org.au
Call 1300 610 355

Delivered by:



NAPLAN

National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy Information for parents and carers

- All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in Australia do NAPLAN tests in March each year.
- NAPLAN tests students' skills in reading, writing and maths.
- The test questions are presented in Standard Australian English dialect.
- Students read some of the questions and listen to others with headphones.
- The tests will get easier or harder, depending on how students are going in the test.
- Students do four different tests. The names of the four tests are:



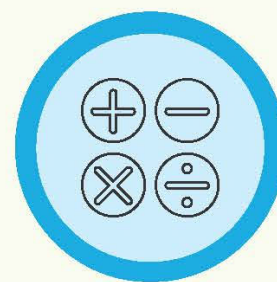
Writing



Reading



Conventions of language
(spelling, grammar and punctuation)



Numeracy

- Students in Year 3 will do the Writing test using pencil and paper. Year 3 students will answer the other test questions on the computer.
- Students in Years 5, 7 and 9 will answer all their test questions on computers.
- Teachers will help students get ready for NAPLAN tests.
- Schools will get their students' results. The school will then give parents/carers a report showing their own child's results.
- Parents/carers can talk to the teacher about these results.
- NAPLAN shows how students are going all over Australia. People who work in the Australian Government, state and territory education authorities and schools use NAPLAN results. The results let them see which schools are doing well and which schools might need help.

Talk to your teacher if you have any questions about your child doing the tests.

For more information on NAPLAN, visit nap.edu.au.

NAPLAN Information for parents and carers

2023

Why do students do NAPLAN?

NAPLAN is a national literacy and numeracy assessment that students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit each year. It is the only national assessment all Australian students have the opportunity to undertake.

As students progress through their school years, it's important to check how well they are learning the essential skills of reading, writing and numeracy.

NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through the school curriculum and allows parents/carers to see how their child is progressing against national standards and over time.

NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process. It doesn't replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance, but it can provide teachers with additional information about students' educational progress.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

Your child will do the NAPLAN tests online

Schools have transitioned from paper-based to computer-based assessments. All Year 3 students will continue to complete the writing assessment on paper.

Online NAPLAN tests provide more precise results and are more engaging for students. One of the main benefits is tailored (or adaptive) testing, where the test presents questions which may be more or less difficult depending on a student's responses.

Tailored testing allows a wider range of student abilities to be assessed and measures student achievement more precisely. A student's overall NAPLAN result is based on both the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions challenging; they may be taking a more complex test pathway.

What does NAPLAN assess?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum.

Students sit assessments in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The questions assess content linked to the Australian Curriculum: English and Mathematics.

All government and non-government education authorities contribute to the development of NAPLAN test materials.

To find out more about NAPLAN, visit nap.edu.au.

Participation in NAPLAN

NAPLAN is for everyone. ACARA supports inclusive testing so all students have the opportunity to participate in the national assessment program.

Adjustments are available for students with disability who have diverse functional abilities and needs.

Schools should work with parents/carers and students to identify, on a case-by-case basis, reasonable adjustments required for individual students with disability to access NAPLAN. Adjustments should reflect the support normally provided for classroom assessments.

To help inform these decisions, you may consult the [NAPLAN public demonstration site](#), the [Guide for schools to assist students with disability to access NAPLAN](#), or our [series of videos](#) where parents/carers, teachers and students share their experiences in using NAPLAN adjustments.

In exceptional circumstances, a student with a disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the assessment, or a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background, may be granted a formal exemption.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on adjustments for students with disability or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

What if my child is absent from school on NAPLAN days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule.

What if my school is closed on NAPLAN days?

Schools with compelling reasons may be given permission to schedule tests after the 9-day test window.

What can I do to support my child?

Students are not expected to study for NAPLAN. You can support your child by reassuring them that NAPLAN is a part of their school program and reminding them to simply do their best. Some familiarisation and explanation of NAPLAN is useful to help students understand and be comfortable with the format of the tests. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance.

ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of services by coaching providers.

See the types of questions and tools available in the online NAPLAN assessments at nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site.

NAPLAN timetable

The NAPLAN test window is 9 days. This is to accommodate schools that may have fewer devices.

The NAPLAN test window starts on Wednesday 15 March and finishes on Monday 27 March 2023. Schools are advised to schedule the tests as soon as possible within the testing window, prioritising the first week.

How is my child's performance reported?

Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each assessment. This scale indicates whether the student is meeting expectations for the literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be provided by your child's school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your child's school.

How are NAPLAN results used?

- Students and parents/carers may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help identify students who need greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas of need to improve teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review the effectiveness of programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see information about the performance of schools over time at myschool.edu.au.

Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at nap.edu.au/TAA
- visit nap.edu.au

To learn how ACARA handles personal information for NAPLAN, visit nap.edu.au/naplan/privacy.

Test	Scheduling requirements	Duration	Test description
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 3 students do the writing test on paper (on day 1 only)• Years 5, 7 and 9 writing must start on day 1 (schools must prioritise completion of writing across days 1 and 2 only, with day 2 only used where there are technical/logistical limitations)	Year 3: 40 min Year 5: 42 min Year 7: 42 min Year 9: 42 min	Students are provided with a 'writing stimulus' (sometimes called a 'prompt' – an idea or topic) and asked to write a response in a particular genre (narrative or persuasive writing)
Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To be completed after the writing test• To be completed before the conventions of language test	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 50 min Year 7: 65 min Year 9: 65 min	Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts and then answer related questions
Conventions of language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To be completed after the reading test	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 45 min Year 7: 45 min Year 9: 45 min	Assesses spelling, grammar and punctuation
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To be completed after the conventions of language test	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 50 min Year 7: 65 min Year 9: 65 min	Assesses number and algebra, measurement and geometry, and statistics and probability

School News

Lunch Pass Permission Note

Consent is needed for any child/ren to leave the school grounds. If you require your child/ren to go home for lunch, please fill out the permission note and return as soon as possible.

Lunch passes only permit students to go to home for lunch. Students are not permitted down the street at lunchtime unless they have a specific note for that day from a parent or are in Year 11/12 and have completed and returned a lunch pass permission note.

All students who are leaving the school grounds for lunch must sign out and back in via the Front Office.

Lunch Pass Permission Note

I hereby consent to my son/daughter/
ward..... coming home for lunch on a daily
basis for the 2023 school year.

Where my child is in Year 11/12 I give permission for him/her to go down
the street.

I understand that all students must sign in and out through the Front
Office when using their lunch pass.

.....
Parent/Legal Guardian

.....
Date

----- Please return by Friday 24 February 2023-----

School News

Year 5/6 - Headphones

Year 5/6 are lucky enough to have access to a laptop each in their classroom. Could each student in Year 5/6 please purchase a set of headphones to keep at school.

Year 3 - 6 Classes

To support our students in the Year 3-6 space we have been able to split Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 for some classes in English and Maths.

Year 3/4 will be split for English and Maths 3 days a week on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday between Mrs Green and Ms Evans.

Year 5/6 will be split for English and Maths 2 days a week on Wednesday and Thursday between Mrs Anderson and Ms James.

We are excited to offer smaller guided groups to our students in Year 3-6 as they learn, develop and consolidate skills.

Athletics Practice

In order for our students to be well prepared for the upcoming Athletics Carnival in Term 2 all students in Primary will be practising for their Athletics carnival in their PE lessons each week.

In Weeks 9 and 10 of Term 1 and Week 1 and 2 of Term 2 all students K-12 will practice for the Athletics Carnival in sport time.

Our aim is for students to have the opportunity to learn the skills and rules of each event.

Mrs Anderson

School News

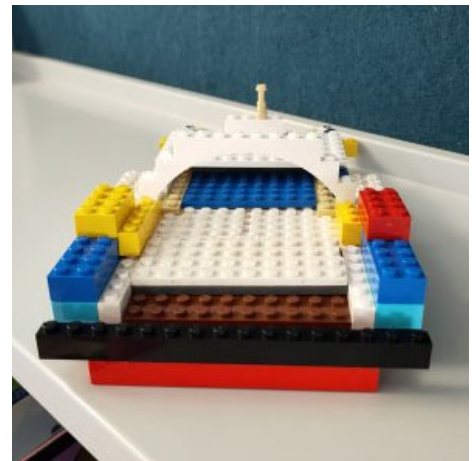
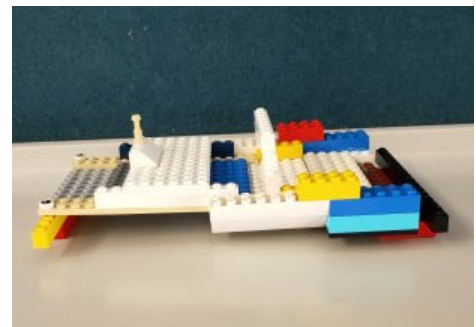
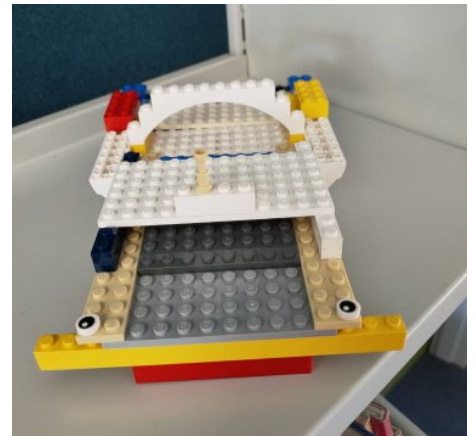
Lego Club

Lego Club has been a hit, running on Tuesday lunch time in the library.

This week's challenge was to build a boat. Congratulations to Anna and Kitty for their winning creation.

All students are welcome and can join the building challenge or design their own creations.

Ms Forster



School News

Swimming Carnival

How exciting it is to be back and competing in whole school events again! Last Friday's carnival marked the first whole school swimming carnival we have had in over two years. The weather gods must have known, turning on an absolute ripper of a day at the pool for us. The sun was shining, lots of smiles were had and of course, plenty of screaming and team comradery was shared amongst peers.

It was wonderful to see everyone striving to do their best on the day, a highlight definitely being the novelty events. What a pleasure to watch the secondary students supporting the primary participants to succeed.

Who could also forget the student/parent/teacher race....well I'm sure the teachers and students can, after the parents took out the prestigious event on the day! Well done parents.

I would like to say a huge thank you to the Swimming Club and the Swimming Pool for letting us use their fabulous facilities and equipment. Another thank you goes to the P&C for keeping our bellies full and providing the delicious BBQ. Lastly I would like to thank the wonderful volunteers who assisted us on the day with time keeping duties and ribbon writing etc. Your assistance is always greatly appreciated.

Congratulations to everyone that participated in the carnival, it is so nice to see our core values of respect, resilience and honestly shine through in events like these.

On the following page are our swimming age champions and runners-up for 2023. Amazing work guys!

Mrs Fisher

School News

Junior Primary Girls

Champion – Annabelle O'Brien
 Runner up – Ella Lord

Junior Primary Boys

Champion – Logan Bell
 Runner up – Chase Kenworthy

11 Yrs Girls

Champion – Poppi Frater
 Runner up – Anna Chalmers

11 Yrs Boys

Champion – Josh Davies
 Runner up – Leo Furphy

Senior Primary Girls

Champion – Matilda McCormack
 Runner up – Grace O'Brien

Senior Primary Boys

Champion – Hayden Walsh
 Runner up – James Chalmers

Junior Secondary Girls

Champion – Macey Kenworthy
 Runner up – Ruby Prentice

Junior Secondary Boys

Champion – Joe Furphy
 Runner up – Henry Prentice

Senior Secondary Girls

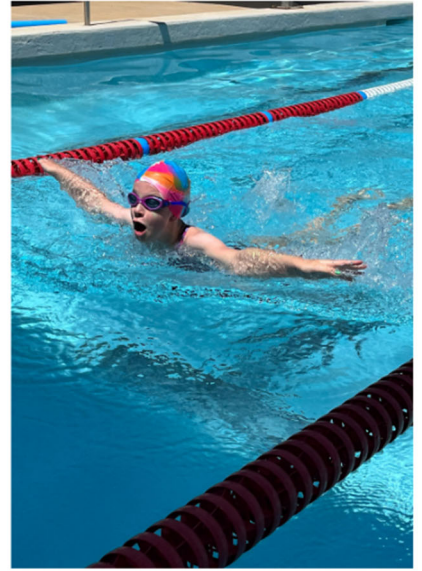
Champion – Georgia McCormack
 Runner up – Elsie Furphy

Senior Secondary Boys

Champion – Riley Foster
 Runner up – James O'Hare &
 William Fairman







School News

Kindergarten News

What a wonderful start to Kindergarten our students have had.

It is certainly clear these small but mighty students were ready for Kindy, seamlessly transitioning to school life with ease. Thank you to parents for encouraging and supporting such preparedness, it makes for a wonderful start to the school year. Kindergarten students have already started the term off with a bang by having a visit from Healthy Harold and the Life Education Van. We investigated 'everyday' and 'sometimes' foods, road safety and healthy hygiene practices. We even discovered where our lungs are located in our bodies and that they breathe in something cool called 'oxygen'!

In Mathematics we have become 'Mathematicians', so you might spot some 'Mathemagicians' in some of our shared photos. Students have been working hard to develop their number sense, counting forwards to 30 and developing the understanding that Maths is all around us. We went on a special hunt with our wands to spot Maths in our playground. We found lots of shapes, patterns and even collections of objects!

During Literacy we have been focusing on developing our phonemic awareness, by manipulating the sounds in words. We have been discussing the difference between letters, words and sentences and we have also been exploring rhyme and syllables. Oh, what fun we have had!

We thoroughly enjoyed our time at the swimming carnival, cheering on our houses and splashing around in the pool. We can't wait to see what the rest of the year holds for us!

Mrs Fisher



School News

Science News

The Science Lab has been busy so far this term, with action all around from students in Stage 3, Stage 4, Stage 5, and Stage 6 getting right into their learning over the last few weeks.

Stage 3 has started their journey towards their Bunsen Burner licences, with Year 6 students mentoring their Year 5 peers on how to complete skills like lighting a match, wearing safety goggles, and getting a Bunsen Burner lit. They have also been learning about important safety rules for the lab, such as listening for gas leaks, using the emergency shut-off button, and ensuring that there are always safe paths in and out of the lab.

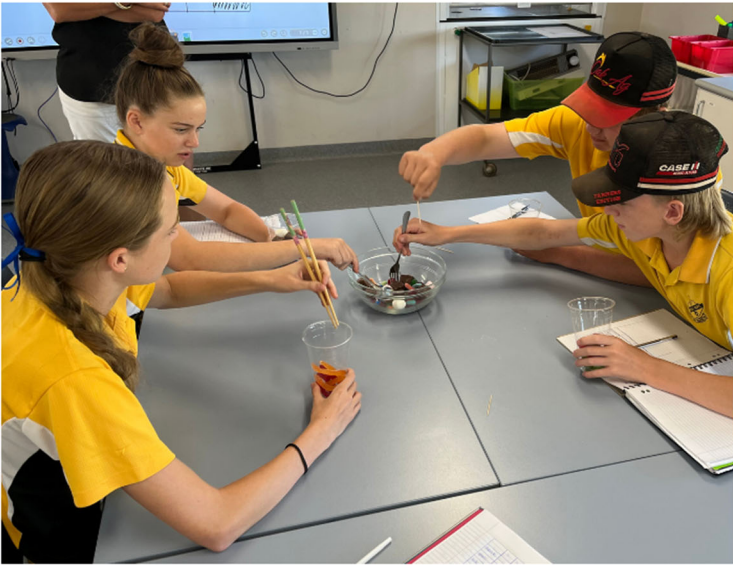
Stage 4 has been learning about classification, looking at how physical and genetic characteristics can show how certain things can relate to one another. They are currently working hard on creating a binomial branching diagram of the students in their class based on characteristics such as height, hair colour, eye colour, and personality traits such as their favourite songs and sports to help classify each student.

Stage 5 has been learning about the theory of evolution, learning about evidence that support this theory and how certain traits in animals and plants support these ideas. They have also been learning about the idea of natural selection, and are about to undertake the "bird beak" experiment which relates to Charles Darwin's finches on the Galapagos Islands.

Stage 6 Biology has been looking into the idea of genetic difference, introducing ideas such as the model of the cell, DNA replication, and reproduction in Agriculture.

Term 1 is looking to be a very interesting time for all students, with other topics such as plate tectonics, motion, chemical compounds, and ecosystems coming up over the next few weeks in our learning.

Mr Crouch



Calendar

	Feb 20	Feb 21	Feb 22	Feb 23	Feb 24
Week 5A		RYDA Excursion at Yanco		CHS District Swimming Carnival at Barellan	PSSA District Swimming Carnival at Barellan
	Feb 27	Feb 28	Mar 1	Mar 2	Mar 3
Week 6B	Northern Riverina PSSA AFL Trials at Ganmain				Whole School Assembly 9.53am
	Riverina Secondary Girls Basketball Trials at Wagga				

Upcoming Calendar Events: School Photos - March 27 **Please note change of date**

Whole School Assembly - March 31

APCS Cross Country - April 28

APCS Athletics Carnival - May 12

ARIAH PARK CENTRAL SCHOOL

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