

Newsletter

School Website: www.albanvaleps.vic.edu.au



Dear parents and carers,

Remote learning, whilst challenging for all, has been very successful for our school with students engaging in pre-recorded lessons and tasks, as well as 'live' learning support meetings with their teacher. In addition, we have introduced whole class lessons in STEM and social opportunities in the upper school, with students invited to connect with their peers. Additional support for students at risk has been provided through our speech intervention program, group work with teachers and daily phone calls from Educational Support Staff. Our teachers are working extremely hard to ensure the best possible teaching and learning is maintained throughout this period. Teachers are collecting assessment data to be able to target students at point of need, with initial data suggesting most of our students are on track to meet their expected level by the end of this year. It is important to remind families that schools are flexible, adaptable and responsive to students, and we will be considering how we continue to meet students' needs in 2021 in light of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic this year. Despite the impacts on programs in 2020, it is important to remember that all children are different, even those of similar ages, and no matter what experiences children have had in their current year, they will have developed a range of skills and abilities that form the basis for further learning.

There has been some discussion in the media about students repeating grades, research does not support this as regrading can be very detrimental to students' confidence and well-being, with very little impact on improving learning outcomes. Our Regrading Policy advocates that students move year levels with their peers and that targeted intervention be provided where students are not meeting benchmarks. This is also DET's position. We are very confident that our intervention programs will be able to address any gaps students may have in their learning and thus do not foresee the need for students to regrade.

To ensure the best learning outcomes for your child, I once again remind parents and students of the importance of the timetabled learning support group meetings. These meetings give students an opportunity to actively participate in face to face explicit teaching time with their teacher and peers and is a valuable tool for both teachers and students. We encourage families to maintain a regular school routine and keep a balanced approach to home learning. Ensure your children are taking recess and lunch breaks and breaking up screen time with some physical exercise and offline learning tasks.

STEM

This week our students were invited to attend live STEM Sessions with Ms Miter via the Google Meets Platform. Students were able to watch and conduct a Science experiment in a group session and learn about the scientific process involved. These sessions have proved to be extremely popular and we thank Ms Miter for arranging them.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interviews will be conducted via Google Meets on **Tuesday 8th September and Wednesday 9th September 2020**. Each child and their parent/s will be allocated a 10 minute time slot during their regular learning support group meeting time to speak with their teacher. The meetings offer families the opportunity to discuss their students' progress towards their goals and the next steps in their learning. Please inform the teacher or email the school albanvale.ps@education.vic.gov.au if you require an interpreter for the meeting.

Prep Enrolment 2021 - NOW TAKING ENROLMENTS

Prep enrolments for 2021 are **being taken now**. If you have any children who will be attending Albanvale PS in 2021, please call to receive enrolment information. We encourage families to do this as soon as possible, so that we may begin to plan the prep transition program for Term 4.

Pre enrolment forms are available from kindergartens and on the school website <https://www.albanvaleps.vic.edu.au/enrolments> and can be emailed to albanvale.ps@education.vic.gov.au or dropped off into school letter box.

Students leaving Albanvale PS in 2021

Please let the office know if your child is leaving the school at the end of this year, so that we may begin the transition process for your child with their new school.

Attendance

School attendance is currently marked by the level of student participation online and their completion of tasks.

A reminder to all families that online learning **starts at 8.45am**. Students need to log into Google Classroom and comment on their class posts so that their teacher knows they are at school every day and attendance can be marked. If your child is sick or are unable to participate in online learning on a particular day, please notify the school via the COMPASS app or call the school absence line on 9367 2197.

Student's MUST attend their learning support group meetings at their allocated times. Please be up to date with your child's timetable each week.

Learning Support Time

Teachers have created a timetabled learning instruction time for all students. This enables students to have access to an explicit teaching and learning time where they can speak directly to their group and classroom teacher. Teachers will also provide learning support and feedback to students at this time. It is expected that all students will meet with their teacher at their allocated time. If your child misses their meeting a follow up phone call will be made by office staff. Please ensure your child knows the timetabled time for their learning support time each day.

Home School Partnership

We encourage parents and students to email any questions in relation to teaching and learning to their classroom teacher via Compass. Teachers will endeavour to respond within 48 hrs. For more information on communicating with teachers, please refer to our Communication Policy which can be found on the school's website:

www.albanvaleps.vic.edu.au

Any technical enquiries should be emailed to the school email on albanvale.ps@education.vic.gov.au

COVID 19 Advice for Parents, Carers and Guardians

With the uncertainty that surrounds coronavirus there are many questions that families have about how it impacts their life at home and school. The most up to date coronavirus information relating to schools can be found on the Department of Education website. Please follow this link

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/parents/Pages/coronavirus-advice-parents.aspx> for further information.

Brimbank Library

Brimbank Library has now closed however, they have lots of eBooks and resources students can access:

<https://www.brimbanklibraries.vic.gov.au/index.php/learning/kids-resources>

Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge

The 2020 Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge is on until 18th September 2020. As you know, reading helps ensure children develop important foundational skills - setting them up for school and for life. Just as importantly, reading also helps our kids imagine, explore and learn more about the world around them. This year, everyone who completes the Challenge will receive a Certificate of Achievement - and with more than 12,000 titles on the Challenge's reading list, there really is a book for everyone. For students from Prep to Year 2, the Challenge is to read or experience 30 books. For students in Years 3 to 10, the Challenge is to read 15 books. Happy reading!

Mrs Vermezovic
PRINCIPAL

Thursday, September 3rd 2020

Albanvale

Attendance News

Student responsibilities during remote learning



Be online and logged into Google Classroom at 8.45am every day.



Remember to comment 'Good Morning' or 'Hello' to your teacher, so that they know you are at school.



Be aware of your Learning Support Group time each day and make sure you attend.



Regularly monitor Google Classroom for announcements and feedback from your teachers.



Always present your best work when completing set tasks.



Do your best to meet timelines and due dates.



Communicate openly with your teachers and tell them if you have any concerns or issues.



Collaborate and support your classmates.



Continue to abide by the school's behaviour guidelines.

Have Fun!

**Please contact the office when your child is away from school
by calling 9367 2197**

or enter the absence into your Compass App

Ask the office how

Free online study help for students with a Brimbank Library membership

Free study help, anytime, anywhere



Studiosity

Did you know that Brimbank Library members have free access to Studiosity for online, after-hours, one-to-one help with homework and study questions?

Studiosity is a free online tutoring program, which provides study help to all students and community members.

Studiosity employs subject matter experts who are available 24/7 to provide quick one on one tutoring support to students of all ages from grade 3 to postgraduate level.

Students can also upload their essay and written work and receive feedback within 24hours.

From primary school to university students, Studiosity is able to help across a wide range of subjects and questions through [Brimbank Libraries' website](#).

Studiosity has two services:

- **Writing Feedback:** Students can upload any writing draft and receive feedback that helps them think about and improve their own work.

Connect Live: Students can ask a question or draw a diagram and get immediate help via live chat with a qualified Subject Specialist, across all core subjects.

Studiosity can help with questions after school, on weekends and during holidays from a friendly, qualified Subject Specialist - just when you need that extra support.

Students also have access to over 750 practice tests and downloadable worksheets with their accounts. These quizzes are available across English, maths, chemistry, physics and biology for Year 5 through to Year 12 levels, including NAPLAN specific content.

How to get started

You'll need to become a member of Brimbank Libraries to access the service and then to log into your account, all you need is your Library member number and password. If you are not a member, you can [join online](#).

Once you have a Brimbank Libraries membership, you can access Studiosity [here](#).

You can also download the Studiosity mobile app, available in the app store and Google Play store, and link it to your account for extra features like saving a question for later, snapping a quick photo of a problem or using voice-to-text technology.

Happy studying!

COVID-19



Protect yourself
and loved ones



Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19

+ WASH YOUR HANDS

Wash your hands with soap and warm water regularly.



+ COVER A COUGH OR SNEEZE

Cover your cough or sneeze with your sleeve, or tissue. Dispose of tissue and wash your hands afterward.



+ DON'T TOUCH

Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth, especially with unwashed hands.



+ KEEP YOUR DISTANCE

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



+ STAY HOME

If you experience respiratory symptoms like a cough or fever, stay home.



+ GET HELP

If you experience symptoms of COVID-19 (cough, fever, shortness of breath), call your health care provider or local health department before seeking care.





**ENROL NOW
FOR
2021**

**DOVER STREET
ALBANVALE
PH: 9367 2197**



eSafety parents and carers

Tips and advice on helping your child have safe and enjoyable experiences online



Balancing online time

Playing games online is great fun but you need to make sure that your online world does not take over your life.



With more and more mobile devices on the market it is easy and tempting to stay connected 24 hours a day, seven days a week, but it is also very important to know how and when to disconnect.

How much is too much?

This is a good question and varies from person to person with different impacts. It's important to be aware of how your time online may be affecting your friendships, your family and your schoolwork, especially if it's keeping you up at night. If any of these areas of your life are becoming problematic then it is likely that you need to cut back in the amount of time you spend online.

Why is it a problem?

Spending excessive amounts of time online can have significant impacts on your health, family and social life and on your academic performance at school.

How do I know if I have a problem?

The following indicators may be signs that you spend too much time on the internet:

- ongoing headaches, eye strain and sleep disturbance
- online activities interfering with your health and wellbeing, school/work and relationships
- constantly talking about particular online programs, such as a gaming site
- withdrawal from your 'real world' friends and activities
- attributing more importance to your online activities and contacts than anything else
- decline in your academic performance at school

Where do I go for help?



Kids Helpline



headspace



Triple Zero
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