



**Ascot Vale
Heights School**
Learning for life

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Office: 9370 8906
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What's On?

9 February
Finance Sub Committee

15 February
School Council

13 March
Labour Day Public Hol

17 March
School Photos

6 April
End Term 1

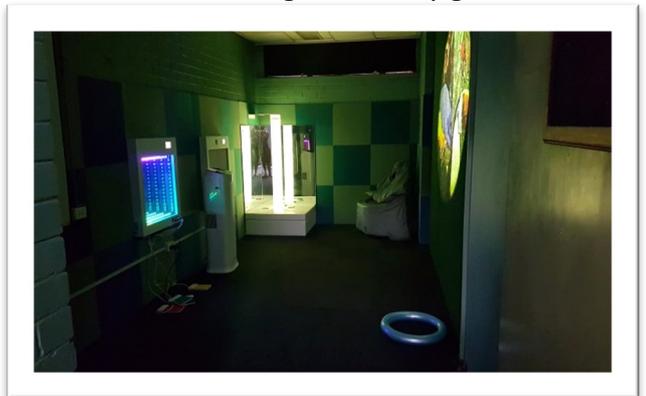
26 April
Start Term 2

Dear Ascot Vale Heights School families,

On behalf of the entire staff, I welcome you back to Ascot Vale Heights School for another exciting school year.

I would also like to take the opportunity to welcome families that have joined our school community by enrolling their child into the school for the 2023 school year. The staff will be working with you closely to ensure that there is a smooth and successful transition of your child into the school. It is important that your child attends school every day. Being at school supports your child's learning, social and mental wellbeing.

The start of the 2023 school year has seen some changes, actually great changes. Firstly, our new multi-Sensory Room is ready for use. The room has a musical touch wall, interactive infinity tunnel, a bubble tube, an optic den and a mirage projector including new carpets and tactile walls – I've included some photos of the space.



Also, our Stephanie Alexander Garden has had a refresh, making it more accessible for students. We've had some improvements made to the junior and main playgrounds, and soon we will be installing a new pedestrian gate at the front entrance in line with the reception.



Cont'd...

I encourage every parent and carer to engage with the school through the many avenues that are available. School Council Elections will be in February. In the next news bulletin, we will provide information on the role of the school council, how you can nominate for the school council and the number of vacancies available.

AVHS is an excellent school with fantastic students, excellent facilities, great staff and a school community that is supportive and appreciative of the school. The school will continue to strive to deliver excellent programs and improve the facilities so that every student at AVHS has the best that we can offer each child in their learning and personal development.

Important Updates

Seesaw: This is the digital application that will enable parents and carers the opportunity to view the teaching and learning that is occurring in their child's classroom. It will also be the means by which staff and parents can communicate on matters concerning their child. If you have not signed up to *Seesaw*, please take the time to follow the instructions that will be sent to you via email during the first week of school. If you require further assistance in signing up to *Seesaw*, please take the time to contact reception and assistance in this matter will be organised for you.

Compass Portal: All parents need to sign into this portal. This portal will enable parents and carers to make SSG appointments, access their child reports and school bulletins. You will receive a *Compass* parent log in information letter or email in the first week back at school. Please follow the instructions to sign up. If you need any further assistance with this matter, please don't hesitate to contact the office.

Compulsory School Uniform

The school has a compulsory school uniform from Foundation to Year 10. Parents and carers can obtain the school uniform from the school office or purchase the uniform items from stores such as Kmart and Target, etc. If taking up this option, it is essential that you get the school colours of the uniform correct. Please check at the office for the colours of the school uniform before buying any items.

New Staff

It gives me great pleasure to introduce the new staff that have gained positions at the school. We are thrilled to have them join our school team, enriching our school with their knowledge, experience and skills. Please see over, for the complete 2023 staffing list.

To all the students, welcome back! We are excited to have you back at school, and we hope that you have the most brilliant year in your learning at school. I encourage each of you to be the best you can be and if you need help always ask a staff member as we are there for you.

Here are snapshots of our new happy prep students on their first day. I'm also pleased to report that all returning students are excited to be back at school.

Cheers, Nance



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Ascot Vale Heights School
Learning for Life

Staff 2023



Primary School



Zoe Scott
Room 1 Teacher
/ PLC Leader Upper Primary



Tara Emerson-Jones
Room 1 ES



Vicky Daniel
Room 1 ES - MTuW



Haset Samuel
Room 1 ES- W



Leadership Team



Nancy Sidoti
Principal



Christine Monahan
Assistant Principal/
Student Wellbeing



Susanne Andriesz
Acting Assistant Principal
Curriculum & Reporting



Administration



Karen Cull
Business Manager



Tanya Nash
Office Manager - MTuThF



Nichole Medina
Exec Sup/Office Admin - TuWTh



Smita Acharya
Room 11 Teacher



Chiara Pisano
Room 11 ES



Ivana Franjic
Room 11 ES - TuWTh



Stephanie Champion
Room 4 Teacher \ PLC Leader



Sharni Bobbin
Room 4 ES



Samantha McRae
Room 4 ES



Campbell Maffet
Room 13 Teacher



Ned Watson
Room 13 ES

		
Olinda Lay Room 14 Teacher	Olivia Bayliss Room 14 ES - WThF	Tanya Cox Room 14 ES - MTu
		
Seany Watts Room 16 Teacher	Haset Samuel Room 16 ES - MFr	Merryn Brown Room 1 ES - TuWTh

 Ascot Vale Heights School Learning for Life		Secondary School
		
Emma Gurry Room 7 Teacher	Di Tran Room 7 ES - MTuWTh	Tanya Cox Room 7 ES - Fr
		
Teresa Opasinis Room 5 Teacher	Heyam Hamka Room 5 ES	Sumiyo Powers Room 5 ES

		
Isabel Ehrli Room 8 Teacher \ PLC Leader	Jennifer Sheridan Room 8 ES	
		
Sean Procko Room 9 Teacher \ PLC Leader	Mary Ann Gardner Room 9 ES - MTuW	Jane Kingsley Room 9 ES - ThF

 Ascot Vale Heights School Learning for Life		Senior Secondary
		
Annie Galcin Room 15 Teacher - MTuW	Olivia Garbiec Room 15 Teacher - ThF	Chris Hadwell Room 15 ES
		
Brad Pringle ASDAN - TuTh		



Specialist



Nora Finelli
SAKGP Coordinator



Lachlan Peachey
SAKGP ES



Inga Spyrou
Office Admin WF/SAKG MTuTh



Robyn Goulding
PE teacher



Jo Green
Art M-W



Marc Lucchesi
Music Teacher - TuTh



Lisa Curtis
Outreach Inclusion Teacher



Bianca Elias
Passion Projects - MTu



Allied Health



Natalliya Sertic
Speech Therapist



Laura Bourghouts
Occupational Therapist



ICT



Mourad Sarraf
Computer Technician



Melba Gym: After-School Program

Melba Gym is a fun-filled after-school program of music, cooking, art, gym and swimming designed to improve fitness and social skills in an enjoyable group setting.

Our friendly Gateways staff will pick participants up from Ascot Vale Heights School and take them to the 'Venny'. The 'Venny' community centre offers activities including, music, cooking, art and free play. Then Ascot Vale Leisure Centre for swimming/games. We prepare a light meal before parents/carers pick up their children from Ascot Vale Leisure Centre (transport home provided on request) at 7pm.

Sessions run weekly during the school term on Tuesday afternoons. Swimming and games alternate fortnightly.

Aims of the program

Participants have an opportunity to increase their skills in:

- water awareness/safety,
- physical gym course,
- living and social skills.

How to register?

To register your interest please call on 9396 1111 or email westernmelbourne@gateways.com.au

Participants must have a current NDIS plan and will require a Service Agreement with Gateways Support Services.

When and Where?

When Weekly
Tuesdays from 3-7pm

Where The Venny

Pick-up/drop-off Ascot Vale Heights School

Who is this program for?

School-aged children (7-17 year olds).

What to bring?

A gym bag with bathers, towel, goggles, soft shoes and toiletries.

Funding

Your child will require an NDIS plan. NDIS funding for this group comes from Core Supports.

Other costs

Activity cost: \$30

COVID-19

Our programs will be adapted in line with any restrictions in place at time of running. Safety is our first priority.

Gateways is an NDIS and DFFH registered disability service provider, with quality accreditation.

www.gateways.com.au

westernmelbourne@gateways.com.au

(03) 9396 1111



WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

Every student, every day to be given the opportunity to be the best they can be.