



K/1WMC

February 2024



Kindergarten and Year 1 students have had a terrific start to the year, settling into their new classes and learning spaces. Class expectations have been set and students are showing resilience as they get to know their new classmates and teachers. Kindergarten is a very special year of learning. It is a time to welcome young children to our school, develop their self-confidence and establish routines. We welcome Year 1 back to school for a great year. We will endeavour to provide a warm, secure, and positive environment, whereby each student can develop the academic, social and school PBL values that will support them in the future.

Morning Routine:

We encourage our Kindergarten students to arrive at school at approximately 8.45am to enable them to have a short play and learn to interact with their peer group before the bell. Students are not allowed on the fixed equipment until a teacher commences "West Duty" at 8.30 am and the green flag is displayed. NO FLAG, NO PLAY! Please assist the kindergarten teachers by reminding your child about the no flag, no play rule. This also applies after school.



Assemblies:

Combined Assemblies in the hall will start at the end of Term 1.

Seven Key Learning Areas:

- **English:** Speaking and Listening, Writing and Representing, Reading and Viewing, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation, Vocabulary and Responding and Composing.
- **Mathematics:** Working Mathematically, Number and Algebra, Measurement and Space, Statistics and Probability.
- **Science and Technology:** the topic this term is Living World
- **History and Geography**
- **Creative Arts:** Music, Drama, Visual Arts and Dance
- **Music and Dance** will be taught by Mrs Sally Morris
- **Personal Development, Health, Physical Education**

Creative Arts: Music



During Term 1, K/1WMC will be taught music with Mrs Morris in her classroom in the Annexe. Music learning in the early years promotes students' listening and expressive skills, linking with skills required in the development of literacy. Study of music also strongly supports the development of mathematical thinking. In Term 1, kindergarten will be investigating elements of music including tone colour, pitch, mood and rhythm and beginning to learn formal music notation supported by Kodaly Pitch names in conjunction with Curwen Hand-signing. **K/1WMC has music, dance and computer with Mrs Morris each Wednesday at 11:45 am – 1:10 am.**

Mrs Sally Morris

Handwriting:

Students will be learning to write using the N.S.W. Foundation Style of letter formation. Please encourage your child to use the correct starting points and directions when writing. Although many Kindergarten students can write their own names, quite often they use capital letters in the middle of their names instead of just at the beginning. Students need to only use a capital letter at the beginning of their names. We will also be encouraging students to use the correct pencil grip.

History: In 2024, students will be doing a unit called 'Personal and Family histories'. Students learn about their own history and that of their family. As well it looks at the stories people tell about the past.

Library:

Children will have a weekly library lesson with Ms Griffith. **K/1WMC will go to the library on Fridays.** During Library time, the children will have the opportunity to borrow from the school library. Students will require a library bag to borrow. (Approximately 30 cm x 40 cm.) Please ensure that the bag is clearly labelled with both the child's first and last name.



Premier's Reading Challenge: (PRC):

This year, children will be encouraged to participate in the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC). It is designed to foster a love of reading. It is not a competition, rather, a challenge which lets children experience a range of quality literature. Ms Griffith is the co-ordinator of the Challenge at A.P.S. Details of the Challenge can be found on the Challenge website. Just search *2024 NSW Premier's Reading Challenge* for more information. <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>

Books that are read at home and school will count towards the Challenge. A total of 30 titles from the set reading list will need to be read with the details entered onto PRC website under the child's name. Details on how child log on will be sent home at a later stage.



Reading

Ms Alison Griffith
Teacher Librarian

Fitness/Sport:

K/1WMC will participate in PE and sport on a Tuesday and Thursday. It is recommended that they wear their Sport uniform and joggers/runners on **Tuesday and Thursday** each week.



Fruit Break:

In addition to lunch and recess, we encourage students to bring a water bottle and a small piece of fresh fruit or vegetable for a mid-morning break (usually about 10.00am). Please ensure it is cut up and easy to manage in the classroom e.g., carrot/celery sticks, strawberries, apple. This is only a short break.

We also have students at our school with severe peanut allergies. We ask you to please refrain from sending any product to school which include peanuts and tree nuts.

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL):

Albury Public School has three core values, Respect, Responsibility and Resilience.

Reports:

Individual student reports are sent home twice a year at the conclusion of Semester 1 and Semester 2. Parent/teacher interviews are conducted at mutually agreed upon times between teachers and parents/carers. There will be Parent/Teacher Interviews during Week 10 of this term. If you would like to discuss any aspect of your child's progress at other times, please do not hesitate to contact us to make a mutually convenient appointment.

Attendance:

It is important that explanations for all absences (including part of the day) are given – preferably by a note from the parent/carer. Telephone messages from parents/carers are acceptable. If your child changes his/her home routine, a note is required– this reduces undue stress for the students as well as ensuring their safety. **Partial absence note** – any child who arrives late to school or leaves early, must be signed in or out at the front office. Any absence is recorded on the class rolls and is monitored externally by the NSW Department of Education.

Clothing:

It is extremely important that students wear their school broad-brimmed hats outside each day. Also, a spare pair of underpants inside a plastic bag kept in the student's bag is a good idea. Please label **ALL** items of clothing. Kindergarten **lost property** will be placed in the large plastic container which will be outside the West gate each afternoon. Please check this container if your child is missing something.

Newsletter:

Our newsletter is emailed to your email address each Thursday. It is also published on the school website. We encourage all families to read the newsletter to keep up to date with all the happenings at our school. The school website address is: www.albury-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Notes:

Any notes on blue paper that are sent home with the students are 'boomerangs'. This means these 'boomerang blue' notes need to be brought back to school and placed in the chute located at the front office. Please note, teachers do not handle any money. Payments for excursions and other activities can be made online or through the front office. All other notes can be given to the class teacher.

We will have a **Parent Information/Meet the Teacher evening** on Monday 26th February, please see Newsletter for more information. We look forward to the exciting learning experiences that lay ahead for our Kindergarten and Year 1 students this year. If you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Ms Georgina Heazlewood & Mrs Donna Hodgson
K/1WMC Teachers Term 1

Principal Ms Lianne Singleton
ES1 AP (Rel) Mrs Niamh Brushe

