Dear Parents and Community Members,

Welcome back! What a wonderful start to another busy and exciting school year. All staff attended three days of professional learning at the beginning of last week in readiness for the new term. On Thursday, our Year 1 – 6 children returned and it was fabulous to see how they had grown and to hear where they had been for holidays and what great experiences they had over Christmas break. Our new Kinder students came in for their Best Start assessments and the newly established M C class began.

Please note: This year, classes are being named after the teacher’s FIRST names e.g. Mrs Andree Morgan’s class is called 1/2A. When you send notes etc in to the school, could I ask that you double check the correct class label (or at least write the teacher’s surname in full)

Yesterday, the first day of Kindergarten went off very smoothly and I congratulate all the children and their parents for such a stress free beginning to school. Well done.

This year, we welcome a number of new teaching and non-teaching staff to Alma. Our funding has allowed us to put School Learning Support Officers into nearly all classes and employ Robyn Scott as a Quality Teaching Mentor (Robyn is a very experienced executive from Lindfield Public School – this is our sister school in Sydney).

This Friday is our school swimming carnival for all children in years 3-6. Some children in Year 2 are also eligible to attend and classroom teachers will ensure they receive the necessary permission slips etc.

On Monday next week, parents are invited to join the staff for a BBQ at school. This is an informal ‘welcome’ to our new parents and ‘welcome back’ to our returning parents. Please see the information in this newsletter.

Next week, we will have our first Friday afternoon assembly. We will be announcing the SRC representatives and House Captains etc. Everyone is most welcome to join us.

In 2016, Alma Public School will continue to focus on providing your children with a high quality education in an environment that encourages resilience, honesty, caring and effort.

I look forward to sharing that learning journey with you all.

Regards

Glynis Lugnan
Principal
Current Staff and Classes for 2016

**Principal**
Glynis Lugnan

**Assistant Principals**
Sharon DeGoumois  
Andree Morgan  
Katie Bassett-White

**Instructional Leader**
Judy Henry

**Preschool Teachers**
Katie Bassett-White  
Jessica Maddern

**Preschool AEO**
Barbara Clark

**Preschool Admin Officer**
Gina Pearce

**Early Stage 1**
- **Kinder KJ**
  - Jessie Edgar
  - Kylie Jackson

**Stage 1**
- 1-2A
  - Andree Morgan
- 1-2R
  - Rebecca Green
- 1-2S
  - Sam Small

**Stage 2**
- 3-4B
  - Brad Lardner
- 3-4J
  - Jessica Townsend
- 3-4R
  - Rebecca Thomson

**Stage 3**
- 5-6A
  - Abby Honeysett
- 5-6S
  - Sandra Clark

**K-6 MC Class**
- **K6K**
  - Kathryn Powell
- **SLSO**
  - Melissa Mitchell
- **Library/Computer Co-coordinator**
  - Lauren de Vries

**Reading Recovery**
- Mary-Anne Watson

**Rural Area Relief (RAR)**
- Deni Williams

**EA4S Interventionist**
Rita Hinchey

**Quality Teaching Mentor**
Robyn Scott

**Quality Teaching Support Teacher**
David Mortimer

**Learning & Support Teacher**
Wendy Wilson

**Counsellor**
Emma Biore

**Assistant Principal Learning**
Fran Lemay (leave)

**Itinerant Teacher Hearing**
Wanda Whitmill

**Kitchen Specialist**
Helen Bub-Connor

**Garden Specialist**
Robyn Curtis

**Reading Recovery**
Angela Langdon

**AEO**
Sandwich Hopcraft

**SLSO**
Sue Files

**SLSO/MultiLit**
Gail Braide

**MultiLit**
Angela Milkins

**Canteen Manager**
Heidi McDonald

**General Assistant**
Tiffany Holden

**Cleaners**
Narelle Harvey

**Administrative Officers**
Sue Files

**Library/Computer Co-coordinator**
Angela Saunders

**Reading Recovery**
Julie Holmes

**Rural Area Relief (RAR)**
Barry Delbridge

**House Captains and Vice Captains 2016**

**Landy**

**Captains:** Charli Lovegrove, Mason McCully  
**Vice Captains:** Airleigh Jones, Bryce Langdon

**Marshall**

**Captains:** Tayissa Smith, Dakota Daddow  
**Vice Captains:** Aiden Eades, Bri-Hanna Robinson

**Strickland**

**Captains:** Shayla Stephens, Jake Adams  
**Vice Captains:** Lacey Jobson, Noah Butcher

**Cuthbert**

**Captains:** Amy Harrap, Marcus Purcell  
**Vice Captains:** Toni-Rose Cunningham, Elijah Pelgrave

**2016 Captains**

Danika Hoskins  
Campbell Quintrell

**Vice Captains**

Imogen Jefferies  
B-Jay Adams

**Prefects**

Ella Knowles, Shakur Johnson,  
Jorja Bray, Jake McDonald,  
Kendra Bugmy, Shaina Burns
Year 3-6 Swimming Carnival

Notes were sent home last week for the Year 3-6 Swimming Carnival which will be held this Friday 12th February at the Broken Hill Aquatic Centre. The carnival will begin at 9.00am with the first event kicking off at 9.30am, concluding at 2.00pm. Recess: 11.00am  Lunch: 1.00pm

Notes and money due back tomorrow, Wednesday 10th February

Subway orders for the P&C fundraiser were due back to school today.

LIBRARY NEWS!

Library is taught by Mrs de Vries on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Students are encouraged to borrow and return their books during their class lesson or during first break. All students need to use a library bag when borrowing.

Kindergarten is allowed to borrow one book.

Years 1 - 6 are allowed to borrow 2 books.

When is my Library day?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K6C</td>
<td>5-6A</td>
<td>3-4J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4B</td>
<td>5-6S</td>
<td>KK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KJ</td>
<td>1-2R</td>
<td>1-2A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4R</td>
<td>1-2S</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Wanted!

Water Donations

It would be greatly appreciated if parents could donate a box of water to be placed in the fridges in your child’s class so that they have cold water when needed.

Bucket Hats

Please ensure your child has an Alma bucket hat each day they are at school for protection from the sun’s harmful rays.

Caps will not be accepted.

NO BUCKET HAT
NO PLAY IN THE SUN

Medication

Staff are NOT permitted to administer any medication without proper authorisation. This includes regular medication which is required for a medical condition or medication which may be required when your child is sick eg: antibiotics, ventolin.

If your child requires prescribed medication to be given at school, please come to the front office to discuss your child’s needs.

These needs will be assessed from the information gathered and procedures put in place to ensure the utmost care is given to the safety and well-being of your child.

P&C Uniform Shop

G Block - Ground Floor

Entry via Comstock Street

Opening Hours: Monday & Thursday - 3.00pm - 3.15pm
NEW IMMUNISATION REQUIREMENTS FROM 1 JANUARY 2016

New immunisation requirements came into force on 1 January 2016 in relation to child care benefits and family assistance payments (the Commonwealth) and the enrolment of children in child care (in NSW) as follows:

The Commonwealth has made changes to child care benefits and family assistance payments under the ‘No Jab, No Pay’ measure to increase childhood vaccination rates, including that conscientious objection is no longer an approved exception for eligibility for the Child Care Rebate, Child Care Benefit, and Family Tax Benefit (Part A—supplementary). Parents who do not fully immunise their children up to 19 years of age are no longer eligible for child care benefits and family assistance payments with exceptions for children recorded with medical contraindications or natural immunity for certain diseases and those on a recognised catch-up schedule. More information about these Commonwealth changes is available from the Australian Department of Social Services at [https://www.dss.gov.au/our-responsibilities/families-and-children/benefits-payments/strengthening-immunisation-for-young-children](https://www.dss.gov.au/our-responsibilities/families-and-children/benefits-payments/strengthening-immunisation-for-young-children)

As the Commonwealth conscientious objection form is no longer available, an Interim vaccination objection form for enrolment in NSW child care centres has been developed for use during 2016 while the Public Health Act undergoes its scheduled review process. Please note that these interim arrangement apply to children enrolled after 1 January 2016 only. Children who were enrolled in 2015 to commence childcare in 2016 do not need to complete the new forms. Children who attend OOSH (Out of School Hours) services both on school campuses or externally are exempt from the vaccination requirements as the children are enrolled in formal schooling. Detailed advice about the enrolment of children in child care from 1 January 2016 and the associated approved forms are available on the NSW Health website at [http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/vaccination-enrolment.aspx](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/vaccination-enrolment.aspx)

SCHOOL TIMES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>Children supervised in playground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:55am</td>
<td>Morning Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>Into class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Break</td>
<td>11.00am - 11.40am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 11.00am - 11.10am Eating Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 11.10am - 11.40am Play Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Break</td>
<td>1.20pm - 1.50pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 1.20pm - 1.35pm Eating Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 1.35pm - 1.50pm Play Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>School day ends</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bus Students:
Students catching the bus need to make their way to the bus pick-up area at 3.00pm.

NEW IMMUNISATION REQUIREMENTS FROM 1 JANUARY 2016

Don’t forget to check you have filled in ALL the required information.

Parents/carers of students with any allergies and/or medical conditions may be contacted soon for further information if necessary.

You must also contact the school if your child requires prescribed medication during school hours.

URGENT!

STUDENT INFORMATION AND LONG TERM PERMISSION FORMS

It is extremely important that these forms are returned to your child’s class teacher by this Friday 12th February.

If you did not receive these forms or need another one please call in to the front office and collect some new ones.

New immunisation requirements came into force on 1 January 2016 in relation to child care benefits and family assistance payments (the Commonwealth) and the enrolment of children in child care (in NSW) as follows:

The Commonwealth has made changes to child care benefits and family assistance payments under the ‘No Jab, No Pay’ measure to increase childhood vaccination rates, including that conscientious objection is no longer an approved exception for eligibility for the Child Care Rebate, Child Care Benefit, and Family Tax Benefit (Part A—supplementary). Parents who do not fully immunise their children up to 19 years of age are no longer eligible for child care benefits and family assistance payments with exceptions for children recorded with medical contraindications or natural immunity for certain diseases and those on a recognised catch-up schedule. More information about these Commonwealth changes is available from the Australian Department of Social Services at [https://www.dss.gov.au/our-responsibilities/families-and-children/benefits-payments/strengthening-immunisation-for-young-children](https://www.dss.gov.au/our-responsibilities/families-and-children/benefits-payments/strengthening-immunisation-for-young-children)

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We are encouraging all students to have their books covered at the start of the year and we would appreciate your help in this matter. There is a book policy in every classroom to improve the work from the students. We will be encouraging the children to take pride in their books and the work that will go into these books.

We would like to welcome all of our Bugdlie students for 2016.

On Monday, we welcomed our 2016 Kindergarten students to Alma Public School. There are 2 classes (KJ & KK) and the new students are settling in very well!

Students will need a library bag for borrowing books from the school library. A plastic bag will be suitable.

If there are any concerns you have regarding your child, please take the time to come to the office, make an appointment and we will endeavour to assist you.
Student Attendance

Attendance is compulsory for all school age students up until they reach 17 years of age.

Alma Public School is a monitored attendance school. This means that we report regularly on student attendance, including persistent late arrivals.

Student absences, including late arrivals and early departures, are recorded daily and are monitored regularly by the Home School Liaison Officer. It is therefore extremely important that the correct procedure is followed at all times.

LATE ARRIVALS
School commences at 9.00am each day. It is important that you ensure your child arrives at school before the line-up bell at 8.55am. Students arriving late MUST sign in at the Administration Office. A late arrival slip will then be issued which must be taken to the child’s teacher.

EARLY DEPARTURE
Parent/Caregivers that need to collect children from school during school hours for appointments etc must come to the Administration Office and sign the student out. An early departure slip will then be issued which must be taken to the child’s teacher to authorise departure. This also applies to students who need to go home due to illness.

ABSENCE
If your child is going to be absent from school, please contact the school on 8088 2181 or notify the school via the School App

Mandatory reporting procedures require the school to contact parents/carers of students who have been absent from school for 3 days without notifying the school.

Changes to DEC attendance codes were brought into effect at the end of 2014. Please note the following:

- Exemptions no longer cover family holidays. These now come under leave.
- All absences must be explained, either in writing or by phone.
- Sick leave of longer than 3 days must be accompanied by a doctor’s certificate.
- Justified leave means that a parent has contacted the school with a legitimate reason for a child’s absence that is approved by the Principal. These do NOT include birthdays, haircuts or shopping trips to buy shoes etc.
- Unjustified/unauthorised leave will be recorded for absences that are not explained satisfactorily within a week.
- Partial leave (including late arrivals) is also recorded on the DEC system and without a written/oral explanation from a parent the children will be recorded as having an unauthorised absence.

If you have any queries about the new codes, please contact the school on 8088 2181

Newsletter, Website & Phone App

Newsletters will be sent home on Tuesdays with the eldest child in each family. Please take time to read the newsletter each week as it contains information about events and activities happening at school including student achievements, reminders, meetings, P&C and canteen news and community notices. The newsletter can also be viewed on-line

www.alma-p.schools@det.nsw.edu.au or via the School App

The Alma Public School website may also be viewed for other information about the school.
Why is arriving at school on time important?

It ensures that your child doesn’t miss out on the important learning activities scheduled early in the day when they are most alert...

It helps your child to learn the importance of punctuality and routine..

It gives your child time to greet their friends before class and therefore...

...reduces the opportunity for classroom disruption!

The bell will ring to go to line.
DON’T FORGET.
school STARTS at 5 to 9!

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and MUST be explained to the school the same way as other forms of absence!

2..4..6..8..
Hurry to school and don’t be late!

Remember.....
every day counts!

Hurry to school and don’t be late!
How to install the Alma phone app

On Apple—iPhone & iPad
- On your iPhone or iPad, open the App Store and search for our school’s name - Alma Public School OR
- Open your pre-installed QR Scanner and scan the QR Code
- Press Install
- Enter your iTunes password
- It will commence downloading immediately

On Android
- On your Smartphone, open the Android/Google Play Market and search for our school’s name - Alma Public School OR
- Open your pre-installed QR Scanner and scan the QR Code
- Press Install
- Your app will start installing instantly

To Open our App
- Look for our school’s All icon on your phone screen
- Press the icon once
- It will open automatically
- When prompted, select yes to receive notification and use your location (this will make sure the google maps and pop-up alerts work)

NEWSLETTERS

Newsletters are sent home on Tuesdays with the eldest child in each family. Please take time to read the newsletter each week as it contains information about events and activities happening at school including student achievements, reminders, meetings, P&C and canteen news and community notices. The newsletter can also be viewed on-line at

www.alma-p.schools@det.nsw.edu.au or via the Alma phone app.

CANTEEN NEWS!

Price changes as from next Monday 15th February
Canteen menus were sent home last week. However, due to bakery price rises, some prices, including sandwiches, roll and pastry items have increased. New menus will be sent home soon.

Please note: If you pack your child’s lunch with items such as yoghurt etc, please ensure the you pack a spoon. Spoons can be purchased from the canteen for 10 cents each if necessary.
To all our students at Alma Public School...

Have fun....

Be good...

Learn lots!

PLEASE BE AWARE OF THE ZONED DROP OFF AREAS AROUND THE SCHOOL
These areas are only to be used (as the sign states) for dropping students off at school.
DO NOT PARK IN THESE ZONED AREAS!

Please make sure your child knows road safety when going to and from school.
This includes walking, riding a push bike or scooter and travelling by bus.

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**YMCA SWIMATHON**

Sunday 28th February

Help the Broken Hill YMCA raise money to support local children and adults with disabilities learn how to swim!

The annual YMCA Swimathon will be held on Sunday 28th February.

**All funds raised stay within Broken Hill**

Get involved and support your community by participating as an individual or team. It’s all about having fun and making a difference. Participants do not have to be athletic swimmers to jump in and participate. Registrations can be made online through: [https://ymcaswimathon-brokenhill2016.everydayhero.com/au/sign-up](https://ymcaswimathon-brokenhill2016.everydayhero.com/au/sign-up), or by filling out a Registration and Sponsorship application (available from Alma Public School).

Please return them to the Broken Hill Regional Aquatic Centre.

Register, collect donations and splash out at the YMCA Swimathon to support those with disabilities learn how to swim.

Any questions, don’t hesitate to call 8080 3510.

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**NSW Early Days Understanding Behaviour Workshop**

Where: Wednesday 30th March 2016 9:30am-3:30pm
Where: Broken Hill Community Inc, 200 Beryl Street, Broken Hill 2880

Early Days Workshops are designed for parents and carers with a child (aged 0-7 years) who is (or may be) on the autism spectrum.
It is recommended that families attend an Introduction Workshop prior to attending the Understanding Behaviour Workshop.

Understanding Behaviour Workshops focus on:
- Learning how to understand your child’s behaviour
- Learning tools to manage behaviour and teach new skills
- Learning how to promote positive behaviours

**Workshops Are:**
- Facilitated by qualified professionals with backgrounds in providing services, advice and support to families of children on the spectrum
- For small groups
- Free of charge – all attendees will receive a range of resources
- Run within school hours
- Inclusive of a light lunch and refreshments
- Not able to provide childcare

To register for the workshop, please visit [www.autismspectrum.org.au/events](http://www.autismspectrum.org.au/events)

Or for more information: Call (02) 8977 8353 or email edworkshops@autismspectrum.org.au

This project is funded by DSS through the Helping Children with Autism (HCWA) package. For more information on the HCWA package, please contact the NSW Autism Advisor program on 1300 870 611 or Aspect on 1800 272 628.
St John Ambulance Aust (NSW) Broken Hill Cadet Division is opening its doors for new members to come along and join the Division. Are you between the age of 8 and 17 and have an interest in doing something good for your community and helping people in times of need plus have fun doing it and form friendships that last a lifetime? If your answer to these questions is yes then the St John Ambulance Australia (NSW) Broken Hill Cadet Division wants to hear from you. St John Ambulance Australia (NSW) Broken Hill Cadet Division meets every Wednesday evening from 6.45pm to 9pm (except school holidays) at the St John Ambulance Hall McGilvary Drive (over railway line on the way to the Broken Earth Cafe) commencing 10th February 2016. The first half of this night will be an information night for Members. Members will then be put into their groups and Parents / Guardians are welcome to stay and observe the running of the Division if they so choose to. Also there will be a Parents / Guardians meeting at 7pm to discuss what is planned for this year and the welfare of your children. Unlike other organisations there is no positions to fill so please come along and listen in. Further details can be obtained by Contacting Superintendent Sandra Haring on 0419 408132.

YWCA Girls Groups
Starts Monday 15th February, 349 Blende Street & Thursday 18th February, St James Church hall, Wilson Street, 4pm to 5.30pm.
After school fun activities for girls 6-12 years.
Cost is $2 for members or $3.50 casual.
Ring 8087 3573 or 0438 085 338 for more information.

MOXIE DRAMA GROUP
Moxie Drama Group will start for the first term on Sunday 14th February at Theatre 44, 189 Wills Street. This is an opportunity for kids in Years 3 to 7 (aged 8-12) to learn theatre skills such as speech, acting, working in a group, stage presence, confidence, etc. Time: 10:30am to 12.00pm Sundays. Cost: $25 per term.
Phone Marilyn Harris on 8087 9585 or mobile 0413 905 048 for details and bookings.

Silver City Roller Skating Club
LEARN TO SKATE CLASS
WHEN:
Tuesday: 5pm - 6:30pm
Saturday: 10am-11:30am
WHERE:
Skate Arena, Memorial Oval
Garnet street entrance
COST:
$5 per season
ALL AGE’S
ALL WELCOME
FRIDAY NIGHT ROLLER DISCO
WHEN:
Friday nights:
7:30pm - 9:30pm
WHERE:
Skate Arena, Memorial Oval
Garnet street entrance
COST:
$5 Entry (including skate hire)
FULLY SUPERVISED
CANTEEN FACILITIES
ALL WELCOME

KidzCare
AFTER SCHOOL CARE
Casual & Permanent Bookings available
Rate is $22 per day, per child
Less if you receive the Child Care Benefit (CCB) and/or Child Care Rebate (CCR)

Broken Hill PCYC KidzCare offers
After School Care!!
(3.00pm to 6.00pm)
For children aged 5 - 12
(must be at school)

PCYC Broken Hill KidzCare offers a range of structured and free play, homework time, social, sports, arts and craft activities that vary daily. Afternoon tea provided, bus collection from local schools included.

PCYC Broken Hill, 58 Gypsum Street, Broken Hill, NSW 2880
Phone the Club on: 8087 3723

Free bus pick up from school

Moxie Drama Group will start for the first term on Sunday 14th February at Theatre 44, 189 Wills Street. This is an opportunity for kids in Years 3 to 7 (aged 8-12) to learn theatre skills such as speech, acting, working in a group, stage presence, confidence, etc. Time: 10:30am to 12.00pm Sundays. Cost: $25 per term.
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