Across the school year we have had the opportunity to push students out of their comfort zone in many ways - academically, socially and physically, with in class learning and other activities, from Athletics to camps to Healesville Sanctuary excursions.

When we are challenged, new learning takes place. This mainly happens in our synapses, the junctions between neurons. The synapses involved change when we learn something new. Once the information is stored, the more we recall what we’ve learned, the more simultaneous the process becomes. This same reaction occurs when learning any new information, including a new skill. What’s even more amazing, is that as we are challenged we learn, when we learn, our brain actually grows!

To help you child build these paths, it is important for you to have conversations about what learning happens at school each day.

Some great questions are:
- What did you do in Maths today?
- What are you reading at school at the moment?
- What did you write about in writing today?
- What do you do when you are stuck with your learning?
- What was the trickiest thing you have learned this week?

If you need any further suggestions – chat to your child’s teacher.

How can we help?
We would like to know if there is anything you would like to know!

We are planning a series of learning sessions for families next year. These sessions will be around curriculum that may be a bit tricky, like:
- Strategies for solving mathematics problems.
- What is a trigraph?
- What are the CAFÉ reading strategies we can use to help our child at home?
- What is a subordinating conjunction?

If there is anything else you would like to know about, please let us know and we will put it in the planner!

Have a great weekend, Vicky
## ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Reuben Kavanagh</td>
<td>for his awesome start to Term 4. Reuben, I am so proud of the way you have come back to school with such a bright and positive attitude. You have been a kind, caring and fair friend, and you have been working so hard to improve your learning especially in Writing. Keep it up, superstar!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2A</td>
<td>Jack Peters</td>
<td>for writing a beautiful letter to me about how much you have enjoyed this year. I am so proud of the work you did Jack. Keep shining, superstar!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3A</td>
<td>Jimmy Pedlar</td>
<td>for the way that he listened to instruction when writing a recount about going fishing. Jimmy planned his writing, structured it correctly, included an orientation, sequence of events and personal comment, wrote in paragraphs and edited and proofread his work. What a terrific effort, Jimmy!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4A</td>
<td>Charlie Francis</td>
<td>for zooming ahead with his reading and jumping up three levels! Charlie has been reading brilliantly, focusing on his strategies and building his comprehension skills. I am so impressed with your efforts, Charlie! Keep up the amazing reading!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5A</td>
<td>Clancy Bedggood</td>
<td>for your brilliant ‘Bold Beginning’ for your recount Writing. You took on the challenge of thinking about altering your sentence structure and content to really hook the reader’s attention. The entire class loved hearing how you ran to your Dad, ”like a whippet”. Thank you, for your amazing learning!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6A</td>
<td>Elise Bowdern</td>
<td>for taking full advantage of the Transition Day, getting to know other students and being a co-operative student. Elise, you contributed in a positive way, displaying our school Values and participated enthusiastically in all activities. Congratulations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6B</td>
<td>Latysha Saerang-Robinson</td>
<td>in recognition of the excellent standard of work you produce and the way you always challenge yourself to improve. You are an excellent learner, who asks questions to deepen your understanding and seeks out feedback to continuously improve your work. Keep up your enthusiasm for learning, Latysha!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japanese</td>
<td>Ryder Brady</td>
<td>has shown his strong language skills with a translation task in Japanese class. His accuracy and speed are outstanding. Ryder, it has been great to see your attitude to learning!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**STAR OF THE WEEK**

**ELIZABETH ROWNTREE**

Lizzie tries her best with everything she attempts. She has a great attitude to her learning and is a good friend. Lizzie watches out for others and is always ready to help when needed. We are proud to have you in our learning community Lizzie. You are a STAR!
Division Athletics

Congratulations to all of our students who competed in Division Athletics at Meadowglen Athletics track last Thursday. We took 32 students to Epping to compete in track and field events against students from other districts. The competition was tough, but despite this, our students gave their all. We were very proud of how supportive and encouraging our team was of each other and of other students competing. Congratulations to Latysha Saerang-Robinson, Noah Campbell, Cam Sloan, Courtney Pedlar, Danielle Nadj and Ashlee Collett who have made it through to compete in Regionals Athletics, in Albury, on Friday. We will be cheering you on from Alexandra!
On the first day back to school this term, the Grade 5’s embarked upon a three day bushwalking trip in the Cathedral Ranges National Park. This trip required students to be completely self-sufficient for three days, carrying their personal belongings, setting up shelters, cooking and cleaning for themselves. All students demonstrated a positive attitude towards the tasks, along with resilience whenever things got tough, a key learning goal of the camp. It was fantastic to see the way everyone supported and cared for each other, working as a team to attain the pinnacle of the trip, North Jawbone Peak. Congratulations for representing yourselves and the school so well! Mrs McInnes

“The best part of the camp was getting to the top of North Jawbone.” Jaidon

“We really liked seeing the kangaroos, especially the biggest one ‘Big Boy Barry!’” Cam and Archie

“I enjoyed cooking.” Dalen

“The hike up to Jawbone and the view when we got there were really good!” Billie

“I liked the hike up the mountain and the view. It was also funny when Mitchell lost his hat and the OEG leader went to get it from the bottom of the cliff.” Jorja

“I enjoyed getting to meet the new OEG leaders and going places where we haven’t been before.” Dylan
The wet weather certainly did not dampen spirits on our recent visit to Healesville Sanctuary. For quite a few of our students, this was their first time visiting, so excitement levels were high.

When we got there, we met our two education leaders, who taught us important facts about the Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby and Tasmanian Devil. We learnt that they are critically endangered and that scientists are constantly trying to think of innovative ways to protect them from introduced species of predators and disease. The students were able to examine the ways these animals behave. One group was super lucky to see a wallaby up close, some students even getting a pat, as it came to say ‘hello’. We were able to experience how to take a blood sample, weigh and scan the micro-chip of a Tasmanian Devil as well. The highlights of the day were the ‘Spirits of the Sky’ bird show, the Koalas and the Reptiles.

Over the next few weeks at school, we will be busy completing further research about these animals to complete a STEM challenge, which will focus on finding solutions to the big problems that face endangered species. The process involves researching, design thinking and creating a prototype. You can read more about it here:

Community News

2 HOURS OF PRECIOUS TIME WITH YOUR CHILD...

Compfire cooking when the weather permits
Discover and investigate
Explore and create

Before you know it, they will be venturing into the big world on their own...

Facilitator home visits for one on one discussions are also available.
For more information, regarding this Playgroup contact
Facilitator Liz Klein Mob: 0436 695 924 Email: lklein@murrindind.vic.gov.au

Buxton Bush Playgroup
Free & facilitated by an Early Childhood Professional
Term 4 2019 commencing
Thursday 10th October
10.00am – 12.00pm
Child-led experiences, adventures and exploration for parents and children together:
Opportunities to interact with other local families and discuss the smaaltalk program:
www.smaaltalk.net.au
Parents please remember to dress yourself and your child in suitable footwear and clothes - this playgroup is held in all weather.

A BAD ATTITUDE IS LIKE A FLAT TYRE.
IF YOU DON’T CHANGE IT, YOU’LL NEVER GO ANYWHERE.

2019/20 Pre Season Training

We are looking for players of all talent and ages to represent the Alexandra Cricket Club.
All ages welcome!
Under 12’s and 14’s train Wednesday 4:30-6pm
Under 16’s and Seniors training Tuesday and Thursday from 4:30pm. Vickery Street, Alexandra.

Contact Darren 0408 576 758 or James 0423 774 838

Fun for the whole family
For details and registrations visit: www.madbillyphy.com.au

MAD Billycart Group

THE MAD BILLYCART DERBY FESTIVAL
2019 Saturday 2 November Lyons St Yea

- Billy cart racing from 10am
- Market and car boot stalls from 9am
- Amusement rides
- Animal farm
- Live entertainment
- Kids shows
- Market
- Games training workshops
- Face painting and henna art
- Pony rides
- Trophies, competitions, prizes and giveaways
- Sack races, 3 legged races

ALEXANDRA CRICKET CLUB
REDBACKS

Contact Darren 0408 576 758 or James 0423 774 838