

## **Glossary of School Terms:**

**Athletics Carnival** – students are bussed to a community sports field and participate in track and field events. Parents are free to attend and can support with timekeeping.

**Band (Training, Concert, Jazz)** – Students apply in Term 4 and are auditioned and offered a position in one of the school bands. The Music committee sends invoices, rents some instruments and helps arrange tutorials in school time. Band Rehearsals are before school and at lunchtime. Weekend Band Camps are held during the year.

**‘Bring a Plate’** – bring along and share with other parents or students something you enjoy eating and can be easily served. It can be sweet or savory, home baked or bought: dips or cheese and crackers, sliced fruit, cake, slices, buns and biscuits are the norm.

**Canberra Excursion** – this fully supervised and well planned three day excursion is a key component of the **Year 6** educational and social program. In addition to educational tours of Parliament House where students participate in a parliamentary debate, Year 6 students participate in the Australian Institute of Sport program and visit Questacon.

**Canteen** – open for recess (10.55 – 11.15am) and lunch (12.40 – 1pm) daily unless notified. Students write lunch order with name and class on a paper bag and deposit in locked box outside primary office or order online. Class lunch baskets are collected from the canteen and delivered to classes by students. Parent volunteers are always welcome at the canteen. See Newsflash for contact details.

**Cross Country Run**– the school Cross Country event is usually run through the bush tracks of Artarmon Reserve. Parents are invited to cheer from the side close to the finishing line. Students run with their age group and the winners in each age group are invited to represent APS at Zone and Area events.

**Choirs (Year 2-6)** Students are auditioned for a place in the school choirs in Term 1. Selected students are expected to attend before school rehearsals. The choirs perform at various school and community functions.

**Class Parents** – one or two parents from each class volunteer to assist the class teacher with communication and social networking during the year.

**ESL** – English as a Second Language teachers assess newly arrived students in Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. ESL teachers work alongside class teachers to plan programs and units of work that support the diverse language needs of students from non English speaking backgrounds.

**Excursions** – These educational outings for students are an important part of the curriculum. They usually require a signed permission note and payment in advance. Notes are sent home in by class teacher explaining requirements for the excursion.

**Interrelate** – an upper primary education program that provides an introduction to sexuality. Parental permission is required for students to participate.

**Life Education** – this Government sponsored K- 6 program complements the school's drug education and healthy lifestyle program. Lessons are delivered in a fully equipped van by experienced teachers.

**Mufti Day** – students come to school dressed in their own choice of clothes – not school uniform. Mufti days are often linked with charity fundraisers and require a gold coin donation from participating students.

**NAPLAN (National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy)** has replaced the Basic Skills Tests for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students throughout Australia. The results are used to inform parents, teachers and the wider community about the student progress. ESL students with limited English who have been in an Australian school for less than a year are not expected to sit these tests. See information and sample questions on NAPLAN website.

**OC Entrance Test** – interested Year 4 students compete for a place in one of two Year 5 Opportunity Classes for Gifted and Talented students. The exams, held in the school hall, test students in literacy, numeracy and general ability. The results of these tests are added to a school based assessment to give students an OC ranking. Gaining a place in OC is very competitive attracting top academic students from local primary schools.

**Parent Teacher Interviews** – parents are offered a 10 minute interview with the class teacher in Term 1. Parents can bring along a friend to translate during the interview or request a translation service through the school's ESL teacher.

**Pupil Free Days** – see School Development Days

**School Development Days** – There are five professional development days per year for teachers. These pupil free days are usually held at the beginning or end of term. Parents are given the dates of these days well in advance so that they can arrange their own childcare.

**School Office** – The main K-6 office is just off the Macmillan Road entrance to the school.

**School Uniform** – the correct summer and winter school uniforms can be viewed on the school website. The uniform shop is open Wednesday mornings from 8.30am.

**Selective High School Exam** – Year 6 students can sit for this exam which is held in a local high School in Term 1. Successful students are offered a place in one of a number of Selective High Schools in the region.

**SRC (Student Representative Council)** - Students from each class Years 2-6 are nominated by their peers to stand for SRC rep. The student with the most votes is elected as SRC Representative for a term. The SRC rep attends lunchtime meetings, communicates student ideas and concerns, participates in fundraising events and reports to the class.

**Strike Days** – These full or part days are initiated by the Teacher’s Federation to resolve employment related issues. Normal classes are usually suspended for the period of the strike but depending on the number of teachers involved, limited supervision may be available. A note is sent home to inform parents about the strike.

**Swimming Carnival** – students Years 2-6 are bussed to Lane Cove Pool in Term 1 to participate in age races, medleys and finals for all strokes. The day is fully supervised and parents are welcome to attend and help with timekeeping. Students are expected to travel to and from the pool by bus with their class teachers and have their name marked on the roll. Only students who can swim 50metres can enter races and swim on the day. Non swimmers are expected to attend on the day and cheer for their house team. Top place getters for each stroke are invited to represent Artarmon at Area and Zone events.

**Tabloid Sports** – a half day of fun and fitness during which children rotate through a variety of fun filled team activities designed to develop ball skills, speed and agility. Parents are encouraged to come along, meet other parents and be involved on the day.

**UNSW (University of New South Wales) Tests**- The school participates annually in the English and Mathematics competitions. All students receive certificates of participation and some students earn credits, Distinctions or High Distinctions. A detailed breakdown of students’ strengths and weaknesses in each KLA (Key Learning Area) tested informs students, parents and teachers and supports future programming. Entry fees for these tests are included in the school fees.

**Year 5 Camp** – a three day camp held early in the year to orient new Year 5 OC and mainstream Year 5 students and support the school’s PDHD (Physical/Health Development) program. The Camp provides a range of fully supervised indoors and outdoors fitness activities with plenty of challenges and opportunities for team support and social interaction.