**TERM CALENDAR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri.</td>
<td>5th Feb</td>
<td>Twilight Working Bee 4.00- 6.00pm -TOMORROW EVENING</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues.</td>
<td>9th Feb</td>
<td>‘Meet and Greet’ interviews. Parents meet class teachers. 3.40-6.00pm.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed.</td>
<td>10th Feb</td>
<td>School Council 7.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur.</td>
<td>11th Feb</td>
<td>Celebration Day for Quality Beginnings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon.</td>
<td>15th Feb</td>
<td>Parent Partnerships Session 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues.</td>
<td>16th Feb</td>
<td>Prep Information Session 5.00pm and Welcome BBQ 5.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon.</td>
<td>22nd Feb</td>
<td>Parent Partnerships Session 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon. – Wed.</td>
<td>29th Feb – 2nd Mar.</td>
<td>Briars Year 3/4 Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon.</td>
<td>2nd Mar.</td>
<td>Parent Partnerships Session 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues.</td>
<td>15th Mar.</td>
<td>Student Free Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs.</td>
<td>24th Mar.</td>
<td>Term one concludes – dismissal at 2.30pm.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri.</td>
<td>25th Mar.</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon.</td>
<td>11th April</td>
<td>Term two commences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed.</td>
<td>13th April</td>
<td>Student Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues – Thurs.</td>
<td>10th – 12th May</td>
<td>NAPLAN</td>
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<td>Mon. – Fri.</td>
<td>15th – 21st May</td>
<td>Education Week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon.</td>
<td>8th Jun.</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday holiday.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri.</td>
<td>24th Jun.</td>
<td>Term two concludes – 2.30 dismissal.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon.</td>
<td>11th July</td>
<td>Term three commences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed. – Fri.</td>
<td>3rd – 5th Aug.</td>
<td>5/6 Camp to Log Cabins at Creswick</td>
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<td>Fri.</td>
<td>16th Sep.</td>
<td>Term three concludes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon.</td>
<td>3rd Oct.</td>
<td>Term four commences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues.</td>
<td>1st Nov.</td>
<td>Melbourne Cup Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues.</td>
<td>20th Dec.</td>
<td>Last day of 2016. Early dismissal 1.30pm.</td>
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**CSEF**
(Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund)

Dear Parents,
If you are a current holder of a Centrelink Healthcare Card or are a Foster Parent please call into the office for an application form.
Please bring your Healthcare Card for photocopying.
Albany Rise Primary School Mission

Our mission at Albany Rise Primary School is to develop students who value learning throughout their lives, strive to achieve and are literate and numerate. We aim to produce confident and empathetic students who are global citizens equipped to succeed in the 21st century.

Please note dates below. Information will be sent out early next week.

**Tuesday, 9th February**

‘Meet and Greet’ Interviews

Parents of students from Year 1 - 6

3.40 – 6.00pm

**Tuesday, 16th February**

Foundation Information Session 5.00pm

Welcome BBQ 5.30pm

School Captains for 2016

I am delighted to present our school captains for 2016. These children were selected in 2015 following the completion of a speech to their peers, a peer voting process and an interview. The captains have already had the opportunity to lead a whole school assembly and they have demonstrated very quickly their ability to fulfil these important leadership positions in our school.

Abbey Sullivan  
CAPTAIN

Aditya Roy  
CAPTAIN

Kaitlyn Black  
VICE CAPTAIN

Faheem Ayobi  
VICE CAPTAIN
Student Free days 2016
(School Council approved these days at the meeting on 18th November)

Wednesday, 27th January

Tuesday 15th March – Curriculum

Friday 20th May – Reporting

Monday, 25th July – Curriculum

Twilight Working Bee
Our first working bee for 2016 will be held on Friday, 5th February. We will commence straight after school and finish with a sausage sizzle. We hope that families can come along and assist us to have a good tidy up around our school. Any time you can spare would be greatly appreciated.

Parent Association and Class Parent Representative program
We are requesting that parents consider attending our first Parent Association meeting on Tuesday, 9th February at 3.00pm in the Function Room. Fund raising and community events are critical to our school. They assist with building and uniting our school community and also provide funds which directly improve resources for the learning of the children. We welcome new parents and greatly appreciate your input.

This year we are again implementing the 'Class Parent Representative Program'. Each class will have one or two parents who liaise with the class teacher to assist with communication with other parents in the class; gaining assistance for class or whole school events and generally building the channels of communication to support families. Each Parent Representative will form part of a team which meets to gain assistance in their role. I will meet with this team to provide support and advice on a regular basis.

I hope that we have parents who will offer to take on these roles. Your involvement will be greatly valued and really appreciated.

School Council Elections
This process commences next week with nominations being called Monday, February 8th. Nominations close at 4 pm on Monday, February 15 and the process will be completed by March 1st. Information for parents is attached to this newsletter and nomination forms may be obtained from the school office. There are four parent member category positions to be filled and two DET employee members. I encourage all members of the school community to consider nominating for School Council.

Personal property brought to school
Please be aware of the following DET policy in relation to personal property which is brought to school:

'Personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises.

Please note the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it will generally not pay for any loss or damage to such property.'

Student Accident Insurance
The Department does not provide personal accident insurance for students.
Parents and guardians are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs.
Student accident insurance policies are available from some commercial insurers. These cover a range of medical expenses not covered by Medicare or private health insurance.

Updating Medical Information
It is important for families to consider any changed medical needs of their children and ensure that we have up to date records regarding asthma, anaphylaxis, allergies or other conditions that may impact on the children at school. Please contact your child's teacher or Janine in the office to discuss these or any other related medical notifications.

Kind regards
Belinda Jones
Principal
jones.belinda.j@edumail.vic.gov.au
STUDENTS OF THE WEEKS

PREP /1N Anthony, Shariah 1/2 PC Ethan, Ekaterina 1/2 S Jacob
3/4 JL Noah, Reece 5/6 L Irene, Hondros 5/6 L Paige, Daniel
4/5 H Iona, Phutan 2/3 T Hannah

CHANG’S TAEKWONDO
Mondays & Thursdays
6.30—8.00 pm
Please contact Sam on
0419 159 493
(If no answer please leave your details and I shall call you back)

Qkr!
Our preferred Method of payment

Parents,
A reminder that the front and rear
STAFF CAR PARKS ARE FOR STAFF
AND EMERGENCY VEHICLES ONLY

ICY POLE FRIDAY
Shall commenced next Friday, 12th Feb. Icy-poles are available from the
Canteen every Friday for just 80c (correct change please)
Numeracy News

Helping with Maths in the Home
Every day counting and problem solving in the home can have enormous benefits on children's long term maths learning. Practising skip counting (2,4,6... 10,20,30...etc) is an important step in understanding and learning times tables. A few minutes counting together each day adds up to positive maths results. This link leads to some great ideas for helping your child's literacy and maths:

Sudoku
Can you solve this puzzle? Every line, both vertically and horizontally must have the digits 1 to 9. Each of the nine square also has to have the digits 1 to 9. If you can solve this Sudoku puzzle, bring your named and completed puzzle to Mrs. Drew and receive a prize!

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Maths Apps
There are many great maths apps out there for tablets and phones. One site that you may like to visit to find educational apps is:

Mrs. Drew's favourite Sudoku app:

Hilton Hen House Latest:

Holiday Helpers Huge Thanks!!
A massive thank you to the Brown and Tyndall-Sweeney families for their work Chooks and Duck safe, well and fed over the long Christmas break. We hope you gain Eggsperience from you efforts! Help is still needed every weekend during the term. Please sign up at the office if you are interested.

Policy Update:

Education Sub Committee meeting
The Education subcommittee meets every month and parents are most welcome to take part in the meetings and discussions to develop school policy and curriculum management. Policies are available on the school website: http://www.albanyrise-ps.vic.edu.au. Our next meeting is on Friday 5th February at 11.30am.

Compass:
Parents/Carers of students newly enrolled in 2016 should have recently received their username and password for access to our parent portal. It was wonderful to hear some feedback regarding the portal from some foundation parents during our Welcome Morning Tea on Tuesday. If you have lost/ not received your password letter, please contact Judy Drew via the office.
School Sports Victoria Nominations Primary Schools 2016

Dear Parents,

School Sports Victoria have opened nominations for trials for the State Team in a number of school sports. The registration process is to be completed online by the parents. SSV state that only ‘elite’ or ‘truly exceptional’ players for each sport should register for these sports. School Sports Victoria give this example: *Johnny is a basketballer and plays locally and representatively. He is in the Representative u/12 3s for the Spectres. He would not be seen as a ‘truly exceptional’ basketballer as it is considered by the Spectres that there are already two teams worth of representative players better than him. If there are 15 juniors better than him in the representative club, it is assumed that he is not in the best 10 players in the state (let alone the Eastern Suburbs that encompasses 5 representative basketball associations).*

Below is a list of the sports that are currently open for nominations and registrations.

**Cricket**  Registrations close 19 February  

**Tennis**  Registrations close 19 February  
[https://www.ssv.vic.edu.au/TeamVic/Pages/Tennis.aspx](https://www.ssv.vic.edu.au/TeamVic/Pages/Tennis.aspx)

**Softball**  Registrations TBA  

**Football, Soccer, Netball & Basketball**  Registration closes 16 March  
[https://www.ssv.vic.edu.au/TeamVic/Pages/onlineRegistrationInformation.aspx](https://www.ssv.vic.edu.au/TeamVic/Pages/onlineRegistrationInformation.aspx)

Registration does NOT ensure selection to trial; **places at trials are limited so written information about experience and ability is imperative. If you would like to register your child, visit the websites and carefully read the details. Please also be aware that there is a $25 non-refundable fee for some sports.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please come and see me.

Dom McCaffrey  
Physical Education Coordinator
OSHClub News
Before School / After School Care Program

Program Update

Last week at OSHClub we had Icy Poles on a hot day.

This week's healthy lunchbox idea:
Cherry Tomatoes and Strawberries
Vegetarian English Muffin Mini Pizzas
Celery Sticks and Dip

Remember to bring your hat for outdoor play!

From Sidrah and Sarah

This Week's Activities - Term 1, Week 3

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<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before Care Activities</td>
<td>Four Square</td>
<td>Heart pop up Valentines</td>
<td>Chain Octopus</td>
<td>Hand shaped Valentines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After Care Activities</td>
<td>Spider and Fly</td>
<td>Tissue Paper Flowers</td>
<td>Computer room</td>
<td>Honey Joys</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parent Information

OSH program phone: 0401 501 598
Coordinator: Sidrah Rizwan Hassan
Assistants: Sarah Lesuey
OSHClub Head Office: 03 8564 9000

All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is Free!! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.
Dear Parents,

It's School Council election time at Albany Rise Primary School
...and we would love to have your involvement!

School Council elections are held in Term 1 of each year.

The following School Councillors' membership ends in March of this year and their positions have become vacant:

- Parent members:
  - Fiona Dewhirst Daniel, Chandramoorthy Subramonian, Gordon Mathieson and Maria Fletcher (filling casual vacancy).

There are 4 parent member vacancies. We also have an additional casual vacancy until March 2017.

Department of Education & Training (DET)
Keirston Calleja

There are four parent vacancies and two staff vacancies. The parent representatives whose membership ends this year and who still have children at the school are welcome to renominate.

The timeline for the School Council elections will be as follows:

- **Monday 8th February**
  - Call for nominations for School Council
- **Monday 15th February**
  - Nominations close 4:00 pm
  - Display list of candidates, nominator and seconder

**Election Process**
- **Monday 22nd February**
  - Ballot papers distributed
- **Monday 29th February**
  - 4:00pm ballot closes
- **Tuesday 1st March**
  - Count votes and declare the poll

* No election will be necessary if only the required numbers nominate.

Find attached:
- An outline of School Council and what is involved.

A self-nomination form or a nomination form can be collected from the school office from Monday, 8th February.

I would encourage all parents to consider being on School Council. If this information has left you with questions still to be answered please come and have a chat or contact me on the school phone number 9547 1146.

Regards,

Belinda Jones
Principal
School Council Elections

- What is a school council and what does it do?
- Who is on the school council?
- Why is parent membership so important?
- How can you become involved?
- Do I need special experience to be on school council?
- What do you need to do to stand for election?

What is a school council and what does it do?
All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?
There are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected parent category. More than one third of the total members must be from this category. DET employees can be parent members at their child's school.
- A mandated elected DET employee category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional community member category. Its members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be community members.

The term of office for members is two years. Half the members must retire each year and this creates vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is parent membership so important?
Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?
The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which will be held in March this year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant. In view of this, you might seriously consider:

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?
No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future. This is a great opportunity for someone to be a part of one of the most important decision making groups in the school!! Please don’t think you don’t have the skills to be an effective contributor – this could not be further from the truth. If you can answer yes to the following questions, then we want you to nominate for School Council.

- Do you have a genuine interest in the education of your child/ren and other children?
- Are you a good listener?
- Do you have a spare two hours (no more) a month to attend a meeting and a little more time (not much) to do some background reading?
- Are you able to work as part of a team?

Schools and Communities- “COMMUNITY BUILDING”
School Council has an important role in fostering:

1. **Connectedness:** Building a strong bond between all school community members (students, parents & staff) and with our wider community.
2. **Relationships:** When people know each other better, the more aligned their expectations become. If you are the only parent who expects his or her child to go to bed at a certain time, this will be harder to achieve.
3. **Harmony:** Most conflict is caused by differences in perception. Our children will be safer and happier if we are able to connect with each other.
4. **Values:** When our school values are shared and lived by us as adults in our school community they will be transmitted to the children. Our actions and interactions show children what we value.
5. **Civics and Citizenship:** Children who see their parents making positive contributions to society are much more likely to do so themselves.