



## Exciting News for Ascot Vale Primary School

After considerable effort over the past 18 months, we are pleased to announce the AVPS capital works project is about to commence, which is fantastic news for our school community. The works are planned to begin very soon (within a week) and the entire project should be completed by very early Term 1, 2019.

The AVPS capital works will include:

- Relaying of artificial turf on the oval and complete landscaping of surrounding areas (thus eliminating the bumps and unevenness)
- Replacing the junior playground on the Moonee St boundary with a new playground that has been developed in consultation with the students
- Extension of the decking outside the Learning Studio
- Complete refurbishment of the students' toilets
- Refurbishment and removal of a wall in Unit 2 to create one flexible learning space in line with other units
- Redevelopment of the staff room, staff toilets, administration offices and first aid room to meet contemporary security and operational needs
- Installation of new fences and gates

To achieve all this in a relatively short period, a significant section of the school grounds on the Moonee St side of the school will be fenced off. Consequently, the following arrangements will be put in place **once the works start** to ensure the learning and wellbeing needs of students are being met.

### **SCHOOL ACCESS**

The Moonee St pedestrian entrance will be moved to the gate near the basketball court / lawn area. Signs and an extra person on yard duty in the morning will be present to assist students and parents to enter and leave the school grounds safely. Although the construction group will endeavour to minimise their vehicle traffic at drop off and pick up times, please be wary of extra vehicles on and around the site.

### **AFTERCARE/BEFORECARE ENTRANCE**

The usual entry door to aftercare will not be available so please enter and exit through the alternative door on the opposite side of the building (opposite Unit 2 classroom).

### **OUTSIDE PLAY FOR THE STUDENTS**

A plan will be made to alter the school timetable to split lunch breaks due to a significant section of the school grounds being fenced off. This will be done to ensure student safety and to maximise children's play opportunities, so half the student population will be outside at a time at lunch times. The recess break will be reduced to avoid a large amount of children being in a small play space for large amounts of times. We have ensured the same amount of outside play times, just altered the timing of the breaks. Specific times will be published in this week's newsletter.

### **BUILDING SITE**

Once the construction company fences off their work site, **NO** member of the school community or public will be allowed to enter the site. Please respect this for obvious safety reasons.

### **RELOCATABLE CLASSROOM**

In addition, in the coming weeks the school will be receiving a permanent relocatable classroom on the North West section of our site in preparation for the 2019 school year. This is completely separate from the capital works project and is in response to new demographic data having been received regarding the Ascot Vale neighbourhood area. In a 12-month period, our projected enrolments have increased significantly, thereby deeming a permanent relocatable classroom suitable for our site. More information regarding the relocatable classroom, including drawings, will be published in this week's newsletter.

Community members may consider parking away from the school and walking to the Bank St entrance to avoid congestion or confusion on the Moonee St side over the coming weeks. Thank you for your flexibility and cooperation during this exciting improvement period for our school.

Regards

Sue and Mike - AVPS Principal Team

7<sup>th</sup> November 2018