

ARNCLIFFE PUBLIC SCHOOL



CURRICULUM ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

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ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES LISTED BY STAGE

	Early Stage 1	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3
Be Excited About Reading – B.E.A.R. (Minilit)				
Debating				
Public Speaking				
Library Monitors				
Premier's Reading Challenge				
Arabic				
Premier's Sporting Challenge				
Athletics Carnival				
Cross Country				
Chess After School				
PSSA				
In Line Skating				
Swimming Programs				
Interrelate				
Art After School				
Operation Art				
Arncliffe Library Book Week Art Competition				
Choral Program				
Junior Choir				
Stage 2 Choir				
Senior Choir				
Training and Concert Band				
String Ensemble				
Junior Music Group				
Drama				
Wakakirri				
Film By The Sea/City				
'A' Factor				
Events Crew				
Seasons for Growth				
Peaceful Kids				
Rock and Water				
Inquiry Based Learning				
Leadership courses				
SRC				
Buddy Program				
Men's Shed				
Keyboard				
Step Up				
Gardening at School				
Before, After and Vacation Care – T.A.S.K.				

INTRODUCTION

Arncliffe Public School has the tradition of educational excellence and our professional and skilled teachers are the key to that excellence. Our teachers are committed to nurturing the best possible outcomes for all students across the curriculum providing them with opportunities to experience success in their learning and personal growth. While the academic curriculum at Arncliffe Public School is diverse, ensuring all needs of the students are met, we understand that education and the need for enrichment and extension of your child is vital to ensure continued development and academic success.



Arncliffe Public School promotes and recognises individual achievement across the full range of individual talents and abilities and as such provides a curriculum enrichment program that contains activities and opportunities for each student to develop his or her interests, self-awareness, esteem and confidence. These activities provide opportunities for students to expand their learning experiences explore interesting leisure activities and develop their social skills.

This booklet contains information about curriculum enrichment activities and opportunities available to students through the school. Many of these are provided by staff, parents and fellow students. They include performance groups, a variety of competitions and vast range of activities.

Pamela Ladd
Principal



ENGLISH

Be Excited About Reading – BEAR

The BEAR program is a school-based Literacy program run by parent tutors who have undertaken specific school based training. The program operates during Term 3, for selected Year 1 students over an intensive period of 10 weeks. The students have 3 or 4, one-to-one 30 minute sessions to build and develop their reading skills and confidence.

Minilit

MiniLit is an evidence-based, explicit and effective early literacy intervention program for teaching reading skills to children who are in the bottom 25% of the expected range for their age group in Year 1 and 2.

Debating

Stage 3 students (Years 5 and 6) are able to participate in debating. Expert tuition is provided for all students interested in developing their skills and participating in inter-school competitions. Students learn how to express their ideas fluently and confidently, how to think on their feet and how to develop and support logical arguments.

Public Speaking

All students K-6 participate in a Public Speaking program. This culminates in the school's annual Public Speaking competition. Successful students at this level represent our school at the Sydney Schools Public Speaking Competition.

Children from Stage 2 and 3 also have the opportunity to participate in a school based Multicultural Public Speaking Competition with one student from each Stage advancing through the competition if successful.

Library Monitors

Students in Years 5 and 6 (Stage 3) are selected to be Library Monitors through application and dedicated service. As Library Monitors the students assist the Librarian during second half lunch, 4 days each week, when the Library and Computer Lab are opened for students. The duties of a Library Monitor include: computer trouble-shooting and assistance, reading stories to small groups, playing board games, returning and borrowing books for students and general Library and Computer Lab maintenance.

Premier's Reading Challenge

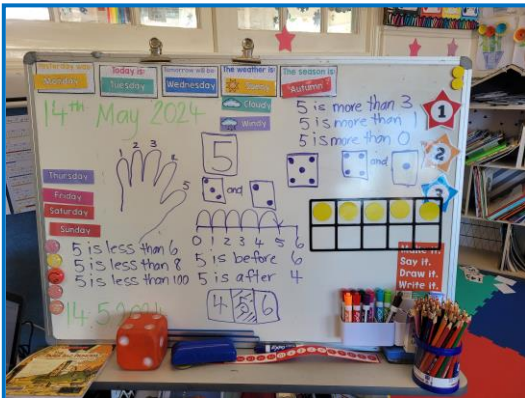
The Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) is available for all NSW students from Kindergarten to Year 9, in all NSW schools. Participation by schools and students is voluntary.

The Challenge aims to encourage in students a love of reading for leisure and pleasure, and to enable students to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely.

MATHEMATICS

Maths Warm ups with Anita Chin

Primary school consultant *Anita Chin*'s whole-school approach empowers teachers and leaders with the content knowledge, strategies and tools they need to deliver learning experiences that support students to improve their understanding and achievement in mathematics. Maths warm ups have become a part of our lesson structure school-wide creating learning environments where all students can be mathematicians.



Top Ten Maths

Top Ten Maths is a program of practical and visual rich tasks linked to picture books. We are building our Numeracy Library, by bringing Literacy and Numeracy together. This program is very complimentary to our Targeted Early Numeracy (TEN) program which operates K-2 and Taking Off With Numeracy (TOWN) in Stages 2 and 3. The students also subscribe to Mathletics Online.



LANGUAGES

Arabic

Arncliffe Public School offers Arabic to students of an Arabic background. Children from Kindergarten to Stage 3 have the opportunity to learn to read, write and engage in the cultural aspects of the language. The course content is connected to the Key Learning areas of the NSW curriculum. This ensures that the course content is fun, engaging and relevant. Learning Arabic allows students to connect with their cultural heritage and equips students with another perspective. Learning Arabic promotes an appreciation of culture, values and history.



PDHPE – Personal Development, health and physical education

Premier's Sporting Challenge

The Challenge includes a range of initiatives with one common purpose - to have more Arncliffe Public School students, more active, more of the time! The Premier's Sporting Challenge aims to engage young people in sport and physical activity and encourages them to lead healthy, active lifestyles.

Sport plays an important role in developing regular physical activity, provides positive health outcomes and is a fun and healthy way to connect with your local community. We invite students to take up the Challenge and take the path to a healthier life.

Athletics Carnival

Arncliffe Public School holds an annual School Athletics Carnival for students K-6. When students place and within the specified time they will be selected for the Zone Athletics Carnival to represent the school in competition with other schools. Our school has had numerous representatives with some students progressing to the Regional competition.

Cross Country

Arncliffe Public School holds an annual School Cross Country Carnival for students 8 years and over during Term 2. When students place within the specified time they will be selected for the Zone Cross Country Carnival to represent the school in competition with other schools. Our school has had numerous representatives with some students progressing to the Regional and State competition.

Primary School Sport Association (PSSA)

At Arncliffe Public School PSSA sport program operates each Friday morning and is an interschool competition. Currently the sports available are:

Summer Sports: **Softball | Cricket | Basketball**

Winter Sports: **Soccer | Oztag**

PSSA is available for boys and girls in Years 3 – 6. The teams are formed as Junior and Senior Teams. Team selection is through trial. Weekly training is held at school and then each team travels to an independent oval/court each week to compete against teams in the St George PSSA. This culminates in a finals competition where champion schools are crowned as winners of the grand final.

Arncliffe Public School has a rich history in this competition, noted for our team spirit and level of completion.

Inline Skating

Inline skating is offered as an option for Primary sport on Fridays. The students are taught how to use protective equipment for skating. All students receive tuition on how to fall without causing injury, balance and fundamental skating maneuvers. The program is for boys and girls and is delivered outdoors on the basketball court and is a wonderful vehicle to promote a healthy growth mindset.



Swimming Programs

The Kindergarten –Year 1 Swimming program

Is an 8-day intensive learn to swim and water safety program operating from Col Jones Pool in Tempe. Qualified instructors deliver the program. The swimming program operates in Term 4, annually.

The Year 2-6 Swimming program

Is an 8-day intensive learn to swim and water safety program operating from Botany Pool. The program is delivered by qualified instructors through the Department of Sport and Recreation and the Department of Education and Communities. There are limited places available each year, with priority given to students in Years 2, 3 and 4. Students in Year 5 and 6 can access the program as non-swimmers or as identified through need.

Swimming Carnivals

Arnccliffe Public School holds an annual School Swimming Carnival for students 8 years and over, during Term 1. When students place within the specified time they will be selected for the Zone Swimming Carnival to represent the school in competition with other schools. Our school has had numerous representatives with some students progressing to the Regional competition.



Interrelate Program

Interrelate is an annual Growth and Development program for the student in Years 5 and 6 (Stage 3). The focus of the program is “Change” and understanding that change can have a social, emotional and physical impact. The program also has a major component which is a focus on “Puberty” and the impact that this change can have on us as individuals. Strategies to deal with change are explored and elaborated upon.

Positive Behaviours for Learning

Arncliffe Public School is a Positive Behaviours for Learning School (PBL) where students are encouraged to be Respectful and Responsible Learners.

1. Awards are accrued throughout students’ years at Arncliffe Public School from K-6.
2. When a child has **20 Gotcha Awards** they are presented with a **Bronze Award**.
3. Teachers and support staff award Bronze certificates at weekly assemblies.
4. When a child has **5 Bronze Awards** they are presented with one **Silver Award**.
5. When a child has **5 Silver Awards**, they are presented with one **Gold Award**.
6. When a child has **3 Gold Awards**, they are presented with one **Blue Award and a Merit Badge**.



Visual Arts

Visual Arts students are provided with a variety of opportunities that develop, enrich and further extend their creative talents in photography, video, film making, digital media, painting, drawing, and sculpture and textile arts.

Art After School

Art Club is operated by external providers and is a parent initiative supported by the P&C. Currently Art Club operates two afternoons per week for a maximum of 15 students. The school provides two scholarship places for students each term. The program runs in Term 2 and 3.

Professional artists deliver the workshops building on skills and techniques which include sculpting, drawing, painting and multimedia applications to express creativity and imagination.



Operation Art

Operation Art is an external program which students nominate for and parents pay the program fee. Students attend a full day workshop, with specialist Art teachers to design, make and create pieces of art work. This artwork is used to create an art gallery which is open to the public. The proceeds from the event are channeled into Westmead Children's Hospital.

Arncliffe Public Library Book Week Competition

Each Year the Public Library in Arncliffe, which is affiliated with Rockdale Library and Council, holds a themed Art competition for all the local Pre-Schools and Schools. The children from Kindergarten to Year 2 enter this competition annually. Winners are presented with their prize by the Mayor of Rockdale Council in the Council Chambers.

CAPA - Creative and practical Arts

Within the Performing Arts faculty there are many opportunities to further develop skills and experience a deeper knowledge and understanding of Drama, Music and Dance. It is an expectation that students participate and embrace the following opportunities.

Choral Program

Children love to sing and the voice is our first and most versatile instrument. Singing brings joy to children's lives and to audiences as well. Arncliffe Public School offers students from Years 2 to 6 with the opportunity to sing in one of three choirs.

Junior Choir

The Junior Choir at Arncliffe Public School is an excellent extra-curricular opportunity for enthusiastic students who want to develop their singing skills. They will develop their skills in breathing, phrasing, vocal production and performance. Students also learn to sing in an ensemble and gradually control their own voices as they perform on stage. The Junior Choir have several performance opportunities throughout the year within different events and occasions.

Stage 2 Choir

The Stage 2 Choir, for Years 3-4, extends the training provided in the Junior Choir providing the students with a greater variety and more challenging repertoire that includes popular tunes as well as original compositions by Australian composers. The songs are sung in unison or in two-parts and introduce the singers to the musical concepts of pitch, harmony, dynamic contrast and articulation. In addition to school and community performances, the Stage 2 Choir will have the opportunity of singing in The Arts Unit's choral series, The Primary Proms, in the Sydney Town Hall, working with expert choral directors.

Senior Choir

Senior Choir provides students in Years 5-6 with more of a challenging repertoire, with an increased number of two-part songs and a more demanding range of works, including classical music, songs from musicals, jazzy numbers to more contemporary music. There is greater emphasis at this level of developing the students' musical skills, including blending, mastering complex rhythms and tempos, following a conductor and learning performance etiquette. The Senior Choir perform at the Sydney Opera House as part of the Sydney Public Schools Music Festival. Other performances include Let's Get Louder and Presentation Day.

Training and Concert Band

Arncliffe Public School's band program provides students in Years 3 to 6 with the opportunity to play a wind, brass or percussion instrument in the Concert Band or Training Band.

Research has demonstrated some of the benefits of playing a musical instrument:

"Practicing an instrument before age seven likely boosts the normal maturation of connections between motor and sensory regions of the brain, creating a framework upon which ongoing training can build." (C. J. Steele et al, 'Early Musical Training and White-Matter Plasticity in the Corpus Callosum: Evidence for a Sensitive Period'. Journal of Neuroscience, 2013)

Students who are members of a music ensemble develop strong camaraderie, broaden their social networks and benefit from supporting and learning from each other, which can lead to an enormous sense of accomplishment and self-esteem. By participating in an ensemble, students can use and expand on the musical techniques they've learned in private lessons, broaden their repertoire and begin to develop a number of other musical skills, including blending and balancing individual parts, mastering complex rhythms and tempos, following a conductor and learning performance etiquette.

In addition, students from Arncliffe Public School are encouraged and supported in their participation in musical opportunities under the direction of music professionals who are associated with the Department's Arts Unit and other key Sydney Public Schools music specialists. These include the Sydney Southeast Symphonic Winds, Sydney Southeast Orchestra and the annual State Junior Music Camps.

Performance opportunities for the Concert Band and Training Band include the Engadine Music Band-Fest, Annual School Band Festival at the University of NSW, as well as school performances such as the Let's Get Louder concert, Presentation Day and the Easter Hat Parade.



Junior Music Group

The Junior Music Group is an opportunity for students in Year 1 and 2 to be engaged in music through percussion. Weekly training sessions are held before school commences. The Junior Music Group has performance opportunities throughout the year at events for Mother's Day, Education Week and the annual Christmas Concert.

Drama

All students attend a weekly performing arts session. These lessons cover drama, dance or movement and music. Lessons are based, where applicable, on the current stage themes, in order to explore, enhance and extend knowledge, through experience, empathy and creativity.

Students have many opportunities to perform in Education Week and Christmas performances, as well as class based items.

Wakakirri

All primary school pupils are eligible to participate in Wakakirri, regardless of prior experience or ability. Wakakirri is a story – dance competition based on an annual signature item. Children rehearse at school and perform at professional venues. Arncliffe Public School has been involved for the past 12 years.

“A Factor”

“A Factor” is a biannual Talent Quest driven by the students and the coordinating teacher. Groups or individuals have the opportunity to entertain the whole school in dance, vocals, playing an instrument, performing magic shows, in fact any form of popular entertainment, in an effort to win this highly popular and spectacular event. “A Factor” has a rich tradition at our school and is a highly valued community event.

Events Crew

The Events Crew has responsibility of organising the Audio equipment for school assemblies and events. These events could be outdoor where microphone and audio equipment are synchronized and tested. Seating is also arranged and packed away at the conclusion of each event.

In the Hall the Events Crew is responsible for the microphones, including the lectern microphones, PA systems, music systems, digital presentations and coordination, lighting, heating and seating arrangements.

OTHER

Seasons for Growth

Seasons for Growth is a program offered at Arncliffe Public School for children who have experienced significant change or loss. It is based on the belief that change, loss and grief are a normal and valuable part of life.

The core intentions of the program is the development of emotional resilience to promote social and emotional wellbeing. The program uses the imagery of the four seasons to illustrate that grief is cyclical, not a linear journey with a clear end.

Teachers are trained as facilitators and together with students in small stage based groups examine how changes such as death, separation and divorce impact upon our lives and explore how we can learn to live with and grow from these experiences.

The Seasons for Growth program is educational in nature and does not provide therapy.

Peaceful Kids

'Peaceful Kids' is a Mindfulness and Positive Psychology program that is offered to selected students who would benefit from additional support with developing coping strategies that lessen the symptoms of anxiety and stress.

The outcomes of the program are:

- Lesson symptoms of anxiety and stress in children
- Teaches children to self-calm
- Empowers children to manage their own anxiety
- Develops emotional intelligence skills
- Teaches children life-long skills to manage stress and prevent stress build up
- Supports children so they know that they are not alone with their suffering from anxiety



Peaceful Parents

'Peaceful Parents' is a Mindfulness and Positive Psychology program that is offered to selected parents whose children have participated in the Peaceful Kids program. It is a complimentary program designed to provide parents with additional strategies to assist with the development of coping strategies that lessen the symptoms of anxiety and stress. Peaceful Parents is facilitated by our staff who have completed formal training in both programs.

Rock and Water

Rock and Water reduces bullying, increases self-control and enhances social and communication skills.

The program offers:

- Practical anti-bullying strategies
- Alternatives to aggressive verbal and physical responses
- Better ability to be in control through grounding, centeredness and mental focus
- Increased self respect, self control and self confidence
- Enhances resilience skills and well-being
- Skills to identify and monitor reactive behaviour patterns



Inquiry Based Learning

Inquiry Based Learning is an important component of the Kindergarten program at Arncliffe Public School. It's an approach which engages young learners through 'play'. Students have ownership of their learning and it is based on the belief that children have the ability and desire to construct their own knowledge.

Inquiry based learning enhances learning as it provides a 'child-centred' environment where the learning builds on children's experiences. All children's abilities and interests are catered for as they have the opportunity to use materials that are relevant to their developmental needs. In this approach to learning there is no one correct answer nor one correct way to use materials. This enables all children to be successful learners. Children are stimulated to become curious, self-regulated and reflective learners who refine their capacity to question, explore, research, create, problem solve, persist and achieve through the point of their authentic interests. This type of learning environment encompasses

outcomes from all the Key Learning Areas. In this type of learning environment the teachers role is to observe, interact and facilitate.

Leadership Courses

The Student Leadership Program (SRC, Peer Support, Captains and Prefects) assists students to develop the knowledge, attitudes and skills they need to take on leadership roles, fulfil their potential and contribute positively to society. The program builds student self-esteem by providing many opportunities to contribute positively to the school. These include organising and assisting with various group activities and engaging in organised discussions and debates on student issues. Students develop skills such as decision-making, assertiveness and public speaking.

Students also learn how to support each other in a structured, caring and friendly environment. The program runs throughout the year and also includes activities such as managing morning assemblies, speaking at parent meetings and representing the school at formal occasions. Captain and prefects undertake a leadership skills program called “National Young Leaders Conference”, held at the Sydney Entertainment Centre every year.

Student Representative Council (SRC)

What is the SRC?

The SRC is made up of 40 students from Years 1 – 6 who are democratically elected by all students in the school. Two students from each class are elected to be SRC representatives for their class. They represent the students and promote their views in decision making. The SRC addresses needs of the school community and allows for students to make a positive contribution to the school.

By being involved in the SRC, students develop their leadership and communication skills while actively participating in the planning of school events and experiences for all students to enjoy. They also develop their problem solving skills as a result of their involvement. Students learn to care about their school and experience enjoyment through successful participation of being an active member of the SRC. The SRC has run some very successful events to raise awareness and support for issues they have seen as important and worth supporting. These include a Tasty Tuesday to raise funds to support our World Vision sponsor child, a Twisted Tuesday to raise awareness and support the research of Juvenile Arthritis, Walk Safely to School Day to communicate the importance of road safety and our Christmas Wishing Tree to collect donations to give to the Salvation Army to support the needy at Christmas. As the SRC represent all the children at our school, they meet regularly as a group and with our principal for “High Tea with the Principal”, where they raise concerns that have been brought to their attention and also present requests students have made on their behalf.

Responsibilities of SRC members include:

- attending all SRC meetings – every Monday from 1.40 – 2.00pm (recess)

- discussing issues and reporting back from our meetings to their class on a weekly basis
- working towards improving the physical and social environment of our school
- organising activities for students
- cooperating with teachers and others running activities
- making announcements and giving SRC reports in assembly
- older SRC members assisting Years 1 and 2 students when reporting to their class after our recess meetings
- fundraising for specific purposes
- updating our notice board regularly
- meeting with our Principal to discuss ideas and issues
- wearing the SRC badge to school every day with pride

Buddy Program

The Arncliffe Public School Buddy program commences for the students in Year 4. It is their first opportunity to be prominent leaders in our school. They play a crucial role in ensuring the new Kindergarten students settle happily into their new school. The students play a significant role in the Transition to School program, assisting both students and teachers.

The Buddies have responsibility for introducing new Kindergarten students into the school life, ensuring they are safe and happy during lunch and recess. They also expand friendships, assist with orientation and support classroom teachers in the first few weeks of each new school year. It is a position of responsibility and honour.

Men's Shed

Arncliffe Men's Shed is a mentoring program for selected boys in Stage 6. Run annually in Term 3 and 4, the boys have the opportunity to design and make timber products using simple tools and techniques under the careful tuition of local community members from the Arncliffe Men Shed.



Step Up

Delivered by St George Youth Services from funding through Links to Learning, Step Up targets students in Stage 3 who require additional support with the transition from Year 6 into Year 7 High School. The workshops span 8 weeks and cover building resilience and self-esteem, growing confidence, anger management, respectful relationships and strategies to address anxiety. The program is valued highly by the staff, students and parents and makes a significant difference for the students involved.

Before and After school Care and Vacation Care programs:

The After School Klub – T.A.S.K offer a Before and After school program as well as Vacation Care.



Gardening at School

The school garden program is run by teachers and students where they are involved in activities including: composting, seed collecting and raising, planting, watering, weeding, harvesting, cooking and sharing at the table.

