6th September 2013

From the Principal's Desk
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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Our Significant Co-Educators

We celebrate Teacher Aide Day on the first Friday of September to recognise the great work teacher aides do to support our students and teachers. The help they offer goes a long way in our classrooms, providing the extra attention our students deserve to improve and extend their knowledge. Our teacher aides also support our teachers to organise engaging and educational activities each day.

On this particular Teacher Aide Day the Honourable John –Paul Langbroek, Minister for Education, Training and Employment visited our school to pay tribute to our teacher aides for their wonderful and dedicated work whilst at the same time congratulating and thanking teacher aides across the state of QLD. We marked the day with a special morning tea, gift giving by students to their particular aides and a performance by our choir. On behalf of
our whole school community thank you teacher aides for adding so much value to the education of our children and indeed to the positive culture of our school.

The Director General of Education, Mr Jim Watterston, also chose Friday 6 September to visit our school. Mr Watterston spent time visiting our classrooms and speaking with students and teachers to gain insight into the manner in which we approach teaching and learning at Ashmore State School. He then joined us for morning tea, joining in with the Teacher Aide day celebrations.

Continuing to Build our Education Partnership

The value that we place upon educating our students in partnership with parents is paramount to our success as a school. I am witnessing this more and more as parents express their wishes to have as much information as possible to assist their children in their learning at home. All children commence each term with criteria rubrics and personalised improvement plans to help them know exactly what they need to do to continually improve in their learning and successfully complete assessment tasks. Our teachers provide this information either through the Communication Booklet or in a separate folder. Exemplars of what is required as a final piece of assessment at the highest level- an A- are displayed in classrooms. If your child does not bring this information home please ask his or her teacher to provide you with this vital information and visit the classrooms to view the exemplars.

Hey Dad!

Father’s Day has come and gone for yet another year and I hope that dads and grandads had a relaxing and enjoyable day spending quality time with your children and grandchildren. There is nothing more important than family and, although everyday should be a celebration of mums and dads, it’s nice to have special day set aside each year.

On-going Success for our Performing Arts Team.

The Gold Coast Eisteddfod has now ended for another year but not before Ashmore students were Proud to Shine yet again. Our Beginner Strings were very Highly Commended whilst ‘Vivace’ and ‘Sonata’ strings gained Honours. Our Junior Band was placed 2nd and our Senior Band was placed 3rd. The Junior Dance team was Highly Commended which is a wonderful achievement given that they comprised of the youngest students (many from Prep) and our Senior Dance team was very highly commended- another great achievement. Congratulations to everyone involved.

Opti-MINDS Brilliance!

What an outstanding achievement for our students who competed in the recent Regional Opti-MINDS competition. Ashmore students achieved excellent results in the science and engineering section qualifying for the state competition later this year. Ms Tegan Nixon did an excellent job preparing these bright young people.

Thought for the fortnight: “Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much”
— Helen Keller: Educator, Activist, Journalist 1880 -1968

Margaret James
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL-LEIGH JOSEY

It's time to enrol for Prep!

If you have a child born between the 1st July 2008 and 30th June 2009, they are eligible to join us for Prep in 2014. Please come and collect an enrolment pack from the office. Please feel free to meet with me at the same time if you wish.

When the necessary paperwork is completed, please arrange a time to return the forms (together with the child’s birth certificate for us to photocopy and attach).

Please let neighbours, relatives and friends know.

All prospective and enrolling families should attend the session below - essential for receiving everything needed to commence Prep.

ASHMORE STATE SCHOOL
Prep Information Session
-for those who are enrolling for 2014

When: Friday 11 October
Time: 9.15 a.m. – 11.00 a.m. with morning tea
Where: Hall

What: To receive booklist, Prep Information Booklet and other important final forms

To find out about Orientation Day, uniforms, the first week, classes and lots of other essential information.

If you have any questions, or would like to make another time to visit Ashmore State School, please call Leigh Josey (Deputy Principal) on 5655-1333 or email ashmore@eq.edu.au

Date claimer for Monday 07/10/13 – Labour Day Public Holiday (first day of Term 4 – Tuesday 08/10/13)

BUSINESS SERVICE MANAGER- MRS PETA DONOGHUE

Facilities
Well it’s been a busy couple of terms! You will notice all the mushroom head downpipes have all been removed and replaced with galvanised ones that should last a lifetime and will require minimal maintenance.

Hopefully by the end of this week we will have new sports boards put up in the different malls. Each sports team will have their own mall which will be clearly labelled. Let’s continue to build the sporting spirit at Ashmore.

Last weekend I was able to arrange to have all the re-marking of the outdoor games areas. I am sure you will all agree that it brightens up the areas.

We are slowly getting the exterior painting done throughout the school. It has been a long time coming but I think that it is starting to look great.

We have 6 TAFE students coming in to complete their Horticulture courses. They will be assisting Garry to enhance our school grounds which is going to be a great help!

**Hiring**

We have some spare spaces for hire at the school if there are any companies interested. We have the dance room, activities room, conference room and hall up for hire at different times. If you are interested or know of anyone that is interested please get them to give either myself or Brigitte Blakeway a call.

We now have YOGA and ZUMBA using our facilities and they offer great rates to our community. YOGA is holding special classes on each Tuesday morning from 7am-8am. This is a great way to start the day on a calm note!

**Excursion Payments**

Just a reminder that every excursion or school event that requires a payment to be made will have a set ‘DUE DATE’ that must be adhered to. If you have difficulties prior to the ‘DUE DATE’ making a payment, please do not hesitate to come and see me or someone in Admin to make other arrangements. We will NOT be accepting any late payments after ‘DUE DATES’. If you pay over the internet please ensure that you make the payment 3 days prior to the due date to ensure that it clears in the schools bank account. Thank you for your cooperating in this matter.

**Messages for your children**

As stated in previous newsletters, it can be extremely difficult to give students personal messages from parents during the school day, so to alleviate this issue we have a cut off time of 2pm each day for the receipt of messages. If you require a message to be given to your child you will need to ensure that you phone the office prior to this time. Could you please advise your child of after school pick up times and locations prior to dropping them off at school as this seems to be the most common messages. If you contact the office after this time we will not be able to assist unless it is an emergency.

**Update of contact details**
We will be sending out next week a form that has all of your contact details on it for updating. If you could please complete any changes and sign the form and return to the office it would be greatly appreciated.

There will also be a media consent form going out next week that is the agreement for 2014. Again if you could complete the form and return to the office as soon as possible it would be greatly appreciated.

**Newsletter**

If you are not currently receiving our fortnightly newsletter please give your email address to our office staff.

Many Thanks,

Pete

Business Services Manager

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**BANKING DETAILS**

You may wish to print these details for easy reference throughout 2013.

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW]

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**GUIDANCE OFFICER**

**A sense of belonging...**

Belonging improves mental health, wellbeing and learning. All children need to feel that school is a safe place where people will care about them, where their needs for support, respect and friendship will be met, and where they will be able to get help to work out problems. When these needs are met children develop a sense of belonging at school. Belonging is very important for children’s mental health and wellbeing. Children who feel that they belong at school are happier, more relaxed and have fewer behavioural problems than other students. They are also more motivated to learn and be more successful with their school work. Research into children’s mental health has found that a sense of belonging and connectedness at school helps to protect children against mental health difficulties and improves their learning.

Making friends and having positive relationships with teachers helps children develop a sense of belonging at school. Having older ‘buddies’ to turn to helps younger children feel that school is a place where they can get help if they need it. Looking after younger children encourages caring and helping in older children and helps to
reduce conflicts and bullying. These are just some of the ways that children's sense of belonging at school can be supported.

Parents and carers can work with school staff to help create a bridge between home and school. When the adults responsible for children take a positive interest in what happens at school it helps children feel at home. It also makes it easier to pick up any problems early when they are easiest to resolve. Speaking positively about school to your child is an integral part of building children's sense of belonging. If the important adults in children's lives value school and education, children will hold school in high regard.

• Find out about the school and what your child is learning; participate in information sessions
• Make time to listen to your child tell you about what he or she is doing at school
• Let your child's teacher know if he/she is having difficulties and discuss what kinds of things you can do at home and school to help.

Working positively with school personnel will help to enhance the enjoyment of school for your child and as such help to build a sense of belonging for now and the future.

Carla Loughnane
Guidance Officer

*Information adapted from kidsmatter.edu.au

STLaN (Support Teacher Literacy and Numeracy) AND MEMBER OF THE LEARNING ENRICHMENT TEAM - ROBYN MARTIN

A new interactive learning opportunity!!

I recently created an EdStudio (under construction), which contains a number of links to many great sites. All Ashmore students should find many worthwhile links to fantastic websites. There are many interactive Numeracy resources to be found here which contain fun learning opportunities. For example, if your child needs to practise their tables and mental computation skills, you should be able to locate quite a number of useful activities that are engaging as well as developing ability and knowledge.

There are a couple of Literacy items included, in particular, a short demonstration showing how you can support your child's reading. Definitely worth watching by every parent!!

Please encourage your child to check this EdStudio. The EdStudio key to locating this studio on The Learning Place is – S360130462. I hope to continually add to this resource and update it with interesting and challenging
learning opportunities for any year level to utilise.

**RESOURCES CENTRE**

**Book Fair and Book Week**

Our recent Book Fair was a tremendous success. The Resource Centre transformed into a reading treasure trove with hundreds of books purchased by our school community which in turn has boosted our reading resources. Due to the support of families we earned approximately $2000 worth of books. As you can see by the photos the theme “Story Laboratory” also created a buzz of excitement. The lucky draw was won by Jessica from 2E; a basket from Kidz Biz Books and Sophie 4A; tickets from Wet N Wild. On the Wednesday, teachers and students dressed up as their favourite book character. Everyone had a wonderful time as we escaped into our storybook characters.

![Book Fair and Book Week photos]

**Premier’s Reading Challenge**

This is our last reminder for students participating in the Premier’s Reading Challenge. All reading logs MUST be handed into the Resource Centre no later than Friday 6th September.

**EdAlive Software**

EdAlive has announced the new Complete learning Initiative (CLI) to give families the opportunity to use the same software at home we have licensed for use at school.

- 46 titles up to 95% off
- Value bundles from $19.95
- Complete, consolidate or update your collection
- Fun learning for your child
- Free 3 month ZooWhiz Premium subscription for each child.

If you are interested in ordering some software please collect a flyer from the Resource Centre. Please return your orders to the Resource Centre before Friday 13th September. We are unable to collect cash and all orders must be processed using either cheque, money order or credit cards. We will not be able to process late orders.
after this date. If you would like to check out the website for more information please use the EdAlive link. We have only a limited number of flyers!

Thank You

We would like to thank Mrs Sealey who has resigned as the convenor of Book Club. Mrs Sealey also organised carpet runners for our Activity Room to replace the small carpet squares. They will work a treat! Your time and effort have been truly appreciated.

Opti-MINDS- TEGAN NIXON

On August the 25\textsuperscript{th} three teams competed at the Regional Opti-MINDS competition. Two of our teams placed, with one group proceeding to the State Finals and one group receiving Honours.

The competition consisted of two parts, a long term challenge and a spontaneous challenge. The three groups were dedicated to the challenge working diligently for 4 weeks, with the majority of these preparations taking place before school or in the students' play breaks.

The students entered the Science Engineering category. This category required students to build a pendulum with very specific design parameters. To achieve this, students had to think creatively and communicate effectively to build a successful pendulum.

Our Opti-MIND successes are a testament to the hard efforts of each and every student who entered the challenge. Well done!

CHAPLAIN'S CHAT

This week, 1\textsuperscript{st} to 7\textsuperscript{th} September, is Child Protection Week throughout Australia. Child Protection Week is a national campaign held annually throughout Australia to raise awareness of child abuse prevention. The objectives of the week are to raise the profile of all issues connected with child protection, including child abuse
prevention, treatment, research, education, service provision and support for children, young people and families.

When a child is abused, the physical and mental pain can last a lifetime. Sadly, according to the National Association for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN) more than 30,000 Australian children are abused or neglected every year. Victims of child abuse have an increased risk of depression and suicide, substance addiction, poor educational outcomes and antisocial or criminal behaviour.

**Approaching and asking a child or parent in distress if something is wrong can make all the difference, a leading child protection expert says.** Director of the University of South Australia-based Australian Centre of Child Protection, Professor Fiona Arney, said everyone had a role to play in protecting children, yet few people feel they have permission to help.

"The reality is that everyone has a role to play in ensuring that young people in our community are safe and all right," Prof Arney said. "Sometimes a simple ‘are you OK’ or ‘can I help’ is all parents or children in distress need."

Marg Potter - Chaplain

**P & C NEWS**

**P&C MEETING** - The next P&C meeting of this year will be held on **Monday September 16 at 3.15pm** in the Conference Room at the Carmichael Centre. We welcome any parents who want to get involved in the school community so if you have any ideas or thoughts that you want to put forward then please come along, your input will be much appreciated.

**ELECTION DAY SAUSAGE SIZZLE/CAKE STALL** – On Sat September 7th the School Hall will be used for Election Day. The P&C is running a sausage sizzle and cake stall for the morning. Your wonderful cakes, biscuits and slices sell like hotcakes so we’re asking you for these donations, please drop them into the tuckshop on Friday Sept 6th.

All monies raised are going towards the Middle School Playground – thank you!!

**FATHER’S DAY STALL** – We trust everyone enjoyed their gifts from the stall. There were many smiling, happy faces from both parents and students. Thanks so much to those who worked on the stall – Jodi McLeod, Alana George, Ron Odle, Linda Sealey, Ivan Russell, Tracey Wentworth, Bindi Moore, Louise Ware and Karen Berryman.

**TERM 3 ASHMORE MATTERS** – for all our latest P&C information see Ashmore Matters on the school website - [www.ashmoress.eq.edu.au](http://www.ashmoress.eq.edu.au), and on the Qschools App – so much better going electronic!

**LOST PROPERTY** – The P&C has kindly sorted the lost property and returned any named items. It is imperative that you put your child’s name and class on the item for return. There are plenty of lunch boxes etc left, so please come and have a look if your child has lost theirs.

Lost Property is now being held in the storage shelves in the Disabled Toilets – please go to the office to collect the key so you can check for your items.

*Ashmore P&C*

[pandc@ashmoress.eq.edu.au](mailto:pandc@ashmoress.eq.edu.au)

**FOLLOW US ON TWITTER**
NEWS FROM THE SPORTS DESK... SEPT

Swimming – Ashmore Swimming Lessons are underway at City Pools Nerang. Students will be sorted into skill level groups upon arrival on the first day (Monday). Skill development will continue through to the end of the week with an evaluation scheduled for Friday. Below is an updated schedule for the lessons as of Sept 2nd.

<table>
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<th>Lesson start</th>
<th>Lesson finish</th>
<th>Return Pick up</th>
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<td>10:00 - 10:40</td>
<td>10:40</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 C/D</td>
<td>10:30</td>
<td>10:40 - 11:20</td>
<td>11:20</td>
<td>11:30</td>
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<td>11:20 - 12:00</td>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>12:10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>12:00 - 12:40</td>
<td>12:40</td>
<td>12:50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>12:40 - 1:20</td>
<td>1:20</td>
<td>1:30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

South Coast Track and Field – Brisbane, 26 August

- Congratulations to Ashmore’s 4 competitors at the South Coast Primary Track and Field Championships last week. The results are below:
  - Awamaria T (7D) – 7th in Discus, 2001 Girls
  - Michellie P (5/6 D) – 2nd in Shot Put, 2002 Girls
  - Chloe G (7B) – 1st in Shot Put, 2001 Girls
  - Cody H (7C) – 2nd in 200 Metres, 2001 Boys

- Good luck to Michellie, Chloe, and Cody who have qualified to represent South Coast at the State Championships!
Intra-school Sports Program – Year 4-7 students have completed Part 1 of the intra-school sports competition. Part 2 of the program will run for three more weeks in Term 4. House teams are competing for the championship in the following activities: t-ball, kickball, kick & catch, and dodge ball. The competition runs on Monday afternoons with a focus on fair play and having fun while respecting team mates, opponents, and umpires. Results will be posted at the conclusion of the competition in Term 4. Post competition awards will go to the Most Sportsmanlike House team and Best & Fairest students.

Fitter, Faster, Stronger (a.k.a.Running Club) - 8:00am to 8:30am. Students from all grades and their parents are welcome to attend. New participants are always welcome. Bring a change of clothes if you wish.


Please contact Mr Ellis (PE/Sport Teacher) if you have any questions.

Before School Soccer Program - At Ashmore State School

Total Football Academy will be running a before School soccer program during Term 4 at Ashmore State School. The program is for Prep to Year 3 & Year 4 to Year 6 Pupils. Registration forms will be distributed during a free demonstration. During the 6 week program, games will be played inside an inflatable soccer field, which captures the imagination of students, giving them a great soccer experience. Training will take place inside a skills square focusing on different skills each week, such as dribbling, turning and shooting. As part of the program players can also purchase a soccer kit (Top and Shorts). The program starts on Wednesday 22nd October, 7.30am - 8.30am. Cost is only $55.00, limited to 30 places only. To sign up online visit www.totalfootballacademy.com.au or call Andy Robinson on 0413 888 643.

COMPUTER LAB OPEN FROM 8.15AM

Just a reminder that the computer room is open for Mathletics and and “The Workshop” every day of the week, before school from 8:15am and after eating in the second break.

If anyone has any old timber skateboards for “The Workshop ” they would like to donate to the school for the children to repair and restore, I will gladly take them off their hands .
Thank you

Mr Dart

KIDS MATTER BUZZ- WHAT IS THIS?

Kids Matter is a flexible, whole-school approach (“a framework”) to children’s mental health and wellbeing. It works as an umbrella under which Ashmore State School’s existing programs can comfortably fit (eg. clubs, Grandparents Day, Breakfast Club). Kids Matter provides insight, information and educational tools and support to assist our school, including students, staff, parents, and carers and the wider community, to nurture happy, balanced kids.

STRING NEWS

Dear Parents,

Firstly, well done to all of our amazing string musicians for their outstanding effort in the Gold Coast Eisteddfod this year. It was remarkable to see the big improvements in students playing abilities in the weeks prior to this – obviously a few extra practice sessions made a big difference!

We are re-arranging string rehearsals around to better meet the learning needs of our children at Ashmore Primary.

The year 4 students will now form the Vivace String Orchestra. We will be rehearsing each Tuesday morning at 8:00am sharp. Lessons will continue to be each Monday for the rest of this term. These students are welcome to store their instrument securely in the music storeroom overnight each Monday to save bringing their instrument to school on two consecutive days.

The year 5-7 students will form the Sonata String Orchestra. We will rehearse each Monday morning at 8:00am sharp.
Timetables are displayed in the music room and all teachers have been emailed a copy. Please note that participation in the ensembles is compulsory for all students and a roll is marked at all rehearsals. If your child is unable to attend, please email me prior. If your child has 3 unexplained absences, this may result in their enrolment in the program being cancelled.

Just a quick reminder to keep signing those practice records and as the adjudicator at the eisteddfod said, keep encouraging your child to play every day. Music is an extraordinary subject to extend and support brain development. The positive effects of learning an instrument will not only help to develop higher level thinking skills, but will flow into many areas of your child’s life.

Please feel free to email me if you have any questions on slarm2@eq.edu.au.

Yours in Music,

Sarah Larmor

String Instructor

FLOURISH ART FESTIVAL

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW

Enjoy creative holiday fun for all the family!

All day stage music for all ages!

Art/craft market!

Creative Arts Therapy!

Dance, drama, drumming!

Storytelling and puppetry for the kids.

Face painting, balloon twisting, free jumping castle!

Watch artists create, and lots more.

Don’t miss out on one of the best days in September holidays.

Book online for an exciting range of arty all-age workshops.

www.flourishartsfestival.weebly.com
HELPING HANDS

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW

FOX'S REAL ESTATE

COMMUNITY CUPPA- SONESHA

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW

KID'S WEEKEND
GOLD COAST HOSPITAL AND HEALTH SERVICES – ORAL HEALTH SERVICES
**ORAL HEALTH CARE MATTERS**

Did you know that Gold Coast Hospital and Health Services – Oral Health Services in both the community and school dental clinics accept Medicare Teen Dental Scheme Vouchers?

Good oral health care is important for young people. The government has provided Medicare Teen Dental Scheme Vouchers to help enable and maintain good oral health and preventative care. These vouchers can be presented to private dentists or Gold Coast Hospital and Health Services – Oral Health Services, including a community or school dental clinic.

Children attending schools up to the end of Year 10 who present a Teen Dental Voucher with Gold Coast Oral Health Services will receive a comprehensive examination, x-rays, scale, clean and a full course of care.

Children in Years 11 and 12 in receipt of a voucher can only be seen by Gold Coast Oral Health Services if the eligibility criteria is met. They will then be placed on a waiting list to receive a comprehensive examination, x-rays, scale, clean and a full course of care.

If the Teen Dental Voucher has been used at a private dental practice, completion of the private dentist’s treatment plan will need to be undertaken privately at own cost. Gold Coast Hospital and Health Services will only be able to provide Emergency Care for these children, not a full course of care as prescribed by the private dentist.

Gold Coast Hospital and Health Services – Oral Health Services have qualified and experienced dentists, oral health therapists, dental therapists and dental assistants who work together to provide a range of oral healthcare services to meet your child’s specific oral health needs in a caring environment.

As the Teen Dental Voucher expires by 31.12.13, it is important that you arrange your appointment as soon as possible by telephoning the Gold Coast Oral Health Services Call Centre on **1300 300 850**. Oral health services are also provided during all school holiday periods.

For more information on the nearest community or school dental clinic, the Oral Health Call Centre will be able to assist you with your enquiry.
07 5656 1330

07 5656 1300

ashmore@eq.edu.au

http://www.ashmoress.eq.edu.au/

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