PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

This week I had the pleasure of accompanying our School Captains and Vice Captains to the National Young Leaders Day. The event was held at the Brisbane Convention Centre with approximately 2000 students in attendance. The event is designed to inspire our students with stories of how people use influence to shape the world we live in and to develop their knowledge and understanding of leadership. The Prime Minister, The Hon. Mr Tony Abbott, opened the day with a direct address from Parliament House in Canberra.

Bella, Zac, Dana and Titan listened to inspiring life stories from guest speakers who included Karni Liddell, an elite athlete who overcame her disability to compete as a para olympian in swimming, Lorin Nicholson, a man who has been blind since birth yet achieved great things musically and personally, Andy Griffiths, world famous children’s author and Wes...
Mannion who took over the leadership of Australia Zoo after the death of his best friend, Steve Irwin.

The constant theme throughout the day to the students was “I am somebody”! challenging all those present to be fair, loyal, consistent and to allow one’s imagination to take them to great heights. I wish to thank our student leaders for their wonderful company and the excellent manner in which they represented Ashmore State School.

Achievement = Progress

Last week our school was visited for two days by auditors of the Department of Education, Training and Employment. (DETE). The audit process is designed to strengthen the focus on monitoring and appraising the key curriculum teaching, learning and assessment practices within schools. The audit now contains a discipline component to ensure that schools have in place practices that provide for a safe environment and where the well-being of students is fundamental to school culture. I am very proud to report that the auditors deemed our school as demonstrating ‘Outstanding’ elements in all domains. The ranking of ‘Outstanding’ is used to describe world’s best practice. I thank our staff and students for their efforts in helping us to achieve such a high standard and to the parents who were contacted by the auditors, thank you for taking the time to engage in the interviews providing open and honest feedback about our school.

Have you noticed?

You may have sighted some new signs around the school particularly in the Cotlew Mall and on our school buildings. It is government policy that school buildings are labelled with letters however I have always found that to be fairly regimental. One of our teachers, Mrs Brooke Edwards, once called our prep building the Tree House so I took this one step further and suggested to staff some names for our buildings that seemed to match their location. After some discussion, we now have names for our teaching spaces which are far more community friendly and hopefully further brighten our beautiful school. Take a look and see if your child learns in The Hilltops or The Ambers – or maybe in The Ridge or The Bungalow! Much better that G Block or D Block don’t you think?

Thought for the Fortnight: ‘Say what you mean. Mean what you say – just don’t be mean when you say it’. Lorin Nicholson; National Young Leaders Day, March 2014

MARGARET JAMES

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL- LEIGH JOSEY

Year 4 Tallebudgera Day Camp Note

Year 4 parents please visit the school’s website (“Co-curricular” tab at top) or the Year 4’s EdStudio, to access the permission form for this upcoming day camp. Payment options are outlined on the note.

Prep Chicken Hatching Note
Prep parents please visit the school’s website (click on “News” at bottom left) or the Prep’s EdStudio, for the note about chicken hatching. You will need to print off the permission section and return it. Payment options are outlined on the note.

BUSINESS SERVICE MANAGER- MRS PETA DONOGHUE

**FACILITIES**

**Sign writing**

You will notice that we have re-named our classroom buildings. The whole school agreed on the names and we believe that it adds a bit of fun to our school.

**Before/After School Care**

An Invitation to Offer for provision of Out of School Hour Care Services (OSHC) to Ashmore State School has been issued to a range of providers due to the current provider’s contract expiry. The current provider has the opportunity to tender for the contract.

**Staff Carpark Sign**

You will all have noticed at some point the Staff Car Park Sign (See above). Please take special notice of the writing that says “NO PEDESTRIAN ACCESS”. Please DO NOT walk your children through the carpark at any time as this is safety issue.

**FINANCE**

**Student Resource Scheme**

Don’t forget to hand in your Student Resource Scheme forms to the office.

**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 DO NOT accept 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 by the due date. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

**Hiring**
We are taking bookings for 2014 for hiring of the Hall, Carmichael Centre (includes dance room, seminar room, conference room and life skill rooms), oval and netball courts. If you are interested or know of anyone that is looking for hire facilities please pass on this information. You can contact myself or Kate Grevett on P:56561333

**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 will be implementing a cut off time of 2pm each day. 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 these seem 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.

**Have you changed your contact details – please advise Admin of your changes**

Many Thanks,

Pete

Business Services Manager

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**BANKING DETAILS**

You may wish to print these details for easy reference throughout 2014.

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW](http://publish.newsserv.com.au/epublisher/printfriendly.php?id=214748450305&scho... 10/03/2014)

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**GUIDANCE OFFICER- CARLA LOUGHNANE**

**Handy Tips for beginning the School Year**

**Communication**

Starting school or heading back to school brings the excitement of learning to read and improving reading skills. Building the foundations of this skill began happening from birth through talking, listening and sharing books in the home.

Starting school does not mean you stop these activities or hand over learning to the teacher. Parents play a big part in maintaining a child’s interest in learning and they should:

- Keep sharing the fun story books. Don’t replace them with readers as these two types of books have different purposes and both contribute to the learning to read process. A trip to the local library together can be a great adventure for child and parent.
Talk about school by asking open questions. Ask questions like “What was the best thing that happened today?” or “Tell me about a game you played at school today.”

Share something about how you spent your day. By doing this you are modelling the type of talking and language you want your children to use in conversation.

Stay in touch with your child’s teacher through email or by arranging a meeting time to chat about how he or she is going. Don’t leave it until formal parent/teacher interviews to find out if there is something you can be working on at home to improve school outcomes.

**Morning Routine and Organisation**

- Encourage your child to pack their homework in their bag as soon as it is finished. It is not your job to run homework up to school if it has been forgotten.
- Don’t forget (particularly in the early years) to encourage your child to carry their own bag to and from school. This builds independence and a sense of purpose for your child.
- Choose lunches which are healthy, cost effective and appealing for the kids. It is best to try to limit packaged foods for special treats so that excessive sugar and preservatives aren’t being consumed during the school day. Little brains and bodies need extra nutrients and fresh foods to give them stamina to concentrate and make it through a busy day.

Some suggestions are:

- Leftover pasta or rice dishes. Try spaghetti bolognais, risotto, fried rice or couscous.
- Dry cereals such as fruity bix or mini wheats. Please try to limit the amount of dry noodles your child eats at school. They are empty calories which do not provide the important nutrients kids need during the day.
- A variety of fruit options which could include fresh, tinned, frozen or dried. Aim to include at least one serve of fruit in the lunch box each day.
- A milk popper, yoghurt or cheese sticks to provide much needed calcium.
- Adding salad to a sandwich, including a container of cherry tomatoes or providing crunchy vegetable sticks in the lunchbox are all ways to increase vegetable intake.
- A slice or two of cold meat, an egg or small can of baked beans can provide protein and energy.

Tasty and nutritious food, regular routine, supportive parents and positive conversations help to make school a rewarding and enjoyable experience for all children despite their level of academic achievement. Do you know what your child’s favourite school activity is or who they are playing with regularly? Put aside 5 or 10 minutes on a regular basis to check in with your child and learn about their world at school.

Carla Loughnane
ASHMORE STATE SCHOOL RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOUR PLAN

Please see the attached link for detailed information regarding the Ashmore State School Responsible Behaviour Plan and expectations regarding student behaviour across the school.


The Responsible School Behaviour Plan can be found on the Ashmore SS website.

GET STARTED PROGRAM FOR PARENTS

PLEASE CLICK HERE

RESOURCE CENTRE

Our first issue of Book Club for 2014 has been issued to students. Just a reminder that we CANNOT ACCEPT CASH. All payments must be made online following the payment instructions on the back of the book club order form. You will be issued with a payment receipt number which must be recorded in the payment box at the bottom of the order form. You must also record the amount paid in this box, along with your name address and contact phone number. You are able to pay by cheque. Please make cheques payable to Scholastic Australia. Please forward your fully completed order form and cheque, if applicable, to the Library and we will place the order. Completed order forms must be received by the Library no later than Tuesday 11th March 2014, 3.00pm. Once the orders are received back at the school we will distribute them to the students indicated on the order form. If there are any queries please see our friendly library staff.

HAPPY READING

CHAPLAIN'S CHAT

A COMMUNITY FUN DAY will be held on Saturday 29th March from 10a.m. to 2p.m. at Gold Coast Salvos, 157 Wardoo St, Southport. Come along and enjoy the free rides, jumping castle, sausage sizzle, cold drinks, stalls,
activities for under 8's and over 8's, and a live band. For further information, email: 
goldcoastsalvos@aue.salvationarmy.org.

A program can be run for your children if they fight at home. Come and see me for details on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday.

Breakfast Club is spreads month in March. Please drop off a bottle of jam, vegemite or honey to Breakfast Club on Wednesday mornings in the hall or on my desk in the Student Services building any day. Thanks!!

Marg Potter - Chaplain

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

NEWS FROM THE SPORTS DESK...March

**Interschool Sport** – Ashmore State School is participating in the Gold Coast North District Interschool Sports Gala Days. Currently, students have chosen a sport or alternate activity. Last year, the cost was $43 per student to cover transportation and entry fees. The first day of trials is scheduled to be on Monday week 8. These Monday competitions are scheduled to be held on 19 May, 26 May, 2 June and 16 June.
**Gold Coast North District Trials** – Students who wish to be selected to Gold Coast North representative sporting teams must be nominated by our school. Students may need to meet specific qualification standards and display a high level of skill and game play for their chosen sport. Gold Coast North Trial Dates are listed on the window between the Year 4 classrooms (The Ridge) and information will also be given via student notices each morning.

Upcoming Trial Dates will be preceded by a school trial the week before:

- District Rugby League (U12) – 5 March
- District AFL – 12 & 19 March
- District Basketball – 13 & 18 March
- District Soccer – 19 & 20 March
- District Hockey – 25 March

**Gold Coast North Netball - CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations to Alyssandra B and Mackenna B on being chosen in the Gold Coast North Netball Team. Well done girls and good luck at the South Coast Trials.

**Fitter, Faster, Stronger** – or Running Club, started several weeks ago. We have had amazing student and parental turnout. Fitter is where kilometres travelled will be recorded, faster is learning sprint techniques so that students can learn to run faster, and stronger is circuit training. Each session will be held from 8:00am to 8:40am on the oval. Students from all grades and parents are welcome to attend. New participants are always welcome. Thank you to all parent and teacher volunteers. Your help is greatly appreciated.


Upcoming School Sporting Events:

- Ashmore Cross Country Carnival – 30 April, Term 2, Week 2
- Ashmore Track and Field Carnival – Term 3, Week 1

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

**P & C NEWS**
**P &C AGM MEETING:** The Annual General Meeting of Ashmore State School P&C will be held this year on **Monday 17th March at 6.15pm in the Carmichael Centre** and it is here that you can be a part of an exciting school community and take control of the wonderful events that we have coming up this year such as Mother’s and Father’s Day stalls, Trivia Night, Sports Day Carnival and our big fundraiser for this year, the Cadbury Chocolate Drive in May. All these fundraising events go towards helping to enhance our school environment and provide valuable equipment and resources for our students.

Each year at the AGM the P&C will seek to elect an Executive Committee that will comprise of:

- President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Vice President

If you would like to fulfil one of these roles or you just want to be an ordinary member of the P&C, then please come along to the AGM and fill out an application form for membership.

**GARDEN/WORKING BEE** – This year one of our wonderful Parent Reps, Clive Whittington, is overseeing a ‘Once a Term’ Working Bee here in the grounds of the school. This will be held on:

**Sunday 9 March**

8.00am – 12.00

If you can please bring gardening tools/outdoor cleaning tools it would be much appreciated. The P&C is providing morning tea. Come along and have a great time helping your school for our children.

**ASHMORE STATE SCHOOL CAR BOOT SALE!** The P&C is going to be running Car Boot Sales this year in our carpark. Our first one will be on:

**Saturday 22 March**

6.00am – 12.00pm

We’re only charging $10 for you to come along and sell your wares from your Car Boot. Come along on the day and see Ivan Russell, our P&C’s Qld Representative. The P&C will need help on the day to run the Sausage Sizzle – if you can assist, please call Ivan on 0401813149. Thank you!!
**LOST PROPERTY** – Lost Property is now being held in the storage shelves in the Disabled Toilets – you can call into the office and collect the key anytime and have a look – or a member of the P&C will be there:

**Friday mornings from 8.30 – 9.00am**

*Ashmore P&C*

*pandc@ashmoress.eq.edu.au*

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**PLASTIC BAG FREE MARCH**

A campaign by Queensland Conservation.

Individuals, families, businesses and schools are encouraged to "kick the plastic bag habit" and commit to not using plastic bags for the whole of March. Once you see how easy it is, you will never go back! Every year, six million tonnes of rubbish is dumped into the world’s oceans. Plastic accounts for 80% of the debris in the ocean. Supermarkets account for 53% of our plastic bag use.

Did you know that, 1/3 of the Morten Bay Marine Turtles were killed by ingesting plastic bags as they were mistakenly thought to be jellyfish – their favourite food!

To register and make a change please go to [www.PlasticBagFreeQldMarch.org.au](http://www.PlasticBagFreeQldMarch.org.au)

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**BENOWA HIGH SCHOOL**
Benowa State High School 2015 Expo Evenings

Year 7 in 2015
Tuesday 11th March 2014

Year 8 in 2015
Wednesday 12th March 2014

Commencing at 5:00 pm in the Sports Hall

Program information now available for collection from Benowa SHS office
For any enquiries please phone 07 5582 7333

KEEBRA PARK HIGH SCHOOL

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW

ULTRA TUNE ASHMORE

SPECIAL OFFER- $20 off your next Service at Ultra Tune Ashmore

Ultra Tune Ashmore

2 Central Park Avenue

Ashmore  Qld  4214

Phone:(07) 5539 3663

Fax: (07) 5539 775
THEME PARK TICKETS

ThemeParks.com.au
Our School Ticket Sale

Village Roadshow Theme Parks is offering our school community a limited time ticket offer. Simply visit ThemeParks.com.au/promocode and enter our promocode “CPC014” to gain access to these tickets offers.

*Terms & conditions apply, offer valid until Friday 4th April 2014

MAGIC SHOW
Are you looking for something exciting to do with the kids on weekends & School holidays??

Master magician Matt Hollywood has your weekends & school holiday’s entertainment covered! Your family will love the 'Illusions' Magic show at the Village Theatre, Sanctuary Cove.

Let your child’s imagination run wild this school holidays as you witness some of the most amazing Las Vegas style grand illusions in the world of magic today. Illusions Magic Show – where families can get down to the serious business of fun!

You are GUARANTEED to laugh like never before, be shocked and amazed with master magician Matt Hollywood, winner of Australian Entertainer of the Year 2013. Suitable for kids at any age, Illusions is running every weekend and daily throughout the school holidays & is the perfect idea to entertain your kids!

For discounted tickets please call 1300 360 270, please quote discount code “SCHOOL PROMO”

Tickets are normally $39 for children & $49 for adults but call now directly & get your tickets for just $30 per person! (Kids under 4 free)

For more information check out www.illusionshow.com.au or standard bookings via Ticketek.

FOX’S REAL ESTATE
Currumburra Road
ASHMORE 4214 QLD

07 5656 1330
07 5656 1300

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

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