8th Aug 2014

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

This week members of the administration team attended an information session at Central Office regarding Independent Public Schools (IPS). At the meeting, principals across the state who are considering applying for IPS accreditation had the opportunity to clarify the purpose of IPS and the benefits for schools that are successful in their applications.

The schools selected represent the diversity of state schools across QLD. Schools in every region are encouraged to apply.

At the forthcoming P&C Meeting to be held on the 18 August, commencing at 1.30p.m I will present to parent and carer representatives the manner in which IPS schools differ from other state schools, the process for applying to be an IPS school, and the accountability process for such schools. This will also be an opportunity for the school community to clarify questions they may have and also to provide feedback that will inform our application.

In the meantime you can access information by visiting the department’s website at:

Performing Arts- Proud to Shine!

Congratulations to all of the teachers and students involved in the recent Wakakirri production. The team, ably directed by Ms Amanda Fry, brought great credit to our school, not only in the high quality of performance but also in their behaviour and commitment of our students.

Additionally at the recent Winter Warmers Concert, Miss Dart, Mr. Hart and Miss White organised and presented the talents of our students’ instrumental music and choir groups. The dance group was also involved. The purpose of the concert was to provide the students performing at Eisteddfod the opportunity to practise their skills in front of an audience. Thank you to the many parents and members of the wider school community who supported this important event.

On the same evening as Wakakirri, The Hon. John Paul Langbroek, Minister for Education, met with principals for state and independent schools and their respective P&C presidents from this electorate to discuss implications for the long-term future of education in QLD. We were proud to welcome the Minister, principals and community representatives to Ashmore for the meeting.

International Educators.

On Thursday 10 educators from China engaged in professional development for a full day. Their interest was in the manner in which we plan a pedagogical framework to inform our teaching and learning experiences at Ashmore. They were also keen to discover the strategies we use for designing assessment tasks and the associated criteria rubrics, moderation processes, student personalised improvement plans and digital portfolios. The educators were from primary and secondary teaching backgrounds with their school in China catering to 8000 students. Each participant left Ashmore with an action plan that will be implemented within their school. I was once again very proud, as I am sure you are, that our school was chosen to help build teacher capacity at an international level.

Thought for the Fortnight

‘Example is not the main thing in influencing others. It is the only thing.’ Albert Schweitzer - Theologian philosopher and physician.

Warm Regards

MARGARET JAMES

Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL- LEIGH JOSEY

Prep Enrolments for 2015 Welcome
If you have a child born between 1 July 2009 and 30 June 2010, they are eligible for Prep in 2015. Prep enrolments are now welcome. Enrolment packs can be obtained from our School Office between 8 am and 4 pm. When the forms are completed please ring me to make a time to meet. At this time I can answer any questions you may have. Please bring along your child’s birth certificate or passport for this meeting.

If you have friends, neighbours or relatives with children in this age group, please have them ring me to make a time to meet. Tours etc. can be arranged.

Please call me or come and see me if you would like, at any time, to discuss any matter or ask questions.

**STARS (School Thanks and Recognition of Staff)**

Staff profiles for the fortnight.

Let’s celebrate and recognize:

**Mrs Louise Stone-Schmidt**

Louise commenced at Ashmore State School in April 2011. Her roles with us have included Classroom Teacher (e.g. Year 5); “Link It” Teacher; and Special Education Programme (S.E.P.) Teacher. Her present role is that of...
full-time S.E.P. Teacher, together with Mrs Amanda Hussell, who also works in a full-time capacity. Prior to this, Louise has worked at Gin Gin and Rosedale State Schools, Riverside Christian College in Maryborough and St Luke’s in Bundaberg.

Louise’s role incorporates planning programmes of work for our S.E.P. students; developing their Individual Education Plans; teaching individuals and small groups; and working with teachers, parents, other specialist staff and the Special Needs Committee. Another special duty carried out by Louise, includes the organization and supervision of the “Thunderbirds Club”, an alternate break-time eating and play area.

When asked what she especially enjoys about working at Ashmore State School, Louise comments that she really enjoys watching students unwrap their educational strengths and transform into super learners.

Mrs Stone-Schmidt has two children; and enjoys music of all styles in her leisure time. She plays the violin and cello (and a little piano).

We wish to thank Louise for her wonderful contribution to the teaching and learning of the students in her care at Ashmore State School. We thank her especially for her patient, caring and supportive ways.

Ms Kathryn Shepherd

Kathryn commenced at Ashmore State School in March 2011 as a general Classroom Teacher. Since beginning with us, she has taught various year levels, including Prep, Year One, Year Two and Year Three. Kathryn’s present role is that of Classroom teacher of Year 3E. Prior to arriving at Ashmore, Ms Shepherd worked at Heatly Primary School in Townsville.

As well as teaching Year 3E, Ms Shepherd assists with our Junior Dance group preparing them for performances; our Gifted and Talented Programmes; and Opti-Minds. When asked what she especially enjoys about working at Ashmore State School, Kathryn comments that she really enjoys being involved in, and assisting with, extra-curricular groups. She values watching the children interact and problem solve - demonstrating real learning. Ms Shepherd really loved her involvement with Opti-Minds.

Ms Shepherd has two children who keep her very busy – one daughter attends school at Ashmore and the other daughter is attending our very new Pre-Prep Programme, ready for Prep in 2015. Kathryn also enjoys keeping fit and challenging herself with new things.

We wish to thank Kathryn for her great contribution to the teaching and learning at Ashmore State School. We also wish to thank her for her wonderful efforts in assisting us with the various extra-curricular activities in which she has become involved.

Year 5 Camp

**When**: 29, 30 and 31 October (2 nights)

**Camp Information**
Special Request

Parents please ensure that if you are waiting in the covered areas near classrooms in school time and have young children, that the children remain near you and wait quietly please. This is so classes aren’t disturbed and the students can focus on their learning. Thank you for your assistance with this.

PHOTO DAY

Date Claimer: School photo day is Tuesday 19 August

BUSINESS SERVICE MANAGER- MRS PETA DONOGHUE

FACILITIES

Security – With the amount of vandalism that our school suffered in recent times, we have installed security cameras and signage around the school. We have also employed the Security Dog Patrol to service the school as extra security. If you see anyone on or around the school grounds that should not be there, could you please call School Watch on 131788.

FINANCE

Student Resource Scheme - don’t forget to hand in your Student Resource Scheme forms and payments to the office.

School Payments

If you are paying any monies over the internet to the school you DO NOT need your child’s ID#. In the reference section when on the internet section, just put your child’s name, class and a quick word that relates to what you are paying for.

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 school's 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 who is looking for hire facilities please pass on this information. You can contact me or Kate Grevett on P:56561333

**GENERAL**

**Picking up children early** – If you are intending to pick your child up early please do not call the office to get your child down to the office prior to you getting here. You need to come to the office to sign your child out and then we are able to have your child sent down.

**Absent/Sick Students** – If your child is going to be away on a particular day, could you please ensure that you call the **Absent Line on (07) 5656 1360**. This will save you time as you can just leave a message and don’t have to talk to the office ladies or wait if the office is busy.

**Change of Contact Details** – Just a reminder that if you have changed any of your contact details or emergency contacts could you please ensure that you advise the office immediately, so that we can ensure we have up to date details for every family. It is very difficult to contact parents or emergency contacts if we have old information.

**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 implemented 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.

Many Thanks,

Pete

Business Services Manager

**BANKING DETAILS**

You may wish to print these details for easy reference throughout 2014.
GUIDANCE OFFICER - MICHELLE DAVIES

Are your children getting enough sleep?

We all know that sleep affects our life – a good night sleep makes life's dilemmas easier to cope with while a bad night's sleep (or limited sleep) can make us grumpy, lethargic and no fun to be around. Sleep problems in kids don't just drive parents batty, they also affect children's health and development, including academic performance, growth and even immunity.

Research indicates that sleep problems (which can be medical or behavioural) can affect memory, attention, thinking ability and behaviour. For children there are even studies that link bed wetting with sleep problems.

The most common cause of medical sleep problems is snoring and obstructive sleep apnoea (holding the breath), but sleep walking or night terrors, periodic limb movement disorder or restless leg syndrome and other conditions, such as asthma and eczema, can also affect sleep.

Behavioural sleep problems can include difficulty falling or staying asleep, resisting going to bed, changing sleep hours (like teenagers do), and getting out of bed during the night.

So what is enough sleep?

- Toddlers need 12 to 14 hours sleep daily
- Primary school kids 10 to 12 hours.
- Adolescents need about 8½ to 9½ hours of sleep per night

Research suggests without this sleep, children don't function as well. They're more irritable, aggressive, hyperactive, fidgety, and can't concentrate or remember information. This can compromise learning, and mean they will exhibit delayed response times. They often get sick more and have an increased risk of accidents. We as adults can also relate to these symptoms.

Poor sleep can affect all of us at some time. Sleep experts recommend the following tips. Whether you are young or old or somewhere in the middle:

- Get into a routine - go to bed around the same time every night and wake up at the same time every morning
- Investigate if there are any fears or anxieties that might be keeping you/them awake.
- Before bed, do relaxation, breathing or visualisation exercises (imagine a happy place such as the beach or park)
• Do relaxing activities such as reading, drawing, listening to quiet music in the hour before bed to help wind down.
• Turn off the television (keep TV out of the bedroom), computer, electronic games and other activities in the hour before bed.
• Avoid strenuous exercise in the few hours before bed but make sure you/your child gets plenty of exercise during the day.
• Avoid caffeine (soft drinks and coffee) and limit spicy or salty food which can cause thirst – and wake you/your child during the night
• Encourage your child to fall asleep on their own (even from age six months - put babies down when drowsy rather when already asleep)
• Use reward systems (star charts culminating in a lucky dip or favourite outing) to motivate preschool and school-age kids, especially if they are getting out of bed or coming into your bed at night
• Install a hall or night light if your child is scared of the dark

If all else fails see a GP who can refer you/your child to a medical specialist, sleep physician or psychologist to investigate why you or your child struggles with sleep.

Adapted from:

ABC Health and Well Being – Kids Need a Good Night’s Sleep by Helen Carter

KidsHealth

KIDS MATTER

As you know Ashmore State School is a KidsMatter School.

What is KidsMatter you may ask?

For those of you who don’t know, KidsMatter is a national initiative funded through the Australian Government and the Beyondblue Organisation. It was developed in collaboration with Beyondblue, the Australian Psychological Society and the Principals Australia Institute.

KidsMatter Primary is best described as a whole-of-school approach dedicated to supporting children’s mental health and wellbeing. It provides school communities with proven methods and tools that enable them to support and nurture the growth of happy well-balanced kids. It acts as a comprehensive framework that aims to foster:

1. Positive School Community
KidsMatter Primary has now been operating at Ashmore State School for well over twelve months. We are currently in the process of forming a brand new KidsMatter Team as many of the wonderful people who initially introduced this program into the school have now gone in new and different directions. We would like to thank them sincerely for all of their hard work and wish them well in all their future endeavours.

Our new KidsMatter Matter Team:

Our new KidsMatter team are currently getting together to do some brainstorming and planning. MAKE SURE YOU WATCH THIS SPACE……..they will soon be introducing some interesting new KidsMatter initiatives into the school.

New team members include:

**Trudy Snow:**

Trudy from our middle school is a wonderfully dedicated member of staff who currently teaches the students in Year 6B.

**Tess Radford:**

Tess from our lower school is a hardworking and dynamic early childhood teacher. She currently teaches the students in Year 1A.

**Margaret Potter:**

Margaret is our warm hearted, dedicated and ever supportive school Chaplain.

**Michelle Davies:**

Michelle is a fairly new face at the Ashmore School. She is our friendly and approachable Guidance Officer.

Together, the team is busy working with our loyal, hardworking and enthusiastic Principal, Margaret James to hatch some new exciting activities that will be dedicated towards promoting the mental health and wellbeing of our children as well as those in our wider school community.

If you would like to find out more about this very important community and school initiative feel free to talk to any of us on the KidsMatter Team.
Alternatively, if you’d like to jump on board and join our KidsMatter Team at the school we’d love you to volunteer. Remember that old saying……..many hands always make light work.

Kidsmatter is all about everyone supporting each other. Every Face has a place...let’s care about our community and take care of each other.

RESOURCES CENTRE

**BOOK FAIR**

As mentioned in our previous newsletter we have our annual Book Fair coming up and it will be held in our Resource Centre from Monday 18th August (after midday) until Friday 22nd August (midday).

There will be a great range of Scholastic books available for purchase. We will also have Wacky Packs which consist of a book and a stationery item for $6.00, variety items such as pens, pencils and novelty erasers ranging from $1.00-$6.00 and posters $2.00 and $4.00. This year there will be a range of board books suitable for 0-2 years for those younger siblings in the family.

As an added surprise we are getting a visit from Geronimo Stilton. He will be calling into the Resource Centre between 3.30-4.00pm on Thursday 21st August which is our Family Book Fair evening.

Don’t forget on Wednesday 20th August students can dress up as their favourite book character. Prizes will be awarded for best girl and boy in each year level.

**PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE**

Please forward all completed and signed forms to the Resource Centre no later that 5th September.

**NEWS FROM THE SPORTS DESK...August**

**Swimming** – Ashmore will be offering swimming lessons through the PE program again this year. The lessons will be at City Pools Nerang and transportation will be by bus. Swimming is a required component of the
PE curriculum. The lessons will be scheduled during Weeks 8 to 10 of Term 3 in September. The permission forms are available online. Cost is $40 for the week, including lessons and bus travel.

Gold Coast North Rugby League – U/12 Girls

Congratulations to Samara C, Caitlin C and Michellie P who all made the Gold Coast North District U/12 Rugby League Team. They each played well and Michellie has been selected to represent South Coast at the State Cup later this year.

Gold Coast North District Track and Field Trials:

Congratulations to the following students who have qualified to represent Ashmore State School at the GCN Track and Field Trials:

2004
Molela S, Aaron C, Diego Y, Kalea S, Hunter M, Blake P, Alyssandra S

2003

2002

• These students who qualified will have represented our school on Wednesday and Thursday and any who have qualified for South Coast will be listed in our next newsletter.

Running Club (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 Mallyon (PE/Sport Teacher) if you have any questions about any of the Sport information.

CHAPLAIN’S CHAT

Our annual athletics carnival was a great success as always, with a huge thanks to Mr. Mallyon and all of our captains for their enthusiasm and hard work. Thank you to everyone, and a great display of sportsmanship was
displayed by our students as well. I think the Junior carnival scored the best weather by far, but we were very blessed that all three days were able to be held despite the inclement weather for the upper school.

It was very sad for one of our students to recently experience the loss of his mother. Grief is something that we all have to suffer at one time or another, and we all go through the grieving process in different ways. It is completely normal to cry, to feel a whole range of emotions. It is good to be able to support members of our school community at times like these. Please feel free to contact me at school if I can help your family in any way.

I mentioned in my last newsletter that we were running very low on cereals for our breakfast club. August is cereal month, so donations of Weetbix, Vitabrits, Sultana Bran or Cornflakes would be very much appreciated. Please drop off to my desk in the Student Services building. I really want to say a very big thank you to those wonderful people who have already dropped off cereals.

Thanks!! Marg Potter

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

P & C NEWS

ASHMORE SS CAR BOOT SALE!  Come and get a Bargain!!
Saturday August 30th

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 Ron Odle, our P&C President, he is contactable on 0422798458. The P&C will be running a Sausage Sizzle.

GARDEN WORKING BEE –

Come for an hour

From 8.00am Sat Aug 30th

Helper Sausage Sizzle

This is a wonderful opportunity for parents to help (especially if you’re working through the week). We have beautiful grounds at the school, however they do need quite a bit of work! Let’s know at shell24@eq.edu.au if you can make it.

LOST AND FOUND – Can now be found in 3 bins just outside the Administration door (on the Bush Tucker Garden side). This should make it easier for everyone to locate their belongings – please ensure your children’s clothing/lunch box is clearly named.

FATHERS’ DAY STALL - The P&C will be running the annual Father’s Day stall this year on Wed 3rd and Thurs 4th September. If you can spare some time to help run the stall on any of these days then please sign up at:

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0848AEAA22A4FB6-fathers1

OUTSTANDING CHOCOLATE MONIES: Need to be paid by 30 August. You can pay for your chocolate box in cash at the tuckshop, or directly into our account (Please use your child’s name as the reference):

Account Name: Ashmore SS P&C Association General Account

BSB: 064430

Account Number: 10716566

Thank you for your support of our major fundraiser this year – all funds are going to the Astro Turf Project for the Junior Playground.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION – Do you want to help the P&C but don’t have the time spare to volunteer for our events? You can make a voluntary contribution at your leisure via Flexischools. Just login into
your account and start a new order then select the ‘Donations’ tab to make your contribution. All monies raised this way are going to the renovation of our prep playground area and we will be very pleased of your assistance.

**P&C MEETING:** The next P&C meeting of this year will be held on **Monday August 18th at 1.30pm** 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.

*Ashmore P&C*

*pandc@ashmoress.eq.edu.au*

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**CONGRATULATIONS KAI**

Congratulations to Kai(3C) who achieved a High Distinction for his AMEB Violin Grade 2 exam in July.

Kai has been playing the violin for three years.

Well done Kai!

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**CONGRATULATIONS ASHMORE DRAGONBOAT TEAM**

Our school team, The Ashmore Avengers, excelled themselves on Sunday, securing a tremendous 2nd place in the grandfinal of the annual Currumbin Corporate Dragon Boat Regatta held on Currumbin Creek. Enduring difficult weather conditions and managing to stay in time(mostly!), the team were able to hold off a last second charge from Tallebudgera State School. A great day all round! Well done team Ashmore!! Proud To Shine!!

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**MOVE AND GROOVE**

Move and Groove for kids aged 2-5 years old. A fun and active class for children and their parents/carers.

**When:** Thursdays 10am-10:45am

**Venue:** Ashmore State School Dance Room

**Cost:** FREE!

**Enquiries:** Kim 0417 479 188

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**DENTAL HEALTH**
Students in grades (7,6,5,4,3,2,1,PREP) have been provided with an offer of oral health care examination card to take home.

If your child is enrolled in one of the grades listed above or are new to the school and did not receive an examination card and would like to arrange for your child to receive oral health care please contact the Oral Health Call Centre 1300 300 850. Monday to Friday 8.00 am – 4.30 pm Excluding Public Holidays.

If your child requires disability access please identify this requirement with the Call Centre Operator.

**Who is spoiling your kids rotten? Dental Health Week 4 - 10 August**

If you could also include the following article in your school newsletter for this week it would assist us with informing parents of Dental Health Week and the free dental service available for eligible school children.

**August is Dental Health Awareness Month**

Dental Health Month aims to raise public awareness as around ¼ of Australians have untreated dental decay and only 39% of Australian adults visit the dentist for a yearly check up. As most dental diseases are completely preventable, we need to focus on early intervention and prevention to keep enjoying good oral health.

Let's keep our teeth for life, and help our children do the same!


Gold Coast Child and Adolescent Oral Health Service

In the case of a dental emergency, telephone the Oral Health Client Service Centre 1300 300 850

Monday to Friday 8:00am – 4:30pm excluding public holidays.
FLOURISH ARTS FESTIVAL

You're invited to Flourish Arts Festival 2014!

Enjoy a creative day out for the family at Flourish Arts Festival! Come to Southport Broadwater Parklands on Saturday, 6th September, from 9am – 4pm and you will not be disappointed! It will be filled with free activities and workshops for children, live performances, market stalls and much more! Peter Janetzki, 96.5 radio personality will also be speaking at 1pm on ‘raising boys’. We also have various art competitions running for all ages - be sure to go online to find out more: www.flourishartsfestival.com.

We look forward to seeing you there!

www.fb.com/flourishartsfestival

BASEBALL
Coomera Cubs Baseball Club
Saturday 2nd & 9th August

Sign on for all new & existing junior to senior Coomera Cubs players!

All Aussie T-ball registrants get a free player pack
With a Rawlings ball, glove + more!

10am - 2pm

At Coomera Cubs Baseball Club - 22 Riversdale Road, Oxenford

Still have questions? Please contact:
Nick Day - info@coomeracubs.com - 0400 000 046
Scott Sharple - cdo@coomeracubs.com - 0407 070 561

Coomera.Baseball.com.au

Why not give baseball a try this season? Find out more at:
www.qld.baseball.com.au

Get in the Game

FOX’S REAL ESTATE
SUNS SLEEPOUT

Please bring your family and friends down to the Gold Coast SUNS Sleepout on Saturday the 9th of August and help raise awareness and much needed funds with all proceeds going towards our nominated charities listed below:

- Project for Homeless Youth Gold Coast
- YHES House
- Gold Coast Youth Service
The second annual Gold Coast SUNS Sleepout is back at Metricon Stadium on
SATURDAY 9 AUGUST FROM 2PM

With activities for the whole family including:

- FOOTY ON THE BIG SCREEN
gc SUNS v Carlton (on Melbourne)
- LIVE MUSIC
- TWO GREAT MOVIES
  Smurfs 2 & Green Eggs &
- FOOD & BEVERAGES
  Available for purchase

PLUS the opportunity to sleepout in our world class stadium!

The Gold Coast SUNS are challenging the community to support this event through participating or donating to our three youth homeless charities.

If you are looking to donate, participate or find out more, please visit goldcoastfc.com.au/sleepout

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY

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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