It's Christmas time again - that magical time of the year when we think about holidays, spending time with those we love and care for and reflecting upon all that we have to be thankful for.

This past fortnight has been a flurry of activity with new classes been formed, reports being finalised, and end of year formal occasions.

The first of such occasions was the induction of school leaders. I congratulate every student who stood for these positions for the manner in which they presented their speeches and in the case of shortlisted students, their presentations at interview.

It is my pleasure to announce that the school leaders for 2014:

Girl School captain: Bella M.
Boy School Captain: Zachary B.
Girl Vice Captain: Dana S.
Boy Vice Captain: Titan B.

The House Captains are:

Warrawee: Michellie P. & Jacob G. (Captains) Caitlyn C. & Elliot P. (Vice Captains)
Currumburra: Paris A. & Dillon R. (Captains) Jacqueline G. & Will M. (Vice Captains)
Yangoora: Hollie C. & Nathan H. (Captains) Hayley R. Blake F. and Tristan V. (Vice Captains)

Students appointed to the newly introduced leadership positions of Music Captains are:

Jake M. & Harmony B.

The Second occasion was our Whole School End of Year Assembly where we honoured the service and dedication of staff members who are leaving us. Scholarships valued at $200 and sponsored by members of our community were also presented.

Academic Scholarship winners are: Maddison O. Hayley R. Jake M. Benjamin F. and Abby K.

Sport Scholarships winners are: Kai B. Charlie C. & Michellie P.
Performing Arts scholarship winners are: Kaitlyn C. Kaia S. & Alexander B.

Congratulations to these students for their extraordinary achievements.

Teachers who leave us at the end of this year include Mrs Sealey, Mrs Ram, Mrs Adams and Mr Stewart who have been transferred to other regional schools. We also bid farewell to Mrs Louise Sherrington, our Literacy Coach, due to the reshaping of the regional coaching model. Mrs Apihene and Mrs Osborne are about to become new mums whilst Mr Ellis leaves us to return to Canada. I know that the entire school community wishes all of these teachers every happiness and success in the future that lies ahead.

The third celebration was the Yr. 7 graduation. Teachers and Mrs Heaton spent months preparing for this event and their efforts were suitably rewarded when students proudly received the Yr 7 2013 Graduation Certificates. Significant awards were:

INAUGURAL DUX OF THE SCHOOL AWARD: Jakeb M.

SCHOOL SPIRIT AWARD: Jessica L. & Luke P.

PRINCIPAL’S AWARD: Awamaria T. & Ethan M.

MATHEMATICS AWARD: Aidan L. & Jeordie D.

ENGLISH AWARD: Lauren F.

LOTE AWARD: Juliana E.

SPORTS AWARD: Jade K. & Cody H.

CULTURAL AWARD: Hayden P. & Grace M.

ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD: Rebecca R.

With such a busy yet very satisfying fortnight now complete it is time to bring another school year to an end. I wish our Ashmore State School community a very peaceful and happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year and thank the many supporters of our wonderful school. I look forward to working with many of you next year and to those who are moving on, it has been a pleasure to know and spend time with you.

Merry Christmas

MARGARET JAMES

BUSINESS SERVICE MANAGER- MRS PETA DONOGHUE
**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 Brigitte Blakeway 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 have 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 this seems to be the most common message? If you contact the office after this time we will not be able to assist unless it is an emergency.

**Please remember, from January 2014 all notices will be on-line**

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

Many Thanks,

Pete

Business Services Manager

**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=214748449196 &sch... 13/12/2013)

**RESOURCE CENTRE**

As the end of the year approaches we would like to remind everyone borrowed books must be returned. We would like to thank parents who have already done so.

If your child has not returned their book, they will receive a note with the name and price of the book. As the payment office is now closed for 2013 all payments will need to be...
made in 2014 at the payment window (Admin block) on a Wednesday, Thursday or Friday morning between the hours of 8:15 – 9:15.

Don’t forget if you’re looking for some holiday entertainment the Learning Place is a great place to find Christmas or learning activities. This is also a wonderful time to start reading a new book. Check out the Children’s Book Council of Australia for links to some great authors.

From the Resource Team we would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday.

Merry Christmas

CHAPLAIN'S CHAT

I want to wish everyone in the Ashmore State School community a very happy Christmas and a wonderful 2014. To all our staff who are leaving, it has been an absolute pleasure to work with you and we will miss you greatly. All the very best for your new appointments!

To all our Year Seven students, I wish you great joy and success as you enter high school, and may all your choices you make be wise ones.

Happy Christmas! Marg Potter

Merry Christmas

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER
PEACEMAKERS- JULIE SEALEY

Nineteen years after introducing the Peacemaker program to Ashmore State School, it is time to bid farewell and thank all those wonderful students who have trained with me and then given up so much of their time to help in the junior playground each and every week of the year.

I am leaving Ashmore at the conclusion of this year. I am hopeful that the Peacemaker program will continue as I believe it not only gives students the chance to develop mediating skills but also to build teamwork and leadership qualities.

To all the current Peacemakers from 2013, I thank you for all your hard work and hope that you have enjoyed being part of a team of students who have put themselves out to help others. I wish you all the best for high school next year.

Mrs Julie Sealey

NEWS FROM THE SPORTS DESK...DECEMBER

Sport Assembly – 10 December, 11:45-1:00

- Over 100 Students Receive Awards at Annual Ashmore Sport Assembly
• Ashmore’s Annual Sport Assembly was a huge success. Students were awarded trophies and certificates from all areas of sport in the school including intra-school sport, inter-school sport, district sport, fitter/faster/strong, all-schools sport, and sport carnivals.

• Also recognized were the Student House Captains and the School Captains. Thank you for all your work in helping with your duties. The sports carnivals were a success because of you!

• Congratulations to all those students who participated in the sport activities at Ashmore. Not everyone received an award but you all showed tremendous sportsmanship and leadership.

• The Contribution to Sport and Physical Education Award was given out to Hayden P. in 7B. He embodied the spirit of the award which can be summarized as an enthusiastic participant of sport, who demonstrates leadership qualities, within the boundaries of excellent sportsmanship. Congratulations to Hayden!

• At the school Year 7 Graduation the Sportspeople of the year awards were also handed out.
  - Sportsgirl of the Year – Jade K in 7A
    - Jade was a participant in all sport activities this year. She was even crowned National Champion as she helped Queensland place first in the under 12 Touch Championships.
  - Sportsboy of the Year – Cody H in 7C
    - Cody was a representative athlete in 3 different sports this year – Soccer, Cross Country, and Track and Field (800m and 200m). While playing for South Coast, his team won the Queensland Premiers Title.
    - Way to go Jade and Cody! Good luck next year in your sporting pursuits.

• Lastly, a final thank you to the staff of Ashmore State School. The sporting activities would not have been possible without your continued support. Myself and all the students are very grateful for your dedication of Sport at Ashmore.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Sennah K(5/6E). Last weekend Sennah competed at Australian National Championship of AMAC (Australian Martial Arts Championships) held at Tallebudgera Fitness Centre. All State Finalists throughout Australia were invited to compete against competitors from Papua New Guinea and New Zealand. She received a 1st in Kata (pre-arranged black belt karate demonstration) and a 4th in Point Sparring Kumite (one person versus another person fight for points). She has now been invited to represent Australia at the Japan Martial Arts Championships to be held in June 2014 in Tokyo.

Fitter – Faster - Stronger (a.k.a. Running Club)

• Ashmore Students Reach Personal Goals at Fitter-Faster-Stronger

• Over 200 students participated in the Fitter-Faster – Stronger Club before school. That’s 1 out of every 4 students at Ashmore State School. Congratulations to all the participants who got up a bit earlier to make exercise a daily part of their school routine.

• A huge thank you to all the volunteers of the club. Your assistance was integral to the success of the club.
Ashmore State School – 2013 Sport Report, as read by Hayden P. in 7B at the Year 7 Graduation

Congratulations students and staff of Ashmore State School. This has been another outstanding year of Sport.

My name is Hayden Phipps and I will be highlighting the year in Sport. The six areas of sport that students can participate in at Ashmore are weekly physical education classes, sport carnivals, inter-school sport, intra-school sport, all-schools sport, and district sport.

Mr Ellis, our Canadian exchange teacher, taught all 800 students weekly physical education classes. He thoroughly enjoyed this opportunity and appreciated the effort and cooperation of every student. As well as playing the required Aussie sports, Mr Ellis introduced his PE classes to some traditional “Canadian” sports such as Lacrosse, Hockey, and the popular game of Ice Cream Tag. This year also saw the continuation of school-wide swimming lessons. Approximately, 90% of all students from Prep to Year 7 participated in swimming lessons this year. Way to go, Ashmore.

The three Ashmore Sport Carnivals were a huge success this year. There were school age champions for all grades in the Cross-Country Carnival and in Years 4-7 in for the Track & Field and Swimming Carnivals.

Congratulations to all those winners. The School House Competition officially started with the Cross Country Carnival. The overall results from Prep to Year 7 resulted in Yangoora being crowned champions. Yangoora also came out on top in the two day Track & Field Carnival. At the Swimming Carnival, Cotleuw swam away with a dominant win. Thank you to all School and House Captains for your help in making all three of these events extremely successful.

Inter-school sport was played in Term 1 and 2. The sports involved were AFL, Rugby League, Soccer, Netball, Touch, and Dance. There were 6 training session at school, followed by 4 Gala Days. These competitions were held around the Gold Coast against state and non-state schools. The coaches were all impressed with the quality of play and equally impressed with the behaviour while away from the school. Each team handed out awards for Best & Fairest and Most Improved.

Intra-school sport involved students in Year 4-7 playing T-Ball, Kickball, Kick & Catch, and lastly, Dodgeball. The focus was on sportsmanship in a competitive house environment. After playing in 6 days of competition, Warrawee came away with a close win over Yangoora. Players of the series were chosen in each grade for boys and girls.
The all-schools touch teams participated in a tournament in October. It involved several weeks of training afterschool. Congratulations to all players and coaches who represented our school for the weekend tournament. Awards for Best & Fairest and Most Improved were handed out this past week as well.

Lastly, 82 of our student-athletes represented our school at district trials. Students qualified or trialled at Ashmore State School in a variety of sports including Touch, AFL, Soccer, Rugby League, Rugby Union, Swimming, Cross-Country, Track& Field, Basketball, and Field Hockey. Once at the district trials, our athletes competed for places on the Gold Coast North Regional Team. Nineteen Ashmore students competed for Gold Coast North and 10 of them went on to represent South Coast at the State Championships. Two of our athletes represented Queensland at the National Touch Championships and won premiers. To all district trialists, your hard work and dedication to your sport is admirable.

In conclusion, sport is alive and well at Ashmore State School. As the Year Sevens move on, they are leaving it up to the next group of students to continue the sporting tradition that many students before you have worked so hard to develop. Congratulations to all students on the tremendous year, and good luck next year.

Thank you.

A Final Say From Mr Ellis

It is hard for me to believe that my teacher exchange with Mr Mallyon has come to an end. It has truly been a life-changing event but in a tremendously positive way. My wife and two children have thoroughly enjoyed our stay in your beautiful country. We have seen many great sights and travelled to some truly inspirational places. However, the things that will stand out the most to me are the friendships I have made along the way.

To the students of Ashmore State School, I thank you. Thank you for accepting me and being patient as I learned about a new place and culture. Thank you for motivating me to be the best PE teacher possible. And lastly, thank you for believing in yourselves and doing the best you could. Remember, not everything is easy. Sometimes there will be bumps along the way. However, I firmly believe that by trying, sometimes failing, but then learning, we are often stronger in the end. You will all be missed!

To the staff of Ashmore State School, what more can I say. You have been awesome! As soon as I stepped foot on the school grounds I felt welcomed and a part of a team - a team that was set on giving students the opportunities to achieve great things. I was often amazed and “wowed” by the staff at Ashmore. I have a huge appreciation for your dedication and professionalism you displayed daily. It was an honour and a privilege to be a part of the staff this year. I would like to give a special thank you to Ms James, Ms Fry, and Ms Josey for allowing this exchange to transpire. Without their approval the exchange would not have happened.

Finally, I would like to publically thank Mr Mallyon for being my exchange partner this year. We have both gone out of our comfort zones and challenged ourselves in new and different ways. I know that we will return to our schools with a renewed energy and passion for teaching. Also, congratulations on enduring two Canadian winters!
I wish everybody an amazing year in 2014! Farewell.

Mr Randall Ellis

P & C NEWS

AFFORDABLE SCHOOL SHOES

KMart are selling black school shoes at a very affordable price of $6.00

P&C MEETING – The first P&C meeting of 2014 will be held on Monday February 17th at 6.15pm in the Conference Room at the Carmichael Centre. We are offering a change in time to give working parents the opportunity to come, your input will be much appreciated.

SMART & HEALTHY CHOICES MURAL – Many thanks to our parent Elida Alvarado who has done a beautiful job of the tuckshop mural. The children have really enjoyed seeing it being done, and love the happy design. We trust it encourages healthy food choices, and shows we are a ‘Kids Matter’ school.

TERM 4 ASHMORE MATTERS – for all your latest P&C information see Ashmore Matters on the school website - www.ashmoress.eq.edu.au, and on the Qschools App – so much better going electronic!

PREP TEA TOWELS – Still available in tuckshop, $12.00 each, great gifts!!

2014 BOOKLISTS/UNIFORMS – Full Bookpacks and Uniforms can be prepaid on Flexischools over the holidays. Delivery will be at our:

Back to School Days - on Jan 23 & 24, 8.00am till 12.00

BEST WISHES FROM THE P&C – We would like to wish you all a very happy and safe holiday break, and we look forward to seeing you in 2014.

Ashmore P&C

pandc@ashmoress.eq.edu.au

ASHMORE COMMUNITY GARDEN

Grow Learn Eat - Organic Ashmore Community Garden
Hello, that is a quick hello to encourage you to include us into your "To Do List" for next year!

Yes, come to learn, grow and harvest organic produce that we are growing in our community gardens!

There is no cost involved! You just need to contribute participating in our working bee or watering roster.

**Where:** Ashmore State School - Currumburra Rd, Ashmore

**Working days:** Tuesday from 8am & First Sunday of every month Picnic Planting from 3pm.

Contact: [ashmorecommunitygarden@hotmail.com](mailto:ashmorecommunitygarden@hotmail.com) or 07 55393973 - Vanessa Fernandes

Community Gardens are places where people come together to grow fresh food, to learn, relax and make new friends.

Sharing land to grow food builds a sense of place and community. The benefits of community gardening include:

- Easy access to fresh, organic and nutritious food
- A sense of achievement that comes through growing your own food
- Making friends with people in the neighborhood
- Learning gardening skills, shared decision making and cooperation
- Healthy outdoor exercise
- Participating in a constructive and productive recreational activity
- Improving the local environment

**HELPING HANDS**
Crafty Hands!

Use your hands to make some creative things!

If you're looking for some fun craft activities for children then you've come to the right place. This program is full of fascinating hands-on activities that are a great way to enjoy the world of craft. This fantastic program is available to all the children at Ashmore.

On this extraordinary 5 week craft journey, children will have the opportunity to engage in making recycled robots, making toys or jewellery out of crystals and bringing the world of art to life!

Over a 5 week program, you will be guided by our craft experts to learn some fun things! Each week there will be something to take home!

For more information or to book onto this exciting 5 week program please contact Helping Hands Ashmore on 0400708773 or email ashmore@helpinghandsnetwork.com.au
Booking forms will also be available from the school office and Helping Hands Ashmore service.

CAROLS ON THE BEACH
WARNER BROS. TICKETS
BUY 20 OR MORE TICKETS & SAVE!

We have your end of season celebrations in the bag, why not make a group booking to enjoy Wet’n’Wild Water World and get free entry from 2.30pm to Warner Bros. Movie World. For a great night out join us for a delicious three course dinner, magnificent animals, & stunning special effects at Australian Outback Spectacular. Purchase VIP passes for your family, friends and colleagues to enjoy unlimited theme park fun until 30 June 2014.

It’s the year you won’t want to miss with a gorgeous baby Polar bear coming out to play later this month. And the awesome new Storm Coaster blasting into Sea World late 2013.

Call now on 5519 6210 or email groupbookings@vrtp.com.au

HOLIDAY PROGRAM
Active & Healthy holiday program out now!

Check out the Active & Healthy holiday program which is running from Saturday 14 December 2013 to Monday 27 January 2014.

The program is jam packed with more than 150 free and low cost activities suitable for youth up to 18 years of age. We’ve got lots of new activities to give you more SCREAM time these holidays and less SCREEN time. Try out slacklining, Parkour, Aqua splash, ZUU and much more to get you up off the lounge, get out of the house and get active in our great parks today!

To download the program click here — [Dec Jan holiday program](#)

FOX’S REAL ESTATE
COMMUNITY CUPPA- SONESHA

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW

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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