PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

This week we officially welcomed many of our new parents from international backgrounds at a special morning tea in the Carmichael Centre. Our reputation as a quality school is far reaching with requests from families in Europe and Asia asking to enrol their children at Ashmore being continually received. The morning tea enabled an excellent opportunity for parents from any cultures to mingle and enjoy each other’s company bringing an increased multicultural aspect to our school. Next week we will continue the celebration of multiculturalism in our classrooms. I warmly invite you to attend our celebrations, as part of Education Week, which will be held on Tuesday 20 May. We will commence the event in the school hall, followed by visits to classrooms by families and friends where you can engage in a range of activities. Then it’s off to your family picnic on the oval. Bring a blanket and a picnic basket. Your invitation to the morning and further details can be found on our school website www.ashmoress.eq.edu.au

Showcase Awards

In 2013 we were recognised in the Showcase Awards for the work we do in providing support and extension in Literacy and Numeracy learning through our Link It! program. This year we have entered our Early Years Link It!
program into the state-wide competition. The Showcase Awards coincide with Education Week and the regional results will be announced next Tuesday. Mrs Gravendyk and Mrs Martin will represent our school at the event. I thank both these talented educators for the work they do in designing and coordinating the Link It! program which continues to take our students to higher levels in literacy and numeracy skill.

**Our School is Wild**

This week the Totally Wild episode featuring our school was aired on Channel 11. Once again our children were *Proud to Shine*. If I can gain permission from the television network we will upload the segment to our website for those of you who may have missed it.

**Taking Care with Words**

One of the great advantages of living in Australia is the gift of freedom of speech. However the acceptance of this gift brings a responsibility of treating it with respect. In a previous newsletter I commented on the responsible use of Facebook- a social networking tool that allows us to keep in touch with many people for many positive reasons. The downfall of such a social media tool is that it can spread information that is incorrect. Hence I thank those parents in our Ashmore community who bring such incorrect interactions to my attention. In the interest of everyone associated with our exceptional place of learning I ask that, before taking to Facebook to make comment about aspects of our school please contact me or our deputy principals to clarify your information or discuss any concerns you may have. By doing so we can ensure that everyone who engages in social media to make comment about our school is well informed.

**Uniform Update**

Just a reminder that a copy of the School Dress Code can be obtained from the office. The Dress Code is endorsed by the P&C who are your representatives as parents. If you are having difficulty locating plain black shoes, which are part of our Dress Code, please contact the school office as we have the name of suppliers who provide the product at a very reasonable price.

**A Great Way to Start the Day**

Tuesday saw the commencement of NAPLAN testing for our nation and what better way to start the day than with ‘full tummies’. Thanks to our P&C and volunteer mums and dads the children who sat the tests on the first day were treated to bacon and egg rolls, fresh fruit and juice. This is the fourth year that our P&C has provided breakfast to children sitting NAPLAN. This year the cooks were very enthusiastic in their task cooking way in excess of what was required. This resulted in staff and many children who were not necessarily NAPLAN students being able to enjoy a bite to eat before the school day. Thanks again volunteers. You did a great job!

Thought for the Fortnight: “They may forget what you said, but they will never forget how you made them feel’

_Carl W Buechner : American Author_

MARGARET JAMES
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL- LEIGH JOSEY

Introduction of Pre-Prep Sessions at Ashmore School (for those who will attend Prep in 2015)

There will be an information session on Thursday 22 May at 7 pm in the Conference Room for parents and carers who have a child eligible to attend Prep in 2015 (date of birth between 1 July 2009 and 30 June 2010). This session will be to share information about Pre-Prep sessions that will begin for up to 20 students commencing on Tuesday 15 July (first week of Term 3). Pre-Prep sessions will be 2 hours in length. Parents and carers will attend information sessions on relevant topics while the children are attending Pre-Prep.

Please see the flyer below.

- Leigh Josey (Deputy Principal)

STARS (School Thanks and Recognition of Staff)
Staff profiles for the fortnight.

Let’s celebrate and recognize:

Mrs Peta Donoghue

Peta commenced at Ashmore State School in July 2008, as “Business Services Manager” (BSM). Prior to this, Peta has worked at a number of schools including Beenleigh Special School, Currumbin Valley State School and Merrimac State High School. She has also been employed in the state’s far west, at Thargomindah State School.

Key projects at Ashmore, managed capably by Peta, include the planning and construction of the Carmichael Centre; and the refurbishment of our multi-purpose courts, junior playground, and administration building. As well as the many duties involved with her position as “BSM”, Peta also plays a key role in the organization of the staff social club and events.

When asked what she especially enjoys doing at our school, Peta says she values helping others (like me, with my myriad of requests); and interacting with the school community – special mention being made of the students. Peta has a bright and bubbly nature appreciated by all.

Mrs Donoghue has three gorgeous young daughters and a fantastic husband. She values her family time and enjoys socializing, movies, cooking and eating.

We wish to thank Peta for her wonderful and invaluable contribution to our school.

Mrs Terri Campbell

Terri commenced at Ashmore State School in April 2011, as a classroom teacher. Before this time Terri at taught two other Queensland schools - Kingston State School in Logan; and Sheldon College in bayside Brisbane. Prior to this, Terri lived in New Zealand, teaching at West Harbour and Viscount Schools.

Terri is presently teaching Year 6/7D, while last year she taught the same students when they were a Year 5/6 class. She willingly puts her hand up when help is required to organize a special event; or there is a project where assistance is needed. Some of the extra areas where Terri assists include Wakakirri, Junior Dance, Student Voice, Peacemakers, Learning Buddies, Travelsmart, Fatality Free Friday and Project 600.

When asked what she especially enjoys doing at school, Terri comments that she really enjoys interacting with the children.

Mrs Campbell has four children – Tyler (17), Blake (13), Caitlyn (10) and Madisyn (7). She is both a devoted Broncos and All Black supporter. In her spare time Terri likes to read and spend time with her family, including watching her children play sport. She also loves zebras.
We wish to thank Terri for her dedication and hard work at Ashmore. A special thanks to her for the many extra duties she performs.

**Year 5 Camp Date Claimer**

**What** - “Sport and Leadership Excellence Overnight Camp” – meals included

(Activity may include sailing, stand-up paddling, concert and movie night, team-building, initiative games)

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

**Cost** - $200

Further information will follow in the weeks ahead.

**DEPUTY PRINCIPAL - AMANDA FRY**

**DANCE UPDATE**

I had to make a very hard decision last week. I decided to cancel the boys dance team for 2014 due to a decline in numbers. We started with 40 boys who successfully auditioned and showed so much enthusiasm and talent but unfortunately as the weeks have progressed, we dropped down to only 15 boys – only 4 of which had been to every rehearsal. I thank Mrs Snow for her efforts and giving up her lunch hours (and her two assistants). Thanks to those boys who made the effort and come to rehearsals. We will try again next year.

(Date Claimers – Eisteddfod - Monday Sept 1, Danc-Ed in the Spotlight – Friday Oct 24)

**BUSINESS SERVICE MANAGER - MRS PETA DONOGHUE**

**FACILITIES**

**Security** – With the amount of vandalism that we suffered 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 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 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 get 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) 56561360. 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,
BANKING DETAILS

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

PET SESSION - CURRICULUM SUPPORT TEACHER - SUZIE ROSS

Week 6 - 27th May, PET session will be Understanding Class Reading and Writing programmes.

RESOURCE CENTRE

Book Club

We are expecting the arrival of book orders this week. They will be distributed to your child’s classroom.

For future orders - If you want to order books as a gift please write instructions with your name and a contact number. This can be collected for the Resource Centre.

Don’t forget we are unable to collect cash and all orders must be paid online with your credit card. If you don’t have a credit card you are able to purchase a money order from Australia Post. This is to be made out to Scholastic Australia. Completed orders must be returned to the Resource Centre by the due date.

Many thanks for your support!

Book Week and Book Fair

We have a very special date for everyone to add to your diaries. Book Week is held between 16th - 22nd August. During this week we also have our annual Book Fair. Our Resource Centre will be transformed into a colourful and exciting display where books and accessories can be purchased. With each purchase, we are rewarded with points which we then convert to
valuable resources.

CHAPLAIN’S CHAT

I hope all the mothers in our Ashmore school community really enjoyed their day last Sunday for Mother’s Day; breakfast in bed; feet up; waited on hand and foot all day. Well……. I hope so anyway! Our mums are very special people to be treasured every day.

The week commencing Sunday 18th May to Sunday 25th May is CHAPLAINCY WEEK. I will be holding a competition for students with questions on my window about the chaplaincy program, and I will be speaking at the Salvation Army church at Southport about the Chaplaincy Program on Sunday 18th at 9:30a.m, and at the Ashmore Uniting Church on Sunday 25th May at 9:00a.m. You are very welcome to attend.

This week is NAPLAN week and I know that our students and teachers have worked very hard, and done their very best on the days of the tests. Well done! We are all proud of you.

Marg Potter - Chaplain

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

NEWS FROM THE SPORTS DESK...May
**Interschool Sport** – Ashmore State School will be participating in the first interschool sport Gala Day this Monday 19 May. Unfortunately our team numbers are not as high as we had hoped due to fees not being paid on time. In future if you have any concerns regarding payment please contact our school admin team to make arrangements prior to the due date, otherwise please ensure that fees are paid on time and if using internet banking then allow sufficient time for funds to clear, (usually at least 2 days).

**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 must 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 (G Block) and information will also be given via student announcements each morning. School trials take place one week before the regional trial dates listed below. Contact Mr. Mallyon if you have any questions regarding the trials.

- District Rugby Union – 21 May 11 & 12 Yrs Boys

**South Coast Representatives** – Congratulations to the following students, we wish you well in your upcoming Queensland Carnivals

Jodie M (6/7E) – U/12 Hockey

Zac B (6/7D) – U/12 Soccer

**Swimming** – Ashmore will be offering swimming lessons through the PE program again this year. The lessons will be at Nerang City Pool 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 the month of September. A cost break down will be sent home at the beginning of Term 3. Fees for the week long intensive lessons will be due by Friday 15 August and projected cost will be around $40 per student.

**Athletics Carnival 2014** – see proposed dates for Athletics Carnival for Term 3.

- Senior Athletics Carnival - Tuesday, 15 July & Wednesday, 16 July
- Parent volunteers needed. Please email Mr. Mallyon (bmall10@equ.edu.au) if you are able to offer assistance.
- Junior Athletics Carnival – Thursday, 17 July
- Back up day – Friday, 18 July

**Fitter, Faster, Stronger** – AKA Running Club goes from 8:00am to 8:40am. Students from all grades and parents are welcome to attend. New participants are always welcome. Bring a change of clothes if you wish. Thank you to all parent and teacher volunteers. Your help is greatly appreciated.

**Auskick** – This term the students of Ashmore have the opportunity to participate in Auskick on Thursday afternoons. This is a great opportunity to be active whilst having fun and developing some great skills. Your child should have brought home an information brochure for more information, otherwise please contact Mr Mallyon.

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

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**P & C NEWS**

**P&C MEETING:** The next P&C meeting of this year will be held on **Monday May 19th 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.

**MOTHER’S DAY STALL** – Thank you so much to all the wonderful parent helpers who made our stall such a resounding success. We’ve had great feedback on the quality of the gifts, and all funds raised are going towards the Junior Playground.

**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 May 18th*

*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. Sign up to attend from the link below:


**CADBURY CHOCOLATE DRIVE:** Ashmore State School P&C Association are holding a Cadbury Chocolate Fundraiser this year with all proceeds raised going towards the renovation of our Junior School Playground. We know this is a massive task but with your help we hope to raise enough money so that the area can be re-laid with synthetic turf to provide a comfortable environment for our youngest children to play on. At present the area is well worn and in need of attention and on really dry days some students and staff suffer when the dust from the existing site blows into the air.

**GREAT PRIZES FOR THE BEST SELLING STUDENTS**
• 1st PRIZE: $250 COLES MYER VOUCHER + SEA WORLD VOUCHER
• 2nd PRIZE: $150 COLES MYER VOUCHER + SEA WORLD VOUCHER
• 3rd PRIZE: $100 COLES MYER VOUCHER + SEA WORLD VOUCHER
• EVERY BOX SOLD RECEIVES A GIVEAWAY PRIZE

We'll send home one Chocolate Box per family by Friday 16th May. The cost of the chocolates ($50) will need to be returned to the tuckshop by Friday 13th June. (Please ensure that the Student’s name and class are on the envelope). More boxes are available in the tuckshop, please return monies from first box before asking for the next.

ASHMORE SS CAR BOOT SALE! Come and get a Bargain!! Our next one will be on:

Saturday May 24th

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, he is contactable on 0401813149. The P&C will be running a Sausage Sizzle.

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.

SHOTOKAN KARATE

Would your child like to learn karate?

Sensei Takeharu Kawamoto

is teaching traditional Japanese Shotokan karate at

Ashmore State School
Sensei Kawamoto is graded 7th Dan Black Belt (the highest in Australia), and has trained many students over the years from beginner to Queensland and Australian Champions!

Everyone benefits in many ways from the teachings of traditional Japanese karate. Learn the importance of respect and discipline while improving your self confidence, getting fit and acquiring a new skill!

Our dojo teaches non contact karate.

The dojo hours are: **Tuesday** 3.45pm – 5.15pm, **Thursday** 4.00pm – 5.30pm, and **Saturday** 2.30pm – 4.00pm.

The dojo is situated in the school hall.

**Special Offer to new students…..1st Week Free!**

For further information please phone Barry on 0425 661245.

Kenseikai Dojo

*Open Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday*

Ashmore State School

**THEME PARK TICKETS**
ORAL HEALTH

Students in classes(4,6,7) have been provided with an offer of oral health care examination card to take home.
If your child is enrolled in one of the classes 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.

FOX'S REAL ESTATE

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