PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Living in our Technological World.

Computer networks and Internet resources are helping teachers move the classroom into the home whilst at the same time cut down on paper use. Teachers at Ashmore State School keep assessment and attendance online and use texts through i-pads and laptops at no cost. This year we have seen teachers gradually introduce Ed studios as a method of delivering homework and corresponding with parents and students at home whilst all the information about our school is now on the world wide web. Our office staff sends messages from the school via twitter, text message and twitter. Our newsletter is on-line, and payment for excursions, some school resources and tuck-shop are now all on-line. Hence as a natural progression to living in the digital world, our school will move to full on-line communication for staff, students and parents from 2014 including all notices for...
every year level and bookings for student led conferences (formerly parent teacher student interviews). In educational circles such practice in schools is referred to as ‘paperless schools.’

More schools are choosing to go paperless for three reasons: convenience as more families interact with technology together with environmental and economic concerns. As anyone connected with schools can attest, the consumption of paper is traditionally huge and if we are to be environmentally responsible we need to be proactive in conserving our natural resources.

Additionally with the majority of homes now having computers and Internet access, it makes sense to move all routine communications online. To assist our school community in transitioning to this way of doing business we will ensure that necessary support processes are in place. For those parents and carers who do not have computer access or access to a telephone with internet, alternative arrangements are assured.

Whilst on issues of the environment, during Term 2 the Minister for Education, The Hon. John Paul Langbroek, invited schools to support the ‘Save the Bilby Fund.’ Our students accepted the invitation with enthusiasm which was coordinated by Mrs. Bridget Blakeway- a strong advocate for environmental conservation. I am pleased to announce that Myah W in Yr. 4 was awarded a prize for her efforts this worthwhile event. Congratulations Myah!

**Happy Grandparents’ Day**

Grandparents play an important role in the lives of their grandchildren. Research suggests that children find unique acceptance in their relationships with their grandparents which benefits children emotionally and mentally. For those who have not had the experience of grandparents in their lives there is often a special friend or relative who has a similar influence. In celebration of grandparents and special friends or relatives, Queenslanders of all ages will officially celebrate Grandparents’ Day on Sunday 27 October. This is a wonderful opportunity for everyone to make their grandparents feel special by thanking them for their love, guidance and support. As a school we recognised the invaluable contribution of our grandparents earlier this year to coincide with our Education Week celebrations. We called it Baby Boomers Day! So, once again from Ashmore State School community - Happy Grandparents’ Day!

**Yet Again – Proud to Shine!**

Last weekend Miss Tegan Nixon chaperoned our Opti- Minds team who competed at the University of QLD, St Lucia in the Science and Engineering category. Opti-MINDS Challenge provides students with the opportunity to showcase their learning & problem solving skills in an exciting, interactive & public way. On behalf of the Ashmore School community I thank Miss Nixon for her leadership and coaching of the students and to the competing students, thank you for the manner in which you represented our school. Please read Miss Nixon’s article regarding this event in this edition of the newsletter.

**Melting Memories – An Acid Rain Investigation**

High performing students from Ashmore, Benowa and Worongary State schools recently battled it out in the Melting Memories Chemistry and Earth Science Challenges for year 5 and 6 at Keebra Park State High School.
These talented junior environmental scientists undertook an investigation into the effects of Acid Rain on the built and natural environments.

During the course of the day, competing teams performed research on the thesis using the Internet and source materials, conducted five separate Chemistry experiments and interpreted their scientific data using a variety of mathematical and graphical methods.

We are proud to announce that Ashmore won the competition in both Yr 5 and Yr 6. Thank you to Mrs Dodds and Mrs Campbell for accompanying the students to the competition and to the Yr 5 & 6 teachers who do an amazing job in enabling our students to reach their aspirational best. Once again- Proud to Shine!

Deputy Principal Shari Callum presents Kaia, Ruby and Tara with first place awards.

MARGARET JAMES

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL-LEIGH JOSEY

Parent Education Tuesdays

“Let’s take a look at Ashmore School’s NAPLAN Results for 2013”

Tuesday 22nd October
2 – 3 pm
(Conference Room in Carmichael Centre)

Amanda Fry and Leigh Josey look forward to seeing you there.
Date claimer for **Monday 21/10/13 – Pupil Free Day**

There have been a number of calls this week concerning parents parking and leaving their car in the drop off zone on Currumburra Rd. In order for this system to work effectively, we ask that all families show consideration during pick up and drop off times-thank you.

---

**DEPUTY PRINCIPAL-AMANDA FRY**

**“ASHMORE GOES TO THE MOVIES”**

To celebrate our achievements in the Performing Arts we are having two “Cultural Evenings” in November. Under the theme “Ashmore Goes to the Movies” each year level will be performing on stage. Incorporating music, song and dance as well as costuming and props, each year level has selected a “Movie” themed item to showcase their talents for their families and friends. Our Parents and Citizens committee will be providing movie themed drinks and snacks for purchase on the night.

Years Prep, 2, 4 and 6 will be performing on Thursday 7 November. Years 1, 3, 5 and 7 will be performing on Friday 8 November. There may be additional performances from our bands, string ensembles, choirs and dance teams - but this is still in the negotiating, tentative stage. Please mark these nights in your calendar for future reference. Admission will be by gold coin donation.

Watch for more information coming home on a flyer soon.

---

**BUSINESS SERVICE MANAGER- MRS PETA DONOGHUE**

**Hiring**

We have some spare spaces for hire at the school if there are any companies interested. We have the dance room, acitivities room, conference room and hall for hire at different times. If you are interested or know of anyone who 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.

**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

**BANKING DETAILS**

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


**RESOURCE CENTRE**
Did you know you can download the Queensland Cursive Font from the Learning Place to assist your children in developing handwriting skills? This resource is now directly available to parents.

![Learning Place](image)

When you log on to The Learning Place with your child and look at their “Home Page” you will see edStudios mapped to their accounts. Students who are members of edStudios can also use the “Key” to find their class edStudio.

While in this area you can also find specific resources relevant for your child.

It’s as simple as ticking the heart which automatically adds the resource to their personal page under “Favourites”

![Actions](image)

**Cybersmart**

Are you Cybersmart? We strongly recommend you check out the website. The site contains resources for children, parents and teachers.

**Premier’s Reading Challenge**

We will be receiving certificates for the Premier’s Reading Challenge at the end of October and look forward to handing them out to our fabulous readers. Well done everybody.

“In a good book the best is between the lines.” – Swedish Proverb

**CHAPLAIN’S CHAT**
I trust you all enjoyed the time with your family during the holidays and the beautiful weather too. Only 68 more days until Christmas! For Year 7, their very last term at primary school. Very sad, and exciting too.

Next Wednesday 23rd, Years 1 to 4 will have the opportunity to attend a show called "Fly Ollie Fly" in the school hall at 1:45. The show gives students strategies to deal with bullying and is Education Queensland accredited. It is suitable for all students as it contains no religious content. Best of all… it's FREE!

I want to bring to your attention that October is "October" month, an initiative that encourages people to give up alcohol for the month of October. "October" is an important opportunity to highlight the growing danger of binge drinking and alcohol abuse, particularly among young Australians. Participants can also enjoy other benefits from a month off alcohol, including feeling healthier and fitter, weight loss and the chance to enjoy Sunday mornings again!

It is a fundraising initiative, with the money raised for Life Education which teaches Australian children how to enjoy a healthy lifestyle by resisting drugs and alcohol.

Marg Potter - Chaplain

Opti-MINDS - TEGAN NIXON

Last weekend our Regional Opti-MINDs winners competed in the Opti-MINDs state final. It was an action packed weekend full of fun and excitement. The students competed in two categories that contributed to their final score (a spontaneous challenge and a long term challenge). The long term challenge required students to build a pendulum that would propel an object. The spontaneous challenge required students to think on the spot and design a feelings statement incorporating a colour. Although the students didn’t place at this event they took away a wealth of knowledge and experience.

Students also presented at a youth forum. The youth forum required teams to present an idea that they would like to see in the future. Our team’s vision for the future was insuring all state school students participate in cooking classes and are properly educated about healthy eating habits.

The students were definitely ‘Proud to Shine’ last weekend and should be extremely proud of their achievements. Congratulations to Aidan, Abby, Sennah, Harmony and Jake on a job well done!
On the bus competition day

We arrived at Opti-MINDS

Youth forum presentation

Dancing at the shindig

P & C NEWS

P&C MEETING - The next P&C meeting for this year will be held on Monday October 21 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 along. Your input will be much appreciated.

MELBOURNE CUP TRIVIA NIGHT – Come along for a great night of fun and games for Parents! Friday 1st November 2013. $80 per team of 8 or $10 per person – Tickets on sale now in the tuckshop. Alcoholic and soft drinks are available for purchase. Supper is included in the ticket price along with tea and coffee. BYO nibbles for your table. No BYO drinks. Prizes on the night for: Best Dressed; Best Costume; Best Decorated Table; Best Hat or Fascinator and more. All funds raised will support our children’s education.

END OF TERM SAUSAGE SIZZLE – Many thanks for the parent helpers who made Sausage Sizzle day fun for our children – Ron Odle and Shannon Takarangi on the BBQ, as well as Marissa Willingale, Karen Ross, Allison Gribble, Jenny Skeet, Jodi McLeod, Ivan Russell, Karen Bulmer & Iris Brennan.

PREP TEA TOWELS – We hope you are enjoying your Prep tea towels. If you missed out there are some spares available in tuckshop - $12.00 each.

COMMUNITY BENEFIT GRANT – We are delighted to announce we have been successful in our application for the Community Benefit Gaming Fund Grant. This means we have $32,000 to go towards our...
Middle School Playground. Cr Bob La Castra has also kindly made a commitment of $20,000, so we are nearly there!!! Many thanks for your support of our fundraising event which go directly to vital school projects.

**COUNCIL DIVISIONAL DONATION** – We are also very happy to let you know Cr Bob La Castra has approved our $5000 application for concreting the Thunderbirds Club courtyard area in the Specialist Learning Centre. The P&C will add extra funds to provide new seating. We are very happy to support the wonderful work our Specialist Teachers and Guidance Counsellors accomplish with our children.

**2014 BOOKLISTS** – Delivery: As we have no space for storage, the Bookpacks must be picked up from the Hall on:

**Monday 25 November**
10.00am to 11.00, then 2.00 to 3.30pm

**Tuesday 26 November**
8.30am to 11.00, then 2.00 to 3.30pm

If you cannot make those times, please arrange for another parent to collect your pack with a note of authorisation to pick up. Thank you!

Please contact Simone at the tuckshop on 5656 1367 if you need any more details.

**LOST PROPERTY** – Lost Property is now being held in the storage shelves in the Disabled Restrooms – 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 each Thursday morning from 8.30 – 9.00am.

_Ashmore P&C_

_pandc@ashmoress.eq.edu.au_

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

Swimming Carnival – The Annual Ashmore Swimming Carnival is booked for City Pools Nerang on 27 November. The carnival is for Year 4-7 and will take the place of a regular school day. An information handout will be coming home soon.

State Track and Field – Congratulations to Chloe G (7B) and Cody H (7C) for representing Ashmore State School and the South Coast Region in the State Track & Field Championships Oct 15/16.

Chloe achieved a personal best throw of 10.39 metres and finished 5th place in Shot Put. She was 20 cm away from reaching the podium.

Cody, after battling an illness and being kept busy with soccer tryouts, finished a respectable 18th in the State in the 200 metres. He placed first amongst all South Coast competitors in the event.

Well done Chloe and Cody!

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 (Weeks 4, 5, & 6). House teams compete 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.

**Mon** – Fitter, **Tues** – Faster, **Wed** – Stronger, **Thurs** – Fitter, **Friday** – Faster.

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

![Children Illustration](image)

**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](http://www.totalfootballacademy.com.au) or call Andy Robinson on 0413 888 643.

**MUSIC NEWS**

Welcome to Term 4!

I trust that you have had a wonderful holiday and are looking forward to the upcoming events that will entertain you this term.

Here is a sneak peak at our next performances…

![Musical Notes](image)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date and Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Who is involved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>October 31, 2013, 12:30 – 1:00 pm</td>
<td>Music Count Us in</td>
<td>Lead Vocals, Councillor Bob La Castra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>On Stage: All choirs, senior strings students, selected senior band students, ukulele players</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Also participating: All Prep – Year 7 students (except Year 6 on Camp)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>November 7 &amp; 8, 2013, Time: TBA</td>
<td>Cultural Evenings</td>
<td>Year Level Groups: Prep, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, 4A,6A, 4C,6C, 5A,6B,6C, 5C,6D,6E, Year 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Also participating: All choirs, some dance groups, some strings groups, some bands, the uke group, some instrumental soloists</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our performances later in the term will include the Year 7 Graduation, Christmas Carols and the Farewell Assembly. Students will receive further information about all events in upcoming weeks.

Yours in Music,

Miss Dart and the Music Team!

**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.

HELPING HANDS

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW

SAVERPLUS

GOLD COAST HOSPITAL AND 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.

---

**BEEKEEPERS INFORMATION DAY**

Gold coast Amateur Beekeeper Society are holding an information day with talks, displays and stalls.

**When:** Sunday 27th October

**Where:** Currumbin Community Special School, 5 Hammersford Drive, Currumbin Waters

**Time:** from 9.00am

---

**UNITING CARE - FOSTER CARE**

Become an Intensive Foster Carer with UnitingCare Community.
We are seeking motivated and committed individuals who are willing and have the time to become an Intensive Foster Carer who provides primary care or respite care for children between the ages of 0 -18years, with extreme to complex needs.

Intensive Foster Carer placements are required to meet the needs of young people who may exhibit challenging behaviours, a diagnosed disability and additional medical conditions or complications.

Intensive Carers play a vital role in the lives of young people by including them in their family, by providing a nurturing relationship and safe and stable home life.

An Intensive Foster Carer can be a full time 24/7 carer or provide respite care on weekends and holidays.

Please contact the UnitingCare Community Family Lives Program on 3363 2228 for further information.

HOMESTAY

Do you have a spare room in your home?
Could you offer Homestay to an International student?

The Gold Coast Student Accommodation Centre is an accommodation service available to education providers and International students on the Gold Coast. We are currently seeking hosts for students in the Ashmore area. This can be a great cultural experience for the whole family with generous remuneration.

For more information, please call us on 5527 8688, email: info@gcsac.com.au or visit the website www.gcsac.com.au
COMMUNITY CUPPA- SONESHA

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW

CELTIC BASKETBALL CLUB

Celtics Basketball Club is conducting a 5 week come and try Miniball program at St Kevin's Catholic Primary School Saturday mornings starting 26th October thru to 22nd November 9am – 10am. Miniball is for boys and girls of ALL abilities between the ages of 4 and 10 years. It is about children having FUN and experiencing basketball and general motor skills through the “Fun Sense” approach of modified drills and games. Cost is $50 includes a ball and reversible singlet. For more information please contact Julie on 0433172929 or email celticgc@bigpond.net.au
Our Sponsors

Please click on any advertisement to email the affiliated business or view further details such as company brochures, flyers or promotions.