25th July 2014

It has been my great pleasure to observe students presenting their learning to their parents at the Student Led Conferences this week and also to facilitate some of the sessions. For years parent-teacher conferences have been the primary means of parent-teacher communication. But with the introduction at Ashmore School of student-led conferences parents and carers hear from their child first hand about the how the student is progressing and why. Such a strategy also encourages the child to take responsibility for their learning.

From a teacher's perspective, many are of the opinion that the process enables them to get a better picture of each child stating that the preparation for the conference and the actual conference forced them to sit down with each student and review strengths and weaknesses. "This conversation often told us the students learned more than perhaps we had measured through conventional assessments."

I thank all of our staff for the manner in which they have prepared the children and, in particular, Mr. Adam Dart who has worked closely with the students in ICT lessons during the past two years teaching them the technological skills required for their digital portfolio design which is a large component of the conference.
What a Team!

Last week the school was audited in the area of financial management, provision and maintenance of facilities and Workplace Health and Safety practices. The audit took three days to complete and the result was outstanding. Under the supervision of Mrs. Peta Donohue, our Business Service Manager, and the hard work of our office staff, Brigitte, Kate and Michelle, we can now boast that the school has been awarded the highest rating by the Department of Education, Training and Employment (DETE) in this area.

An Invitation

At the end of last term the Deputy Director General invited schools to apply for Independent Public School (IPS) status. A number of state schools have previously applied and become IPS schools and I believe that the time is right for Ashmore to now apply. All Independent Public Schools remain part of the strong state school system however they enjoy greater autonomy for advancing innovation, greater flexibility in staffing options and increased financial flexibility. A process of consultation must occur prior to application. The first of such consultation took place at the end of last term when I presented the IPS information provided by DETE to the parent representatives and members of the P&C. Further consultation and information sessions will take place with staff and the community during the forthcoming weeks. The dates and times will be published on our school website. Information regarding IPS schools can be accessed through the department’s website at: www.education.qld.gov.au/schools/independent-public-schools/index.html

Welcome to new staff

Ms Hannah White, Ms Jacqueline Hansard and Ms Jacqueline Mikami have joined our Ashmore Team.

Ms White is our new instrumental teacher, Ms Hansard is replacing Ms Veivers in 4/5D and Ms Mikami is now teaching LOTE.

Vale:

It is with deep sadness that I inform you that one of our parents, Marianna Naimo, has passed away suddenly. I know that you join with me in sending our deepest condolences to Marianna’s family as this very difficult time.

Thought for the fortnight:

“Live in the present, launch yourself on every wave, find your eternity in each moment.” Henry David Thoreau.

Warm Regards

MARGARET JAMES

Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL- LEIGH JOSEY

Pre-Prep Kicks off at Ashmore
Last Tuesday twenty very excited four year olds and their parents kicked off our first ever Pre-Prep class at Ashmore State School. Every Tuesday from 9:15 to 11:15 am, for the remainder of the school year (except for the last week), these students and their parents will come together in the classroom at the end of C Block. The parents remain at school and participate in Parent Education Tuesday (PET) sessions held in the Conference Centre. All parents are welcome to attend these sessions which begin at 9:30.

Our Pre-Prep students are taught by Mrs Stacey Files (an Early Education Teacher) together with Ms Rosemary, our Prep E Teacher Aide.

The children are involved in activities that focus on oral language; early writing, reading and numeracy skills; gross and fine motor skills; and social and personal learning.

It should be a very rewarding and beneficial semester for our newest students. We hope to extend the programme in 2015.

**Year 5 Camp**

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

**Camp Information**

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW](#)

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW](#)

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW](#)

**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.

**Spare Uniforms**

If any families have old school uniforms that children have outgrown and no longer use, our spare clothes supply is very low and would benefit from your donation.

Should your child have been lent a spare set of clothing, it would be appreciated if this could be returned. Unfortunately the items we did have available for lending, have not been sent back.

**Wombat Stew**
Prep and Year One Wombat Stew Excursion Note

18/07/2014

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Wednesday 6 August, Prep and Year One will be attending a musical called “Wombat Stew” at the Gold Coast Arts Centre in Bundall. We will leave the school by bus at midday and return at 2:20 pm.

The musical will run for one hour.

The cost for the excursion is $18.00 covering admission and bus transport. Due date for Wombat Stew is Friday the 1st of August, 2014 by 9:15am. No late payments will be accepted after the due date. Further information on payment policy and procedures can be found on the school website.

Yours sincerely,

Tess Radford (on behalf of the Prep and Year one Teachers)       Leigh Josey (Deputy Principal)

Prep and Year One Excursion Permission Note - must be returned with payment on or before 9:15am Friday the 1st August, 2014.

(Parent/carer name please print) __________________________ give permission for my child __________________ (child’s name) in class ____________, to attend the musical called “Wombat Stew” at the Gold Coast Arts Centre on Wednesday 6 August 2014. I have paid $18.00 for the excursion by one of the following methods:

☐ cash or eft at school payment office

☐ via internet banking online with ref (child/ren surname/class/Wombat)
The School Opinion Survey is undertaken each year by the department’s State Schools Division to obtain the opinions of parent/caregivers, students and school staff about important aspects of schooling. The survey is designed to help schools identify what they do well and what they can improve upon.

There are changes to the survey this year. All surveys are to be conducted online. The Parent/Caregiver Survey will be administered to ALL school families (previously it was a sample of families). Access details are provided to all families through their eldest child. A letter will be coming home with the eldest child. This letter has a unique code for each family. The school will make our facilities available to those parent/caregivers who do not have access to the internet. The survey is now open and will close on 03 August.

Any questions about the survey can be directed to Amanda Fry.

PHOTO DAY

Date Claimer- School photo day is Tuesday 19 August

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW

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**
Bucket Fillers

Teach your children to be bucket fillers.

It’s important to teach our children to be “bucket fillers” rather than “bucket dippers”.

But what exactly is a “bucket filler” you may ask?

A “bucket filler” is someone who is thoughtful of others. They are usually kind, considerate and generous of spirit.

A “bucket dipper” is of course the opposite. They are someone who thinks more about themselves and they can often be rude, mean, inconsiderate and disrespectful.

By becoming “bucket fillers”, our children can start to foster happiness for both themselves and others. By talking with our children about this concept and by modelling our own “bucket filling” behaviour as we go through each day we are teaching our children an invaluable tool that can help them to be more happy in their own life.

Donald O. Clifton (1924 – 2003) was the American Psychologist who conceptualized this idea. He is warmly regarded as the Father of the Strengths Based Psychology movement and the Grandfather of Positive Psychology. He first introduced the “bucket filling” concept back in the 1960s.

Carol McLeod and David Messing have now drawn on his ideas and created the beautiful children’s picture book entitled, “Have you filled a bucket today? A guide to daily happiness for kids.” The premise behind this picture
book is that we all carry our own invisible bucket around as we travel through each and every day. If our bucket is filled by the kind words and deeds of others we tend to feel happier. But when our bucket is empty or “dipped into” by others we can tend to feel sad and even perhaps angry. The “bucket filler” is someone who uplifts others thereby “filling many buckets.” Interestingly, another wonderful outcome of all this is that they often tend to feel better about themselves as well and even “fill their own bucket” while they are busy offering consideration and kindness to everyone around them. It’s rather like a win-win recipe I think.

You might like to go and check out this lovely picture book for yourself. Actually there are several similar but different titles now and they are suitable for a range of different age groups. Ask your local library if they have a copy of any of these books.

Perhaps we should all start to spend some more time filling other people's buckets? Why don’t we give it a try? After all, we’re told we are likely to feel a little happier whenever we engage in this process.

STLaN- ROBYN MARTIN

Your child’s teacher may refer to PEDS (Parents’ Evaluation of Development Status) during parent / teacher conferences, which are currently happening across the school. This is a new pathway to assist in the monitoring of children’s development and behaviour. The Community Child Health Centre is able to provide an opportunity to attend a free appointment to provide information and guidance.

For further details and/or to make a self-referred appointment, please contact Community Child Health Centre (Southport) on ph.5519 2600.

RESOURCE CENTRE

Book Club

The latest Book Club is currently out and is due back to the Resource Centre before Tuesday 29th August. Remember that we are unable to collect cash and payments can be made online by following the instructions on the book club flyer. If paying with a credit card please return the order form with selected books and receipt number to the Resource Centre.

Book Fair, Book Week and Dress Up!

It’s that time of year again!
On Monday 18th of August (after midday) until Friday 22nd August (midday) we will have the Library decorated as a beautiful garden and hundreds of books available for purchase from Scholastic. The theme of the book fair is "Bookfair Garden - Catch the Reading Bug".

On Wednesday 20th August all staff and students can get dressed up as their favourite book character. There is a prize for the best dressed girl and boy from each year level. The time and place of judging will be announced closer to the date. We have found this quite an exciting day and everyone has fun dressing up!

On Thursday 21st everyone is invited to attend our family Book Fair evening, peruse the wonderful range of books and enjoy a sausage sizzle. Our wonderful P & C will be selling sausages from 3:30 pm – 6 pm outside the Carmichael Centre. The school receives reward points which we convert to new resources for our school, therefore, everyone benefits.

During the week we also celebrate Book Week. The CBCA (Children's Book Council of Australia) will announce Australia's top books in a large range of categories. If you want to see the shortlist of books check out the website. We've already purchased a number of books from the shortlist and they will be available for loan after the Book Fair and Book Week.

**Premier’s Reading Challenge**

All completed and signed forms need to be handed back to the Resource Centre no later than 5th September. Any forms received after this date will not be eligible for a signed certificate.

**Email Address**

Have you changed your email address lately? It's very important that you keep the office informed of any changes: not only email addresses but phone numbers and all contacts. The school is heading towards emailing report cards at the end of Semester 2. If you don't have an email address your printed report card will be sent home.

**NEWS FROM THE SPORTS DESK...July**

**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 form will be available later this week. Projected price is approximately $40 for the week, including lessons and bus travel.

**Athletics Carnivals** – A huge thank you to the amazing teachers from Ashmore State School for helping to implement these 3 days of carnivals.
**Senior Athletics Carnival 2014** – Completed over two days, 15 July and 16 July

- Thank you to all students, staff members, parent helpers, and the P&C. The excitement and energy displayed throughout the 2 day competition was amazing. Although there were many great individual performances, all students should be proud of the spirit and sportsmanship demonstrated throughout the event. A special thank you to Mrs Heaton and Mr Lawler for all their behind the scenes help.

- Overall House Results:
  - First – Cotlew
  - Second – Currumburra
  - Third – Warrawee
  - Fourth – Yangoora

- Individual Age Champions:
  - Born 2005 – Girl, Georgia C (4A), Boy, Tyler M (4A)
  - Born 2004 – Girl, Alyssandra S. (5B), Boy, Aaron C (4B)
  - Born 2003 – Girl, Mackenna B (5C), Boy, Charlie C (6C)
  - Born 2002 – Girl, Shiarnalee L (6/7D), Boy, Max P (6/7D)
  - Born 2001 – Girl, Jade C (6/7E), Boy, Ethan T (6/7E)

- New Records – Congratulations!
  - Shot Put – 9 Yrs Girls, Ebony G. 7.49m
  - Shot Put – 9 Yrs Boys, Tyler M. 6.16m

**Junior Athletics Carnival 2014 – 17 July**

- Thank you to all students, staff members, parent helpers, and the P&C. The excitement and energy displayed throughout the competition was amazing and the weather was outstanding. All students appeared to enjoy the day. A special thank you to Mrs Heaton and Mr Lawler for all their behind the scenes help.

- Overall House Results:
  - First – Currumburra
  - Second – Warrawee
  - Third – Yangoora
  - Fourth – Cotlew

- Sprint Year Level Champions:
  - Prep – Girl, Riley S (PE), Boy, Chavez G (PC)
  - Yr 1 – Girl, Ariana R (1A), Boy, Oscar H (1E)
  - Yr 2 – Girl, Ella M (2C), Boy, Luke N (2A)
  - Yr 3 - Girl, Reid V (3D), Boy, Bodie C (3A)

**Upcoming School Trials for Gold Coast North District Trials – stay tuned for dates on school announcements:**
• District Athletics – Students who qualified will be contacted by Mr Mallyon for District information/permission forms (District Dates are 6 & 7 August)

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.

MUSIC NEWS

ATTENTION: CHOIR, BAND and STRINGS STUDENTS

As the Eisteddfod is nearing closer, we have placed the information about the performance dates and times on the school’s website. Please return your permission form as soon as possible, as well as payment if required. We encourage the students to practise regularly at home and attend all school rehearsals. Good luck everyone!

We also have our Winter Wonderland Concert in Week 4, prior to the Eisteddfods, where we have the opportunity to experience the stage and play for an unfamiliar audience. Parents, carers and families are invited to attend and support the achievements of our music department.

Please welcome Miss Hannah White, our new strings teacher for this term. All strings ensembles and lessons will continue as usual from Week 2. If you did not receive a letter explaining the change, please see Miss Dart.

It is very important that all students and families are aware of our upcoming music events. We look forward to showcasing our talent and musicianship to you!

Miss Dart and the Music Team

CHAPLAIN’S CHAT

In view of the recent events over the weekend, with the tragedy surrounding the Malaysian airlines flight, I am reminded once again how life is such a precious gift. Our family members are to be treasured and loved, so let’s take time to just enjoy each other’s company. If your child asks for a hug when you’re busy, give them one. Chores can wait! A hug only takes a minute. A child’s memory lasts a lifetime.
At breakfast club on Wednesday mornings, we are running very short on cereals. Are you able to help by donating a box of Weetbix, Vita Brits, Cornflakes or Sultana Bran? Please drop off to my desk in the Happy Chappy corner in the Student Services building. Thanks!!

Marg Potter - Chaplain

TALENTED PARENT/GRANDPARENT/CARER

PUZZLES

Prep has a number of wooden puzzles with pieces missing. Is there a talented parent or grandparent out there who could make the missing pieces to complete the puzzles? Someone with woodworking skills and some time to spare!!

Please see Mrs Gerns in Prep A.

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

Ashmore State School link to twitter page is https://twitter.com/Ashmore_Primary

P & C NEWS
**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.

**Father’s Day Stall** The P&C will be running the annual Father’s Day stall this year on Weds 3rd and Thurs 4th September. If you can spare some time to help run the stall on any of these days then please go to [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0848AEAA22A4FB6-fathers1](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0848AEAA22A4FB6-fathers1) to sign up.

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

*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.

**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](http://www.flexischools.com). 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.

_Ashmore P&C_

_pandc@ashmoress.eq.edu.au_

---

**DENTAL HEALTH**

Students in years 7,6,5,4,3,2,1,PREP A have 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.

FOX'S REAL ESTATE

PCYC
# Fitness Starts Here!

**PCYC Ashmore**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Youth Fitness (11 - 15yrs)</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>3.45pm - 4.30pm</td>
<td>Group fitness room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Yoga (11 - 16yrs)</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>4.00pm - 4.45pm</td>
<td>Group fitness room</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- $5 for members ($20 for 12 month PCYC membership)
- $10 for non-members
- Once off free trial for new members

**YOUTH FITNESS** - Located in the group fitness room, this program is for any young person age 11 - 15. We offer classes that expose participants to a wide range of skills and drills, functional conditioning, balance, agility, speed, strength, mobility, endurance, stability, co-ordination and core development in a safe, fun and dynamic environment.

**YOUTH YOGA** - Our Youth Yoga classes facilitate the building of both strength and flexibility, while relieving the stress of daily life. The class offers a true complement to busy academic and extracurricular demands.

PCYC Ashmore, Dominions Road, Ashmore
P: 5539 5774  E: ashmore@pcyc.org.au
Currumburra Road
ASHMORE 4214 QLD

07 5656 1330

07 5656 1300

ashmore@eq.edu.au

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

Our Sponsors

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

GOLD COAST ORTHODONTISTS
Smiles with style
Crooked Teeth?
Robina Town Centre 55 767 333
Hollensdale Westfield 59 193 696
Harbour Town 55 290 509
Dr Joseph Beaurepaire BSc (Dent), MBBS (Syd), FRACDS, MRAIOS (Ortho)
Dr Angela Phelan BSc (Dent), MBBS (Syd), MRAIOS (Ortho) (Syd), MOrth (Ortho) (Syd), MRAIOS (Ortho)

advertise here!
to be seen by local families

1800 245 077
sales@austnews.com.au

need a printer that understands your marketing goals?
call our design & print consultants to help bring your ideas to life

1800 245 077
art@austnews.com.au

Ashmore Community Children's Centre
Need quality child care?
Yes Spacious garden playgrounds
Yes Nutritious home cooked meals
Yes Experienced, caring staff
Yes Babies to 5 year olds
Yes 7:30am to 5:30pm
Community Drive, Ashmore
(Opposite PCYC) Ph: 5539 3511
are you looking for fast...easy...useful GOODS & SERVICES in your local area? check the SCHOOL NEWSLETTER first!