31st October 2014

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

It’s been a while since I wrote my article for the newsletter due to school holidays followed by some long service leave. I thank Mrs. Josey, Ms. Fry and Mrs. Gravendyk for looking after our beautiful school in my absence. Although the leave wasn’t very long I did take some time to visit Western Australia which is another lovely part of our world and then spent time on the Sunshine Coast just fishing, swimming and of course shopping!

And now back to the place we call ‘Our School’ where Yr. 5 are enjoying their leadership camp at Runaway Bay as I write this report. The excitement of the students in the lead up days to the camp was clearly visible and on the day of departure it was evident that the planning and organisation that went into the camp by our teachers and Mrs. Josey, was so very worthwhile.

Celebrating the Ashmore Team!

Whilst on the subject of teachers, we celebrated World Teacher’s Day on Friday 31 October. Once again members of our P&C celebrated our teachers’ work by hosting a special breakfast for them. I am very proud to lead a dedicated and committed team of educators and I personally thank each and every one of them for the...
wonderful work they do on a daily basis. Teachers are an extremely important part of any society for a significantly wide range of reasons. They are the people who educate the children and young people who in turn become the leaders of the next generation. The title of teacher conveys the highest responsibility of adults towards children. Apart from parents, they do the most in shaping lives. I am proud to say that I became a teacher because of teachers I encountered in my childhood – those who challenged me to be the best I could be, and who demonstrated care and commitment and made me feel special. Happy World Teachers Day!

The week also was a special time to thank our tuckshop workers. The 29th October was set aside as Tuckshop Day giving our school the official opportunity to demonstrate our gratitude to members of our community who give their time to make sure all of our students are well fed and happy! This is a great team who laugh a lot and bring a great deal of fun and enjoyment to our workplace. Why not call into our tuckshop and give the team your own special thanks and maybe, if you have a spare hour or two, you might like to join them.

**Outstanding Success for Caleb!**

It is with great pleasure that I congratulate Caleb G. in Yr. 3 for his outstanding success in the International Competition and Assessment for Schools (ICAS) conducted by the University of N.S.W. Caleb achieved the top score in Yr. 3 for QLD and will be awarded the University of New South Wales (UNSW) medal at a special ceremony to be held in Brisbane. What a wonderful achievement – Caleb is certainly Proud to Shine!

**Thank you to the MENS' SHED**

Recently the MENS' SHED at Nerang kindly volunteered to repair many of our jigsaw puzzles and resources used by our early childhood students.

They meticulously hand cut and painted intricate pieces and presented them as new to our Prep teachers.

As a symbol of appreciation the teachers presented the men with our 2014 Prep Tea-Towel. It has been reported to me that this resulted in quite an emotional response from the men. This is a wonderful community partnership that we have developed.

**Music – Count Us in!**

Miss Anna Dart has once again organised Ashmore State School’s participation in the Australia wide Music Count Us In! performance. Students from schools around Australia joined together to sing as one and celebrate the significant influence that music has in so many facets of our lives. Our students were invited to come to school dressed as their favourite pop idol and contribute a gold coin donation. All money raised was for the Student Voice choice of charity.

**Zac (MJ Hammer) and Bryce (Mylie Cyrus).**
Our stunning popstar teachers- Mrs Wendy Beattie, Ms Debbie Usmar and Mrs Robyn Martin

And a special message from Miss Dart

This is why I teach Music

...not because I expect you to major in music,

not because I expect you to play or sing all your life,

not so you can relax, not so you can have fun,

but so you will be human, so you will recognise beauty,

so you will be closer to an infinite beyond this world,

so you will have something to cling to,

so you will have more love, more compassion, more gentleness, more good

In short, more LIFE – author unknown

Margi James
Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL- LEIGH JOSEY

PREP Show -"Santa around the World"

There is a show coming up for Prep classes on the 4th December, called “Santa Round the World”. The form for this show is now on the school’s website in the NEWS section (bottom left). The form can be completed on-line and submitted electronically. Instructions for payment are stated on the forms.

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL- AMANDA FRY

Our Dance season has come to an end with a fantastic
night at the Gold Coast Arts Centre for Danc’ed in the Spotlight. The girls enjoyed a morning of technical rehearsal, finale rehearsal and watching other schools’ performances. The night was exhilarating with the culmination finale where over 400 dancers performing at the same time. Ashmore was selected as one of two schools to dance in the audience space.

All the costumes are washed are ready to be returned to “Dansing” – the company from which we hired this year. I’m already thinking about next year’s songs and what format our dance program will take. It is possible that Dance Team will become more like Band and Choir with a before school and playtime commitment to attend rather than as an option in sport. This will allow students who are both ‘sporty’ and dancers to have choices. There may still be a dance type option in sport but this would be more like Dancercise or Zumba or Aerobics rather than a dance team. All options will be dependent on staffing of course.

Spare Clothing

Just like Old Mother Hubbard – our spare clothes cupboard is decidedly bare. We currently have no boys underwear or shorts and very limited girl items, to lend in the event of toilet accidents. If your child has ‘borrowed’ clothes in the past, we would appreciate them being returned clean as soon as possible. If you have uniform items that can longer be used by your children, we would really appreciate those being donated to our cupboard as well.

BSM BLURB

FINANCE

Student Resource Scheme Fees are due and payable now. Please make payment either by EFT, Cash or Direct Deposit as soon as possible. Payment days are Wednesday, Thursday & Friday!
**Student ID Cards** – We are introducing Student ID Cards in the next week. All students will receive a card which will enable them to print or borrow from the library and pay at the finance office.

The card is the responsibility of the student and if it has to be replaced there will be a fee of $5.00. Please ensure your child understands the importance of the card as it has their photo on it.

**End of Year** – the finance office will be closing on the 28th November. No further payments will be taken after this date. Please ensure that you have all outstanding debts paid before this date. Any outstanding debts will be carried over into next year, however this is not preferred.

**Cash Window payments** – please note that the receipting office does not carry a float to change monies. It would be greatly appreciated if you could come with correct cash.

**FACILITIES**

It looks like we might be finally getting our prep playground astro turfed during the Christmas Holidays. This has been a long time coming. Now, between the P & C and the school, we have raised the funds to have it completed. We are looking forward to the finished product.

**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 to the office.

**Absent/Sick Students** – If your child is 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.

**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 these seem to be the most common messages. If you contact the office after this time we will not be able to assist unless it is an emergency.

Many Thanks,

Pete

Business Services Manager

**BANKING DETAILS**

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

We are currently changing our library management system to Oliver Jnr. To enable a smooth transition we are restricting student borrowing week 5 - Monday 3rd, Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th November. Students can return their books but will be unable to borrow until the end of the week.

This exciting and visual library management system will enable students to engage in their own inquiries and know which books they currently have on loan. Another benefit of this system is that students will be notified on a regular basis if they have overdue books. In time we will be adding e-books in a large range of genres. This is keeping us in line with the latest research which suggests by 2020 Library’s will have 50:50 print and e-books collections. We are not replacing print resources but supplementing our library with more choices – print and digital. In fact, we are continually purchasing new print resources to engage our students as reading makes life so much more exciting.

When students borrow they need to return their books no later than two weeks from this initial date. They are more than welcome to renew their books as long as someone hasn’t reserved their book.

As we approach the end of the year students will be notified if they have overdue books and asked to replace the cost of the book if it’s been lost or damaged.

Book Club

Book Club orders will be distributed this week. The final Book Club for 2014 – Issue 8 will be distributed early November and we ask that all orders be returned no later than 24th November. As this is the last Book Club you may even want to purchase a book for Christmas. If this is the case and you want to surprise your child, please write a note on the envelope to notify our staff. We will ring you when the order comes in and you can collect it at a convenient time. There will be some lovely gift ideas for all ages in this issue.

NEWS FROM THE SPORTS DESK...October

Swimming Carnival – The Annual Ashmore Swimming Carnival has been booked for City Pools Nerang on 3 December. The carnival is for Year 4-7 and will take the place of a regular school
day. Information via the school website will be coming out soon.

Fitter – Faster - Stronger (a.k.a. Running Club) ***NEW TIMES**** - 8:00am to 8:45am.

Students from all grades and their parents are welcome to attend. Teachers are welcome, too! 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.

ROBYN MARTIN- STLaN

Please check out the link below to an article entitled ‘How can I assist my child with spelling?’

It contains information that will give you a number of spelling techniques to help develop your child’s spelling.

With improved spelling, the benefit is that a child can put more effort into their writing instead of the spelling of each word.

How can I assist my child with spelling?

Spelling Techniques:

1. Look, Analyse, Cover, Write and Say, Check
   - The student looks at an enlarged correctly printed version of the word. Write this for them on the whiteboard.
   - The student analyses the "tricky" parts of the word and may choose to put these in another colour or enlarge those letters in order to "help the brain remember". (They may wish have us to develop an acronym or other mnemonic for the word.)
   - The student rubs out the word.
   - The student "write, rub, write" i.e. they write the word, then rub it out. This is done twelve times quickly. The students say the sounds of letter names as they are written and say the whole word each time.
   - All this is best done on a whiteboard or electronic whiteboard. Paper just does not have the same motivational factor.

2. Visualisation
   - The student imagines a whiteboard/ wall in their mind.
   - The student chooses a bright colour and writes in the word.
   - The student writes the word using this colour a number of times. The teacher should ensure the student writes their word in a number of different ways.

The student initially uses all three of these techniques on each of the words to be learnt. This seems a slow lengthy process, but it ensures success. The student will speed up and learn more efficiently with time. Let the student choose which order in which to use these techniques. Students seem instinctively to use their area of personal strength first. Each student is a different combination of learning styles and strengths i.e. some have stronger visual than auditory memories or stronger physical skills, etc.

NEA very rare few people cannot visualise at all. These students then have to write their words more often to compensate. One student had to write her spelling test with her eyes closed as looking confused her. She could spell perfectly with closed eyes, made a mess of words when her eyes were open. Remember students/ brains work differently.

4. Consolidate learning by doing word building e.g. if the word learnt was "active", say "active", "running", "speed", "weight", the student repeats each word one at a time, writes it and reads it again.

5. *DICTATION is EFY! We need students to learn
GIFTED AND TALENTED

Writers Club

PROUD TO SHINE

All year we should be proud to shine,

But never, ever let yourself decline!

Be happy all day,

Just find a way,

And everything will be fine!

By Jinxiang (3E)
CHAPLAIN'S CHAT

**A COMMUNITY FUN DAY** will be held on Saturday 8th November from 10a.m. to 2p.m. at Gold Coast Salvation Army, 157 Wardoo St, Southport. The fun will include free rides, jumping castle, games, sausage sizzle, cold drinks, stalls, activities for under 8’s and over 8’s, a live band and lots of fun! There is a concert that night as well.

**SUMMER CAMP** information is now available on my Happy Chappy window. Camps available are **SCHOOLZOUT** for Year 7 from 15th to 19th December; **CAMP CAPERS** for Years 5 to 7 from 5th to 9th January; **CAMP 628** for Years 6 to 8 from 10th to 14th January; and **UBERTWEAK SUMMERBYTE PRIMARY** for Years 5 to 7. Come and ask me for a brochure.

Marg Potter - Chaplain

P & C NEWS

**P&C Meeting:** The next P&C meeting of this year will be held on **Monday 17 November 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.
**Divisional Donation:** The P&C is delighted to announce our application for the Council Divisional Donation has been successful. This $3000 will go towards a new Grandstand Seat for our Oval. Thank you Cr Bob La Castra!

**World Teachers’ Day** – In celebration of this day, and as a special thank you for all the work our teachers put in daily for our children, the P&C is putting on a Thank You BBQ Breakfast on Friday 31 Oct. We really appreciate all you do!!

**2015 Resource Scheme** – The P&C has endorsed the Ashmore State School Resource Scheme for 2015. As an incentive for prompt payment, if you make your payment by the end of Term 1, 2015 you will

*Go into the draw for a $150 Tuckshop/Uniform Shop Voucher*

**ASHMORE SS CAR BOOT SALE!** Come and get a Bargain!!

*Saturday November 29*

*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.

**END OF YEAR CLEANUP WORKING BEE –**

*From 8.00am Sat Nov 29*

*Helper Sausage Sizzle & Iceblock for the kids*

*All who attend go into draw for $50 Tuckshop/Uniform Shop Voucher*

This is a wonderful opportunity for parents to help (especially if you’re working through the week). We have beautiful grounds at the school, however they do need quite a bit of work! Please bring a Pressure cleaner if you have one.

**2015 Bookpacks** - As we have NO space for storage, the Bookpacks **must** be picked up from the Hall on:

Monday 24 November - 10.00am to 11.00, then 2.00 to 3.30pm

Tuesday 25 November - 8.30am to 11.00, then 2.00 to 3.30pm

If you missed this order, you can still order a Full 2015 Bookpack at Flexischools.com.au, or at the tuckshop, for
a January 2015 Delivery

**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://example.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*

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**SURFSIDE BUS PASSES**

APPLICATIONS FOR 2015 BUS PASSES ARE DUE NOW

**ALL NEW PASSENGERS FOR 2015**

To ensure timely distribution of bus passes in the New Year, please submit your application before the end of November 2014.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR EXISTING BUS PASS HOLDERS**

At the end of each school year, please ensure that the current pass is retained to be used in the new school year until the new pass is issued.

Students with an existing bus pass need only re-apply for a 2015 bus pass if your child

- is moving from Primary to Secondary School
- is repeating a grade
- is changing their home address or school

**ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION FORMS**


**PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO**
Applications will be processed over the Christmas school holidays. Once applications are approved, bus passes are sent to school for collection. Please allow 10-15 working days from the start of Term One 2015.

*Prior to Government approval of bus travel assistance, all students can travel by bus to school using a TransLink gocard.*

**REMEMBER**

A valid bus pass must be produced TO THE DRIVER or the relevant fare paid via cash or gocard. Information on fares, go cards, zones and bus timetables is available from TransLink [http://translink.com.au/](http://translink.com.au/) or phone 13 12 30.

**THEME PARK TICKETS**
KARATE DOJO

Kenseikai Shotokan Karate Dojo

teaches traditional Japanese Shotokan karate at

Ashmore State School [in the school hall]

Sensei Takeharu Kawamoto is graded 7th Dan Black Belt [the highest in Australia], and specialises in teaching kids!

He has trained many students over the years from beginner to Queensland and Australian Champions!

Your child will learn the importance of respect and discipline while improving self-confidence, getting fit and acquiring a new skill!

Our dojo teaches non-contact karate!

For further information please phone Barry on 0425 661245.

Open Tuesday & Thursday 4.00pm – 5.30pm & Saturday 1.30pm – 4.00pm
Follow us on Facebook:

Gold Coast Karate - Dojo Kenseikai

FOX'S REAL ESTATE

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