8TH MARCH 2013

From the Principal's Desk
Deputy Principal- Leigh Josey
BSM
Banking Details
Guidance Officer
P.E.T.
Twitter
Resource Centre
Sports News

Computer Lab
Parent Liaison Report
Baby Boomers
P & C Report
Ride to School Day
Helping Hands
Fox's Real Estate
Community Cuppa

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

In our last newsletter I mentioned the four key domains of our 4 Year Strategic Plan. They are Aspirational Learning, Personalised Learning, Connected Learning and Precision Teaching and Learning. Last fortnight I explained the latter whilst this fortnight I would like to share with you the concept of Aspirational Learning.

To aspire in learning is to have a powerful or ambitious plan, a desire to achieve far greater heights than perhaps ever imagined. Teachers take students to such heights when the child is extended through personalised and precision teaching and learning practices. At Ashmore State school we call it Proud to Shine. Aspirational learning by students must be supported in the classroom by regular monitoring of aspirational student goals and authentic feedback to students regarding the quality of their work.

In developing an aspirational learning culture it is important that within the classroom purposeful, engaging learning experiences are provided and students given the opportunity to engage in personal reflection of their efforts. Through personal reflection students work collaboratively with their teacher/s and peers to discover strategies to assist them to further succeed. Hence aspirational learning is about students finding reasons why and how they can improve their learning outcomes rather than finding excuses why this cannot happen.
Additionally aspirational learning can only happen when there is a commitment by students and parents to attend school every day unless in the case of extenuating circumstances. The occasional ‘day off’ or family holidays during the school term hamper aspirational learning and thus impedes student learning success that impacts way beyond the formal years of schooling. I ask that parents and caregivers work with us to encourage aspirational learning and thereby greater student success by giving careful consideration to the timing of holidays and encouraging children to attend school every day.

**Moving with the times:**

Our school continues to progress in the field of Information Communication Technology (ICT) as we provide many additional opportunities for students to use a vast range of ICT resources. The students are also learning how to communicate using blogs, emails and Ed. Studios and shortly will commence work on designing their own digital portfolios.

Given that our children live and work in a technological age it is imperative that we as teachers and parents continue to develop our skills in this area. This is particularly true of our school where students now access Mathletics and Reading Eggs at home as part of homework and where our teachers are developing Ed. Studios to keep families informed of everyday learning events, important notices and homework. If you would like assistance in learning the skills required to support you at home through the Ed. Studio please do not hesitate to contact the office and also take advantage of Parent Education Tuesdays (PET Days) where tuition is offered each term.

On that note, PET Days are now part of our community partnership culture and feedback from parents, grandparents and friends who attend is very positive. Hence we will continue to provide the sessions which address a range of areas to help parents gain a deeper understanding of the way in which they can assist their child and also gain insight into our school curriculum. The sessions are held every Tuesday afternoon in the Carmichael Centre from 2p.m – 3p.m Information regarding session topics is available on our school website www.ashmoress.eq.edu.au

**Pride in our school**

There is always something to do in our school grounds to keep them in top condition and sometimes it takes many hands to make this happen. With this in mind I would like to offer our sincere gratitude to members of our Baby Boomers Club, Ms Carol Wright, Mr Charles Edwards and Mr Greg Cadman who gave freely of their time to guerney concrete areas around our school giving those areas a fresh new look- WELL DONE TEAM !

**Thought for the Fortnight:** “The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.” *Dr. Seuss: I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!*

MARGARET JAMES
Waiting Area for Parents and Carers at End of Day

I ask that parents and carers please wait in either the junior covered area (between Blocks C and D), the Tuckshop area, or the senior covered area (between Blocks E, F and G), while waiting for the 3 o'clock bell.

At the end of the school day, teachers are often revising curriculum content from the day, arranging homework and delivering important messages. Students are easily distracted by adults and young children waiting outside their classrooms, so your assistance by waiting in the areas mentioned above (away from outside classrooms) is greatly appreciated.

Speech Language Pathology Referrals

Teachers are presently referring students from Prep to Year 7 for this service, which commences in Term 2 and continues to the end of Term 1, 2014. Speech Language Pathology aims to assist students whose communication difficulties impact on their academic success.

If you have any questions about this, please see Leigh Josey, at the Office.

Prep Easter Hat Parade

On the last day of term (28th March) at 9:15 am, the Prep students will march from their classrooms around the school and then into the hall. They will be wearing Easter hats and adornments made in class. In the hall they will sing a few Easter songs together, before returning to their rooms to continue the school day as usual.

If you do not want your Prep child to participate for cultural or religious reasons, please write a note to your child's teacher and alternate arrangements will be made.
BUSINESS SERVICE MANAGER- MRS PETA DONOGHUE

Finance:

Don’t forget that the payment window is only open each Wednesday, Thursday & Friday from 8.15am – 9.15am. We cannot take monies outside these hours so please do not send your child to school outside these days with money.

Remember to look at your excursion letters etc for DUE DATES for payments. Again we have to adhere to these due dates and are unable to take late payments. If you are internet banking remember that the monies need to be cleared in our account 48 hours prior to the due date. If you put the money in our account and they are not cleared in time we will be placing a credit against your child’s account.

I have a lot of parents saying that they cannot get into school on the banking days. Remember that we do have internet banking that you can do in the comfort of your homes without coming to school.

Pete

BANKING DETAILS

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

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW

GUIDANCE OFFICER

7 Simple Parenting Strategies

Take a look at any bookstore and the shelves will be full of advice. But figuring out which strategies are actually effective can be a challenge. The American Psychological Association was asked about the best research-based parenting strategies that showed effectiveness in improving behaviour, strengthening the bond between parents and children, and helping parents react to behavioural problems that arise.

The following seven empirically tested parenting strategies were the result.

1. **Praise.** Studies have shown that the behaviour that gets attention is the behaviour that you’ll get more of. Attention to undesired behaviour — often in the form of reprimands or punishment — will increase undesired behaviour. At the same time, specific, labelled praise of desired behaviours increase that behaviour. Parents should not offer praise indiscriminately. Instead, parents should give specific feedback on exactly what the child did that the parent liked.
2. **Ignore Minor Misbehaviour.** If a misbehaviour is minor and not dangerous, ignore it. Ignoring when a toddler throws food on the floor or a pre-teen slams a door, while responding with attention when they ask nicely or express their feelings teaches the child that good behaviour is a reliable way to get attention.

3. **Understand Child Development.** Understanding developmental milestones can help a parent attend to and praise steps towards that milestone. Knowing a four-year old wants to please friends will make you more likely to praise their positive behaviour with friends. At the same time, understanding that young teens typically have concerns about body image, looks and clothes might make it easier to ignore all that extra time spent in front of the mirror.

4. **Do Time-Outs Right Along With Quality Time-In.** Brief and immediate time-outs have been shown to work best, particularly when paired with parents who are also modelling positive behaviours and praising good behaviour. Keeping calm — often a real challenge at the moment a misbehaviour is occurring! — and praising compliance makes time-outs more effective.

5. **Focus on Prevention of Misbehaviour.** Paying attention to when a child gets tired or hungry can prevent a large portion of meltdowns. Planning ahead and anticipating potential problems and teaching a child ways to cope with problems when they arise can even eliminate the need to use time-out.

6. **Take Care of Yourself First.** Children are negatively affected by parental stress, with 86 percent of children reporting that parental stress bothers them. It can seem nearly impossible when you’re busy with the demands of parenting, work and life, but it is essential to take time to exercise, maintain hobbies and connect with friends and partners.

7. **Take Time and Do Nothing.** Spend time with your child (experts recommend 1 hour a week per child) doing nothing but being with them, acting interested in them, and expressing positive thoughts and feelings to them. Avoid teaching, inquiring, correcting or offering alternative perspectives.

---


**Carla Loughnane**

Guidance Officer
Youth Connect Gold Coast provides an interactive and supportive environment for young people aged 10 to 18 where they can engage in a range of recreation and leisure options, in a fun and friendly team environment. Based at the Lynne Richardson Community Centre, young people have access to indoor and outdoor activities, sports and games. Through our integrated recreation and leisure programme, our Youth Workers are able to build relationships with young people, get to know them and support them with any needs and concerns. Once these needs and issues are identified there is an option of connecting the young person with appropriate support from external service providers.

This year we will be offering the ‘Girls with a Purpose’ program to Year 7 girls at Ashmore State School. The ‘Girls with a Purpose’ program is a personal development and life skill program targeted at Year 7 girls. It aims to support girls to develop healthy and authentic self-worth by strengthening their identity and sense of purpose. Topics covered in the program include: communication, goal planning, relationships, beauty, help-seeking and self-esteem.

PET 12/3/2013

Early and Fluent Readers

During this session, parents and care-givers will be informed of the characteristics and reading behaviours of two stages of reading development - the early and fluent reader. Participants will also become familiar with ideas and strategies that will support their child during these particular stages.

Early Readers are:
• described as experimental readers.
• developing their knowledge of the sound-letter relationship of the alphabet.
• beginning to match some spoken words with written words.

**Fluent Readers are:**

• described as transitional readers.
• reading texts such as novels, websites and newspapers with fluency.
• focusing and reflecting on the comprehension strategies that enable them to understand texts.

Presented by Louise Sherrington, Literacy Coach, Ashmore S.S

**FOLLOW US ON TWITTER**

RESOURCES CENTRE- MRS LEIGH HERING AND MS SANDRA BROWNE

We are looking for donations of suitable DVDs for students to watch. Due to the number of wet lunch breaks we are requiring a wide range of DVDs across the year levels. The DVDs need to be original copies with a “G” rating. If you have any DVDs that you no longer require please send to our Resource Centre so we can start building a collection suitable for our wet lunches.
“Wii” lunch breaks have commenced for students in years 4-7. Students who receive a “Star Award” are presented with a Wii pass to be used during the following week.

We would like to remind parents that Book Club orders need to be placed into the Resource Centre by the 13th March. Unfortunately, late orders can’t be accepted and will have to be processed in the following Book Club order.

NEWS FROM THE SPORTS DESK...

**Interschool Sport** – Ashmore State School is participating in the Gold Coast North District Interschool Sports Gala Days. The weather has seriously affected our trial and training time. However, 4 March was the first training/trial session and there are two more to go on 11 March and 18 March. The Monday Gala Days are scheduled to be held on **25 March, 22 April, 29 April, and 6 May**. The cost for competing in interschool sport will be $40. Please pay before 23 March using the payment options listed on the Interschool Sport form sent home 2 weeks ago. If you need another form, please click on the link.

**PLEASE CLICK HERE**

**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 7 class rooms (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. Ellis if you have any questions regarding the trials.

- District AFL – 13 March – Term 1
- District Basketball – 14, 21 March – Term 1
- District Hockey – 19 March – Term 1
- District Soccer – 1 & 2 May – Term 2
- District Tennis – 7 May – Term 2
- District Touch Football – 8 May – Term 2
**Fitter, Faster, Stronger** – Despite the wet weather, the Running Club, Sprint Club, and Circuit Training has continued. Students and parents should be commended for their commitment to these fitness sessions. Each session is held from 8:00am to 8:30am on the oval (or the netball courts if it’s a bit wet). Students from all grades and parents are welcome to attend. New participants are always welcome. Bring a change of clothes for the wetter days. Thank you to all parent and teacher volunteers. Your help is greatly appreciated.


Upcoming School Sporting Events:

- Ashmore Cross Country Carnival – 26 April, Term 2, Week 2
- Ashmore Track and Field Carnival – Term 3, Week 1

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

---

**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 it off their hands.

Thank you

Mr Dart

---

**PARENT LIAISON REPORT**

---

**FETE NEWS**
This is the first article of our Fete News updates.

This year we are in for a big fundraising time. Along with some of our usual events like the Easter Raffle, Mothers’ & Fathers’ Day stalls, end of term sausage sizzles and a trivia night which help provide further equipment for our children, the P & C are holding a fete to raise funds for a middle school playground.

It will be held on Saturday 15th June from 10am – 3pm and will be a fantastic day for your families and friends to attend.

So far we have a fete working group consisting of Ron Odle as ride convenor and overall co-ordinator, Ms Fry as the entertainment convenor, Donna Fraser, with Ron, as publicity and communication convenors, Michelle Pakatyilla as the task convenor along with Linda Sealey as the stall convenor. We will be meeting every 2 weeks so as news comes to hand, you will be kept informed.

A blue note has gone home asking for expressions of interest from people who would like to join us in being an integral part of this event. Help is needed in many different ways so please take the time to read the form and consider helping us provide you all with a great day and one to remember for your children. If you haven’t received the form, please ask at the tuckshop for one.

If you see us around the school, please come up for a chat about what is happening and give us your ideas about how we can make our 2013 the best ever!

Many thanks

Ron, Donna, Michelle, Ms Fry and Linda

---

**BABY BOOMERS**

**BE PART OF THE BIGGEST & BEST SECOND HAND CLOTHING STALL EVER - SCHOOL CARNIVAL**

The Baby Boomers are a newly formed Chapter of the P&C Association and would like Ashmore State Primary School to put together the "Biggest and Best Second Hand Clothing Stall EVER" for the upcoming School Carnival. Of course, this cannot be achieved without the help of all parents, grandparents, aunties and uncles of the children who attend Ashmore State Primary School. The Baby Boomers are asking everyone to do, what they classify as an “Annual Autumn Clean” of all cothing, shoes and manchester. The benefits of this Autumn
Clean are twofold. You get rid of what you are happy to donate and the people who buy your donations will see their purchases as “real treasures”. It would be greatly appreciated if your Autumn Clean could take place as soon as possible, to enable the Baby Boomers (who are no spring chickens) to have sufficient time to sort out all of the donations into the correct sizing etc for ease of purchasing at the School Carnival. The two designated drop-off zones for your “treasures” are (1) Student Service Room (old library) AND (2) at 3 Darling Crescent, Molendinar (the back house on the property).

AS THE SAYING GOES, “ONE PERSON’S TRASH IS ANOTHER PERSON’S TREASURE”

P & C REPORT

AGM MEETING: The Annual General Meeting of Ashmore State School P&C will be held this year on Monday 18th March, at 5.30pm after the usual P&C meeting at 3.30. This is your opportunity to be a part of an exciting school community and have input into the wonderful events that we have coming up this year such as Mother’s and Father’s Day stalls, Spell-a-thon, Trivia Night, Sports Day Carnival and our big event of 2013 the Ashmore State School P&C Fete. All these fundraising events go towards helping to enhance our school environment and provide valuable equipment and resources for our students.

Each year at the AGM the P&C will seek to elect an Executive Committee that comprises of:

- President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Vice President

If you would like to fulfil one of these roles or you would like to be a member of the P&C, then please come along to the AGM and fill out an application form.

MADAGASCAR 3 MOVIE NIGHT:

WHERE – School Oval – BYO Seating (In Hall if Raining)

WHEN – Saturday 23rd March 2013

TIME – 5.30 Sausage Sizzle 6.30 Movie Start

TICKETS - $20 Family (2 adults 3 Kids) or $5 Per Single Ticket,

Purchase in the tuckshop now!

Due to the extreme weather conditions we have recently experienced and the impact it has had on our oval, a decision will be made on Wednesday 13th whether this event will be able to go ahead.
**EASTER RAFFLE:**  Spare books of tickets are available at the tuckshop – winners of the prize baskets will be drawn on Assembly on March 28. We also need eggs to be donated for the baskets, if you can please drop them into the tuckshop soon, it would be most appreciated.

---

**FREE GARDENING WORKSHOP AT OUR SCHOOL:**

How would you like to grow vegetables and herbs and learn how to eat well?

Come and be involved in a community garden at the school!!!!

March 24, 10.00am till 12.00 Noon

The team of gardeners from Ashmore Community Garden will inspire you to grow your own vegies either in the community garden or at home. Currently Ashmore Community Garden has two gardens at 270 Ferry Road, Southport with Gold Coast Permaculture. If you have attend any of the workshops at Gold Coast Permaculture [www.goldcoastpermaculture.org.au](http://www.goldcoastpermaculture.org.au) you will know what we want to achieve and the knowledge we can share with the children of the school.

Our “Free” workshop on 24th March, 2013 will inspire you to grow a few herbs at home. We will also show you where the community garden will be and the plans we have for it. Please bring a plate of food to share for morning tea and meet the members of Ashmore Community Garden.

Please contact Simone at the school on shell24@eq.edu.au or 0402 029279 and book your place to come and learn how it is done.

*Ashmore P&C*

pandc@ashmoress.eq.edu.au

---

**RIDE TO SCHOOL DAY**
Ride to school day will be held on Friday 22nd March.

HELPING HANDS

Helping Hands Ashmore

0400 708 773
ashmore@helpinghandsnetwork.com.au

Greetings parents/careers and families of Ashmore State School.

Welcome to another week of term 1. We have some great activities planned for the next few weeks and the Easter holidays (Vacation Care) so stay tuned!

Programming Tree!
The children have been creating a large tree and will design a leaf for the tree so that they can put their ideas on it. These ideas will be the future program for the Outside School Hours Care program.

Ideas range from Art & crafts, outdoor activities, music & drama and cooking.
Lots of fun things ahead.

Kind Regards,
Lisa Reid

Reminders:
- No Hat No Play
- Call the service if your child will be absent
- All booking changes must be in writing
- Breakfast is served between 7am-8am

Helping hand star awards!
- Congratulations to Brianna for receiving the seniors Helping Hands award.
- Congratulations to Jack for receiving the junior Helping Hands award.
- Congratulations to Zoe & Imogen for winning our great choice prize.

Wall of Fame

The Centre has started a “wall of fame”. This is a chance for the children to get their photograph put up on the wall for all the children to see. The children love to look at the photographs and reflect on all the fun things that they have done with friends. A popular part of our wall of fame is our dress-up photos and vacation care.

FOX’S REAL ESTATE
COMMUNITY CUPPA - SONESHA

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW

Currumburra Road
ASHMORE 4214 QLD

07 5656 1330
07 5656 1300

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

Our Sponsors

Please click on any advertisement to email the affiliated business or view further details such as company brochures, flyers or promotions
The September Open Week is coming!

- Call today to secure your FREE trial class!
- Classes for boys & girls aged 2.5 - teenagers
- 10th-15th of September
- Accommodation available!

www.deltagym.com.au
(07) 3262 0066

CALL IN FOR OUR 5% DISCOUNT ON YOUR NEXT HOLIDAY

FLIGHTS | HOLIDAYS | TOURS | CRUISES | INSURANCE | GIFT CARDS

The Stampers Hut
Scrapbooking - Card Making - Business Stamps
10% discount
5539 5188
Please mention this ad to redeem the discount
Shop 4, Ashmore Plaza Cotlewis St, Ashmore 4214

Variety 1
great range, low prices
07 5527 8553
Ashmore Plaza
160 Cotlewis Street
Ashmore 4214

Your One Stop Shop for Seasonal, Homeware, Partyware, Art and Stationery, Gifts and Cards, Home Deco, Kitchenware and Tools...

www.whatscheap.com.au

Join the ANS Sales Team
POSITIONS AVAILABLE

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION

austnews