12th July 2013

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

What a delightful school we have! On the first day of this new term so many of our students expressed that they were happy to be returning to school stating that they missed their friends and their teachers. That is truly a wonderful compliment to the school spirit we have at Ashmore.

This first week of term 3 has seen our senior students engaged in the initial day of our annual Athletics Carnival however the rain dictated the timing of the second day and our Junior School Carnival. I congratulate Mr Ellis on the organisation of the carnivals which takes a significant amount of time and commitment. I also congratulate our Sports Captains for the manner in which they have assisted Mr Ellis - modelling sportsmanship, leadership and encouragement to their respective teams.

On another note, we have had some changes to staffing in the short and longer term. Such changes are due to 3 teachers being on long service leave and another, Mrs Manz, is sadly experiencing ill health. We are very conscious of ensuring that the change in teachers for classes is as smooth as possible. Parents and carers of children in those classes have been notified of the changes.
**Working in the Digital World.**

As you are aware our teachers are working towards developing Ed. Studios to provide interactive learning between home and school. As your child’s class moves into this aspect of teaching and learning in the 21 century, I encourage all parents and carers who have a computer at home to embrace this approach of homework delivery and completion and the sharing of classroom information. Although change can sometimes be unsettling, we need to assist our children to work in the digital space if they are to be successful in their primary, secondary and subsequent education. Nonetheless if you do not have access to a home computer, hard copy information will continue to be provided.

In the digital world, children at Ashmore State School are now moving towards developing their own digital portfolios with the assistance of our ICT teacher, Mr Dart.

A digital portfolio is a collection of student work that demonstrates progress in all facets of their learning showcasing skills, achievements and ideas.

In the past this information was always kept in hard copy at the school. With the development of digital portfolios the student will simply transfer their portfolio information to a USB which the student takes with them when they move on to other schools or indeed, eventually to employment.

Through engagement in developing a digital portfolio students are provided with multiple ICT learning opportunities including scanning, digital photography, filming and a raft of skills required for the efficient use of the wide range of ICT applications available in today’s networked society. Additionally digital portfolios promote focused learner-centred activities that involve designing, decision making, goal setting, reflection and the creation of knowledge.

Used effectively, digital portfolios enable intellectual activity that was not practically possible without the access to ICT so it is not surprising that digital portfolios are being used increasingly in schools and universities worldwide.

We are at the ‘beginning’ stage of this aspect of teaching and learning. As we progress I will organise Parent Education Tuesday’s (PET days) to provide parents and carers with information about digital portfolios and their benefit to your children’s’ education.

In closing, the Annual School Report (June 2012- June 2013) was uploaded to our website this week. I encourage you to read it to gain further insight into our school.

**Thought for the Fortnight:** “If we teach today as we taught yesterday, we rob our children of tomorrow” - John Dewey: psychologist, philosopher and educational reformer (1859 – 1952)

Margaret James

Principal
NAIDOC Week (7 – 14 July)

This past week was NAIDOC Week celebrating the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. NAIDOC is celebrated not only in Indigenous communities, but by Australians from all walks of life. NAIDOC originally stood for ‘National Aboriginal and Islander Day Observance Committee’. This committee is responsible for organizing national activities during NAIDOC Week and its acronym has since become the name of the week itself.

At Ashmore State School, a display has been set up in the Carmichael Centre, to acknowledge the culture and heritage of both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Classes have had the opportunity to visit this display containing artifacts, books, information and posters.

Prep in 2014

It’s now time to enrol for Prep in 2014 (children born between 01/07/2008 and 30/06/2009). Please collect an enrolment pack from the office, complete the forms and return them together with your child’s birth certificate or passport for photocopying. Please make an appointment to see me for the returning of your paperwork.

If you have friends and relatives with Prep in 2014 children who would like to learn more about our school, please encourage them to join me on the following scheduled information sessions (choice of 2 different sessions):

Prep Information Session for Prospective Families

**When** – Tuesday 30th July

**Times of sessions** - 1:45 p.m. to 3:00 or 6 to 7:15 p.m.

**Where** – Conference Room in Carmichael Centre

**What** – To learn and ask questions about Ashmore State School (including afternoon tea)

Prep students for 2014 are welcome to attend (activities arranged.)

Leigh Josey (Deputy Principal)
Prep Reporting

The Prep year has been recognised as the first year of schooling in Queensland from 2012. Prep is equivalent to the Foundation year (F) of the Australian Curriculum.

For Prep an Early Learning Record is no longer required and the following five-point scale is used to report student achievement in the Australian Curriculum English, Mathematics, Science and History:
Applying (AP) The student applies a thorough understanding of the required concepts, facts and procedures. The student demonstrates a high level of skill that can be transferred to new situations.

Making Connections (MC) The student makes connections using the curriculum content and demonstrates a clear understanding of the required concepts, facts and procedures. The student applies a high level of skill in situations familiar to them and is beginning to transfer skills to new situations.

Working With (WW) The student can work with the curriculum content and demonstrates understanding of the required concepts, facts and procedures. The student can apply skills in situations familiar to them.

Exploring (EX) The student is exploring the curriculum content and demonstrates understanding of aspects of the required concepts, facts and procedures. The student applies a varying level of skill in situations familiar to them.

Becoming Aware (BA) The student is becoming aware of the curriculum content and demonstrates a basic understanding of aspects of required concepts, facts and procedures. The student is beginning to apply skills in situations familiar to them.

N: Insufficient evidence to make a judgment.

Decisions about the quality (AP-BA) of students portfolios of work are based on task-specific criteria and are mapped on the Ashmore’s Achievement Standards to ensure assessment instruments are valid, reliable, authentic and accessible to all students.

In the early learning areas of Social and personal learning; Health and physical learning; and Active learning processes (Early Years Curriculum Guidelines) a five point scale is not used. A comment is given outlining your child’s progress in the learning area.

If you have any questions or would like additional information please contact me.

Karen Gravendyk
Head of Curriculum

BUSINESS SERVICE MANAGER- MRS PETA DONOGHUE

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’ in 2013. 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 will be implementing 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 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.

**BANKING DETAILS**

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

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW]

**RESOURCE CENTRE**

**Book Week and Book Fair**

The Resource Centre is preparing for our big yearly events which are held between 17th – 23rd August. This year, Book Week and Book Fair are in the same week.

The Book Fair theme is **Story Laboratory**. Opening times for sales will be advertised closer to the date. Also, keep an eye out for decorations and activities leading up to the Fair. Last year, the Book Fair was an incredible success. Our school benefits from all sales and we receive an added boost to our resources.

**Premier’s Reading Challenge**

We would like to remind everyone that the Premier’s Reading Challenge finishes Friday 6th September.
**Year 7 MAC Group**

Last term we invited all interested Year 7 students the opportunity to join an ICT group focused on learning more about Green Room techniques, MAC computers, iMovie and Garage Band. This group will in turn support other students as we produce news reports and movies across our school. Students submitted an expression of interest and the calibre of entries was outstanding. Here is a sample:

“I always have a great attitude and behaviour. I finish my assigned work even when I have to catch up. I enjoy learning new things and want to improve my skills in this area.”

“I am very interested in learning new skills, in particular, movies. To think I can make my own movies with my friends; it’s a dream come true.”

“In the future, I would love a job involving graphic designs and media. In my spare time I finish computer projects and would like to assist my aunty in her business.”

We are glad to announce all submissions have been accepted and students will commence movie lessons next week. Our first production will be shown at an assembly.

**CHAPLAIN’S CHAT**

Welcome back everyone to Term Three. I trust your break was an enjoyable one with your family. My highlight was my daughter’s bridal shower. Very exciting!

I have now returned to my two and a half days work, on Tuesday a half day, and full days Wednesday and Thursday. It will be great to spend more time here.

Next week I will be starting some friendship groups and self esteem groups. If you think your child may benefit from one of these groups, please contact me on 0423 268 456.

Marg Potter (Chaplain)

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

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 9 to 11 of Term 3 in September (similar dates to those in previous years). The permission form with all details will be sent home at the end of the first week or beginning of the second week of Term 3.

Athletics Carnival 2013 – Results of the Carnival will be included in the next newsletter

Rugby League Sport Jersey Return – All students who participated in Rugby League must return your school jersey to your coach immediately. It is well overdue.

Upcoming School Trials for Gold Coast North District Trials – stay tuned for dates on school announcements:

- District Athletics – Based on results of Ashmore Athletics Carnival during Week 1
- District Cricket – School Trial during Week 6

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.

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 them off their hands.

Thank you

Mr Dart

FAMILY FUN FAIR NEWS

Well, what a great day it was for the fair with the weather clearing up to make it a glorious day but unfortunately the oval was still very heavy underfoot.

There are so many people and businesses to thank and many didn’t make it into the booklet you would have received home with your child so below are some more.

Firstly we would like to thank the many parents, grandparents and carers who continually supported the requests for donations of chocolates and lollies for the chocolate toss game; the many people who got out there and sold raffle tickets for the giant raffle even though the prizes weren’t listed; the volunteers beforehand and on the day who worked without complaint; to the parents who filled up the cent auction baskets with a wonderful range of items.
Also thank you to the P & C members who sourced prizes. Ron Odle organised the Telstra TBox to raffle and Tracey Wentworth worked tirelessly contacting businesses to organise many of the raffle and cent auction prizes, just to add to the long list of families, teachers and staff at the school who also donated items

The chocolate toss was made possible by Artistry in Iron by allowing me to scrounge an aluminium frame from their recycling bin which was then taken to Swiftco Truck Bodies for a bit of welding, putting hooks on, knocking off the rough edges and spray painting it in our school yellow plus supplying the washers to “toss”. Southport Trawler Supplies donated the black netting for the game.

I was successful in sourcing the Ashmore Optical voucher (don’t forget to mention that you went to the fair to receive a discount the next time you visit their shop in Ashmore City), the 2 boxes of children’s/toddler’s books and toys (supplied from Kidz Biz based at Carrara Markets – if you would like a 10% discount voucher for this store, just pop into the uniform shop to collect it).

The hangi was helped by Southport Discount Fruit Barn at Southport Park as they donated most of the vegie for the day saving us hundreds of dollars, Ashmore Discount Meats (ex Patons) and Kim’s Butchery at Parkwood for the meat supplies, Rightbag Packaging who supplied all the packaging for the fair and also a HUGE thanks to the Needham-Brown family and her gang who peeled, packed and cooked the hangi for us to enjoy.

There was also a lot of support from the many and varied market stall holders who added to the atmosphere. If you didn’t get the chance to buy something on the day but want to find the stall holder again, just contact the P & C office for details to be found.

And lastly the food stalls who fed us with very fresh and delicious food all day – we hope you managed to enjoy some of what was on offer.

We hope your children had a great time on the rides, but unfortunately the pluck a duck game didn’t arrive with the rides people so that was unavailable on the day.

**Everyone mentioned above and in previous newsletters has contributed to a fantastic day but it wouldn’t have been possible without the people who came along on the day to help create a great atmosphere and a successful fundraising event**

THANK YOU

ASHMORE COFFEE CLUB
“Ashmore Coffee Club”

Welcoming all parents/carers & grandparents
(all families & friends of Ashmore welcome)

When: The 1st Friday of each month!
Next date: Friday August 2nd

Time: 2pm – 3pm (drop-in style club – welcome anytime in the hour until you pick your kiddies up)

Where: Carmichael Centre, Conference Room

What to bring: ideas to share, items to gab about!

No need to RSVP – just pop in when you can!!

Upcoming coffee dates will be advertised on the school website!!

DRAGON BOAT COMPETITION
Ashmore State School once again participated in the Currumbin Dragon Boat Club’s Corporate Day.

This is the 2nd year Ashmore has competed and coming 4th last year gave the team something to aspire to.

The team was made up of teachers, teacher aides, P & C members, students, parents and the wider community.

The day was glorious, the water calm and the team strong. We made the finals and raced against Arundel State School, Pacific Pines State School and Marymount College.

Ashmore came a credible 3rd and vowed to defend their title and hopefully improve next year.

A great day was had by all. Keep an eye out in the foyer of the school office for a display of the trophy and the team uniform, which was made possible through the generosity of a number of sponsors.

Very Special thank you to our sponsors – major sponsors Create Security and Razor LEDS as well as XBC Business Centre.

We look forward to continuing this annual event and with it becoming a new Ashmore State School tradition.

The schools involvement in this event was made possible by our STLaN (Support Teacher Literacy and Numeracy), Robyn Martin, who has just return victorious from NSW whilst representing QLD in the Australian Dragon Boating championships. Her results are below.

Category : Masters women 20s  Race Description:   200m – 1st  500m – 1st
2km – 1st

State Team : Masters women 20s  - 500m – 1st

Well done Robyn!
HELPING HANDS

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW

ORAL HEALTH

GOLD COAST HEALTH SERVICES – ORAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Child and Adolescent Oral Health Service has completed routine health care for students attending Ashmore State School.

Please consider attending your family dentist in-between offers of care by the Child and Adolescent Oral Health Service to assist in maintaining your child’s oral health.

A dental pain relief and trauma service operates between offers of care to provide emergency treatment only. In the case of an emergency, telephone the Oral Health Call Centre 1300 300 850 Monday to Friday 8.00 am - 4.30 pm excluding Public Holidays.

VIP PASS
BUY 20 OR MORE & SAVE!*  

At Sea World the baby Polar bear will soon be coming out to play and the new Storm Coaster is blowing in this Summer. Plus enjoy all your favourite rides, slides and shows at Movie World & Wet’n’Wild.  

Call now on 5519 6210  

ONLY $74.99 per pass

*Prices valid until C0B 31 July 2013. Tickets subject to price increase 1 August 2013. Tickets are valid for entry for Adult, Pensioner or Child (3-13 years incl). Minimum purchase of 20 passes required to receive discounted price points. Tickets rates are nett. Tickets are not available for resale. Full payment required for passes prior to postal delivery. Final direct deposit payment required by 26 July 2013. All bookings/payments are non-refundable and non-transferable. Tickets are required to be activated to enter the park on the day - no activated pass, no entry. Booking & Processing fee applies to each order. Retail VIP Pass $109.99 & VIP Gold Pass $119.99.
GIRLS! READY FOR FUN AND ADVENTURES?

Build your confidence, try new things, have fun and make friends for life!

Our activities range from cooking, craft, dancing, computer skills and music, to outdoor adventures like kayaking, camping and abseiling! There’s something for everyone.

We meet at the Guide hut at Allchurch Avenue, Benowa (behind Pindara hospital) every Tuesday night during term time.

Girls aged 5-9 meet at 5pm til 6.30 pm

Girls aged 10-15 meet from 6pm til 8 pm

Come and visit us and see how much fun we have- the first three meetings are free! $5 per week after that.

Contact our leader for more information:

Holly Hardstaff- 0410 417478

email- holly@nationalmortgage.com.au

ASHMORE SCOUT GROUP

For children and young adults aged between 6 and 26. New youth members and adult leaders welcome.

Further information is available from our website: www.ashmore.scoutsqq.com.au

Contact our Group Leader: ashmoregl@gmail.com or by phone on (07) 5584 9666.
1 Community Drive, Ashmore QLD 4214

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