19th April 2013

From the Principal's Desk
Deputy Principal- Leigh Josey
Deputy Principal- Amanda Fry
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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome to Term 2 2013 and all that it has to offer to our school community! It was quite rewarding to have so many of our students tell me that they were glad to return to school. That speaks volumes about the high regard that our children have for their teachers and their school friends. We also warmly welcome our new families to our school community, some of whom are from interstate and overseas. We are honoured that you selected our school for your children’s education. A very warm welcome back also, to our wonderful School Chaplain, Mrs Marg Potter, who will be available every Wednesday.

You will have noticed that during the school holidays a significant amount of work was done in the facilities area. Mrs Donohue provides further detail about the work later in this edition of the newsletter however I want to take the opportunity to thank her for the efficient and expert way she is ensuring that our school facilities are upgraded and maintained.

We commenced the term with a visit from The Hon. John–Paul Langbroek, Minister for Education, Training & Employment, who met with our students and staff in an informal fashion on Friday 19 April. In May, the Director General of Education of Abu Dhabi, who is also the Minister for Education in that emirate, is visiting our school with a contingent of educators, engaging in a professional development workshop focusing on the elements of
our pedagogical framework. He will also visit classrooms to gain an insight into ‘how we do business’. It is indeed a great compliment that our approach to education is once again recognised internationally and that those positions of high authority want to learn from us.

**Keeping you informed**

Last term I explained, through the newsletter, the 4 key elements of our Pedagogical Framework – *Aspirational Learning, Personalised Learning, Connected Learning and Precision Teaching and Learning*. This term I will continue to ‘unpack’ our framework for you by looking at the research and practices that inform it commencing with our Moral Purpose.

The term, Moral Purpose, simply means putting students at the centre of all that we do. We cannot hope to sustain a quality school learning environment unless teachers and parents have a shared moral purpose of making certain that every child is cared for emotionally and academically. A shared sense of moral purpose demands that we constantly work towards improving student achievement and ensuring that achievement gaps, wherever they exist, are narrowed. In short, “It’s about raising the bar and narrowing the gap” (Barber and Fullan: 2005.)

The first step in narrowing the gap is ensuring that you child attends school every day of the school term unless he or she is unwell or there are extenuating family circumstances. Taking a family holiday or a long weekend during school time, or allowing a child to stay at home simply because they want to, is not conducive to a child’s education nor to their attitude to school. Once at school it is our teachers’ moral purpose to ensure every child’s individual needs are catered for in an inclusive and safe environment. And it is this we do through the four areas of our Pedagogical Framework mentioned above. Hence we start to see the links between world research and the practices that we employ at Ashmore State School

**Education Week** is an important event on our school calendar. For the past 2 years we have dedicated a complete morning session to sharing with the community the direction our school is taking. We can now move away from this format as surveys indicate that our community are very satisfied with the manner in which we cater for the students in our care. The surveys also indicate that our school community is very satisfied with the manner in which we keep you informed. Hence our Education week program for 2013 is:

- **6 May**
  9.15a.m -10.00a.m: Open Day- Proud to Shine Performance –in hall.
  10.00a.m -11.00a.m: Parents are invited to visit classrooms and other areas of interest in the school

Due to the extraordinary success of our Grandparents’ Day last year we are once again proud to welcome grandparents and friends to our school on the following date:

- **8 May**
  9.15 -9.45a.m: Baby Boomers P&C morning tea in the Carmichael Centre
9.45a.m -10.15.am: Visits to classrooms to work with their grandchildren

Please note that some teachers may vary this date due to other classroom commitments. They will advise you of the alternative date for their particular class.

On the topic of Baby Boomers, our coordinator of that team is Carol Wright. Carol is organising a pre-loved clothing stall for our forthcoming Family Fun Fair. During the holidays I ‘detoxed’ my cupboard and have a number of clothing items ready for the stall so let’s all support Carol and help her with her efforts. Clothing can be delivered to the Student Services block anytime during the school day.

**Helping Others**

Many thanks to everyone who donated wool to our knitting appeal where scarves and other warm clothes will be knitted and forwarded to our partnership school in Hanoi. Children in that part of the world often cannot attend school in winter due to the cold conditions so every contribution we can make helps. If you are a knitter and would like to either knit at home or help out in our student knitting club please contact me at mjame95@eq.edu.au or telephone the office. I have plenty of wool to share due to the generosity of our families!!!

**Parent Education Tuesdays** continue this term in the Carmichael Centre commencing at 1.30 p.m. If you were unable to attend in the past we are repeating a number of the sessions each of which is designed to assist you in helping your child at home. Remember that quality education occurs when the school and parents work together in partnership – our shared Moral Purpose!

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<td>April 23</td>
<td>Support a Talker – The importance of oral language</td>
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<td>April 30</td>
<td>Ed Studio- Access your child’s homework and other notices at home.</td>
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<td>May 7</td>
<td>Spelling- Help your child to be proficient at spelling</td>
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<td>Reading- The many aspects of teaching children how to improve their reading skills</td>
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<td>May 28</td>
<td>Kids Matter- An insight into our school’s emotional and social well-being approach.</td>
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Please watch our website at www.ashmoress.eq.edu.au for any date changes.

Thought for the Fortnight:

“Every individual matters. Every individual has a role to play. Every individual makes a difference.”

*Jane Goodall, Scientist*
Australia-wide Testing for Years 3, 5 & 7 (NAPLAN)

On Tuesday 14th, Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th May, all students in state and non-state schools in Years 3, 5 and 7 will be participating in Australia-wide testing to assess their skills in the areas of reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. NAPLAN assesses the skills that students develop over time through the school curriculum, and provides additional feedback for parents, carers and teachers on how students are progressing in the key curriculum areas.

An individual NAPLAN report will be sent home for every child in these year levels later this year.

Further information is available on the ACARA website: http://www.nap.edu.au/

Further Essential Information re NAPLAN

It is important that students are present by 8.50 a.m. on the above dates, ready for a punctual start. Please ensure children get a good night’s sleep and good nutrition for breakfast to maintain brain function and energy across the three days of testing.

Please also ensure students have the following materials at school on these days:-

- 2B or HB pencils – **do not** bring “Pacers” or mechanical pencils as they write too lightly
- Eraser
- Sharpener
- Calculator (Year 7 only)

For your information, students may be withdrawn from the NAPLAN testing program by their parents/carers. This is a matter for consideration by individual parents in consultation with the Principal or Deputy Principals. Withdrawals are intended to address individual concerns including religious beliefs, philosophical objections to testing, or other reasons (e.g. anxiety).

Parents/carers wishing to withdraw students from the NAPLAN testing program must complete and submit a Notice of Parent Withdrawal form to the office by Friday 10th May. As many parents work or have other commitments which make it difficult for them to visit the office during school hours, all necessary information regarding NAPLAN testing will be forwarded personally to parents/carers in Week 2.

For those parents/carers who choose to withdraw their child from NAPLAN, the text that appears on the individual report will read “Your child was withdrawn from this test”. For your information, withdrawal from NAPLAN will not impact on your child’s school report, entry into high school or OP score. If a parent chooses to
withdraw their child from the test, information regarding their child’s progress is available through the school’s regular assessment program.

We are pleased to advise you that once again the P & C are providing a cooked breakfast for students in NAPLAN years on the first morning of testing – Tuesday 14th May in the hall.

If you require further information please do not hesitate to contact the office.

VISIT BY SCHOOL NURSE

Our school nurse will be visiting next week. This year the focus is vision checks for Prep children. This is always very worthwhile and costs nothing. This testing will happen at school during normal school hours.

If you would like your Prep child’s vision tested, please complete the form sent home on Monday and return it to the office or your child’s teacher. No child will be seen without parent permission.

Any other child in the school from Year 1 to 7 can have a vision test with parent permission. Please collect a permission form from the office and return it as soon as possible, please.

Hearing tests will also be done with a special request from you. Please come and see me at the office if you would like to request this. I then will provide you with a special form for this.

Leigh Josey (Deputy Principal)

PARENT EDUCATION TUESDAYS
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL- AMANDA FRY

Just for the youngest members of the Ashmore Community at this year’s Family Fun Fare, we will be having a ‘Baby Show’! This is a fun event for those ages 0 to 5 years. This event is open to all boys and girls not just those who have siblings at Ashmore State School. A flyer will be coming home with every child. If no-one in your immediate family meets the age requirements, please pass the flyer onto cousins, nieces, nephews, neighbours and friends.

Just like the Model Quest – The Baby Show will cost $5 to enter. This entry fee will cover overall age group judging with 1st, 2nd and 3rd place boy and girl being awarded in each age group. Other optional competitions
include Parent/Child Lookalike, Best Hair and Cutest. These are optional competitions and will cost an extra $2 to $5 each.

You can register early at the tuckshop or register on the day - Saturday 15 June from 9:30 in the School Hall.

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, sports notices 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 into our account and it is not cleared in time we will place a credit for future use. 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.

Facilities

Maintenance work carried out over the holidays focused on the repainting of teaching blocks. We are working towards co-ordinating the same colours through the school, giving a professional appearance to our school buildings.

Also ‘wordles’ have been placed in strategic areas that exemplify what our core purpose at Ashmore State School is - Education, Values and High Aspirations. Thank you to Julie McCoy for these designs.
BANKING DETAILS

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

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW

GUIDANCE OFFICER

Kids Matter @ Ashmore State School

In December 2012 Ashmore State School registered with the Kids Matter initiative to become part of an exciting framework to help support the health and wellbeing of students, families and staff in the Ashmore SS community.

KidsMatter Primary is a flexible, whole-school approach to children’s mental health and wellbeing for primary schools. It works both on its own and as an umbrella under which a school’s existing programs can comfortably fit. KidsMatter provides the proven methods, tools and support to help schools, parents and carers, health

Creating stronger communities

Essential to children's mental health is a strong community where positive, responsive, respectful relationships thrive and children feel a sense of belonging and inclusion.

Embracing and welcoming diversity of backgrounds, cultures and abilities is central to achieving this for all children.

Communities that are positive and accepting toward cultural, racial and ethnic diversity help children to develop skills and attitudes that will assist them in their relationships and contribute to their social and emotional wellbeing.
services and the wider community nurture happy, balanced kids. Kids Matter Primary fosters partnerships between the education and health sectors. The framework is built of four areas known as components.

Our first component - ‘Positive School Community’ seeks to ensure ‘every face has a place, every voice is valued, and everyone has something to contribute.

Children with additional needs may face challenges across a number of areas including their physical health, mental health or ability to learn. Supporting children to participate and feel included helps promote their strengths and may reduce their risk of developing mental health difficulties.

Workshops for staff, parents and community members will roll out over the next two terms to explore ways we can further develop a positive school community at Ashmore State School.

For further information go to - www.kidsmatter.edu.au.

Carla Loughnane
Guidance Officer

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CHAPLAIN'S CHAT

Welcome back to Term Two and I trust your break with your family was an enjoyable time for you all. I want to sincerely thank all the wonderful helpers who looked after breakfast club in my absence, with a huge and special thank you to Mrs. Campbell.

This term I will be working on Wednesdays only and I really look forward to seeing everyone again.

Marg Potter

NEWS FROM THE SPORTS DESK... APRIL

**Interschool Sport** – Ashmore State School has three Gala Days left. Dates are 22nd April, 29th April and 6th May. Please ensure your child has proper sporting attire, hat, water, and sunscreen.

Soccer Note – Location has been moved to Coomera for 22nd April and until further notice.

**Ashmore Cross Country Carnival** – This will occur on 26th April. The senior grades 4-7 will start at 9:00 and the junior grades P-3 will start at 11:30. This is a House event so please wear you House shirt and have a hat, water, and sunscreen.
**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 Soccer – School Trial for Boys, 23rd April 11:00 on Oval, School Trials for Girls at 1:00 on 23rd April
- District Golf – To be announced.

**Fitter, Faster, Stronger** – AKA Running Club goes from 8:00am to 8:30am. 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.

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

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
BEGINNING STRING NEWS

All the beginner string students will be participating in a one day workshop next Tuesday 23rd with students from Bellevue Park and Benowa Primary schools. We will be learning many exciting new pieces and putting on our first concert at 2:00pm for all family and friends. If you have not already returned the permission slip for this, please do so ASAP.

Some students still have not got a Tricks to Tunes book yet and this is slowing their progress considerably. It is vital to have the necessary book in order to learn to read music and it would be appreciated if parents could purchase one from any local music shop as soon as possible.

SECOND HAND CLOTHING DRIVE

REMEMBER, YOUR TRASH IS SOMEONE’S TREASURE

How quickly time flies. Easter has come and gone, April is almost at an end, and our children are again back at school. Before long it will be the 30 June when we have to keep the Tax Man happy.

We realise that every parent of school children is busy but, we the Baby Boomers, alias “the Oldies” are willing and waiting to help in the raising of funds by organising a Second Hand Clothing Stall at the upcoming School Carnival in June of this year.

OUR GOAL: Being optimists, we were hoping that the 600 families who make up Ashmore State School will each donate at least 2 boxes of second hand clothing that are in good condition but the children have outgrown
for this stall. If each family did this, we could raise at least $6,000 to assist in your children's schooling experience.

**SO FAR**: If we sold all of the donations we have so far, we could only raise about $20 which is a far cry from the $6,000 we were hoping for.

We are now at the BEGGING STAGE OF OUR QUEST - PLEASE Every donation of clothing will be greatly appreciated.

**LOOKING ON THE BRIGHT SIDE**: Now is a great time to clean out all the summer clothing getting ready for Winter.

For ease of dropping off could you please bring your boxes and bags of clothing to 3 DARLING CRESCENT, MOLENDINAR (The back house on the property), or the Student Services block at school.

When dropping off your wonderful donations please include a note with your child/childrens' name/s and their classes so they can appear in the following Newsletter. Kids always love to see their names immortalised, and what a thrill.

The following children's families have kindly donated 2nd hand clothing since our last newsletter:-

- DYLAN - 7A
- BROOKE - 4D
- JOSHUA - 2B
- AVA - PREP E
- MADISON - 3D
- SAMARA - PREP D

Signing Off "The Baby Boomers"
TERM 2 DATE CLAIMERS: We have a busy term ahead and look forward to your assistance as the P&C supports our school community:

ASHMORE COMMUNITY GARDEN WORKSHOP – Saturday MAY 4 –

‘How to build a Lasagne Garden’

BABY BOOMERS MORNING TEA – MAY 8

MOTHER’S DAY STALL – MAY 8-10

NAPLAN BREAKAST – MAY 14

P&C GENERAL MEETING – Monday MAY 20, 3.15pm

P&C’s QLD REGIONAL MEETING – MAY 23, 6.30pm in the Carmichael Centre

ASHMORE STATE SCHOOL FAIR: JUNE 15 – not to be missed!!

SAUSAGE SIZZLE: We had another fun and successful End of Term Sausage Sizzle, and were able to include our visiting Japanese students who also enjoyed the BBQ.

Many thanks to: Ron Odle, Ivan Russell, Gavin Hill, Alana George, Karen Ross, Marisa Willingale, Jayde Featherstone, Kate Rollason, Melanie Rodda, Christine Brown, Ana Meuli, Claudia Gibney, Krystin Rapley, Kelly Foley, Louise Ware, Sheridan Brember, Suzanne Falzon, Karen Berryman, Karen Bulmer, Lee Bain and Debbie Downham. Many hands made light work!

WINTER MENU: is now available in the tuckshop and online. Please note: Delicious Chicken & Gravy Rolls are also available – only $4.00.

pandc@ashmoress.eq.edu.au

MOTHER’S DAY STALL 2013

This year’s Mother’s Day stall items have been purchased and we are quite pleased to offer our children a great selection this year. Just to give you an idea of what to expect in each pricing range we have:

From .50c to $2.00 – magnets, mini soaps, emery boards, note pads, pens, pink measuring tapes, candles and drawer fresheners

From $3.00 - $5.00 – coffee mugs, key rings, roses, canvas prints, jelly beans, book marks, hand lotion and crystal bracelets

From $6.00 - $8.00 – decorative plaques, floral sticky note books, Pandora style charm bracelets, bath salts, photo frames, jewellery boxes
From $10.00 - $15.00 – candle trays, USB hubs, beautiful metal rose candle holders and mirrors

For the first time this year, we are offering a small selection of items priced at $15.00 to see if they are popular – we haven’t given it all away. There will still be some surprises for you!

Our sales days are from 8th – 10th May with Wednesday open all day, Thursday open until end of big lunch and Friday 10th open until end of little lunch.

If you have any old plastic grocery bags at home, please bring them in to the tuck shop any time now until the 8th of May so we have enough to give your children when they purchase an item.

HELPING HANDS

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW

DENTAL VAN

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW

REEDER MODELS

RSL POPPY COIN

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW
SOUTHPORT SOCCER CLUB

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW

FOX'S REAL ESTATE

COMMUNITY CUPPA- SONESHA

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