23rd August 2013

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The past fortnight has enabled Ashmore State school to once again celebrate the achievements of our students and teachers. Recently we were Proud to Shine in the athletics arena at our sports carnival and regional competitions. Now it is the turn of our Performing Arts department. Due to the untiring and dedicated efforts of our music department Ashmore students were the only state school to be presented with placings in the eisteddfod choirs and our Junior Band was awarded second place. What a wonderful achievement! The coming weeks will see us compete in senior band, strings and dance where our children will once again showcase their exceptional talent.

And speaking of talent, students from Ashmore participated in the Japanese speaking contest held at Griffith University last Sunday. My sincere thanks to Ms Tracey Somerville, Japanese teacher, Southport High, for providing such excellent tuition at our school during the past two years in collaboration with our Y6 and 7
Welcome to Fusco Cho

Once again this week we hosted students from Fusco Cho School in Japan. This is the third consecutive year for such a visit. Japanese girls and boys attended specialist English classes in the Carmichael Centre and then teamed up with ‘buddies’ from across our school in a number of classrooms. This year we hosted 29 Fusco Cho students with their visit culminating in a lunch party where they sampled Australian foods and exchanged cultural gifts with their Ashmore buddies. Thank you to Mrs Simone Hellsten for once again coordinating this important event on our school calendar.

Working as Productive Partners in Education

Last week I received correspondence from a parent requesting clarification of school policies. The email was written respectfully and demonstrated openness to discussion and constructive resolution. Unfortunately in schools this is not always the case and it is cause for disappointment when a small minority of the community address our staff in a disrespectful manner.

Our teachers’ core business is to ‘teach’, providing learning opportunities that enable students to achieve their highest possible standard. Additionally teachers and administration have a duty of care to keep children safe and this requires processes and rules to be put in place that meet that responsibility. Our office staff has the prime responsibility of ensuring the administrative management of the school runs smoothly.

In a school of 800 students and their families this is quite a responsibility. We welcome respectful communication regarding any concerns or complaints parents and carers may have and we respond, as a matter of priority, using your feedback as a mechanism for improving services where deemed appropriate. Understandably anonymous complaints place a significant barrier to either the ability to adequately investigate or resolve a complaint.

Productive partnerships between home and school are fundamental to children’s happiness and success in learning. As a team dedicated to this cause we look forward to on-going and quality relationships with and amongst all of our school community.

Parent Education Tuesday 3 Sept

Children in the middle phase of learning generally fall into the Yr 4 -10 category. This is the time of the broadest range of stages of physical, social, emotional and intellectual development and where many make the least progress in learning. It is also a time where children are most at risk of disengaging from learning, But is not all bad news. Come along on 3 Sept at 1.45 in the Carmichael Centre to discover what makes our adolescents ‘tick’ and how we, as parents, and educators can understand them and support them through these vital years.

Radioactivity!
This week saw our students immersed in a wonderful Book Fair designed and organised by Ms Leigh Hering and Mrs Sandy Browne. Everyone joined into the spirit of celebrating the importance of books in our lives and the enjoyment that reading can bring. Our P&C stepped in to support the Book Fair through cooking up our ever popular sausage sizzle and staff and children came to school as their favourite book character. It was a great day and a wonderful example of our Ashmore team working together in a spirit of fun and enjoyment. Congratulations Leigh and Sandy!

**Thought for the Fortnight**

Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.

*Henry Ford, American industrialist and pioneer of the assembly-line production method, 1863-1947*

Margaret James

Principal

**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 an Admin Officer to make other arrangements. We will NOT be accepting 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 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 have a cut off time of 2pm each day for the receipt of messages. 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.

GUIDANCE OFFICER

Ashmore State School Values Good Manners

Call it old fashion but the reality is that people with good manners are pleasant to be around. They too are more likely to be liked, more employable, and more likely to feel good about themselves. Good manners are about being courteous, polite and respecting others as well as yourself. When you use manners you are considering the feelings of other people, and being the kind of person that others
will like and respect. The good thing about manners is they are contagious – what you do encourages others to do the same to you.

Here are some simple but useful tips for you to teach and demonstrate to your child (guaranteed to make parenting easier at the same time):

**Be polite**
- Say hello (or good morning) and goodbye when you meet someone you know
- Say ‘please’ and ‘thank you’ as often as possible
- Say ‘excuse me’ if you need to interrupt or pass between people
- Always ask if you want to borrow something, and return it in good order
- Take your turn (or offer others to go first)
- For older children - when answering the phone say hello and who you are, and ask how you can help the person

**Be respectful**
- Look after yours and others property
- Offer an older person (or a pregnant lady or a disabled person) your seat if they are standing
- Open a door to others (don’t push your way in first)
- Use nice language not bad language
- Always introduce a friend (this is…..) if you know 2 people don’t know each other
- Be aware of your noise level - avoid being loud in a public place – it’s not fair on others
- Be aware of your child’s behavior in public. Teach your child ‘rules when out in the community’ like keep your hands to yourself (not grabbing things off shelves); stay close; limit noise level; listen to and follow instructions
- Treat others kindly
- Be aware of others’ cultural ways (eg. spitting in public is not widely acceptable)
- Always be aware of others feelings and respect them

**When eating**
- Never talk with food in your mouth – people are happy to wait, rather than try to decipher what you are trying to say
- Eat silently and with your mouth closed
- Avoid using your fingers except for finger foods

*Having good manners not only makes you a pleasant person but will also make others want to be with you.*

*Remember Adults: our behavior is on display. If we want children to learn appropriate behavior we have to be the example they follow. Sometimes when we are stressed or in a hurry it is easy to let manners slip, take a deep breath and model good manners always.*

Carla Loughnane
Guidance Officer

Adapted from ‘Kids Health Topics’ – Children, Youth and Women’s Health Service

**CHILD PROTECTION WEEK**

Please click here to view

**Name of Activity:** Child Protection Week

**Description:** Protective Behaviours Story-time involves reading 'Everyone’s Got a Bottom'.

This is an award winning book aimed at young children (winner of 2007 Child Protection Week Award for an Education Initiative). The book was developed with experts from the early childhood and child protection sectors. It is a tool for parents/carers to gently start a conversation with children about self protection. Written as a child’s story about keeping safe, it is in a style that is fun, positive and protective. "I Have a Right to be Safe“ information will be covered during the session and given out in small booklets to parents/carers to follow up at home. Story time will also involve promoting self-protection through relevant colouring in activities, and interactive games.

Who’s welcome to come along: Pre-school children and their parents/carers.

Cost: Free

Date: Tuesday 3 September, 1pm-2pm

Location: Southport Branch Library, Cnr Lawson and Garden Streets, Southport 4215 Contact People/More information:

For information about venue/times and set-up: Voula, Southport Branch Library, T: 5581 7200 For information about Story-time content: Natasha, FPQ, T:5531 2636 Feel free to check out FPQ’s website: [www.fpq.com.au](http://www.fpq.com.au)
STLaN (Support Teacher Literacy and Numeracy) AND MEMBER OF THE LEARNING ENRICHMENT TEAM- ROBYN MARTIN

At Ashmore State School we work together to support individual learning development to ensure that all students reach their full potential. Classroom teachers personalise the learning in their classrooms and select strategies to support students at all levels of development. The Learning Enrichment Team works with classroom teachers and students by supporting learning programs designed to cater for individual student differences.

The Link It! programs, in conjunction with intervention support, offer students individualised, small group learning opportunities, which provide a positive, nurturing environment for all, encouraging children to aspire to continually improve. If you would like to know more, check out the school’s website, www.ashmoress.eq.edu.au for the full update on Link It!

A new interactive learning opportunity!!

I have recently created an EdStudio (under construction), which contains a number of links to many great sites. All Ashmore students should find many worthwhile links to fantastic websites. There are many interactive Numeracy resources to be found here which contain fun learning opportunities. For example, if your child needs to practise their tables and mental computation skills, you should be able to locate quite a number of useful activities that are engaging as well as developing ability and knowledge.

There are a couple of Literacy items included, in particular, a short demonstration showing how you can support your child’s reading. Definitely worth watching by every parent!!

Please encourage your child to check this EdStudio. The EdStudio key to locating this studio on The Learning Place is – S360130462. I hope to continually add to this resource and update it with interesting and challenging learning opportunities for any year level to utilise.

RESOURCE CENTRE
Premier’s Reading Challenge

Students currently recording their reading for the Premier’s Reading Challenge MUST have their reading logs handed into the Resource Centre no later than 6th September to qualify for the certificate.

Bilby Competition

Ashmore State School has joined Save The Bilby Fund at the invitation of the Hon. John Paul Langbroek, Member for Education to help save the Bilby and other endangered Australian species. Entries are available through the Resource Centre. Students in the lower school are able to enter the colouring in competition and older students can complete a crossword by researching websites to find answers to the clues.

Winners - Book Week 2013

Children’s Book Council of Australia announced winning entries from the shortlist. You might like to visit the CBCA website for more information. This is a great website if you want to find books suitable for your child.

Younger Reader’s Book of the Year 2013 – The Children of the King

Early Childhood Book of the Year 2013 – The Terrible Suitcase

Picture Book of the Year 2013 – The Coat

Eve Pownall Book of the Year 2013 – Tom the Outback Mailman

CHAPLAIN’S CHAT

We are very proud of our amazing staff here at Ashmore State School.
First of all, it was displayed by Mr. Ellis and all the help given so willingly by all the staff at our annual athletics carnivals.

Now it is our musical staff, with all our amazing students, who are doing so well at this year’s eisteddfod.

Congratulations on all your hard work! For some students it was your first visit to these competitions this year, so we wanted to let you know how proud we are of you all. Well done everyone!

Marg Potter - Chaplain

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

NEWS FROM THE SPORTS DESK... AUGUST

Swimming – Ashmore Swimming Lessons will be at City Pools Nerang and transportation will be by bus. Swimming is a required component of the PE curriculum. The lessons are during Weeks 9 to 11 of Term 3 in September. The permission form has been sent home with your child. Click on the link if you wish to view the form or print it. Below is an updated schedule for the lessons as of July 30th (a copy has been sent home with your child).
NOTE - PAYMENT IS DUE ON 29 AUGUST FOR SWIMMING LESSONS

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</tbody>
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District Track and Field – 7 and 8 August

- Top 4 results from each event for the District Track and Field Trials. These athletes will be representing Gold Coast North at the South Coast Championships in Brisbane on 26 August 2013. Good luck to:
  - Michellie P (5/6 D) – 1st in Shotput, 2002 girls
  - Chloe G (7B) – 1st in Shotput, 2nd in Discus, 2001 girls
  - Awamaria T (7D) – 3rd in Discus, 2001 girls
  - Cody H (7C) – 1st in 800m, 4th in 200m, 2001 boys
- Congratulations and thank you to all the participants for competing in the Gold Coast North Track and Field Trials. Ashmore State School is proud of your accomplishments. Note: official results were not available from 5-8th place.
  - 2001 – Haze-lee M (was ill and could not participate), Awamaria T, Chloe G, Isabella Q, Cody H, Hayden P, Jacob C, Noah W
**Intra-school Sports Program** – Currently all Year 4-7 students are participating in intra-school sports. The program runs for three weeks in Term 3 and three more weeks in Term 4. House teams are competing for the championship in the following activities: t-ball, kickball, kick & catch, and dodge ball. The competition runs on Monday afternoons with a focus on fair play and having fun while respecting team mates, opponents, and umpires. Results will be posted at the conclusion of the competition in Term 4. Post competition awards will go to the Most Sportsmanlike House team and Best & Fairest students.

**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.

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

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

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**Before School Soccer Program - At Ashmore State School**

Total Football Academy will be running a before School soccer program during Term 4 at Ashmore State School. The program is for Prep to Year 3 & Year 4 to Year 6 Pupils. Registration forms will be distributed during a free demonstration. During the 6 week program, games will be played inside an inflatable soccer field, which captures the imagination of students, giving them a great soccer experience. Training will take place inside a skills square focusing on different skills each week, such as dribbling, turning and shooting. As part of the program players can also purchase a soccer kit (Top and Shorts). The program starts on Wednesday 22nd October, 7.30am - 8.30am. Cost is only $55.00, limited to 30 places only. To sign up online visit [www.totalfootballacademy.com.au](http://www.totalfootballacademy.com.au) or call Andy Robinson on 0413 888 643.

**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

MUSIC NEWS

Last week, the school’s three choirs entered and performed in the Gold Coast Eisteddfod at the Gold Coast Arts Centre. All students sang beautifully and displayed a high standard of behaviour. Their results are:

- Mini Maestros (Year 1-2) – Highly Commended
- Junior Choir (Year 3-4) – 3rd Place
- Senior Choir (Year 5-7) – Very Highly Commended

Congratulations to all children who were involved – your hard work has now been rewarded! Also, a big thank you to my lovely parent and teacher helpers for their weekly assistance - Linda Martin, Terri Campbell, Kim Teague, Tracey Wentworth, Ron Odle, Jake Chester and Paula Madbak.

Best of luck to the bands, strings and dance groups performing in the coming weeks.

Miss Dart

KIDS MATTER BUZZ- WHAT IS THIS?

Kids Matter is a flexible, whole-school approach (“a framework”) to children’s mental health and wellbeing. It works as an umbrella under which Ashmore State School’s existing programs can comfortably fit (eg. clubs, Grandparents Day, Breakfast Club). Kids Matter provides insight, information and educational tools and support to assist our school, including students, staff, parents, and carers and the wider community, to nurture happy, balanced kids.
ASHMORE COFFEE CLUB

“Ashmore Coffee Club”

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

When: Friday September 6th

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!!

KIDS' COOKING CLASSES
ASHMORE COMMUNITY GARDEN

Dear School Community,

On Sunday the 18th of August we installed the newest part of the Ashmore community garden. Members of Gold Coast Permaculture, Ashmore School and Ashmore community garden had a great day in the garden creating 2 new “bio intensive” beds. We also installed a number of citrus trees around the oval and near the back gate of the school.

We will be in the garden every week on Tuesday morning from 8am working with the kids from “Helping Hands”. Parents and and kids are welcome to join us too. Pop down and say hi to Judy and Vanessa.

Ashmore community garden has its next meeting on 5th of September in the conference room of the Carmichael centre at 7pm. Come to find out more how to be involved with the community gardens, helping out and harvesting your own fresh and organic produce.

Visit
www.tastecff.com.au
For September school holiday program
126 Scarborough Street, Southport
55913778
HELPING HANDS

Ashmore State School
Curumburra Road
Ashmore Qld 4214

This program is flexible to the children's needs and wants on the day.

All children attending must bring a broad brim hat, water bottle, wear closed in shoes and sunsmart clothing. Morning and afternoon tea supplied. Children must bring their own lunch daily.

Excursions: Children to bring morning tea and lunch unless specified otherwise.

0400 708 773
ashmorehelpinghands@work.com.au

Vacation Care Program
23 September - 21 September 2013
30 September - 4 October 2013
GOAT TRACK THEATRE

PRIMARY AGED DRAMA CLASSES
GROWING GREATNESS

100% GUARANTEE
YOUR CHILD GROWS OR IT'S FREE

WE ARE COMMITTED TO "GROWING GREATNESS" IN EVERY CHILD WE WORK WITH. IN FACT, WE ARE SO CONFIDENT THAT THIS IS THE BEST DRAMA EDUCATION PROGRAM AVAILABLE, THAT WE OFFER YOU A "100% GROWTH GUARANTEE". YOUR CHILD GROWS OR IT'S FREE.

CALL NOW TO SECURE A PLACE AT OUR NEW HELENSVALE CAMPUS

LIMITED PLACES LEFT!
5545 4421 | 0435 099 541
INFO@GOATTRACKTHEATREC3.COM | WWW.GOATTRACKTHEATREC3.COM
ASHMORE LITTLE ATHLETICS

SIGN ON- Saturday August 24th and 31st -12pm-3pm
Boys and girls 5-16 years. Proof of age is required.
Brian Johnston Athletics Track Ashmore (near PCYC)
First competition day Saturday 7th September at 1.15pm
For further information go to our website: www.ashmorelittleas.com

FOX’S REAL ESTATE
COMMUNITY CUPPA - SONESHA

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