26th July 2013

**Principal's Report**

One of the keys to a successful school is the building of strong community partnerships based on the shared moral purpose of ensuring that every day, in every classroom, every student is learning and achieving. Our core business at Ashmore State School is teaching and learning. We can only succeed fully at our core business with the support of our parents, carers and the wider community to ensure that children attend school regularly. Students with irregular and poor attendance often struggle at school and the value they receive for their education is greatly diminished.

With this in mind, we have designed an easy to read brochure that will be sent home this week with a simple slogan, *It's Not O.K. to Be Away*. The brochure includes worthwhile information about the responsibilities of parents and carers regarding student attendance at school, together with support services that are available should families require assistance in this matter.

There is also an easy to read table that clearly explains the impact that non-attendance has on the amount of education a child misses according to days missed from school. I encourage you to keep the brochure in a...
visible place at home as a constant reminder to your children that *It's Not O.K. to Be Away*. The brochure will also be displayed in every classroom.

**Visible Learning**

Last week I attended a two day conference for educators from around the world who joined together in gaining insight into the research of Professor John Hattie. The research has involved 250 million + students and represents the largest ever, evidence based research into what actually works best in schools to improve learning.

The conference affirmed for me that the path we are taking at Ashmore is the right one. According to Hattie’s research the most powerful effect on student learning is feedback. This includes teachers providing in-depth and relevant feedback to students to help them continually improve their learning, feedback from student to student where children critique their peers work in written and oral form and feedback from teacher to teacher where teachers observe each other’s practices, learning from each other.

I warmly invite you to visit our classrooms in consultation with your child’s teacher and watch how your children learn at our school through feedback and active engagement in lessons designed to suit their needs.

**A Message from the State Minister for Education, The Hon. John Paul Langbroek**

Recently schools in Queensland received correspondence from the Minster for Education, The Honourable John-Paul Langbroek regarding *Great teachers = Great results*. This is the Queensland Government’s five-year, $537 million action plan to make our state’s education system even better.

It will:

- support teachers with mentoring, training and resources
- reward outstanding teachers with career opportunities and scholarships
- strengthen state school discipline
- allow schools to have more say in how they are run because each school community knows what’s best for Queensland kids.

The plan will lift standards of teaching and give schools more flexibility to get on with the job with a range of research-based initiatives to help your child get a great education, no matter where you live.

There will be new ways of measuring and rewarding high performances among our teachers, as well as strengthened discipline and streamlined processes for suspensions and exclusions.

To find out more about the plan: [www.qld.gov.au/greatteachers](http://www.qld.gov.au/greatteachers)

**Thought for the Fortnight:**

“Our fundamental role is to constantly evaluate the impact we have on kids. We must be willing to be exposed, based on evidence: we must have the conversations. We are the change agents.” Professor John Hattie 2009
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL- LEIGH JOSEY

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)

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL- AMANDA FRY

Every year Education Queensland surveys parents, students and staff members to gauge their opinions about a number of aspects of schooling. For the first time this year the staff and student surveys were conducted completely on-line with the selected parents being given the option of on-line or hard copy. Each year we are given a specific formula to follow when selecting the 40 families and 60 students to complete the survey to ensure a wide cross section of the community is represented.

The parent survey was distributed last week and the 60 students across years 5 and 6 completed their survey on-line on Wednesday 24th July. The data generated from this survey is conveyed back to the school later in the year and is very valuable in guiding our actions over the following year. If you were one of the selected families
and are completing the form in hard copy, please return it to the office as soon this forthcoming week 29th July- 2nd August.

Time is moving quickly towards our Dance Performances at the Eisteddfod. I am still in need of a couple of items to complete our costumes. We need some 3D glasses from the cinema. These are for our Year 7 Dance Group who will be performing “ABC” dressed as ‘nerds’. We will not be able to return the glasses as we need to remove the lenses. I also need a ladies or gents white blazer/jacket/suit coat. This is for the Dance Group performing a “Tribute to Saturday Night Fever” wearing white three piece suits reminiscent of John Travolta. Our Junior dance team will each be given a T-shirt for their costume kindly screen printed and donated by one of our parents. We are hoping all Dance parents will join us at the Winter Concert on Wednesday 7 August at 10:00 in our School Hall.

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

GUIDANCE OFFICER

TEACHING TOLERANCE

The dictionary defines tolerance as `showing respect for the rights or opinions or practices of others`. In short it is about accepting people for who they are and treating others the way you would like to be treated. In families, tolerance is about respect shown by: accepting difference of opinion, of family and culture, of beliefs and most importantly, of habits.

Today, more than ever, our children interact with people of differing ethnicities, religions, and cultures, and ability levels. Classrooms are increasingly diverse, and reflect the communities where families live and work.

Having tolerance not only improves our relationships with people but it also opens up more opportunities in education, business, and many other aspects of life.

Teaching Tolerance

Live it: Children develop their own values, in great part, by mirroring the values and attitudes of those they care about. Parents' attitudes about respecting others are often so much a part of them that they rarely even think about it. Parents who demonstrate tolerance and respect in their everyday lives give out a powerful message. As a result, their kids learn to appreciate differences in others as well as themselves.

Acknowledge and respect differences within your own family. Demonstrate acceptance of your children's differing abilities, interests, and styles. Value the uniqueness of each member of your family.

Talk about tolerance and respect: When media or life experiences present opportunities regarding tolerance or lack thereof, talk to your child about the values you would like them to exhibit. Answer kids' questions about differences honestly and respectfully. This teaches that it is acceptable to notice and discuss differences as long as it is done with respect. Point out and talk about unfair stereotypes that may be portrayed in media.

Remember that tolerance does not mean tolerating unacceptable behavior. It means that everyone deserves to be treated with respect — and in turn should treat others with respect as well.

Provide opportunities: Give them opportunities to play and work with others of diverse backgrounds. Children learn first hand that everyone has something to contribute and we really aren’t that different in our thinking and living.

Select books, toys, music, art, and videos carefully. Keep in mind the powerful effect that the media and pop culture have on shaping attitudes.
Build self-esteem: Help your children feel good about themselves. Kids who feel badly about themselves often treat others badly. Kids with strong self-esteem value and respect themselves and are more likely to treat others with respect, too. Help your child to feel accepted, respected, and valued.

Learn about traditions: Learn together about holiday and religious celebrations that are not part of your own tradition.

Honor your family's traditions and teach them to your kids — and to someone outside the family who wants to learn about the diversity you have to offer.

When parents encourage a tolerant attitude in their children, talk about their values, and model the behavior they would like to see by treating others well, kids will follow in their footsteps.

Adapted from Kids Health - http://kidshealth.org/parent/positive/talk/tolerance.html

Carla Loughnane
Guidance Officer

RESOURCES CENTRE

Reminders

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.

Website Links

The Resource Centre is currently adding useful links for students, parents and teachers. It’s as easy as logging onto our website, https://ashmoress.eq.edu.au/ click on the “Facilities” link, click Library and then three new link pages appear. They are Digital Resources Early Years, Links for Learning and Research. When you click on these new pages you will find useful resources for everyone to use.

Book Fair

We are currently planning this exciting event. Mark Wednesday 21st on your calendar as the Resource Centre will be running a family session supported by our P&C. Scholastic send us a collection of books, posters, pencils
and accessories for display. These items can be purchased and if stock runs out, we place an order which arrives the following week. Classes will visit the display during the week and students are given a “wish list”. You can either visit the Book Fair or send the wish list back to school with money so purchases can be made. Your child will be bringing home a flyer in the next few weeks with more information.

CHAPLAIN'S CHAT

I am really enjoying being back at school for two and a half days and working with more students. It was great watching some of the senior school sports carnival, with congratulations to our Sports Captains and Mr. Ellis.

On Saturday 3rd August, I am holding a sausage sizzle at Ashmore Bunnings to raise funds for the chaplaincy program here at school. I am looking for volunteers to help in the following time slots: 9am to 12pm; 12pm to 3pm; and 3pm to 5pm. Helpers must be over 14 years of age and wear enclosed shoes. If you can help, please see me at school on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, or ring 0423 268 456.

Thanks!! Marg Potter (Chaplain)

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER
NEWS FROM THE SPORTS DESK... JULY

**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. The permission form has been sent home with your child. Click on the link if you wish to view the form or print it.

**Junior Athletics Carnival 2013** – New Day - Thursday, 1st August

For all Year Prep to Three students

- **Checklist** – Sport shirt or shirt in house colours, hat, water, lunch, apply sunscreen before coming to school. Please also check that all items are named. If tuckshop is ordered on the day, please include the student's house on the order.
- **Senior Athletics Carnival 2013** – Completed over two days, 9 July and 12 July
- Thank you to all students, staff members, parent helpers, and the P&C. The excitement and energy displayed throughout the 2 day competition was amazing. Although there were many great individual performances, all students should be proud of the spirit and sportsmanship demonstrated throughout the event. Special thank you from Mr Ellis to Mrs Heaton and Mr Lawler for all their behind the scenes help.
- **Overall House Results:**
  - First – Yangoora
Individual Age Champions:

- Born 2004 – Girl, Alyssandra S. (4C), Boy, Diego Y (4C)
- Born 2003 – Girl, Jacqueline G (5A), Boy, TIE, Blake F (5C), Charlie C (5B), Elliott P (5/6 E)
- Born 2001 – Girl, Haze-Lee LM (7C), Boy, Cody H (7C)
- Born 2000 – Girl, Avery V. (7B), Boy, Ethan M. (7A)

New Records – Congratulations!

- Shot Put – 2001 Girls, Chloe G. 9.57m (old record – Christina Delay in 2001, 8.25m)
- Shot Put – 2002 Girls, Michellie P. 8.47m (old record – Tiarna Clark in 2010, 8.29m)

District Rugby Union - Congrats to Blake C. (7D) for his successful nomination to represent South Coast in Rugby Union. Good luck at the State Championships.

Rugby League Sport Jersey Return – All students who participated in Junior Rugby League must return your school jersey to Mrs Veivers.

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

- District Athletics – Students who qualified will be contacted by Mr Ellis for District information/permission forms (District Dates are 7 & 8 August)
- 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 "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

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MUSIC NEWS
Notes were sent home last week with details of our 2013 Eisteddfod times and dates. Please ensure you have seen the note and returned the permission form as soon as possible, with payment where applicable.

**Gold Coast Eisteddfod Timetable**

Please note the following details carefully:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Ensemble Name</strong></th>
<th><strong>Ensemble Teacher</strong></th>
<th><strong>Date</strong></th>
<th><strong>Time</strong></th>
<th><strong>Transport</strong></th>
<th><strong>What You Need</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mini Maestros Choir</td>
<td>Anna Dart</td>
<td>13 August, 2013</td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Bus departs school at 8:30 am&lt;br&gt;Bus returns to school</td>
<td>Full Uniform&lt;br&gt;White Socks&lt;br&gt;Black Shoes&lt;br&gt;Water Bottle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Choir</td>
<td>Anna Dart</td>
<td>13 August, 2013</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>Parents arrive at GCAC at 5:45 pm&lt;br&gt;Parents collect from GCAC at 8:00 pm</td>
<td>Full Uniform&lt;br&gt;White Socks&lt;br&gt;Black Shoes&lt;br&gt;Water Bottle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Choir</td>
<td>Anna Dart</td>
<td>15 August, 2013</td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Bus departs school at 8:30 am&lt;br&gt;Bus returns to school</td>
<td>Full Uniform&lt;br&gt;White Socks&lt;br&gt;Black Shoes&lt;br&gt;Water Bottle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Band</td>
<td>Justin Hart</td>
<td>20 August, 2013</td>
<td>6:15 pm</td>
<td>Parents arrive at GCAC at 5:45 pm&lt;br&gt;Parents collect from GCAC at 8:00 pm</td>
<td>Full Uniform&lt;br&gt;Instrument&lt;br&gt;Music Folder&lt;br&gt;Water Bottle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Band</td>
<td>Justin Hart</td>
<td>23 August, 2013</td>
<td>6:15 pm</td>
<td>Parents arrive at GCAC at 5:15 pm&lt;br&gt;Parents collect from</td>
<td>Full Uniform&lt;br&gt;Instrument</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**GET STARTED RETURNS FOR ROUND 2**

The second round of the Queensland Government’s Get Started program is now open, offering vouchers worth up to $150 to help families pay membership fees for children to join a registered sport or recreation club.
Children with a parent or guardian who holds a health care or pension concession card are automatically eligible to apply, while other families will need to submit recommendations from two referral agents. Applications are processed on a first come, first served basis.


Apply now for Get Started vouchers worth up to $150 for your child’s sport or other club registration.

P & C NEWS

**P&C MEETING** - The next P&C meeting of this year will be held on **Monday August 19 at 3.15pm** 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.

**END OF TERM SAUSAGE SIZZLE** - was beautifully supported by our many parent helpers: Louise Ware, and her father Ted who did the cooking on the BBQ; Tracey Wentworth; Sonje Robertson; Karen Ross, Ana Meuli, Alison Gribble, Holly Meers, Paula Madbak, Karen Bulmer & Krystin Rapley. Thank you!!

**PAINT REQUIRED FOR TUCKSHOP** - We are planning a mural on our Tuckshop to encourage our children to make ‘Smart Choices’ with their food selections. We need good quality Exterior UV rated paint in bright colours. Would any of our parents who are painters have some leftovers from jobs they could donate to us? As paint is quite expensive, it would be very much appreciated.

**FAIR PROFIT AND BREAKDOWN** – Total profit was a whopping **$12,750** towards our Middle School Playground – here is a general breakdown of how we all achieved this amount.

Rides $3,180 – Hangi $2,010 – Food stalls $1,630 – P & C BBQ $1,620 – Cent Auction $1,730 – Market stalls $1,260 – Raffle, P & C activities $1,990 - 2nd hand clothing $640 – Outside activities $400 – Model Search/Baby Show $160 – Cash Donation $100 – less general expenses, an incredible outcome. Thank you again for all your help on the day and support of our Fair.
UPCOMING EVENTS – August 28, 29 – Father’s Day Stall

SCHOOL PHOTOS – are being done on Tuesday Aug 20. Please ensure your child is in full school uniform for the day – this means our class photos will look wonderful. Photo envelopes are coming home – please note you need to pay the photographer directly with the correct change. Change cannot be sourced at the school – the tuckshop carries a very small float and cannot be relied upon for change. Thank you for your consideration.

Ashmore P&C
pandc@ashmoress.eq.edu.au

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: 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!!

HELPING HANDS

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW
ZUMBA LESSONS

with Jamie Lee

SHAKE IT AT YOUR OWN PACE!
Great for beginners &
suitable for ALL ages

Saturdays
9:00 - 10:00am

Ashmore State Primary School
Currumburra Rd, Ashmore

The LOWER Impact, easy-to-follow Latin-inspired dance fitness class.
$10 per class & no bookings required

Jamie Lee Fraser
0403474234
zumbajamielee@gmail.com

VIP PASS
BUY 20 OR MORE & SAVE!*
Helensvale State High School, will be holding Round 2 of the following Excellence Programs:

EXCITE  SPORT  ART
MUSIC  DRAMA
JAPANESE  DANCE

Applications are available from Monday 29 July.
Applications Close Friday 16 August 9am

Dance, Drama, Music, Art & Japanese auditions, exam and workshop will be held on Monday 26 August 3.30pm – 4.30pm.

Sport Trials will be held on Wednesday 28 August 3.30pm – 4.30pm.

EXCITE Interviews will be held within the week of 26-30 August.

For further information contact the Administration Office on 5573 8555, email: admin@helensvaleshs.eq.edu.au or visit our website www.helensvale.eq.edu.au
Do you have a spare room in your home?
Could you offer Homestay to an International student?

The Gold Coast Student Accommodation Centre is an accommodation service available to education providers and International students on the Gold Coast. We are currently seeking hosts for students in the Ashmore area. This can be a great cultural experience for the whole family with generous remuneration.

For more information, please call us on 5527 8688, email: info@gcsac.com.au or visit the website www.gcsac.com.au
COMMUNITY CUPPA - SONESHA

Please click here to view

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