Welcome Back!
Welcome existing and new families to our school for the 2015 school year. Parent partnerships are crucial to the success of our school and we look forward to meeting our new families and build upon existing relationships to support our students.

At present all teachers and staff are participating in training including the Department of Education and Communities Code of Conduct, Child Protection: Keeping Them Safe, Anaphylaxis and CPR.

Parent Information Sessions-Meet the Teacher
Sessions will be held in Week 3 for parents to attend information sessions. The sessions offer parents the opportunity to meet their child’s classroom teacher, learn about routines, expectations, excursions, learning focuses and homework. Following are the times and dates for the meetings which will be held in classrooms:

**INFANTS**
Monday 9 February
8.45am - 9.15am - KR and KB

Wednesday 11 February
8.45am - 9.15am - 1JS and 1/2S

Thursday 13 February
8.45am - 9.15am - KB and KR

**PRIMARY**
Wednesday 11 February
8.45am - 9.15am - 3P, 3/4M, 4/5L, 5W and 6M

A seated success!
New outdoor furniture has been purchased for both infants and primary areas. The heavy duty tables and seats have proven to be a hit with the kids. They now can sit with their friends to enjoy their recess and lunch without having to sit on the concrete.

A Message from our Principal

To Dream. To Inspire. To Succeed.
Ashmont Public School
Term 1, Week 2

“The expert in anything was once a beginner.”

Helen Hayes

Messages for our parents

Staffing
New staff members have joined our teaching team. I would like to welcome Miss Jessica Skinner (1/2S) and Miss Sarah Terry (Creative Arts and Release from face-to-face). A comprehensive list of staff has been included in this bulletin for your information.

Classes for 2015
Classes for this year have been announced and hopefully finalised for the school year. The census date to submit student numbers is in Week 3 and final class arrangements will be made around this time. There may be adjustments needed depending on our final numbers. If there are any concerns please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Our Swimming Carnival
Last Thursday, students 8 years and above participated in our annual carnival. It was a fantastic day where all students did their best and showed strong team spirit in their sporting houses.

The highlight of the day was to see how all students have improved their swimming skills from last year. We look forward to once again offering swimming as part of our sports program for students in Years 3-6 and intensive swimming to Years 2 and 3 in Term 3.

Thank you to all the teachers, Student Learning Support Officers, parents and friends who supported our students on the day.

Important Dates
Meet the teacher meetings 9-13 February
Peer Support Camp 19-20 February
Busabout NRMA Bus Safety Program 20 February
AFL visit 24 February
Dental Clinic commences 4 March
Athletics Carnival 6 March
MAHS Boys Night Out 10 March
MAHS Girls Night In 17 March

Canteen Roster
Wednesday – T. Bennett
Thursday – T. Bennett
Friday – K. Warner
Monday – D Tootell
Tuesday – K Wamer / A Phillips
SCHOOL STAFF

Classes
KR  Maryann Hodges
KB  Denise McKenzie
1JS  Jodi Jones/Shona Sutton
1/2S  Jessica Skinner
2G  Mary-Louise Gorrie
3P  Anne Parnell
3/4M  Brad Montgomery
4/5L  Gavin Lihou
5W  Perry Wong
6M  Simon Millman

Release for teachers- Creative Arts
Sarah Terry (Visual Arts and Drama)
Amanda Barratt (Dance)
Clair Schneider (Music)

Office
Jane Porter (School Admin Manager)
Kelly Honeyman (School Admin Officer)

School Learning Support Officers
Vivian Fletcher
Carlie Wilson
Cate Whitaker
Karen Beazley
Judy Grey
Peter Little
Ralee Jones
Kerry Lawrence

Cleaners
Lyn Goldspink
Peter Creighton

Learning and support
Susan Najor (Instructional Leader)
Amanda Barratt (Numeracy support K-6)
Kathleen Morton
Jerry Baker, Marg Whalan, Mary Lucas
Annabel Sharkey (Support Teacher - Learning)
Karen Andrew (Support Teacher - Hearing)
Fiona Jaques (Reading Recovery)
Louise Niki (Aboriginal Education Officer)
Kerry Geale (General Assistant)
Steven McMullen (School Counsellor)

Emergency Contact Details and Medical Information
It is necessary that emergency contact details are up to date to ensure parents can be contacted promptly if your child is sick or has had an injury. People often change their mobile phone numbers and it can be challenging to make contact.

Updated medical information is also important for the care of your child. Students who have specific needs such as allergies, medical conditions or other health problems need to alert the school and provide documentation if special care is required. Students with asthma should have a completed Asthma Plan and a copy should be provided to the school. Parents of students needing medication at school are required to supply written directions for administration purposes. The school keeps a record of all medication given to students.

To support you in updating your emergency contact details and medical information for your child please fill in the attached slip and return to the office.

Dental Clinic for 2015
The Dental Clinic Program offered to all Ashmont School students by the CSU Dental Clinic will begin this term. It will in commence Week 6 on Wednesday 4 March. The clinic will complete a dental check for each student attending, provide information on dental hygiene and consult with parents or guardians about any required treatment. Forms will be given to each student. If a student is to attend the clinic these forms must be filled in and signed. There are three spaces where forms must be signed by a parent/guardian. Please return these forms to the office.

Riverina Dance Festival Auditions
Years 3-6
On Tuesday, the dance auditions will be held to select this year’s Ashmont Riverina Dance Troupe. The troupe will consist of 20-25 children from Year 3-6 and will be run by Ms Barratt. The 2014 children were extremely successful in their efforts and this year the group will be seeking the same level of excellence. The children who audition will find out by Thursday if they have been successful and a permission note will be sent home. Good luck everyone!
Greetings from Bluearth

Your child/children may have mentioned Bluearth or you may have seen the Bluearth Coach out in the playground over the past few weeks and wondered what it was all about.

Bluearth is a movement and activity based program that uses the joy of movement to help children better understand themselves, peers, teachers and the important relationships that exist between them. In an inclusive and fun environment students experience a range of individual, partner and group activities to improve posture, function, self awareness and mindfulness. This helps build lifelong habits in physical activity and movement that is so important for children's development, health and wellbeing. With skilful guidance and reflection, amazing results have been achieved.

Bluearth provides on the job training for teachers so that the program can be sustained long term within the school. The Bluearth Coach will be working with teachers and their classes on a regular basis - please feel free to speak with them if you would like to know more about the program - or join in.

You might also like to visit the Bluearth website www.blueearth.org and look at our parents section for more information and activities for the whole family. We also encourage you to read some latest research in how mindfulness improved children's learning: http://time.com/3682311/mindfulness-math/

Infants Assembly
The weekly Kindergarten to Year 2 assembly will be held each Friday afternoon (commencing this week Friday 6 February) in the Learning Centre between 2.20 and 3.00pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Peer Support Excursion
For Peer Support this year we will be taking the students in Years 5 and 6 to Borambola for a day of team building and leadership activities. This will be held on 19 February, 2015 and the cost is $40. Permission notes will be coming home with the Bulletin today.