Welcome Back

2016 has had a flying start with students returning to the school year enthusiastic to learn. We welcome our existing and new families back to school as we continue to provide students with quality educational experiences each and every day. Parent partnerships are crucial to the success of our school and we look forward to meeting our new families and building upon existing relationships to support our students.

There is a comprehensive list of our staff for 2016 and their positions included in this Bulletin. Over the next couple of weeks we will introduce our new staff via the Bulletin.

Staff Development

On our staff development day last week, all staff participated in mandatory updates in Child Protection and Complaints Handling training. The staff was also provided with professional learning to best meet the needs of individual students including students with additional learning needs. In the near future all staff will be updated in First Aid/CPR/Anaphylaxis and the Code of Conduct.

Classes for 2016

Classes for this year have been arranged for the beginning of the year but there may need to be more changes made. We have a number of new enrolments. 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.

Swimming Carnival

Monday 22 February
Year 2 to Year 6
(Must be 8 this year)
Messges for our parents

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:

**Tuesday 9 February**
8.45am-9.15am Early Stage 1- KB and K/1R

**Wednesday 10 February**
8.45am-9.15am Stage 2- 3P, 3/4S and 4/5H

**Thursday 11 February**
8.45am-9.15am Stage 3- 5M and 6L

**Friday 12 February**
8.45am-9.15am Stage 1- 1/2JC and 2G

Peer Support
The Peer Support Camp will be held for Years 5 and 6 on 17-18 March. Notes will be sent home next week. The cost will be approximately $40.

P&C Meeting- All welcome!
Parents are invited to attend our first Parents and Citizens meeting on Tuesday 16 February at 2.00pm located in the Community Centre. New families are always welcome. Come along and hear about the fantastic things happening in our school!

"Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value"
Albert Einstein

Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast Bar begins</td>
<td>1 February</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leaders Induction 9.15am</td>
<td>8 February</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parent Information Sessions</td>
<td>8-12 March</td>
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<tr>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting @2.00pm</td>
<td>16 February</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage 3 Rugby League Clinic</td>
<td>18 February</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swimming Carnival</td>
<td>22 February</td>
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<td>PLP Parent BBQ 3.00pm</td>
<td>24 February</td>
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<td>District Swimming Carnival</td>
<td>26 February</td>
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<td>Premier’s Reading Challenge begins</td>
<td>1 March</td>
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<td>Harmony Day</td>
<td>2 March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clean Up Australia Day</td>
<td>3 March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Athletics Carnival</td>
<td>4 March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peer Support Camp</td>
<td>17-18 March</td>
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</tbody>
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Canteen Roster
Wed: C.Barby
Thurs: C.Barby - Help needed
Fri: T.Bennett, B.Chapple
Mon: C.Barby
Tues: C.Barby
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 2016

The Dental Clinic Program offered to all Ashmont School students by the CSU Dental Clinic will begin this term. It will commence Week 6 on Wednesday 2 March. Please note that new forms are needed for your child to participate in the program in 2016. 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

Today the dance auditions were 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 2014-15 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!
Swimming Carnival
On Monday 22 February students from Year 2 (who are 8 this year) up to Year 6 will be attending the school's annual swimming carnival. The carnival will be held at the Oasis Swimming Centre and all students are encouraged to attend. We look forward to a great day at the pool participating in age races and novelty events. Please remember to pack for the day, water, sunscreen, hat and food. The canteen will be open at the pool for snacks and lunch.

Community Art Workshops
Come and check out our new Art Studio at Ashmont Public School. Kath Powderly will be running a Community Art Workshop every Tuesday afternoon from 12.00-1.30 in the new Art Studio. We start on Tuesday 2nd February 2016.
Try your hand at clay, painting and weaving.
If you have an art or craft skill you would like to share, let Kath know and we can run that as well. All welcome.

Yarn’en With Louise
Welcome to another year of learning, it is good to see so many smiling faces.
A special welcome to our Kindergarten children, new students and their families.
My name is Louise Niki, students call me Aunty Louise. I am the Aboriginal Education Officer and I go into all classrooms at some time during the week. I also consult with parents, community and some outside organisations. Once again I would like to run some parent days, so if you are interested let me know what days suit you best and what you would like to learn about our school. For example how to help your child with literacy or numeracy, our welfare policy etc.
It is great to be back and I am looking forward to catching up with everyone.
Next Friday the 13th February is the anniversary of the formal apology by the Australian Parliament to Australian Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people, specifically the Stolen Generation that took place on 13 February 2008. The anniversary of the National Apology is a reminder of how our nation can come together in efforts to overcome injustices of the past and look to the future.
With this in mind I would like to invite all parents and community to a special morning tea to view the apology and to get to know one another. This will be held in Ngurang Yindyamarra at 9:30am.
Please let me know if you can attend for catering purposes. Looking forward to meeting and yarn’en with you all.

Ashmont Public School Counselling Service
Hi! My name is Tanya Willis. I am excited to say I am the School Counsellor for Ashmont PS. My role at Ashmont PS is to provide a counselling service to the school community. I am a fully qualified School Counsellor with a Post Graduate Diploma in Psychology. I am also undergoing supervision to obtain registration as a General Psychologist with the Psychology Board of Australia.
How can I help?
As a school counsellor I am able to:
• Support individual students to deal with their problems
• Assist students to learn new skills such as resilience, anger management and dealing with bullying
• Use assessment tools to work out why some students find it hard to learn and suggest ways to help them
• Help teachers and other staff to support students
• Help students and others deal with tragedies or natural disasters.
• Work with parents in addressing concerns they have about their child.
• Liaise with other Department of Education personnel and with outside agencies, such as Community Mental Health, paediatricians and other health workers.
I visit Ashmont PS every Thursday and Friday of the school week. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me. Just ring the school office on 69314944.

Sporting House Captains
Congratulations to the below students that have been voted in by their peers to lead sporting houses for 2016. Leaders will be inducted at Monday morning assembly on 8 February at 9.15am. All welcome.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>House</th>
<th>Captains</th>
<th>Vice Captains</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flanders</td>
<td>Lacey Cochrane-Hamilton, Elisha Nynycz</td>
<td>Casey Jenkins, Samuel Griefahn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gallipoli</td>
<td>Audrey Putland, Jack Lanyon, Tyril Wishart</td>
<td>Marissa Pearce, Ryan Clarke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kokoda</td>
<td>Tamara Crampton, Tyrel Wishart</td>
<td>Taya Wishart, Zaden Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tobruk</td>
<td>Shannon Pengelly, Jay Williams</td>
<td>Bree-anna Gannon, Callum Rath</td>
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ASHMONT PUBLIC SCHOOL
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Principal: Mrs Tanya Whyte