Our school has welcomed a number of new enrolments, predominantly in our infants classes. Tomorrow is our census date for student enrolments. It is highly likely that our infants classes will be restructured tomorrow once student numbers are confirmed. This will result in a fifth class being established creating smaller class sizes for our students. This will be arranged to have minimal disruption to students.

All Parent Information Sessions this week will continue as planned. If your child is placed into a different class, parents are to attend the scheduled meeting time indicated for your child’s year group (see next page). Further information will be provided to the parents who will be affected when they attend. Your understanding and support for these changes is greatly appreciated.

Yesterday morning we inducted our school leaders for 2016. All students were presented with badges and recited an oath to demonstrate their commitment and pride in being nominated by their peers. It was great to see so many parents witness this significant event. A full list and photos are included in this Bulletin. Congratulations to all the students!
Messages 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- Kinder

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 (Years 1 and 2)

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!

Important Dates

Parent Information Sessions 8-12 March
P&C Meeting @2.00pm 16 February
Stage 3 Rugby League Clinic 18 February
Swimming Carnival 22 February
PLP Parent BBQ 3.00pm 24 February
District Swimming Carnival 26 February
Premier’s Reading Challenge begins 1 March
Harmony Day 2 March
Clean Up Australia Day 3 March
Athletics Carnival 4 March
Peer Support Camp 17-18 March

Canteen Roster
Wed: C.Barby
Thurs: C.Barby – Help needed
Fri: T.Bennett, B.Chapple
Mon: C.Barby
Tues: C.Barby

“If you’re not prepared to be wrong, you’ll never come up with anything ORIGINAL”
Ken Robinson
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 slip that was sent home last week with the bulletin 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 in 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 were given to each student last week. 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

Last week the children were invited to participate in auditions for the Riverina Dance Festival Troupe. The audition was held over two days due to the high volume of children attending- in total we had over 70 children try out. From this, twenty were chosen to represent the school. All participants should be commended on their effort and participation during the auditions. They were very encouraging and gave it their best. Those successful at auditions will begin rehearsals this week.
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.

Parent and Community Art Workshops
Every Monday from 2.30pm
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
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. (Community Centre at Ashmont Public School)
Please let me know if you can attend for catering purposes. Looking forward to meeting and yarn’en with you all.

Art News
The new art studio at Ashmont Public School has been filled every day with enthusiastic young artists. Stage One and Two have been looking closely at the face, firstly drawing it, then making their faces in clay. Stage 3 students, after listening to the poem “Colonel Fazackerly”, made a character from the poem. Some chose to make a ghost, and others made the colonel. Students have learned how to roll clay flat and join it together with slip. They have used clay tools – rolling pins, skewers, kidneys and wooden knives. Please drop into the art studio to see your children’s work and meet the new teacher Kath Powderly.