Bulletin Week 5 Term 2

NAPLAN
Congratulations to all our students from Year 3 and 5 who participated in NAPLAN last week. All students put in a great effort. It was gratifying to hear from their teachers how the students were very positive in their attempts even though there were some very difficult questions and tasks.

As a whole school we have been working tirelessly to support students with their learning with additional support for students and professional learning for staff. NAPLAN does not only affect those students in Years 3 and 5 as it is crucial that teaching be focussed and explicit throughout the years leading up to the tests. At Ashmont Public School we are acutely aware of the need to deliver learning programs that support the overall development of the child and, as a priority, continue to assess student progress and performance in conjunction with the NAPLAN testing program.

Half Yearly Student Reports
As the end of Semester 1 is fast approaching, teachers are preparing to commence the task of attending to student half yearly reports. This is a very significant task as it requires a considerable amount of time to gather all the information required to make a report on each student's progress and performance over the first six months of the school year. All teachers take this process very seriously as it is so important that each report truly reflects student performance in all Key Learning Areas and also provides additional information on student skills and attitudes in other school related activities and tasks. Once again parents and caregivers will be invited to meet with their child's class teacher to discuss their report in the final weeks of the school term.

Premier's Sporting Challenge
Student involvement in the Primary School Premier Sport Challenge will commence next week and continue until Week 4 in Term 3. The challenge aims to engage young people in sport and physical activity and encourages them to lead healthy, active lifestyles. Each class in the school will participate in a ten week sport and physical activity challenge with the children taking part in physical exercise for at least a half hour each day. Mrs Loch is the school's challenge facilitator and has done an excellent job preparing everyone for the challenge. Students will record how much physical activity they do each week, including weekends, and will be recognised with awards depending on how much time they spend exercising. The teachers have also entered the challenge and will be recording the physical exercise they do over the ten week period. This is definitely a very worthwhile program to promote healthy life choices.

Student Welfare Issues
I would just like to mention a couple of issues relating to student welfare that you may be able to discuss with your child.

- Spitting is becoming an issue in our playground. It is a disgusting and particularly in these days of highly infectious conditions such as swine flu, a very unhealthy habit. Could you please speak to your child about refraining from this action.
- A number of students are using inappropriate language, remarks and taunts at school at the moment. Phrases that I won't repeat here but I am sure you would find distasteful, if not offensive, are being used in the playground. Teachers will report students for using inappropriate language and they will be disciplined for engaging in this unacceptable behaviour.

Stage 3 Canberra Excursion
Many of the students in Years 5 and 6 will be participating in an excursion to our nation's capital tomorrow. They will be leaving at the very early time of 5:30am for a full day of wonderful educational experiences including visits to Parliament House and Questacon. Ms Dam and Mrs Thurling will be supervising the students, whom we know will represent the school with pride and honour.

District Cross Country
The school's cross country team will be competing this Friday in the Wagga PSSA District Cross Country Carnival at Rawlings Park, Lake Albert. After so many outstanding performances in our own cross country event, we are confident of some very good results on Friday. Good luck boys and girls and we hope you finish "in the medals".

Monthly P&C Meeting
Just a reminder that the school's P&C association is meeting tonight at 7:00pm in the staffroom. It would be great to see some new faces at the meeting and for parents and caregivers to find out first hand about the projects and priorities that the association have planned for the year. So come along and support your P&C and your school.

Important Dates
P&C Meeting 18 May
District PSSA Cross Country 21 May

Michael Woolbank
Principal

18 May 2010
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MERIT</th>
<th>BLINKY BILL</th>
<th>BLINKY BILL AWARD</th>
<th>ENGLISH AWARDS</th>
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<tr>
<td>KB</td>
<td>Hayley Livingstone</td>
<td>Cain Dedini-Hardman</td>
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<td>KR</td>
<td>Xander Conway</td>
<td>Jaidan Sullivan</td>
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<td>1D</td>
<td>Shaun McKenzie</td>
<td>Makaylee Little</td>
<td>Aaliyah Slade</td>
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<td>1/2S</td>
<td>Jordan Baker</td>
<td>Maria Khan</td>
<td>Amalee Wilson</td>
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<td>Zac Taylor</td>
<td>Montana Davies</td>
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<td>5/6D</td>
<td>Mikayla Chilstone</td>
<td>Lachlan Watkins</td>
<td>Library Award</td>
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<td>Chloe Murphy</td>
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<td>Maddie Warner</td>
<td>J Hill-Schulz &amp; C Morrow</td>
<td>Nathan Conway</td>
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**Canteen Rosters/News**

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<td>Tues</td>
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<td>T Bennett/J Ellis</td>
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Monday – sausage roll with sauce + fruit box $3.00.
Wednesdays – toasted cheese sandwich + flavoured milk $2.50.
Fridays – pie with sauce + fruit box $4.00.

**Birthdays**

- Nicholas Sayers
- Shanae Little
- Tiffany Griffiths-McGrath

- James Cartwright
- Natasha Smith

**Book Club Orders**

Please return all Ashton Scholastic Book Club Orders by Tuesday 1 June.

**Free Jumpers!**

We have a cupboard full of unclaimed school jumpers with no labels on them. They have been washed and are available from the school office from tomorrow – Wednesday 19 May.

**Reminder!**

P & C Meeting tonight at 7.00pm
staffroom
all parents/guardians most welcome!
Ashmont Public School Values

Respect
- Tolerance
  - There are differences
  - Learn about different cultures
  - Educate others
  - Accept people and cultures
  - Accept differences
  - Care for the elderly

Self Discipline
- Self-discipline
  - Everyone knows how to show it
  - Learn about different cultures
  - Follow the good behavior
  - Don't lose control
  - It can be done in a good way
  - Show self-discipline
  - Control your self
  - Ignore bad behavior
  - People can show self-discipline
  - Let your conscience be your guide
  - It will work and in the end
  - Never let people put you down
  - Everyone have in them

Tolerance
- Tolerance
  - Everyone should show
  - Everyone can show
  - Everyone should have

Honesty

Premier's Sporting Challenge
- Starts in week 6
- It's all about being active
- You have to be active for 10 weeks

Jamee Barker drew a picture of herself enjoying her favourite sport - soccer
Community News

Ashmont Community Resource Centre
- Free art class – every Monday from 1.00 to 2.30pm
- Free playgroup organised activities and a healthy morning tea supplied – every Tuesday 10.00am to 12.00 noon
- Free line dancing class – every Wednesday from 1.00 to 2.3pm
- Free RTA Learner Driver and Instructors Workshop – Monday 24 May from 10.00am to 12.00 noon

FREE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELLING 24 HRS A DAY

Separation is a difficult time for everyone in the family
A decision to separate is one of the hardest choices you may ever make, and it has consequences for everyone in your family. Both you and your children may feel confused about what is happening, and be unsettled about the impact of such change.
As a parent its important to understand that your children are also going through a distressing time, and to do what you can to reduce the impact on them. Here are some basic tips to assist with that:
- Prepare children as best as you can. Give them a simple explanation of why you are separating.
- Let your children know that both parents love them very much.
- Remind children that it is not their fault – it is a decision that you as parents are making about your relationship.
- Focus on the positives. Give lots of love and attention. Try to avoid conflict in front of your children, a avoid blame.
- Try to minimise the change to your children’s environment and routine.
- Acknowledge how your children are feeling and that these feelings are okay.

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