FROM GAYLE COLEMAN: PRINCIPAL

Well I must say how proud I am of the way the students have settled in to school. There are still a couple of tears in Prep but otherwise all children are enjoying coming to school and learning. For the students in the Years 1 to 6 they have taken on board my request to meet them and I have been very impressed with the snippets they are sharing with me. Please continue to encourage your child to introduce themselves to me. I was also fortunate to join Mrs Hadden for the Year 6 class captain speeches last week. All students were worthy of the title of leader at Ascot State School as they spoke of being role models, supporting, communicating and celebrating successes, being proud to wear the Ascot State School uniform and striving to achieve. I look forward to our Leadership Induction Ceremony next Monday morning and hope you can join us.

I would also like to thank all of the parents and carers for your support and attendance at the Parent Teacher Nights. I recognise parents, carers and families as the first and most important influence in a child’s life and I acknowledge the important partnership that I now have in sharing responsibility for every child’s learning at Ascot State School. Together we will help students grow and form identities as members of the Ascot community through a relationship which I believe is based on mutual respect and acknowledgment of the assets and expertise we both bring to our roles. The outcome of positive, effective school-family-community partnerships is improved learning for all students and strengthened schools and communities. So a huge thank you to all of you and to those people who willingly elected to be class parent representatives for Ascot State School too. We are in for a great year!

I would like to start the year then by sharing the results from the Parent School Opinion Survey from 2014. The parent opinion survey is conducted in term three each year to ascertain parent satisfaction with various aspects of school and parents were most satisfied with:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aspect</th>
<th>Satisfaction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>My child feels safe at this school</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The school encourages me to participate in school activities</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This school has a strong sense of community</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This school celebrates student achievements</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My child’s learning needs are being met</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I understand how my child is assessed at this school</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The school provides me with useful feedback about my child’s progress</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There were however some areas where parent satisfaction had dropped from previous years. It should be noted that the sample size last year was five times larger than previous years so this data should be considered in context.

I am very interested in feedback from parents and carers regarding these aspects of our school and would value your suggestions and thoughts via email at gcole12@eq.edu.au or by coming in to see me. Next week I will share the student and staff results.

Once again I would like to reiterate that the safety of our students at Ascot State School is a priority for all of us in our school community. We have reviewed our school procedures and have made the following changes:

- All students leaving the school grounds during the day are to be signed in and out at the front office. The office will advise the class teacher of these events. This is during school time or play time. Parents must collect children from the front office not the class or playground.
- All parent helpers in the school are to sign the class register. This includes parents coming to assist with swimming or any volunteer activity in the school. All teachers have a volunteer register.
- The Anthony Street entrance to the school will be closed during the hours of 9.15am and 2.45pm for the safety of our children. Parents may use the Pringle Street or Massey Street entrances during these times.

The learning of our students at Ascot is enhanced by the many opportunities they have with experts in various fields. This
week we are very fortunate to have authors, Julie Fison, Kerin Meehan and Jacqui Conias work with our students on their writing, creativity and language choices. Next week we have author in residence, Dr Cameron Stelzer, at the school. Don’t forget to ask your child about these wonderful experiences they have had at school.

Finally, I’m looking forward to our first P&C meeting tomorrow night. To all the new families to the Ascot community, come along to see what is happening in the school this year. It’s a great way to meet people and you don’t always walk away with a job!

Regards

Gayle Coleman
Principal

BOUQUETS
To the wonderful Parent Reps who volunteered to represent their class this year. Thank you.

FROM YOUR P&C
Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat … we all know the many faces of social media. Last year the P&C took its very first steps in this direction (thanks to Amanda H) and The Ascot Grapevine came into operation. For those of you with a Facebook Account, please search “The Ascot Grapevine” which, as I write this article, has nearly 300 parents of Ascot as members.

The Ascot Grapevine is a notice board for mums and dads with children (both past and present) at Ascot. So if you are new to the school, it is a quick and easy way to meet other parents and ask questions. The P&C will post upcoming events such as year level lunches, class play dates or art evenings. The site isn’t associated with the school, but rather run by the P&C and therefore governed by the P&C Qld. Social Media Guide. We ask therefore that you don’t post photos of students or staff, as the P&C is bound by legislation.

Please remember that you are responsible for your own personal settings. Here are some helpful hints (thanks to Amanda B) about general Facebook privacy:

1. If your FB settings are set to friends only, your friend list, profile photographs and cover photographs aren’t automatically also changed to friends only. Cover and profile photographs have to be changed individually to friends only once the individual photograph is opened, otherwise they are available to the general public.

2. Your friends list also is available to the public when your general privacy settings are set to friends only. So you need to click on Friends on your home page, then click the pen icon next to ‘find friends’ and change it to friends only also.

A simple self-test of what people can see on your profile (available from the settings icon) will identify what everyone can see despite your privacy settings. However it doesn’t highlight that your friends list is public unless you change it as in point 2 above. This is your first step to identify if you need to tighten your security.

To change your profile and cover photographs to friends only you need to open each photo individually and set them to friends only. You may choose to leave one public if you are happy to have the public view that image, to see if you are the ‘JANE SMITH’ they are looking for. And remember even if your settings are secure, if you post or comment on someone else’s FB page and that person does not have their privacy setting secure, then your comment/photo could be made public.

If you have any questions or would like to offer any suggestions, please email me at any time. Otherwise, I look forward to seeing some new faces tonight at our P&C meeting.

I thank all those parents who contribute to the greater good of our school.

Sarah Comiskey, P&C President
president@ascotsspandc.com.au

P&C MEETING TONIGHT - WEDNESDAY 18/2/15
7.30PM – STAFF ROOM (C BLOCK)

UPCOMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 16/2/15-Friday 20/2/15</td>
<td>Authors From Ascot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 18/2/15</td>
<td>7.30pm P&amp;C Meeting (AGM Preparation) Staff Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 19/2/15</td>
<td>9.30am Years 1 &amp; 2 Parent Reading Workshop Staff Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 20/2/15</td>
<td>Brainstorm “Saving Lil &amp; Archie” (Prep-Year 6) Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 23/2/15</td>
<td>9.00am Whole School Assembly (Presentation of Student Leaders) Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 24/2/15</td>
<td>9.30am Prep Parent Reading Workshop Staff Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 25/2/15</td>
<td>Welcome Group Student Banking</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BE PREPARED FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR WITH THE QSCHOOLS APP
With the school year underway it is important for families, staff and school communities to keep up-to-date with the latest information from their school. The QSchools app provides an easy method of accessing vital school information, including latest news, events and newsletters.

The QSchools app now allows push notifications to deliver essential information directly to your device, including emergency alerts and important updates.

Find out more about the QSchools app on the DETE website, or download the app for your device:
FROM MRS HADDEN: MIDDLE SCHOOL YEARS 3-6

It was wonderful to see so many parents at our Parent Information Evenings once again confirming the strong partnership we share between school and home. Thank you parents and thanks to our teachers for their highly professional presentations – what a team!

Authors From Ascot

Another exciting event this week with “Authors From Ascot”. This initiative lead by Lorraine Clacher was a highly successful and motivating school event last year and I’m sure the children will thoroughly enjoy the week again. Thank you also to our fantastic authors and illustrator for sharing their time and skill with our students.

Leadership

The Investiture of the 2015 leaders takes place next Monday in our school hall. The ceremony begins at 9am and is attended by the entire school population. All parents are very welcome to attend this important event on our school calendar. Seating will be available for parents in the Gallery.

Our Leadership program continues with the election of our Class Captains. Congratulations to the following students who were elected by their peers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6A</th>
<th>Maddie B, Lachlan T</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6B</td>
<td>Elizabeth E-S, Oliver E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6C</td>
<td>Sophia B, Josh F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/5</td>
<td>Mattea V, Gilbert C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The winning class from Prep-2 and from 3-6 can choose an excursion or activity of their choice paid for from the Spellathon funds raised. All classes get behind this activity and competition is fierce!

Key dates for this year’s competition:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of</th>
<th>16 February</th>
<th>Spellathon sheets go home</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>2 March</td>
<td>Spellathon words are heard this week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>9 March</td>
<td>Spellathon sheets go home again</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>16 March</td>
<td>Start to return Spellathon monies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>3 April</td>
<td>All Spellathon monies to be returned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>24 April</td>
<td>Final date for outstanding money</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>4 May</td>
<td>Winners are announced on Assembly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Spellathon is a great educational and fund raising activity for our school. Have a great week.

Kind regards

Sharyn Hadden, Deputy Principal

FROM MRS PROVOST-BOYLE: EARLY YEARS PREP-YEAR 2

Authors From Ascot – there is a definite WRITING buzz around the school. It’s Authors From Ascot Week. This is a week dedicated to celebrating writing at Ascot State School. We’ve had a range of authors working with all classes to encourage and foster a love of writing. Thank you to Lorraine Clacher, 6/5 Teacher, for organising this fabulous event.

Reading Parent Information Session: This week I am running a reading workshop for parents with children in Years 1 and 2: Year 1 and 2 Parent Reading Session Thursday 19 February, 9.30-10.30am, in the staff room.

A copy of the PowerPoint is available on the school website: www.ascotts.eq.edu.au. All parents of children in Years 1 and 2 will receive a Reading brochure and Home Reading Bookmark on Thursday. Copies of the brochure can also be found on our school website.

Prep Parent Reading Session Tuesday 24 February, 9.30-10.30am, in the staff room. The session will focus on practical tips for reading with and supporting your child’s reading at home.

Mem Fox’s Ten Read Aloud Commandments

1. Spend at least ten wildly happy minutes every single day reading aloud.
2. Read at least three stories a day: it may be the same story three times. Children need to hear a thousand stories before they can begin to learn to read.
3. Read aloud with animation. Listen to your own voice and don’t be dull, or flat, or boring. Hang loose and be loud, have fun and laugh a lot.

4. Read with joy and enjoyment: real enjoyment for yourself and great joy for the listeners.

5. Read the stories that the kids love, over and over and over again, and always read in the same “tune” for each book: i.e. with the same intonations on each page, each time.

6. Let children hear lots of language by talking to them constantly about the pictures, or anything else connected to the book; or sing any old song that you can remember; or say nursery rhymes in a bouncy way; or be noisy together doing clapping games.

7. Look for rhyme, rhythm or repetition in books for young children, and make sure the books are really short.

8. Play games with the things that you and the child can see on the page, such as letting kids finish rhymes, and finding the letters that start the child’s name and yours, remembering that it’s never work, it’s always a fabulous game.

9. Never ever teach reading, or get tense around books.

10. Please read aloud every day, mums and dads, because you just love being with your child, not because it’s the right thing to do.

http://www.memfox.com/welcome.html

Ascot State School will undergo a School Accreditation process through Australasian School Accreditation Agency (ASAA) next week from 23-25 February. The ASAA Accreditation process is a high quality, high status tool that attests the effectiveness of the school across seven domain areas:

- Identity
- Learning Outcomes
- Curriculum
- Effective Teaching
- Governance
- Leadership
- Management.

Parent Reps: Thank you to the approximately fifty Parent Reps who will help facilitate the lines of communication between home, school and the P&C. This is a volunteer position that is greatly valued by Admin, teachers and parents. Please support our Parent Reps and remember that this is a volunteer position.

Parenting Tip Sheet: Have you visited the school website to view our library of Parenting Tip Sheets in the Parent section? www.ascotss.eq.edu.au

Assembly: Prep–Year 2 Assembly is held on a Monday morning at 10.30am. All parents and grandparents are welcome to attend. The assemblies are a wonderful opportunity for classes to showcase their learning and their talents. You may be surprised at what capable public speakers we have. Our first assembly is the School Leaders Investiture Ceremony on Monday 23 February at 9.00am. Everyone is welcome to attend.

ICT Voluntary Contribution: Thank you to the parents who have returned their Voluntary Contribution forms and their $100.00 contribution.

Join us and get into the writing spirit!

Melissa Provost-Boyle, Deputy Principal

AUTHORS FROM ASCOT WEEK - 16–20 FEBRUARY

This week our students are enjoying a workshop with one of our Ascot authors – Kerin Meehan, Jacqui Conias and Julie Fison.

Thank you to all the families who have supported the Room to Read project by donating $1.00 and bringing in a book to swap. It is not too late to participate tomorrow (Thursday) in this very worthwhile cause. The Room to Read project operates in ten countries in Africa and Asia promoting literacy, by establishing libraries, constructing classrooms, publishing local language children’s books and training educators.

“We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.” Winston Churchill

Come as a Pirate Day: Wednesday 25 February

On this day, we are celebrating the work of our Author in Residence next week, Dr Cameron Stelzer. Cameron is a Brisbane author and illustrator who has published two series of children’s books – the Stroogle series and the Pie Rats series. Everyone is invited to join in the fun; dress up, talk like a pirate and even give yourself a pirate name. There will be prizes for the best decorated classrooms, so bring in your pirate ships, treasure chests and pirate flags.

Captain Polly Wanna Clacher

FROM ANGELA DAWSON

Ascot Thinkers’ Club.

Do you enjoy solving tricky challenges? Do you love being creative and having fun? Do you enjoy exploring possibilities and experimenting with ideas as you endeavour to produce the best possible solution? Do you think outside the square?????
If you are in Years 3 or Year 4, you are more than welcome to meet me in the Art Room on Thursdays from 1.15-1.40pm. Our Club will begin on Thursday 26 February. You can find me in the Resource Room. The first fifteen students to contact me and let me know they want to join will be in. Don’t miss out.

Habits of Mind

At Ascot State School, every year level from Prep to Year 6 explicitly learn and explore one new Habit of Mind each term. Habits of Mind (HOM) form the backdrop of the learning process. HOM provide a foundation that should increase student’s success.

By developing productive Habits of Mind students benefit in two ways:
1. HOM can enhance students’ learning of academic content knowledge
2. Productive mental habits will help students in the future because these habits should increase their abilities to learn in any situation.

HOM identified in the Dimensions of Learning model fall into three general categories: critical thinking, creative thinking and self-regulated thinking.

If students have mental habits that exemplify critical thinking, they tend to:

- Be accurate and seek accuracy
- Be clear and seek clarity
- Maintain an open mind
- Restrain impulsivity
- Take a position when the situation warrants it
- Respond appropriately to others’ feelings and level of knowledge.

If students have mental habits that exemplify creative thinking, they tend to:

- Persevere
- Push the limits of their knowledge and abilities
- Generate trust and maintain their own standards of evaluation
- Generate new ways of viewing a situation that is outside the boundaries of standard convention.

If students have mental habits that exemplify self-regulated thinking, they tend to:

- Monitor their own thinking
- Plan appropriately
- Identify and use necessary resources
- Respond appropriately to feedback
- Evaluate the effectiveness of their actions.

Please ask your child which Habit of Mind their class is focusing on this term. Have a chat and let them know how you use HOM in your everyday life.

Learning Targets

All students will have set new Learning Targets for the first five weeks of the year. Learning targets are the behaviours, knowledge or understandings that students identify as important to their own learning. They can encourage students to become active participants in the learning process, empowering them to become independent learners, and motivating them to achieve their full potential. Students who set their own learning targets with their teacher have more confidence to take on more challenging tasks, regardless of their ability. Their motivation to improve and master a task is improved and their self-esteem remains strong, even in the case of failure.

Please discuss these targets with your child. Targets are set in Number, Reading, Writing, Spelling and social or work habits.

Have a great week.

Angela Dawson
3326 9333

Student Motivation, Engagement and Achievement

Successful Strategies, Tips and Techniques for Parents

Adasc State School is pleased to invite you to a Parent Information Session on Wednesday 4 March, 12:00 - 1:00pm, presented by Dr Andrew Martin. This presentation has been designed specifically for parents and is presented by Dr Andrew Martin, an educational expert on the theme of Student Motivation, Engagement and Achievement.

Last year, Dr Martin presented a parent information session and was very well received by our parent community. His presentation will once again be rewarding for all parents, regardless of your child’s age. Dr Martin’s talk will provide you with some new and different strategies, tips and techniques that parents need to support, encourage, motivate and engage your child throughout their schooling.

It is with great pleasure that we once again welcome Professor Andrew Martin to our school. We are delighted he will present to our staff, our S6S students and our parents.
To RSVP for the parent session please email Deanne Clark.

Date: Wednesday 4 March, 2015
Time: 12:00 – 1:00pm
Venue: Staffroom
RSVP: Deanne Clark, dclar@begis.edu.au

Biography
https://research.unsw.edu.au/people/professor-andrew-martin

Andrew Martin, BA (Hons), MEd (Hons), PhD, is Professor of Educational Psychology at the University of New South Wales specializing in motivation, engagement, achievement, and quantitative research methods. He is also Honorary Research Fellow in the Department of Education at the University of Oxford, Honorary Professor in the Faculty of Education and Social Work at the University of Sydney, Fellow of the American Educational Research Association, and President-Elect of the International Association of Applied Psychology’s Division 5 Educational, Instructional, and School Psychology.

His research focuses on motivation, engagement, and achievement as well as work into boys’ education, gifted and talented, disengagement, educational

SPEAKING MATHEMATICALLY

A calculator can be a very useful tool to aid children in their understanding of mathematics and number patterns. Some common problems children have with calculators are:

- Not questioning the answer that the calculator gives no matter how unreasonable
- The order or method of doing calculations may be different from the way they do it manually
- Being worried by strange symbols on some of the keys
- Forgetting to press the decimal point button.
Discovering number patterns – Try this one:

- Pick a number between 1 and 9
- Multiply it by 37
- Multiply it by 3

Your original number will appear three times on the screen. E.g. 4; so 4 x 37; x 3 = 444

AND try this one:

- Pick a number between 1 and 10
- Multiply by the numbers 3, 7, 11, 13 and 37 in any order

Your original number will appear six times e.g. 5; so 5 x 3 x 11 x 13 x 37 x 7 = 555555

A calculator can be very useful to accompany the repetition of times tables. To do the 3 times table for instance, simply press the buttons in order:

- Press 3
- Press +
- Press =
- Continue to press = and you will get the multiples of 3.

**Game: Broken Six**

For this game pretend the 6 button on the calculator is broken – 6 can appear on the screen but in the game hitting the 6 button will not bring it up. How would you use a broken calculator to calculate things like 11 take away 6? Whatever solution you find you will need to use mental arithmetic to get there. For instance at a higher level 676 divided by 16 is the same as 338 divided by 8 (both numbers have been halved).

**Monique Russell**

**P.E. NEWS**

**Congratulations to the Ascot Swimming Team**

Well done to all the students who competed at the City District Swimming Carnival last Friday. All students gave their best effort and the following have been selected in the City District Team to compete at Regionals: Teneille A, Manuthi H, Amelia W, Chloe Z, Moni S, Tim H, Ruby P, Jorja M and Sienna T. Most of the students have been selected to swim multiple events so this is a fantastic effort and we wish them all the best at the Met North trials. Congratulations to Tim H who broke Michael Gould’s city district record for the 100m freestyle. Also congratulations to the first 9 year olds to swim at the Carnival, with special mention to Keira T and Charlie C who were very successful in their events and now have a taste for next year when they can move onto the next level. We would like to send a big thank you also to Mel T, Monique C and Nick A, our parent volunteers, who helped officiate at the Carnival. These Carnivals can’t proceed without parent help, so thanks for your important contribution.

**City District Sporting Trials**

If children haven’t communicated their interest in being considered for the following sporting trials they need to indicate their interest by the end of this week. This is because, if we have more than 4 children wanting to trial we will need to conduct an in-school trial to select the most skilful students:

- AFL/Hockey – 27 February
- Rugby League/Netball – 6 March
- Soccer/ Touch – 13 March
- Tennis – changed to Term 2 (May 8)

**Sport Development Sessions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years 3 and 6</th>
<th>Week 4</th>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4 and 5</td>
<td>Week 5</td>
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</table>

Starting this Friday, Years 3 and 4 on alternate weeks (2.00–3.00pm) and Years 5 and 6 on alternate weeks (12.00–1.00pm) will participate in a sports development program to help improve their skills and prepare them for the Gala Days (22, 29 May and 5 June) which Years 4–6 will participate in. The children will need to be properly attired, including a hat and sunscreen, for these sessions.

A recent article in the Courier Mail 30/1/15 titled “Sporting nation’s kids fail on field” by Sue Dunleavy and Rosie Brennan, laments the decline in children’s movement and ball skills in our modern world. It states that only one in three children and one in ten young people meet the current physical activity guidelines of 60 minutes every day. In addition fewer than one in three children and young people are meeting the guidelines for not more than two hours of screen based entertainment. Food for thought. I will place the article on the sports noticeboard if you would like to read more.

**Alayne Graham (Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs): agrah27@eq.edu.au**

**Paul Harris (Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri): pharr17@eq.edu.au**

**MUSIC NEWS**

Choir rehearsals will all take place in the hall.

No audition required everyone welcome!

**Monday** – Years 3 – 6 GIRLS Choir – 1.00–1.45pm
**Tuesday** – Junior Choir – Year 1 & 2 - 8.15–8.50am
**Wednesday** – Boys Don’t Sing Choir – Years 3–6 - 8.15–8.50am.

Band rehearsals will all take place in Ms Howard’s room.

**Tuesday** - 7.30–8.50am – Senior Band
**Tuesday** – 1.00–1.40pm – Brass Ensemble (in the Instrumental Room)
**Wednesday** - 7.30–8.50am – Intermediate Band
**Thursday** - 7.30am–8.50am - Junior Band (not commencing until Term 3)
**Friday** - 7.30–8.50am – Senior Band.

Any new students in Years 4 to 6 who are interested in joining the Instrumental Music Program, please see Margaret Howard (Head of Music) in the Music Office.

**Margaret Howard/Debbie Daley, Music Teachers**
BRAINSTORM PRODUCTIONS – SAVING LIL AND ARCHIE

On Friday 20 February, we welcome Brainstorm Productions to our school.

Brainstorm Productions will perform their highly recommended “Saving Lil and Archie” production. Children will learn practical strategies to achieve emotional balance and make positive connections at school and online. This performance supports our school’s Responsible Behaviour Management Policy and the Personal Development strand of our school’s Health Program.

We hope that all students from Prep to Year 6 can join us for this performance. A payment of $5.00 (including GST) was included in the Term 1 Account. Classroom teachers will inform students if a payment is outstanding. The performance will be held in our School Hall.

With kind regards,

Mrs Cassie Mathewson (Teacher)

SCHOOL COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER’S NEWS

Always an enormously challenging start to our school year, new classes, new routines, new leaders and a whole new set of Class Parent volunteers. We had a very rewarding first meeting last Friday morning. Thank you for joining us. We met with our lovely new Principal, Mrs Gayle Coleman, our Years 3-6 Deputy Principal, the gorgeous Sharyn Hadden, and our industrious, intrepid P&C President, Sarah Comiskey. We shared some tea/coffee and delicious Ro & Co. treats and ran through the exciting year ahead.

Michael Spork spoke about the school fair ABDO on Saturday 12 September.

And our special 8 March Family Picnic afternoon from 12.00-4.00pm with 0ld fashioned games: egg and spoon, sack races, etc.

We are a very fortunate school to have so many hands on families. Our school children benefit from this approach. Reading support, Swimming support, Group activities - it truly does take a village.

Thank you for returning the 2015 “Where can I help?” forms to me via your teachers or by dropping it into my pigeon hole outside the staff room under the Prep classrooms.

Next Monday, 23 February is a very big day for the induction of our Year 6 leaders. An assembly followed by a shared morning tea. All parents and carers are welcome to observe this meaningful process. Please remember to bring a plate of finger food to share. Our 11 year olds are growing up.

23 February is also the cut off for the Prep Lunch. RSVP via www.flexischools.com.au. $40.00 covers food and a drink on arrival for Prep parents. 11.30am arrival for 12.00pm lunch.

Tonight is our first P&C meeting of the year in the staff room from 7.30pm. All are welcome. The meetings are always informative and make a difference.

Have a great week.
Leanne Buckle, SCLO, 0403 576 688, leannebuckle11@gmail.com

NEWS FROM THE P&C HEALTH AND WELLBEING COMMITTEE

Week 4 already!! Amazing. New friendships, activities and even homework. How did school get so busy? Here is one way to look at it - "If life is what you make of it, our kids must be having a wow of a time!!"

At tonight’s meeting I will outline some of the ideas for activities to be run by the Health and Wellbeing Committee. Obviously there will be a call for assistance – assistance across the year, or even for just one event. These ideas come from the parents in the school. Every idea is valid and always presented with the best intentions for the children at heart. As such, the mantra “that the children are our clients” is considered first and foremost. Then the logistics of such ideas is considered and worked with.

Interestingly many ideas aren’t new. For whatever reason, in the past some ideas haven’t come to fruition. Others have. If an idea isn’t new and hasn’t been achievable before, then that doesn’t make it unachievable. In fact more effort needs to be given as repeated requests show the idea has more support than previously realised.

For those who can’t make it, below are some of the ideas for this year:

- Healthy Classrooms Initiative
- CPR course for all Year 6 students
- Photo Competition throughout school with emphasis on the use of the iPads – students could be asked to photograph and/or create a photo demonstrating their favourite part of the school/classroom
- Introduction of a Cross Country event
- Junior Tennis competition.

Local Sports

On another note, don’t forget to consider the local sporting Clubs which all have different seasons. The Clubs are great ways to foster the relationships your children are developing and they also expand and develop your relationships with the parents of your children’s friends. Local Clubs include: Brothers Junior Rugby Club; Hendra All Stars Baseball; Toombul Cricket Club; City North Little Athletics; Valley Hockey Club.

Pat Gerry, Co-Ordinator, pandc@ascotss.eq.edu.au
WELCOME GROUP

Have you recently enrolled your child at our school and would like to meet other parents? You may be interested in joining our school’s Welcome Group. Our Welcome Group has been set up primarily as an opportunity for new parents to our school to meet other school families, although anyone who is interested in making new friends is welcome to attend!

Our Welcome Group catch-ups are on Wednesdays at White Jam Cafe in Hendra. Please get in touch with Peter if you have any questions.

Peter, Welcome Group Co-ordinator, welcome@ascotss.eq.edu.au

FROM THE TUCKSHOP

Tuckshop Volunteers

Thank you to everyone who has already volunteered to do Tuckshop/Home Bake. Kathryn, Yolanda and the Tuckshop Committee appreciated the time you give us each month. We still have a few vacancies that need to be filled to ensure that the roster is running efficiently by the time we start Term Two when the Preps can then order Tuckshop.

If you can commit to one day a month from (9.10am-1.30pm). Tea, coffee and lunch provided. We would love to have you. We still have some vacancies on a Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and a Friday. Please contact Nadia, nadiashewan@me.com, Tuckshop Secretary or ring/pop in and see Kathryn or Yolanda at the Tuckshop – 3326 9326.

If you cannot commit to one day a month but can spare an hour or two during the day, the busy times (when we really need help) are between 10-11.30am or 12.15-1.30pm, please let us know.

Thank you.

Kathryn, Yolanda and the Tuckshop Committee

TUCKSHOP ROSTERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuckshop - Group 1</th>
<th>Home Bake - Group 1</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday 23/2/15</strong></td>
<td><strong>Monday 23/2/15</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julie T, Kath G</td>
<td>Andrea Y, Julianne D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday 24/2/15</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tuesday 24/2/15</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liz K, Nikki T, Julie R</td>
<td>Liz W, Leanne N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday 25/2/15</strong></td>
<td><strong>Wednesday 25/2/15</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cath H, Amanda B, Skye McG</td>
<td>Julia R, Alison S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday 26/2/15</strong></td>
<td><strong>Thursday 26/2/15</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leigh C, Volunteers required</td>
<td>Kristin H, Louise K, Liz K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday 27/2/17</strong></td>
<td><strong>Friday 27/2/17</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kristin H, Volunteers required</td>
<td>Rowena G, Louise M, Janiece E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UNIFORM SHOP ROSTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>Group 4</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday 23/2/15</strong></td>
<td>Hannah M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday 25/2/15</strong></td>
<td>Kate R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday 26/2/15</strong></td>
<td>Cindy J</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SWIM CLUB

Dear Swim Club Family

Thank you to everyone for another great night at Swim Club. We would also like to thank one of our 9 year old girl swimmers who volunteered to hop in the pool with one of our little ones to swim the 25m Freestyle race. We are not sure of your name but you will know who you are and we appreciate what you did for this little swimmer. Thank you.

We are in our final process with the Ascot Cup. Unfortunately we have had some swimmers pull out due to unforeseen circumstances, so we have to do some shuffling and will have a final list to you all this week.

Roster for this week is:

Please contact Rose M on rose.04@me.com or 0417 707 995 if you are unable to do your roster duty this week.

Please do not contact the Presidents with regards to the rosters.

Parents on roster this week - PLEASE REPORT TO THE PRESIDENTS’ DESK ON ARRIVAL.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT YOU ARE ON TIME FOR YOUR ROSTER DUTIES AS THIS HELPS US RUN ON TIME.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>PRESIDENTS</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STARTER</td>
<td>5.45PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARSHALLING</td>
<td>5.45PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>FLOATING ASSISTANCE</td>
<td>5.45 to end</td>
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<tr>
<td>CANTEEN</td>
<td>5.00PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>BBQ</td>
<td>5.00PM</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>TRACY &amp; CAMERON</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>GREG B</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>ALANO’N, MELISSA A</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>BELINDA M</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>MARY J</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>VERONICA S</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>PETRA P</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>HAMISH C</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>WILL A</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
We are still looking for volunteers to fill the below roles to run Swim Club next season which will start Term 4. The roles are as follows:

- Presidents x 2
- Vice Presidents x 2
- Secretary x 1
- Treasurer x 1
- Data IT Co-Ordinator x 2
- BBQ/Canteen Co-Ordinator x 2
- Rosters Co-Ordinator x 1.

If you are interested in any of these roles, please contact us via email swimclub@ascotts.eq.edu.au or come and see us at Swim Club on Friday night. We need to have these roles filled before the end of this term or there will be NO Swim Club leading into next season which starts Term 4. We have had some interest from some of our Swim Club Parents but there is nothing in stone as yet.

We would like to thank our sponsors, Ray White Ascot and Dune Outdoor Luxuries, for their ongoing sponsorship of our Swim Club. Thank you.

Cameron and I look forward to seeing you all on Friday night for another great night at Swim Club.

Kind regards

Tracy R Cameron McI, Ascot Swim Club President
swimclub@ascotts.eq.edu.au, 0403 387 676/0417 628 032

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**COMMUNITY NOTICES**

Want to know how fast your child is? Want your child to run faster? The Ascot Little Accelerators Program is for you! On Friday 20 February Acceleration will be conducting a Free 20 metre Sprint Testing Session with new high tech timing gates. To register please fill out this link: http://www.accelerationesp.com/freetestingday. This registration will ensure you receive your 20 metre sprint results online to you within minutes of completion. Acceleration will be set up on the Games Court from 8:00-8:30am on Friday 20 February. From Friday 27 February-30 March, Acceleration
will be running Little Accelerators Sessions on Monday and Friday mornings on the Games Court from 7:45-8:30am. These Little Accelerators Sessions will include: Stability, Flexibility, Footspeed, Strength, Agility and Anaerobic Fitness. These sessions will increase your child’s Speed! It is $113 for 10 sessions and $63 for 5 Sessions. You will also receive a discount up to $15 if two or more children enrol together. For more information and to register please go to this link: http://www.accelerationesp.com/ascot_state_school.

**Aussie Hoops Basketball at Ascot State School:** 6 week introduction to basketball program. Years 3–6 only at the Games Court, 3:15–4:15pm. Starts Thursday 26 February. All players receive a basketball, singlet and back pack. Costs $75.00 per participant. Limited spots available. To register go to www.brisbanebasketball.net.au. For more info call Lucian on 0419 724 392.

Enrol now for 2015: **C&K Ascot Community Kindergarten** is taking Pre-Prep enrolments NOW for children turning four years of age by 31 July 2015. Please drop in at 93 Kitchener Road, Ascot, call on 3268 1801 or email at ascot@candk.asn.au for more information.

**Art Exhibition:** Parents will be familiar with “School Days at Ascot”, the limited edition signed prints of a painting by former Ascot Principal, Max Butler. Mr Butler continues to donate all proceeds from the sale of these prints to our P&C Association. There are still some left, selling for $30.00 from the Uniform Shop. If you would like to see more of his paintings, call in to HAVEN espresso, a cafe/gallery at 26 Farrant Street, Stafford Heights where 40 of his current “My Country” series are on sale till the end of February.

**Blue Light Disco** - Friday 20 February, 6.00-8.00pm, Eagle Farm Racecourse (entry via Lancaster Road) - $5.00 entry. Primary school aged children only. Fully supervised by police and blue light volunteers.

**Kalinga Scout Group Sign-On Day:** Sunday 22 February, 10.00am–1.00pm. Scouts are a great way for young people to get active, enjoy the outdoors and be involved in the local community. Join us for a sausage sizzle and activities on Sunday 22 February 10.00am–1.00pm. Kalinga operates three Scouting groups: Scouts (Ages 10.5–15) - Friday evening; Cubs (Ages 7.5–11) - Sunday morning; Joeys (Ages 6–8) - Sunday morning. Where: Kalinga Park, Bertha St Car Park. When: Saturday 8 February, 11.00am–2.00pm. Web: kalinga.scoutsqld.com.au. Email: kalinga.scouts@gmail.com. Phone: 0418 807 446 (Paul).

**Valleys Junior Rugby League Football Club:** Still signing on new players! Emerson Park, Bega Street, Grange. Under 6 to Seniors. Fee specials for February: U6 FREE; U7, U11, U12, U14 now half price, only $100.00; all other age groups $200.00. No weekly game fees! No need to pay upfront! Come to trial and train before you sign! Extra siblings only $150.00 - fees include club polo shirt for new players. Training Tuesday nights for U6 to U8 and all other age groups Tuesday and Thursday nights. Contact: Shahra, Secretary on 0413 850 601, email diehards@valleysrugbyleague.com, website www.valleysdiehards.leaguenet.com.au.