

# Ascot State School

LIFELONG LEARNING FOR LIFELONG SUCCESS

## THE Digest

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Issue 8 – Wednesday 22 March 2017

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This week we have had to postpone both our Cross Country events.

The Prep-Year 2 Cross Country will now be held on the school oval on Wednesday 29 March.

The Years 3-6 Cross Country will be held on Thursday 30 March at Brothers Rugby Union Club.

Times follow in P.E. section.

Thank you for your understanding as we endeavour to make this a safe event for all of our young participants.

### School Priority

As we are near the end of the first term of school I would like to seek feedback from our parent community regarding some new initiatives this year. Please click on the link below to respond to a quick survey. Your feedback is valuable to us.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/C6X3GVG>

### School Focus on Reading

This year we are continuing our whole school focus on the teaching of Reading and the progress that individual students are making to improve in Reading. I have been prompted to write a small piece on the importance of every child developing a love of Reading as opposed to a Reading Level. Why is this important?

The Australian Curriculum defines 'to read' as: 'to process words, symbols or actions to derive and/or construct meaning. Reading includes interpreting, critically analysing and reflecting upon the meaning of a wide range of written and visual, print and non-print texts'. (Australian Curriculum Reading Glossary)

Reading is a life-long skill that enables your child to access not only English but every other learning area of the Australian Curriculum. Reading is the process of constructing meaning from written texts. Skilled reading is:

- **constructive:** learning to reason about written material using knowledge from everyday life and from disciplined fields of study
- **fluent:** mastering the basic processes to the point where they are automatic so that attention is freed for the analysis of meaning
- **strategic:** controlling one's reading in relation to one's purpose, the nature of the material and whether one is comprehending
- **motivated:** able to sustain attention; learning that written material can be interesting and informative
- **a lifelong pursuit:** continuous practices, development, and refinement. 7 Anderson, R, Hiebert, E, Scott, J and Wilkinson, I 1985, *Becoming a Nation of Readers: The Report of the Commission on Reading*, Center for the Study of Reading, University of Illinois, Champaign, Illinois, pp. 17–18.

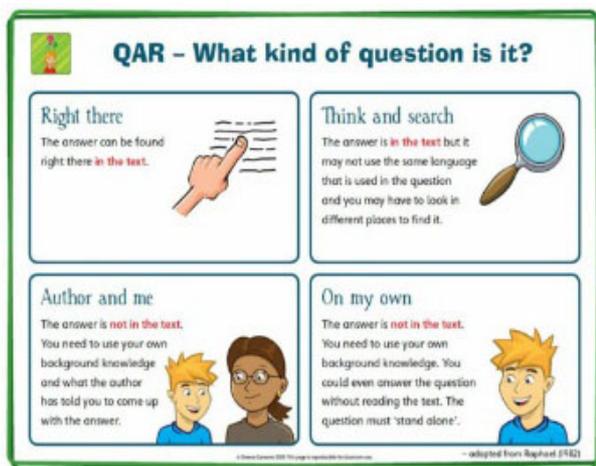
### Some points to note:

- The reading book your child brings home for home reading should be an easy text. This means your child should be able to read the text fluently, without stopping to sound out words, and to be able to retell aspects of the story. Reading at home should be an enjoyable activity with a significant adult or older sibling and not a time for struggling or arguing.
- You can enjoy reading with your child by asking lots of questions, predicting what might happen next, retelling the story, predicting a different ending or discussing the characters. These are great ways to demonstrate to your child that you actually enjoy

reading and the importance of the act of reading and comprehending.

- Your child will bring home reading books on the same level. This is because these books are at the same level of complexity and your child needs to practice and feel secure, confident and competent at a level before moving to the next level. Being secure means their reading voice is smooth and fluent, they can read a variety of texts at the same level, use a variety of reading strategies to work out unknown words independently and display great comprehension of the text.

When parents become obsessed with a level or number on the book, this puts pressure on children to perform. This can have a very harmful and negative effect on their enjoyment of reading and ability to progress. Similarly, when a parent claims their child can read fluently and should be moved to a higher level, very often the child lacks the comprehension needed to fully understand the text. At school we teach the four aspects of comprehension as indicated below:



QAR, designed by Taffy Raphael, teaches students how to decipher what types of questions they are being asked and where to find the answers to them.

Four types of questions are examined in the QAR: Right there, Think and Search, Author and Me and On My Own.

This holiday I suggest you take your child along to one of our local city council libraries. Click on the link below to find out more about your local library and show your child how much you enjoy reading with them.

<https://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/facilities-recreation/libraries>

Thank you to those families who have emailed a photo of your child/children reading. We are still collecting photographs of children reading. Please email to [admin@ascotss.eq.edu.au](mailto:admin@ascotss.eq.edu.au) for sharing at assemblies.



We are also still collecting real-world texts. If you have received your rates or water notices we would love the brochures that sometimes come with these bills. Please provide these to the school by dropping them at the Professional Learning Room on the ground floor of the Admin block.

## School and Community Partnerships

Last Wednesday we held our Ascot State School AGM and farewelled two members of the community who have contributed significantly to the life of our school. Thanks are extended to our out-going Secretary, Stella de Jager, for your support, friendliness and efficiency with our minutes and agenda items. A huge thank you to our outgoing P&C president, Sarah Comiskey, for your unwavering support of the school, the leadership team and the future direction of the school. Sarah was duly recognised for her contributions with a standing ovation at the P&C AGM. I would personally like to thank Sarah for her commitment to Ascot State School whilst juggling work and family commitments. It will be a pleasure to continue working with Sarah on the Ascot State School Council and as the Chair of the Physical Environment Sub-Committee of the Ascot State School P&C.

Congratulations to our new Executive members – P&C President, Michael Spork and P&C Secretary, Michaela Pound. Thank you to our continuing members of the Executive – Tonja Ferguson as Vice President and Brad Ryan as Treasurer.

## Week 10 - Days and times for Celebrations of Learning

- Prep - Monday 8:35 - 9:00am
- Year 1 - Thursday 2:30-3pm
- Year 2 - Thursday 2:15-3pm
- Year 3 - Wednesday 9:00-9:30am
- Year 4 - Tuesday 8:30-9:00 am
- Year 5 - Friday 8:30 - 9:00am
- Year 6 - Wednesday 8:30 - 9:00am.

Thank you once again for your support through a very busy Term 1.

Regards,

**Gayle Coleman, Principal**

## FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL: PREP - YEAR 2

### Safety of our students

Please remember that as a matter of safety all Preps **MUST** be dropped to their Prep Teacher by a responsible known adult. Older students are only able to drop Preps if the family has organised this with the class teacher prior. Class teachers need to know each day who is collecting each Prep student to avoid us having lost children and distressed parents at 2.45pm.

Students in the early years respond positively to routines and certainty. If you are unable to adhere to this process please see

your child's class teacher about accessing before school care. We want all our students to be safe, secure and learning.

## Important information for students with EpiPens<sup>®</sup>

The Therapeutic Goods Administration has advised that four batches of EpiPen<sup>®</sup> 300 microgram adrenaline injection syringe auto-injectors are being recalled.

If your child's EpiPen<sup>®</sup> is from batch 5FA665, 5FA6651, 5FA6652 or 5FA6653 (all of which expire in April 2017), return it to your pharmacy for a free replacement or refund.

It has been identified that EpiPens<sup>®</sup> from the four affected batches may contain a defective part that could result in the auto-injector failing to activate or needing to be applied with more force than normal to activate.

It is important to keep the current auto-injector until you get the replacement, and use it if required (being mindful that you may need to apply more force than normal to activate it).

For further information see the TGA Recall Alert at the link below. If you have further questions or concerns, talk to your health professional.

<http://www.tga.gov.au/alert/epipen-300-microgram-adrenaline-injection-syringe-auto-injector>

**Roxanne Smith, (Prep-Year 2)**

## BOUQUETS

To Sarah Comiskey for her leadership of the school through a period of instability in the leadership team and through the process of becoming an Independent Public School whilst maintaining the focus on our core priority of improving student learning outcomes.



## ASSEMBLY AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received an Award at Assembly on Monday:

PA	Juliet F	3A	Christian N
PB	Ava B	3B	Lexy W
PC	Elijah C	3C	Preet T
PD	Chiara S	3D	Aurora L
PE	Aimee D	3E	Hayden S
1A	Isabella R	4A	Ella L
1B	Charlie R	4B	David B
1C	Taj H	4C	Gabriella S
1D	Lilly M	4D	Omera M
1E	Oliver D	5/4	Katie D

1F	Harrison C	5A	Jack R
2A	Chace B	5B	Stephanie C
2B	Matilda R	5C	Tre T
2C	Thomas H, Diezel J	6A	Harmony T, Billy S
2D	Fraser S	6B	Patrick B
2E	Isabella S-A	6C	Ruby P, Amira A

## GOLDEN TICKET AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who were great citizens in the playground and acknowledged on assembly:

Georgie C - 2E	Ella H - 3E
Teni I - 2B	Olivia B - 3B
Sophia M - 2E	Joshua H - 3D
Diezel J - 2C	Thomas Z - 3D

## UPCOMING EVENTS

WEEK 9	EVENTS
<b>Thursday 23/3/17</b>	8.15-9.30am: Uniform Shop 9.30am: Prep PetPEP
<b>Friday 24/3/17</b>	Final day for Spellathon money 11.45am-2.45pm: Year 1 Lunch (Ruggers) City District Rugby Union Trial 3.20-4.20pm: Auskick (Oval) Swim Club Presentation Night
WEEK 10	EVENTS
<b>Monday 27/3/17</b>	8.15-9.30am: Uniform Shop 8.35-9.00am: Prep Celebrations of Learning 9.00am: Years 3-6 Assembly <i>hosted by 5B</i> 10.30am: Prep-Year 2 Assembly <i>hosted by 1E</i> Spellathon Winners announced
<b>Tuesday 28/3/17</b>	12.00-5.00pm approximately: "My Fair Lady" at QPAC 8.30-9.00am: Year 4 Celebrations of Learning 9.00-9.30am: Year 3 Celebrations of Learning
<b>Wednesday 29/3/17</b>	8.15-9.30am: Uniform Shop 8.30-9.00am: Year 6 Celebrations of Learning 9.00am: Student Banking <i>Prep-Year 2 Cross Country (School Oval)</i> Easter Meal Deal

## SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Term 1 ends on Friday 31 March 2017.

Term 2 commences on Tuesday 18 April 2017.

Tuesday 25 April 2017 is the ANZAC Day Public Holiday.

Monday 1 May 2017 is the Labour Day Public Holiday.



Our Anzac Day commemorative ceremony on Monday 24 April will replace our normal assemblies. A number of dignitaries have been invited to attend including local and state representatives of the Ascot area. This is a moving ceremony with all the solemnity deserving of the occasion and a strong participation by the students.

All parents are invited to attend. Please arm yourself with hat, umbrella or both since it becomes quite hot and sunny at this time of day on the oval.

The proceedings will begin at 9.15am on the oval and chairs will be provided for your comfort.

## STEAM NEWS

Computational Thinking is the core of our new digital technologies curriculum. Computational thinking, as defined by ACARA is:

“A problem-solving method that involves various techniques and strategies that can be implemented by digital systems. Techniques and strategies may include organising data logically, breaking down problems into parts, defining abstract concepts and designing and using algorithms, patterns and models.”

Year 6 students have been introduced to the computational thinking vocabulary of decomposition, patterns, algorithms and abstracting through a Lego building challenge. In this activity, one student was in charge of building and the other was in charge of giving verbal directions on how and what to build. This meant that children came to see the importance of breaking things down; giving clear, sequential and specific instructions; seeing patterns in the way they describe things to be easily understood and in abstracting concepts to get the job done. Although challenging, the children were very pleased with themselves and excited during the building phase. There was obvious discussion, collaboration, problem solving and decision making happening by all students during this activity.



## App of the Week: Explain Everything

Explain Everything is an easy to use, screen casting and interactive whiteboard tool that lets you annotate, animate, narrate, import and export almost anything. It allows you to create slides, draw in any colour, add shapes, text and record.



### Benefits:

- Narration feature lets students discuss their thinking as they learn
- Students can easily show their work with words, numbers, illustrations and more
- Students can create presentations and “teach the class” taking their understanding to a new level.

### Facts and Questions about Explain Everything:

<https://explaineverything.com/support/faq/ios/>

*Kristine Atkins, eLearning Manager*

## PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS & BOOKING AN INTERVIEW TIME

### Online Parent-Teacher Interview Booking System

We have scheduled Parent-Teacher Interviews so you can meet with your child’s teacher. These meetings enable meaningful discussion between teacher and parents to assist in the development of the child socially, emotionally and academically.

Interviews have been scheduled in Week 1 and Week 2 of Term 2 from Tuesday 18 April to Friday 28 April, 2017.

The online booking system is open from 9.00am Monday 27 March to 5.00pm Friday 7 April.

To make an online booking please use the link below:

<https://ascotss.sessionkeeper.com.au/>

Session times are in 15 minute blocks. To give teachers time to prepare for each interview, bookings will close at 5.00pm on Friday 7 April and remain closed throughout the interview week.

Changes and cancellations must be made prior to the close date.

Later changes can only be made through direct contact with the class teacher via email as the booking system will remain closed.

Please direct any questions to your class teacher.

**Leanne Paxton, lpaxt3@eq.edu.au**

## EASTER BUNNY RAFFLE FOR STUDENT COUNCIL

The Student Council are running an Easter raffle this week to raise funds for the 2017 Legacy Gift. Tickets can be purchased for a gold coin donation, and can be purchased from Student Council members on the Games Court each day this week before school, and during morning tea and lunch breaks.

## FREE DRESS DAY: FRIDAY 31 MARCH

All students are welcome to wear free dress on the last day of term and bring along a gold coin donation to raise funds for the Student Council's 2017 Legacy Gift. Students may wear their choice of free dress clothing - enclosed shoes, sun-safe shirts (shoulders covered) of an appropriate length, long shorts, all clothing free of inappropriate images and language.

## MUSIC NEWS

The "My Fair Lady" tickets have all been sold but if any children from Years 4, 5 or 6 would like to be on the wait list for next Tuesday please return the permission slip and money ASAP.

All instrumental lessons, band, ensemble and choir rehearsals are in full swing. Please consult the timetables and encourage your young musicians to be on time for their lessons or rehearsals.

There will be a choir levy of \$10 for the year which will be charged to the term account in Term 2.

**Debbie Daley, ddale3@eq.edu.au**

## P.E. NEWS

As mentioned in above the Cross Country events have been postponed until next week. Please refer below:

### PREP – 2 CROSS COUNTRY PROGRAM: WEDNESDAY 29 MARCH SCHOOL OVAL

Time	Event	House Supervisors	Course Supervisors	Judges
9.10am	Year 2 Boys	Prep Teachers	Year 2 Teachers	Year 1 Teachers
9.25am	Year 2 Girls			
9.45am	Year 1 Boys	Year 2 Teachers	Year 1 Teachers	Prep Teachers

### PREP – 2 CROSS COUNTRY PROGRAM: WEDNESDAY 29 MARCH SCHOOL OVAL

10.00am	Year 1 Girls			
10.15am	Prep Boys	Year 1 Teachers	Prep Teachers	Year 2 Teachers
10.30am	Prep Girls			
10.45am	Results/Trophy Presentation			

### YEARS 3-6 CROSS COUNTRY: THURSDAY 30 MARCH BROTHERS RUGBY UNION CLUB APPROXIMATE PROGRAM TIMES

Marshalling		
9.10am	Boys Born 2005	2 or 3 km.
9.20am	Girls Born 2005	
9.30am	Boys Born 2006	2 or 3 km.
9.45am	Girls Born 2006	
10.10am	Boys Born 2007	2 km.
10.25am	Girls Born 2007	
10.45am	Boys Born 2008	1 km.
11.00am	Girls Born 2008	
11.15am	Boys Born 2009	1 km.
11.30am	Girls Born 2009	

House tents need to be set up at both Carnivals. Many hands make light work. Please let us know if you can help at Brothers (Thursday 30 March at 7.00am) or at school (Wednesday March 29 at 7.30am).

**Alayne Graham, Prep-Year 2, Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, agrah27@eq.edu.au**

**Paul Harris, Years 3-6, Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri, pharr17@eq.edu.au**

## FROM YOUR P&C

Just a quick note to say hello and thank the members of the P&C for entrusting me with the role of President this year.

I have been an active volunteer at the school and our local community for the last ten years and I can truly say I love Ascot State School and the many wonderful parents and families who give up their valuable time to make it such a fabulous environment.

I have been in the role for only a short week so far and I'm already feeling energised and ready for a great year ahead. In the next Digest I will map out for you in detail what our goals are



and what events and programs your P&C have been working on - including our much anticipated bi-annual Big Day Out School Fete!

**Michael Spork, P&C President,**  
**pandcpresident@ascotss.eq.edu.au**

**YEAR 1 PARENT LUNCH  
 FRIDAY 24 MARCH – 11.45AM-2.45PM  
 RUGGERS ALBION (BROTHERS RUGBY CLUB)**

**Year 1 Parent Lunch Invitation**



**When:** Friday, 24 March 2017

**Where:** Ruggers Restaurant, Crosby Road, Albion (Brothers Rugby)

**Time:** 11.45am – 2.45pm

**Cost:** \$45 for a drink on arrival and lunch

**RSVP:** Please book & pay by 8pm on Tuesday the 21<sup>st</sup> of March via flexischools

To book your spot, please click on your year 1 child and you'll see the lunch is a new tab. If you have any dietary considerations (eg gluten free, you can let us know.) This is not a fundraiser for the P&C, but a chance for you to get to know parents from across the year level. So book your babysitter or organise the day off work and come and make some new friends. School leaders usually pop in to say hello and answer questions too. Looking forward to a seeing some new and some familiar faces@

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**FOR NEW PARENTS:**  
 For any new parents, you are invited to create a Flexischools account to take advantage of cashless payments at the Ascot State School. With this system, you are able to order tuckshop, buy uniforms and make donations for spellathon etc without the need to send cash to school.

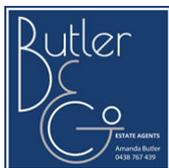
The information below lists how to set up an account with Flexischools. If you already have a Flexischools account, you can add your prep child to your existing account (skip to item 4 below).

**Flexischools Account Process**

- 1. Collect information:** Note your child's class, decide on your preferred payment method (direct debit, credit card or Paypal) and account holder details (name and contact details).
- 2. Initiate registration:** Visit <https://www.flexischools.com.au> and register your email to create an account.
- 3. Continue registration:** Once your email has been verified, complete the registration process.
- 4. Add student/s:** Click 'Add a student', type 'ascot' and click on Ascot State School, enter your child's details and click 'Add Student'.
- 5. Top up with funds:** Follow the prompts to add funds to your account.

**FRIENDS OF MUSIC**

Friends of Music would like to thank Amanda Butler who has kindly agreed to be our Music Patron for 2017. We are grateful for Amanda's continued support over the years.



Through sponsorship and fundraising in 2016, the Music department was able to purchase four saxophones, three flutes, a baritone, books, music accessories and instrument repairs. We also were thankful to receive two donated clarinets. P&C also granted us the installation of hall cupboards for much needed storage.

Thank you to those who attended the Friends of Music meeting last Wednesday. We discussed the music events lined up for 2017. I will email a Calender of Events to those members who could not attend.

Volunteers help raise valuable funds that support the excellent and highly regarded Music Program offered at Ascot State School. We run discos, movie nights, refreshment stalls, raffles

and help out at musical performances. New volunteers are always welcome.

To find out more about volunteering, please email [FOM@ascotss.eq.edu.au](mailto:FOM@ascotss.eq.edu.au).

**Nathalie S, FoM Convenor**

**FROM THE TUCKSHOP**

**Homebake and Tuckshop Rosters**

The Tuckshop Committee and Conveners, Kathryn and Yolanda, would like to thank all the parents who have contributed to ensuring the Tuckshop runs on a daily basis. With the changes to the menu this year we are finding that Homebake is now one of our most popular items for sale. Unfortunately on occasions this term we have had days where we either have had no one rostered on for Homebake or, for one reason or another, our Homebake parent has not been able to supply us with Homebake.

On Friday the 17 March we cooked 9 dozen cupcakes in the Tuckshop and sold all of them. With over 750 students we are lucky that we did not have to cook more.

Please let us know at [tuckshop@ascotss.eq.edu.au](mailto:tuckshop@ascotss.eq.edu.au) if you are unable to fulfil your rostered day for Homebake or Tuckshop, or if you would like to be added to the roster.

**Easter Meal Deal**

There are only six days left to order the Easter Meal Deal. The cut off is Monday 27 March at 9.30am.

*There will be no other lunch served on Wednesday 28 March due to the volume of orders we have to process.*

Over 300 orders have already been placed, so if you are still to order please do so in the next couple of days.

There will be no orders processed by Flexischools or the Tuckshop after the 27 March so to avoid disappointment place your order ASAP.

Thank you.

**Katherine, Yolanda & the Tuckshop Committee**

**TUCKSHOP ROSTERS**

Tuckshop - Group 2		Home Bake - Group 2	
<b>Monday</b> 27/3/17	May S, Paola B	<b>Monday</b> 27/3/17	Steph P, May S
<b>Tuesday</b> 28/3/17	Louise A, Melanie B	<b>Tuesday</b> 28/3/17	Jodie R, Karen L
<b>Wednesday</b> 29/3/17	Beth P, Kate F	<b>Wednesday</b> 29/3/17	Kim H, Beth P
<b>Thursday</b> 30/3/17	Marie J, Kerry D, Shellie L	<b>Thursday</b> 30/3/17	Anna Q, Bianca F, Fiona B
<b>Friday</b> 31/3/17	Catherine S-A, Carol B	<b>Friday</b> 31/3/17	Leta D, Joleen H, Natasha S

## UNIFORM SHOP

### A Message From Your Uniform Shop Team

**Boys Socks** have finally arrived – all sizes are now in stock.



**V-neck jumper**, open to children in Years 4, 5 & 6 – introduced last year. The \$55 poly-cotton jumper comes in size 9, 10, 12, 14 & 16, with samples in these sizes available for fitting in the Uniform Shop. Navy – Boys, Red – Girls.

**The Fleece zip up jumper** for Prep right through to Year 6 are still available in all sizes.

All items are available in the Uniform Shop and on Flexi-schools.

#### Extended Trading Hours Term 2, Week 1 only

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday -  
8.15-9.30am.

Week 2 resumes with normal trading hours of:

Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays: 8.15-9.30am

**Email:** [Uniformshop@ascotss.eq.edu.au](mailto:Uniformshop@ascotss.eq.edu.au)

**Phone:** 3862 2476

<http://www.flexischools.com.au/>

**Uniform Shop Team**

## SWIM CLUB

With the wet weather and storms last week Club Championships was postponed and will now be held this Friday 24 March. We will carry over the same volunteer roster. See you at the pool!

Thank you to our sponsors:

**Ray White Ascot, One Fifty Ascot Bar & Eatery,  
Eleven Rooftop Bar, TAA Connect and Oscar Oscar  
Salons.**

Any questions contact [swimclub@ascotss.eq.edu.au](mailto:swimclub@ascotss.eq.edu.au).

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

National Karate Academies Miranda Kai System is proud to be operating the first QLD Dojo right here in Ascot. Miranda Kai system is a cross between tradition karate and practical self-defence (it will get you home safe), discipline, fitness, and most of all it is fun! Your first lesson is always free, come and join us on Monday nights at the Ascot after school centre on Barlow Street; 6pm for Juniors, 7pm for Seniors (over 13 year old). Mums and Dads can join in and enjoy a sport with the kids! First grading will be held on Sunday 30 April.