

Ascot State School

LIFELONG LEARNING FOR LIFELONG SUCCESS

THE Digest

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Issue 4 – Wednesday 24 February 2016

FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Last week we introduced our leadership team. It was remiss of me not to mention that Mrs Sharyn Hadden is currently on sick leave. She is being replaced by Mr Scott Matthews and we wish Sharyn a speedy recovery.

Parents are reminded that sometimes staff are absent from school for sick, family or other reasons. We endeavour to inform parents of any lengthy absences. I assure parents though that we have a lovely pool of Relief Teachers who are very familiar with our school and our students. So when your class teacher is absent there is generally a friendly face to welcome your children and continue their educational program.

Student Leadership Ceremony

Congratulations to all of our Year 6 Leaders for 2016. I'm sure there were many proud parents at our Leadership Ceremony on Monday. Congratulations to Ned B and Mary C for their first formal speech to the Ascot School community. I wish all Year 6 students a happy, final year of learning at Ascot State School. I know you will also enjoy your educational excursion to the Young Leaders' Day on Monday 14 March.

Four Year Strategic Plan

For those parents who could not attend our Meet the Leadership Team Session in the hall, offered at our Meet the Teacher nights, I have included our four-year Strategic Plan.

Our key priorities are:

- Getting the Basics Right – focusing on year level expectations in Literacy and Numeracy for every child at Ascot State School.

- Consolidating the Basics, Endless Possibilities – maintaining our focus on high expectations for each child, but also offering a range of programs with a focus on STEAM initiatives to engage our 21st century learners.
- Quality Leadership, Teaching and Learning – providing clear roles and responsibilities for all members of the leadership team and developing staff capacity so consistent learning protocols are evident in every classroom.
- Parents as Partners – continuing to build on the strong existing relationships with our parent community so each young child at our school makes excellent learning progress.

Learning Enhancement at Ascot State School

This year we are offering a more coordinated approach to our range of Learning Enhancement Programs offered across the school. We have some selected students participating in the Choral Honours Camp from 14 to 16 March.

We also have a number of students participating in the Brisbane North Chess Championships at Nundah State School on Thursday 3 March. All the best for our young competitors.

All of our young children should be preparing for our Cross Country events that are being held on:

- Wednesday 16 March – Prep to Year 2 – on the school oval
- Thursday 17 March – Years 3 to 6 – at Brothers – please see the HPE note re further information.

Please take your children outdoors after school or on the weekend for a walk, jog or run so they are well-prepared for this event.

Great state. Great opportunity.



School and Community Partnerships

Wow!! Last week we had 43 members at our P&C meeting. This is exceptional and shows the level of engagement and commitment to student learning at Ascot State School. Thank you to all those who attended and to Deanne Clark and Kristine Atkins who shared information on our Play is the Way Program and its implementation across our school.

Congratulations to our new Community Engagement Officer, Jennifer Slatter. Jennifer has two girls at our school and has been a very active parent volunteer during her time at Ascot State School. I know you will join me in congratulating Jen in her new role.

Many thanks to all of our Class Parent Reps. I was overwhelmed by the number of parents who volunteered to support their classroom teacher for 2016. This is very special and a great way to help circulate important school and class information to parents. Thank you for your time.

Don't forget the Prep Welcome Lunch this Friday at Ruggers – bookings have now closed. Year 1 parents please add to your diaries – Friday 18 March at Ruggers. All bookings must be completed online through Flexischools.

Finally, don't forget the Family Picnic on the oval on Sunday 6 March from 3.30 to 5.30pm. BYO everything! I hope to see you there.

Regards

Gayle Coleman, Scott Matthews, Roxanne Smith, Rochelle Burton & Deanne Clark

BOUQUET



Thank you to the Year 5 parents for providing morning tea following our Leadership Ceremony and in particular to the following parents for setting up and cleaning up: Kym P, Leta D, Jen T, Kelly McN, Anna H, Leanne N, Adie B and

Mina J.

AWARD RECIPIENTS: ASSEMBLY 29 FEBRUARY

The awards this week are for Valuing Friends at School.

At any age, having friends provides support and promotes mental health and wellbeing. Children's friendships are also very important for their social and emotional development. Through friendships children learn how to relate with others. They develop social skills as they teach each other how to be good friends.

Sincere congratulations to our Senior Assembly Award Recipients for this week. The following students will receive their award on Monday 29 February. The assembly on this day will be hosted by 6A.

Class Award Recipients:

| | | | |
|-----------|-------------------------|------------|----------------------------------|
| 3A | Grace P Oliver B | 5A | Sienna T Tehleeya C |
| 3B | Iliana A Ava F | 5B | Lily D Katie R |
| 3C | Bennett H Imogen V M | 5C | Hope J Lachlan S |
| 3D | Zack R Maddy B | 6/5 | Bridget T Ava B Campbell T |
| 3E | Caitlin J Zoe R | 6A | Jeremy C Lucy C |
| 4A | Madison V Aiden R | 6B | Harry F Keira R |
| 4B | Genevieve G Ewan B | 6C | Bailey T Chayse S |
| 4C | Isla R Ryan L | | |
| 4D | Charlie H Thomas S | | |
| 4E | Madeline P Daisy Q | | |

As the Leadership Team will be off-site on Monday 29 February, there will be no Junior Assembly. Their first assembly will be Monday 7 March.

FROM YOUR P&C

We are looking forward to a fabulous turn out for our first Year Level Lunch this Friday with lots of new and familiar **Prep parents** enjoying a drink and a delicious lunch at Ruggers. While many of us aren't new Prep parents, it is great to get to know the parents across your entire year. Over the seven years (Prep – Year 6) there are many class changes, so by the end, you pretty much know all the children and their parents. It makes the Graduation Ceremony even more special when you watch not only your child, but all the children you know, all grown up and ready to leave Ascot.

Don't forget, there are other Year Level Lunches organised by the P&C over the course of this year. Just keep an eye out on Flexischools and don't leave it to the last minute, as there is a cut-off date and you will miss out.

Talking of events, the next big event is the **Family Picnic** on our oval on **Sunday 6 March from 3.30-5.30pm**. It is a casual afternoon, so if you can't get there until 4.00pm, that is fine. Just pack your own blanket, picnic hamper and a hat and we'll see you there. Thanks also to Campbell C, Pat G and Michael S for organising the day. This is simply a social event – not a

fundraiser and I know our family is looking forward to the day, especially the sack races.

Spellathon words are now hopefully imprinted in the memory bank and will be tested next week. This year we hope to raise \$20,000 to complete the Wireless Upgrade to the school. This will allow the children to use the class sets of iPads and laptops more efficiently in any classroom in the school. As we know, it is vitally important to have the technology to support the resources we work so hard to provide to our children. This year, as a thank you, each child who raises \$25 or more will receive a small thank-you present from the P&C. And of course, there is a fabulous class prize for the highest fundraising class in Prep-Year 2 and Years 3-6, as well as individuals in those groups. Thanks to Leta D for co-ordinating again.

If you are interested in helping out or joining Ascot State School's P&C or have any ideas or suggestions for the P&C, please email pandcpresident@ascotss.eq.edu.au.

Sarah Comiskey, P&C President

P&C ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: 7.30PM WEDNESDAY 16 MARCH (HALL)

Our P&C AGM will be held on Wednesday 16 March 2016 in the school hall at 7.30pm. The Meeting will review the work done by the P&C during the course of 2015 and include the school's Annual Report delivered by our Principal, Mrs Gayle Coleman. We will also be honouring the work of some new Life Members.

Nominations are now open for all P&C Executive and Sub-Committee positions. For a full list of available positions, please refer to the attached Executive Nomination Form.

If you would like to be involved, please join as a P&C Member (which entitles you to vote). Please complete the nomination form and return it to the Office no later than 11 March 2016 or else Membership Applications may be accepted on the night.

UPCOMING EVENTS

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Wednesday 24/2/16 | 7.00-8.00pm: School Council Meeting |
| Thursday 25/2/16 | |
| Friday 26/2/16 | 11.30am-3.00pm: CD AFL at Kedron Park AFL Grounds 11.45am-2.45pm: Prep Year Level Lunch at Ruggers, Albion CD Hockey Spellathon sheets due back with pledges Swim Club |
| Monday 29/2/16-Friday 4/3/15 | Spellathon words heard |
| Monday 29/2/16 | Assembly: 9.00am Years 3-6: hosted by 6A Launch of General Waste |

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| | No Junior Assembly |
| Tuesday 1/3/16 | PetPep Visit: Prep A, B & C |
| Wednesday 2/3/16 | 9.00am: Student Banking 9.15-11.00am: Welcome Group (White Jam Café) |

QUEENSLAND ACADEMIES: BRILLIANT FUTURES PROGRAM

The Queensland Academies are dedicated to engaging and empowering Queensland's most capable students in a collaborative, world class educational environment to realise their future potential. The Academies play an important role as a strategy designed to maximise opportunities for Queensland's gifted and highly capable young people - investing in them to ensure they are well prepared to lead our knowledge-based economy.

The Queensland Academies Brilliant Futures Program is open to very highly capable students from Year 5 in 2016 who are seeking an assured pathway* into the Queensland Academies campuses for commencement in Year 10.

After undertaking a rigorous selective entry process, students will be engaged in an innovative and challenging preparation designed to promote global citizenship, deep inquiry and academic success by focussing on critical and creative thinking, coding, robotics and STEM. Students who graduate from this program will gain an automatic offer into one of our three senior campuses.

Throughout this program students will develop a personalised portfolio based on their participation in our online courses and face to face workshops. Students will benefit from working with Queensland Academies teachers - and will be challenged through contemporary pedagogy that offers collaborative, accelerated learning focussed on deep inquiry and real world research. These online courses prepare students for the academically challenging International Baccalaureate Diploma Program offered by the campuses.

P.E. NEWS

House Captains 2016

Congratulations to our house captains. We know you will do a great job leading your house in 2016.

| | | |
|------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Lilley | Charlie B/Liam M | Jessica T/Lulu H |
| Meibusch | Lachlan R/Tom M | Kayla H/Aleaha H |
| Ryan | Lachlan Z/Charlie T | Lara E/Bronte L |
| Henderson | Lachlan M/Matthew C | Amaia P/Annabel L |

Met North Swimming Carnival (Wednesday 24 February)

We are sending our good wishes today to Charlie C, Keira T, Charlie B, Sienna T and Mary C as they perform in a number of events at the Met North Swimming Carnival at Lawnton today. We will bring you their results next week.

City District Trials

Congratulations to Isabella H and Alessandra B on their selection in the CD Basketball team.

We wish all the children attending the City District AFL and Hockey trials this Friday good luck and know Mr Sayer and Mr Marsh will do a great job running the AFL trial. Remember to let us know if you are interested in being considered for nomination in the trials below. If we have lots of students interested we will conduct a school trial first as we can usually only nominate a few students. Once selected by the school, children will receive permission and medical forms which need to be filled out at home and then brought back to school to be signed off by Mrs Coleman. They then need to be taken to the trial along with the prescribed trial fee (usually \$15.00).

March Trials

| | | |
|------------------------|--------------|------------|
| Friday 11 March | Rugby League | Mr Harris |
| | Netball | Mrs Graham |
| Friday 18 March | Soccer | Mr Harris |
| | Touch | Mrs Graham |

Cross Country: Junior Wednesday 16 March/ Senior Thursday 17 March

Preparation for this event is important so children feel confident. Morning tea practices will be run on the oval at 11.00am for 15 minutes and then children will be able to eat their morning tea. (Morning tea practices: Mr Harris – Tuesday/Thursday and Mrs Graham – Monday/Wednesday).

It would be beneficial if children could also do some running practice outside of school, particularly if they want to trial for Districts (9–12 year olds). Qld. Running is starting a running/cross country program on 5 March suitable for families at Teralba Park Mitchelton if you are interested.

The distances children will run are as follows:

Prep–Year 2: School Oval

Prep/Year 1 – 2 laps of oval
Year 2 – 3 laps of oval

Years 3–6: Brothers Rugby Union

8/9 year olds – 1km

10 years – 2km

11/12 years – 2 or 3 km (children wishing to be selected for Districts must run 3 km).

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

FAMILY FEUD: FRIDAY 26 FEBRUARY AT 6.00PM

A parent of the Ascot School is on Family Feud this Friday night on Channel 10 at 6.00pm. We invite you to watch and support.

WELCOME GROUP

Have you recently enrolled your child at our school? Have you recently moved into the local area? Are you interested in meeting other school parents and families? 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; everyone is welcome!

Our Welcome Group meets from 9.15-11.00am every Wednesday during school term time at White Jam Cafe, Hendra. Our coffee catch ups are a great opportunity to chat to other parents and to share information about local family services (medical, kinder and child care) and children's activities (music, sport, etc.).

Hope that you can join us.

Nicola, Welcome Group Co-Ordinator
welcome@ascotss.eq.edu.au

FRIENDS OF MUSIC

Thank you to all who attended the Friends of Music Meeting last week. It was wonderful to see familiar faces and welcome new members. The FoM are fortunate to have the continued support and generosity of Amanda Butler from McGrath Real Estate Paddington.

A big congratulations to all the Student Leaders, including the Music Representatives and Music Seniors who will be helping out with music events this year.

If you would like to get involved with the exciting events Friends of Music has to offer please email:
FOM@ascotss.eq.edu.au .

Nathalie S, FoM Convenor

FROM THE TUCKSHOP

Easter Meal Deal: Wednesday 23 March 2016

The Easter Meal Deal can now be ordered on Flexischools up until 18 March 2016. There will be no other Tuckshop items available on this day and unfortunately if you forget to order by the cut off date, 18 March, your child will miss out.

Thank You

Thank you to all the new parents who have joined the Tuckshop by either coming to Tuckshop and helping out or by doing Home Bake. Your help is invaluable and makes the Tuckshop run more smoothly.

Term Two Menu Changes

The Smart Choices Health Food and Drink Supply Strategy will be implemented from the beginning of Term Two 2016. These changes will impact the way food and drinks are classified and will require removing items from our Tuckshop Menu to remain compliant with the Strategy.

What this means is that there will be some exciting new items on the Tuckshop Menu in Term Two and some of which will be implemented this term. It also means that some items will no longer be available. Keep your eyes posted to the Digest for the upcoming updates to the Tuckshop menu.

Kathryn, Yolanda and the Tuckshop Committee

TUCKSHOP ROSTERS

| Tuckshop - Group 2 | | Home Bake - Group 2 | |
|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|---|
| Monday 29/2/16 | Trudy C | Monday 29/2/16 | Ruane N, Steph P, Rama T |
| Tuesday 1/3/16 | Louise A, Melanie B | Tuesday 1/3/16 | Suzie C, Jodie R, Karen L |
| Wednesday 2/3/16 | Di F, Fiona H, Kate S | Wednesday 2/3/16 | Jane W, Kim H, Beth P, Yocira A |
| Thursday 3/3/16 | Mary J, Kerry D, Susie C | Thursday 3/3/16 | Anna Q, Bianca F, Fiona B |
| Friday 4/3/16 | Bella B-H, Catherine S-A, Saoirse C, Carol B | Friday 4/3/16 | Deta D, Nikki T, Joleen H, Natasha S |

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR UNIFORM SHOP TEAM

- Boys socks are back in stock! Available in the Uniform Shop and on Flexischools.
- Cross Country is rapidly approaching (Week 9). Please be aware that your child will require a House Shirt for this sporting event.
- Our children all grow at different rates. With this in mind, should you think that your children might require a uniform outside of our current size range, please see our wonderful volunteers in the Uniform Shop at your earliest convenience. Alternative sizes are available but we require at least six weeks' notice for ordering purposes.

Don't forget our trading hours are:

Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 8.15-9.30am.

We look forward to assisting you!

Your Uniform Shop Team

UNIFORM SHOP ROSTER

| Group 1 | |
|----------------------------|---------|
| Monday 29/2/16 | Mina J |
| Wednesday 2/3/16 | Carla C |
| Thursday 3/3/16 | Adie B |

FROM HEALTH AND WELLBEING



Ascot Family Picnic - Sunday 6 March, School Oval, 3.30pm to 5.30pm, but come earlier if you wish. This is a social get together for the school's families and is held on the school oval. Why not make this your first 2016 social get-together for your class.

You can get to know each of the classroom families a little better. There will be several activities organised including a very large game of cricket; however feel free to just bring a blanket or chairs, some drinks and nibbles and relax on the oval. We'd like to encourage everyone to walk down to the school to stretch your legs at the end of the weekend.



Are you spending 10 minutes a day reading? Ten minutes isn't long a long time and when it comes to spending this time reading, it's easy to put it off because it is such a short amount of time. However, demonstrating the benefits of reading and

making it fun can really make a difference to your child's attitude to reading.

Remember to ask you child questions about what you have read to ensure they understand. It has also been found to be beneficial for your children to SEE you reading to yourself and then discussing with them what you are reading about. Research shows that what happens at home is as important in a child's education, as what happens at school.



The 2016 Queensland Running Cross Country season commences on Saturday 5 March at Teralba Park, Mitchelton.

For more information check the website:

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

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

SWIM CLUB NEWS

Please find this week's roster and race order for Week 5. We have quite a few volunteer positions left to fill. If you would like to volunteer this week or in the coming weeks please contact Jodie C at jodiecreevey@bigpond.com or text 0403 069 128.

Week 5 Roster of Wonderful Volunteers – 26 February 2016:

| | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Presidents | Anthony, Hamish | |
| Starter | Charles E | |
| Marshalling: 5.45 to End | Required | Required |
| Marshalling Assistance: 5.45 to End | Alison S | Required |
| Canteen/Bar | 5.00-7pm Required | 5.30 to End Required |
| | 5.30 to End Required | |
| BBQ | 5.00-7pm Required | 5.15-End Required |
| | 5.30-End Required | Required |
| Timekeepers (6) 5.45 Sharp | Andrew B | Required |
| | Required | Required |
| | Required | Required |
| Data Entry: 5.30pm | Nathan | |

Please note that it is extremely important to our Club that you are on time to do your rostered duty. Please report to the front desk on arrival. Thank you. jodiecreevey@bigpond.com .

Race order for this week

12.5m Freestyle, 100m Freestyle, 25m Freestyle, 50m Freestyle, 25m Breaststroke, 50m Breaststroke, 25m Backstroke, 50m Backstroke, 25m Butterfly, 50m Butterfly.

We would like to thank our sponsors:

Major Sponsors:

Novotel Brisbane Airport, Ray White Ascot and Swimart Ascot.

Minor Sponsors:

Hatch & Co, Network Office Supplies, TAA Connect, Oscar Oscar Hair Salons and Brisbane Anti Wrinkle and Skin Studio.

We look forward to seeing you all again this coming Friday night.

Ascot Swim Club Committee,
swimclub@ascotss.eq.edu.au

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Brothers Touch Association will be running two seasons of the Female Touch Football competition in 2016; Season 1 will commence on Friday 11 March. You can register as a team or as an individual. The cost is \$100 per player or take advantage of the early bird special which is \$90 per player and is open until Thursday 25 February. For more information or to register, please visit the Brothers Touch web page at the following link <http://www.brothersrugby.com/brothers-touch.asp> .