



Ross Park Primary School

Telephone: (08) 8952 1333 Text: 0418191388

Facebook: ross park primary school alice springs

Email: rosspark.school@nts.schools.net

Website: www.schools.net.edu.au/rosspark

Week 8 Term 2

8th June, 2017

From our Assistant Principal

The holidays are in sight and teachers are busy writing reports and organising parent meetings. It's an exciting time of the term, important for many reasons but mostly due to teachers and students reflecting on student progression. We love celebrating when students are able to reach their goals and relish assisting students to reach their potential.

The 5/6 students have been camping this week and this is a great opportunity for students to bond with each other and teachers to get to know students in a different context. I was able to support the 5/6 Adami-Stevenson class, observing students as they adventured and explored the open landscape of Hamilton Downs. Students participated in team building activities and we hiked a trail up to the top of a plateau, where students constructed rock towers and enjoyed the beautiful vista looking out over Hamilton Downs Station. I was impressed by the students' ability to work together and persevere. The chilly nights and mornings were a challenge but we all endured and made our way back safely, ready for some students to take on the next challenge of camping out for Finke! Thank you to the parents who joined us on both nights: Donna Wright helped out on Monday night and Terri Van Haaren and Darren Wright on Tuesday night. Darren's barbecuing skill was a great help. Year 5/6 Robertson is still out at Hamilton Downs, returning tomorrow.

We have had some expert educators in our school this week, conducting a school review. School reviews are an important part of the ongoing performance of a school. The review team visits classrooms and speaks with students, teachers, staff and parents about what is happening at Ross Park Primary School. From the discussions and observations that the reviewers have, they then are able to provide the school with recommendations. These recommendations allow schools to reflect on their improvement agendas and make sure that they are heading in the right direction. Our aim is that we

can provide the best possible educational experience for our students through high quality student expectations and high quality teachers.

Three way student led conferences are occurring next Thursday. This is an excellent chance for parents to engage with their child about their progress over the semester. If you can make a time to come and check in on Thursday I would highly recommend it. Students love to share their work and they are encouraged by parents sharing their learning journey.

Over this term we have been looking at the topic Communication in Social Emotional Learning. Students have been introduced to the various types of communication; good communication, non-verbal communication, intercultural communication and various strategies for communicating. If you are able to discuss the topic with your children or you have a moment to have a glance at the displays around the school, it would be valuable to explore this topic further with your child.

We farewell Mr David Yates from Transition today, who will have surgery on his injured foot tomorrow. David stepped in and helped us at a very difficult time—thanks David.

The Federal Parliamentary Education Officer visited our school this week and gave an excellent presentation to our



(Kaitlin 5/6R took part in a make-believe Parliament session.)

It is Finke weekend: camping and watching motorbikes, buggies and all-

Dates to Remember

- Whole school assembly tomorrow Friday 9th June @ 8.30am on the softfall
- 4/5 Panthers' restaurant Tuesday 13th June
- Interschool Athletics Carnival Friday 16th June
- Senior students Drama presentation Wednesday 14th June @ 5.30pm in the hall
- Student Led Conferences Thursday 15th June 3.30-7.00pm
- Sports Day Thursday 22nd June
- End of Term 2: Friday 23rd June; start of Term 3: TUESDAY 25th July

terrain vehicles smash through the dust at high speed is a great experience. In all the excitement please make sure that you are safe and cautious - we care about our families and we want to hear about the fun times when you come back. Have an exciting weekend and we will see you on Tuesday morning for the start of week 9!

SHONTELL DOUGHERTY

Assistant Principal



CONGRATULATIONS!

Introducing the newest member of the Mapstone family—Gwenny Inae Mapstone! Congratulations to our teacher, Mrs Pip Mapstone and her husband Josh. Gwenny looks absolutely adorable!





STAFF PROFILE

Occasionally, a staff profile will appear in our newsletter, so that families will soon know all staff members at our school!

MEGAN CLARKE

Hi, I'm Megan and I teach year 3/4. I moved to Alice Springs at the beginning

of the year and I enjoy visiting the Desert Park and Glen Helen. My favourite subject to teach is Australian History because I find it really interesting.



TEACHING IN THE TERRITORY EXCELLENCE AWARDS

These Awards recognize achievements of staff in Government schools. Nominations are now open and the categories are: Principal of the Year; School Leader of the Year; Early Childhood Teacher of the Year; Aboriginal Educator of the Year; Special Educator of the Year and Support Person of the Year. Awards will be presented at World Teachers' Day events around the Territory on Friday 27th October. Go to www.education.nt.gov.au/events-and-awards for more information. We encourage families to nominate wonderful staff—it takes just a few minutes and means a lot!

SPORTS DAY

Thursday 22nd June

A program for the day will be available soon.

Rosco's Canteen will be open as normal for our hungry athletes!

STUDENT LED CONFERENCES will take place on Thursday 15th June from 3.30pm. Invitations to families will come home soon: two or three families will be invited to come along at the same time but if individual discussions to talk about progress are preferred, please ask your child's teacher.

CAMP!

Here's what a few very tired and dirty kids had to say about camp:

"We climbed a massive hill and when you got to the top you got to see the best view ever! We played fun activities. One was called something like bush golf and it was lots of fun!" Will T and Devlan

"I enjoyed spotlight because me and Bella hid behind the trees and never got caught. It was fun because we spent time with family and friends for a couple of days" Tailyn

"The rock climb was really hard but the view was amazing" Shae

"It was all good especially because we stayed up until midnight and woke up early chatting quietly. It was good fun!" Seraya



Year 5/6 Robertson are now enjoying their camp too!

ROAD SAFETY

Winnecke Avenue is a very busy road, particularly at school start and finish times. Families are reminded that the speed limit is 40kph. Please be aware that children can behave erratically. Our school crossing monitor has reported unsafe driver behavior recently and NT Police will be patrolling the area from time to time.

NEW BABY!

Welcome to Ivy, a new sister for Lucy (T/1 Walton).

SCIENCE

"We were learning about 'water cycles' and we thought of the idea to make a poster! We had so much fun!" Koha, Olive and Beccy, 2Ku.



PANTHERS' RESTAURANT

Tuesday 13th June starting at 5.45pm in the hall

The students will create a meal at home to share with families. Pizza, mac'n'cheese and spring rolls are on the menu, followed by fruit and ice cream!



ATTENDANCE

Families are reminded that a reason for a student's absence **MUST BE GIVEN** at the time of notification. This is a Departmental requirement, as attendance records are kept for each child all through their school life and can be required even long after they leave school.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

School Holiday Sports Carnival for kids aged 6-14 from 26-28/06 at the Netball Centre in Undoolya Road. Online registration is compulsory—go to membership.sportstg.com.

Alice Springs Aquatic Centre holiday program is three weeks of fun activities! Call 89534633 or email pfranklin@asalc.com.au.

FOCAS Youth Holiday Program for children from 11 years of age is free and includes dance classes and board games. Email karina.akarana@drjproductions.net for details.