



Ross Park Primary School

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Week 9, Term 3

21st September, 2017

From our Assistant Principal

Things are really starting to wind up now! Only one more week to go until the end of Term 3. This week we had our School Council meeting. I am always impressed by the dedication of our School Council members. There was plenty of talking, discussion and sharing regarding the great work that happens in our school. Our Acting Principal, Suzi, presented our NAPLAN results, indicating where our school excels and also areas where we can improve - overall we are tracking very well.

The School Council acknowledged that there has been an improvement in students wearing the school uniform and wanted to thank parents for their diligence in this area. It is also good timing for parents to consider the onset of warmer weather and dress their children appropriately.

The Big Idea event is on Thursday next week (28th September) from 3.30 to 6pm and we are excited to be celebrating the learning of our students. We invite all Ross Park families to this event: there will be sausage sandwiches on offer (for a gold coin donation). We are also looking for families to contribute a cultural dessert that we can share on the night. If you feel you can contribute something please let Pauli in the front office know.

On Wednesday this week, we had a special morning tea for our support staff. This was to acknowledge the hard work that our support staff do on a daily basis. They work very diligently and are an integral part of our community. They provide extra focus in the classroom and are always ready to jump in and help out, in and across classrooms. Without these very special people in our school, the systems and structures may not be as fluid and the extra jobs don't get done. I for one feel very blessed to have a great team of people support our school.

With all the sickness that we have seen this term, we do seem to be recovering. We have seen a rise in attendance this week with our classes filling up again and students engaging in learning. This also means that teachers and staff are feeling better and we are getting that spring back in our step.

Year 6 students are getting ready for the final term of their primary school lives. Students and families are considering which schools that they will attend next year. Centrallian Middle School (CMS) is an excellent option and there are several opportunities to attend information sessions at CMS and tour through the school. We have visits throughout the year for students to discover what middle school life is like and make vital connections with key staff and students at the school. If you are interested in attending a tour at CMS there is an Orientation Day on 24th November. Call the school on 89502556 for more information.

Have an excellent week and remember that we care about your child and we want to them to be safe, successful learners as they grow in our school. If you have any concerns always feel welcome to come and speak with teachers and leaders.

SHONTELL DOUGHERTY

Assistant Principal



NAIDOC Assembly

Mrs Walton's T/1 students have been practising 'Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes' in Arrernte, to perform at assembly next Monday.

Dates to Remember

- NAIDOC assembly Monday 25th September @ 9.30am (with students from Sadadeen School)
- Big Idea Open Evening Thursday 28th September 3.30-6.00pm
- Alice Can Dance Friday 29th September (5.00 pm & 7.30pm)
- Whole school assembly Friday 29th September (including Terrific Kids Awards)
- End of Term 3: Friday 29th September; start of Term 4: TUESDAY 10th October
- **Professional Development (student free) Day Monday 9th October**



ALICE CAN DANCE

The smile says it all! Hayden (5/6SA) is enjoying rehearsal and looking forward to the performances next Friday!

INVITATION

Big Idea Evening

Thursday 28th September
from 3.30pm

Look for your invitation in
your child's school bag
soon!



ALICE CAN DANCE Ticket sales for Alice Can Dance, featuring Ross Park students, are on sale now! There are two shows on Friday 29th September, the first at 5pm, finishing at 6.15pm and the second starting at 7.30pm, finishing at 8.45pm. Hopefully the extra show will mean that no families miss it! Prices for the tickets are: \$10 adult, \$5 child and \$20 per family of 4. You can also purchase blocks of 10 tickets for \$50, but remember that it is reserved seating, so tickets are numbered. Ring Araluen Cultural Centre on 89511122 for information.



IDIOM OF THE WEEK
Why is Beccy crying?
What has she spilt?

ATHLETICS

Ten Ross Park students competed in the Centralian Athletics Championships last weekend. They achieved 18 gold medals, 11 silver and 7 bronze for their efforts! Tyler (3/4 Stedlar/Clarke) ran 1.10 for the 400metres which equalled a state record for this age and distance. Well done everyone!

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Please note: Net-Set-Go on a Monday has finished. Baseball has finished for this term but will start again in week 1 of next term on a Wednesday. Football Miniroos last day is today.



DIARY OF A WOMBAT

Next term, students from Year 3 France and Lovegrove will go to Araluen Theatre to watch the live show, "Diary of a Wombat". These two 'wombats' took on the role with gusto!

STAFF PROFILE: Kerri Gilbert



Kerri is a new staff member at Ross Park. She has lived in Alice Springs for 25 years and been teaching for 17 of those years. She loves sport and plays netball. Two of her three girls attend Ross Park: Sarah (4/5 SWS) says her mum is funny; Elli (3F) says her mum is a good cook! Kerri is offering the Health and PE program for our junior school students.

LEAVING? If you know your children will not be attending our school next year, please let us know now. Planning for 2018 is underway!



EARN & LEARN As you know, our school has been participating in the Woolworths Earn and Learn program, which has now finished for this year. Thanks to everyone who has supported our school. We are now able to get new educational equipment for all our students to enjoy!

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

(STUDENT FREE) DAY

Monday 9th October 2017

(first day of Term 4)

Our Regional Director has approved a professional development day for Ross Park School staff, to focus on improving teaching and learning of literacy.

VISIBLE LEARNING

Evidence will be collected during Term 4 about the impact of Visible Learning implementation in our region over the last few years. Our school has been a case study since 2012. The feedback provided will assist in planning for further improvement and celebrating success. Workshops, student/family/teacher/school leader voice, data analysis and observations will be part of a range of evaluation methods. Permission notes will be distributed to our families soon—all data will be anonymous and there will be no identifying information associated with your responses.

A note from your School Council:

"School Council would like to acknowledge the fantastic work of teachers at Ross Park as reflected in the 2017 NAPLAN results: in particular, Year 3 Numeracy and Reading school means, which were above the Australian means in these areas! As part of our school's commitment to improve student learning outcomes, School Council supports data collection for the VL assessment."

TASH COLSON, Council Chair

More information to come—please direct any queries to your School Councillors or our Acting Principal, Suzi.

READY FOR SCHOOL

Now that the weather is slightly warmer in the mornings, please make sure that students arrive on time for school, ready to start learning at 8.30am. Here is a checklist to stick to the fridge:

- Wash face and hands
- Eat breakfast
- Brush teeth and hair
- Dress in school uniform
- Gather school bag, recess and lunch, hat and put on sunscreen
- Come to school on time, with a smile!



BIG IDEA EVENING
Thursday 28th September
3.30-6.00pm
Sausages with bread and sauce will be available from our canteen for a gold coin donation.
Parents/families are encouraged to contribute a dessert that may originate from their cultural background.

Community Notices

AFL & Netball School Holiday Clinic for girls only! 4th October from 9.00am at the Netball Centre—go to www.thunderjuniors.aflnt.com.au for details.

NT Cricket presents a school holiday program on 2-3 October. Contact game.development@ntcricket.com.au for more information.

Alice Springs Desert Park presents 'All Things Feathered', a series of events celebrating birds! Go to alicespringsdesertpark.com.au for details.

October Holiday Program at the Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre includes activities, water play and fun! Call 89534633 to book.

Alice Springs Baseball come'n'try @ 10.00am at Lyl Kempster Park. For more information call 0403734341.

Gapview Works Cricket Club junior training: U13's 27th September @ 5.15pm; U17's 28th September @ 5.15pm. Further information <http://www.playcricket.com.au/club-finder/club-details?id=5041>.

