From the Principal...

A very big ‘THANK YOU’ to all our teachers, students and parents who actively supported the Liverpool Festival this week. The dance groups and choir were fantastic and the students really enjoyed this year’s experience. Many thanks to Miss Hutchinson, Mrs Romeo and Miss Burns for working tirelessly with the dance groups and choir to ensure our students performed at a very high standard. Thanks also to Mr Grech, Mrs Muralidhara, Mrs Machuca, Miss Ta, Mrs Birkett and Miss Stojadinovic for their support during the evening performances. Activities like this would not be possible without the support of so many people.

Parent Forum

We held our first session on Wednesday last week with only a few people attending. Due to the wet weather we understand the difficulty some families may have had in making it to this session. Our next session is on **Thursday 4th September at 3:30pm**. We will be holding further sessions next term and I encourage as many families as possible to join us and help shape the school over the life of the next school plan.

Consider our Neighbours

Could I ask that parents parking in Sheriff Street consider our neighbours who live near our school. In particular could we ensure that students are closely supervised when being dropped off and picked up. Some of our neighbours have concerns that students are running into their yards, over gardens and littering. Your assistance will be appreciated.

SASS Recognition Week

This week all schools are asked to remember and recognise the hard work of all School Administrative and Support staff. These members of every school team are vital to the successful operation of a school. I am sure you will join with me in thanking them for all the hard work and dedication they give to the staff, students and families of Ashcroft Public School. ‘THANK YOU’ to our lovely Office ladies, our fantastic SLSO’s and our wonderful GA Mr Wood you are all very appreciated...

Calendar

- **Friday 5th September**
  - GVPSSA Athletics Carnival
- **Wednesday 10th September**
  - SSW Athletics Carnival
- **Thursday 11th September**
  - Excursion Stage 2 and 3
- **Friday 19th September**
  - Whole School Assembly
  - Last Day Term 3
- **Tuesday 7th October**
  - First Day Term 4
  - Swim Scheme begins

Notices

Enrolling NOW for Kindergarten 2015...
If you have a child who is turning 5 before 31st July 2015 they are ready to enrol in Kindergarten for 2015.

Enrolling NOW for Preschool 2015...
If you have a child who is turning 4 before 31st July 2015 they are ready to enrol in Preschool for 2015.
K-2 Bullying Incursion
Last Tuesday students in K-2 had the wonderful opportunity of participating in the anti-bullying show Bullysaurus. Students learned about what bullying is and what to do if bullying does occur. The show included funny and endearing dinosaur puppet characters performed by the very talented Murray. The students loved the characters and the funny dialogue and took away a powerful message about being kind to one another and dealing with bullying in an effective way.

Technology
Could I ask all families to discuss with their children the correct use of technology at school and at home. We have had some incidents of incorrect use of school technology which has resulted in students missing out on using this valuable tool. If you could discuss the technology code of conduct that was given to all families at the beginning of the year when students were issued with their XO it would be appreciated. Copies of this document will be sent home early next week to assist with this process.

RoboCup Junior
Robotics NSW Open State Championship 2014
Selected students from Year 3 to Year 6 attended and competed in the State Open Dance Theatre Competition on Thursday and/or Friday 28th and 29th of August 2014. Our team was called 'The Undead' and our robots performed to the music 'Thriller'. This was a great learning opportunity for our students who gained knowledge in interview skills, answering specific questions, working as a collaborative and cooperative team and of course constructing and programming their robots. Well done and congratulations to all our robotics team members.
How can I prevent bullying at Ashcroft Public School?

At Ashcroft Public School, each group within the school community has a specific role in preventing and dealing with bullying.

**Students can expect to:**

- know that their concerns will be responded to by school staff;
- be provided with appropriate support;
- take part in learning experiences that address key understandings and skills relating to positive relationships, safety, gender equity, discrimination, bullying and harassment.

**Students have a responsibility to:**

- advise teachers of any bullying or teasing;
- behave appropriately, respecting individual differences and diversity;
- follow the school Anti-Bullying Plan (see your teacher if you need a reminder);
- behave as responsible bystanders;
- behave as responsible citizens;
- respond to incidents of bullying according to this plan.

**Congratulations Ricky...**

*Ricky set a new state record for his age group in the 200m backstroke at the state championships held at Homebush last weekend.*

We are very proud of Ricky and his fantastic performance. Ricky also took home gold in the 100m backstroke and silver in both the 50m and 100m freestyle events. Ricky features in the Liverpool Leader this week and is also this week’s nominee for the Junior Sports Star Award sponsored by Rebel.

**3/4M students are the Ashcroft Green Thumbs...**

This term students from 3/4M have grown and maintained the Veggie Garden. They have planted beetroot, different varieties of spinach, chives and broccoli. It was amazing to see student responses when they harvested their first crop of beetroots. This gardening experience is educating 3/4M students about where food comes from? What is its name? How does it taste? The benefits of organic food and the importance of making healthy eating choices. Students have been taking care of the surrounding garden by weeding and watering which has helped their understanding of the importance of caring for their surrounding environment and sustainability.
Our Stage 3 students have been learning about...

This term, Stage 3 students have been extremely busy, learning new skills and revising concepts learnt earlier in the year. Students have been learning to identify intertextual references in multi-modal texts and writing imaginative narratives. During maths, students have been learning to use effective mental strategies to solve equations and have quickly learnt AFL skills during Fitness. We have also been learning about the Australian Gold Rush and dreaming about what it would have been like to find gold and strike it rich!