Dear Students, Parents and Members of the School Community. Welcome to Week 3 of the 2015 school year.

It has been a very busy start to Term 1. My deepest appreciation to everyone for their effort and support over the last couple of weeks.

**Meet the Teacher Afternoon**

Our 'Meet the Teacher' afternoon will take place next week on Tuesday 17th February. All parents are invited to come and meet their child's teacher and find out about their class program for the year.

The times are as follows:

- **Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)** 3.15pm
- **Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)** 3.45pm
- **Stage 3 (Years 5 & 6)** 4.15pm

Staggered starting times will provide an opportunity for parents with children in different classes to meet all their children’s teachers. We look forward to seeing all of you on the day.

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**Term 1 Homework Centre**

Our Term 1 Homework Centre begins next **Thursday 19th February**. The Homework Centre is on every Thursday from 3.15pm to 4.15pm. There are still a few places available. If you are interested in attending please complete the permission note available from the Office and return it to Mr Augustine as soon as possible.

**Change of contact details**

Please remember to notify staff in the school office of any changes to your contact details or to the contact details of other people nominated as emergency contacts.

**Enrolling NOW for Preschool 2015...**

We still have places available in our Preschool - If you have a child who is turning 4 before 31st July 2015 they are ready to enrol in Preschool for 2015.

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**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

“Talent wins games but team work and intelligence wins championships.”

*Michael Jordan*

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Visiting the School
Just a reminder that all visitors must report to the Office when they enter the school grounds. This includes parents who are delivering lunches for their children, passing on messages or for any other reason. This is a safety concern and we need to know who is on the school grounds at all times. Parents are to bring their children’s lunches to the office prior to recess/lunch time and Office staff will call the children up at the appropriate time.

Scripture
Our Scripture classes are held every Wednesday. The following religious groups offer instruction to students on this day: Anglican, Catholic, Islamic. Non scripture supervision is provided to students not attending scripture classes.
Children are placed into scripture groups based on the information provided to the school by parents. If you wish to make changes to your child’s scripture class, please advise the school in writing. As scripture only runs for 30 minutes, students who behave inappropriately at scripture and cause disruptions to the class will be excluded.

Exemption from School
Any families planning overseas holidays or extended leave must complete an exemption form. These are available through the Office and must be completed a minimum of 2 weeks before travel occurs. If families do not complete exemption forms, the absence of students will then be recorded as an unexplained absence in the roll and on their record cards. A note written after the event will not change the unexplained absence. In order for an extended leave to be recorded as an exemption, parents must seek the approval of the Principal prior to the leave being taken. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this please contact the Office.

Students and Medication
When a student is prescribed medication that needs to be administered during the school day, parents are responsible for:
• Bringing this need to the attention of the school and ensuring that the information is updated if it changes.
• Supplying the medication and any ‘consumables’ necessary for its administration in a timely way.
• Collaborating with the school in working out arrangements for the supply and administration of the prescribed medication. Most medication however should be administered at home before or after school - this is the preferred method.

Meeting with the Principal
Whilst our Principal Mr Koletti welcomes all parents to our school and is always willing to discuss any issues you may have with your child’s learning and welfare, we ask once again that parents contact the Office to make an appointment for an appropriate time to meet with him. We understand that sometimes you may be upset or angry about issues concerning your child.
It is always important to organise a time to talk in a confidential atmosphere. The best results usually flow from working together so that all concerns are dealt with to ensure that the rights of students, teachers and parents are respected.

Pupil Information Card Update
Next week we will be sending home new Pupil Information Cards for every student. We have updated our information cards to include the new Permission to Publish and Technology information required by the Department of Education. The Pupil Information Card is extremely important and provides the Office and your child’s classroom teacher with necessary information which helps us to make sure your child does not miss out on any important events and opportunities provided by the school.
Please fill in all the information required (Don’t forget to complete the back of the Pupil Information Card) and return it to the Office as soon as possible.

Attendance at Ashcroft
One of the most important things you can do to ensure your child has a bright future is to make sure he or she attends school on a daily basis and arrives on time. The correlation between school attendance and children’s achievement is well established. Obviously, the more time children spend at school, the more likely they are to experience school success. When children miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work, they often miss important interactions with their peers. If a child misses 12-15 days per school year, this adds up to a year’s lost schooling over the school-life of a child.

OOPS
Yes it’s that time again. We have lots of new students and they are often too excited playing with their new friends or a little bit nervous to ask teachers for permission to go to the toilet. We experience more little accidents this time of year as our younger students settle in. It would be appreciated if our Kindergarten and Stage 1 students have a change of clothes in their bag to help make these little OOPS moments less uncomfortable.
From Mrs Birkett...
What a great start we have had to the year! All students have been involved in lessons to learn about our new school rules:
Teachers are looking to catch students doing the right thing in the playground too, in order to reward them for their positive behaviour. We have had weekly draws to win a wrist band for positive behaviour in the playground and are looking forward to seeing even more students playing safely and respectfully.

BE SAFE
BE RESPECTFUL
BE A LEARNER

From Mr Augustine...
One of the strategic directions in our new school plan is Staff & Leader Learning. This week all teachers will have time to look over a range of student assessments which they have completed. In stage teams teachers will learn more about the new Mathematics syllabus and plan lessons for every key learning area to meet the needs of all students in their class. Participating in these sessions assists all our teachers to learn more about the syllabus and the new group of students in each class.
Our school Learning and Support team met for the first time this week and we would like to welcome our new school counsellor Belinda Nocera. Belinda and the team work to ensure the well-being of every student at Ashcroft Public School. If you believe your child needs support from this team please let your child’s teacher know.
This year our school has been able to have the services of a speech pathologist one day a week for the year. This is an initiative to support another of our strategic directions Student Learning. To begin with students from K-2 will be identified, screened and assessed for speech difficulties. Difficulties with speech greatly impact upon achievement in the key learning area of English. Identified students will receive assistance in their class or if required more intensive group therapy from the speech pathologist.
I look forward to keeping all families up to date on what we are doing at Ashcroft Public School to ensure a quality education for all.

2015 Captains and Student Leaders
Congratulations we know you will do a great job.

Our New Kindergarten Students
Our Kindergarten students have settled in very well to their school environment, with so many of the students lining up beautifully. We ask that all parents allow their child to stand in the lines with their class and allow the teacher to maintain class order. Parents are also asked not to walk their child to class or take the time to talk to the teacher as this causes distraction to all. At this stage the teachers need to focus on all the students in their class to assist in developing the essential routines.
Our New Preschool Students

Our new Preschool children are settling in well. We have had very few tears and as you can see there are lots of smiles. Everyone is enjoying making new friends and exploring their new learning environment.

Assembly times for Term 1

The K-2 school assembly will be held every Friday from 2.00pm in the Hall. The 3-6 school assembly will be held every Friday from 11.20am in the Hall.

Whole school Assemblies for Term 1 will be held on Friday 6th March at 11.20am and Thursday 2nd April at 11.20am.

Please note when there is a whole school assembly the K-2 and 3-6 assemblies will not be held.

We encourage our parents to come to our assemblies to celebrate the achievements of our students. We ask that during the assembly all mobile phones be switched to silent or turned off and younger siblings be supervised at all times.

Uniform Shop

Our school uniform is required to be worn on a daily basis. Our Uniform Shop is open on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8.30am to 9.30am. If you are unable to attend during these times you can pre-order through the Office. All you have to do is complete a Uniform Request Order available from the Office and put it in a payment envelope with the correct money. The order will be filled on the next Uniform Day and your child will be called to the Office to collect the order.

The uniform price list is available from the Office or you can download it on our website www.ashcroft-p.schools.nsw.edu.au in the ‘Our School’ section and then just click on the Uniform tab.

$ Make a payment

POP, EFTPOS and Credit Card Payments

Remember you can pay for uniforms, preschool fees, excursions etc. via any of the above payment methods at the Office.
2015 Swimming Carnival

On Friday 6th February 2015, one hundred and twenty students walked to the Michael Wenden Pool at Miller to participate in our School Swimming Carnival. After a long time, our school decided to involve all school students from Years 3 to 6 and the Year 2 students who are turning 8 years this year, to attend our School Swimming Carnival.

We had many students participate in the competitive swimming races. Students who were not competitive or did not pass the water survival test took part in the fun novelty events. All students who went to the carnival were given the opportunity to enter the shallow end of the pool for some free play and to take part in the water safety lessons.

Congratulations to Ricky Betar, Georgia Budd, Annaleise Armstrong and Zoey Baines for qualifying to compete in GVPSSA Zone Swimming Carnival. What can we say, look at the photos and decide for yourselves if this event was an absolute swimming success!
## Ashcroft Public School
### Canteen Price List

#### BREAKFAST
- Hash Brown: $1.00
- Cheese toast: $1.20
- Homemade Muffins: $1.00
- Dairy Farmers Fresh Milk: $1.50
- Oak Flavoured Milk 300ml: $2.20
- Up and Go: $2.40
- Sipahh Straw: $2.00

#### SNACKS
- Garlic Bread: $1.50
- Banana Bread: $1.00
- Jelly Cup: $1.00
- Custard Cup: $1.00
- Jelly & Custard Cup: $1.20
- Jumpy’s: $1.00
- Popcorn: $1.00
- Red Rock Chips: $1.50
- Ovaltines: $1.00
- Rice sticks: $1.20
- Cookies: $1.00

#### SALADS
- Greek Salad: $4.00
- Garden Salad: $3.50
- Watermelon: $2.00
- Fruit Salad (Terms 1 & 4): $3.00

#### DRINKS & REFRESHMENTS
- Just Juice: $1.50
- Water 600ml: $2.20
- Quench: $2.50
- Calipo: $1.30
- Paddle Pops: $2.00
- Ice Twist: $1.50
- Ice Blocks: $1.20
- Moosies: $1.50
- Zoopa Dooper: $1.00
- Focus Sports Water: $2.50
- Hot Chocolate: $2.00

#### SANDWICHES
- Vegemite or Jam: $1.80
- Egg: $2.40
- Cheese: $2.20
- Cheese & Tomato: $2.40
- Ham: $2.50
- Ham & Cheese: $3.00
- Tuna: $3.50
- Ham and Salad: $3.50
- Tuna and Salad: $4.00
- Chicken: $3.50
- Chicken & Salad: $4.00
- Chicken, Lettuce & Mayo: $3.80
- Salad: $3.00
- Baked Beans on Toast: $2.50

#### Extras
- Sauce (BBQ & TOMATO): $0.30
- Carrot, Tomato, Cucumber or Lettuce: $0.40

#### HOT FOOD
- Pizza slabs (cheese): $3.30
- Chicken Tenderloin Wrap: $4.00
- Chicken Burger: $4.00
- Wedges: $3.20
- Chicken Nuggets (6): $3.70
- Fresh Lasagne: $4.00
- Meat Pie: $3.00
- Sausage Roll: $2.50
- Hot Dog: $3.20
- Chicken Corn Roll: $2.80
- Chicken Chippies (6): $3.30
- Chicken Tenders: $2.00
- Chicken or Beef Noodles: $2.50
- Pizza Pocket: $2.50

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**HALAL AVAILABLE**

Please Note: Prices are subject to change without notice.