Dear Students, Parents and Members of the School Community. Welcome to Week 5 of the 2015 school year.

Staff Visibility
In order to increase staff visibility whilst on duty, we have provided all staff with a high visibility vest to be worn when on duty. The vest is yellow with the school rules on the back.

By increasing the visibility of staff on the playground, we aim to reduce the small number of incidents which occur from time to time.

School Information
Notes and Newsletters are available from the office or you can download them from our website at www.ashcroft-p.schools.nsw.edu.au in the Notes Home section. You can also keep up to date by checking out our Ashcroft Public School Facebook page.

Like us on Facebook...

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
Friendship is the only cement that will ever hold the world together.
Woodrow T.

Calendar
Thursday 5th March
Friday 6th March
Wednesday 18th March
Thursday 26th March
Thursday 2nd April
Legends Rugby League
Whole School Assembly
Milo Indoor Cricket
3-6 Sport Gala Day
Cops & Kids Oz Tag

Whooping Cough Alert
We have received notification of confirmed whooping cough (or pertussis) cases at three preschool services in the north west Sydney region in the past week. Whooping cough fact sheets are available from the Office and Preschool or for further information please call your local Public Health unit on 1300 066 0655 or visit the New South Wales Health website at www.health.nsw.gov.au
Please note if your child is not immunised they will be exempt from Preschool and school if any cases are diagnosed at Ashcroft.

Places still available in our Preschool...
We still have places available in the afternoon session of our Preschool.
If you have a child or you know someone with a child who is turning 4 before 31st July 2015 they are ready to enrol in Preschool for 2015.
Congratulations District Swim Team

On Wednesday I attended the Green Valley Zone PSSA Swimming Carnival at the Whitlam Centre in Liverpool. We had a small but very talented team of swimmers representing our school on the day – they all performed superbly. The team consisted of: Zoey, Ricky, Paea, Destiny, Annaleise and Georgia.

We are so proud of the whole team, their effort and great performance.

Ricky broke several zone records and was selected to swim at the regional carnival. Our junior girls relay team was also successful in being selected to swim at the regional carnival. Well done all and best wishes at the regional carnival.

A special thank you to all the parents and Mr Grech for their attendance, wonderful sense of school pride and the support provided to our students at the carnival. It was a great day for Ashcroft Public School.

More photos from the swimming carnival can be found on our Facebook page.

Pupil Information Card Update

All students should have brought home a new Pupil Information Card. 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.

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. Any information you provide to the school will only be used to support your child.

School starting and finishing times

Supervision at school begins at 8:30am. When students arrive at school they are to assemble under the COLA. Please DO NOT drop your child off at the gate and leave them unsupervised before 8.30am. The bell goes at 9.00am and all students line up in their class lines. If your child is late they will need to go to the photocopy room for a late note before going to class. If you are collecting your child early you must sign them out at the office before collecting them from class.

School finishes at 3.00pm please make sure your child is collected on time. All K-2 students are to be collected from their classrooms by their parent/carer or older sibling if walking home.

Unfortunately we have had an increase in the number of students not being picked up on time. Students not picked up on time are entered into our late pickup register which is monitored by the Principal. Frequent late pickups are referred to our Learning and Support team as a Welfare issue for further follow up. If your child is not collected on time and we are unable to contact you the Police will be called to collect your child.

Parking on Sheriff Street

I have been contacted by the Green Valley Police regarding neighbours complaining about illegal parking on Sheriff Street. Police officers will be patrolling the streets around our school over the coming weeks and will continue throughout the year.

Please make sure you park according to the sign posts. It is critical to the safety of our students that everybody follows the parking and traffic guidelines around the school. Be aware, penalties for traffic infringements around schools can exceed $500 with the loss of 4 demerit point

An issue also causing concern to the neighbours of our school is the amount of rubbish left behind on the footpath in the afternoon. I have been asked to remind the whole community to be more responsible when disposing of rubbish.

Sheriff Street, Ashcroft 2168
Phone: 9607 8202
Email: ashcroft-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
From Mrs Birkett…
What a success our Positive Behaviour for Learning lessons have been across the school. All students have been involved in lessons to help them understand and demonstrate what it means to be a safe, respectful learner in the classroom, the playground, the office, the toilets and the canteen. You may have also noticed our teachers are now wearing fluoro vests in the playground so that they can be easily spotted by students if they require help. These also have our school rules –
BE SAFE, BE RESPECTFUL, BE A LEARNER
printed on the back with our bee logo.
Bright new signs with the school rules are almost ready to be mounted so keep an eye out for them!

From Mr Augustine…
A vision we have for our school is that all students are offered opportunities to extend their learning and become independent learners. Mr Moore organised an incursion for students to learn more about the art and skill of Claymation. Our school will continue to support this with small group instruction two afternoons a week. Another opportunity will be offered to students in years 3 to 6 to be a part of the robotics program. This has been a successful program designed to extend student’s knowledge of Mathematics and Science which are focus areas for us this year.

Have you thought about how you can safely assist your child to develop independence? One suggestion which all children can do is to make or pack their own snack each day. Developing this skill takes time and working together we are sure that all students who leave our school will have this lifelong skill.

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.
Our 1/2 students are learning about...

Recently students in Stage One have been working hard on learning strategies for addition and subtraction. We have been practicing skip counting forwards and backwards to help us add and subtract quickly and successfully. It has been a lot of fun using counters and other special games to help us with our learning.
Ashcroft Artwork...

Thank you to all the teachers and students for their wonderful artwork for our Office foyer it looks great!
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.

The uniform price list is available from the Office or you can download it on our website [www.ashcroft-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://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 or online via POP on our Website.

Sport Uniform DELAY

Unfortunately our supply of sports uniforms has been delayed until **Friday 13th March 2015**. If you have pre-ordered a sports uniform your child will be called to the Office to collect it once the orders are filled.

Thank you for your patience.