From our Principal

It is very rare that a week goes when education, teaching or teachers do not make national or local news. Often these stories are presented in a negative light. Today I would encourage you to take a moment to reflect on the role of our teachers and staff members.

At Ross Park Primary School many of our teachers and staff do most or all of the following:

- Volunteer their time to coach/manage/umpire sporting events
- Plan, prepare and participate in excursions, sleep overs and camps
- Co-ordinate, organise participation and attendance at community events such as the Centralian Eisteddfod, the Alice Springs Show, Wearable Arts Program etc
- Research, plan, deliver and reflect on lessons that may include seven different curriculum areas over the course of a year
- Spend personal funds on additional resources
- Create stimulating and changing learning environments
- Mark and provide written feedback to students and parents/carers
- Organise, prepare and participate in meetings for professional learning
- Provision of additional student support and address parent concerns/questions in addition to a school work day/week term.

I cannot recall the number of times I have heard people say;

“I don’t know how teachers do it!”
“Isn’t it a teacher.”

As professionals we strive to demonstrate the National Standards and a high level of community expectations. We take pride in our school environments and learning culture of our school. We acknowledge the progress and achievements of our students in our classrooms, playground and learning opportunities which extend beyond our school boundaries. Teaching in the Territory Excellence Awards are an opportunity for outstanding and exceptional educators to be acknowledged and recognised.

Nominations can be submitted by school staff, students, parents and guardians and members of the community.

Some categories appropriate for our school are:
- Northern Territory School Leader of the Year
- Northern Territory Primary Teacher of the Year
- Northern Territory Aboriginal Educator of the Year
- Northern Territory Special Educator of the Year
- Northern Territory Education Support Person of the Year


What’s On?

5/6 Wolf Pack and 5/6 Unicorns are at Hamilton Downs Youth Camp until midday Friday. When I popped out last night they were all happily engaged in a trivia game after a filling and healthy meal of beef/vegie burgers with salad of their choosing. These experiences are great opportunities to further develop positive relationships with peers and teachers, not to mention drawing on their personal characteristics of being brave, cooperative, tolerant, patient and persistent.

Rona Glynn Preschool have introduced Plastic Free Fridays to try to reduce their ‘plastic footprint’ - the amount of single use plastic products. They will be continuing to learn about where plastic waste goes, what damage it can do and what we can do about it. Next Tuesday will be our first ‘Battle of the lunchboxes’, an SRC initiative to raise awareness of and positively address the amount of rubbish in our school grounds. We hope you will take the time to experiment how to pack a lunchbox with minimal waste material with your child/children. Together we can make a positive difference to our world.

Enjoy the Long Weekend!

Suzi Burgess, Principal

Congratulations Ms Naqito!

Ms Naqito announced some very exciting news this week- she will be having her first baby late September, and it’s a girl! This means she will be finishing at Ross Park at the end of the term and a suitable replacement teacher for Semester 2 will be announced very soon.

Dates to Remember

- Whole school assembly TOMORROW
- May Day Public Holiday Monday 7th
- NAPLAN 15-17 May
- Walk to School Safely Day Friday 18th May
- RPPS Sports Day Friday 8th June
BOOK CLUB

Don’t forget to get your orders in by Friday 4th May.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Friday June 8th is our Sports Day and we are looking for volunteers to help us out, if you think you are able to, Mr. Sherriff would be very happy to hear from you. You can get in touch with him by email alastair.sheriff@ntschools.net

Battle of the Lunchboxes

As a school, we are aiming to reduce the amount of rubbish and waste we produce and to reduce the amount of rubbish in our school grounds. The SRC will be running a Battle of the Lunchboxes competition each Tuesday. Parents and families can help by being aware of the packaging on food and to try to come up with alternative ways to pack a healthy lunch box.

Each Tuesday, all classes will be putting their non-biodegradable waste from recess and lunch in a special bin. The SRC will then collect this for weighing. The class having the lightest amount over a two week period being declared the “Battle of the Lunchbox” winner at our Whole School Assembly. A special “Battle of the Lunchboxes” trophy will be presented, which will be kept in the classroom until the next assembly.

With each newsletter, we will include some ideas and tips for waste free lunches. Check out these two “Nude Food” lunch boxes – with no wrappings or waste at all!

Tom Middleton and Kavina Stevenson
SRC coordinators

Tennis Gala Day

Friday, 24 students went to compete in the interschool tennis competition. From this we had 3 division winners and runner up in the fourth division:

Jade Schooner, Isabella Milne & Gia Willson-Wait-winner
Jack Farrell, Sean Mouzinho & Riley Bell-winner
Sadie Jakubiszyn, Rania Shelford & Nyree Major-winner
Levi Hansen, Austin Shaw & D’Arcy Satharasinghe-runner up

Robotics Workshop

There will be a Robo Cup Competition on Wednesday 27th June. In preparation for this special event Jimmy (Panthers) and Jocelyn (Wolf Pack) accompanied Mr Middleton to a Robotics Workshop at the Alice Springs Town Library. Together they will support members of the Robotics Club to develop coding skills and creativity to design a choreographed piece performed by robots with students.

A special valuble skills that we can teach to other kids in the Robotics Club. It was such a fun day.” Jimmy Bellette - 4/5 Panthers

Solar Powered Nachos

The students of 5/6 SWS tucked into some nachos they cooked themselves without creating any greenhouse gases. They made pizza box solar ovens and learnt about sustainable energy use.

Anna Hind
STEAM Teacher

National Families Week 15 – 21 May

You are invited to help us make this year’s National Families Week great by celebrating the important role families play in our community! We are having a big community event down in Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre from 1-5pm on the 19th May. We are seeking organizations to volunteer their time to run a stall/activity on the day. If you are interested to be involved please contact Kim Ellis no later than 4th May via email or phone kellis@anglicare-nt.org.au 8951 8000

Alice Springs Telegraph Station Open Day and Markets 20th May from 9.30am. Activities, food and historic information—go to asts.openday2018@nt.gov.au.