From our Principal
Well here we are, at the end of Term 1 2019! This term has been filled with so many memorable moments for students, staff and families:

Starting school at Ross Park Primary School
Performing or speaking at assemblies for the first time
Starting new relationships with other students through our Buddy Class routines, interschool sports events or continuing to build stronger relationships with children from previous years at our school
Taking swimming lessons for the first time, or practising their skills with classmates
Participating in whole school events such as Harmony Day and National Day Against Bullying and Violence
Opportunities to experience excursions and camps that extend the intended learning outcomes
Establishing the new student leaders’ groups and school choirs.

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all parents for their continued support through: volunteering their time (when able), assisting with special activities, donating various resources/goods, making financial contributions and the regular great attendance and participation at assemblies and special class events. The students feel so proud to be able to share their learning and achievements with those who mean the most to them. If you have not used the total value of the Back to School Voucher, please come to the school office tomorrow as it will be the last day to redeem the funds. This would be a great opportunity to pay the parent contribution if you have not yet done so. Every little bit helps our school to buy resources and value add to the programs we offer.

We were recently visited by Vicki Baylis, Chief Executive Officer of the Northern Territory Department of Education, who said, “There is a lovely feel to this school”, as she accompanied me on a short tour. First impressions do count. How visitors feel when they come to our school is a direct reflection of how staff and students greet and interact with them. It is how they observe our students interacting with each other and with adults, in classes or in the playground and how adults interact-demonstrating the Tribes Agreements which form the basis of our school culture: Mutual Respect, Participation, Appreciations, Active Listening and No Put Downs and Personal Best.

As you may be aware, our focus is on developing students’ writing skills and number sense; addition, subtraction, multiplication and division recognizing there are patterns and generalized rules which help us to fluently work out problems with greater ease. Students play an active role in setting targets with the teacher. They know what they can do and with support from teachers can identify where they need to be. Teachers explicitly teach and use the language of learning and we will know that we are successful when our students say things such as:

I am learning to…
I can… and I am working towards…
My goal is… and I can reach it by…
I need to practise… so I can…
When students can make connections between what they need to learn (content/concept) and how they learn (strategies) and use the learner qualities (persist, share, question, challenge and reflect) - success must surely be guaranteed. Successes should be celebrated, so I hope you and your child/ren have had opportunities this term.

I wish you and your families a happy and safe school holiday week. All staff have been looking forward to it, especially after an eleven week term! School will resume on Tuesday 23rd April. This will be a strange week as Thursday 25th April is Anzac Day so this will only be a three day school week.

Suzi Burgess
Principal

HAPPY CAMPERS!
Year 4/5 Sheriff Winwood Smith and Year 4 Merritt (70 students!) have camped at the Alice Springs Telegraph Station this week and participated in the Alice on the Line program.
GOALS!

Last week, the students from 5/6 Mapstone and Stedler stopped by at their Goal Setting Cafe. They perused the Goal Setting Menu outlining Term 1’s learning content for English, Mathematics and Social skills. They sipped on their warm beverage and set their taste buds on the café’s famous house cookies, whilst selecting their goals specific to their learning needs. It was a unique café experience, one in which they will definitely revisit!

AFL

“Last Friday, a group of boys and girls represented Ross Park for the AFL Gala Day. There were 2 boys teams and 2 girls teams. The best game was Living Waters vs Ross Park, because the score was 1-59, Ross Park’s way. It was a fun day!”

Cedric and Ashton 5/6ABG

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

At its meeting this week, your School Council discussed:

• the fabulous excursion for our Transition, Year 1 and Year 2 Lawson students to Araluen Theatre to see the Flying Fruit Fly Circus—there were many acrobatic tricks on their return!
• The huge number of entries for the Centralian Eisteddfod this year—and some students will perform in numerous sections!
• The current one year vacancy on Council—parents are invited to chat with our Principal, Suzi or Pauli in the office, if interested.

TERRIFIC KIDS Term 1

T/D Evelyn Flynn
T/H Leo Carr
T/V Aluel Biar
1Ra Lorelei Waddell
1Ry Jordan McVeigh
1T Lucy George
2L London Donahoo
2M William Foster
2W Olivia Brown
3F Vinnie Firini
3/4H Chloe Noble
3/4M Aquaria Nicholas
4M Samuel Smith
4/5SWS Jack Johnson
5/6ABG Jemima Hemmes
5/6M Molly Murphy
5/6S Zoe Totani

RUGBY

Students from 3 France were fortunate to participate in a training session with Glen Ella, the Indigenous rugby champion, last week.

EASTER BUNNIES!

Mrs Lawson’s Year 2 students made facewasher bunnies, ready for a special visitor to fill...

TRICKY...

Chris Smith, a member of Red Centre BMX, visited assembly last week to demonstrate some of his bike skills! He put on a great show for our students!

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Alice Springs Town Council free community events include outdoor movies in the Mall and night markets. Phone 89500505 for information. Alice Springs Library holiday activities include Art Workshops and Fairytale Fun. Call 89500569 for details.

What is that smell? It is the smell of school holidays looming on the horizon as we head into the last week of Term One. Pondering how to keep your young people busy these holidays? I have some ideas:

• YMCA Rock wall is suitable for toddlers and beginners to older kids looking for a challenge
• A treasure hunt or explore at Olive Pink Botanical Gardens
• Explore the trails around the Telegraph Station on your bikes!
• Challenge the kids to learn a new yoga pose and share it
• Discover your neighbourhood and visit a different park or walking track
• Check out the free deadly programmes at the Gap Youth Centre.
• Join me for a family friendly walk, details on Friends of the Larapinta Trail website.