FROM OUR ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

We are now well under way into the new school year and students and classes have settled in with clear routines and expectations. Students were very proud to show their families through their new classrooms on our ‘Meet the Teacher’ evening this week. Teachers and students created displays to make information available to parents and students were able to share their learning environments with families. Class overviews and newsletters have now gone home and we have a busy and exciting term of learning ahead. For parents who would like to talk with their child’s teacher about something specific, please make an appointment through the front office. Thank you to all who made the Meet the Teacher evening successful.

The 2019 National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence is Friday 15 March and this year it is anticipated that 100% of NT schools will participate. This year we will be engaging students in planning activities to prevent and address bullying. Activities will be delivered around the topics of Developing an Understanding of Bullying, Raising Awareness, Building Relationships, Strengthening Positive Behaviour, Including Everyone, Learning Skills to Respond to Bullying, Involving Families, Communicate About Getting Help and Connect with the Community. Each class will choose an activity from one of these categories and we will come together to showcase how Ross Park deals with bullying.

Yesterday and today, Transition to Year 5 classes had the opportunity to work with the Road Safety Team around crossing the road safely and using the crossing as well as basic bicycle safety. Our Transition to Year 2 classes took part in the Hector the Road Safety Cat Show where they learnt all about behaving safely around roads and traffic. This is important learning for our students with our high level of traffic at drop off and pick up time, when many of our students use the crossing and walk and ride home. Please support this learning at home by talking with your children about road safety.

It was great to see some familiar faces on Friday during the interschool cricket event. Thank you Nick Stedler for organising the teams.

SALIMA SPRING Assistant Principal

The first School Council meeting for the year is scheduled for next Monday 18th February at 7.00pm in the Staffroom and everyone is welcome. The Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Monday 4th March and parents are encouraged to consider nominating, as a rewarding component of the family-school partnership. For more information, chat with our Principal, Suzi, Council Chair Bev Russ or Pauli in the school office.

Netball coaches needed! Ross Park will enter lots of teams in the Winter competition—please see Lucy Winwood Smith if you can help.
For quality of life we need to educate our children at an early age about the benefits of play and leading an active life. In the hot summer months it is so easy to lose motivation and create excuses to not move our bodies. Being active doesn’t have to be cardio workouts, it is taking opportunities to move your body in different ways through different movements. Our focus this week is partner balances. This activity builds respect, spatial awareness, hand eye coordination, gross motor skills, self regulation and resilience to name a few. Challenge your family and friends!

Katie Bromley
Co-ordinator

VACANCIES
We have some vacancies in our Year TR-2 classes: if you know a family, living in our Priority Enrolment Area, which hasn’t yet enrolled their children at a school, please ask them to come and chat with our Principal, Suzi.

Meetings with teachers this week!

HOUSE TEAMS
On enrolment, students are placed in one of four House teams: BURTON (blue), STANDLEY (green), TAYLOR (yellow) or ROBB (red). The House teams are named after the teachers who were at the Hartley Street School at the time when Ross Park School opened in 1961 and the students and staff were re-located to our present site. Students can be awarded House points and Sports Day and Swimming Carnival are the key occasions when House teams compete against each other. Each House is led by Team Leaders from the senior school (see next column).

Community Notices

Basketball NT: new programs starting soon, under the direction of Participation Manager, Dan, from Darwin. Email dan.east@nt.basketball.net.au for information.

Alice Springs Netball Association—Saturdays from 16th February, 9am at the Stadium. Come’n’try information or register at www.netsetgo.asn.au.

Over the coming weeks, students from our upper primary classes will be contesting for school leadership positions in the following categories:

SCR – The Student Representative Council is made up of one student from each class from Years 3-6. The SCR attend weekly meetings and focus on big ideas, projects to make a difference, fundraising, as well as in-school roles such as greeting and chaperoning our special visitors around the school.

Team Leaders - Team Leaders are responsible for the organisation of lunchtime activities, assisting with sports day activities and the senior school swimming carnival, working with the junior classes, assisting with school assemblies and more! We will have 16 student leaders made up of two leaders and vice leader from each of our four houses.

Eco Rangers
Eco-Rangers are a student committee made up of 12 students from Years 4-6 which provides leadership opportunities for students with an interest in developing sustainable practices in the Ross Park School and greater community. It is expected that Eco-Rangers commit to one lunch per week to meet and carry out responsibilities.

Voting Process
Teachers will be unpacking the various leadership roles with their classes. Students interested in contesting for a leadership position will then need to decide on which one they wish to contest for, and then prepare a speech at home. Teachers will provide further information to students about what to include in their speech. Speeches and voting will take place across week 5 and 6, with the winners announced and badges handed out at the Week 6 assembly.

At Ross Park, we value student voice and our leaders are key in capturing students’ opinions and ideas for various purposes.