We are nearly half way through the term already and what a busy week we have had.

**NAPLAN**
Well done to all our Year 3 and Year 5 students who sat NAPLAN testing this week. The National Assessment Program, Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 and has been part of the school calendar since 2008. NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for children to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling and numeracy. The tests assess what students know and can do. These tests let teachers know areas of strength and areas of development. If your child sat NAPLAN this year, expect their individual NAPLAN reports in August.

**Languages at RP**
The Alice Springs Language Centre provides language lessons to students at Ross Park Primary School. The Language Centre’s vision is to provide engaging, intercultural language learning programs that enable students to participate fully as local and global citizens. Some of the Language Centre’s Goals are to improve language pathways through different levels of schooling, to strengthen, maintain and develop awareness of Aboriginal languages and to promote engagement with Asia & Europe through delivery of high quality intercultural Asian and European language programs.

In our multilingual world, the current thinking is that the more languages one learns, the more doors are opened up around the world. Intercultural language learning is a mindset to be embraced to extend young minds. Learning another language also helps us understand our own language, how it is structured and its origins better. At Ross Park, we are lucky enough to have a range of language programs on offer. Some classes are learning Arrernte, the local language, which helps learners to listen to voices from this land and to read local signs. Other classes are learning Mandarin (Chinese) and Spanish which are two of the most commonly spoken languages in the world. China is also one of Australia’s top trading partners. We are also learning the language of Indonesia, which is one of our closest neighbor’s and has an emerging economy.

So what language should students learn? The answer is as many as possible. This is not a deterrent at senior secondary where it can also be possible to study Language at a Beginners Stage. At Ross Park Primary School, students have the chance to learn some of the world’s important languages and in doing so, learn about and connect to other cultures. The Alice Springs Language Centre teachers are connecting with class teachers so that respect for learning languages and cultures becomes part of the culture of the classroom. We are fortunate that we have the opportunity to have so many intercultural language learning programs that will enable students to participate fully as local and global citizens.

Year 2 Hempel are integrating Spanish language into their learning and daily routines. They use Spanish songs when they are entering and leaving the classrooms, transitioning between lessons and to bring everyone together for mat time. They also use Spanish greetings with each other and the Spanish words for common class doing words like listen, quiet, write, colour and glue.

**Musica Viva**
Next week, Ross Park students will be participating in the Musica Viva program. This program comprises a live performance of around 60 minutes and will involve question time at the end. There will be one session for the early years and one session for upper primary. Classes will take away teaching resources and lesson plans to continue learning about music throughout the term.

The program is based on the key ideas of: there is nothing like the excitement and power of a live performance, music is an essential experience for every student, music speaks to every child, and that every child has their own music to make. The program showcases interactive, dynamic and culturally diverse music groups that perform a wide variety of musical styles. We can’t wait to participate in this exciting program.

It is great to see students so full of energy with this cooler weather and it is a good time to remind everyone to remember their hats and water bottles even when it is cold. We have a full school assembly tomorrow and I look forward to seeing some of you there.

Have a great weekend!

Salima Spring
Assistant Principal

**Battle of the Lunchboxes**
Well done to all of the classes who have been working towards cutting down the waste produced from lunchboxes. Our SRC members have been busy visiting each classroom for weighing and have already noticed an improvement in just one week! We will announce who the winning class is at this week’s Whole School Assembly and present them with the **Battle of the Lunchboxes** trophy.

Check out this amazing waste free lunchbox.
Come along and listen to our Senior Choir preform their Eisteddfod songs tomorrow at assembly.

On Monday Mr Adami and Ms Gilbert’s classes were busy practising high jump for the upcoming sports day.

The year 5/6 students were busy making polymer clay beads as a surprise for mother’s day! We hope all the mother’s loved the unique gifts they received.

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

Construction Items Needed

3 France are hoping you can help out with supplying 27 cardboard shoe boxes and 27 empty 220gm cereal boxes for a class activity.

Some great ideas from Katie!

Kids love to jump, skipping off the couch, the tables or playground, from one object to another. Jumping is great for our health many of us will remember jump rope for heart back in the 80s. Jumping uses our gross motor skills and its so important our kids are taught to land safely. Landing on both feet and using arms to balance is a skill. Take the kids out to play this week and join in finding objects to jump off or jump over. Ask your littlies to pretend they’re frogs, kangaroos and leaping lizards and challenge their imagination at the same time.


Come and see CMS

Centralian Middle School is delighted to invite all interested people to a school tour and information session at 8.30am on Thursday 31st May, hosted by Principal Paul van Holsteyn.

The transition from primary school to middle school can be both challenging and exciting. Centralian Middle School is designed to support our students through the social and academic developments that occur during adolescence.

Our school values of Respect, Responsibility and Fairness are lived through our teachers and staff. While high school is typically a different teacher in each lesson, Centralian Middle School recognises the importance of student relationships with peers and teachers, and the sense of belonging. Our classes are arranged in home groups, where students move together and are taught by the same teacher for multiple subjects. We support our students to achieve to their academic potential, while also giving them the opportunity to develop responsibility for themselves and their actions with the help of our School Wide Positive Behaviour Support framework.

Centralian Middle School has a multitude of extra-curricular programs on offer. These include Clontarf Academy, Centralian Girls Academy, Polly Farmer, the NT Music School, a Student Leadership Program and numerous extension and enrichment programs and events. We support and encourage our students to take the opportunity to engage with these programs, which make their schooling experience richer.

We look forward to having you visit Centralian Middle School to explore our facilities and programs further.

Date & Time: Thursday 31st May, 8.30 – Location: Centralian Middle School, 56 Milner Rd Gillen

Come and join us for our Community Open Day Sunday 20th May 10am to 3pm at 8-10 Stuart Tce fun activities for the whole family.

Hamilton Downs Youth Camp fund raiser

Alice Springs’s Longest Desert Lunch

Saturday May 19th Todd Mall Tickets available online

www.hamiltondownsyouthcamp.org.au

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.

Celebrating

90 years