From the Principal
21 weeks of school completed already. It has been an amazing start to my first principal appointment. The breadth of my job is vast; teaching and learning programs, infrastructure and human management, financial accountabilities, community partnerships and engagement and strategic planning for continued improvement. My favourite aspect is hearing about the successes of our students and the joy they experience in our classrooms and as representatives of our school in community events and competitions. I hear these stories directly from; students, families, teachers, community members, teachers from other schools, media and, of course, through social media.

Achievements
Just last week Ross Park won first place at the Robo Cup Challenge, and the Interschool Athletics Carnival. These accomplishments are recognition of the individual students who participated and also the preparation, dedication and expertise of the teachers and staff of the school in partnership with parents and families who support us and their children. Ross Park Primary School is a strong community who strive to work together to create the best environments for learning as we demonstrate some of the school’s values: academic excellence, individual potential, challenges, respect, resilience, responsibility, creativity and inclusion.

At a school level, the 4/5 Panthers Restaurant was once again a huge success. The food was of a high standard, the service and attentiveness of the students was outstanding and the environment was a delight to the eyes and ears with beautiful decorations and lots of laughter. Well done to all staff and parents who lent a hand in some way. Small acts of kindness can have a BIG impact to a person. Year 2T visited Old Timers where they shared a gift basket full of donations from students, sang a song they had learnt and spent time engaging in various conversations about topics of interest and life in general. The residents showed their gratitude through their applause, smiles and enthusiastic conversations.

Keeping Safe
On Sunday I attended the community Crime Prevention Day, presented by Neighbourhood Watch Australasia and Neighbourhood Watch NT. This forum highlighted the importance of education in the lives of children, youths and adults. Education provides us with knowledge of the world, the skills and understanding of how to navigate through different contexts and helps us to develop perspectives of ourselves and those around us. Neighbourhood Watch has existed for the last thirty years, in the N.T. to build awareness of proactive strategies and behaviours that help prevent crime and develop safe communities.

School holidays start next week. Some of you may be travelling, having a holiday away from Alice Springs or choosing to stay in town to enjoy a different routine. Not all parents can access time off work to be their child/children so there are a number of holiday programs and activities that can be accessed to keep them busy and safe. Irrespective of where you might be safety is often a consideration and we discuss these with our child/children; beach safety, road safety, public transport safety etc. because it is out of the norm. However some families may have to leave their child/children at home in the care of an older family member or friend yet may not specifically talk about personal safety or protection of personal property.

Some key messages:
- Keep the front door locked even when you are home
- Do not leave spare keys around the house (leave it with a neighbour or friend)
- Put bikes and equipment away or out of sight when not being used
- Lock bikes up when going to parks or town
- Have telephone numbers readily available in case of an emergency
- Let parents know if something suspicious or out of the ordinary happens in your street

Farewell and Best Wishes
Tomorrow will be the last day for Ms Stevenson and Ms Naqito. Mrs McShanag, Business Manager Ross Park for last 14 years will be retiring in July. We hope to have a replacement by the time she leaves. We also say goodbye to Miss Delphi and Miss Rebecca who have been working in 2T and 5/6 M in a student support role since the beginning of the year. Ms Mooney has a wedding to attend and will be Mrs Letts when she returns to school on 23rd July. On behalf of the Ross Park community I sincerely thank these staff members for their hard work and wish them all the best for what the future brings.

Happy and safe school holidays to you all.
Suzi Burgess
Well done to our three RoboCup teams who proudly represented Ross Park at the RoboCup Junior competition at the Convention Centre last Thursday. This term, students in the RoboCup club all committed to giving up two of their lunchtimes a week, as they worked on building and coding their robot which they then choreographed a dance to music. The hard work paid off, as each of the performances went off without a hitch. They really were amazing! A special congratulations go to the “Mini-Mega Minds” team who took out 1st place in the Primary Onstage Division. You can come and view their trophy in the cabinet at the front office.

Mini Mega Minds
Jocelyn, Matilda, Shivangi & Tegan

Robomatic
Lenny, Isabella, Harper & Lydia

Zoo Keeper Kids
Jim, Lewis, Bodhi & Vasileios

Tom Middleton
RoboCup Mentor

Ross Park was the winning school in the interschool athletics competition. Forty students competed in various track and field events. Two of our students Rania and Tyler were age champions.

NT School Sport Under 12 Soccer Competition
Tyson, Kobe, Jocelyn, Darcy and Sean played for the Alice Springs region in the NT soccer school sports. Jocelyn’s team was lucky enough to win the whole event. Sean was picked for the NT team and Darcy was picked as a reserve.

Battle of the Lunchboxes
The Battle of the Lunch Boxes has been a real success this term. Thank you to all the families who have been supporting their child to cut down on the amount of waste that they bring to school in their lunchboxes.

When the SRC first started weighing classroom waste back at the start of the term, we totaled almost 2½ kg for the whole school. For our final weigh-in this week, we got close to the 1kg goal with a total weight of only 1080g. Now that is some improvement! We will continue to work towards creating as little lunch box waste as possible next term.

Tom Middleton
SRC Coordinator

Art Supplies Needed
Ms Hill is in need of cereal boxes for Art for next semester, all donations appreciated.

ROSocos
News from the Canteen
Week 10 Special
Chicken Curry with rice $5
Warm Milo Cup $2