Ross Park Primary School

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Week 7, Term 4

Thursday 29th November, 2018

FROM OUR ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

The festive season is upon us again! I really love this time of the year, not only because of my attachment to the themes of Christmas but also because of what it means for family. Any time that we can come together and enjoy each other’s company as a family is really important. Sure, children love getting presents (and yes, I don’t mind the odd present also) but I find that children enjoy quality time with parents and family equally. The fun question is what to do? Sure you can sit around the family table staring at each other or you can bring out the board games, play active games, watch movies or even go for a walk or bike ride (assuming it’s not too hot). Needless to say the time spent together is important: bonding with each other and connecting and learning about what excites our children and sharing what we are passionate about is an important thing to impart to our children also. There is plenty of evidence that children learn most of the ways they will respond in life from the ways that we as parents act or respond to situations, which is scary! Providing opportunities to engage with our children that are positive and share our values help them to learn from our experiences. Whether you plan to spend time celebrating Christmas in a more traditional way or not, there is no doubt that this time of the year is important for families.

EVENTS

We are officially in the final weeks of our term. With that in mind there are a few major events that are heading our way. The CMS orientation Day is tomorrow (Friday) 30th November. Whether your child is attending CMS or you are undecided, this will be an important day for students transitioning to middle school next year. Also tomorrow is the Wearable Arts parade, presented by 4/5WS, in the hall at 1.30pm. TERRIFIC KIDS awards will be presented at assembly next week, so come and join us to celebrate the incredible learning that our students have achieved over the semester. Year 6 Graduation will occur on Tuesday 11th December. This is an exciting culmination and celebration, highlighting the journey of our year 6 students. For some of our students this has been a transition to year 6 experience; for others this a more recent journey.

REPORTING TO FAMILIES

Classes are being formulated for next year and reports are being finalised. We spend considerable time consulting and negotiating the best possible combinations of students based on teacher observations, parent feedback and balance within classes. Establishing 19 classes with over 440 students to distribute, with multiple factors to consider and aligning teachers to each class is not something that is easy. The importance we place on this is high and we want to get things right so it is a process of review that has several iterations. Classes will be established soon and students will find out who their teachers will be in Week 9. Teachers are busy writing and proof reading reports. Please take the time to share these with your child when you receive them on Wednesday 11th December. All our students have improved in their learning journey and celebrating these steps forward, big or small, encouraged.

SEASON’S GREETINGS!

This will be my final newsletter for the year and I would like to wish you an incredible and safe holiday season. I have enjoyed working with you and your child and I look forward to another excellent year next year, continuing to support and enhance the experience that your child has at Ross Park Primary School.

SHONTELL DOUGHERTY
Assistant Principal

Dates to Remember

- Junior School Assembly tomorrow Friday 30th November @ 8.40am in the Hall (Hosts: Transition Ryan) - includes a performance by our Junior Choir
- CMS Orientation Day tomorrow Friday 30th November
- Year 6 Graduation Evening Tuesday 11th December
- Professional Development Day Tuesday 29th January 2019 (NO STUDENTS AT SCHOOL)
- End of term 4: Thursday 13th December; school resumes on Wednesday 30th January (school office will be open 24th, 25th and 29th January for uniform sales and voluntary contribution payments)

My favourite playgrounds are those closest to home, here’s why:

- You can leave the car at home.
- Meeting the locals. You meet.
- Learning road safety and navigation.
- The journey is as fun as the destination.

Role modelling healthy behaviours like walking, riding and moving more not only make you feel more energetic, they set your children up with healthy habits for life.

KATIE BROMLEY Coordinator

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KATIE BROMLEY Coordinator
2018 ROSS PARK CHRISTMAS APPEAL FOOD DRIVE

The response from our families has been wonderful and there is still time to donate! Drop items in to the school office before 7th December—thank you!
Student Representative Council

Next year, our weekly newsletter will NOT be distributed to families in paper form. To tie in with our sustainability focus, families are encouraged to register through our website www.rossparkprimary.nt.edu.au and the newsletter will be emailed on Thursday afternoons. Only a few printed copies will be available at the school office, for those families who don’t have access to the online systems.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY
Our Regional Manager has approved a professional development day for all staff on Tuesday 29th January 2019. NO STUDENTS ATTEND SCHOOL ON THIS DAY—students begin on Wednesday 30th January.

Ross Park students attended the Interschool Gymnastics Competition at the Alice Springs Youth Centre last week, with 84 students participating. In the lower division we filled the top three spots coming first, second and third. In the upper division we came second, third, fourth and fifth with one point only separating each of these teams—an outstanding effort!

GYMNASTICS

DANCING!
Students from Year 1/2 Thompson have been learning Indonesian with Ibu Darmini. They were shown a traditional Balinese costume and Xavier and Kayla were able to dress up! They were very keen to learn Balinese dancing!

PERFORMANCES!
Year 5/6 students have been rehearsing plays for nearly two terms, culminating in performances this week. These plays formed part of their assessment for the year and students performed in both on- and off-stage roles. We are proud of our confident, mature thespians!

BACK TO SCHOOL VOUCHERS
Vouchers for $150.00 per student can be accessed via the school NEXT YEAR. This credit can be allocated to uniforms, camps, swimming, excursions, graduation and some other suggestions, at parents’ discretion.

CRAFT
We are making Christmas crafts in 2T. We have made Christmas crackers, salt dough decorations and paper bag stars with Kelli, a beaded bracelet or key ring with Marissa, a foam Santa, black scratch board decorations and many other things. Special thanks to Kelli and baby Tomas for giving up so much of their time,’ by Indi.

MORE CONGRATULATIONS!
Ashton (4/5SWS) won the Outstanding Student Award at the Polly Farmer presentation night this week. What a fantastic year you’ve had Ashton—this is a well deserved reward!

CHRISTMAS IS COMING!
This week T Ryan, Dawson, Harper and T/1 Walton joined together to celebrate the end of a fabulous year learning about special events and special places. What better way than to celebrate a special event (Christmas) in a very special place (right here in the bush of Central Australia) by visiting The Bush Christmas exhibit in Central Craft at the Araluen Arts Precinct. We visited a series of nine beautiful and inspiring craft diaramas that told a lovely story about finding peace, light, joy, songs, feasting and relaxation in Christmas. We really enjoyed the wonderful surrounding park, playground, art galleries and the inimitable generous gallery hosts who guided us through the galleries. It is open until Christmas and is well worth the visit!

Community Notices

Alice Springs Aquatic Centre ‘Summer to Remember’ includes pool parties, kid’s day out and swimming intensives. Go to info@asalc.com.au for details.