FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Unfortunately, illness has affected our school and many students, and staff, have been unwell. Please remember to telephone, text or email to let us know if your child will be absent and we must also know the reason, as this is a Departmental requirement.

Between 4-8 staff members have not been present DAILY, since the start of term! Please be assured that we make every effort not to interrupt students’ daily routines, but when our human resources are stretched, some changes are unavoidable.

Congratulations to Taylor House, which won Sports Day 2019 last Friday! Taylor had not been victorious for over 10 years, so the win was overdue! The winning captains will be presented with the shield at the Week 8 assembly, as most of the team leaders will be participating in the Interschool Athletics Carnival tomorrow. Student participation was excellent and it was wonderful to see so many families cheering on their children. Ms McGregor, a relief teacher, commented on how impressed she was with the students’ supportive and positive attitude throughout the day. Thanks to teachers Alastair Sheriff, Lucy Winwood Smith, Kerri Gilbert, Bec Hewitt and Tom Middleton, who planned and managed with the support of our enthusiastic teachers. Such a fun day! Being on the microphone made me wonder if that could be my next career opportunity: what do you think, game show host? Horse racing commentator?

Over 300 of our students participated in the Centralian Eisteddfod during the last two weeks—transport to and from Araluen Theatre was a massive logistical exercise! The whole stage management aims to build confidence and oral/performance skills and many students achieved excellent results. We intend to showcase our students’ talents in a concert one afternoon soon—watch this space!

45 of our athletes from the senior school will take part in the annual Interschool Athletics Carnival tomorrow. Expectations are high, as our school has won the event for the last four years!

Next week, students from Mrs Mapstone’s and Mr Stedler’s 5/6 classes will camp at Hamilton Downs. These cold, but sunny, days are perfect for camping and the outdoor activities at HD are unlimited! We look forward to seeing some photos.

As you can see our school is able to offer a wide range of learning experiences that take our students beyond our school boundaries. Events such as those mentioned are opportunities for our students to demonstrate behaviours which reflect our school community values: respect, resilience, responsibility, creativity, inclusion, challenges, potential and happiness. At Ross Park children, parents and all staff have a right to feel safe, which includes physical and emotional safety. All members of our school community work hard in developing effective partnerships with each other, with students and families so we can discuss concerns and issues sensitively with the intent of meeting the needs of the individual child as best we can together.

Ms Salima Spring is our Special Education Teacher-Leader. She works closely with a team of support staff who have many years of experience in working with students with disabilities and additional needs. The Learning Unit team also includes Ms Jane Marshall. Together these educators work tirelessly with teachers and families to address individual student needs through specific programs, routine targeted activities and explicit teaching of learning strategies and skills in small groups or individually. Whilst we have some great expertise within our school, at times we need to call upon health professionals and external education advisors to provide additional support and services. These may include speech, occupational therapy, physical and psychological assessment to guide our next steps in identifying the most appropriate form of support.

We recognize the value of our classroom support personnel and our administration staff and we continue to provide opportunities for them to meet, discuss and share their work and engage in learning sessions to equip them with the knowledge and skills to be highly effective in their respective roles.

I am very proud to be the Principal of Ross Park, working with a collegial and hard working staff who show care and commitment to the development and growth of all our students!

Keep warm and healthy!

Suzi Burgess Principal

AVOIDING THE FLU...
1. Get immunized!
2. Avoid others who are sick
3. Wash hands often
4. Keep your hands away from your face
5. Avoid sharing food
6. Maintain healthy habits—eat well, sleep well, exercise, REST!

Dates to Remember
- Whole school assembly tomorrow Friday 31st May
- Interschool Athletics Friday 31st May
- Uniform free day tomorrow Friday 31st May (an SRC initiative—Wear your PJ’s for a Day! - see over page)
- Year 5/6MS Camp at Hamilton Downs Wednesday 5th—Friday 7th June
- Last day of Term 2: Friday 28th June; first day of Term 3: Tuesday 23rd July
- Professional Development Day for Staff: Friday September 6th

REST!
Tomorrow, Friday 31st May, is the last day of Autumn. SRC students will host Pyjama Day (onesies and two pieces only please). Students are asked to pay a gold coin donation, which will go towards our playground renovations. Have fun!

SRC Students

MINILIT...
Is an evidence based, effective, early literacy program for teaching reading skills. Activities include: sounds and words tasks, text reading and story book reading and small groups of students undertake up to four sessions weekly with trained educators.

CONGRATULATIONS...
...to Lacy and Nellie (5/6A) and Sadie and Jade (5/6M) who have been chosen to represent the NT in netball, after a 3-day training camp in Tennant Creek. Quite a few of our students attended the camp and had a great time honing their skills.

DATE CLAIMER: 
Photo Day
Wednesday 31st July

SPORTS DAY 2019
Congratulations to our Team Leaders for excellent organisation of their teams on Sports Day 2019! Josh B (5/6S) won the High Jump trophy, Bella F (5/6A) won the Sportsmanship award and Bradley G (4/5SWS), Issy T (5/6BG), D’Arcy S (5/6M) and Emma T (4/5SWS) won the Age Champion medals.

ROAD SAFETY EXCURSION
Mrs France’s Year 3 students enjoyed their morning at Newland Street Road Safety Centre this week. The Centre is a fabulous facility for developing bicycle and road use proficiency. The Centre is open on Saturday mornings from 19th June until late October, so that families can more readily access it.

TALK ABOUT GROUPS
As part of their weekly awareness sessions, students were asked to put their facial parts together. Hopefully, they chose the right ones!

This week is National Reconciliation Week - a week about celebrating culture. An activity to get our families moving this week uses only chalk and concrete or footpath. Using Indigenous local art explore the different symbols artists use to depict animals and people and create a little key for yourself. Using this key create a pathway or picture story of movements - you could use kangaroo, perentie, bilby, emu, dingo, people and snakes for example. Follow the different paths using different animal movements. The story can be as short as long as your imagination!

Katie Thompson, Co-ordinator

Community Notices

NT Table Tennis Open 9th June from 9.00am at OLSH Marian Centre invites everyone to participate—prizes include money, vouchers and trophies! Call Laurel on 0415077087 for details.

Alice BEAT Festival—would you like to star?!? Auditions for Year 5 & 6 students will be held on 17th June. Go to www.ntms.net.au for information.

EISTEDDFOD PHOTOS