From the 
Assistant Principal

As we progress through the 21st century, we face unprecedented challenges. In our lifetimes and those of our children, we will witness dramatic social, economic and environmental change, driven by a faster rate of globalisation and technological developments. The future is uncertain and we cannot predict it but we need to be open and ready for it. The children entering education in 2018 will be young adults by 2030. Schools around the world are striving to prepare children for jobs that have not yet been created, for technologies that have not yet been invented and to solve problems that have not yet been anticipated. To navigate through a rapidly changing world, students need to develop curiosity, imagination, resilience and self-regulation. They will need to respect and appreciate the ideas, perspectives and values of others, learn to cope with setbacks and move forward when faced with adversity. Their motivation needs to be more than getting a good job; our students will also need to care about the well-being of their friends and families, their communities and the planet. At Ross Park, these concepts are central to our school values, are woven into our SEL lessons and our students can articulate their importance.

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, (OECD) compares the education systems of different countries and ranks them according to student achievement. Australia has recently been ranked as a high performing country. This could be due to several contributing factors. Although we are a relatively small and culturally diverse country, we value teacher knowledge and efficacy, we respect and celebrate student diversity, and we ensure all students have equal learning opportunities.

Ross Park teachers are among the best in the world and are constantly developing their knowledge and skills to create the best possible learning environments for our children. Education can equip learners with the competencies they need to shape their own lives and contribute to the lives of others. At Ross Park we strive to develop capabilities in our students that will prepare them to be successful adults in a world that may look very different to how it does now. Our students are developing as assessment capable learners who can talk about their learning and direct it to self-identified areas of need. Next week we are holding our Student Led, Three Way Conferences. This is an opportunity for students to showcase their learning so far this year and work with their teachers and parents to identify areas of need and set learning goals for the remainder of the year.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?
We had a wonderful NAIDOC Week breakfast on Monday where students and families enjoyed some of the 500 pancakes cooked by our own Aunty Bev. Thank you to all those who volunteered. Please join us tomorrow for our NAIDOC Week assembly where classes will be sharing what they have learnt about NAIDOC Week and what they have created with their buddy classes.

The Year 5/6 classes had another visit to Centralian Middle School (CMS) this week and a tour with Principal Paul van Holsteyn. This is a unique opportunity for our students to meet the middle years teachers and experience the facilities and programs on offer at CMS.

Next week 40 Ross Park students in Years 4 -6 will be participating in the Inter-School Orienteering championships at the Telegraph Station. Students will be working in pairs and reading maps as they practise their orienteering skills. Good luck to all.

Year 2 Birds walked to Papunya Tula Gallery on Tuesday this week (see over page). They are now anticipating their next excursion to Mega Fauna Central which showcases the unique megafauna of Central Australia of the Miocene Epoch from the Alcoota Scientific Reserve. This is a rich fossil site located about 150 km north east of Alice Springs. This area is home to the bones of 30 species of animal, including many megafauna that were living in the heart of Australia about 8 million years ago.

The 4/5 Panthers will be visiting the Pathology section of the Alice Springs hospital next week as part of their unit of work on the human body. They will be examining platelets under a microscope!

SAFETY REMINDER
We recommend that students DO NOT arrive at school before 8am. As well, students are encouraged to make their way straight home after school. As much as we look forward to seeing all our students each day, we cannot provide adequate supervision outside school hours.

Dates to Remember
- Whole school NAIDOC assembly tomorrow Friday 3rd August @ 8.40 am on the softfall
- Parent/Teacher Meetings Tuesday 7th, Wednesday 8th & Friday 9th August
- Book Week/Book Fair Monday 20th August
- PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY for staff Friday 28th September (students should NOT attend that day)

We look forward to seeing all our students tomorrow Friday 3rd August.

Salima Spring, Assistant Principal
SWIMMING
Swimming lessons for students TR-Yr 2 will commence on 27th August and finish on 14th September. The timetable is:
Transition Week 6 27/8 -31/8
Year 1 Week 7 3/9-7/9
Year 2 Week 8 10/9-14/9.
Information and permission notes have been distributed this week and there will be a fee to help cover the costs of transport, swimming instructors and pool entry. Some families have put aside part of their Back to School subsidy at the start of the year—if you are unsure, please check with the school office.

SCHOOL PHOTOS
We had a busy but successful Photo Day yesterday! If you have any queries, or want to submit late orders, contact the photographers directly: saoffice@advancedlife.com.au.

REMINDEERS:
Scholastic Book Club wants to help you develop and motivate your child to read.
In Issue 5, when you place an order, you have the opportunity to select a FREE book from a range of titles to help grow your home library.
For parents who are using the LOOP app, you will need to upgrade to the latest version before logging on to be offered the FREE book promotion at checkout.
Scholastic Book Club is due Friday 3rd August.
Lisa Wallace, Coordinator
Thanks to parents who brought in cereal boxes—now we need clean plastic bottles! Thanks in anticipation.
Sarah Hill, Coordinator.

CONGRATULATIONS.
..to Lulu from 1 Thompson, who has a new baby sister, Jemima!

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY
Friday 28th September
Our Regional Director has approved a PD day for staff on Friday 28th September. Staff will further deepen their knowledge, skills and understanding in how to plan effective and targeted learning programs for diverse learners. Students are NOT to attend on this day.

SPORTS
Students at our school are so lucky to experience many different sports, including golf, swimming, netball, soccer, hockey and orienteering! Our sports coordinators, Alastair Sheriff and Lucy Winwood Smith, spend many hours coordinating these activities for students—thank you Alastair and Lucy!
NB: no Net-Set-Go practice next Monday—public holiday.

'CHOOKY' BUCKET!
Students from Transition Kaye Ryan collect their food scraps daily, for Ms Ryan to take home for her five chooks.
"Every class should have one," said Alexander.

BOOK SWAP
‘As part of Children’s Book Week, on Wednesday 22nd August at lunchtime, there will be a book swap for all year levels. I will start collecting books daily next week. For each book you bring, you can choose one to replace it at the swap. No more than five books are allowed and no baby books, unless you are in Transition to Year 2.’
NYREE, 5/6 Adami, Coordinator.

VISITORS IN 2 THOMSON
John and Alex from Parks & Wildlife visited Year 2 Thomson as part of our ‘caring for our school’s wildlife’ program:
"I learnt to look with my eyes and not touch lizards and birds,” said Winston.
"We shouldn’t keep injured animals. Drop them off at the vet or ring Wildcare," said Lila.
(Wildcare visited us in Term 1 with some beautiful Tawny Frogmouth owls. They are returning soon with some joeys.)

YEAR 2 BIRDS OUT AND ABOUT!
Year 2 Birds loved walking to town to visit Papunya Tula Art Gallery for NAIDOC Week. Students listened to manager Paul Sweeney speak about the artists, their lives and their work. They searched for symbols and patterns in the art and were inspired to create their own paintings. Thank you Papunya Tula Artists!

CENTRAL ORANGE ATLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS
14th August—go to athleticsasp@y7mail.com for more information or collect an entry form from the school’s front office.

ROSCO’S
Special for Week 3—
Chicken & Vegie Pasta Bake
$5.00

COMMUNITY NOTICES
Central Australia Athletics Championships 12th August—go to athleticsasp@y7mail.com for more information or collect an entry form from the school’s front office.

Alice Springs NDIS Provider Expo @ Doubletree by Hilton 10th August from 10.00am—contact Annette for information: 0436662070.

YMCA now offers badminton, junior hoops and rockwall activities for children—contact Marilyn on 89525666 for details.