Principal’s Message

Greetings to staff, students, parents and community members, welcome to the first edition of the Ardross newsletter for 2016. I would especially like to welcome all our new students and families to the Ardross School Community and trust that you find us welcoming and inclusive. The fortnightly newsletter is one of the main forms of communication between the school and home. It provides useful information with regards to current and upcoming events. I know that we are all very busy however **IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE NEWSLETTER IS READ EVERY FORTNIGHT.** Today all families will be receiving a hard copy to ensure that it gets home, but from the next edition on Wednesday, 24 February the newsletter will be available online with only those families who have requested a hard copy receiving one. If you have not registered to receive notification by email that the newsletter is available you can go to [www.ardrossps.wa.edu.au](http://www.ardrossps.wa.edu.au) and register online in the newsletter section. Receiving the newsletter online assists us with our school sustainability initiatives of reducing our reliance on paper. You can now also access our newsletter more conveniently on your smart phone in an easier to read format.

**GENERAL STAFFING INFORMATION**

The parent information booklet for 2016 is being finalised and will be placed on our website shortly. It provides all relevant information from A to Z regarding school operations. The following is some general staffing information for the commencement of the year.

**Principal:** Andrew Holmes

**Deputy Principal:** Bob Parker

**Deputy Principal:** Catherine Bishop

**School Registrar:** Alison Stockman

**School Officer – Level 2:** Chips Northcott

**School Officers – Level 1:** Tania Logothetis / Gabriella Nicholson

**Library Officer:** Lois Bowden

**School Gardener:** Jason Felstead

**School Cleaners:** Oscar Hernandez (Head Cleaner), Hilda Hernandez / Daniel Paredes

**Learning Support Coordinator:** Catherine Riley

**Primary Science Project:** Lindsay Macmillan

**School Psychologist:** Annette Goldschlager

**School Chaplain:** Nathan Hoyle

**EALD Teacher:** Gail Lawson

**Learning Technologies Coordinator:** Glenn Hill

**LOTE Specialist Teacher Japanese:** Hisayo Rego

**Physical Education Specialist Teacher:** Alison Davies

**Music Specialist Teacher:** Claire Mason

**Art Specialist Teacher:** Sue Warren

**Environmental Education/Aboriginal Education:** Cath Bishop

**Kindergarten Teachers:**
- **Room 15** - Lee-Anne Downey / Jade Davies
  - Janine Coles / Katthie Essemont

**Pre-Primary Teachers:**
- **Room 16** - Helen Brown / Jade Davies
  - Sian Jackson / Roseanna Dennis

**Education Assistants:**
- **Room 11/12** - Diana Cooper / Jade Davies
  - Christina Stivaletta / Janine Coles / Sian Jackson

**Junior Primary Education Assistant:** Sandy Heaperman

**Special Needs Education Assistants:** Linda Brydon, Judi Edmonds, Sandy Heaperman, Deena Le Page, Carolyn Stephens, Jeanette Edward and Christine Jones.

**Year 1 Teacher:** Room 13 - Jackie Loney

**Year 1 Teacher:** Room 10 - Denise Harman

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FOCUS 2016

2016 will be another busy year at Ardross as we continue to implement our teaching and learning programs. Staff are working hard to ensure that we meet our Focus Areas from our Business Plan 2015-2017 as endorsed by the School Board.

Focus 1 – Success for all Students – Ardross Primary School strives for all students to become confident, successful learners, creative individuals, socially and environmentally responsible citizens.

Focus 2 - High Quality Teaching and Learning – At Ardross Primary the learning environment will be characterised by excellence in teaching. All students will be active and engaged learners in a stimulating and inclusive learning environment.

Focus 3 – Collaboration and Partnerships – Ardross Primary School recognises the value that quality partnerships contribute to a successful school. This includes effective relationships between staff, students, parents and the broader community.

Priority Milestone – Throughout the Business Plan there are measurable milestones linked to the broader outcomes and strategies. Our priority milestone is High standards of student achievement, both academic and social, measured against “like” schools.

Our targets support The Department of Education’s Focus 2016 of “High Performance – High Care”. Through Focus 2016 school’s objectives include:

♦ success for all students
♦ high quality teaching
♦ effective leadership
♦ strong governance and support.

At Ardross we work closely with the School Board, P&C and community to ensure we work together to meet these objectives. In 2017 we will be reviewed by the Department of Education Services, an independent process from the Department of Education, to assess the progress of Ardross against our Business Plan 2015-2017.

PARENT/TEACHER INFORMATION SESSIONS

All teachers will be holding Parent Information Sessions early in Term 1. The purpose of these meetings is to outline to parents the teaching and learning programs planned, together with organisational structures used in the room. Teachers will discuss Curriculum, Behaviour Management, Homework, Communication and other day to day operations of the class. These meetings are not designed to allow time for parent/teacher interviews, however these could be scheduled at a later date. Staff have been asked to plan for a 30 minute time and will communicate with you the planned meeting time. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend.

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance at school is fundamental to your child’s learning. Consistent attendance and participation are essential for your child’s social and academic learning. As parents or legal guardians of an enrolled child, you are responsible under the School Education Act 1999 to ensure the attendance of your child at school every day. It is important to assist your child’s achievement and learning by making regular school attendance a priority in your child’s life. The Department of Education’s Student Attendance Policy requires parents/guardians to provide an acceptable explanation to the School Principal for any absence of their children. Principals must authorise all absences. The Act defines health, religious and cultural observances as reasonable cause for a school absence and the absence would be recorded as ‘authorised’ by the Principal. As the parent/guardian you must obtain the Principal’s approval for any planned absence.

When a legitimate note has not been received from the classroom teacher within 3 days the teacher will send home a system generated note outlining the date of the absence and a space for you to provide a reason for the absence. If within three days of sending this note home, a legitimate excuse has not been provided, Mr Parker will send home a letter from administration requesting an explanation.

The Minister for Education, and the Director General have also stated that it is not appropriate for students enrolled to be withdrawn for family holidays during term. Last year we had over 1300 non attendance days due to family holidays! While I can understand that occasionally it may be necessary to travel overseas, families who regularly withdraw their children for holidays during term time do so to the detriment of their child’s learning. Staff are not required to provide work packages and students may find themselves behind in their learning upon return, making it difficult for both the teacher and student. All holidays taken during the term must also be approved by the Principal and will be recorded as unauthorized absence.
I look forward to your ongoing cooperation with attendance.

THANK YOU
Thank you to Mr and Mrs Hernandez, Mr Paredes and Mr Felstead who ensured that our school was well looked after over the holidays. Staff and students returned to a very clean school with the gardens continuing to thrive.

Have a great fortnight.

Andrew Holmes
Principal

UPFRONT CHARGES IN ADVANCE
Parents who wish to pay one lump sum at the beginning of the year to cover the base fees charged for excursions, excursions and sport activities may do this now. For new parents, the charge will be the full amount as approved by the School Board for 2016 contributions and charges and listed in the School Information Booklet. The upfront payment is:

- $40 for Kindy;
- $165 for PP-Year 2;
- $210 for Year 3;
- $225 for Year 4, and
- $255 for Years 5 and 6.

Parents who are continuing with this option from previous years are able to pay the difference between this year’s charge and funds already held in credit from the previous year. Please see the office staff to establish your 2016 upfront payment. The upfront payment does not include Instrumental Music, PEAC, Choir, Camps, Year 6 Dinner/Dance or Leavers’ Shirts. These items are invoiced separately as they are extracurricular activities.

You are welcome to call and discuss any concerns you have with payment of school contributions and charges.

Alison Stockman
Manager Corporate Services

P&C NEWS
Happy New Year from the P&C

Meeting Dates for Term 1
Please join us in the Staff Room on the following dates:
Monday, 15 February – 7.30pm and Monday, 14 March – 7.30pm

Canteen Open Days
The Canteen is open on a Thursday and Friday each week. Check out the new Summer Menu. Plus don’t forget the kids can get an icy cold slushie in this heat.

Latest Project
Just completed, the new shade sails over the supernova playground. Next time you are at school, take a look as they look great and make for a safer playground for the kids.

Save the Date
Friday 13 May, 2016 – Trivia Night at Tompkins on Swan

Class Parent Representatives
Thanks to all the Parents who have nominated to be their Class Parent Representatives for this year. Your input to the school community is invaluable and we thank you very much for nominating for this wonderful role.

Samantha Hickman
P&C President

CHAPLAIN’S CORNER
Welcome back from Mr Hoyle and good to see plenty of new faces at Ardross Primary School. For those I haven’t met, I’m our school Chaplain. A school Chaplain’s role is to care for the social, emotional, mental and spiritual wellbeing of students, families and staff within their school. So feel free to drop by my room on Tuesdays and Thursdays to say hi, or send me an email at nathanh@youthcare.org.au.

Students, a reminder that you can always make a time to chat by putting your name in the Chaplain’s Box in the front office - just ask our wonderful admin ladies if you can’t find the box.

We’ve already started our BUZ Power Social and Emotional Learning program with one Year 6 class, with another starting this week. My handball game is back at peak form, so expect plenty of recess competition from me.

See you around soon.

Nathan Hoyle,
YouthCARE Chaplain

SCHOOL CHOIR
Students from Years 3 to 6 have been invited to join this year’s choir, and have been advised to meet on Thursday at lunchtime in the music room. Choir will be held on Thursday afternoons at 3.15pm starting Week 3. Students will receive a letter outlining further details soon.

Claire Mason
Music Specialist Teacher
SAND PLAY
Our students love creative sand play but we need some old bowls, pots and pans to add to their sand play equipment. Please send your donations to Room 7.

OSHCLUB NEWS
Our new children have settled in quite well and are enjoying their new OSHClub friends. We have some exciting activities this week as children suggest their ideas to me, and we implement them into our program. We have great fun and games and lots of healthy food always.

Just a reminder that as it is Term 1, it's time to Slip, Slop, Slap! Please make sure your child brings a hat to the OSHClub program. We have a policy of "No hat - No outside play". OSHClub provides sun cream. If your child is allergic to a particular type of sun cream please inform us at the program.

We welcome you to join us at any session. Please come and see me for any enquiries.

Val Maiorana
OSHClub Coordinator

CANTEEN ROSTER

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thu 11 Feb</td>
<td>Ai Mei Yap</td>
<td>9-10.00pm</td>
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<td>Liz Grimshaw</td>
<td>9-11.15am</td>
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<td>Fri 12 Feb</td>
<td>Kim McIsaac</td>
<td>9-10.00pm</td>
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<td>Mel Smith</td>
<td>9-10.00pm</td>
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<td>Thu 18 Feb</td>
<td>Dessy Nugrahanto</td>
<td>9-10.00pm</td>
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<td>David Burns</td>
<td>9-11.15am</td>
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<td>Claire Greenwell</td>
<td>11.15-11.55pm</td>
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<td>Fri 19 Feb</td>
<td>Yvonne Lee</td>
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<td>Vivienne Cheng</td>
<td>9-10.00pm</td>
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<td>Shona O’Keefe</td>
<td>9-11.15am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mel Smith</td>
<td>11.15-11.55pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 25 Feb</td>
<td>Larissa Motton</td>
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<td>Dawn Diver</td>
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<td>Amy Hunter</td>
<td>9-11.15am</td>
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<td>Jem McGill</td>
<td>11.15-11.55pm</td>
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UNIFORM SHOP
11 February 2016  9.00 - 9.30am
18 February 2016  9.00 - 9.30am
25 February 2016  9.00 - 9.30am

ATHLETES EDGE FITNESS
Coordinated by qualified fitness instructor Jakob Phoebe, a former student of Ardross Primary School, Athletes Edge Fitness aims to provide affordable outdoor group fitness classes for anyone who is interested in releasing their inner athlete. As an active football player, sprinter and long jumper, Jakob has extensive knowledge in well rounded overall fitness and conditioning. He is also vastly experienced in managing injuries and works closely with physiotherapists to do this. Athletes Edge Fitness believes that every individual has the ability to become the best athlete they can be, with the proper training. By eliminating the use of equipment, Athletes Edge Fitness is tailored to suit all fitness levels and all ages* by encouraging the athlete to push their own limits and not those of others. Flyers are available at the office.

Cost:  $10 a session
Location:  Ardross Primary School Oval
Sessions**:  Wednesday 6.00-6.45, 1800-1845
            Friday  6.00-6.45, 1800-1845
            Sunday  8.00-8.45, 1600-1645
Email:  athletesedgefitness@gmail.com
To Book:  www.athletesedgefitness.acuityscheduling.com
* Athletes must be 16 years or over
** For the complete Athletes Edge Fitness experience, it is recommended that clients train 3 days a week, as each day is formatted differently for maximum benefits.

MT HENRY DENTAL CLINIC
The Mt Henry Dental Clinic wishes all patients a happy new year. As all correspondence and appointments are sent to the home address it is important that we have up to date contact details. If any of your details have changed or you have not heard from us for a while please contact the clinic on 9313 0552.

Thank you for your help and best wishes from the staff at Mt Henry Dental Clinic for 2016.
Ardross Primary School would like to thank all of the sponsors listed here for their support of the school. We encourage all parents to use their services where feasible.

Paul Evensen
Associate Director
Realmark Applecross
mobile: 0439 923 844

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Aussie Farmers Direct is our school’s new fundraising partner!

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It’s easy and hassle free fundraising
Shop with Aussie Farmers Direct and they donate 2% of your total spend back to our school.

Why Families Love Aussie Farmers Direct
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• Great quality produce
• Always 100% Australian - supporting Australian farmers and your local community

For more information call 1300 008 626 or visit www.australfarmers.com.au/fundraising

*Minimum order quantities apply