

## Ardross PS Newsletter 11 October 2022 • Issue 8

#### **Important Dates:**

**Wednesday 12 October** Year 5 Salsa Year 6 Ballroom Dance

**Thursday 13 October** Uniform Shop Open Future Problem Solving Finals

**Friday 14 October** Future Problem Solving Nationals

**Monday 17 October** Years 1 to 4 Dance

**Tuesday 18 October** Assembly – Swimming Awards @ 2.40pm P&C Meeting @ 7.00pm

**Wednesday 19 October** Year 5 Salsa Year 6 Ballroom Dance Community Café

**Thursday 20 October** Year 2 – Excursion Kings Park

Friday 21 October Lapathon

Monday 24 October Years 1 to 4 Dance **Tuesday 25 October** Assembly – Room 2

**Wednesday 26 October** Year 5 Salsa Year 6 Ballroom Dance

**Thursday 27 October** Uniform Shop Open Dianne Wolfer Visit – Years 4 to 6

Monday 31 October Years 1 to 4 Dance

**Tuesday 1 November** Assembly – Room 2 Interschool Athletics

Wednesday 2 November Year 5 Salsa Year 6 Ballroom Dance Board Meeting

**Thursday 3 November** Outdoor Classroom Day

Monday 7 November Years 1 to 4 Dance

**Tuesday 8 November** Year 1 to 4 Dance Assembly - Lapathon

## **Principal's Message**



Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter. Don't forget to also regularly check our website, and to follow the school on Facebook to keep up-to-date as we motivate, educate and celebrate.

I would like to welcome students and families to Term 4, 2022. I hope that our school community had an enjoyable school holiday period.

#### **COMING IN TERM 4**

There are several events for students and the wider community planned for this term. Next week students will be participating in the Faction Swimming Carnival (Monday, 17 October) and the Lapathon (Friday, 21 October). Information on these events has been sent to parents – please stay up to date on further information through Connect. Some notable upcoming events to put into your calendars:

- Week 4 Interschool Athletics Carnival (1 November)
- > Week 5 Arts Extravaganza (10 November)

> Week 9 – Graduation & Book Awards Evening (8 December)

Please refer to the Term Planner for all upcoming school events.

#### COMMUNITY CAFÉ – TERM 4

Pillar 2 of our school Business Plan is **Positive Collaboration & Partnerships**. A key strategy within this pillar are our school's **Community Cafes**. These events provide opportunities for our school to share our key practices with our families, and to engage with the communities on topics of interest.

Our final community café for this year – *Student Services At Our School* - is being held next Wednesday, 19 October. This session is being facilitated by our Deputy Principal (Student Services) Alice Chesterfield and Nathan Hoyle (School Chaplain). Parents are invited to take this opportunity to learn and ask questions about how our school supports the additional needs of our students. Bookings can be made by clicking the link - <u>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/studentservices-community-cafe-tickets-425566529947</u>

#### SCHOOL DRESS CODE

Our staff and School Board have recently reviewed and update our Dress Code for students attending our school. A copy of the updated *Ardross Primary School Dress Code* can be accessed through our school website <u>here</u>.

Recent updates to our Dress Code include:

- > removal of gender lists for Dress Code requirements.
- > leggings to be worn under unforms, not as a solo item of clothing.
- > no slip-on shoes.
- > timeline for the phasing out of the old logo.

To commence Term 4, staff will be increasing our focus on ensuring families are supporting the school's Dress Code. Parents will be notified when their child is not meeting the Dress Code requirements. Students not meeting Dress Code requirements may also be unable to attend excursions or represent our school.

Our school Dress Code promotes a positive image of our school, creates a sense of community and belonging among students, and assists students to learn the importance of appropriate presentation. The Dress Code also promotes safety of students through easier identification.

#### STUDENT VOICE SURVEY

Last term, students in Years 5 to 6 completed this year's *Your Voice: Student Survey*. Feedback from the students highlighted the following successes –

- > Teachers expect students to do their best
- Teachers are "good teachers"
- > Students are motivated to learn
- Students feel safe at our school

In Week 9, I met with the Student Councillors to gain further insight and feedback on the areas identified by students for improvement. I would like to commend our Student Councillors for the level of consideration, maturity and honesty they brought into this session, and I thank them for the insightful feedback they provided.

Feedback from students is being reviewed by staff as part of our school's ongoing self-reflection, and actions to support improvement will be included in 2023 planning.

#### **2023 STUDENT PLACEMENTS**

Preparations for next year are already underway, and I have begun the process of building the class structures for 2023.

The number and structure of classes for any particular year is determined by the school's total projected enrolment in each year level for the coming year, the school's allocated funding, and school-based decisions on workforce and resource management. It is important that the school has accurate information regarding which students will be continuing at Ardross PS next year.

# If your child/ren will NOT be attending Ardross PS in 2023, please complete the tear-off slip and return to the front office ASAP.

The placement of students in classes is at the discretion of the Principal. I will be working with staff to discuss the placement of students in classes for 2023. Student placements will be based on the teachers' professional judgements of each child taking into consideration academic, social and emotional needs.

In order to ensure that the process is open, equitable and transparent for all, the following criteria will be applied for the placement of all students in classes. Parents who feel they have critical or relevant information pertaining to the placement of their child in 2022 should advise me in writing.

#### **Placement Criteria**

- > Specific needs of the child
- > Group homogeneity the retention of positive relationships and groups
- > Maintaining a balance of academic abilities and social emotional needs and abilities
- > Maintenance of gender balance (where practicable).

Parents who feel they have critical or relevant information pertaining to the placement of their child for 2023 should advise me in writing – <u>robert.marshall@education.wa.edu.au</u>

# Specific requests, in writing, for class placement for 2023 must be received by 3.10pm on Friday, 4 November 2022.

#### SCHOOL MAINTENANCE WORKS

Our school has continued its commitment to upgrading our school grounds and facilities. The installation of fans and stage lighting in the Undercover Area has commenced this week. These upgrades will assist in making the Undercover Area a more comfortable and functional space moving forward.

Two additional flag poles are being installed, and maintenance work completed on our existing flagpole. Our school will start flying the Australian, State and Aboriginal flags together in the coming weeks.

I would like to thank the Ardross PS P&C Association for their financial support for both of these projects.



Robert Marshall Principal

#### **STUDENTS NOT RETURNING TO ARDROSS PS IN 2022**

My child / children			
Room	Year Level	Room	Year Level
will <b>not</b> be returning to Ardross in 2022.			
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### **Faction Athletics & Swimming Carnival 2022**

Our faction carnival in September was one of the best ever, with a dazzling display of sportsmanship, grit and resilience. The weather was perfect, the cheering from the bays was spirited and the action on the field, full of excitement. Congratulations to our overall winners, Waylen! And to Butler for winning the sportsmanship award. Thanks is extended to our parent helpers - we can't do it without you! Thanks a million! From the bake sale to the book fair and all the track and field events in between, the day was a huge success. We are now turning our attention to the upcoming Swimming Carnival next week for our Years 3 to 6 students. Good luck to all factions!

Date: Monday, 17 October 2022

**Time:** 9.00am – 12.00pm

Venue: Leisurefit Booragoon Aquatic Centre

Years 3 to 6 only. Please refer to additional information sent home to all participants.

## **Chaplain's Corner**

#### **MENTAL HEALTH – LIFE'S GREAT BALANCING ACT**

It's Mental Health week this week, which I think is a great time to salute all the things we do daily, weekly, monthly that contribute to good mental health.

Well done for the days when you choose to spend some quality time with people you love.

Well done for the days when you accept imperfection.

Well done for the days when you set limits for yourself and tolerate that 'you can't do everything'.

Well done for the days when you stretch yourself, knowing that growth doesn't always feel great.

Well done for the days when you switch from being dad/mum/carer to employer/employee to friend/listener to helper/volunteer, all before morning tea.

Well done for listening to your body and your health and booking the appointments that you need to.

Well done for drinking a little bit more water and a little bit less coffee.

Well done for switching the phone off.

Well done for going to bed before the dishes were done, because you needed to. And for doing the dishes before signing into email, because you needed to.

Mental health is a measure of balance, and balance is about constant change and adjustment. Perhaps this week is a good week to celebrate the balance that you have achieved, and think about the ways you might like to build some more balance? Jump on to

<u>www.actbelongcommit.org.au</u> and take their quiz – it took me about 5 minutes, and it has given me some food for thought.

Well done.

Nathan Hoyle Chaplain

## **P&C** News

Spring has sprung and we welcome you all to Term 4. We hope you all had a restful school holidays and are ready for a wonderful end to 2022.

#### **SPORTS DAY – A BIG SUCCESS**

Thank you to the community for producing wonderful food items for our Sports Day food stall. Without you there wouldn't be a stall. And Thank you to all the food consumers. We made a total amount of \$3000.00.

Thank you to Fiona Hood, Justine Penno, Kelly Hallums, Cindy Webster, Melissa Fletcher, Francesca Cummings, Dilini Hughes, Dajana Petrovic, Jenny Nordan, Estabelle Ang, Tasha Whitmore, Paul Crawshaw and Paul Webster for setting up, manning the food stall and then packing away.

Minnie Pongjapoa generously made 120 jelly cups. A food stall tradition that sells out very quickly. Thank you, Minnie.

We would also like to thank the following business for their donations. Woolworths Booragoon for the trays of fresh fruit, Officeworks O'Connor for stationary items and Bunnings Myaree for new trestle tables and trolleys.

#### DRESS UP DAY AT SCHOOL

What: Dress as your favourite sporting personality or favourite sports team coloursWhen: Friday, 4 NovemberCost: Gold coin donation

We look forward to seeing all of your wonderful sporting outfits.

#### 2022 CHRISTMAS & END OF YEAR SUNDOWNER - SAVE THE DATE

What: Christmas Sundowner When: Friday, 25 November Time: 3:30 until sunset.

Food trucks, Christmas stall, fun and games for children, live music, silent auctions and a wonderful opportunity to socialise with the school community.

Get your fruit cakes prepped and your cookie cutters out as we will be kindly asking for food and craft donations for a bumper Christmas stall. More information to follow.

#### **FATHERING PROJECT**

What: Charity Paper Plane Fundraiser for MovemberWhen: Friday, 21 NovemberTime: 4.00pmFood: BBQ provided.More to come...

#### **CARD FUNDRAISER**

Mrs Warren has had the children creating beautiful pieces of art to be made into gift cards. Cards can be purchased online very soon and make wonderful, personalised Christmas and Birthday cards for your friends and family. A link to purchase cards online will be sent you. Please keep an eye out.

The next P&C general meeting is on Tuesday, 18 October at 7.00pm in the Staff Room.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Warm Regards - 2022 P&C Team

### **Library News**

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#### WHAT A RESULT!!

During Week 9 last term, our annual Ashton Scholastic Book Fair was once again held in the Library. It's always so wonderful to see such excitement on the students faces when they walk through the Fair and to see so many families purchase new books to satisfy their eager book worms  $\bigcirc$  Your support of the Book Fair each year is greatly appreciated.

We are so pleased to say that this year we sold a staggering **\$8,172** worth of books - the highest amount we've achieved at a Book Fair. Our school Library receives 20% commission from the total sales which Mrs Jones puts towards securing author visits and other library initiatives which are beneficial to all students.

A special thankyou to our volunteer helper, Mrs Tania Stenton who helped ensure the Book Fair ran as smooth as possible.

Natalie Jones Library Officer

### **Board Update**

Fellow parents, it's time for your update on our recent Board meeting discussions...

Each year we are briefed on the curriculum reports and review the academic progress of our students. They break down the grade achievement levels for each year and outline the strategies being actioned to enhance the academic progress of Ardross students. It is a great window into the immense amount of work and effort put in by our teachers to keep Ardross amongst the top performing primary schools in our state. *On behalf of the school community, we thanked the* 

## teachers and acknowledged their ongoing dedication to delivering improved academic outcomes.

As always, the Board reviewed progress on capital works projects at the school. As an older school, there are always refurbishments required, with work being done to upgrade the undercover assembly area and to address slip and trip hazards at the school. New flag poles are being installed after Term 3. Planning is also underway to replace turf in the currently expanded sand pit created by enthusiastic budding sports stars in the pre-primary area.

Our school's uniform policy is currently under review. It gave rise, as always, to strong views amongst the Board members. There was agreement with most of the existing policy, but it agreed on the need for more consistency in its application. The current transition period from the old uniform to the new - that started in 2019 - is resulting in staff concern with differing logos and clothing items being worn by students. It was agreed that the school would fully transition to the new logo in 2024 to allow for the move to the new branding and for the final phasing out of the older branding. Board members sought to minimise the economic and environmental costs of moving to a new uniform by having a long transition period. It appears likely that a new supplier will be required next year. The P&C is also seeking to address skin irritation issues with the embroidered logos on shirts. There were some modest amendments agreed to the uniform policy relating to leggings and advice will be circulated separately about that. It was also agreed that unclaimed lost property clothing items would be recycled through the P&C for resale or for free for families in need.

The Board also followed up consideration of parent feedback in the 2022 community voice survey. A significant number of parents are seeking a better understanding of what is being taught in the classroom and our teachers have responded with a more consistent approach to parent communications. One initiative is the development of the fortnightly email updates that I am sure you will be enjoying. Parents are also unsure about the role of the Board and its function, so we are seeking to improve the visibility of the Board and its discussions. By the way, do not hesitate to contact me (gcooper@iinet.net.au) or any board member (which includes the Principal) if you want to raise issues as a parent via your Board representatives.

Our school is striving to connect regularly with our parents. The out of hours Community Café series of events at the school continues to be well supported. We've had topics covering NAPLAN, positive behaviours, healthy eating and cyber security. The Board provides input on the topics, so if you have any issues that you'd like covered don't hesitate to suggest them to Robert Marshall or any other Board member.

The Board also noted the financial position of the school, which remains sound once again – well done Denise. In the next meeting, we will be looking – as it does each year - at the voluntary contribution amounts for 2023.

By the way, our next meeting in Week 4 of Term 4 is an 'open' meeting for any interested parents to attend.

I should also take this opportunity to thank Robert for so capably handling the role of Principal this year ... he's working hard behind the scenes to ensure our school operates professionally so a big ongoing thank you to him and his team.

Until our next meeting ... thank you.

Geoff Cooper Board Chairperson



## **OSHClub News**

Enrolling your child in OSHClub is easy and free. All you need to do is complete an enrolment form online at <u>www.oshclub.com.au</u> where you will have the option of booking as either a permanent or casual user. Once your child / children are enrolled you then have the comfort and reassurance of knowing that your child will be cared for in a safe, fun and friendly environment.



## **After School & Saturday Mandarin Club**

Mandarin Stars provides immensely enjoyable Mandarin Language classes for children. After-school Mandarin Club is available in the Library on **Tuesday, Thursday and Friday** from **3.15pm to 4.15pm** and **4.15pm to 5.15pm (Kindy to Year 6). Saturday morning classes** for children ages 1-12 years are held in the Senior Block. To enrol or to book for a free trial class, please contact <u>perthsouth@mandarinstars.com.au</u> or call 1800 18 1118 for more details.

