PRINCIPAL POPE’S PARAGRAPHS

Here we are 4 weeks down. It is good to see so many students settled, in routine and focused on their learning. I have had the opportunity to see many great pieces of work. I am also glad to see so many students treating one another with kindness and respect. Our rule as I’m writing this newsletter is about

BEING KIND

A few tips from Louis Armstrong

When you're smilin’ keep on smilin’
The whole world smiles with you
And when you're laughin’ oh when you're laughin’
The sun comes shinin’ through’

I’m so glad to see this rule being promoted at school. One vital skill in life for all of us is learning how to get along with others. You can be kind to anyone and everyone. Not just your friends. How about giving a nice smile, offering a friendly greeting (like g'day or how’s it going?). Help others out or be a good listener. Share your time, a joke or a game. Include others and be encouraging or positive.

Sometimes it’s normal to get a bit annoyed or cranky but try not to take it out on others. Never touch or hit or push or grab others. Don’t hurt others with your fists, elbows, legs, feet or with objects. Try and stay calm and find a spot to calm down or talk to someone calmly about why you’re a bit grumpy. Keep unkind words locked away. If you come across a problem don’t make it worse by over reacting or becoming aggressive yourself. Instead try doing the following –

Use the 3-Step Program when dealing with a problem in the playground:
1. Say, “STOP! I don’t like that”
2. Ignore or move away
3. Report to a teacher

One procedure within our discipline system is for students to spend time on ‘Reflection’ if their behaviour is serious enough or consistently inappropriate. When students spend time in the Reflection Room, they are counselled about their behaviour and complete a behaviour journal. This journal is sent home the same day for parents to view and sign. We ask parents to discuss the concerning behaviour with their child and improved steps they could take next time. This discussion will support the actions that have taken place at school. NB: Students are required to return the Reflection Journal sheet signed by the parent/carer so further actions at the school level do not occur.

Please note that any act of physical violence is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. In such instances, consequences for students will be serious and in accordance with our Student Welfare Policy.
Meet the Teacher: What a success. It was great to see so many parents at our school. This was a great way to share information and show your child how important you think schooling is. Success at school increases opportunities for later in life. If due to work or other commitments you were unable to attend, you can still get involved through a phone call or sending your child's teacher a note with any important information. We look forward to working with you this year and to make sure your child's year is the happiest and most successful possible.

Get involved at the Swimming Carnival next Friday- $10 & notes required now: Primary classes will be involved in the swimming carnival at Mount Annan Leisure Centre on Friday 1st March 2013. Students in Year 2 who turn 8 this year are also invited to attend. The cost of the excursion is $10.00 (This covers pool entry and bus fare). All children attending the carnival should travel on the bus. Classes will depart from school at 9:00am and return to school by 3:00pm.

Children should wear their sports uniform, sports shorts, a hat and a T-shirt in their house colours. Students should wear their swimmers under their uniform to assist with changing and time restrictions.

Please make sure your child brings the following items clearly labelled:
*Swimmers *Hat *Towel *Sun screen *Lunch *Recess *Drinks (No glass bottles) *A plastic bag for wet things (No crepe paper streamers are permitted at the pool.)

We are once again looking for volunteers to help out on the day as time keepers etc. Please see Miss Bray if you can assist. Please encourage your child to participate. It’s great for school spirit and fun as well.

P&C Meeting: Our AGM will be held on the 18th March at 1.00pm. All parents and community members are welcome to attend. To vote or run for positions you must be a financial member ($1). Please pay this to the office at least one week before the AGM. Come and become a part of a team with the aim of staying informed about the school and helping our children and their learning and welfare through fundraising and other initiatives.

Absence Notes Booklets: All families will be supplied with an absent note booklet today for completion when students are absent from school. We request parents/carers return absence notes on the day the students return to school. All co-operation is appreciated. P.S. Coming to school is important so where possible please be on time.

Playtime and Transition Program for Years 0-5- It is free! Our playtime and transition program operates each Monday morning from 9:15 am- 11:00am. This free program operates in one of our classrooms (Breakfast Club Classroom) and is staffed by three wonderful, experienced staff. We look forward to seeing many new faces on Monday. Please contact our school office if you require further information.

Your Child’s Safety: Teachers commence supervision from 8:30am so please do not send your child to school before 8:30am. If you send your child to school before supervision commences, you are putting your child’s safety at risk.

High School Enrolment for Yr 6 students: Parents please complete and return the ‘Expression of Interest for Placement in Year 7 at a NSW Government Secondary School in 2014’ form and return this to school by this Friday 1.3.13 – Thanks to those who have already done so.

‘Crunch and Sip’ Program: We implement ‘Crunch and Sip’ each morning. To help your child participate please provide your child with a water bottle and a small piece of fruit or vegetable each day. We hope that having access to a healthy snack mid-morning will help improve students’ concentration.

Mr Pope’s practical tips for the playground– smile at someone and watch their reaction.

Mr Pope’s practical tips for the classroom – impress your teacher by being enthusiastic and engaged.

Sean Pope
Principal
House Captains for 2013 The staff and students of Ambarvale Public School are very proud to announce to our school community the new House Captains for 2013.

It is the role of the House Captains and Vice Captains at Ambarvale Public School, as Student Leaders, to set an example of excellent behaviour for the whole student body. They should support other students at all times and help to encourage a safe and happy school.

An elected captain should strive to:

- Be a good role model for others (well behaved, positive attitude) in all school settings
- Attend all sports carnivals
- Participate in all sports carnivals
- Display good sportsmanship at all times
- Willingly assist all members of their sporting house if required
- Lead their sporting house at carnivals to encourage and ‘cheer on’ all participants.
- Complete playground equipment duties and other allocated jobs when required.

Our House Captains for 2013 are:

Congratulations to these worthy recipients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>House Groups</th>
<th>CAPTAINS</th>
<th>VICE CAPTAINS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Takanna</td>
<td>Aleem Ngan-Woo</td>
<td>Leena Cham</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Brodie East</td>
<td>Jayson Saunders</td>
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<td>Wirana</td>
<td>Britany Prince-Francis</td>
<td>Trinity Staveley</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Amani Fareda</td>
<td>Medina Beglerovic</td>
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<td>Koobor</td>
<td>Yoshua Jarrouj</td>
<td>Rraine Puffett</td>
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<td>Brandon Glumac</td>
<td>Caleb Elomari</td>
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<td>Gurugadji</td>
<td>Claire Johnston</td>
<td>Lachlan Greening</td>
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<td>Luke Kotsou</td>
<td>Journee Proctor</td>
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Term 1 Assembly Roster

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Lead by</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 11th March (Wk 7)</td>
<td>K-2</td>
<td>1/2K Mrs Flannery</td>
<td>Class Merit Awards</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>5/6D Mrs Duffield</td>
<td>Class Merit Awards</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 25th March (Wk 9)</td>
<td>Whole School</td>
<td>School Captains/Leaders</td>
<td>Presentation of bronze, silver, gold, platinum awards</td>
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<td>Tuesday 8th April (Wk 11)</td>
<td>K-2</td>
<td>K/1C Mrs Clarke</td>
<td>Class Merit Awards</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>5/6G Mr Gray</td>
<td>Class Merit Awards</td>
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Clean up Australia Day - On Monday 4th of March, Ambarvale Public School will be involved in the annual Clean Up Australia Day by tidying our school grounds. We ask parents to assist by sending plastic bags and gloves with your child during this week or on the day.
This week (Week 5), our PBIS focus is, “Being prepared.”
The rule is: Being a Learner

Students are participating in explicit lessons focused on modeling the behaviours which ‘prepared learners’ exhibit.

Being a Learner means:
- You try your best at all times
- You are prepared and ready to learn

At Ambarvale we expect people to be prepared to learn. When you are prepared, you are being a learner. You can show this by.....
- Having your own equipment
- Bringing your equipment into class first thing in the morning
- Exhibiting the 5L’s as you enter the learning environment
- Having breakfast before school and being settled
- Entering the classroom respectfully and responsibly.

Next week (Week 6), we will be focusing on the importance of keeping our school clean and tidy. This covers all four school rules.

We will be having a ‘Clean up Ambarvale P.S’ day, in line with the well-known ‘Clean up Australia’ campaign.

Library Chat

It is great to see so many children using the library. The games and computers continue to be popular at recess and lunchtime, and I have also noticed that several children are coming to spend their leisure time reading.

Please help your children to remember to return their library books each week. Sadly there are some children who did not return their book last year, and they may not borrow until the book is returned or paid for. Notes will come home with your child this week if your child has an overdue book.

This year the library is open for borrowing on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. It will continue to open at recess and lunch every day. Children may return or borrow books during recess and lunch or even after school on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Book Club

All children should have received book club magazines by now. Orders for books should be sent to the school library on **Wednesday 6th March**. They will only be accepted on this day. Spare magazines for all age groups are available: please see Mrs Sullivan if you would like one.

**P&C Easter Raffle:** The P&C are seeking donations of Easter Eggs for their Easter raffle. We are asking families to donate Easter Eggs to their child’s classroom. We will hold a mini competition between classes to see which class can bring in the most eggs. Soon raffle tickets will go home with parents & community having the chance to win baskets of eggs (mmm…yum…I’ll be in that). Winners will be announced at the Easter hat parade. All money raised from the P&C goes directly back to the school to support our students.