Principal Pope’s Paragraphs

Learning Quote: “I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel”.
Maya Angelou

Welcome back to Term 4 and what a fantastic end of year we have to look forward to. Don’t forget though that learning as much as you can is the most important thing you can do.

There are many things to look forward to this term. These include Attendance Extravaganza, School Camp, Year 6 Farewell, Kindergarten Orientation and the introduction of some great new opportunities with technology.

I am excited to say that during the holiday we have begun and almost completed our new computer lab. Another week and it will be 100% ready. I am asking students to come up with an innovative and creative name for our computer lab. Students can write their suggestions and place them in a box outside Miss Hartley’s room before next Monday. The SRC will look at the suggestions and pick a winner. In class students will have the chance to develop and design posters and charts promoting responsible computer use, computer etiquette, cyber safety and care for the lab to be displayed in the computer lab. The computer lab will be a valuable resource along with quality teaching and learning that will increase student engagement, develop 21st Century skills and generally improve learning in a range of key learning areas. We are arranging to have an official opening in the beginning of Week 4 where the new lab will be renamed and be ready for use.

As well as this staff are about to begin training using a tablet/laptop device where children will be able to use apps and programs in class to enhance and support their learning. I am looking forward to us making even greater progress in technology during 2014 and look forward to the impact it will have on student learning.

Good Luck – State Athletes: Aleksandra is off to compete at State in the 100m this Wednesday and Seturi will be competing in Shot put on Thursday. This prestigious event will be held for the best athletes from all of NSW at Homebush and we congratulate both these athletes and wish them fun and success.

Public Speaking Oracy champs: As mentioned last term our in school oracy competition was outstanding with a majority of students having a go and presenting improved, entertaining and informative or persuasive speeches. Today Phoenix Ngan-Woo, Maya Naiker, Kaitlin Glumac, Tremayne Mauigoa, Brodie Paul, Sage Deely, Jessica Luu & Jordan Paul along with Miss King will compete against schools in our area at Rosemeadow Public School. May your voice be clear and interesting and may your words be memorable. Good luck to all of you and thanks for being such great Ambassadors for Ambarvale PS.

Staff update: Mr Gray and Mrs Duffield are continuing as relieving as Assistant Principals during Term 4. We welcome Miss Hartley back from her extended leave. Mrs Duffield will return from her leave in another week. Mrs Manning will be taking maternity leave from next week and Mrs Radford the week after. Mr Carrett will take over K-6M from week 4 in a fulltime capacity and we welcome him to Ambarvale.
NAPLAN: NAPLAN results will be sent home later this week for Years 3 and Years 5. Each student will receive a report showing how he or she performed in the National Assessment of Literacy and Numeracy in May this year. These results give parents/carers and schools an indication of how well students are performing in these important areas, and how the performance of each student compared to that of other students in the school and nationally but please keep in mind it is only one test and can’t replace the detailed assessment and observation that your child’s teacher has collected and analysed over the course of the year. If parents/carers have any questions or queries about their child’s NAPLAN report, please contact your child’s teacher.

Sports Tabloid & Hip Hop Attendance Extravaganza: This was a very successful day and students enjoyed a variety of engaging sporting activities. Thank you to Mrs Duffield, Miss Bray and the PBIS team, and Mr Gray who organised this worthwhile reward and with promoting improved attendance and positive behaviours.

Student Attendance: Improving attendance is a high priority for our school and this term we continue to want your child at school every day, unless they are sick or there are special circumstances that require them to be absent. Did you know that if your child misses as few as eight days in a school term, by the end of primary school they will have missed a whole year of education? By law, you are required to send your child to school every day. If your child has to be away from school for any reason, please either tell your child’s teacher or send a signed note explaining the reason for the absence, as soon as possible and within one week of the absence. If you’re having problems getting your child to attend school regularly and on time, please talk to your child’s teacher or principal.

Please let us know - student absences from school: Please inform the school if you intend on taking your child out of school for a period of time, such as an extended family holiday or need to visit family interstate/overseas. It is important that such leave is discussed in order for the school to put the necessary procedures in place to support such leave occurring.

Kindergarten Enrolments for 2014: We are currently enrolling now for Kindergarten 2014. Please contact the office for an enrolment form if your child commences next year and spread the word that we are now accepting enrolments. Such information is required for our planning and organisation for 2014. Orientation dates for 2014 are as follows: Thursday 7th November and Thursday 21st November. Please keep these dates free if you have a child starting next year. Please ensure enrolment forms are returned to school ASAP so that enrolment information can be sent out to parents.

Year 5 & 6 Camp: A reminder that final payment is due next week for the Year 5 & 6 camp to The Great Aussie Bush Camp (13th - 15th November 2013). Any outstanding monies for previous payments need to be made immediately. All places for camp are now taken and we currently have a waiting list. A further reminder that appropriate behaviour is required prior to camp to enable students to participate in this activity.

P&C Meeting: The next P&C meeting will be held on Tuesday 29th October at 1.00pm in the Breakfast Club room.

Breakfast Club: For many years Peter Becker has organised, ordered food and co-ordinated volunteers for Breakfast Club at Ambarvale P.S. Due to changing work circumstances he is no longer able to fulfil this role. We would like to thank Peter for his efforts and the difference he has made to the students of Ambarvale. Breakfast Club is highly valued by our students and community. A healthy breakfast helps students to concentrate and be energised for their learning. Breakfast Club will be able to run for a few weeks but we need someone to run it for a longer time. If you are interested please contact Mrs White or Mr Pope.

Stewart House Bags You should have received a Stewart House Bag with this newsletter. Please fill your bag with any items of unwanted linen or clothing. The bags will be collected from our school by Stewart House so please return your bag by Monday 21st October (next Monday).

Mr Pope
PRINCIPAL
Term 4 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 21st October (Wk 3)</td>
<td>K-2</td>
<td>K-6M Mrs Manning</td>
<td>Class Merit Awards</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>3-6W Mr Young</td>
<td>Class Merit Awards</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 4th November (Wk 5)</td>
<td>Whole School</td>
<td>School Captains/Leaders</td>
<td>Presentation of bronze, silver, gold, platinum awards</td>
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<td>Monday 18th November (Wk 7)</td>
<td>K-2</td>
<td>KV &amp; KT Ms Vest &amp; Miss King</td>
<td>Class Merit Awards</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>3/4B Mr Byrne</td>
<td>Class Merit Awards</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 2nd December (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>Monday 16th December (Wk 11)</td>
<td>K-2</td>
<td>K-1C Mrs Clarke</td>
<td>Class Merit Awards</td>
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<tr>
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<td>3-6</td>
<td>School Leaders</td>
<td>Class Merit Awards</td>
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Stage Three Camp - The Great Aussie Bush Camp

5th Camp Instalment Due Soon!

Our next instalment for the Stage Three camp is due by **Wk 3 Term 4 (Wednesday 23rd October)**. The payment amount is $30. Parents who have already paid the full amount of $230 need not make any further repayments.

An instalment payment slip is included with this newsletter. Please return it with your child's payment by the due date.

A number of students have not made the payments required at this stage. Please ensure that the total amount required at this stage ($200) has been paid by the date of this instalment.

Students who are behind in repayments will receive a reminder note this week.

Our Stage 3 camp this year will be held at ‘The Great Aussie Bush Camp’, which is a curriculum-centred, outdoor education and recreation camp, located near the beaches of Port Stephens and Myall Lakes. The camp will include 2 nights and 3 days accommodation, meals and all activities. The cost of the camp includes transport to and from Tea Gardens by coach.

The dates for camp for 2013 are Wednesday 13th November – Friday 15th November (week 6 Term 4). The cost for camp will be $230.

Please remind your child that attendance at this excursion is a privilege given only to Stage 3 students. As such, only students who maintain appropriate behaviour will be permitted to attend. Any inappropriate behaviour may prevent your child from being allowed to attend. Please discuss this expectation with your child.

Please speak with Miss Page or the Year 6 teachers if you have any questions or queries.

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Stage 3 Tea Gardens Camp - INSTALMENT NUMBER 5 – $ 30.00

DATE DUE: Wednesday 23rd October (Week 3, Term 4).

Please find enclosed $ ____________ as payment for the Stage 3 Tea Gardens camp.

Childs Name__________________________________    Class_______________

Signed __________________________(parent/carer)          Date________________
This week (week 2), our PBIS focus is, “Wearing a hat in the playground”. This focus is being revisited as we want all of our students to know the importance of sun safety, especially as summer approaches. Students are participating in explicit lessons on sun safety and the importance of wearing a hat when we are in the sun both in and out of the school environment.

The rule is: Be safe

When we wear a hat in unsheltered areas we are;
- Protecting our head and face from the damaging effects of the sun
- Protecting our eyes from sun damage
- Following the same rule that all schools must follow

Last week our PBIS focus was on, “Safety Drills”. Students participated in explicit lessons on safety drills which we have a school including: evacuation drills, lock downs and amber alert. These safety drills allow our students to feel safe at school at all times, with the knowledge of the procedures to follow when we have unexpected incidents.

At Ambarvale, we expect all students to be kind, safe, respectful learners.

Attendance
We want all of our students to attend school as much as possible! Attending school every day is essential in ensuring our students have the best possible chance to succeed at Ambarvale Public School and in their future learning.

Term 4 Attendance Reward
Our end of term attendance reward this term is **a day at the movies!** We are very excited to once again take all of our great student attenders to the movies at Macarthur Square on Tuesday 17th December. For students to be eligible to attend, they must return their absent notes within seven days of their absence. If an absent note is returned after this seven day period, students will not be able to attend this fantastic reward! We would love our whole school to attend this reward so please bring your child to school every day.

Term 3 Attendance Reward
Last term we hosted very exciting hip hop dance classes for all of our wonderful student attendees. These classes were a great reward for our students who had no more than three days absent and returned a note explaining why they were away. Below are some of the great dance moves students learnt.

We must thank the Benevolent Society and Julie Clark for their continual support and organisation of these fantastic rewards for our students! They share the belief with our school that attendance is the biggest contributor to student success at school.
Year 6 T-Shirts
Our Year 6 commemorative t-shirts have finally arrived! All year 6 students will be allowed to wear their special Year 6 T-shirts every Friday. These t-shirts celebrate the completion of Primary school and should be worn with pride along with the normal school pants or skort. Student are not permitted to write on these shirts as they are considered normal school uniform.

Library Chat
Welcome back for the last term of the Year. Book club magazines are coming home this week, with orders due on Wednesday 30th October. I would like to thank all those who have been buying books through book club: not only have you bought and enjoyed some great books, but you have supported the school library. I have been able to buy many new books for the library using points earned with each purchase. At this time of year I need to remind you to return overdue library books. I need to complete a stocktake of books at the end of term, and you will help if all books are returned. Overdue notices will come home shortly to remind children to find those missing books. Please support your child in returning all books on time.

You are invited to
Kindergarten Orientation 2013
At Ambarvale Public School
On
Thursday 7th November, 2013 – 9.15am
And
Thursday 21st November, 2013 – 9.15am

We look forward to meeting you
This is an introduction of a story written by Neha and Britany.

It was one of the darkest nights at Orphanage Delon, where every child's nightmare came true. Outside the orphanage ghastly shadows appeared from the mist and kept the children awake and trembling with fear. All but one small child was reading as calm as possible about the history of the orphanage that had long been forgotten because of the horrors it contained. Marree De Francis slowly walked up to her window and through her reflection she saw her childhood go by. The soft sound of her music box kept her calm and allowed her to let everything that she disliked go by. The music was the key to her past and every note she played carried her closer to her past.

This week we visited 1/2M and saw their amazing art work and also looked at their recounts about their excursion to the Symbio Wildlife Park. Here are some of them.

By Ian

Yesterday on the 5.9.2013 KT went to Symbio Wildlife Park. First we went by bus then ate our fruit break. Then we watched the reptile show. My favourite part was when we fed the kangaroo because it was fun.

By Karthik

Yesterday we went to Symbio. We went on an excursion! First we had our fruit break then we went to see some animals. We saw emus, weasels and alpacas. My favourite part of the day was when I got to feed the armadillo. It was my favourite part because they eating out of my hands.

Teacher Interview

Before the holidays we interviewed Ms Vest and found out that she likes teaching because it’s fun and as well as teaching her class she gets taught herself. She was inspired to be a teacher by her year three teacher and every lesson they did together was fantastic. Ms Vest loves to read, go to the gym and play lawn bowls. Some of her favourite movies are MONSTERS INC, Toy Story and Good Will Hunting. If Ms Vest was not a teacher then she would have been a mum or a vet, she has already achieved her goal of being a mum so now she is a teacher.