Principal Pope’s Paragraphs

Congratulations Mrs Potter Mrs Potter has been successful in gaining a Deputy Principal position at Claymore Public School through the Expression of Interest process. She will hold this position for at least six months. This is a testament to her outstanding leadership. Mrs Potter has been at Ambarvale P.S. for 5 years and in that time she has had a terrific influence on students, staff and our community. She will be missed by all, but we wish her every success in her new role. I am in the process of organizing Mrs Potter’s replacement and I will inform the community as soon as a decision has been made.

Thanks Mr White You’ve been more than ALRIGHT! Mr White has been filling in for us all year as our General Assistant. He has done an outstanding job maintaining and beautifying our school and gardens. Mr White has been more than helpful doing all those odd jobs that need doing each week and we thank him for his outstanding job and efforts. A permanent General Assistant has now been placed at our school and we welcome Mr Royce Needik who starts with us today.

Ambassador Day for Neha Last Thursday Neha Lal attended a leadership day at Belgenny Farm in Camden. She was with the Ambassadors from a number of other schools across our region. Neha had a great day working with others and developing her own leadership skills. We look forward to her sharing her knowledge and skills with us at school and beyond as our representative. See some more from Neha on the school Ambassadors student page.

Parent Workshop the Sequel Last Friday we had our second workshop for parents organized by Mrs Potter and Mr Gray with presenters from the department Liz Henson and Rebecca Anderson. We had fifteen parents from our school and Thomas Acres finding out about our latest school initiative – Focus on Reading and how they can help their children with reading and comprehension. Morning tea was enjoyed by all and the lucky door prize went to Josephine. The fortnight before we had a successful workshop on Best Start – Early literacy and Numeracy. We were well represented with 31 parents from our school and Thomas Acres Public School. This has been a great way for our parents to be involved in what their child does at school, to find out ways of helping their child and to meet and get to know us and one another. Thanks to all who came along. Congratulations to Elizabeth who won the lucky door prize on that occasion. I hope the rest of you enjoyed your cuppa and nibbles.

Stay tuned for more workshops coming up in Term 3 here or at Thomas Acres PS.

Terrific Playground Behaviour = Tabloids We like to encourage our students to be their best in the playground. This means being friendly, including others, following school rules and teacher instructions. Those students who can avoid too many negative comments in the playground folders will be rewarded with sports tabloids and games.

Attendance Extravaganza = Sumo Bonanza Come to school for learning and we will throw in an extravaganza just for you! If you’ve had three or less explained absences then you can participate in the Sumo fun. I’m looking forward to a bit of wrestling myself.

Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>June</th>
<th>Assemblies</th>
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<tr>
<td>18/6 - P&amp;C Meeting</td>
<td>Please see Assembly Roster included in this Newsletter</td>
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<tr>
<td>21/6 - PSSA Gala Day</td>
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<td>25/6 - Parent/Teacher Interviews &amp; Sumo</td>
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<td>26/6 - NAIDOC Week Celebrations</td>
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<td>28/6 - Disco &amp; Sports Tabloid &amp; last day of Term</td>
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Student Reports & Interviews Reports are coming home this Thursday. Please be encouraging and positive with your child. Most meaningful change and progress is made from being positive and building on what your child can do. For areas of need talk to your child’s teacher and together set a few, smaller achievable goals. If a goal seems too big or things are made too negative then children are more likely going to try and avoid certain topics or tasks. As a team, teachers and parents can be positive and encouraging to help your child achieve their best.

The information below may help you better understand your child’s report -

- The **level of effort** assessed in curriculum areas **range from Excellent to Unsatisfactory**, and is included in your child’s report to describe the amount of effort your child has applied to their work in each Key Learning Area (subject) over the past semester. A level of ‘excellent’ or ‘good’ means that your child is trying hard at school and should be commended for this. An effort grading below this indicates that your child could apply more effort to their work in order to achieve their full potential in the subject.

- The **level of achievement** assessed in curriculum areas **range from Outstanding to Limited**, and is included in your child’s report to describe how well they have achieved in each strand of each Key Learning Area (subject) over the past semester. A ‘sound level’ of achievement means that your child is ‘on track’ in relation to what he or she is expected to learn. Other grades will indicate whether your child is doing better than expected or needs more help in certain areas of their learning.

- Some students will receive a **Learning Adjusted Report** for some or all of their report. If your child receives a Learning Adjusted Report this means that they are working from an **Individual Learning Plan** which addresses their specific learning needs and provides access to content that may be a different level to their age/peer group. Your child is assessed against skills that have been taught from their individual learning plan and a modified classroom program.

Interviews will be held next week. A majority of teachers will be available next week – (check last week’s interview sheets for availability). All parents are encouraged to make an interview with their child’s teacher to discuss their child’s progress and areas for future development. We highly value the opportunity to discuss student progress and celebrate student achievements. Please forward your request for an interview time to your child’s teachers as soon as possible.

Gala Day this Friday: Gala day is taking place **this Friday, 21st June**. Parents/Carers have previously given permission for their child’s selected sport and have provided relevant medical information. **Please note that money needed to be paid by today. Money will not be accepted late and students will unfortunately be unable to attend. Please note:** Soccer will be held at Ambarvale Sporting Complex. There is no cost associated with soccer as students will be walking to the venue. **Details for each sport are as follows:**

- **AFL - Eschol Park Playing Fields**
- **Touch Football - Oswald Reserve**
- **Netball - Coronation Park, Minto**
- **Soccer – Ambarvale Sporting Complex**

Parents are welcome to attend and support our students. Most games commence at 10am.

**Students are reminded to:**
- wear full sport uniform
- bring a school hat
- wear runners or sneakers as footwear
- bring their recess and lunch
- bring a water bottle
- bring sunscreen
- bring their asthma puffer if needed
Term 2 is almost over School finishes for the Term on Friday the 28.6.13 with students having two weeks holidays and returning on Tuesday 16.7.13. Teachers will return on Monday the 15.7.13 to participate in learning on the Australia Curriculum for NSW ‘English’ syllabus which will be implemented in 2014.

Whole School Assembly Next Monday is our end of term whole school assembly. It’s great to see so many students working towards Bronze, Silver, Gold & PLATINUM awards. Come along and help us celebrate our students’ achievements.

P&C TONIGHT Yes we are having a P&C meeting tonight at 7pm in the library. This is your chance to come along and stay up to date with the school. Tonight Miss Page will be summarising some key information from our 2012 Annual School Report and I’ll be sharing some information for our directions this year and next. The P&C is a great way to support the school with our directions, to meet others in the community and to stay informed. Hope to see you there.

Car Park for Staff ONLY Parents and carers please note that the school carpark just off Copperfield Drive is for staff only. Having parents and students in the carpark increases the risk of incidents/accidents to our students and others. Please comply with this request to ensure student safety.

Have a great weekend everyone and keep working hard to be as nice to as many people as possible.

Sean Pope
PRINCIPAL

Term 2 Assembly Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Lead by</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 24th June (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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Friday 28th June- Disco (Week 9)
On the last day of school there will be a K-2 disco and a 3-6 disco. Children can wear mufti clothes on this day, but must not wear singlets or midriff tops as sun safety is paramount. Thongs and sandals are unsafe at school, so enclosed shoes such as joggers must be worn. Please start saving around $5 for the disco. This should cover your child’s entry, snacks and drinks which will be available on the day. All funds raised from the disco will be contributed to the Year 6 Farewell.

Kindergarten Classes In HSIE, Kindergarten have been learning about themselves in a unit of work titled: ‘This is Me’. During Week 6 we were very lucky to have some wonderful parents come and share information about their cultural backgrounds, traditions and celebrations. We even got to try some yummy food from different countries. Kindergarten would very much like to thank Mrs. Poleson, Mrs. Imran, Mrs. Kumar and Mrs. Fatialofa for supporting our learning.
PBIS Focus

Due to the Public Holiday last week we are revising the Week 7 rule focus of being safe and respectful by keeping our hands, feet and objects to ourselves.

Following the 2 Step Plan means:
- Saying, “Stop it, I don’t like it.”
- Reporting to a teacher straight away.

Following the 3 Step Plan means:
- Saying, “Stop it, I don’t like it.”
- Ignore the behaviour and move away
- If the behaviour continues report to the teacher

- When we follow the 2 Step and 3 Step Plans we are being problem solvers.
- When we follow the two plans, teachers are aware of issues and can deal with them
- When we follow the plans, we are being safe by looking after ourselves and others.

2nd Camp Instalment Now Due

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.

Our next instalment for the Stage Three camp is due by **Wk 9 Term 2 (Wednesday 26th June)**. The payment amount is $50. 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.

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.

Stage 3 Tea Gardens Camp - INSTALMENT NUMBER 2 – $ 50.00

DATE DUE: Wednesday 26th June (Week 9, Term 2).

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

Child's Name__________________________________________  Class_______________
Signed __________________________________________(parent/carer)  Date_______________
NAIDOC WEEK - Wednesday 26th June

Our celebration for NAIDOC Week will be held in Week 9 on Wednesday 26th June. We will be holding a ‘BLACK, YELLOW and RED Day’. Students are able to wear clothing in one of these colours to celebrate. Our Junior AECG students will be collecting a GOLD COIN from all students who are wearing mufti clothes on this day. We are hoping to raise funds to purchase art and craft items to make a display area in the office. We will also be having a NAIDOC assembly and different activities in each classroom.

Please support our celebration and wear BLACK, RED or YELLOW on Wednesday 26th June.

Thank you,
Jannali and Kaitlyn.

Woolworths Earn & Learn As you know, our school has been participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. The program has now finished for this year, so a big thanks to everyone who supported our school. We’re now at the important stage of the program where Points Sheets are collected and lodged as our Earn & Learn claim. We will then be able to get new educational equipment for our school. The more we collect, the more we can redeem. So this week please send in your Woolworths Earn & Learn Points Sheets and any loose Earn & Learn Points Stickers you may have. Remember to check your handbag, the car glove box or they may be stuck on the fridge. Every little bit helps. Thanks again for all your support!

From the Pastoral Carers Desk

The end of Term2 is fast approaching and we will be half way through the year. This term we have seen many encouraging achievements with positive outcomes through the extra programs, events and activities at Ambarvale. The dedication and the energy of staff in supporting our boys and girls are amazing. They continue to go the extra mile in providing opportunities for their education and personal development. Congratulations to everyone for a wonderful school term, the holidays will be a welcome break for all as we recharge the batteries to be ready for a busy Term3.

Reconciliation Week was acknowledged recently by the whole nation. It’s a time for reflection and focus on our Aboriginal brothers and sisters. The journey towards reconciliation is ongoing, as we acknowledge the history that has damaged relationships in the past. We look to our elected leaders with hope that they will be guided to speak the truth in love, to seek social justice with mercy and to care for those who are disadvantaged. There is a long way to go, but education and understanding is the key to change and a need to strengthen Aboriginal leadership within our communities. Our school community has much to celebrate with pride as we recognise the achievements of our Aboriginal students and staff.

I would like to take this opportunity to say farewell to Mrs Potter, who leaves Ambarvale at the end of this term. I have worked closely with her over the last 5 years. And I’d like to say thank you for all you have done, it has been a privilege to work with you. Congratulations on your new appointment and our very best wishes for the future.

I would like to remind everyone that I am at Ambarvale on Friday this term. If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Until next time, cheers.

Rob Hodgson JP
(Mr Rob)
Feedback: Super 6 Comprehension Strategies Parent/Carer Workshop 14/6/13

We held a wonderful workshop for parents/carers on reading a variety of texts and using the “Super 6” comprehension strategies. It was great to share this day with parents/carers from both Ambarvale and Thomas Acres schools, teachers and DEC consultants. Feedback from parents was again overwhelmingly positive.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Positives</th>
<th>Negatives</th>
<th>Improve partnerships with parents</th>
<th>Anything to add</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learn ways to involve child in reading</td>
<td>Inform parents earlier about workshops</td>
<td>Inform parents earlier about workshops</td>
<td>Talk about these at Kinder orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More talk around text</td>
<td>Make it longer</td>
<td>More seminars/workshops</td>
<td>&quot;Worthwhile, gives time for parents to discuss with teachers and really understand reading.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easy to understand</td>
<td></td>
<td>More opportunities for parents to discuss child throughout the term</td>
<td>&quot;Thank you. Can’t wait until the next workshop&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Material provided</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;Thank you for having the workshop. Love attending because it helps me learn new things as it helps me teach my child.&quot;</td>
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</table>
Last week we visited K / 1 C and saw a few really cool art works, two in particular were very good, both by Aminah in Year 1. Their focus was “pop art”, as well as Haylee and Zunaira who have excellent reading skills. But there’s still more! K / 1 C are really lucky to have Miss Taylor from University of Wollongong until Week 8 in their classroom.

This Thursday gymnastics instructors came to our school and brought in some great equipment. There were swings, trampolines, balance beams and we got taught some warm-up tactics. Some of them include the star, the pencil and the bear walk. The gym instructors put on some fantastic music which made the students more enthusiastic. It was a wonderful and tiring experience that lots of students enjoyed.

Teacher Interview
This week we interviewed Miss Page and found out some interesting things. As it turns out Miss Page’s favourite subject was history back in High School, and she only enjoyed maths because she was good at it. I asked her if she was beginning a new group like her maths and skipping group, and she responded by saying there would definitely be something like that in future. But the thing she really doesn’t like is all the paperwork. What inspired her to do all this was her Year 5 teacher. She is teaching her class about structures, products and services. How she plans to be a better teacher is by keeping up to date with technology and asking her students what they would like to learn in class.

Last Thursday I (Neha) went to Ambassador Day at Beverly Farm and found out that it was the birth place of agriculture. When I got on the bus, I met other school ambassadors and they were all very kind. Later on the day a teacher from another school came in and taught us all about how important it is to be an ambassador for your school and even more how important schools are. One of the best things about the ambassador day is that we got to have pizza for lunch and that we also got a pencil set at the end of the day. At the end of the day as I walked past the other school ambassadors I heard them mumble to themselves that today they learned a lot but also had some fun and so did I.