It only seems like yesterday that I was welcoming everybody to 2016 and here we are, in Week 4 already.

I would like to welcome Mrs Russell to the Ambarvale Public School team. Mrs Russell has joined us for the remainder of Term 1 as our Deputy Principal - Instructional Leader. She had come to us with many years of experience as an Assistant Principal and Literacy / Numeracy Consultant. I have no doubt that Mrs Russell's skills and vast experience will benefit Ambarvale Public School greatly.

The past fortnight has certainly been busy.

Planning days- you may have noticed that class teachers were off their classes for one day throughout the week. This was to complete some planning with supervisors and stage teams. This collegial planning allows for teachers to create and plan for programs that will best support the learning needs of all of our Ambarvale PS students. A big thank you to Mrs Yewen, Mrs Sullivan, Mrs Friend, Mrs Byrnes and Miss Strange for covering classes to allow for this valuable planning to take place.

Sports Captains Assembly- congratulations to all of our students who were nominated as a House Captain or Vice-Captain for our sporting teams. Wirana – Thomas T, Lillian L, Kaiden B & Milica R. Koobor – Tat M, Avery C, Breeanna W & Stevie-Jane C. Gurugadji – Connor C, Nichola S, Lily D & Ashlea f. Takkanna – Donovan E, Kieralee A, Tamara J & Lleyton K.

Swimming Carnival- our swimming carnival, at Bradbury Pools, last Wednesday was a great success for our students in years 2-6. The students appeared to be having a great time participating in a range of activities organised by our dedicated teaching staff. I would like to say a huge THANK YOU to all of the teachers who played a role in making this day a success. Thanks also to all of our families for participating in the day. We have some photos of the day further on in this newsletter.

A Few Reminders
Just a reminder that school hats are expected to be worn during lunch breaks and sporting activities. Once our new order of hats arrive, they can be purchased from the uniform shop (Tuesday and Friday mornings 8.45am-9.15am) or from the front office for $13. Thank you to all those parents/carers who have supported our initiative by purchasing a new school hat for their child/children. The students are looking great in their school hats and are really developing that team Ambarvale spirit!

School Supervision
A quick reminder that school starts at 9.00am. If students are late to school they are required to get a late slip from the front office which is then recorded as a partial absence. Teachers are officially on duty from 8.30am and it is important that students are not at school before this time in order to ensure their safety.

School Contribution
Each year the NSW DoE asks that parents make a school contribution to assist with school resourcing. The school contribution has been set at $25.00 per student for the 2016 school year. This contribution is not compulsory, yet assists the school greatly in providing resources for students.

Staff Carpark
A reminder that the school car park is for staff and NSW DoE employees only. You may recall that at the end of the 2013 school year a young boy was killed in a school carpark in Sydney’s North West. The safety of all our
students and staff is a priority at all times and we ask that if you are dropping your child/children off at the front of the school, please use the appropriate lanes on the side of the road, not the staff carpark.

I look forward to hearing about all of the wonderful achievements happening around our school.

Until next time,
Mrs K Green
Rel. Principal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSEMBLY ROSTER – TERM 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 22nd Feb (Week 5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 7th March (Week 7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 21st March (Week 9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 4th April (Week 11)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This year, we will not have separate infants and primary assemblies. Instead, we will have a whole school assembly once a fortnight. The final assembly of the term will be for acknowledging and celebrating those students who have achieved bronze, silver and gold awards as well as other special presentations.

PBL Focus

This week (Week 4), our PBL focus is be kind.

Students are reminded to:
- Welcome new students
- Invite people to play
- Make friends in your class/year

STAFF PROFILE

My name is Mrs Gower! I live with my husband who is a fire fighter and we have two dogs- one named Nicki and her daughter who is called Pebbles. They are greyhounds and I love taking them for walks. Some of the other things I like to do are swimming in my pool or at the beach, reading and cooking. I also play netball in the WD and WA positions. My favourite colour is yellow (you will notice I wear a lot of yellow clothes and jewellery!) because it is a bright and happy colour. That’s how I try to be everyday!

SCHOOL HATS

Thank you to everyone who has purchased a school hat for their child/children. The uniform shop has run out of the caps and has ordered some more in. If you are waiting on one of these, please let your child's teacher know so that we can allow the use of a non-school hat in the meantime.

PBL

Hopefully your child has come home this term talking about Ambarvale All Stars. We hope that all students are striving to achieve this on a daily basis. Checking in with your child each day about how they went will help them reflect on their behaviour. Celebrating success with them will help to keep them on track. Thank you for your continuing support.

SCRIPTURE

Scripture in 2016 will commence in the coming weeks. This year’s lessons will occur on a Tuesday. Groups are currently being organised. Kindergarten and year 1 as well as new students will receive a note this week to nominate a scripture option. All students will participate in the same groups as 2015. If you do not wish for your child to remain in the same group please advise the school in writing. Miss Bray.
When is it OK to stay home?

Under the Education Act (1990) all children from six years to seventeen years of age are legally required to attend school every day. At Ambarvale Public School, we value good attendance from all students. Regular attendance is important because it helps your child:

- Maximise their learning opportunities
- Develop the skills needed to access the world of work and other opportunities
- To learn the importance of punctuality
- Maintain healthy social relationships with their friends
- Develop a good working relationship with their teachers

The law requires that if your child is absent from school, you must inform the school as soon as possible and provide a legitimate reason for your child’s absence. This can be done by

- Sending a note on your child’s return to school
- Contacting by phone
- Visiting the school

Below outlines is your child will have a justified or unjustified reason for staying home:

- **✓** Serious illness or infectious disease
- **✓** Unavoidable medical or dental appointments (we encourage appointments outside of school hours)
- **✓** Religious Holiday
- **✓** Urgent family situation (funeral)
- **✗** Shopping
- **✗** Sleeping in
- **✗** Minding siblings/older relatives
- **✗** Birthdays
- **✗** Weather: too rainy/windy/hot
- **✗** Frequent transport problems
- **✗** Visiting relatives
- **✗** Other member of the family is sick
- **✗** Hospital visits to relatives or friends

Your child’s education is important. Please contact the school if there are problems in getting your children to school or if there are concerns you have about them at school. A positive partnership between home and school in this area is of great value to the school but most importantly to the success and quality of your child’s education.

Thank you,

Mrs R. King,  
Relieving Assistant Principal

Mrs K. Green,  
Relieving Principal
At Ambarvale Public School, we reward our students for their great attendance. To say thank you to our students’ excellent attendance we have an Attendance Movie Day at the end of Term 1. At the Attendance Movie Day students get to pick a movie and get FREE popcorn and a drink. The table below outlines if your child will or will not be attending Attendance Movie Day Term 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Children <strong>attending</strong> Attendance Movie Day have:</th>
<th>Children <strong>not attending</strong> Attendance Movie Day have:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• 100% attendance (special treatment on the day)</td>
<td>• More than 3 days off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Had only 3 days off and have brought in absence notes for being away within 7 days. Please note student absences are exempt if they have brought in a medical certificate to justify their days off</td>
<td>• Have not brought in an absence note/verbal for being away</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Had 6 or less partial absences unless justified, ie. speech pathology</td>
<td>• Have not returned their absent note within 7 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Had 7 or more partials absences</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Stepping Stones Triple P Parenting Seminars Series

Is this you?
Most of the time, you know you are doing a good job with parenting. But there are times when things get a little tricky. Like when your toddler will not eat their dinner. Or your six year old will not share his toys. If only someone could give you some ideas to make those times easier! If this sounds like you, then a Stepping Stones Triple P seminar may be right for you.

What is a Stepping Stones Seminar?

Stepping Stones Triple P seminars tackle the most common issues for parents of children with a disability. Seminars are for large groups of parents – possibly 20 or more. It's an informal presentation, a little like a public forum. There are three seminars that each last 90 minutes and cover a different topic. We encourage parents to try to attend all three.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seminar Topic</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Positive Parenting for Children with a Disability</td>
<td>Friday, 26th February 2016</td>
<td>9:30 am - 11:30 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Helping Children Reach Their Potential</td>
<td>Friday, 4th March 2016</td>
<td>9:30 am - 11:30 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Changing Problem Behaviour into Positive Behaviour</td>
<td>Friday, 11th March 2016</td>
<td>9:30 am - 11:30 am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Where: Lifestart Campbelltown
Level 3, Suite 2, 171-179 Queen Street CAMPBELLTOWN NSW 2560

Cost: FREE as part of a research project. No childcare available

Who: Any parent/caregiver of a child with a disability age 2-12 years

How: As these programs are being funded as part of a research project please contact either the Stepping Stones research team or Lifestart to register your interest.
Stepping Stones
Phone: 02 8114 4060
Email: fhs.Steppingstones@sydney.edu.au
Lifestart
Phone: 0476 984 640
Email: adamdexter@lifestart.org.au