Dear Parents/Carers,
Welcome back to 2013 and a very special welcome to new families to the school.

2013 Classes
Students will be placed in their 2013 classes by Monday 4 February. Stage 3 students, Years 5 & 6, will be having Peer Support and Peer Mediation Training for this first week. New Kindergarten students will start on Thursday and Friday so we hope then we will be able to confirm our classes for 2013. For most students this week will be an opportunity to reconnect with peers and teachers, to settle back into the routine and to learn about some topical issues like bushfires, floods, sun safety and they will go over values.

2013 Staff
Welcome back to Ashbury Mrs Lurlene Mitchell and Miss Dee Stephenson who have been working at Sydney Region Office and Mr Mansfield who has had a year teaching in England. We welcome Ms Asimina Salvartsis as the Learning and Support Teacher, Ms Stefanie McKeever, a classroom teacher and Ms Annette Deegenaars, in the front office. Congratulations to Mrs Zietsch and her husband on the safe arrival of Spencer, a very healthy baby boy.

Pennant Reminder:
Don’t forget to keep your Double As, Merit Cards and Superstars safe and return to your teacher when you have achieved enough for a Pennant. 5 Superstars earns you a Pennant. If your cards have not been used (stamped on the back) then you can use them from previous year(s).

2013 Swimming Carnival
Ashbury’s 2013 Swimming Carnival will be on Thursday 7 February at Ashfield Pool. Students from Year 1 to Year 6 are expected to attend.
A note will go home on Thursday which needs to be signed and returned by Friday 1 February, 2013. (if possible). Notes and money will be collected in 2012 classes.
Please note this information on the envelope when your child returns their permission note and money.
Parents are encouraged and most welcome to attend and help out during the day. It is always a great day!

**Primary Drama Ensemble**

Places in the Primary Drama Ensemble are open to talented students in Years 5-6 attending a government Primary school. Students selected to participate in this ensemble will be involved in a range of workshop activities leading to the 2013 NSW Public Schools State Drama Festival in October, 2013.

Fees will be $250 per year (incl GST) and parents will need to get students to Lewisham Public School every Wednesday (5pm-6pm)

This is limited to only 6 students per school to be nominated. If you are interested please contact Mrs Shelley or Mrs O’Reilly by Monday 4 February.

**Road Safety**

Please drive carefully around the school and observe the rules that apply. Everyone needs to be very alert so we can keep our students and school community safe.

**Mrs Shelley’s Visit to India**

During the January holidays I had the opportunity to go on a Leadership Exchange to India. I stayed most of my time in New Delhi but also visited Agra, saw the Taj Mahal, and visited Jaipur. The second week I stayed with Principal Ashutosh Batta, from Bloom Public School, and worked in the school for a week. This was a wonderful opportunity for me but also for Ashbury Public School as we are now setting up a Sister School arrangement which will enable our students in Stage 2 to correspond with students in India as well as work on joint projects. Eg Sustainability, Environmental Issues etc.

Mr Ashutosh will be visiting Ashbury Public School in early June and staying with me. In time we hope that the relationship between our two schools will grow so that we can participate in teacher exchanges and even student visits. This will be a very rich experience for all concerned.

**Next Newsletter Issue will be on Monday 4 February, 2013.**
Dates for your Diary

Term 1 2013
Thur 31 Jan/Friday 1 Feb 2013- Kindy students enroll & start school
Wed 6 February- 7pm Community Garden Committee Meeting in Staffroom. All welcome
Thursday 7 Feb- Ashbury Swimming Carnival @ Ashfield Pool- Yrs 1-6 attending.
Tues 12 Feb - 7pm P&C Meeting in Staffroom- All welcome
Friday 15 Feb- P&C Welcome BBQ- 5.30pm all welcome to come along for a free sausage and to meet everyone.
Mon 18 Feb- 7pm- Band Committee Meeting
Thur 28 Feb-School Photo Day
Fri 29 March-Mon 1 April- Easter break
Sat 6/Sunday 7 April- Band Camp
Fri 12 April- last day of Term 1

Term 2 2013 -
Mon 29 April- Staff Development Day
Tues 30 April (Additional Staff Development Day due to new Curriculum)
Wed 1 May-Students return for Term 2
Tues 14 May, Wed 15 May & Thurs 16 May- NAPLAN Testing
Wed 22 May- School Walkathon (P&C)
Mon 10 June- Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday
Friday 28 June- last day of Term 2

Term 3 2013- Tues 16 July Students return
Thurs 1 Aug- Ashbury Athletics Carnival at Campbell Oval
Sat 7 Sept- Ashbury Fete Day (Mark this in your diary)
Fri 20 Sept- Last day of Term 3

Term 4 2013 - Tues 8 Oct to Wed 18 Dec

Sue Shelley
Principal
Newsletters at
http://www.ashburyp.schools.nsw.edu.au
Please go onto the school website to register to have the Newsletter emailed to you
If you see anything happening in the school which is unusual please call the Ashfield Police on 9798 4400