Dear Parents and Carers,
As the year is starting to come to a close I ask once again if you know that your child will not be returning to Ashbury PS could you please notify the school in writing. The staff are starting to plan for 2015 and it does help if we have accurate student numbers. Also if you are departing school for a holiday before the 17th December can you please notify the class teacher. I have spent the last two weeks reading student reports, it is amazing to see how every student has improved, grown and developed throughout the year.

Thank you to Catriona for her excellent work in organizing and coordinating the school tea towels. They certainly look wonderful and are always a great memory to have.

As you are aware the school is undergoing building works. This week will be the big opening of our new uniform shop. Currently the downstairs activity area and the music room are being prepared for their new renovation. Upstairs our classrooms are being painted and the classrooms already painted look lovely and fresh. Finally our terrace doors are all being either replaced, repaired or repainted. I know that these renovations do cause inconvenience and thank the staff and students for my being so adaptable during this process.

Thank you to Mrs D’Arrigo for organising the student elections. I would like to acknowledge the wonderful work that each nominee put into their speeches and posters. You all showed the qualities required to be a leader. To our 2014 school officers thank you for running the elections so effortlessly. I know that our 2015 school officers have had excellent role models this year.

Finally, I know I often write and speak and am very passionate about keeping our students, staff and community safe. As the year draws to a close and everyone is very busy and tired please take extra care when driving, walking or cycling to school. Always be aware. Do the right thing; park in the right place; walk your bike through the school and cross safely. Life is precious.

Dee Stephenson
Relieving Principal
**White Ribbon Day**

On Tuesday, staff and students joined in learning about the importance of “White Ribbon Day”. The work produced by our students was outstanding. Their level of understanding about violence against women is to be commended. Thank you to Mrs Mitchell who once again organised this day and continues to bring awareness to this issue.

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**White Ribbon Day Poem**

WE WILL NOT BE SILENT AS WE ARE NOT VIOLENT
Women and children show great fear
As the danger of men draws near
While they crouch over a lonely fire
Safe at last but surrounded by wire
If we don’t defend ourselves soon
We will go and touch the moon
Men are fearless of extreme punishment
While not caring of lots of payment
Children run while women walk
Not even bothering to talk
Men come closer every night
Women and children hold each other tight
Soon the men comes and battle begins
Out in the plains where the battle begins
Rain comes down but the women don’t stop
The battle is won and the women flop
In tears the children run away
From all the danger they’ve seen today
As they flee they see a friend with the same story
Mother is dead and now men are roaring
For the children they seek
But the children won’t let them peek
At the hiding spot they have found
Seems to be under the ground
They stay there for years under the ground
While stealing the food that has been found
They come out when they are old enough
To see horrid things they have to be tough
WE WILL NOT BE SILENT AS WE ARE NOT VIOLENT

_Eleanor_  
4J
**Ashbury School Plan – Special Meeting**

We are currently working on planning for the next three year cycle i.e. 2015-2017. The voice of the entire Ashbury Public School community, students, teachers and parents, should be represented in this plan. With a common goal we can take Ashbury PS from fantastic to amazing.

I would like to invite everyone to attend a special meeting tomorrow **Tuesday 2nd December** at 7pm in the school hall, so you can have a voice. Your thoughts and ideas are valued. The goal is for everyone to be represented in this plan and to thus have buy in to the common goals.

To be part of this initial consultation all you need to do is follow 2 simple steps before the meeting.

Step 1: watch the following short videos:

- Ken Robinson – [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zDZFcDGpL4U](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zDZFcDGpL4U)
- AITSL - [AITSL](http://youtu.be/nA1Aqp0sPQo)
- Miniature Earth - [Miniature Earth](http://youtu.be/i4639vev1Rw)

Step 2: Answer these questions and be prepared to write them down at the meeting OR if you can’t attend the meeting, email or send your response back to school:

– What sort of school do we want Ashbury to be?
– What sort of students do we want to produce?
– What do we want our students to experience?
– What do you want your child to have in their backpack when they leave Ashbury Public School?

The data we collect will help us prepare our three year plan. Data will be collated and a draft vision sent out for comment, after which strategic directions and the school plan will be developed.

**Dee Stephenson**
Relieving Principal

**Uniform Shop**

We have completed the transfer of our Uniform Shop to the new space opposite the canteen. It looks fabulous and will reduce congestion and noise inside the classroom building. Many thanks to Louise Murphy for her fantastic efforts planning, ordering shelves and organising the space. The downstairs area is currently being altered to allow for better storage of our band instruments and to also free up the activity area again for teaching.

*This Thursday will be the opening of our new uniform shop. As you can imagine it was a huge job to move the stock from the old uniform store to the new shop. I would thank the following people who helped with the move – Rachel McConchie, Nerida Chedra, and particularly, Sarah Cotios, who put in a long hot day helping me out and special thanks to Grace Kaye who has organised and assisted in every possible way to make it happen.*

Thanks,
Louise Murphy – Coordinator

**P&C News**

**2015 Fete Co-ordinators**

We are looking for a small group of 2 or 3 who would like to co-ordinate next year's Ashbury PS Fete. The Fete is our major fund-raising event for 2015 and runs biannually. There is plenty of material available on how the Fete has been organised in the past so you will not be starting from a blank page. If we do not have some volunteers then the Fete will not proceed and a great community and fund-raising event will be lost. Please consider whether you and a friend or two might be able to assist the school community in this way.

**Ashbury P&C Meeting**

Next Tuesday night at 7pm will be our final P&C meeting for the year. We will be confirming the budget for 2015. Please bring a plate to share.

Rowan Kemp – President
Community Garden

Thank you to everyone who helped out at the garden market stall last Friday, including the wonderful children that helped with harvesting, setting up and selling. It was a much smaller garden stall but we still had a good morning of selling. Most of the produce was sold, with the remaining taken upstairs for the teachers.

Magdalen

Garden Working Bee

Thank you to everyone who came to lend a hand at the Community Garden Working Bee yesterday. Pictured are Hugo F and Noah L (aka “the Stink Busters”) keeping those pesky stink bugs off the citrus trees.

Around the school

3M and KR Get Back to Nature

As part of this term’s Science unit of work, ‘Material World’, 3M has been learning about different materials and how their properties affect their use. To conclude the unit, we decided to make a bird nest material dispenser and asked KR to join us. We learned about some of the birds in our local area and had to think carefully about using only natural materials that we collected from the school grounds. The 3M students buddied up with KR students and they worked so well together that we are planning another joint activity before the end of the year. We can’t wait!

Exodus Foundation

Traditionally Ashbury PS supports the Exodus Foundation and their annual Can Drive. Once again we will be doing this. If you are able to donate a can or cans of food for those who are experiencing difficulties at this time of the year, it would be greatly appreciated. Please put any donations in the box upstairs outside the office.
Musicale

What a wonderful night of music we enjoyed at the Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL on Thursday 20th November! All our musical ensembles performed, demonstrating their exceptional talents. We thank Mr Jason Isaac for his passion, his vision and his outstanding ability to produce such a fantastic show. We were also entertained with a great ensemble performance by the Concert band and Year 2 students, with the highlight being the “rapping MC”, David Baldwin.

Thank you to all the teachers who assisted, David Baldwin for “volunteering” as Master of Ceremonies, all the Band Committee members who worked efficiently behind the scenes – especially Louisa de Ferranti who had the mammoth task of organising gear to and from the Club – and to many other parents who helped transporting gear or performing other jobs. A special thank you to Heather Kelley and Ali Williams-Vildos who assisted with the supervision of students during the show.

3M and 4J Musicale Poetry

Marvellous music fills the air
Under the blinding lights we play
Singing choirs on the stage
Incredible sounds come from all places
Conductor Mr Isaac makes sure it sounds great
Amazed by the sight, family watch
Learning music is good for the heart
Eyes fixed on the show

By Rory (4J)

Marvellous percussion ensemble
Using the RSL
Successful rap by Mr Baldwin
Images of previous Musicales
Crazy conga by the junior choir
Amazing playing from the bands
Lovely singing from the choirs
Everything is awesome by the Year Twos

By Oscar (3M)

Marvellous music
Uniting family and friends
Sing along to the same old song
Incredibly amazing talents
Clap along to the choir
Astonishing performances
Leaving late feeling satisfied
Excited for next year's Musicale

By Ruby (4J)

Musical children light up the room
Unusual instruments playing songs
Splendid choirs singing like angels
Inside lights shining brightly
Clarinet, French horns and alto saxophones
All the parents come
Lovely music all around
Everyone loves the Musicale

By Isaac (3M)
Marvellous musicians playing their musical instruments
Unbelievable urge to perform
Sensational and stunning songs sung by both choirs
Incredible instruments illuminate the room
Conductor Mr Isaac’s cracking crescendos
A whole band bows and the crowd claps in amazement
Loving the performances as well as the Lego song
Everyone enjoying the entertaining performances

By Aatish (3M)

Pennant winners:
Sophie 3M
Ellis 6/5D
Anicka 6/5L
Ivy 1W
Emily 1W
Geoffery 6/5D
Calin 2/1F
Samantha 4M
Oscar 4/3H
Max 4M
Ned 6/5L

CONGRATULATIONS!

Notes Sent Home This Fortnight:

- Presentation Day
- Stage 3 Kitchen Garden
- Year 4 & 5 Boys to Canterbury HS
- Choir – St Matt’s Carols

If you missed any of these notes please call in to the office for a copy
You can help struggling Sydney-siders by donating non-perishable packaged and tinned foods to Rev. Bill Crews’ Exodus Foundation here. Just drop your donation in the box provided. All donated goods are used to provide food parcels, and you CAN make a difference.

For pick up, please contact the Operations Team on

(02) 8752 4628 or www.exodusfoundation.org.au
Ashbury Public School does not endorse any of the following community advertisements.
It’s AMAZING what can happen when you start for the FUN of it!

Tiny Musos for 2 year olds
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**Pregnancy meridian massage.** Relieves aches and relaxes you and baby while working on your energy channels to enhance health during gestation. $90.

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