Dear Parents and Carers,

Just recently I was struck by how fortunate we are at Ashbury. The students are given so many opportunities across the learning areas as well as many extra-curriculum opportunities. These opportunities don’t just happen! They are a result of our supportive community, parents and teachers working together to provide the best for our students. I have also heard of situations where parents support and help each other in times of need! These are fantastic examples of community spirit where each of us plays our part. We should all be very proud of Ashbury!

School photos were taken last Wednesday. It was wonderful to see our students proudly wearing their uniforms and with hair gleaming and shoes shiny! The students behaviour and school uniform was complimented by the photographers. Thank you everyone for taking the time and effort to make your photos a special memory.

*Sally D’Arrigo
Relieving Principal*

**World’s Greatest Spray**

Mrs Horton and the SRC will be raising money for the Leukaemia Foundation by offering all students’ the opportunity to have their hair sprayed a variety of colours in return for a small donation. We ask everyone to support this great event, which will be held on Friday 13th March starting at 8.30am.

**The “Tell Them From Me” student feedback survey - Years 4-6**

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 20 March and 2 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey has been sent home with students in Years 4 to 6. If you *do not* want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by *Friday 20 March*. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from the website above.

**National Assessment Program—Literacy and Numeracy 2015 (NAPLAN)**

The NAPLAN tests for students in Year 3 and Year 5 are scheduled to take place on the following days and times -

**Tuesday 12 May**- Language Conventions - (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) Yr 3 and Yr 5, 40 minutes and Writing Yr 3 and Yr 5 40 minutes

**Wednesday 13 May**- Reading Yr 3, 45 minutes, Yr 5, 50 minutes

**Thursday 14 May**- Numeracy - Yr 3, 45 minutes, Yr 5, 50 minutes

**Friday 17 May**- A “Catch-Up” day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on the test day. Students may be considered for exemption if they are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) or have a significant intellectual and/or a functional disability. Parents may withdraw their child from sitting the tests but must discuss this with the Principal prior to the test. Withdrawals, exemptions and special provisions need to be lodged before the 27 April. Information about NAPLAN can be found at [http://www.nap.edu.au/verve_resources/NAPLAN_2015_Parent_information_brochure_web.pdf](http://www.nap.edu.au/verve_resources/NAPLAN_2015_Parent_information_brochure_web.pdf)

**P&C**

The next P&C meeting will be held this *Tuesday* night, 10th March at 7pm in the Staffroom. Everybody is welcome. For new or returning parents this is a wonderful opportunity to meet other parents, find out what happens at school, and be involved in the school community. The Annual General Meeting will also be held on this night.

**Community Garden**

More and more fun all through the year at Ashbury Community Garden...

**St Patrick’s Day - Tuesday March 17th from 8-9.00am**As part of St Patrick’s Day tradition at Ashbury PS, kids are invited to come and plant sweet peas in our lovely Community Garden. Come early and join in the fun. We hope to see many of you before class to make St Patrick’s Day extra special.

**Ashbury Lil’ Country Fair - Sunday April 26th from 2-5.00pm**Get your diaries out as you wouldn’t want to miss Ashbury Lil’ Country Fair! With entertainment for kids of all ages, fresh food and live music, Ashbury Community Garden will be THE place to be on Sunday April 26.

Garden lovers get ready, as you might want to enter the vegetable/flower competition! (3 categories: biggest / uniquely shaped / best specimen).

For more information: info@ashburycommunitygarden.org.au

**Community Garden Backyard Beekeeping Workshop**

You’ll definitely get a buzz out of the “Backyard Beekeeping Workshop on Saturday March 21, 10am – 1pm, in the Community Garden. It’s a great start for anyone thinking about getting into beekeeping or keen to attract more native bees to their garden. Experienced apiarist and Ashbury parent Stuart Gibb will give an introduction to the fascinating world of bees including the European Honey Bee and Australian Native Bees such as Tetragonula Carbonaria. Topics covered include: bee biology and behaviour; structure and operation of hives; establishing your hives; hive location; swarms and hive...
management; tools and equipment; harvesting honey; support, resources, rules and responsibilities and an inspection of a live hive of Tetragonula Carbonaria (stingless native bees). The workshop fee ($35 APS community / $55 general public) goes entirely to support the work of the garden. Course notes, morning tea and honey tasting are included. To receive a registration form call Stuart on 0419 199 758 or e-mail info@ashburycommunitygarden.org.au

Gates
You may have noticed that many of our school gates have been locked during the day. We have needed to do this to help keep some our students safe. Entry is still always available at the double gates at the front entrance of the school. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Canteen
The canteen has requested that students do not come to school with large amounts of money (more than a $10 note) to spend at the canteen, as several students have lost money. Did you know that you can order from the canteen online? Go to the Ashbury PS website, then follow the prompts to School Canteen and then Canteen Menu and scroll to the end.

Art Contest
The Vision China Times, the most influential Chinese newspaper in Sydney is holding an art contest to celebrate Easter in 2015. So to all students K-6 who enjoy art, we encourage you to express your creativity around the topic “My Easter”. Major sponsor is the Sydney Royal Easter Show. Submissions need to be on A3 paper, all art medium and styles accepted. Up to 30 prizes will be awarded and winning artworks will be published in the Vision China Times.

The paper’s vision is to act as a bridge between the local Chinese community and main stream Australia – and I think we should try and play our part! Please hand completed entries into the office before 20th March.

Clean Up Ashbury Day
On Friday 27th February we held our Clean up Ashbury day. We did an amazing job cleaning up our playground and surrounds outside the school.

Mrs Morris, Ms Wayte, Ms Filaktos and Calliope collecting rubbish from the playground.

Stewart House Collection
Please bring your Stewart House clothes donation bags to school by Friday 20th March.
Zone Swimming Carnival

Well done to the following children who are Ashbury’s wonderful swim team.

Aiden J  Ethan W  Kylani K  Owen C  Samantha W  Thomas D
Alexandra  Finlae G  Lachlan S  Rafael M  Sofia C
Ben H-R  George V  Lily H  Valentino  Sophie G
Edward L  Henry W  Louis D’A  Rebecca B  Stella B
Ellis J  Joel M  Oliver S  Riley C  Tahlee W
Emma W  Julia M  Olivia C  Samantha K  Tahlia S

The Wiley Park Zone Swimming carnival was held last Monday. The weather looked dicey in the morning but this didn’t dampen anyone’s spirits and it was smiles all round – even through the nerves of the youngest competitors. First up was the relay – the most anticipated event at any swim meet. Our Junior and Senior teams all did us proud, most overcoming nerves and swimming their hearts out for the team! Thank you to those students who were part of this special event, especially those who stepped in at the last minute.

Next up were the 50m events and did Ashbury do us proud! The crowd roared as the kids nervously took the blocks and Spook started race after race! We even had 7 year olds representing our school at Zone level, and they did really well in this big, new world of inter-school competition.

Some of the older kids – like Kylani, Samantha K and Louis - went in so many events I thought they might start growing scales! At the end of the day came the most trying event of all: the 200m Individual Medley, where super fit, talented and all round excellent kids swim a lap of each stroke (yes, that includes butterfly!) as fast as they possibly can. Ashbury had two competitors for this event: Kylani in the Juniors and Samantha K in the Seniors. They swam with such style that they had the whole crowd riveted, cheering them on until the very last stroke.

Congratulations to the following students whose times were amongst the first or second fastest over the whole day, and are going off to Regional Carnival on the Sydney Olympic Aquatic Centre, Homebush on 18th March!!

Edward Layson – 8 years 50m freestyle
George V – 10 year 50m free
Ben H-R - 11 year 50m free
Louis D – 11 year Breaststroke
Kylani K (AKA Superfish) – 10 yrs Freestyle, Breaststroke, Backstroke, Butterfly, and the most amazing feat of all, the Junior Individual Medley!!

Some very eager 8 year olds ready to race!
Peer Support
Next week our Year 6 leaders will commence working with their Peer Support Groups. Year 6 children lead groups of 6-8 others ranging across all grade levels. The aim is to learn about building relationships, being kind and saying no to bullying behaviours. It is a great way for our students to get to know and understand each other and is also a wonderful leadership opportunity for our senior students. When Peer Support starts, please have a discussion with your child at home about what happened during the session; how to include others in all activities; how to be careful not to bully anyone or let anyone bully someone else; how to be a good friend.

Mathletics
Mathletics is once again being used as part of our learning at Ashbury. Last week teachers and students received their passwords so students can start using Mathletics at home. Mathletics is Australia’s most used educational website. Mathletics motivates students to strive for better results, it is fully aligned to Syllabus Outcomes, is adaptive, it tailors questions based to the ability of individual students, provides immediate feedback to students, teachers and parents, visually supports every curriculum concept and integrates home and school learning. Please encourage students to use this wonderful learning resource.

Move It auditions
On Thursday the 26th of February the Move It auditions were held in our school hall. 7 teams auditioned, 6 teams successfully auditioned and 1 team is the show’s reserve. When the auditions started some of us were nervous and others were very excited. We were asked to tell an interesting fact about ourselves some of us were asked to demonstrate our talents. The first activity that we had to do was to answer 5 questions and the first team to buzz in could answer. Then the teams had to listen to facts and put the photos or words matching that fact in order from 1-5. Then they told us the correct answers and that was the end of the Move It auditions. Most of us were very surprised! We will be going to Fox Studios to shoot Move It on Wednesday the 25th of March. Everyone enjoyed auditioning and congratulations to all 7 pairs for having a go.

By: Joanne, Alyssa and Alex K

Premier’s Reading Challenge
A note was recently sent home about the premier’s reading Challenge. Online entries are now available. The 2015 Challenge opened on 2 March and closes for students on 21 August. Students are encouraged to borrow at least one book each week from our extensive selection on the special lists compiled for the Reading Challenge. Students can also use books from other libraries, or their own collections at home. At Ashbury PS, the books are colour coded as “red spot” (K-2 level), “green sticker” (3-4 level) and “purple or blue sticker” (5-6/7-9 level). K-2 must read 30 books. Stage 2 and 3 students must complete 20 books. Students can read from their own or a higher level. The easiest way for students to participate is to log on through their KidSpace portal https://portal.det.nsw.edu.au/ Log on with correct user name and internet password that is used at school e.g. user name: mickey.mouse7 password: dog
Please note that generally, user names have no capitals and no spaces and there is a dot separating first and last names. Some students have a number after their name. Class teachers should be able to tell you the log on name, if you are unsure. Passwords are selected personally by students in years 3-6 but most K-2 passwords are set as “red”. Some Year 2 students may have set their own password.
If students log on to their KidSpace portal, there is a link straight to the Premier’s Reading Challenge through the “Learning” tab. Click on the link “Student reading records” and enter titles into the form using either the title or the PRC number (it may be written inside the cover of the book). Alternatively, the Challenge can be accessed directly through: https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html

Students will still need to log on with user name and password as outlined above. Students will be shown the process at school. Have a try at home and if there are problems, please talk to Mrs Kaye at the Library. Some “red spot books” that are shared with K-2 classes may be added by Mrs Kaye.

Happy reading,
Grace Kaye
Teacher Librarian
Interesting Reads

Good number sense
Maths is a numbers game but for some students - and parents - the figures don't add up. Here are some strategies to help kids to work out sums in their heads in a way that makes sense to them.

Reading with your child at home
When your kids see you reading and writing in everyday life – whether reading for pleasure, sharing a story with them or making a shopping list – it teaches them that they are useful skills. Here are some things you can do at home to help your kids with reading.

Removing head lice and nits
Mention head lice and most of us instantly develop an itch. While head lice and nits, (the eggs of head lice) are certainly annoying and persistent, they're not dangerous. Here's everything you need to know to rid your kids of head lice and nits.

Does multi-tasking reduce focus?
Can your kids really study while updating their Facebook page, listening to their music players and messaging their friends? Research shows dedicated study time without distractions produces better learning and a greater ability to retrieve information. Find out more:

When kids are bullied
We send our kids off to school each day to learn. In between lessons they go outside to play – but the learning doesn't stop. The playground can help prepare them for some of the social challenges they will face throughout their lifetime. Find out more:

Facts about tutors
Private tutoring to give kids a helping hand in their schooling is a growing business. However, it's also an area where parents can be vulnerable to bogus offers and misleading advertising.

Public speaking
Does your child suffer glossophobia? Fear of public speaking is common. Try creating opportunities for your child to present speeches to the family, without putting pressure on them to perform. Here are some tried and true tips to make your child’s next speech a success.

Science starters
Did humans live with dinosaurs? Does the moon disappear in the day? Kids love to know the answers to life's mysteries but there are a few facts they often get wrong in the name of science.
The Department of Education and Communities uses the FOEI information provided by parents/carers to calculate funding for schools. The higher the levels of employment, the lower the funding – so it is important that this information is accurate. **It is very important that the Occupation Group is entered as 8 if you have not been in paid work in the last 12 months**, and it is also important that occupation groups are not overstated.

If the information you have provided to the school previously is no longer accurate or circumstances have changed in your family, please print and complete this note and send in to the office as soon as possible.

We appreciate your prompt attention to this important matter.

### Parent/Carer 1 (with whom this child lives)

- Name ____________________________
- Occupation _________________________
- Occupation Group _________________________
- Highest level of schooling completed
  - [ ] Year 12
  - [ ] Year 11
  - [ ] Year 10
  - [ ] Year 9

### Parent/Carer 2 (with whom this child lives)

- Name ____________________________
- Occupation _________________________
- Occupation Group _________________________
- Highest level of schooling completed
  - [ ] Year 12
  - [ ] Year 11
  - [ ] Year 10
  - [ ] Year 9

*Student/s*

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The five groups listed here are used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics to classify occupations. Please choose the group (1, 2, 3, 4 or 8) that you think best describes your occupation.

If you have retired or stopped work in the past 12 months, choose the group in which you used to work.

**Group 8**
- You have not been in paid work in the last 12 months

**Group 4**
- Drivers, mobile plant, production/processing machinery and other machinery operators
- Hospitality staff (hotel service supervisor, receptionist, waiter, bar attendant, kitchenhand, porter, housekeeper)
- Office assistants, sales assistants and other assistants
- Office (typist, word processing/data entry/business machine operator, receptionist, office assistant)
- Sales (sales assistant, motor vehicle/caravan/parts salesperson, checkout operator, cashier, bus/train conductor, ticket seller, service station attendant, car rental desk staff, street vendor, telemarketer, shelf stacker)
- Assistant/aid (trades' assistant, school/
teacher's aide, dental assistant, veterinary nurse, nursing assistant, museum/gallery attendant, usher, home helper, salon assistant, animal attendant)
- Labourers and related workers
- Defence Forces ranks below senior NCO not included below
- Agriculture, horticulture, forestry, fishing, mining worker (farm overseer, shearer, wool/hide classifier, farm hand, horse trainer, nurseryman, greenkeeper, gardener, tree surgeon, forestry/logging worker, miner, seafarer/fishing hand)
- Other worker (laborer, factory hand, storeman, guard, cleaner, caretaker, laundry worker, trolley collector, car park attendant, crossing supervisor)

**Group 3**
- Tradesmen/women generally have completed a 4 year Trade Certificate, usually by apprenticeship. All tradesmen/women are included in this group.
- Clerks (bookkeeper, bank/P O clerk, statistical/actuarial clerk, accounting/claims/audit clerk, payroll clerk, recording/registry/filing clerk, betting clerk, stores/inventory clerk, purchasing/order clerk, freight/transport/shipping clerk, bond clerk, customs agent, customer services clerk, admissions clerk)
- Skilled office, sales and service staff
- Office (secretary, personal assistant, desktop publishing operator, switchboard operator)
- Sales (company sales representative, auctioneer, insurance agent/assessor/loss adjuster, market researcher)
- Service (aged/disabled/refugee/child care worker, nanny, meter reader, parking inspector, postal worker, courier, travel agent, tour guide, flight attendant, fitness instructor, casino dealer/supervisor)

**Group 2**
- Owner/manager of farm, construction, import/export, wholesale, manufacturing, transport, real estate business
- Specialist manager (finance/engineering/production/personnel/industrial relations/sales/marketing)
- Financial services manager (bank branch manager, finance/investment/insurance broker, credit/loans officer)
- Retail sales/services manager (shop, petrol station, restaurant, club, hotel/motel, cinema, theatre, agency)
- Arts/media/sports (musician, actor, dancer, painter, potter, sculptor, journalist, author, media presenter, photographer, designer, illustrator, proofreader, sportsman/woman, coach, trainer, sports official)
- Associate professionals generally have diploma/technical qualifications and support managers and professionals
- Business/administration (recruitment/employment/industrial relations/training officer, marketing/advertising specialist, market research analyst, technical sales representative, retail buyer, office/project manager)
- Defence Forces senior Non-Commissioned Officer

**Group 1**
- Senior executive/manager/department head in industry, commerce, media or other large organisation
- Public service manager (section head or above), regional director, health/education/police/fire services administrator
- Other administrator (school principal, faculty head/dean, library/museum/gallery director, research facility director)
- Defence Forces Commissioned Officer
- Professionals generally have degree or higher qualifications and experience in applying this knowledge to design, develop or operate complex systems; identify, treat and advise on problems; and teach others
- Business (management consultant, business analyst, accountant, auditor, policy analyst, actuary, valuer)
- Air/sea transport (aircraft/ship's captain/officer/pilot, flight officer, flying instructor, air traffic controller)
Pennant winners:
Rory C 6/5R
Kaveen N 5/4M
Kye W 4J
Jacob M 1W
Aatish Y 4/3A
Peter D 3G

CONGRATULATIONS!

Notes Sent Home This Fortnight:

- Festival of Instrumental Music – Strings – updated dates (2 notes)
- Premier’s Reading Challenge
- Band Camp
- Tell them from Me Survey Yr 4-6

If you missed any of these notes please call in to the office for a copy. Alternatively they can be downloaded from our website.

Community Group Advertisements

Ashbury Public School does not endorse any of the following advertisements

PIANO LESSONS

For more information phone Gabriella Pekanovic 0402 668 874

* Qualified teacher with 30 years experience
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* eligibility criteria apply
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Ph: 9799 5446

A quality service provided by Canterbury Community Child Care Centre

Give your child a happy preschool experience at Canterbury Community Child Care Centre.

Our hours are 8.30am - 4.00pm, Monday to Friday.

Your child is enrolled in either a three or two day session:

- **Our three-day session** – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
- **Our two-day sessions** – Monday and Tuesday or Thursday and Friday

The Centre operates on the school calendar and is closed during school holidays.

You are welcome to come and visit us Monday to Friday, and pick up an application form. Our waiting list can grow long so get in early if you can. We charge a fee of $10.00 for each application. This is an administrative fee and does not secure a position for your child at the Centre.

Preference for enrolment is given to children who are four and eligible for school the following year.

Children must be at least 3 years old to attend

Limited vacancies exist in our Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday program. Please call and speak with Angela or Mary-Anne if you are interested.

50 King Street, Ashbury. NSW 2193
Ph: 9799 5446

E-mail: cccc@tpg.com.au Website: cccc.org.au

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Kids’ Day Camps start from $47. Family Camp weekends start from $63 per day for kids and $96 per day for adults (kids under 5 attend free; cost includes accommodation, meals and activities).

Bonus! Residential Kids’ Camps include supervised transport from:

- Central Station, Sydney
- Penrith
- Lithgow
- Bathurst
- Orange
- Wellington
- Brooklyn
- Mooney Mooney.

dsrs.nsw.gov.au/kidscamps
dsr.nsw.gov.au/familycamps
13 13 02
facebook.com/nswsportandrecreation
School Holiday Programs

@ #Croydon Tennis Centre

• 9am - 3pm
• Beforecare Service (8am - 9am)
• Aftercare Service (3pm to 6pm) afternoon tea provided.
• Sausage Sizzle provided for lunch daily (BYO Morning Tea)
• Daily or weekly enrolment available
• Supervised swimming in our indoor heated saltwater pool
• Sports & Academic Camp - NEW
• Multi Sport Camp
• CTC Tennis Hot Shots Camp
• High Performance Tennis Camp for advanced levels
• PREP Gross Motor Skills Camp (ages 3)
• Intensive Swimming Program

Contact us on 9747 4259 or visit www.croydontenniscentre.com.au
Croydon Tennis centre is excited to announce we are offering your child(ren) the chance to exercise both ‘Mind and Body’ with our “Sports and Academic Camp”.

Children will now be able to get the most out of their holidays by engaging in intensive exercise and honing their scholastic skills.

In such a varied environment students will be able to focus effectively on all tasks as repetition won’t be wearing them down. Furthermore they will have their friends to socialise with in the beautiful secluded surrounds at Croydon tennis centre during lunch.

We will seek to cater for all years and to improve streamlining of programs. Please register interest early on.

### COMBINED SPORTS & ACADEMIC HOLIDAY PROGRAM

- Our special Introductory rate of $300 per week
- Duration: 9am - 3pm
- Your choice - Mathematics or English
- Multi Sports or Tennis Hot Shots or Both

### ACADEMIC CAMP ONLY - MATHAMATICS OR ENGLISH

- Our Special Introductory rate of $175 / week
- Morning session (9.30-11.30am) OR Afternoon session (1.30 - 3.30pm)
- Pupil to teacher ration of 8:1
- Duration: 2 hours

Contact us on 9747 4259 or visit [www.croydontenniscentre.com.au](http://www.croydontenniscentre.com.au)
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To find out more and get a FREE copy of our social calendar

Call 1300 300 496

or check out our web site: [www.singlewithchildren.com.au](http://www.singlewithchildren.com.au)

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**Autumn Camp**

**2015**

**3 DAY MULTI-SPORTS CAMP FOR PRIMARY AGED CHILDREN**

Time: 9am-3pm

Dates: 14th, 15th & 16th April 2015

Location: Croydon Public School,
Young Street, Croydon

REGISTER ONLINE or call 0411653215

What is MLC Tennis Hot Shots?
MLC Tennis Hot Shots is an exciting tennis program for kids aged 6 to and under. Using smaller courts, racquets and low-compression balls, the program makes learning tennis easy for new players.

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- It’s fun, safe and easy to play
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- Easy progression to full court tennis
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AGES 4-16YRS
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Qualified Teaching Staff with Working with Children Check
“PLAY SOCCER WITH THE PIRATES IN 2015!”

“U5’s - U12’s Boys & Girls”

**ORIENTATION DAY**

- **Date:** Every Sunday in February
- **Location:** Hammond Park, Ashfield (Just around the corner from Bunnings Ashfield)
- **Time:** 9am - 11am
- **What to Bring:** Football boots, Football socks & Shin Pads are a must!

**WHY PLAY SOCCER WITH THE PIRATES?**

- Boys & Girls teams from 4 years to 12 years of age.
- Provide players of all age groups a full player’s kit which includes a Jacket, shirt, shorts, socks, bag, ball and drink bottle.
- The club is committed to working in tandem with parents & supporters to create a fun, safe sporting club for the children of the local community.
- To make it enjoyable and entertaining to visit our home ground to watch our players & socialise with fellow club members
- To make football accessible for all through targeted programmes e.g. for schools, key community groups, scholarships

- Provide a Safe & Freindly Club for children to play Football.
- Play Soccer in the Canterbury District Soccer Football Association.
- New initiative for local players playing in Ashfield, Annandale, Ashbury, Leichhardt, Summer Hill.
- To provide coaches with the best possible tools to coach & train children how to play the best team sport in the world.

For information & Registration contact Jean Kouriel on: 0411 411 142

Address: Suite 49a, 19-23 Norton Street, Leichhardt NSW 2040
Email: president@piratesfc.com.au   www.facebook.com/ashfieldpirates
Website*: www.piratesfc.com.au

*Website live on Friday 13th February 2015