Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week students entered their 2016 classes. Teachers at the end of 2015 spent many hours working on the 2016 classes to ensure all students are carefully placed and reach their full potential. This year we have 384 students in the school. Our 49 new Kindergarten students have settled very well into school on Monday and Tuesday of last week.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all new students and parents to the Ashbury community, as well as welcoming back all returning students and families.

2016 Classes and Staff:
KF Ms Filaktos
KS Mrs Saville
1/KW Ms Wayte (Mon-Thur)/Ms Asimina (Fri)
1V Mrs Viswanath
2/1L Mr Lesslie
2/1G Miss Wong (Term 1)
2M Mrs McKeever
Miss Asimina (Relieving Assistant Principal responsible for Kindy, Year 1 and 2)

3N Mr Newmarch
4/3K Mrs Kaye (Term 1 - Relieving Assistant Principal responsible for Stage 2)
4/3H Mrs Horton
4B Ms Bayndrian
6/5M Mrs McInerney (Mon-Thur)/Mrs McEvoy (Fri)
6/5R Mr Robinson
6/5J Ms McLoughlin
6/5S Miss Stephenson (Assistant Principal responsible for Stage 3)

Learning and Support Teacher (LaST) – Ms Asimina
Librarian - Mrs Helen O’Brien
English as an Additional Language/Dialect (EALD) - Mrs Kaprziak
Reading Recovery Teacher- Mrs Xanthis
Enrichment Groups’ Teacher and Support teachers- Mrs McEvoy and Mrs Gor

NEWSLETTERS AT www.ashbury-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Please go to the school website and register to have the newsletter emailed to you. Go to the top and select the blue box which is labeled - Newsletter - Subscribe.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

TERM 1
Tues 9 February - 7pm P&C Meeting. All welcome!
Fri 12 February - P&C Welcome BBQ
Wed 17 February - Meet the Teacher evening, Carnival of Codes, Year 3-4
Fri 19 February – Summer PSSA starts
Tues 23 February – Scripture begins
Wed 24 February - Band Meeting 7.30pm
Mon 29 February – Zone Swimming Carnival
Thurs 3 March - School Photo Day, “A taste of Ashbury” – Community Garden
Fri 4 March – Clean Up Australia Day
Tues 8 March – 7pm P&C meeting
Mon 21 March – Harmony Day
Fri 25-Mon 28 March – Easter Holidays
2-3 April – Band Camp
Tues 5 March – ANZAC service – Hyde Park
Fri 8 April- Last day of Term 1

TERM 2
Mon 25 April – ANZAC Day
Tues 21 April – Staff Development Day
Wed 27 April - School Resumes for students
Tues 10-12 May – NAPLAN week
Mon 13 June – Queen’s Birthday Holiday
2016 promises to be a year full of many and varied learning opportunities across the school. We look forward to the arrival of our new school principal, hopefully in Term 2. We are also currently undergoing the process for a classroom teacher vacancy to be filled. When these two events occur there will be some reshuffling of role allocations.

**P & C**

The first P&C meeting is this Tuesday night, 9th February at 7pm in the staffroom. A note has been sent home about this. For new parents this is a wonderful opportunity to meet the hard working parents of our P&C and become a member. The P&C plays an important role in our school and contributes to a number of programs that benefit the school. Please join us on Tuesday night.

**P&C Welcome BBQ**

**All invited - Friday 12th February 2015  5.30 – 7pm at school**

On Friday 12th February, the P&C will host a Welcome BBQ for all Ashbury families. This is a great chance for everyone to come along and welcome new families to our school. The BBQ will be from 5.30-7pm at the covered area near the playground – weather permitting! On the night we will also have a Gelato stand where you can buy delicious Pure Gelato.

**Meet the Teacher Night**

Meet the Teacher night is Wednesday 17th February. K- 2 6-6:30pm and Years 3-6 6:45-7:15pm. All meetings will take place in your child’s classroom. This is an opportunity to meet your child’s teacher and to find out how the class will operate. It is also a great chance to meet some of the other parents in your child’s class.

**Front Playground**

Late last year the design for our front playground was completed. We are in the process of collecting quotes and ensuring Department of Education regulations. If you would like to come up and have a look at our plans and share any knowledge or expertise we would be grateful. The plans will be on display up in the office this week.

**Student Safety**

We provide a staff member on playground duty from 8:30 each morning. If your child is at school before 8:30am, for their safety, they need to come up to the office area and wait until 8:30am before going to the playground where there will then be a teacher on duty. In the afternoon school finishes at 3pm, it is important that you collect your child as close to 3pm as possible. If you are running late could you please contact the office and the office staff will notify the class teacher who will then instruct your child to wait in the office area for you. All students who are not collected by 3:15pm are taken to the office for their safety.

**Anaphylaxis**

We have a number of our students who suffer severe reactions to some foods, in particular peanuts and other tree nuts. We ask that you ensure that your child does not bring nuts to school in their recess or lunch. This includes peanut butter, Nutella, and some types of muesli or nut bars.
Swimming Carnival

Thank you to everyone who attended the swimming carnival. Apart from the wind and rain, it was a very successful day and it was wonderful to see all our students actively participating in the swimming races as well as the novelty events. I would particularly like to thank Mrs Simmss and Mr Robinson for organising our carnival and all our parents, teachers and community volunteers who helped on the day or who came along and cheered on the students. Students who will be attending the Wiley Park Zone Carnival on Monday 29th February, will be notified soon.

The final results are: 1st Wallabies, 2nd Emus, 3rd Magpies and 4th Koalas

Here is an article from our student correspondent, Caitlin H:

“The swimming carnival was held on the 4th February. We arrived at school before 9am for the roll to be marked and started to get on the buses. When we arrived at Ashfield pool the races started almost immediately! First was the 100m Freestyle, won by Louis and Kylani. During the race all the teams started to cheer ferociously with incredible excitement. Mrs D’Arrigo announced points for cheering – 20 to the Koalas, 15 for the Wallabies, 10 for the Magpies and none for the Emus because they couldn’t get started!!

After the 100m the younger kids started arriving and the 50m races began, followed by the 25m, then the 15m going from the oldest children down to the youngest. Throughout the day children went to the canteen to buy sweets, drinks and chocolate! We also enjoyed playing games in the novelty pool.

Eventually it was time for the relay races between all four houses! They were very exciting and children who weren’t participating were chanting at the tops of their voices!

Finally the relay races finished and anyone who wasn’t in dry clothes went to get changed. Then the buses came and we all went back to school.

Thanks to the parents and teachers for making the day a success.”

Caitlin 6/5S

Peer Support

Peer Support will involve all students from Year K-6. Year 6 participated in Peer Support leadership training in Week 1 and 2. The purpose of this is to prepare the students for their role as Peer Support leaders, where they will lead a group of other students through a series of structured social skills lessons. Peer Support activities will begin later this term.
Here is an article from our student reporter, Elise:

“For all the Year 6 students the first few days of school were dedicated to Peer Support training and learning how to be successful school leaders. Over the course of time they learnt about the skills of confidence and empathy, active listening and knowing how to handle difficult situations. While we learnt many new skills it was good to know that we had already acquired some of the skills we will need. The Year 6 students are now ready to take on leading the school confidently to help the younger students handle relationships and friendships and difficult situations.”

By Elise E

Peer mediation

Peer mediation is a conflict resolution strategy used by our school. In peer mediation, two trained Yr 5 students lead other students through a structured process to resolve minor disputes in the playground. We aim to empower all students by teaching them the skills they need to resolve conflicts. Training of our Year 5 Mediators occurred in Week 1. They will be seen later this term in the playground in pairs assisting other students. The role of Peer Mediators is not to tell students what to do, but to help students solve their own problems by asking them a series of questions and using active listening techniques.

An article from our student reporter, Rebecca:

“In Peer Mediation we really learnt about listening and other gestures like nodding and using facial expressions to let people know that you are thinking about what they are saying. We also talked about looking people in the eye when they are talking, not getting distracted and how to be polite. To help us be good Peer Mediators we did lots of role plays. We had a thick booklet of information and activities. I enjoyed the activity where we had to ask people all around us about certain things, and the sentence memory game. On the last day we were watched closely to see if we made it as a Peer Mediator. It worked out well for everybody!”

By Rebecca R
Community Garden
With the new year starting, we have the pleasure of returning to the beehive and enjoying all the goodies our beautiful Community Garden has to offer. There will be lots of exciting events all through the year, so don’t miss a thing and bring your family and friends along!

- Open Garden Morning - Sunday 28 February 9-11am
- St Patrick’s Day Sweet Pea Planting Morning - Thursday 17 February 8-9am
- “A Taste of Ashbury” - Thursday 3 March 6.30-8.30pm
- 2016 Kitchen Garden Workshops

A letter has been sent home to students this week. For more information, please contact us at info@ashburycommunitygarden.org.au

Ashbury Public School Band
Rehearsals have commenced for all bands - Intermediate band (Monday 7.15-8.50am), Concert Band (Tuesday 4.15 – 6pm) and Training Band (Thursday 4:50 – 6:00pm), Percussion Ensemble (Tuesday 3:15-4:15 pm), and Jazz Band (Mondays 3-4:10 pm).
For those students who have put in an expression of interest and /or would like to join percussion ensemble or the jazz band please come along to the rehearsals this week.
Also, students are still welcome to join the Training Band for 2016. Contact Magdalen via email magdalenrozza@gmail.com for details.
The annual BAND CAMP will be held on the weekend of 2/3 April at Stanwell Tops. It is essential that all students attend.
A BAND INFORMATION NIGHT for all band parents will be held on Wednesday 24th February at 7:30 pm in the downstairs activity area. Children do not need to attend this meeting, but at least 1 parent is requested to attend. This meeting is not only for new parents, it involves information concerning all band students and parents. There will be important information about Band Camp, band books will be distributed, and band fee information / invoices provided. Information about parent responsibilities as well as general band information will be discussed.

IMPORTANT : Parents are reminded that an adult must attend music lessons provided by music tutors before and after school. Also, if students attend Chess Class on Tuesday afternoon, they must be supervised by a parent for the time between the end of Chess (4:05) and Concert Band (4:20).

Mrs Kaye, Band Liaison Teacher

Dogs on school grounds
Just a friendly reminder that dogs are not allowed on schools grounds. This is to ensure the safety of the students and the dogs.

Pennant winners:
Hugh P
Madeline M

CONGRATULATIONS!

Notes Sent Home
This Fortnight:

- Chess class
- Class requirements
- Notification of class and teacher
- Community Garden
- Welcome BBQ
- Ashbury P&C Open night
- PSSA Summer
- Carnival of Codes

If you missed any of these notes please call in to the office for a copy
Community Advertisements

Ashbury Public School does not endorse any of the following advertisements.

Male Guinea Pig to Give Away

He comes free with a small hutch plus accessories to a loving home.

Contact Nerida on 0488990326
OPEN NIGHT
SCHOOL TOURS

MARRICKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
Monday 22nd February 2016
5.30pm – 7.30pm

School Tours
5.30pm - 7.00pm

Presentation
7.00pm - 7.30pm

Northcote Street, Marrickville  9569 2444  www.marrickvil-h.schools.nsw.edu.au
Year 7, 2017 - OPEN NIGHT

Tuesday 1 March, 2016

4:00 pm – 7:30 pm

School tours 4:00 – 6:30  Presentation 6:30 – 7:30

School in Action Tours

Tuesday 8 March 2016  9.30 – 11.00 a.m.
Tuesday 15 March 2016  9.30 – 11.00 a.m.

Phone for specific enquiries – Contact person: Georgina Nohra on 9718 1805

Entry through main school entrance in Church Street
DONNA JEAN’S DANCEFORCE

- Toddlers Fairy Ballet, Tiny Groovers, Tiny Tappers!
- Mum’s & Bubs Class
- Classical Ballet (Cecchetti / R.A.D.) • Modern
- Jazz/Funk • Contemporary • Hip Hop • Acrobatics
- Showgroup • Boys Breakdance • Singing

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MINCHINBURY
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FUN, FRIENDLY, FAMILY Studio for kids from 2 yrs - Adults!
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Workshops with leading guest teachers from So You Think You Can Dance, The Australian Opera Ballet

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2/24 Eddie Road, MINCHINBURY
1 Holden St, ASHFIELD
Principal: Donna Jean Holmes (A.Dip.CBA., C.I.C.B. CertIV, A.Dip.ISTD)
EST. 30 Years
Qualified Teaching Staff with Working with Children Check
McCALLUMS HILL P.S

Every Thursday 3:20pm—5:20pm
Starting February 11, 2016

- Educational & Engaging Program
- Rhymes, Songs & Games
- Fun Reading & Writing Curriculum
- Minister’s Award for Community Languages
- Professionally Trained Teachers
- K-6 Students
- Activities & Performances

For further information and/or registration forms, a representative from the GOC Centre will visit our school on Thursday, February 4 from 3.15pm to 4.00pm

Education Department
02 9740 6022
education@goc.com.au
M: 0410 324 328