Term 1 Date Claimers

Feb
08  Meet and Greet Afternoon
10  Fire Drill
15  Lock Down Drill
Mar
30  OWLS Rewards Day
31  Swimming Carnival
31  End of Term 1
Apr
18  Term 2 Begins!

PRINCIPAL’S DESK

What an outstanding start to the school year at Ashwell State School! We have seen students making excellent choices with regard to their behaviour and learning. I am looking forward to sharing this journey of 2017 with you and working together to ensure positive, respectful relationships that result in the best possible educational outcomes for every one of our students.

We currently have 52 students enrolled at Ashwell State School. This fortnight has been very busy, with swimming starting and getting into our daily routines but we have enjoyed every second!

The students, new and returning, have settled into their new year very well. Congratulations also must go to our school leaders who have started their new roles and responsibilities very well. The year six students have begun running parade on Fridays, monitoring the equipment borrowed from the sports shed and completing extra jobs around the school such as raising the flags at the beginning of the day and folding them beautifully at the end of the day. They have also started the year by being great role models for the younger students.

We will shortly begin the process of electing some younger members of the student council and beginning our weekly student council meetings. Look forward to seeing information about the initiatives that the student council would like to work towards. They also may choose to start some fundraising ventures at school.

MEET AND GREET AFTERNOON

This Wednesday afternoon we will have our Meet and Greet afternoon. All parents and family members are welcome to attend. The P-2 session will run from 3:00pm – 3:30pm and the 3-6 session will run from 3:30pm – 4:00pm. Term overviews will be discussed at the session. They will also be sent home next week for parents who are unable to attend the Meet and Greet afternoon. Tea, coffee and snacks will be provided.

PARENTS AND CITIZENS MEETING

The first P&C meeting of the year will take place at 3:30pm on Monday 13th February. Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting.

At the first meeting, the date of the Annual General Meeting will be set and published. If you are considering an executive position on the P&C this year I would sincerely encourage you to nominate yourself. The more people that attend meetings and help with fundraising, the more impact the P&C will be able to have on our great school, its facilities and resources and the learning outcomes of our students.

STUDENT ABSENCES

This year we are starting to use an automated SMS service for student absences. If your child is going to be absent, please call the office and let us know that they will be absent and what the reason is for the absence so that it can be recorded. This will ensure that you don’t receive an SMS. If you haven’t let us know and your child is away you will receive a text message to your nominated contact phone number. Thanks for your understanding with this.

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?

We are here to help! Please see the teacher about any questions you have about the routines, your child’s learning or particular incidents that have occurred at school. If this doesn’t resolve the issue, please make an appointment to see myself by calling the office.
BOOKWORK AT ASHWELL

Sometimes the importance of bookwork or presentation is underestimated. At Ashwell SS this year we have included a strong emphasis on presentation of work and we have noticed a huge improvement. Each class will give a Bookwork Award on parade each week for best or most improved bookwork. Look out for these awards!

ASHWELL OWLS BEHAVIOUR PROGRAM

The students have been making wonderful choices so far this year. They have generally been responsible and respectful towards teaching staff and one another.

Students need to understand that every behaviour choice they make will have a consequence. This may be a positive consequence (eg. You use kind words towards others and as a consequence you will make good friends) or a negative one (eg. You do not follow instructions at break time and you will miss 5 minutes of play). Of course this is the same in the workplace and in the wider community.

Just a few reminders that we have discussed with students this week...

- **Play areas** are enforced at school. Prep-3 students have a different playground to students in year 4-6. This is for the happiness and safety of all students.
- Students must be in **full school uniform** each day. If there is a reason why they cannot be in full uniform, please write a note in their diary.
- **Physical violence** against other students or teachers will not be tolerated at school. This is a major breach of Department of Education and Training’s and Ashwell State School’s policies. Physical violence will always have a major consequence and punching another student with the intent to cause harm will always result in a suspension.

Please be assured that all behaviour expectations at school are explicitly taught to students and students will not receive a consequence for a minor behaviour unless they have received a warning.

STUDENT AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students for their fantastic efforts! Week 1 awards:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>WK</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>AWARD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P-1-2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lillian</td>
<td>Trying her best to do neat work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kobi</td>
<td>A great start to the year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookwork</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ella</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4-5-6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jaiden</td>
<td>An outstanding first week back.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jay</td>
<td>A great start at a new school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookwork</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rhys</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Kind regards,

Tara Kelso.