PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Family Survey Results

Thank you to all those parents who were able to respond to the survey on school culture/satisfaction. 30% of our families participated in this survey. The responses are as follows:

• 97.5% agreed that Aberdeen Public School has: a good reputation, the students are the main concern of the school, parents are given the opportunity to express their interest or concern, staff and students work well together and that the school rewards students adequately for achievement. 2.5% of respondents were unsure;
• 97.5% of respondents agreed that the school communicated well with its families. 2.5% disagreed;
• 95% of respondents agreed that the school reported adequately to parents. 2.5% disagreed and 2.5% were unsure;
• 95% of respondents agreed that the school has clear goals and that the school promoted anti-bullying adequately. 5% were unsure;
• 90% agreed that the school has adequate buildings and grounds. 5% were unsure and 5% of respondents disagree;
• 90% agreed that the school has adequate equipment. 7.5% were unsure and 2.5% disagreed;
• 90% agreed that the school promoted itself well. 10% were unsure;
• 90% agreed the school caters for the learning needs of all students. 7.5% were unsure and 2.5% disagreed; and
• 90% agreed that the school provided adequate deterrents to unacceptable behaviour. 10% were unsure.

All families surveyed supported the values and attitudes the school endeavours to promote.

Families had the opportunity to make additional comments:

• I couldn’t ask for better teachers for my child. APS is a great school.

• Strong school environment which promotes a friendly caring attitude. All staff are excellent and really care about the students and school. We are lucky to have a wonderful local school.

• The school tries to cater to the learning needs of students but the government lets them down.

• The school uniform is an issue, it looks drab, fades quickly and there is no difference between sports and normal school days. Bring back the school dress it looks smarter and definitely lasts longer.

• It seems more awards are given for encouragement to misbehaving students than those that behave most of the time.

• I wish the canteen had a better nutrition policy.

• We are extremely happy with the school. The kids are making friends and enjoying it very much.

• It’s a great school everyone knows everyone and everyone helps everyone.

• It would be great if the government could supply extra funding – special teachers for students that require a little extra help.

• School is not really well set up for wheelchairs.

• The reward box is a bonus.

• A cover for the play equipment would be good.

• The school should have more sport that the parents shouldn’t have to pay for. I do like the school fruit break and there is plenty of equipment for the children.
These survey results will be discussed at the P&C meeting on 15th May.

KidsMatter

**Colour Your World With Happiness**

This week we commenced the introduction of our 8 Colour Habits to students.

- Confidence
- Happiness
- Honesty
- Persistence
- Responsibility
- Respect
- Resilience
- Success

These habits represent qualities and capacities we aim to promote in our school. Each habit has the catch phrase “Colour your world with ....”

Our first habit is Happiness. The analogy of a bucket will be used to help children understand what makes them happy. When children have their buckets filled and learn how they can fill other people’s buckets, they understand how special, valuable and capable they are.

**PRINCIPAL’S AWARDS**

**Week 10 Term 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KLH</td>
<td>Angus S</td>
<td>for excellent efforts in reading and writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K/1K</td>
<td>Max M</td>
<td>working independently in maths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1B</td>
<td>Vanessa H</td>
<td>for always being polite and using good manners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2DP</td>
<td>Luke D</td>
<td>exceptional computer skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4A</td>
<td>Chloe H</td>
<td>outstanding attitude to learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4P</td>
<td>Will R</td>
<td>for excellent behaviour and responsibility during visual arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5R</td>
<td>Charlie C</td>
<td>demonstrating excellent working skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6M</td>
<td>Phoebe D</td>
<td>being a positive and diligent student at all times</td>
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**Week 1 Term 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KLH</td>
<td>Kristen S</td>
<td>consistently using her manners in all aspects of the classroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K/1K</td>
<td>Summer D</td>
<td>excellent work in literacy and maths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1B</td>
<td>Ethan H</td>
<td>for always learning the most he can and letting others learn as much as they can</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2DP</td>
<td>Jayden J</td>
<td>fantastic teamwork and participation during PE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4A</td>
<td>Rowan B</td>
<td>being persistent and striving for excellence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4P</td>
<td>Jacob D</td>
<td>for excellent behaviour in all class work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5R</td>
<td>Luke J</td>
<td>excellent attitude in all areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6M</td>
<td>Emily W</td>
<td>for her conscientious effort in mathematics</td>
</tr>
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**Regional Cross Country**

Good luck to Lachie, Peter, Callum and Cody, who are travelling to Broadmeadow this Friday to participate in the Regional Cross Country.

**Gymnastics**

The school will be running a Gymnastics program this term in place of the Sport in Schools program. The program will run for 10 weeks and the cost is $3.60 per student per week, a total of $36.00 for the 10 weeks. Payment must be made and the permission note returned before students can participate.

**Visiting Performance**

In week 5 of this term we are lucky enough to have a visiting performance at our school for all students. The show is called ‘Pick a Peck of Pickled Poems’ and promises to be a lot of fun. A permission note and more details will be sent home closer to the date, the cost of this show will be $4.00 per student.

**Stewart House**

Every family was given a Stewart House Donation envelope last week. If you are able to support this very important charity, that supports many public school students, please place $2 in the envelope and return to the school office by this Friday 10th May.

**P & C News**

The Disco will be on this Thursday 9th May in the school hall. The cost for entry is a gold coin donation and drinks and snacks will be available for purchase. K – 2 will start at 5.30pm to 6.45pm and Years 3 to 6 will start at 7pm to 8.30pm. Any parents available to help out at the disco would be most welcome.

The Mother’s Day stall will be on Thursday 9th May between 9.00am – 11.1am. Gifts will be priced from $2 - $7. Assistance from parents to man the stall would be much appreciated.

Size 6 polo shirts are now available for purchase from the uniform shop for $30. The uniform shop is open on Fridays from 8.45am – 9.30am.

The next P&C meeting is to be held on 15th May at 6.30pm in the library. Child minding will be available and everyone is welcome to attend.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9th May</td>
<td>Mothers’ Day Stall</td>
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<tr>
<td>9th May</td>
<td>Disco</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th May</td>
<td>Regional X Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>13th – 17th</td>
<td>NAPLAN TESTING Yr3 &amp; 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14th May</td>
<td>Jack Johnston Memorial Day</td>
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<td>15th May</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
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<td>22nd May</td>
<td>School Leadership Conference</td>
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<td>27th May</td>
<td>Visiting Performance</td>
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<tr>
<td>5th June</td>
<td>SHS Orientation Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>20th June</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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Scone Horse Sports
Everyone had a great day at Scone... Lots of hard competition with the girls having 20 in their division! Millie was awarded Reserve Champion Pointscore 9yr old girl. Luke also had a great day winning lots of ribbons. Well done to all riders!!

Additive-Free Pantry:
Where: Muswellbrook Library (Limit 75 people)
When: 23rd May 2013
Time: 5.30pm
Tea, coffee and nibbles
Presentation: 6.15pm
Finish time: 8.00pm (Library closes)
Registrations to: anne@familyinsight.org.au or 0407 723 320
Bookings essential – limit 75 people
Registrations close: 17th May 2013
Light refreshments provided. Lucky Door Prizes

Tanya Winfield is a mother of three who created Additive Free Pantry to inspire change throughout Australia. Having a child with Asthma motivated Tanya to look at what types of foods were going into her young son’s body. Shocked at the number of chemicals added to the food he was consuming, Tanya cleaned her pantry out and never looked back. Not realising her youngest son would benefit greatly too as he was known to throw the odd temper tantrum down the local supermarket. Seeing such astounding results within her own family, prompted Tanya to start her business to empower others to do the same. Tanya believes everyone can choose to eat additive free foods, you just need to know how, why and where to start.

CLASS NEWS
Class KLH
Well, haven’t the children returned from the holidays bright eyed and bushy tailed! And they appear to have retained many of the specific skills in letter formation, writing and reading taught in Term 1. Super!
In Jolly Phonics this term, we have already looked at the letter/sound j and the blend ‘ai’ (as in rain). This week we begin homework again, practicing learnt letter formations, names and sounds. Please don’t forget to look in the front cover of the homework book for further activities to do involving the week’s sounds. Playing the suggested maths games are also so beneficial. Packs of cards are easily obtained in Go Lo, Reject shops or online.
Home readers started going home this week with the homework. A green laminated sheet was to accompany this so please look out for it today as it will hopefully, outline the routine and expectations, and answer all your questions.
To give much better protection, if possible, could you please provide an A4 plastic envelope to place homework and home readers in.
Don't forget gymnastics each Thursday- nearly all parents have sent in their permission for this, however, payment is also required. If another note is needed please ring the school or see Mr Larnach or Mrs Hill.
**CLASS NEWS**

**Class K1K**
This term is a very busy one. Last term Kinder learnt how to complete their homework and will soon start bringing it home on Mondays. The completed homework needs to be returned on Fridays. Home readers will also start for Kinder towards the end of this week. Children are to read the book to an adult who then comments and signs the home reader record card. The books are returned to school and exchanged for another, however, readers will not be sent home over the weekend. Year One will resume homework and home reading this week. We are learning the ai, j, oa, ie, ee, or, z, w, ng and v sounds this fortnight as well as revising sound introduced last term. In maths, Year One are learning about equal groups, counting by 2's, 5's and 10's, 2D shapes, angles, area, the value of coins, left and right, counting back, quarters and volume. Kinder are also learning about area, counting back, volume as well as closed shapes, position, time, adding by counting, five as a base, combining groups, patterns and sorting objects. In English, we are learning about persuasive texts and continuing with L3 groups.

**Class 1B**
Hello Parents and welcome back to Term 2! 1B have some great activities this term as we are learning about ‘Our Families Past and Present’ in HSIE and ‘A Place In Time’ in Science – which is all about our weather and how it changes. We are also doing a lot more computer work this term with the computer lab up and running! So please, let your child on the computer to test their skill if possible, lots of practice is needed. Homework and Home Readers were sent home yesterday, so please ensure they are kept safe and are completed nightly to prevent any Thursday night or Friday morning rushes! If there are any concerns please come in or make a time to see me.

**Class 2DP**
2DP had a very settled start to the term and are very excited to welcome Mrs Watson who will be Mrs Dunn’s replacement. Mrs Watson will eventually take over the class full time when Miss Power goes on maternity leave. The children were lucky enough to have both teachers last week and have already established their new daily routine and are very clear on behaviour expectations of both teachers. We have a very exciting term ahead with our computer and gymnastics program taking place each Thursday. We will be exploring Drama for creative arts each Friday and will also be preparing for the athletics carnival during sport. Please remember your hat and drink bottle. We are lucky enough to have some wonderful parent helpers joining us in the classroom from this week. Thank you to Mrs Emery, Mrs Ison, Mrs Dixon and Mrs Wheardon for giving us your time. If you are available to help in the classroom please speak to Mrs Watson or Miss Power.

MISSING SHOES - Lillian D from 2DP is missing a size 2 pair of plain black Dunlop Volleys. She accidently got her shoes mixed up with someone who has the same pair but a size 3. The shoes were mixed up on Thursday after gymnastics. Please check your child’s shoes and if they have Lillian’s shoes could you please return them to school. Thank you.

**Stage 2**

**Classes 3-4A & 3-4P**
Believe it or not, there are students in Stage 2 without the necessary equipment to get them through the easiest of tasks each day. Could you please ensure that your child’s pencil case is regularly stocked with essential items that make their daily routines at school that so much easier. Rulers, pencils and glue are not at school the most. NAPLAN is coming up and will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday next week. Please ensure that your child is well rested, has a hearty breakfast and brings ample food to school to eat in between tests.

Thank you to those students who brought in egg cartons for our Mother’s Day craft. Things are beginning to look very colourful! Our new gymnastics program began last week and was enjoyed by all who participated. Please remember that payment is to be made to the office before students can participate.

**Class 5R**
We are back into the swing of things in 5R and the class is working well. Some important reminders: The Sydney Excursion note has now gone out to students. It is essential that you return the permission note with the $25.00 deposit as soon as possible. Students should have all equipment for school, please check with your child to see if they are missing anything. As part of the school policy there are uniform requirements for any student attending this school. We are completing uniform checklists in our classes and students wearing their uniform correctly on all or most days will be eligible for a small reward at the end of the term. A note requiring students to present a topic to the class has gone home to be presented in week 7 and 8 of this term. Please work with your child to ensure they are prepared for their topic. Lots of practice will ensure they are confident to present to the rest of the class. If you have any questions relating to these topics please contact me at the school.

**Class 6M**
What a busy start to Term 2. It has been fantastic to see everyone return to school rested and refreshed. We are working hard to ensure our assembly item is ready to present at this Friday’s assembly, it’s sure to be a show stopper! In Maths, we have started completing daily “Timetables Challenges”, we have to try to beat our personal best for solving as many timetables questions as we can in one minute. In English we will be working throughout the term on our Public Speaking Program. A note was sent home explaining this last week and our topics are due this Friday.