Dear parents and carers,

First term is now well underway and the students have settled into excellent learning patterns. There is an extremely productive buzz around the school from Preschool where routines have now been well set through to Year 10 where students are launching into major assignments and continuing their preparation for college. It is terrific to visit classes and have lots of students coming to my office to show me the many wonderful learning achievements of our very talented students.

Our P&C Meeting last week was not well attended. Our P&C provide a range of valuable services for our students including the Canteen and we need a strong and vibrant parent association. This year is an Amaroo School Fete year and we hope we can generate further parent and community support to make this fund raising event a huge success. If you can make a contribution please try to attend our next P&C Meeting in Term 2 on Monday 4 May at 7pm.

Return to school Term 2

Please be advised that due to ANZAC Day (25 April 2015) falling on a Saturday, Term 2 2015 will commence for all ACT Public Schools on Tuesday 28 April. There has been some confusion around start dates of Term 2 because of ANZAC Day - some calendars mark the Monday following as a public holiday and some don't. To clear things up, although the Monday after ANZAC Day is not a public holiday (this year) it is a school holiday. Please check your workplace for their ruling for this day.

Student Achievements

Sam and Danilo from Ms Boate’s Year 4 have written some great poetry. They have mustered all their creative talents and composed some creative and engaging poems. Well done to these budding poets.

Sebastian from Ms Robert’s Year 5 class has completed some excellent work. He has described life as an aborigine when the First Fleet arrived. His work is of a high standard.

Elizabeth from Ms Azdajic’s Year 1 class has completed some excellent homework. She has written a story about Mrs Dippy and retold some exciting parts. It is great to see this young learner pushing and extending herself.

Tara from Mr Young’s Year 2 class and Emma from Ms Thomas’ Year 2 class have created a great picture of teachers. The girls have worked hard to capture the essence of some of the different teachers in our school. It is great to see the girls producing quality work.

Lubna and Chelsea from Ms Coleman’s Year 5 class have completed some outstanding work. Challenged with writing about life for aborigines when the First Fleet arrived these young historians have captured a real glimpse of how things might have appeared. It is great to see these students producing their best work.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 4 March 2015</td>
<td>Year 4-26th Storey Treehouse-Canberra Theatre. Year 9/10 SL@AM Birrigai Camp: Mon-Weds.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 5 March 2015</td>
<td>School Photos-Kindergarten-Year 5 in the Hall and Siblings photos B1 &amp; B2 in the Hall. Wakakirri Practice: Thursdays 3:00 – 4:30 in the Gym.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 6 March 2015</td>
<td>School Photos-Year 6-10 &amp; Sibling photos B1 &amp; B2. Location TBA. Preschool Photos. Early Childhood Assembly-9:30-10am Hall, Parents Welcome. Primary Gallery Gatherings-Hall, 2pm-3pm-All Welcome.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 9 March 2015</td>
<td>Kindergarten (Kinder-Year 2)-Questacon Science Circus at Amaroo School. Kenny Koala visiting the preschool classes.</td>
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Hannah from Ms Parker’s Year 1 class has produced some excellent work. Hannah has made an excellent prediction on what will happen next on a video she watched. She has then written out her ideas and drawn a picture. Terrific work.

Chloe and Kisshoree from Ms Di Donna’s Year 4 class have designed and written their own version of the 2015 Amaroo School Magazine. The girls have worked hard to produce a quality product that shows lots of creativity and excellent writing skills. It is great to see these young publishers developing their skills.

Israt from Ms Thomas’ Year 2 class has completed some outstanding additional work. She has written an extensive research project into the water cycle. This is a fabulous example of what a highly motivated student can achieve and her deep love of learning.

Class visits

In Ms Ashcroft’s Year 1 class students are practicing their prediction skills. The students watched a special video consisting of all in pictures with no sound. It showed the story of two octopuses in a tank and the story of their adventures. Once the students had watched the video they were challenged to record on their iPads a prediction of what was about to happen in drawing and as a recording. The students were clearly excited about using the iPads and the great activity Ms Ashcroft designed. Many of them produced quality drawings and had complex and creative predictions around what was about to happen. The learning environment in this Year 1 class is so exciting it is hard to predict which student will be the best learner, but you can be sure they are highly motivated learners.

In Ms Baxter’s Year 8 History class students are learning about feudalism. The students watched a short clip depicting life in Feudal Society. Next they read information sheets that provided them with further insight into life in these different times. The students had to select one of three questions and construct a detailed response. Some described peasant life, others explained the roles of different societal groups and some compared and contrasted life then with life as they know it in Australia now. What a great way to learn about feudalism and expand their historical understandings.

As always, please contact the Deputy Principals; Benjamin Hall, Rebecca Turner, Sam Beattie, Tiffany Mahon or myself, to clarify any issue of concern to you. The whole school team at Amaroo School are committed to working with our community to ensure our students have the very best opportunities to learn.

Richard Powell
Principal
Amaroo School

NDIS Information Evenings

Harrison School – Tuesday March 10 at 6pm
North Ainslie Primary School – Monday March 16 at 6pm
Dickson College – Thursday March 19 at 6pm

Representatives from the National Disability Insurance Agency and the Education and Training Directorate will cover the following topics:
- Raising awareness of the NDIS and NDIA
- An explanation and discussion of the application process
- Answering any questions from parents or school staff

If you have any questions regarding these information evening please contact
Kylie Douch – Disability Education Partner for North/Gungahlin and Belconnen.
Kylie.douch@act.gov.au or 62052714