Hello parents, carers, students and friends of Ajuga,

Welcome to Term 2 of the 2013 school year. By this time of year classes are well into their teaching and learning programs and have had a lot of wonderful experiences while being given the opportunity to develop into successful learners. I would like to congratulate those students who have completed our program and moved to another setting; and welcome students and their parents and carers who are new to our school.

This term our students have had the opportunity to compete against Glenfield Park School in our first School of Origin game. The students showed real sportsmanship and team effort, and won the match! Students and staff also enjoyed the SRC canteen day where we raised money for a future school project. We were all very excited to welcome our new school chickens and enter the naming competition. The activity hasn’t stopped there! Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students sat for the NAPLAN. Primary school students have been participating in NRL activities with a sportsman associated with West Tigers, and secondary students have been striking it lucky at bowling every Friday afternoon. Our parents and carers were provided with the opportunity to attend our annual Hilltop Parent Retreat. Two parents will be heading off to the Quest for Life Harmony Centre Bundanoon with Jo our School Learning and Community Support Officer and Chris our Assistant Principal. Thank you to those of you who have joined us at review meetings, parent groups and assemblies. The students have put up fantastic displays for you to see, and they feel very proud when they present at assembly and receive their certificates while you are there. There is still a lot more to come! Class excursions are coming up, School of Origin games 2 and 3 will be played, and the Level 3 excursion has every one working hard on their behaviour and learning goals so they can go to Symbio Wildlife Park. Reports will be sent home this term so please take the time to go through your child’s report with them, and make a time to see their teacher if you would like to discuss the report in more depth.

Our teachers continue to visit student’s home schools to meet their teachers and hear about the achievements being made. Of course our School Learning Support Officers have been going along to the schools to support our students in their classrooms. Staff have been attending professional learning about the Literacy teaching guide: Phonics to make sure students achieve their learning outcomes.

Thank you for taking the time to read about what’s happening at Ajuga, our classes are very excited to report what they have been doing. If you enjoy reading our newsletter and would like to see what’s happening around the school more regularly go to the website: www.ajuga-s.schools.nsw.edu.au.

Natalie Armstrong

Upcoming Events Term 2 2013

Week 7

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 10th June</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 11th June</td>
<td>School Of Origin Parent Retreat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 12th June</td>
<td>Parent Retreat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, 13th June</td>
<td>Parent Retreat</td>
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Week 8

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 18th June</td>
<td>Purple Class Excursion</td>
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Week 9

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<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 24th June</td>
<td>School Of Origin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 25th June</td>
<td>School BBQ</td>
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Classroom Catch Ups!

Red Class

This term in red class we’ve been focusing on wet and dry environments that are around the world. We’ve explored the different types of environments and all the plants and animals that live within these habitats. We’re currently creating an iPad story to talk about all the characteristics of
both wet and dry environments. We’ve also had a great time learning some NRL skills with our coach Tim. These skills are definitely coming in handy for our school of origin competition. As always we’ve enjoyed caring for our chickens. We even welcomed two new Chinese Silkie chickens to our school. We’ve also planted some new vegies into our garden, which we’ll use in the kitchen in the future.

Silver Class
Silver class has been busy this term doing lots of cooking and getting outside to do some fitness. We have welcomed Hayden from Red class as our newest Silver class member and he is fitting in nicely.

Ben has had an excellent term showing us his wild imagination through his drawings of dragons and monsters. Kyle has created some excellent information posters about protection which are on display in our classroom. Antony has written an excellent comic book series entitled ‘The Headache,’ which I’m sure he’d love to tell you all about if you have a chat with him. The boys in Silver class are very excited about Ajuga’s new Xbox and are working hard to get some reward time playing the new Kinetic games.

Blue Class
Blue Class have been settling in well this semester. For HSIE the class have undertaken the study of Bali. The students are given the opportunity to explore the Balinese culture and compare its traditions, belief systems and practices with those in Australia. They are aware of the cultural changes that they and their families experience in Australia due to its Multicultural nature.

The students enjoyed making Balinese masks to show their understanding of the Balinese culture and the importance of dance and drama in Bali.

Blue Class will be going on an excursion to “The Chinese Gardens” in Darling Harbour to further their understanding of different cultures within Australia.

Yellow Class
Yellow Class really enjoyed cooking Sicilian Pasta, tossed salad with a balsamic dressing and herb bread using herbs from the garden. The herbs we used included basil, Italian parsley, oregano and thyme. The meal was delicious!!

Yellow class have now planted out their winter crop. We planted peas, garlic, beetroot, broccoli and broad beans. We added sugar cane mulch to keep the soil moist and the prevent weeds growing.

This week we are going to make a banana cake with lemon and lime icing. We will also make a chocolate milkshake and have a delicious morning tea. Sorry we can’t share it with you.

Purple Class
This term in Purple class we have been looking into the Ancient world of Egypt. Not only have we been busy investigating the topic we also found a new friend on the way. Her name is Nefertiti the goddess and the wife of Akhenaten. There has also been lots of art making this term by purple class, and we can’t get enough of it! In week 8 we will be going on an excursion to the Nicholson Museum to find more about Ancient Egypt, all the students are excited about the trip!

Purple class has also cooked Eggplant pizza and we are planning to cook more before the end of term! The positive interaction with one another from the start of Term 2 has been great!!

Green class
During Term 2 2013 green class have been busy studying Australia’s physical environment in Geography which took us on a journey south to the Illawarra to study some of our unique environment. Students were able to learn about how islands and mountains were formed through both a geographical and aboriginal perspective.

Jessica, Jason and Zoe have also been very busy learning some new cooking skills making sure Rebecca and Renee were well fed on Thursdays. We were very fortunate to turn some of our garden goodies into delicious soups and spaghetti Bolognese.

Thanks for a fun filled term Jessica, Jason, Josh, Michael, Zoe, Anne, Rebecca and Renee.
**Uniforms**

Available from the Front Office

Ajuga School has a fantastic looking school uniform. Unfortunately a small number of students seem to have found an excuse to wear various coloured jumpers, hats and pants. Students who are not in uniform do not look part of the Ajuga ‘team’. Please assist us by ensuring that our school uniform is worn each day.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shirt</td>
<td>$17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jumper</td>
<td>$18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hat</td>
<td>$4</td>
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**Parent Group**

My name is Jo Lewis and I am the School Learning and Community Support Officer at Ajuga School.

In this role, I work with your children in the classroom and am available to support families with matters outside of school e.g. provide transport to reviews, appointments, meetings and helping with the completion of forms. Or, you might just want to go for a coffee and have a friendly chat. If you need my support, all you need to do is contact Ajuga on 9828 1050 and leave a message for me and I will return your call.

At Ajuga we run Parent Support Groups on a Tuesday with our School Counsellor. Our next group will be held on the 25 June. This is our community BBQ. All help gladly accepted from 11am to prepare the BBQ. Then stay and see your child receive their merit awards and display their work at our assembly at 12 noon and then join us for a lunch afterwards.

Over the last couple of terms I have been working with the Community Support Officers from Campbell House and Glenfield Park fundraising and organising our annual Parent Retreat at the Quest for Life in Bundanoon. This year three parents from Ajuga are joining parents and staff members from the other schools on a three day retreat. We will have the opportunity to attend workshops and have fun socialising and forming new friendships with the parents and staff from the other Hilltop Schools. I am sure this year will be as enjoyable and successful as the past four retreats have been. On our return we will start planning for next year so, if you are interested please contact me.

Also, from time to time I will send home information regarding workshops and events available through your local community. If you would like to attend any of these and need my help in registering or want further information, please call me.

I look forward to meeting you and assisting where possible.

Jo Lewis

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**Ajuga Student Representative Council (SRC)**

At the S.R.C meeting this term we talked about fundraising activities to help raise money to buy sporting equipment and some more wet weather games.

We have decided that during Term 3, EVERY Friday will be a Sport Jersey Day. For a gold coin donation you can wear any type of sports jersey such as NRL, AFL, Basketball or soccer.

We will also be organising a Pyjama Day during Term 3 also!

**School Of Origin 2013**

Each year Ajuga plays 3 games of football against our neighbouring school, Glenfield Park School.

We played our first match in week 5. All students worked very well together as a team and were able to show off their great football skills. We ended up winning that match 13-6, putting us one up in the series.

Ajuga banded together again in Week 7 and played with confidence. Glenfield Park came out very enthusiastically and scored 3 field goals early in the game, putting them 3-0 up. After our own field goal and 2 tries, we were winning 9-3. In the last 30 seconds of the match Glenfield Park were able to score a try, making it 9-9. Now it will all come down to our final match which is in week 9.

We hope to see you there supporting Ajuga!