From the Principal’s Desk

Hello everyone,

I am pleased to be writing to you in my new role as relieving Principal of Ajuga School. I am very privileged to be in this important role of ensuring excellence in the teaching and learning of your child.

This term started with a full day of professional learning at the annual conference for staff working in settings like Ajuga School across the whole region. Some amazing events have already happened this term- Science day, Book Week dress up, PJ and movie day, Blue class excursion to the NRL learning centre - with some great fun still to be had - the annual Ajuga Games, the level excursion to Macarthur for laser skirmish and ten pin bowling, the Step2Success excursion, end of term BBQ, silver class excursion to the powerhouse, and green and yellow class excursions are coming up too.

Too sick for school?
The cold and flu season is well under way. It’s hard to know whether to send your child to school or let them stay home to recover especially when that may mean an adult having to cancel work commitments. For safety’s sake if your child seems unwell you should always keep the home from school and seek medical advice.

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.

Amanda Kowalczyk

Upcoming Events

Week 8

Monday, 1st Sept  Silver Class Excursion
Tuesday, 2nd Sept  Assembly
Friday, 5th Sept  Steps 2 Success Excursion

Week 9

Tuesday, 9th Sept  Assembly

Green Class Excursion
Level Excursion

Yellow Class Excursion
Assembly and BBQ

Last day of school

Term 2 – Week 2

Monday, 13th October  Life Education Visit
Tuesday, 14th October  Assembly

Classroom Catch Ups!

Red Class

This term in Red class we are focusing on the children’s book The Gruffalo. We have used adjectives to describe each character, the setting and how the illustration tells a different story to the text. We have also designed a collage of the book cover.

As part of our COGS unit we are looking at built and natural environments. Red Class went exploring throughout the school and found lots of natural and built objects. We designed a map of the school locating each building and natural area.

We have been lucky enough this term during our cooking lessons to have made pickled tomato and vegetarian rice paper rolls. Yum!!
**Yellow Class**

Yellow class has been extremely busy during Term 3. It’s so nice to see some old faces along with some new. We have coped very well with lots of change this term and have focused on our work as hard as we would. This term we’ve been learning all about the Commonwealth Games. We’ve been using our creative minds to prepare for the next Commonwealth Games being held on the Gold Coast, by creating new uniforms and writing about new mascots. We’ve also worked really hard at learning about persuasive writing and we’re working towards writing our own advertisement. We’ve had fun in the kitchen and looking after our fluffy chickens. I look forward to seeing even more hard work next term.

Kate and Anne 😊

**Silver Class**

During term 3, Silver class have been exploring medieval history and learning how to recognise fact from fantasy. We have been reading lots of books that have a medieval theme and have been creating our own fantasy characters.

Students in Silver class are excited to learn all about the world of video game creation and coding. Each week students are given tasks to complete on the video game editing program called SCRATCH. They just cannot wait until our excursion to Powerhouse Museum where they will attend a workshop teaching them even more skills in SCRATCH.

Jacquie, Kaysan and Jo L 😊

**Blue Class**

This term Blue Class has been learning all things Rugby League. In HSIE we have been exploring the history of Rugby League in Australia and how the game has evolved and changed into the game we see today. We even got to take an excursion to the NRL Learning centre and the Legends Museum to see some really old Rugby League memorabilia. We all enjoyed watching old Rugby League Advertising campaigns from all different years and had fun listening to our team songs...and even let Renee sing a bit of her Illawarra Steelers Team song. In PE we have been working hard improving our kicking and passing and have been showing Renee and Billy some great improvement in our teamwork.

Renee and Billy 😊

**Purple Class**

This term Purple Class has been busy discovering various places in Australia, from the Coorong in South Australia, explored through the Australian classic story of Storm Boy, to looking at many regional places around Australia in Geography.

Purple Class has also participated in Science Week- the ice-cream experiment was a favourite; Book Week – we came dressed as anything from the cat in the hat through to authors, Hans Solo from Star Wars and a ventriloquist and his dummy with Pyjama Day soon upon us. In between all of this the chooks have been fed, the garden tended and in PE we have been enthusiastically roller skating!

Kim, Rose and Alyse 😊

**Green Class**

We have had a busy start to term 3 with Green class participating in many fun whole school events, as well as welcoming our new class teacher Kate, as Allison takes on her new role as Assistant Principal. Congratulations Allison!

During history, we have been learning about World War 1, in particular looking at the causes of WWI, the allies in Europe and how the soldiers felt during the war. We will be visiting Hyde Park Barracks in Week 9 to learn more about Australia’s involvement in the war.

We have been learning about ‘Special Events’ during Food Technology and looking forward to making (and eating) a Sachertorte cake on Thursday. YUM!

Charlee, Corey, Danny, Daniel and Jasmin, Zoe, Kate and Margaret 😊

**connect:ed**

This term our connect:ed group has been disrupted due to staff illness. We have needed to cancel and reschedule our activities and unfortunately this has meant a decline in the number of parents attending.

We have one last get together this term which is our family BBQ on Tuesday 16 September, 2014. A flyer will be sent home the week before with all of the details. I hope to see you all there.

Also a world-first parenting intervention is happening in New South Wales, and you’re invited to be part of it. From early 2015, every parent and caregiver of a child with a disability in NSW can get free parenting support through the Stepping Stones Triple P (SSTP) Project. If your child has special needs or you work in the child disability field, please fill in the My Say survey [http://mysay.org.au/](http://mysay.org.au/) and share your experiences with our University of Sydney project team. You can then
register your interest in receiving free parenting support or free training and resources (if you’re a professional) under the Stepping Stones Triple P Project. Your support in completing this survey would be greatly appreciated.

Next term we will be doing the following activities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21 Oct</td>
<td>Environmental Education</td>
<td>11am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Nov</td>
<td>Environmental Education</td>
<td>11am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Dec</td>
<td>Xmas lunch Ingleburn RSL</td>
<td>11am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Dec</td>
<td>Family BBQ</td>
<td>11am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

So come along and get involved in the great programs that we offer. And while you’re here, stay for our assembly at 12 noon to see your children receive their awards and showcase the great work they do in the classrooms.

Science Day 2014

On Monday 18th we began Science Week at Ajuga with a bang! We had a fun morning participating in five different Science experiments. We made 5 minute ice cream, fired off film canister rockets, used a fizz-inflator to inflate balloons, created some corny goo and made some colourful lava lamps in a cup. Not even the rain could dampen our scientific spirits. It was a blast.

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shirt</td>
<td>$17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jumper</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hat</td>
<td>$4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lunch Box Recipe

Pizza Sandwich

- 4 slices wholemeal bread
- 2 tbsp. pizza sauce
- 100g shaved light ham
- 80g light mozzarella
- 2 tbsp. diced pineapple pieces in juice
- 1 tbsp. black olives, chopped

1. Spread the bread slices with pizza sauce, then cut into large discs with a biscuit cutter.
2. Top two slices with ham, mozzarella, pineapple and olives, then place the second slice on top.

Tip: Freeze your child’s water bottle the night before and pack it in their lunchbox so their lunch stays cool all day.

SMOKE-FREE CARS

Children are particularly susceptible to the negative health effects of passive smoking. Exposure to second-hand tobacco smoke by children can lead to an increased risk of asthma, lower respiratory tract infections such as pneumonia and bronchitis, coughing and wheezing. Even being in a car with a smoker for short amounts of time can be detrimental to a child’s health.

Smoking in a car with a child under the age of 16 is an offence under the Public Health (Tobacco) Act 2008. A $250 on the spot fine applies to the driver and any passenger who breaks the law and this is enforced by NSW Police.

HOW IS THE LAW ENFORCED?

NSW Police enforces the ban on smoking in cars with children.

WHAT IS THE FINE?

A $250 on the spot fine applies to the driver and any passenger who breaks the law. If a person elects not to pay the fine and have the matter dealt with by a court, the maximum fine that may be imposed by a magistrate is $1,100.

WILL I BE BREAKING THE LAW IF I WIND THE CAR WINDOW DOWN WHILE SMOKING?

Yes. Winding down the car window is not enough to stop tobacco smoke affecting children.

IF I AM DRIVING AND ONE OF MY PASSENGERS IS SMOKING, WILL I ALSO BE FINED?

Yes a $250 on the spot fine applies to the driver and any passenger who breaks the law.

WHY IS THIS LAW IN PLACE?

The NSW Government introduced laws to protect children from second-hand smoke. Second-hand tobacco smoke harms children’s growing lungs. Other laws include placing tobacco products out of sight in shops and increasing penalties for selling tobacco products to children. The Fact is that there’s simply no excuse whatsoever for smoking in vehicles with children present.

SO HERE’S WHAT TO DO:

Contact your local police 9605 0499 (Macquarie Fields Police Station) and provide them with the specific details of the offence. To assist the Police to effectively stop this unacceptable behaviour, it’s important to be able to provide them with the following important information.

- Car Registration
- Make & Model of Vehicle
- Time of offence
- Date of offence
- Location of offence
- Identification of the offender
- The police will also want your details.

Wests Kids Disco

Bring the kids down to Wests during the Spring school holidays and we’ll keep them entertained!!

Dancing, games, prizes - the works!!

ONLY $5 per child and includes free soft drink and great prizes!!

Date: Friday 3rd October
Time: 11am - 1pm

Wests Circus Workshop

The kids will have a ball with professional instructors teaching circus skills including juggling, hoola hooping, using rings and clubs and much much more!!

Get your tickets now but as there are ONLY 100 available!!

$15 per child and includes free soft drink

Date: Thursday 25th September
Time: 11am - 1pm