Dear reader,

I am very pleased to be able to report that term one at Ashley School commenced well and student motivation, participation and engagement remains high. It is also really pleasing that we have a culture now whereby our students are prepared to set educational goals as well as goals for when they return to the community.

Teachers have just completed end of term school reports and once again these reports reflect a high level of student commitment and achievement with their studies. I am sure our parents and carers will be proud of their child’s efforts which are discussed throughout their school reports.

**Parent Teacher Meetings:**
Term one this year has seen a significant school initiative come to fruition as we welcomed our first parents into our school for parent teacher meetings. Our first meeting went really well and I am confident that all parents who take up this opportunity will be pleased to see the high level of educational support that our school has to offer. Interested parents or carers should call the school office and speak with either Mr O’Toole, Mrs Budgeon or myself to make arrangements for a meeting.

**Hospitality and Building and Construction Courses:**
It is with frustration and disappointment that I announce our school and Ashley Youth Detention Centre Programs may no longer be in a position to offer TasTAFE Certificate 1 and 2 in either Building and Construction or Hospitality. A considerable amount of resources in terms of materials, furnishing and equipment has been provided for both learning areas over the last few years. Both courses were appreciated by our students, having produced excellent outcomes and employment pathways.

Nevertheless, we must move on and we are now looking at how we fill these gaps. Renee Kostiuk has picked up an elective teaching basic hospitality cooking and student interest in accessing her class is high. I am pleased to say that we are now employing Renee Larcher (our current relief teacher) for three days per week until the end of this year. Renee will teach work studies, computing and textiles. We know that our students will benefit gratefully from her expertise in these learning areas.
**Farewell to Julia Hawthorne:**
It is with sadness that we farewell our Art and Relaxation teacher Julia Hawthorne. Julia was employed by the Detention Centre and has worked here for the past 13 years. Julia’s position ceased as a result of the centre needing to shed positions. Julia has delivered a range of experiences that include, sketching, painting, screen printing and pottery which has improved confidence, skills and abilities for so many of her students. The school community wishes Julia all the very best in her retirement.

**Shade shelter and paved area:**
Last week we saw the final piece of equipment added to the new makeover in front of the school. The makeover consists of new paved area, surface treatment of existing concrete, flower beds and lastly, a new shade/rain shelter structure. The school will look further into adding more seating in the area so as to be utilised for assemblies and other important occasions.

**Mural and alfresco coffee area:**
We are very pleased with the progress being made with our new mural. Local artist Cindy Hunnum, with the help of students on occasions have done a really nice job to date. The theme is all to do with tea and coffee. Our intentions is for the mural was to have it engaging so onlookers would spend time discovering more than what initially meets the eye. The mural area will soon become an alfresco area after alterations to the northern end and new floor covering are completed. The school has purchased new dining chairs and tables and this will complement the overall experience for our students, staff and guests.

**Bi-annual Australasian Corrections Education Association (ACEA) Conference:**
This conference will be held in Hobart from November 20th to 23rd and will see many prison educators, from the mainland and overseas as well as a good contingent from juvenile justice schools. In the past a number of teachers and I have had the opportunity to attend these conferences as it promotes the opportunity to share contemporary juvenile justice best practice from across the nation. I am very happy that all school staff will be able to attend and participate this year.

The theme for the conference is; The Pen, the Hammer or the Mouse? What works for Prisoner Education and Training in the 21 Century?

Shane Stanton
Principal

Happy Easter and safe travels to all
Twenty years ago, the original gym started in a single concrete room, no larger than a small bathroom, it was attached to the gymnasium and I have been told the gym itself was very dark and dull. It was an unassuming spot, but packed inside were young men, motivated to get size by pumping iron on a machine that was older than the big man himself. This was the first Ashley School's Gym, and it began a revolution that continues today.

In 2015, Ashley School Gym re-opened its doors for the year and launched a new modern fitness movement, bringing exercise and healthy living into the global consciousness.

Students now have more involvement in designing their own individual training programs, developed around their personal fitness goals.

The new and improved Health & Wellbeing program offers 3 styles of trainings to students (Crossfit, Cardio and Weight training), which enables them to develop a better understanding of maintaining a healthy body and mind.

The training program successfully supports the theory work students complete in the classroom. Currently in health we are finishing off our water safety unit, followed by the stages of human development.
This term’s numeracy lessons incorporated a whole-part-whole approach, where the teacher modelled and taught concepts explicitly, and then students worked independently or with the teacher to practise the mathematical concept taught.

**Whole** – students attempt a variety of mathematical concepts during initial concept testing, the testing will identify a weakness or underdeveloped understanding of a particular mathematical concepts.

**Part** – student and teacher work explicitly through support material for that particular concept.

**Whole** – once the teacher is convinced that the student has completed all support material the students then completes example questions to demonstrate their developed understanding.

**Grade 10 Numeracy Certificates**
Term 1 has shown a high demand on students setting individual goals to achieve their Grade 10 Numeracy Certificate for employment purposes.

Here at Ashley School we value the presence of concrete materials in the numeracy classroom and currently 7 out of the 8 eligible compulsory aged students are working through the Grade 10 numeracy certificate, experimenting with concepts as they problem solve, and linking concepts to real world situations rather than always listening and watching.

Congratulations to all students on their numeracy goals for this term. You have all started off the 2015 numeracy year tremendously and I look forward to helping you achieve these and seeing your numeracy understanding grow.
Term 1 2015 has seen the continuation of technology playing a very big part of our students school life and when one explores the diverse learning that comes from participation in a manual, hands on practical curriculum it is little wonder why. The learning experiences encountered when engaging in such a curriculum assist students meet outcomes valued within the Australian Curriculum Framework because it recognises how technologies enrich and impact on the lives of people and societies globally. It further claims Australia needs enterprising individuals who understand and use technologies to develop solutions and contribute to sustainable patterns of living. It is widely recognised that a manual arts curriculum also allows students to put into practice the theory they have learnt and to challenge and reinforce concepts which enhances their understandings.

One specific area within the technology curriculum which our students’ have embraced is the making of pens and in doing so are making very useful products whilst exploring different materials and by mixing natural and manmade resources to meet their design. The attributes of these materials require our students to exercise their developing skills and to become more aware of the benefits each material offers. If nothing less, the debate of “the pen is mightier than the sword” is considered and each student is to be congratulated on the quality and detail, resilience and perseverance whilst making these items.

Turned pens using acrylic and Tasmanian Timbers

I would like to wish students who are leaving us for the last time all the very best with their futures and assure them it has been a pleasure being a part of their schooling life. Remember this guys: Your choice, Your future, Your life!

Bruce O’Toole.
Teacher

Jewellery box in progress using Blackheart Sassafrass and Huon Pine

TV unit nearing completion using new and recycled materials
What a great start to the year! Students have been spending an enormous amount of time achieving their personal goals with some amazing outcomes. Students have also been continuing their studies after release as well as proactively seeking employment. It has been great to see such positive results so early in the year.

**Current Learning:**

**Food and Nutrition**
As of this year I have taken on the role of the food and nutrition teacher. This is a very enjoyable subject for me to take on as I do have a love for food and cooking. It has been a pleasure to indulge in a subject that is of interest to a large number of students. We intend to produce food that is more on the healthy side as most students are very body conscious due to the great Health and Wellbeing program provided here at Ashley School. Within this program students learn to not only calorie count but also be mindful of what foods they consume, within reason of course. So far students have really enjoyed this subject and I look forward to an even more exciting next term of cooking and experimenting.

**Coffee Course**
Another subject I have taken on this year is the delivery of the Perfect Espresso Barista Coffee Course. This has been a great subject to take on as there are always a large number of students being enthusiastic about participating in the course. Students enjoy this course because of the variety it offers in the way of practical and theoretical experiences. Students not only learn how to make different café beverages but also have enjoyed the opportunity to indulge themselves in some new flavours. The service element of the coffee course involves the enhancement of student interpersonal and social skills, and the pleasure they experience in the mastering of new skills often extends into other curriculum areas.

**Poetry Workshop**
Students recently had the privilege of participating in a poetry workshop with well-known poet Geoff Goodfellow. Most students enjoyed the opportunity to receive feedback on poetry they had previously created and how to improve it. Geoff was able to demonstrate to students how to start and structure a poem from scratch, through the use of personal experiences. Using the technique of recreating the moment by describing details such as time, place, smell, sounds, sights and thoughts.
**Rainbow Easter Egg Truffles**

**Ingredients:**
- 125gr Crushed plain biscuits
- 1 cup desiccated coconut
- 1 tin condensed milk
- 200g milk cooking chocolate (melted)
- 100g smarties
- 375g Milk melts (melted)
- 20gr copha
- Additional smarties for extra decoration

**How to make:**
Combine biscuits, coconut, condensed milk, milk chocolate and smarties in a bowl.
Mix and combine
Roll into balls and refrigerate
Combine milk melts and copha in a bowl and melt.

Remove balls from fridge and dip in chocolate decorate and return to the fridge to set.

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**Tim Tam Balls**

**Ingredients:**
- 1 packet Tim Tams
- 250 gr Philly Cheese
- 350grm Melting Chocolate

**Step 1**
Crush Tim Tams in Blender

**Step 2**
Blend in Philly Cream Cheese

**Step 3**
Roll into balls and chill/firm in fridge

**Step 4**
Melt chocolate and dip balls in then place on a tray to set