School Uniform

The number of students wearing uniform at Ashford Central School has fallen dramatically in recent years.

On Wednesday, August 13th, 2014 the staff conducted a survey of students wearing school uniform. The figures are disappointing particularly in the secondary department.

In the Primary Department, 26 students were out of uniform out of 78 students at school on that day. That means 67% of students were wearing school uniform.

In the Secondary Department, 33 students were out of uniform from 64 students at school on that day. That means only 48% of students were wearing school uniform.

The overall figure for the school was 58% in uniform on that day. That means 42% were out of uniform. As the school has a uniform it is expected that all students should wear it.

Parents generally control what clothes students wear and I am asking for your support in ensuring your child wears school uniform every day. I have included a copy of the uniform requirements for Ashford Central School for your reference.

The other worrying statistic for Wednesday, 13th August, 2014 was the fact that 21 were absent from school and another five were late for school, meaning they were partially absent. This reflects another worrying pattern of increased absenteeism by our students.

Currently, there are 28 students who have attendance rates below 85% for the year. Those students will be reported to the Department of Education for follow-up action to improve attendance. If you want your children to learn and succeed at school, they need to be here!
School Uniforms

The Department of School Education encourages the wearing of school uniforms because it assists in developing pride in the school and minimises distinctions between pupils, regardless of parents’ circumstances. Uniforms are generally no more expensive than other clothing.

UNIFORM SUPPLIERS

POLO SHIRTS K-10

Kasper’s Embroidery, Inverell
Phone 02 6722 5706

Margaret Coyne, Inverell
Phone 02 6721 2640

TARTAN SKIRTS

SENIOR SPORT POLOS

ASHFORD CENTRAL SCHOOL

NAVY BLUE APPAREL

Ashford Central School

Please note that the school logo can be embroidered onto any article of clothing such as jumpers by making arrangements with Kasper’s Embroidery.
School Uniforms

INFANTS AND PRIMARY
SUMMER UNIFORM
Navy shorts or skirt with gold/navy/blue school polo shirt. White socks, black shoes and a school broad brimmed hat.

WINTER UNIFORM
Navy tracksuit pants or trousers with gold/navy/blue school polo shirt and a navy tracksuit top or jacket. Navy blue overcoat as required. White socks, black shoes and a school broad brimmed hat.

JUNIOR SECONDARY 7-10
SUMMER UNIFORM
Navy shorts or skirt with blue/navy/gold school polo shirt. White socks, black shoes and a school broad brimmed hat.

WINTER UNIFORM
Navy tracksuit pants or trousers with blue/navy/gold school polo shirt and a navy tracksuit top or jacket. Navy blue overcoat as required. White socks, black shoes and a school broad brimmed hat.

SENIOR SECONDARY 11-12
SUMMER UNIFORM
Navy shorts or tartan skirt with white dress shirt/ business shirt and tartan tie. White socks, black shoes and a school broad brimmed hat. Alternatively the sky blue polo shirt with navy and gold collar (sport shirt) can be worn.

WINTER UNIFORM
Navy trousers or tartan skirt with white dress shirt/ business shirt and tartan tie. Alternatively, navy tracksuit pants with sky blue polo shirt with navy and gold collar (sport shirt) can be worn. Navy tracksuit top or jacket. White socks, black shoes and a school broad brimmed hat. Navy blue overcoat as required.

FOOTWEAR SAFETY
Parents are reminded that safety regulations demand that hard soled shoes with leather uppers must be worn by students when working in the Hospitality or Construction Workshops.
A number of students participated in the Zone Athletics in Inverell last Friday, 8 August. Their results were as follows:

**Storm Lavender:** 8yrs 100m — 3rd in final, Junior 800m - 7th in heat

**Kyasia Sunderland:** 9 yrs 100m - 5th in final

**Brittany Schneider:** 9 yrs 100m - 7th in heat, Junior 200m – 5th in heat

**Hannah Drady:** 10 yrs 100m - 8th in final, Junior 200m – 2nd in heat

**Charlotte Thompson:** 12 yrs 100m – 6th overall, Senior 200m – 5th overall

**Maddison Morgan:** Senior discus – 4th overall

**Ryley Batterbury:** 9 yrs 100m – 3rd in heat, Junior 200m – 5th in heat

**Lukhye Vale:** Junior discus – 1st overall with a distance of 18.47 metres.

**Joe Luckett:** 11 yrs 100m – 4th in heat, 11 yrs 200m – 5th in heat, 11 yrs 800m – 6th in heat

**Rory Nenadic:** 12 yrs 100m – 4th in heat

**Junior girls relay** (Storm, Kyasia, Brittany and Hannah) – 4th overall.

Well done to all the athletes that had a go and performed to the best of their ability. What a great result it is to have all the girl track athletes make it into a final. It was great having so many enthusiastic athletes at training each lunch time and it just shows that hard work does pay off. It also shows that we will have to train harder next year! Well done to Lukhye for coming first. Lukhye, Storm Lavender and the junior girls’ relay team have made it into the Zone team which will be taking part in the Regional Trials in Armidale on 29th August. Congratulations! Thanks to Mrs Sally Thompson for accompanying the students and organising them for their events on the day.

**RUGBY LEAGUE**

On Tuesday, 19 August, Peter Stevens from NRL Development will be running free clinics for all students in Years K-6 during school. In the past, students have had a great time learning new skills and we are looking forward to his visit. Students will not be tackling each other during these sessions. Please ensure that students wear appropriate footwear on this day ie joggers.

**NSW PREMIER’S SPORTING CHALLENGE 2014**

At the end of this week, we are half way through the Premier’s Sporting Challenge. Keep up the great physical activity everyone – only 5 more weeks to go!

Through participation and the successful completion of the program, the school receives funding grants to purchase sport equipment which benefits the students at our school. Each student who completes the challenge will receive a certificate as well as the class that achieves the highest award.
Skipping school for just one day affects NAPLAN results, study finds

Amy McNeillage
Published: August 3, 2014 - 8:54AM

- Like SMH Student on Facebook
- Education: full coverage

Missing just one day of school has negative consequences for a student’s academic achievement, the first major study linking poor attendance to lower NAPLAN results has found.

And school attendance patterns established as early as year 1 can predict how often a student will show up to class right through high school, according to the research.

The average public school student in NSW misses almost three weeks of school each year. Australia is alarmingly slack when it comes to school attendance, with high school students skipping more days of school than almost any other developed country.

On Monday, the harmful effects of that absenteeism will be exposed by the results of a study to be presented at the Australian Council for Educational Research’s annual conference.

An analysis of the attendance records and NAPLAN results of more than 400,000 students from Western Australia found any absence from school leads to a decline in academic performance.

The study dispels the belief there is a safe level of absence students can get away with before their grades will suffer.

“We were able to show that actually every day counts and days that you’re missing in year 3 and year 5, we can detect that all the way through to year 9,” the report’s co-author, Stephen Zubrick, from the University of Western Australia, said.

“A 10-day period of unauthorised absence in a year is sufficient to drop a child about a band in the NAPLAN testing.”

Year 3 numeracy achievement in 2012 declined by 1.6 NAPLAN points for every unauthorised day of absence in the first two terms of that year.

The most startling finding, Professor Zubrick said, was that students arrive in year 1 “with their school attendance careers already in their pockets”.

“For most children, year 1 sets the pattern for what school attendance will look like in the future,” Professor Zubrick said. “You’re learning more than reading and writing. You’re learning to show up.”

Absence was found to have a greater impact on writing than it did on numeracy and reading.

While poor attendance is a problem across the socio-economic spectrum, families in affluent areas often interrupt schooling for overseas holidays.

Professor Zubrick insists his message is not about finger wagging or guilt trips, but says “we do need to recognise that when a child is standing on the Eiffel Tower, so to speak, they may be learning a lot about the world but they’re not necessarily learning everything they’d be learning at school.”
The average attendance rate for NSW public school students in 2013 was 92.6 per cent - about 14 days off per year - and has been relatively consistent over the past decade. Attendance is much poorer among high school students with the average student missing 20 days per year.

Julie Townsend, the headmistress of St Catherine’s School in Waverley, said the girls’ school had a “very strict” attendance policy and did not consider a family holiday to be an appropriate reason for missing school.

“We [tell parents] that we only teach for about 185 days a year and we expect that they take their holidays during the very generous holiday period,” she said. “If the parents go - and that’s just happened this week - we call them in and we talk about the breakdown of our relationship and that our values aren’t aligned. We take a very hard line on it.”

She said acceptable grounds for leave could include compassionate reasons, health complications or the commitments of elite athletes.

In a major international survey of 15 year olds, conducted by the OECD in 2012, almost one-third of Australian students said they had skipped at least one day of school in the previous two weeks.

That means Australian students skip school more frequently than any other developed country except Turkey and Italy. In high-performing countries such as Japan and Korea that figure was less than two per cent.

The NSW Education Department’s school attendance policy states principals have the authority to grant students exemptions from school for up to 100 days per year. Reasons can include family holidays if they are “in the best educational interests of the child”, employment in the entertainment industry or participation in elite sporting events.

Ross Tarlinton, the headmaster of St Joseph’s College, said it was always his priority to maximise a student’s attendance but he would make exceptions for ill-health, family or sporting commitments and occasionally travel.

“I had a boy who went with his father who was doing some pro bono medical work in a Third World country for a short period of time to have that experience and I let him go,” he said. “That boy came back so rich for the experience.”

The head of SCEGGS Darlington, Jenny Allum, said understanding that you have to show up even when something else might be more desirable is an important life lesson.

“School isn’t something you normally or mostly do. It’s something you always do,” she said.

“If you’re making a commitment to something else over school, boy that better be important.”

This story was found at: http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/attending-school-for-just-one-day-affects-naplan-results-study-finds-20140802-2z1mr.html

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**School Dates**

4th - 15th August - HSC Trials
14th August - Principal’s Assembly
28th August - 9.00am Stamp Out Bullying K/6
1st November - P&C Drags
Glen Innes Arts Council presented a performance of the Australian play, *The Shoe-Horn Sonata*, over the last week. 16 students from Years 10 - 12 attended the Sunday afternoon show.

*The Shoe-Horn Sonata* details the horrific experiences of women and children imprisoned in Japanese POW camps during WW2 and is based on the real experiences of women who were taken captive after the fall of Singapore in 1942.

This play is set for study for the NSW HSC and several of our Year 12 students will be examined on it in their second English exam early next term. Year 11 students begin their HSC studies from the beginning of Term 4 and will start with a study of this play. Year 10 students will also study *The Shoe-Horn Sonata* when they begin their HSC. It is the only time Mrs Pordage and I have had the opportunity to take our students to a live performance of one of their texts and we were delighted with the number who took advantage of the opportunity. Some of them do not study the play but came along for the experience.

They were, of course, great company and great representatives of our school. The people of the Glen Arts Council and our bus driver were very complimentary.

Year 12: Katlin, Katie, Brylon, Parker and Dylan Littlehales

Year 11: Phoebe Bev, Claudia, Bethany, Letitia, Tegen, Dean and Adam

Year 10: Phoebe Burb, Bella, Tayla and Dylan Corbett

A big thank you to Mr Ballam for giving up his Sunday to drive us to and from Glen Innes.

Mrs Ballam and Mrs Pordage
Year 10 Work Experience

Year 10 students have recently completed their first week of work experience. All students thank their supervisors for having them and the school appreciates their on-going support of the program.

Renae Brown spent her week with Inverell Rural Supplies. She swept floors, dusted shelves and put up displays to help make the premises presentable. She learned about chemicals and drenches and visited the sale yards for the first time.

**Sam Buttitude** chose the workshop at Gaukrogers, Holden. He very much enjoyed his week and is glad that he had the chance.

**Phoebe Burbury** worked at the Warialda Pharmacy. Many of the tasks she completed included vacuuming, stacking shelves and serving customers. The experience gave her insight into a possible career path.

**Chloe Charles** enjoyed her work at Free Stylin' Hairdressing. She had hands on experiences such as shampooing as well as the usual sweeping up. She is seriously considering training to become a hairdresser.

**Dylan Corbett** worked at Vince Strang Motorcycles in Inverell. He assembled 2 log splitters and helped set up new quads. He especially enjoyed being able to work on bikes that were new to him.

**Jarrod McClellan** took on farm work with Alex Campbell near Bonshaw. He was busy feeding cattle, fencing and chopping wood.

**Darryl Morgan** went to Compleat Angler and Camping World for the week. He had lots of fun working with others whom he now counts as friends. He served customers, stacked shelves and learned a lot about Oz Trail.

**Bella Pintus** worked at Pink Lotus Body and Soul Therapies in Inverell. She learnt about body healing with crystals and energy and many other interesting things. She had a wonderful week.

**Dean Rollinson** spent his week at D & J Mobile Mechanical Repairs. He worked on repairing cars and fixing engines. He found the work interesting and would like to take on mechanical work after leaving school.

**Dannica Smith** worked at Pet World in Inverell. She got to look after a range of animals especially some very cute rabbits.

**Summer Stevens** is very thankful to Georgie at Ashford Pre-school for taking her on at such short notice. She thoroughly enjoyed her 4 days at the pre-school and says she gained a lot of confidence.

**Tayla Warwick** went to Campbell and Freebairn Chemists in Inverell. She dispensed scripts, stacked and restocked shelves, filed and closely shadowed Pharmacist, Brendan Campbell, to learn as much as she could about his job.

**Kyle White** went to Julius Grazing Company for his work experience. The tasks he was given included cutting down regrowth, cutting scrub for sheep feed, mustering sheep and cattle and helping service farm vehicles. He really enjoyed his week and the work.
TERM 3 - Week 5

Over the next week the PBL program will be focusing on CLASSROOM ACHIEVEMENT. Students will be encouraged to focus on the following key areas:

⭐ Be on time for class
⭐ Bring appropriate equipment

The PBL program provides positive awards to students who demonstrate a commitment to the focus areas each week. Please reinforce this at home as students are learning about it in class.
Thought For The Week

Children seldom misquote you. In fact, they usually repeat word for word what you shouldn’t have said.

Ashford Bushfire Brigade

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 10th September, 2014, 7.30pm at the fire station.
All members are asked to attend.

Bun Bun Playgroup

Ashford Bun Bun Playgroup is a supported playgroup for parents/ grandparents/ carers with children age 0-5 years. It is held every Wednesday (except school holidays) between 10am and 12.30pm at the Ashford Memorial Hall.

It is free to attend and brunch is provided. For further details call Ashley on 67224351 or like us on Facebook. All welcome.

Ashford Roosters’ RLFC General Meeting

The next meeting of the Ashford Roosters’ Rugby League Football Club will be held on Monday, 1st September, 2014 at 6.30pm.
The meeting will be held at the Ashford Memorial Bowling Club.

Ashford Presbyterian Church

Pastor: Trevor Ewart
Sunday Service - 9.00am
Bible Study - 9.30am Wednesday at the Manse.
All welcome. Stay for a cuppa and a chat.
Email: trevorewart@activ8.net.au
Phone 67258761
mobile 0448876161.

ASHFORD GOLF CLUB

Sat 16th August - State of Origin Ashford - 2 Person Ambrose
17th August - Stroke
24th August - 2nd round Matchplay
Sat 30th August - State of Origin Texas –2 Person Ambrose
31st August - Stroke Deepwater 4BBB
7th Sept - Stroke
13th Sept - Ashford Open Mixed
14th Sept - Ashford Open
21st Sept - 3rd round Matchplay

* All health care needs * Wound care
* Distance dispensing service
* Baby care & nutrition * Sunglasses
* Health & beauty products
ASHFORD MEMORIAL BOWLING CLUB
Lucky Member’s Draw $440 drawn 8:30pm
Progressive Members’ Draw starts 7.15pm @ $20. If not won increases by $10.00 every 15 minutes till 8.00pm.

Meat tray raffles starting at 6.30pm.
Saturday, 16th August, Euchre 2.00pm start

Social Bowls: Wednesday & Sunday, 2.00pm start

CATERING ON FRIDAY NIGHT
6.00–8.00pm • Bookings desirable.

Phone 67254202
Catering available on alternative days for private functions. Minimum 20 people. Bookings essential.

THE LIONS’ CORNER
Our Lions’ meetings are held the 1st Tuesday of the month at the Bowling Club 6.30pm for 7.00pm start. Our next meeting is the AGM to be held in August, 2014.
Please don’t forget we are still collecting stamps and ring pulls. You can leave them at the RTC for collection.

LEOS
Our meeting will be held on Wednesday, 10th September, 2014 in the Science Room at lunch time. Please try to attend. Leos please remind each other to come to the meeting.

BINGO
Held at the Bowling Club, on the first Wednesday of the month. STARTING TIME: 1.00 pm. Our next day is Wednesday, 6th August, 2014. Come along and have FUN with us as we all had a funtastic time last month. Cost of the books is $5.00 each and jackpot tickets are $2.00 each. Our jackpot is up to $80.00. Starting time eyes down at 1.00 pm. Hope to see you there. Try and bring a friend along if you can.
Thank you to my loyal players who come along each month.

MINI - LOTTO
Winning numbers for the 8/8/2014 are: 1, 2, 4, 15, 16, 18.
JACKPOT is $7,416.00. Lucky dollars. Be nice to take it home wouldn’t it?

LIONS’ CHANGE OVER
Thank you to all who came to the change over. We had a lovely night and it was a pleasure to see Jodi Lennon become the Citizen of The Year for 2014. Peta Lennon received an award from the Community Challenge Foundation for her effort raising money for Save Sight.
A big cheer for the Ashford Leos who received an award for excellence in our district. They also did a fine job serving up the meal for us on Saturday night. Thanks girls.
That’s all from the DEN. Lion Helen Hilton

Ashford Show Society

Monthly Meeting - Thursday, 14th August
7.30pm at the Ashford Bowling Club
The Ashford Roosters played the Inverell Hawks at the Ashford Sports Ground on Saturday, August 8 in front of the largest crowd to attend a competition game at Ashford since the Roosters have been back in the competition.

The local derby, free admission and free BBQ attracted a huge crowd and made a great atmosphere at the ground.

The Ashford Rugby League Club thanks the Federal Government Drought Relief Funding for their support of a very successful community day. It got people out and they had a great social day which was the main objective. It would be great to see that sort of support at all our home games next year!

The Ashford first grade team played a brutal match against the Hawks and, although beaten, they were far from disgraced. The final score of 36-16 didn’t reflect the intensity of the match. This was a very creditable performance as the Hawks are running third in the competition.

The Inverell first grade team included six imported players from New Zealand and a further five players recruited from towns outside Inverell. That is the advantage of having the financial capacity to pay players. The Ashford boys are playing for the love of the game.

The Ashford boys again failed to take advantage of the opportunities they created. Had they done so, they may well have won the match.

Best for Ashford were Mark Lewis, Buster Chard, Shannon Duroux, Brendon Blair and Brock Hobday.

Late into the second half, Sam Hewatt and Mat Lewis had a serious head collision. Sam Hewatt was taken to hospital by ambulance along with Corey Baker who had an earlier head knock. Both players were kept in hospital for a period on Saturday evening. The good news for the club is that both are OK and free of any permanent damage but will miss a few games.

A number of people have contacted the club to enquire how the players were. Thank you for your concern.

The reserve grade team had a very tight match against the Hawks. At half time, the Roosters were leading 16-14 but were eventually defeated 42-18. The Hawks’ reserve grade team are running third in the competition.

Ashford were best served by Peter Beveridge, Dylan Morley, Dean Beveridge and Todd Cleal.

The Ashford League Tag girls continued their winning way by beating the Hawks 6-4 in a titanic struggle. It was a great win by the girls as Ashford were missing their captain/coach and several other senior players.

The Ashford school girls: Rahni Kelly, Chloe Charles, Dannica Smith, Katie Pintus, Katlin Beveridge and Letitia Hartley overcame the intimidatory tactics of the older Inverell girls to stand firm and win a great contest. They were well led by the teachers Vannessa Alexander, Nell Macdonald and Melissa Willcocks. The girls are currently running third in the competition but face two critical games in the next three weeks. They play both Moree Boomerangs and Tingha who are one point behind them.

Next week, Ashford travels to Moree to play the Boomerangs on Sunday. The bus will leave the Ashford Bowling Club at 7.30am and the Tatts Hotel, Inverell at 8.30am. Cost is Primary students - free, Secondary students - $7.50 and Over 18s - $15.00 each. The games kick off at 11.00am.

Supporters are welcome to come along and support the Roosters and experience a “Road Trip”. They are always fun!

Ashford has no more home games this season. Thank you to all who have attended our home games this year. If we are to keep our club, we need your support in the future.
ASHFORD RURAL TRANSACTION CENTRE
30-32 Albury Street Ashford NSW 2361
Phone 67254/i55
Fax 67254445
Email ashfordrtc@ashfordonline.com.au

WHAT'S ON!

Joblink plus

#Vet

Accountant

Ashford Business Council meeting

Wednesday 27th August
TBA
Thursday 21st August

*Please contact the RTC on 67254455 for bookings and/or information.
#Please contact the Inverell Vet Clinic for bookings on 67210266