Principal's Report

Firstly, please accept my apologies for not being at tonight's meeting. It is very important for me to support the students and tonight is a very important night in the Year 5 calendar as many are attending the Dance Sport Challenge event. I too am very excited to attend the event, as ballroom dancing is a secret passion.

Thank you to the P&C for their support of the technology program. The school has added to the order of 19 laptops to create a more equitable access to technology for the whole school. Each classroom will now have 4 desktops, as well as K-2- 5 laptops, Yr 3-4 -8 laptops and Yr 5-6- 10 laptops per classroom. K-2 also has access to a class set of iPads to supplement their class programs. This will take a little while to set up on the school system but it should be up and running by next term. Teachers are very excited about having a more reliable technology base to support their classroom programs.

Home readers have been ordered and have been added to classrooms for borrowing. Thank you also for providing funds so that these can be replenished. 2016 NAPLAN results show reading as an area of school strength, reflecting the strong program in the early years.

Teachers are currently preparing their classes for next week's student led conference and art show.  This afternoon is part of a wider reporting process, giving parents an opportunity to meet with their child and view their best work. There will also be dance performances in the playground so that parents can view the routines that have been worked on during the “Dance sport” and “Dance to be Fit” programs that have been going on this term.

The school will be moving to a new reporting format next term. This will make the reporting process easier for teachers to administer. The same information will be provide to parents however there will be minor changes to the appearance of the reports.

The office are currently preparing for financial roll over. Term accounts and advance payments for Term 4 excursions need to be paid for by the end of the week. Thank you to parents for paying online. There are still a number of Italian program payments outstanding. If payments are not forthcoming the school may have to review the continuation of the program in the future.

The phasing out of credit card payments has been very successful. We are placing a laptop on the office counter for parents who wish to make payments online who do not have access at home. With the rollout of the new financial system next term, there may need to be further changes. We will keep parents informed via the newsletter and urge all families to keep up to date by reading the weekly newsletter regularly.

The school website will also be having some minor changes next term. Most notably the school calendar will now be integrated onto the website. This is the best place to get information about forthcoming events. We are also investigating a school app which will improve home school communication. If we proceed with the School App parents will be able to make POP payments via the app rather than logging onto the website. The App is free to download and has a minimal administration cost to the school.

It has been great getting to know families over the last few weeks. I had hoped to hold parent forums this term to get to know families a little better however personal circumstances have prevented this. I would like to hold these forums on:

* Thursday 13 October at 9am
* Monday 24 October at 2pm
* Wednesday 2 November at 6.30pm

The forums will be a structured discussions so that I can develop a better understanding of what parents value at ANPS and the direction they would like the school to follow. It will be informal and as many parents as possible are encouraged to join one of the forums.