

Wednesday 6th January 2010

Dear Parents,

Following a smooth start to the new Term and 2010, I wish to update all members of the school community of our projects and improvements during the Christmas vacation. Fund raising efforts of our wonderful PTA and contributions from the after school club programme have enabled us to allocate spending to some clearly exciting school improvements. The response from many smiling children yesterday made the hard work so worthwhile. We can now enjoy a professionally repainted basketball and football court, a new kitchen in the staffroom which will improve our hot lunch programme and facilitate cookery classes with safety first and an undersea mural in the lunch area, produced by local artist David Klinko.

On behalf of the children and the staff of The Ashcroft School, I want to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to all members of the community that have contributed to these fantastic improvements. Special thanks go to you as parents for generating the PTA funds available for these projects.



David Klinko produced a truly wonderful 3D mural for our lunch area. This is a work of Art that we are certainly proud of. A naming competition is being held for the turtle this week; his new name will be announced on Friday. Thank you David, a fantastic job!

Our transformed Basketball and Football court, in the Ashcroft School colour scheme, will seriously enhance our PE and after school programmes. Contributing funds from PTA and Clubs will soon see the delivery of new basketball poles. We have interschool competition plans for this term for a school basketball team and 3 football teams currently preparing for the TCIFA March Interschool Competition. Thank you Paul Rennie for organising the court project, Brenton Berry of TCI Paint/Benjamin Moore for donating the non slip paint and Tropical Colours for your hard work.

Our staff room is now a safer and more hygienic facility that will allow full class cookery lessons and enjoyable after school club sessions. I want to thank Garry Swarbrick for your guidance with the project. Thank you Tess Marks and Amy Mitchell for organising the project; you have made a difference to our work place!

In terms of staffing at The Ashcroft School, I want to keep all families informed with Madame Josiane's return to the French teaching. We plan to welcome Josiane back progressively as her health improves, until that time, Mrs. Danics and Ms. Heller will continue to share the role. For the next couple of weeks, Ms. Heller is involved in a musical production off island; Mr. Bates, whom we all know well, will cover her classes of Music and Theatre Arts. Mr. Bates is a professionally trained Ballet Dancer and Musician, with extensive experience in the Theatre. Please also take note of his contributions to our after school programme, which will be sent out early next week.

For Grades 1 – 6, we will be making use of the Golf Club Tennis courts for PE this term and focussing on athletics for the upcoming annual sports day. The more tennis racquets we see the better, please assist your child with this for the start of next week, details to come soon.

We all look forward to a happy 2010 and a successful Term.

Sincerely,

Mr. David O'Connell, Principal