

Dear Friends and Supporters

What are we but our stories?

My husband recently designed a bookmark for a school read-a-thon. On it was a quirky picture and the words “what are we but our stories?” My children asked what this meant and I found myself explaining it to them.

At the end of the day our personal stories are what make us who we are. When we win a medal or prize it is the story behind the win that evokes the emotion and captures the attention of the audience, not the actual medal. When we attend a funeral it is the stories of a person's life that makes us laugh and cry.

I loved listening to my Grandmother's stories, she would embellish them, change them every time she told them but they were terrific. She would change the names and places each time but they were a part of her past—always about a girl going to school and growing up on a farm and getting into mischief. She told them as if they were fiction but certainly they were her stories. When I think about her now she is gone I don't think about her possessions, I remember her from her stories.

Some people's stories are grand and full of exciting adventures with captivating people. Some are sad with tales of challenges and hardship. Some are funny, reflective, harsh, dry or troubled but all are stories worth sharing and hearing.

Ardoch's children each have a story to share. Some of our kids share their stories freely and without censorship while others are shy and quiet and need a little time, patience and trust before opening up but all are important, interesting and have something to teach us.

When you take the time to get to know these kids they become part your story—and a wonderful part at that. Share your stories, listen to others stories.

"It's hard to hate anyone whose story you know."

Roslyn Bresnick-Perry



Until next term, take care.

Katie



Welcome to Link Market Services

It is with great pleasure and excitement that we embark on a new relationship with **Link Market Services**, who have been involved with Ardoch down in Melbourne for some time. We have now connected with Link Market Services in Brisbane, and look forward to building a partnership together. They are eagerly looking forward to spending a day at Murarrie State School on a working bee and BBQ next term!



Ardoch QLD Facebook page

It's official, Ardoch QLD have joined Facebook! If you or your company are Facebook users please click on the link below to 'like' us and keep up to date on all local Ardoch news.

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Ardoch-Youth-Foundation-Queensland/165171206894275>



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Murrarrie State School enjoy some visitors

The year 7 students at Murrarrie SS have been studying a unit on building a town. They were visited by town planners Anna Havill and Nick Christof from **Havill Saunders** and landscape architect David Hatherly from **Vee Design**. They spoke to the children about their jobs and then answered a myriad of questions from the very eager students. Thanks for your time Anna, Nick and David, we hope you enjoyed the experience as much as the students did.



ROTARY CLUB CONTACTS

Are you affiliated with a Rotary Club in Brisbane or have any contacts in a Rotary club? If so we would love to hear from you. Please contact Sharon Whip (sharon.whip@ardoch.asn.au or phone 3254 3637)



Can you help?

Ardoch are currently in need of the following items for students and schools. If you are able to help in any way please contact me (katie.cox@ardoch.asn.au or phone 3254 3637).

- Beanbags
- Calculators
- Outdoor Seating
- Outdoor shade sails
- Computers
- Garden tools, equipment
- Ipod touch
- Exercise books
- Construction games (can be second hand) such as duplo, train sets, blocks etc
- Building materials – wood, nails, screws etc
- Outdoor play equipment
- Art supplies (paint, paper, brushes, glue, stickers, pencils, pens etc)



GE MONEY Volunteers

Once again the wonderful staff at GE Money has put their hands up to run 2 Bunnings BBQ's for us this term. We use the money raised from the BBQ's for admin costs for our Brisbane office. We thank you for your time and energy in running these BBQ's for us; they are very tiring and take a lot of dedication. Please know how much we appreciate you.

