



The Macquarie Memo

Issue 12: 6 May 2021

From our Deputy Principal

Again, it's been quite a busy week at Macquarie Primary School.

Last week, two of our students participated in the ACT Swimming Carnival. Well done to Khoi and An Le who represented our school and put so much effort into their swims. Congratulations to Khoi. He came third in two events.

Tomorrow, we have our annual Cross Country event. Children can wear their house colours to school and can expect a whole lot of 'fun' running in the afternoon. Our competitive runners will do their race straight after lunch. Obviously, this is all reliant on the weather so keep a close eye on the Facebook page and Dojo in case we need to postpone.

Teachers, like students, are always learning at Macquarie Primary School. We've had a long and deep focus on writing and this week Danielle led us in some training in maths. Teachers explored stages of development in mathematics learning and strategies to support students deepening their learning. The afternoon very much focussed on building strong foundational skills in maths that support learning in later years.

On Tuesday, Stacey and Veronique led teachers in looking at reading assessments. Teachers collect evidence of students reading development in so many ways but there a couple of assessments we use across the school which help us identify what strategies students are using and what learning needs to happen next. These assessments, along with observations, small group teaching, one to one reading, cooperative and guided reading experiences, allow teachers to collect a broad range of information about each student to target learning.

Goodluck to the year 6 band students who will be going to combined band practice next week.

Students in year 3 & 5 start NAPLAN next week and you will find the schedule in the newsletter today. It is really helpful if students have a good sleep, healthy breakfast and arrive at school on time on testing days.

Over the next two weeks students will participate in the ACER Social Emotional Wellbeing survey. A note was sent home about this last week so please return it if you wish to opt out of the survey. The survey is one way we will be collecting data to help us identify students who may benefit from a range of programs we will be implementing over the next two or three years that support wellbeing and mental health. We also encourage parents to refer their children. If your child experiences anxiety (doesn't have to be diagnosed), social withdrawal, poor attendance, difficulties attending to tasks, low mood, a family history of mental illness, known history of trauma or if you are generally concerned about your child's mood, wellbeing, mental health or coping strategies then please collect a referral, fill it in and return it to the front office by Friday 28 May. A referral form can be emailed to you or collected from the front office. All information will be kept confidential and parent consent will be gained to share information about individual students.

The Smith Family are currently offering *Learning For Life* scholarships for children at Macquarie Primary School. These scholarships provide financial assistance from a sponsor to help disadvantaged families afford the cost of their child's education. If your family could use additional help with the cost of uniforms and school supplies please contact the front office and we can arrange an application. The Smith Family will require applicants to do an interview to discuss the scholarship and possible supports.

Next Monday we are having new playground equipment installed at the preschool. An area of the preschool playground will be fenced off while the playground is installed. Here is an image of the new equipment.

Jodie



Dates for the Diary

Friday 7 May

Mother's day stall for Les Cucamelons and K-6 students

Cross Country 1.30pm

Monday 10 May

Year 6 combined band practice at Aranda Primary School

Larry Brandy visiting Les Fruits Tropicaux

Tuesday 11—Friday 21 May

NAPLAN for Year 3 & 5

Wednesday 12 May

Assembly 2.15pm

Host: Les Aubergines

Friday 14 May

Walk Safely to School Day

Wednesday 19 May

Assembly 2.15pm

Host: Les Ananas

Monday 24 May

Year 5 combined band practice

Les Fruits Tropicaux excursion to Jerrabomberra Wetlands

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For the latest information regarding COVID-19 in the ACT visit <https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/home>

NAPLAN TESTING 2021

Year 3 and year 5 students will be participating in the 2021 NAPLAN testing over the next two weeks. There are four tests in total:

1. Writing (year 3 students will complete a paper-based writing test whilst year 5 students will complete the writing test online)
2. Reading (year 3 and year 5 complete this test online)
3. Conventions of Language (year 3 and year 5 complete this test online)
4. Numeracy (year 3 and year 5 complete this test online)

Good preparation for the day is the key. You can help your child by having them go to bed early the night before, having a healthy breakfast to start the day. Keep stress levels low and arrive at school before 9.00am. Encourage your child to 'give it a go' and 'try their best' on the day.

The following timetable shows when the NAPLAN testing will occur for our students:

Monday 10 May	Tuesday 11 May	Wednesday 12 May	Thursday 13 May	Friday 14 May	Monday 17 May
No NAPLAN Testing	9.30-10.30am Year 3 Writing Test (paper-based) 40-minute test	9.30-10.30am Year 3 Reading Test (online) 45-minute test	9.30-10.30am Year 3 Conventions of Language Test (online) 45-minute test	No NAPLAN testing	11:30am-12:30pm Year 3 Numeracy Test (online) 45-minute test
No NAPLAN testing	9.30-10.30am Year 5 Writing Test (online) 42-minute test	9.30-10.35am Year 5 Reading Test (online) 50-minute test	9.30-10.30am Year 5 Conventions of Language Test (online) 45-minute test	No NAPLAN testing	11.30am-12.35pm Year 5 Numeracy Test (online) 50-minute test

If you require further information please contact Veronique Canellas, NAPLAN Coordinator, via email (veronique.canellas@ed.act.edu.au) or by calling the school office (6142 1550).

Information about NAPLAN testing is also available on the NAPLAN website: <https://www.nap.edu.au/naplan>

ACARA have also prepared an information brochure for parents/carers: <https://nap.edu.au/docs/default-source/resources/naplan-online-information-brochure-for-parents-and-carers.pdf>

Veronique Canellas

WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY

Next Friday 14 May is Walk Safely to School day. This day is held to promote the health benefits of walking, reduce the level of air pollution created by motor vehicles and to develop road safety skills such as crossing roads and staying on paths. Students and parents are encouraged to meet staff at either Macquarie shops or Cook shops at 8:30 to walk as a group to school.

Hope to see you there.



FRIDAY 14 MAY 2021

WALK.COM.AU



NEWS FROM THE P&C

From the Acting President: We still have a few **Vacant positions on the P&C:**

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary



If you can spare a little time this year to help with our P&C we would love you to join. It really is a fun and rewarding activity for you to be involved with. Please email treasurer.mpspandc@gmail.com if you would like to help out.

Fundraising and Events: Mother's Day stall volunteers needed for tomorrow.

Please email fundraising.mpspandc@gmail.com if you are available to help out. Please remind your child to bring a carry bag to take their goodies home.

Gardens and Grounds: Working Bee – Sunday 16th May 9am—12pm.

If you are able to volunteer some time to work on the school grounds at the Working Bee we will be working on:

- * the new community garden
- * the black top garden beds
- * preschool grounds
- * more if we get enough volunteers.

Refreshments will be provided during the working bee. Please RSVP to Chris if you are able to help: grounds.mpspandc@gmail.com

Canteen: Our Canteen is after more volunteers to help out this term please. If you are keen to help out for 1 hour at lunchtime on a Friday, please email canteen.mpspandc@gmail.com

Friday is lunch order day! Orders are made via Flexischools (<https://www.flexischools.com.au>) and need to be placed by 8:30am Friday morning.

Breakfast Club: Don't forget Brekkie Club is on every Friday on the steps of the canteen between 8.45-9.00am. Come along for a piece of toast or bowl of weetbix.

Class Parent Representative: We still have two classes without parent reps. If you are able to volunteer to represent the Preschool class: Les Cucamelons or the Year 1/2 class: Les Fruits de Dragon, please contact Alethea via classparentrepsmps@gmail.com for more info. To contact your child's class rep, please see the table below.

Uniform Shop: Get ready for winter. Red and green polar fleece beanies and scarves are available for \$5 each. Open times are: **Mondays** 8:45 - 9:15, **Wednesdays** 3:00 - 3:30 and **Fridays** 8:45 - 9:15

Cash and card payments are accepted. Orders can also be placed online at www.flexischools.com.au which will be sent home directly with students.

Donations of pre-loved uniform items are gratefully accepted during open times, or may be left at the front office. Please contact uniforms.mps@gmail.com with any questions.

LIBRARY NEWS

Overdue Library Books

Thank you to all the families who did some detective work over the last week to find some misplaced library books. If your child needs more than two weeks to read and re-read their books, they are welcome to renew them, however it is appreciated when books are returned once read so our other students have a chance to borrow the book.

Book Club

Orders for Issue 3 are due in by **Friday May 14**. Online orders can be completed at www.scholastic.com.au/loop or cash orders can be handed in at the front office. Did you see the Reading Rocket on the back page of the catalogue? Encourage your children to read a book every day in May for National Family Reading Month. More information can be found at www.scholastic.com.au/nfrm

Reading Aloud in Family Reading Month

In each newsletter this month we will include a couple of Mem Fox's "Ten Read Aloud Commandments", to acknowledge Family Reading Month and encourage you to enjoy reading with your children:

1. Spend at least ten wildly happy minutes *every single day* reading aloud.
2. Read at least three stories a day: it may be the same story three times. Children need to hear a thousand stories before they can begin to learn to read.
3. Read aloud with animation. Listen to your own voice and don't be dull, or flat, or boring. Hang loose and be loud, have fun and laugh a lot.

MERIT AWARDS

Please congratulate the following students who will receive a merit award at the senior assembly next Wednesday:

Les Peches	Liam H
Les Brocolis	Sedra A & Deng C
Les Aubergines	Ella R & Oliver M
Les Citrouilles	Nell C & Penelope G
Les Concombres	Harper H, Neve S & Lucas R
Les Groseilles	Tyler R, Eva W & George S
Les Fraises	Annika O, Maverick S & Noah H
Les Sureaux	Harrison S, Alana M & Kritarth N

ACT Together
Every child matters

You can change a child's life.

ACT Together need people to care for and provide a safe and stable home for children in the region.

We offer:

- Extensive training
- Generous allowance
- 24hr support

ACT Together is a consortium of:

- Barnardos Australia
- Australian Childhood Foundation • Oz Child



Initiative of
A Step Up for Our Kids -
Out of Home Care
Strategy 2015-2020
is an ACT Government
funded initiative



Contact us today:

1300 WEFOSTER
acttogether.org.au

MANAGING HAZARDOUS MATERIALS IN MACQUARIE PRIMARY SCHOOL

The ACT Government is committed to ensuring all public school buildings are safe and have the infrastructure to support high-quality education.

Most ACT public schools were built at a time when asbestos and lead paint were widely used in the building industry. As [a recently published list of schools shows](#), 76 of our 89 schools have lead paint and/or asbestos. Nearly all asbestos in ACT public schools is non-friable, also known as bonded or sheet asbestos.

Macquarie Primary was opened in 1968 and both lead paint and asbestos are present at our school.

We know where these materials exist, or are likely to exist, we monitor the locations regularly and we have a management strategy in place to keep our school community safe. Detailed reports are kept at the front office in a Hazardous Materials Register which you are welcome to view.

If you have any general questions about how we manage hazardous materials drop by the front office, or come along to an information night at UC Senior Secondary College Lake Ginninderra on Thursday 13 May from 6-8pm.

The session will include members of the Education Directorate's Hazardous Materials Taskforce, and lead paint expert Professor Mark Taylor. He is one of the specialists guiding hazardous materials work in ACT public schools ensuring our management is informed by international best practice.

The ACT Government has committed \$15 million to remove hazardous materials from public schools during the next four years. This is in addition to a school upgrade budget of \$99 million which will also help manage lead paint and asbestos.

You can learn more about how hazardous materials are safely managed in our public schools [on the Education Directorate's website](#). It has a fact sheet about lead paint, details about the Directorate's commitment and approach to managing hazardous materials, and it links to a new [ACT Health fact sheet about lead exposure and your health](#).

INTERSCHOOLS SNOWSPORT CHAMPIONSHIPS

Does your child ski or snowboard? The Interschools Snowsport Southern NSW/ACT Regional Championships will be held at Perisher from 20 - 23 July 2021.

With an emphasis on fun and participation students compete for their school in skiing and/or snowboarding events. If your child would like to participate, please contact Liz Watterson via the front office.



Canberra High School
- ESTABLISHED 1938

6.00 - 8.00PM
INFORMATION NIGHT
THURSDAY
20 MAY 2021

**COMMUNITY
ATTITUDE
RESPECT
EXCELLENCE
SAFETY**

ACT
Government
Education

Phone 02 6142 0800
Address Bindubi Street
Macquarie ACT 2614
Email info@canberrahs.act.edu.au
Web www.canberrahs.act.edu.au

NOTES HOME & REMINDERS

All notes are available on our school [website](#)

EVENT DETAILS	YEAR GROUP	DATE DUE BACK
2021 Stationery supplies	All year levels	Payments welcome anytime
Year 6 shirt	Year 6	Friday 7 May
Jerrabomberra Wetlands	Les Fruits Tropicaux	Friday 14 May
Camp Birrigai	Les Legumes & Les Pêches	Friday 21 May

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Option 1: Electronic Funds transfer

Account name: Macquarie Primary School Management Account

BSB: 032 777 **Account number:** 001586

Use reference Child's Surname EXCURSION NAME

Option 2: Quickweb

Go to <http://www.macquarieps.act.edu.au/payment> and follow the prompts.

Use reference Child's Surname EXCURSION NAME

Option 3: Cash or cheque paid directly to the Front Office in a sealed envelope labelled with your family name

MEDICATIONS

In the interests of keeping all students safe, **medication that your child requires during the school day must be stored in the front office.** Macquarie's school office team manages first aid, emergency medical plans and medications for students. Please contact the front office team if you have any changes to your child's medical treatment plan.

For noting - ambulance

ACT School students who are injured or become ill at school or during approved school excursions within the ACT are entitled to free emergency ambulance services that includes medical treatment and ambulance transport.

SUSTAINABILITY TIPS

Purchase a travel mug and a travel water bottle. Invest in reusable drink containers instead of buying plastic water bottles that will end up in landfill. When you purchase coffee, use your own refillable mug.

SCHOOL CONTACT DETAILS

Office hours: Monday — Friday 8.30am — 3.30pm

**Macquarie Primary is an
ANAPHYLAXIS AWARE SCHOOL**

Avoiding all nuts.

Phone K-6 site:	02 6142 1550	Principal	Danielle Porter	danielle.porter@ed.act.edu.au
Phone preschool:	02 6142 1570	Deputy Principal	Jodie Rowell	jodie.rowell@ed.act.edu.au
Email:	admin@macquarieps.act.edu.au	Executive (P-Yr2)	Stacey Naden	stacey.naden@ed.act.edu.au
Website:	www.macquarieps.act.edu.au	Executive (Yr3-6)	Veronique Canellas	veronique.canellas@ed.act.edu.au
Facebook:	http://www.facebook.com/macquarieprimary	Business Manager	Ann Walker	ann.walker@ed.act.edu.au
P&C President	macquariepandc@gmail.com	Board Chair	Amy McGuire	