From our Principal

Dear Families and Friends,

How pleasant it was to spend Friday evening with families and some very excited young people at Tiana’s Disco in the school hall.

This event was the culmination of a student’s personal inquiry into how discos are organised. Over the past month, her learning has involved:

- exploring and following Macquarie’s event management practices;
- consulting with our P&C President;
- enlisting a support team of staff, parents and friends;
- coordinating publicity, decorations and catering;
- developing an appropriate playlist to engage a wide audience; and
- hosting the event.

This experience highlights the strong emphasis we place on developing knowledge, skills, attitudes and values that position students as active and informed citizens throughout their years at Macquarie. Our approach focuses on high expectations, relationships, personalised learning and building positive environments. The culture of partnership that exists between parents and Macquarie’s education team is key to the positive learning environment and successful participation our students enjoy. I thank you for the role you play alongside us. Our students are in very good hands!

STUDENT LEADERSHIP 2017

For the past 6 years, our community has enjoyed the support and representation of an outstanding team of school captains. During the past fortnight, our Year 5 students have engaged in reflection on our practice of identifying these formal leaders. They have explored strengths, challenges, and the unintended impacts of our approach, and are keen to test some improvements.

Information about this work and plans for 2017 senior leadership appears later in this newsletter. I congratulate our Year 5 students for bringing maturity and responsibility to this design project.

2017 CURRICULUM RESOURCES

Resource lists for 2017 classes are currently being prepared and will be available for families next week. You may well notice some changes to the student supplies list of years gone by. Less workbooks and contributions for ICT on the list reflect an ever increasing shift to the digital environment of the contemporary classroom.

The 21st Century is an exciting time for education, largely due to the expanding communications landscape of which we are a part. Print based text on paper is no longer privileged in the way it was when many of us were students. We are increasingly aware that today’s literate citizens create and consume texts in many modes for an increasing range of purposes, and potentially vast audiences. This brings rich opportunity (and carefully managed challenges) for teachers to develop knowledge, skills and practices that support lifelong learning.

Incorporation of computers and greater access to technology continues to support collaboration between home and school. We enjoy conversations with families through communication modes such as email and Google communities. As we share so much more as partners in our children’s learning, our commitment to the principle learning doesn’t only happen between 9 and 3 grows even stronger.

EARLY YEARS ACTIVITY

We continue to receive such positive feedback about the range of experiences that are supporting our preschoolers in their transition to Kindergarten next year. Our youngest students enjoy exploring the wider school environment throughout the year, with routine visits to the library, assembly and special school events. During the past week, they have engaged in learning in the Kindergarten classrooms, and families have enjoyed becoming a little more familiar with new faces and settings.
From our Principal
continued ...

We have also continued the Term 4 routine of Stay and Play Sessions for our soon-to-be preschool students. The weather was certainly in our favour last week, as these little learners were introduced to people and spaces that will support their school entry next year.

We look forward to sharing more information during our Kindergarten Information Evening on Wednesday, 30 November. Watch this space for details.

CURRICULUM PLANNING

This week, our teachers will be working together to commence curriculum planning for 2017. Our work in this area is framed by the Australian Curriculum. We harness opportunities that present within our neighbourhood and Canberra more broadly to provide authentic contexts to develop the skills, knowledge, attitudes and values it defines. Current affairs of national and global significance also stimulate purposeful inquiry.

2017 will bring a year of preparations towards the 50th anniversary of the opening of Macquarie Primary School. We are looking forward to learning more about our school’s history, and the people and contexts that have contributed to our identity as a vibrant community school.

We are compiling a list of people who would like to be involved in our 2018 celebrations and the activities leading up to them. Please spread the word, and be sure to pass on our school contact details.

All the best for the week ahead.

Wendy Cave, Principal

During the past week, we have seen examples of special effort from:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jonte</td>
<td>Matching initial letters to images of big sea animals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eva</td>
<td>Sharing fluent and expressive reading that is a pleasure to listen to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our swimmers</td>
<td>For developing swimming and safety skills and for strengthening themselves as self-managers throughout the program</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

P&C NEWS

A Twilight Festival will be held on Friday, 2 December (weather permitting). Please come along and enjoy music from the Limelight Choir, the Christmas Community Choir and our Year 5/6 bands. Bring a picnic to share with your family and friends or enjoy a sausage from the BBQ run by Year 6. A raffle will be held with some amazing prizes including gift vouchers from Jamison Travel. All proceeds from the night will be put towards the Year 6 Graduation dinner. We hope you can make it!

Raffle books will be handed out to the youngest in each family during the week. All books must be returned to the P&C box near the office by Friday, 2 December ready for the raffle to be drawn at the Twilight Festival that evening. All books and monies must be returned whether tickets are sold or not. If you would like a second book, please contact Fleur at fundraising.mpspandc@gmail.com. The P&C thank you for your support.

SUSTAINABILITY SNIPPETS

Install a water efficient showerhead. The shower can be one of the biggest uses of water in your home.

UNSW ICAS ENGLISH AND MATHEMATICS ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Congratulations to the following students who participated in the UNSW ICAS English and Mathematics Assessment. Certificates will be handed out at Assembly on Wednesday, 30 November.

**English**

- Anderson – Participation
- Jeremy – Distinction
- Ella – Participation
- Perinne – Participation
- Laura – Merit
- Abhinav – Participation
- Finn – Credit
- Lucy – High Distinction
- Zander – Participation
- Miah – Distinction
- Kireet – Participation
- James – Distinction

**Mathematics**

- Anderson – Participation
- Jeremy – Distinction
- Matthew – Distinction
- Ella – Participation
- Perrine – Credit
- Reuben – Credit
- Abhinav – Participation
- Finn – Credit
- Sourish – Participation
- Hannah — Merit
- James – Participation
- Lucy – Credit
- Zachary — Credit
- Jamie — Merit
- Kireet – Participation
- Amalie – Participation
- Yipu — Credit
- Tunc – Participation
- Miah – Credit
- Lachlan — Participation
- James – Distinction

**NOTES HOME**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT DETAILS</th>
<th>YR GROUP</th>
<th>DATE DUE BACK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherry Drive</td>
<td>All families</td>
<td>Order &amp; payment by 25/11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bunnings Excursion</td>
<td>1/2Le</td>
<td>Information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twilight Festival BBQ</td>
<td>Yr 6</td>
<td>Action as necessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twilight Festival</td>
<td>Yr 5/6 Band Members</td>
<td>Perm note ASAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skyzone Excursion</td>
<td>Yr 5/6</td>
<td>Perm &amp; payment by 9/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduation Celebrations</td>
<td>Yr 6</td>
<td>RSVP &amp; payment by 9/12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REMINDERS

Swimming for Years 1/2/3 students continues this week

**Thursday, 24 November**

P&C Meeting

P&C NEWS

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RECEIVE THE MACQUARIE MEMO VIA E-MAIL

In working towards environmentally sustainable habits, we would love to be able to email our newsletter to you each week as a pdf document. If you are happy to receive the Macquarie Memo this way, please email leesa.frame@ed.act.edu.au or contact the Front Office.

BRING YOUR OWN TRANSPORT (BYOT) SESSIONS

We invite Year P—3 students to a BYOT session on Thursday, 24 November and Years 4—6 on Friday, 25 November.

Macquarie Primary is an ANAPHYLAXIS AWARE SCHOOL
Avoiding eggs, all nuts and kiwi fruit

RIDE OR WALK TO SCHOOL

A Macquarie parent has offered to lead a walking school bus through Cook, with collection points at:

- Ellis Pl / Elizabeth St;
- Ellis Pl / Liverpool St; and
- Cook Shops.

Please contact the school office team for more information.

UNIFORM SHOP CLOSED IN WEEK 10

The Uniform Shop will be closed in Week 10 (12—16 December). Therefore the last day the shop will be open is Friday, 9 December.

Uniform Shop hours
Mon & Fri 8:45—9:15am & Wed 3—3:30pm

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STUDENT LEADERSHIP 2017

Last week we were given the opportunity to inquire into our student leadership model. Working as designers, we first evaluated the model as it stands now and identified how it has evolved over time. We did this by hosting an interview with staff members and Year 6 students.

From this we identified two trends:

* The nomination and campaign process in the lead up to the school captain election heavily favours one's ability to perform in front of a crowd.
* Students from all grades should be included in the model as there are a number of younger students who have some great ideas about how we can enhance our school.

Using this information we then clarified our intent for the design process by posing the question: How might we modify our student leadership model to ensure it meets the needs of our community?

We came up with some thoughtful modifications and took these to the executive team. We received some feedback about our recommendations and the following modifications were agreed upon.

1. Nomination and Election Campaign Process
At morning lines on Monday of Week 7 the group of Year 5 students who would like to be school captain will be introduced to the school. They will then have two weeks to show, through their actions around the school, that they are leaders who would excel in the role of school captain. On Monday of Week 9 we will vote for 4 school captains (2 girls and 2 boys).

2. Introduction of Interest Groups
In 2017 the school captains will be responsible for hosting interest group meetings. These meetings will focus on issues brought to the attention of the school captains by community members. Students from across the school, teachers and other community members are welcome to attend if the focus of the meeting is of particular interest to them.

Please do not hesitate to let us know if you have any questions about the process.

Sophie, Faith and Year 5 students

CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY CHOIR

Do you like singing? Always wanted to be in a choir? Then come and join the Christmas Community Choir. Parents, staff members, grandparents, aunties, uncles and friends are all welcome. No experience necessary.

Practice has commenced and will continue on Wednesday evenings from 6.30—7.30pm in the meeting room in preparation for a performance at The Twilight Festival on Friday, 2 December.

Please register your interest at the office. We are also interested in any favourite Christmas carols you would like to try. If you are interested in being part of the choir but are not able to make it to practice, please leave your contact details at the Front Office and we can make other arrangements.

Janine and Brooke

CONGRATULATIONS ...

... to the Year 6 band and IMP Choir members for their outstanding performances at Bandstravaganza at Llewellyn Hall last week.

... to Victoria on her graduation from the CIT’s Return to Work for Women Program.
Community Notices

After School Piano, Guitar & Violin Lessons starting week 2 Term 1 2017

Celtic Arts Agency will be offering private 1/2 hour music lessons at Macquarie Primary School commencing in week 2 of Term 1 in 2017.

We will be offering piano, guitar and violin with experienced teachers, in the Oasis Room from 3.15 to 6.15 pm two afternoons a week.

Lessons are booked on a per term basis.

More information is available on our website: www.celticartsagency.com

Enrolments are being accepted now for the new year.

Contact Sharon Casey on
E: musicfun@jocresswell.com or
T: 0404 217 528

Parentline ACT

Being a parent is the hardest job we’ll ever have. All parents at some time experience difficulties and stress.

Parentline ACT is a confidential and free telephone and face-to-face counselling and information service.

Phone Parentline if you would you like:

- To talk with someone about those parenting issues.
- Help with some ideas on raising children.
- Support in the important job you are doing.
- To know what is available for parents, teenagers and children.
- To build better relationships in your family.
- Help to understand your child or teenager’s behaviour.
- Make an appointment for a counselling session.

9am—5pm Monday to Friday (except on public holidays)
Phone: 6287 3833

The Macquarie Primary School P&C is now affiliated with the Canberra Southern Cross Club Group. When you dine at the following list of clubs, 10% of your meal and beverage value will be donated back to our school: Jamison, Woden, Tuggeranong and the Yacht Club.

Please use the following link to sign up if you are a current member, or pop in to the club to sign up.

https://cscmarketing.wufoo.com/forms/z1yqzsiq0orxe0g/

ACADEMY OF CHESS

More information about how to enter the chess challenge (advertised below) can be found at the Macquarie Primary Front Office.

ACADEMY OF CHESS presents

CANBERRA XMAS SWISS CHESS CHALLENGE 2016

SUNDAY, 27TH NOVEMBER, 2016
CANBERRA ACADEMY OF CHESS

A ONE DAY CHESS TOURNAMENT FOR KIDS UNDER 18 WHO WANT TO HAVE FUN AND CHALLENGE THEMSELVES!

DATE
Sunday, 27th November, 2016

VENUE
Canberra Academy of Chess
Unit 4, 32 Dunlop Court
Phillips ACT 2600

COST
$20 per player

TIME
9:45 am Registration
9:30 am Round 1 begins
12:30 pm Lunch break
2:00 pm Prize giving

There are short breaks between the rounds.

FORMAT
This tournament is an individual and not a team event. The tournament is restricted to players under 18 years of age. The tournament is a 6 round ‘Swiss’ competition. This means that all players play 6 games and no one is knocked out of the tournament.

The time limit is 15 minutes per player per game.

PRIZES

Tridents will be given for:
1st Place, 2nd Place, 3rd Place, 4th Place, 5th Place, 6th Place
Age performance trophies awarded to the following age groups:
12 year old Prize
11 year old Prize
10 year old Prize
9 year old Prize
8 year old Prize
7 year old Prize
6 year old Prize

All participants receive a certificate of participation

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