

Dates for the Diary

Tue 8 Aug
School Photos
Preschool Excursion
The Birds & the Bees

Wed 9 Aug
Assembly

Thur 10 Aug
Preschool Photos
Tennis
Preschool Excursion
Cupcake Fundraiser

Fri 11 Aug
MPS Walk to School Day

Tue 15 Aug
ICAS UNSW
(Mathematics)



Office Hours
Monday — Friday
8.30am — 3.30pm

From our Acting Principal

Dear Families and Friends,

NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CHILDREN'S DAY

We understand the many benefits children experience when they are raised with strong connections to family and culture. On the eve of National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day I had the privilege of attending Bangarra's Bennelong at The Canberra Theatre with a number of students, staff, families and members of our wider community.

The performance described the story of Woollarawarre Bennelong who was a senior man of the Eora, from the Port Jackson area in Sydney. With extraordinary curiosity and diplomacy, Bennelong led his community to survive a clash of cultures and left a legacy that reverberates through contemporary life.

It was a truly spectacular and thought provoking experience and one I know had a deep impact on everyone who attended. Our students made many insightful contributions to the conversations had amongst the groups gathered in the foyer afterwards and members of the public commented on how engaged our students were throughout the evening.

As the experience drew to an end we were fortunate enough to meet Bangarra's Artistic Director, Stephen and Luke, dancer and product of the ACT Public Education System, who inspired us enormously.

I thank our Year 6 teachers for organising such an authentic way for us as a community to celebrate this special day and enhance our understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and culture.

OUR RESEARCH ENGAGED SCHOOL

This afternoon, we welcomed 35 visitors from Shanghai studying at the University of Canberra on exchange. The students and staff were from a range of faculties at Shanghai Normal University and were

interested in learning more about what happens in Australian schools.

Sharing the work that we do provides us with opportunities to enhance our practices and build our wider professional network connections. I thank all of our staff and students who were involved in the visit and look forward to engaging in future opportunities to share all of the wonderful work that happens at Macquarie.

This week, families will receive information about two significant annual surveys that provide information to support the continuous improvement of Macquarie Primary School. The *School Satisfaction Survey* and the *School Climate Survey* opens tomorrow and will be administered at school for students in Years 5 and 6. This information is one way of knowing about the experience of being part of our learning community, from the perspective of parents, staff and students. We thank you in anticipation of your contributions.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Macquarie students demonstrate high levels of engagement in a wide variety of activities beyond school.

During the past week students in Years 3—6 represented Macquarie at the ACT Schools Gala Oztag Carnival. On their behalf, I thank Jess, Andrea, Ross and Jack together with parent helpers and volunteers for facilitating this rich experience and braving the chilly conditions.

Students in the Limelight Choir thoroughly enjoyed joining with groups from other schools for rehearsals ahead of the dress rehearsal and final performance on Friday, 25 August. I thank Brooke and Monique for taking the time to prepare students for these experiences. The sounds coming out of the classroom during lunchtime rehearsals have been truly spectacular.

We are always delighted to hear reports from staff and community members who notice the many ways our students demonstrate our school values. They are a pleasure to take out.

Macquarie Directory

K-6 Site Ph: 6142 1550 Fax: 6142 1571
Preschool Site 6142 1570 **After School Care:** 0451 681 604 (Lauren)
Email: admin@macquarieps.act.edu.au
Website: www.macquarieps.act.edu.au
Facebook Page: <http://www.facebook.com/macquarieprimary>

School Mobile Phone: 0434 751 607
P&C President: Christie Horsfield
 Email: macquariepandc@gmail.com
Board Chair: Emily Ashcroft

School Contacts:

Principal Wendy Cave wendy.cave@ed.act.edu.au **Executive (P—Yr 1 Team)** Amanda Hawkins amanda.hawkins@ed.act.edu.au
Deputy Principal (Yr 6 Team) Sophie Bissell sophie.mendick@ed.act.edu.au **Alg Executive (Yr 2-3 Team)** Sami Wansink samantha.wansink@ed.act.edu.au and
Alg Executive (Yr 4/5 Team) Ange Donaldson angela.donaldson@ed.act.edu.au **Bec Rizzo** rebecca.rizzo@ed.act.edu.au

From our Acting Principal continued ...

PROJECT SHEEP

Our sheep have settled into life at Macquarie. They spend their days drinking milk, snoozing in the sun and being adored by the large crowds of students and staff. I would like to encourage everyone to keep the grassy area free from cars to ensure the safety of our community members transporting the sheep to and from their enclosure each day.

Once again, we extend enormous gratitude to the families who have offered their yards to the sheep for overnight stays. I would also like to acknowledge our Early Years Team for the way they have engaged their students in the daily routines associated with caring for the sheep. This real context has provided many opportunities for real learning and I look forward to hearing how students go investigating the many wonderings they have about the animals in their care.

We are still looking for families to support Project Sheep with the offer of taking our lambs home for the night. Please contact the Front Office if you can help!

Sophie Bissell, Acting Principal

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

Macquarie Waste Warriors	Sharing examples of exceptional sustainable practices through the establishment of a Google+ Community
Sarah & Matilda	Inquiring into how you run an effective meeting
Year 4/5 Students	Sharing their personal inquiries into events and people who have shaped Australian history at the Year 4/5 open morning

SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

On Thursday, 10 August we are selling cupcakes to raise money for 'Save the Children' and a special award for 2 staff members. We will be located on the Brindabella blacktop at lunchtime and each cupcake will cost \$1.50

Nina & Helena

SCHOOL SATISFACTION SURVEY

The 2017 Parent and Carer Satisfaction Survey opens tomorrow and closes on 28 August. Letters with the website and unique access codes are going home with every student today. Families are encouraged to complete a survey for each of their children to reflect their educational experience this year. Please contact the Front Office if you need access to a computer or would like a paper copy. Surveys translated into a range of languages are also available upon request.

Amanda

REMINDERS

Tuesday, 8 August

Photo Day for Preschool and K—Yr 6
Hand your photo envelope in to the Front Office or bring it on Photo Day.

Please note that school jumpers will be worn for photos.

Wednesday, 9 August

Assembly — All welcome

P&C NEWS

UNIFORM SHOP — VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Uniform Shop is looking for volunteers. If you are available to assist on a Wednesday afternoon or Monday/Friday morning once a fortnight for half an hour, please contact Sheree at uniforms.mps@gmail.com

We are located next to Oasis and open Mondays and Fridays from 8:45am - 9:15am, and Wednesdays from 3.00pm - 3:30pm.

FATHERS' DAY STALL

The P&C will be hosting our annual Fathers' Day stall on Friday, 1 September and we would love some volunteers to help out on the day! If you are available to help on the morning of Friday, 1 September (anytime between 8am—pm) and/or Tuesday, 29 August for our Preschool stall (between 9—10.30am) please send an email to fundraising.mpspandc@gmail.com or contact the Front Office.

LET'S GET CREATIVE AND CRAFTY!

The Fundraising and Events Committee would love your help in creating some lovely home-made items for the Fathers' Day stall.

If you are able to offer some time and creativity, then we would love for you to join us in the staff room on Thursday, 10 August between 2.30pm—4.30pm (whatever time you can come). Everyone welcome!

BREAKFAST CLUB

Breakfast Club offered by the P&C is held every Friday on the steps of the canteen. Come along between 8.15 – 8.45am for free toast and a hot milo.

STUDENT TRANSPORT PROGRAM

Did you know that the ACT Government offers a student transport program providing eligible primary, high school and college students with free bus travel Monday—Friday during the school term. For further information please refer to the Access Canberra website: https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/app/answers/detail/a_id/1246#!tabs-2

NOTES HOME

EVENT DETAILS	YR GROUP	DATE DUE BACK
Belconnen Track & Field Carnival	Selected students	Perm & payment by 18/8
Canteen Menu	All families	Orders by 3.30pm on Wednesday each week

WHAT ARE OUR STUDENTS CURRENTLY WONDERING ABOUT?

Students in P — Year 6 have been engaged in some fascinating inquiries this term.

Our preschoolers continue to pursue their interests as they develop a sense of being, becoming and belonging. Some highlights have been the exploration into how an outdoor environment changes in different weather, learning more about the symbols used in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artwork and the many adventures outside the gate.

The arrival of the lambs has enhanced the inquiry happening in Kindergarten into the needs of living things. Students have thoroughly enjoyed having the opportunity to care for a variety of creatures and are now exploring the role of Biologists in our community.

Year 1 students are investigating the characteristics of living things and will be visiting Tidbinbilla to learn more about Native Australian flora and fauna in the coming weeks.

Year 2 are currently exploring what makes Macquarie an important place to others. They are exploring how being connected to places makes people feel and how people use places in our community.

Year 3 students are continuing to inquire into differences and similarities between people and places around the world. They will be looking further into the science behind differences such as climate while considering the influence that where we live has on the way we live. This connects with further investigations into our impact on the world around us.

Our 4/5 students recently hosted their 4/5 Open Morning showcasing their personal inquiries into a person or event that has shaped Australia's history. Students were challenged to explore their chosen area of interest from social, economic and political perspectives and present their findings.

Students are excited about their next inquiry into Earth's place in our Solar System and the impact this has on our planet.

Our Year 6 students are exploring the ways in which experiences and emotions are captured through the creative arts. Students have been challenged to explain how ideas are communicated in artworks they make and to which they respond.



Please remember you are most welcome to contact your child's classroom teacher if you would like to know more about what is happening in the classroom.



Date: **FRIDAY 11th AUGUST**

**RIDE or
WALK
to school**

Winter Walk to School Day

Don't let the winter weather stop
you being active on the way to school!
Rug up and enjoy winter.



Event Details

COOK SHOPS @ 8:10
MACQUARIE SHOPS @ 8:45



HELP REQUIRED

At Macquarie we have just begun our journey into sustainability. As part of this, a team of teachers together with their classes will be working on our vegetable garden space. If you or someone you know has any manure to improve our soil, we would love to hear from you! In the months to come, community volunteers would be greatly appreciated. If you are interested in helping out, please contact the Front Office for more information.

Monique

LIMELIGHT SHOWCASE

Step into the Limelight Showcase tickets are now on sale through Ticketek (<http://premier.ticketek.com.au>). Macquarie choir students will be performing on Friday night, 25 August. Tickets are \$30 adult, \$25 concession, \$18 school age students, \$81 family of four, \$25 groups of 8.



SUSTAINABILITY SNIPPETS

Changing to a more efficient appliance such as a 6-star rated gas heater can save you up to 30% on your heating bills (depending on the rating of the current appliance).

SCHOOL PHONE NUMBERS

The school's old phone line (6205 6077) has now been disconnected. The new number is 6142 1550.

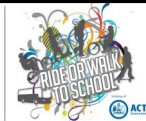
CANBERRA BRICK EXPO

Australia's Capital LEGO Exhibition

Brick Expo is an entertaining and interesting exhibition of rare and unique LEGO® creations by interstate and local collectors and modellers. It will be held this weekend at the Hellenic Club.

For more information go to: www.brickexpo.com.au

Our school promotes riding and walking to school



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.

TENNIS

Would your kids like to try tennis? BTC Coaching has been introducing tennis to the Year 4/5 classes over the last 2 terms and it has been a great success with all students showing great enthusiasm for the sport. BTC Coaching operates from the Belconnen Tennis Club (down the road from Big Splash). We have group classes Monday — Saturday. If you are interested in your children playing tennis please contact me and keep an eye out for my website coming soon!

Jeff Gray (qualified Junior Development Coach, qualified Club Professional)
BTC Coaching
mob: 0411 041 470
email: tennis@btccoaching.com