

## Dates for the Diary

## Change of Date

Mon 12 March

Canberra Day—Public Holiday

Tue 13 March

Teddy Bears' Picnic

Wed 14 March

Assembly

Thur 22 March

Reading Workshop: Supporting  
Emerging Readers  
P&C Mtg

Wed 28 March

Assembly

The parent information session about supporting children with reading will now be held on Thursday, 22 March.



## From our Principal

Dear Families and Friends,

Our Water Fun Day and Swimming Carnival were a huge success. I congratulate our students on their high level of participation throughout the day. We thank our Canberra High School and parent volunteers for ensuring that competitors were just where they needed to be and that recording was efficient and accurate. We are ever grateful to our carnival coordinators Andrea and Jess, and our Early Years Team for their attention to detail and skilful work behind the scenes.

### COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Educators at Macquarie Primary School hold a strong belief that schools are much more than buildings, programs and curriculum. Every week, members of our community support and enrich the learning experiences we facilitate. We had the first of our Playground Enhancement meetings last week identifying focus areas for 2018. We are currently looking at developing an active space in which students will be able to use the natural environment to enhance their play.

Last week I also had the pleasure of meeting with our Author-in-Residence, Craig. Craig is developing a book to celebrate Macquarie Primary School's 50 year history. The book contains photographs and stories of significant events and people that have shaped the culture of our school. I particularly loved seeing a photograph of a billy cart race that was held in the school carpark 25 years ago.

Craig is also coaching the Macquarie Demons AFL team made up of Macquarie alumni from the original school team in the 1990s. The Macquarie Demons will be playing against our staff in a family fun day towards the end of the year. While we are very confident in the expertise and skillset across our team, we are looking to recruit any members of our wider community who may be interested in joining our team. Please contact Ross or Faith for more details.

### Office Hours

Monday — Friday  
8.30am — 3.30pm

### Macquarie Directory

K-6 Site Ph: 6142 1550 Fax: 6142 1571

Preschool Site 6142 1570 After School Care: 0451 681 604 (Huw)

Email: [admin@macquarieps.act.edu.au](mailto:admin@macquarieps.act.edu.au)

Website: [www.macquarieps.act.edu.au](http://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](mailto:macquariepandc@gmail.com)

Board Chair: Emily Ashcroft

### School Contacts:

*Principal* Sophie Bissell [sophie.mendick@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:sophie.mendick@ed.act.edu.au)  
*Deputy Principal (P—Yr 2 Team)* Amanda Hawkins [amanda.hawkins@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:amanda.hawkins@ed.act.edu.au)  
*Deputy Principal (Yr 3—6 Team)* Kratai Visityuthasart [kratai.visityuthasart@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:kratai.visityuthasart@ed.act.edu.au)

*Executive (Yr 3—6 Team)* Jim Gray [james.gray@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:james.gray@ed.act.edu.au)

## From our Principal Continued ...

### KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE

You may have engaged in conversations about protective behaviours with your children following the note that was sent home on Friday relating to an incident that had occurred in our region with strangers approaching children.

We draw on the Protective Behaviours program which aims to promote resilience in children, young people and adults, using empowerment strategies, clear communication and awareness of "safe" behaviours. The two key messages students receive are:

- ⇒ We all have the right to feel safe all of the time; and
- ⇒ Nothing is so awful that we can't talk about it with someone.

We work with our students to apply their understanding of these to their time spent in all of our learning spaces including the playground and the digital platforms used to enhance learning experiences. If you would like more information about our work in this area please do not hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher.

There are also a number of resources that can support you in facilitating these conversations with your child. I have provided links to the resources below:

Protective Behaviours - <http://www.protective-behaviours.org.au/>

Cyber Safety - ThinkUKnow <https://www.thinkuknow.org.au/parents-portal>

Looking forward to the week ahead.

*Sophie Bissell, Principal*

### Last week we saw examples of special efforts from:

- |                           |                                                                       |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Our MPS Orienteering Team | For their efforts in the first school-based competition.              |
| Amber                     | For bringing the sounds of a ukulele into our outdoor learning space. |
| Students in 1/2Co         | For their interesting inquiry into patterns.                          |



## SUSTAINABILITY SNIPPETS

Recycling — don't bag it!

Recycling tied in plastic bags ends up in landfill, rather than being recycled.

## BRING YOUR OWN TRANSPORT (BYOT)



We invite all students from Kinder — Year 6 to join in on BYOT sessions which are held each Monday and Thursday at the second half of lunch. For any information about BYOT, please contact your child's teacher or Faith.

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Each year the School Board writes to families suggesting an amount for a voluntary financial contribution to the school. This year, the contribution remains at \$100 per family.

Thank you to those families who have supported the school through this payment. If you are able to make a voluntary contribution to the school, you may pay via EFT, online through the payment tab on our website or by cash or cheque at the Front Office.

## PLEASE WELCOME ...

... Vihaan who commenced last week.

## 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](mailto:leesa.frame@ed.act.edu.au) or contact the Front Office.

### Uniform Shop — Opening Hours

Monday: 8.45am—9.15am  
Wednesday: 3.00pm—3.30pm  
Friday: 8.45am—9.15am

## NOTES HOME

EVENT DETAILS	YR GROUP	DATE DUE BACK
Reading Workshop	Yr 1/2	Invitation
Teddy Bears' Picnic	P—Yr 2	Invitation
Voluntary Contributions	All families	Action as necessary
Curriculum Resources (student stationary)	All families	Payment ASAP
Student Information & Check Sheet	All students	ASAP
Known Medical Response Plan	Identified students	ASAP
Medical Information & Consent Form	All students	ASAP