

Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 25 February

Year 5 Band information session 8:30am

Wednesday 26 February

Scribbly Gums & Rainbow Gums to Hall School Museum

P&C meeting 6:30pm

Thursday 27 February

Kindergarten home reading information session 3:15pm

Friday 28 February

School Clean Up Day 2pm

Red Gums, Silver Dollar Gums & Snow Gums to Hall School Museum

Thursday 5 March

Swimming Carnival

Monday 9 March

Canberra Day Public Holiday

Tuesday 10 March

Wonderbook 8:30am

From our Principal

Dear Families and Friends

I hope you have all enjoyed the opportunity to meet with classroom teachers this week. We find these chances to talk helpful in setting students up for successful learning throughout the year.

At Macquarie we take a very considered approach to developing a strong home school partnership. Parents and carers are experts in their children, and at school we are experts in educational practices. Together we grow and support our learners to be the best they can be. The getting to know you interviews are another one of the ways we build our knowledge and relationship with families.

Last week the annual P&C AGM was held and new officer bearers were elected. I would like to congratulate the new office bearers and say a big thank you to last year's office bearers, many of whom have had several years contribution. Please see further in the newsletter for all the details. The next meeting is on Wednesday 26 February, I hope to see lots of people there, it is a great way to contribute to our school and meet new people.

Next week the Chocolate Lillies are hosting our whole school assembly which starts at 9:15am. We hope many of you are able to make it. Also next week all the Eucalypts will be going back in time and visiting the Hall School Museum.

In advance of the home reading starting for Acacias, Karen and Andrea are holding a parent information session on Thursday 27 February at 3:15pm. This workshop runs through how you can support reading development at home, with some tips and tricks to make this a manageable part of your family's daily routine. We hope you can make it. We will be holding it in the library and we can supervise children in the Red and Snow Gums room.

We are looking forward to our swimming carnival and water fun day on Thursday March 5. Please make sure you have returned the relevant notes so your children can participate.

I would like to remind everyone that bringing toys and special items to school can be problematic. Little people get very distressed when precious items go missing or get damaged. Please keep these things at home where they can be enjoyed safely.

Have a great week,
Danielle

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Macquarie Primary School clean up will be held on **Friday 28 February at 2:00pm**.

Community members and students are invited to meet on the Namadgi Blacktop to collect supplies before setting out to collect rubbish from the school grounds.

We have a limited amount of gloves so we encourage you to **bring your own gloves, tongs and buckets** to collect the rubbish safely and sustainably.

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

Four nominations have been received for parent members of our school board. As only two vacancies are available an election is required to select the parent members of the school board.

Nominees are listed below together with a brief statement outlining their reasons for seeking an appointment to the board.

All members of our parent community are welcome to vote in the election.

Ballot papers and voting instructions are available at the front office. Voting period opens on **Monday 24 February** and closes at **11am Monday 2 March**.

David Momcilovic

I have lived in Macquarie for 14 years and I love this community. I am proud that my son attends Macquarie Primary and is thriving at the school. I can make a positive contribution as I have worked on other boards, I am always open to collaboration and a new idea, and I know how to deal with budgets and make tough decisions. The biggest thing we have to do is work together to promote a culture of unity and support for the district and school community. I am passionate about closing the opportunity gap and helping students and families who are facing difficulties. If I am elected, I will actively engage with the community to build trust and make sure that the board has timely and accurate information for making its decisions. It would be a privilege to serve on the school board to help positively impact students and community.

Leah Ashley

I am really keen to work in partnership with the rest of the school community to help Macquarie Primary School to continue to focus on what is good for the school and students now, and position itself well going forward. My daughter is in Year 1, having had two great years in pre-school and kindy at Macquarie, so I've had good experience with the school and am also invested in it for the future. In my professional life I have run boards and committees through work, and have a lot of experience with strategic policy, finances and risk management, so I have some useful skills to bring to the position. I'd love the chance to be involved in this way with the school!

Sander de Vries

Our family is very committed to the South Belconnen area, having lived here for more than 12 years. Recently, we've enjoyed being part of the MPS community and want to support it where we can. I nominated for the board because I think I can be a great addition to it.

Over the past 12 years, I've been working as an Architect on many different school projects, ranging from capital upgrades work to whole new buildings. I've designed a multi storey junior school with a slide (the first in Canberra) and most recently the 300 student school building for the Gold Creek Junior School. Outside of work, I'm also very active for the Institute of Architects as a Chapter Councilor, and as the chair of the Local and National Practice Committee of the same AIA.

I would love to represent the parent cohort on the MPS Board.

Christie Horsfield

I wish to nominate for a parent representative position on the Board as I am passionate about developing opportunities for our school community. I have been fortunate to have been involved in Macquarie Primary Schools P&C for the last eight years, including 3 years as President, assisting with canteen; co-ordinating many fundraising and social events for the school community; updating our constitution; and introducing processes to ensure the P&C was compliant with relevant legislations.

I believe the opportunity to assist the school in a board capacity is certainly a way I can continue to contribute in a meaningful manner. I am a strong supporter of the public education system and the rights of all children to have access to a quality education.

The skills that I offer the board are drawn from my 15 years in the Human Resources industry in business analytics, governance, project management and mental health. I am confident at solving problems and thinking outside the box to find solutions. In addition to my professional acumen I have built a wealth of experience in dealing with people on all levels and different nationalities and bring an ability to effectively communicate information and ideas. I can also provide my insight into strategic planning with a proven ability to identify and quantify key goals and required actions.

I am truly proud to be a part of the Macquarie Primary family and am pleased that Gemma and Callum attend this great community focused school. By becoming a parent representative on the school board for the next two years I believe I offer an enthusiastic and professional advocate for the school community.

MERIT AWARDS

Please congratulate the following students who will receive merit awards at Assembly on Wednesday 26 February:

Silky Wattles	Lucy & Zach	Waratahs	Pippa & Wei Qi
Golden Wattles	Sethu & Sarah	Royal Bluebells	Tasneem & Pranav
Silver Dollar Gums	Miles & Amelia	Desert Roses	Penelope & Harrison
Red Gums	Tilly & Camila	Winter Cress	Shanlin & Jasper
Snow Gums	Mahilini & Oliver	Grevillia	Gitsen
Blue Gums	Mark & Lea	Lemon Myrtle	Arman & Nia
		Chocolate Lilies	Henry

STATIONERY EARLY BIRD PRIZE DRAW

Congratulations to the following families who have won the early bird prize for stationery. These families will receive a refund for one stationery pack.

Snuggle Pot and Cuddle Pies winner - Phoenix

Acacias winner - Thomas

Eucalypts winner - Neve

Floral Emblems winner - Laya

Bush Tucker winner - Kaylee

Bottle Brushes winner - Liam

Payments for stationery can still be made at any time. Payment options are listed on page 4 of the newsletter. The cost of each pack is:

Snuggle Pots and Cuddle Pies - \$40

Acacias - \$60

Eucalypts - \$50

Floral Emblems - \$40

Bush Tucker - \$40

Bottle Brushes - \$30

For a full list of items, notes are available on our school website.

NEWS FROM THE P&C

Thanks to everyone who joined us for the Welcome BBQ and AGM last Wednesday—it was great to see so many families come along and enjoy one of the nicest (bush fire smoke free!) evenings of the summer so far.

AGM Summary

At the P&C AGM we heard annual reports from the 2019 President, Treasurer and our six subcommittees including canteen/breakfast club, events and fundraising.

We elected the 2020 Committee and set the date for our first meeting of 2020. If you would like to read any of the annual reports please email macquariepandc@gmail.com

Meet your 2020 P&C

A very big congratulations to our MPS community members who were appointed to the 2020 P&C.

President: Brendan Ding

Vice President: Rebecca Richardson

Treasurer: Sheree Murray

Assistant Treasurer: Paul Zomer

Public Officer: Sheree Murray

Communications Coordinators: Melinda Barwell & Belinda Ding

Events & Fundraising Coordinators: Brendan Ding & Katie Delchau

Grants Officer: Lauren Johnston

Pre-school Representatives: Tina Apps & Yoka Zomer

ACT P&C Council Delegate: Naomi Sheehan

Gardens & Grounds Coordinator: Daniel Trevino-Quiroz

Uniform Shop Coordinators: Liz Watterson & Sheree Murray

Vacancies—we need you!

We still have vacancies for:

Vice President (second): The Vice President supports and assists the President, in addition to overseeing and supporting P&C subcommittees.

Secretary: The P&C Secretary prepares and distributes meeting agendas (in consultation with the President), takes minutes of P&C meetings and distributes them, acts on decision as directed in meetings, deals with incoming and outgoing correspondence and maintains P&C records.

Canteen/Special Lunch Coordinator: The Canteen Coordinator works with the team at Healthy Kids (our canteen service provider) and the School, manages a volunteer roster and reports on canteen activities and priorities at P&C meetings. The Canteen Coordinator also manages the Breakfast Club (see below position description). We desperately need this position filled. **Without a Canteen Coordinator, there is no Friday canteen or Breakfast Club for our kids.** So if you think this amazing volunteer role is for you, please email: canteen.mpspandc@gmail.com for more information about what the role entails.

Breakfast Club Coordinator: The Breakfast Club Coordinator manages the Friday Breakfast Club for our wonderful students. This includes food purchases, a volunteer roster as well as developing reports on Breakfast Club Activities and priorities to the P&C.

If you are interested in taking on a position, or just want to have a chat about what a role entails, contact us at macquariepandc@gmail.com

P & C Meeting

When: Wednesday, 26 February 2020 at 6:30pm

Where: Library

Join us at the first P&C meeting for 2020. We will be planning our activities for 2020 and much, much more. P&C meetings are open to all members of the Macquarie Primary School community. See you there.

LIBRARY NEWS

Scholastic Book Club

Orders are due in tomorrow, Friday February 21. To place an order you can either pay by cash (correct change with the order form in a labelled envelope) or online at www.scholastic.com.au/loop (no order form required).

NAPLAN UPDATE



NAPLAN Online will occur in our school between 12 and 22 May 2020 for students in years 3 and 5.

NAPLAN Online is a more engaging assessment that adjusts questions to each student's achievement level. It also delivers more precise results to schools and parents more quickly.

NAPLAN provides valuable information to schools and parents about literacy and numeracy achievement. It supports school improvement processes by enabling teachers to monitor student progress over time and to identify areas of strength and development.

All eligible students are encouraged and supported to participate in NAPLAN testing. Visit www.nap.edu.au to see interactive versions of the test and for more information.

MACQUARIE COMMUNITY NETBALL TEAM

If your child (girl or boy) from year 2-6 is interested in playing Saturday morning Netball this year, please pick up an application form from the School Office. These must be returned by Friday 28 February 2020.

We need you! Volunteers needed

Uniform Shop

Volunteers are needed for short shifts to help run the Uniform Shop. This is an excellent service managed by the P&C that provides near-cost uniforms and pre-loved uniforms at bargain prices for our school community.

Please can you spare 30 minutes once a fortnight on Wednesday afternoons from 2:50 – 3:20pm and on Friday morning from 8:40 to 9:10am to help out? To register your interest or ask any questions please email uniforms.mps@gmail.com

Friday Canteen Service

If we are going to have a Friday canteen service in 2020, we need volunteers to help sort and distribute the orders between 12 and 1pm.

Please help us by volunteering, even once a term is a big help! If you have any questions or would like to register your interest please email: canteen.mpspandc@gmail.com

Canteen Coordinator

We are looking for a new Canteen Coordinator. Duties included communicating with canteen vendors, coordinating volunteers and providing the P&C with a Canteen report at the end of each term. So if you think this amazing volunteer role is for you, please email canteen.mpspandc@gmail.com for more information about what the role entails.

NOTES HOME & REMINDERS

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

EVENT DETAILS	YEAR GROUP	DATE DUE BACK
Hall School Museum & Heritage centre excursion	Eucalypts	Friday 21 February
Swimming Carnival	Years 2 - 6	Thursday 20 February
2020 Stationery supplies	All year levels	Payments welcome anytime
Kindergarten health check	Kindergarten	ASAP
Student information check sheet	All students	ASAP
Medical Information and consent form	All students	ASAP
Mt Painter excursion	Acacias	Tuesday 24 March

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Option1: Electronic Funds transfer

Account Name:	Macquarie Primary School Management Account
BSB Number:	032 777
Account Number:	001586
Use reference:	<i>Child's Surname</i> EXCURSION NAME

Option 2: Quickweb

Go to our school website and follow the prompts on the payment page	
Use reference:	<i>Child's Surname</i> EXCURSION NAME

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

**Macquarie Primary is an
ANAPHYLAXIS AWARE SCHOOL**

Avoiding all nuts and soft shell crab.

SCHOOL CONTACT DETAILS

Office hours: Monday — Friday 8.30am — 3.30pm

Uniform Shop — Opening Hours

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

Library

Open for families
Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri
8.30am—9.00am

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	Brendan Ding	Board Chair	Janet Hope	janetehope@gmail.com
	macquariepandc@gmail.com			



positive partnerships

Working together to support school-aged students on the autism spectrum



Gunghalin

Exhibition Park
Canberra
10 Flemington Rd.
Mitchell
ACT 2911

Free Professional Learning

Wednesday 18 March
2020

8.30am - 4.00pm

One day workshop on autism for teachers & parents/carers

**Join us and invite a parent/carer from your school
to work with you in a team.**

Funding support available - see below for more information.



To register, email Lynda
lhunt@autismspectrum.org.au

The Positive Partnerships initiative is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education and Training through the Helping Children with Autism Package and is delivered by Autism Spectrum Australia. The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government or the Australian Government Department of Education and Training.



PROGRAM STEPS

- 1 The school selects a team to attend the workshop. The team consists of a classroom teacher, a leadership representative and 2 parents/carers.
- 2 The school invites the parents/carers to attend the workshop, to work together as a team.
- 3 The school & parents/carers register for the workshop using the links provided.
- 4 The school staff complete the compulsory online learning (2 modules) prior to the workshop day.
- 5 The school staff and parents/carers complete a day of learning together at the workshop. The team completes a partnership plan to guide future directions.

Positive Partnerships will:

- use quality, research and evidence informed content and material to support the professional learning program
- run a 1 day workshop facilitated by an experienced, skilled and knowledgeable team
- provide a program that meets the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers, specifically meeting Standards 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7. Specific details available on our website
- fund resourcing support - \$420+GST per staff participant, for a maximum of two participants per school
- provide workbooks and resources to support the workshop and online learning activities
- guide access to the website resources that support and supplement the Positive Partnerships program.

ONLINE LEARNING

An introduction to autism*

An introduction to the Planning Matrix*

**School staff only*

WORKSHOP SESSIONS

Autism- characteristics, impacts and strategies

Family perspectives*

Partnerships and working together

Understanding behaviour

Understanding mental health and wellbeing*

Exploring Positive Partnerships online resources*

**School staff only*



To register, email Lynda: lhunt@autismspectrum.org.au

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Piano Lessons

Piano teacher in the local Belconnen area.

Craig Mewett

All ages and all styles.

Beginners welcome.

Ph. (02) 6278 7382.

Mob. 0409 151 887.



Canberra Health Services

Children's Asthma Education Service

Helping children with asthma breathe easier

The Children's Asthma Education Service provides children, young people and their families with support to manage their asthma.

health.act.gov.au/asthma
Ph: Central Health Intake 5124 9977

health.act.gov.au



Come play AFL with the Belconnen Cats in 2020



Registration now open

Develop skills, coordination, teamwork, and have fun with your mates.

For age groups 5 to 17yrs

Information and contact details at

www.belconnencatsafl.com.au



TWO SHEDS WORKSHOP WOODWORK FOR WOMEN AND KIDS

Come and Build Yourself

We still have places in our kids after school classes 4-5.30 Tuesdays and Thursdays and in our homeschooler class on Wednesdays at 1. \$40 per class including GST and all timber and your child takes home some awesome projects like swords, shields, treasure chests, stools, clocks and more. Open to girls and boys ages 7 and up. Since the term has started email jo@twoshedsworkshop.com.au to book your place. See our website to find out more about Two Sheds Workshop. www.twoshedsworkshop.com.au

