Dear Families and Friends,

Last Friday’s Remembrance Day ceremony provided a rich context for conversations about cultural heritage, human dignity and stewardship of our changing world. These themes are the foundation of our curriculum.

Our 2016 School Captains led the commemoration as a tribute to the members of Australia’s armed services who have served in conflict. Valentina’s rendition of the Last Post was very special, as was concluding the ceremony at the front of the school to observe the flag being raised.

I thank Meg, Elliot, Valentina and Max for their leadership, and each of our classes for observing this important Australian commemoration.

BANDSTRAVAGANZA

This Tuesday night, our Year 6 Band members will bring their talents to the Instrumental Music Program’s showcase, Bandstravaganza at Llewellyn Hall. I know that families will be well entertained by the hundreds of students from public schools who are part of this extraordinary program – one of our Directorate’s finest. Congratulations to our bands on all of their achievements and performances in 2016.

TEACHERS AS RESEARCHERS AT MACQUARIE

How special it was to be part of Macquarie’s Nano Conference last Thursday evening. This annual event on our calendar provides a forum for sharing the abundance of research that is occurring across our school, as staff deepen their knowledge, refine their skills and contribute to Macquarie’s continuous improvement.

As its title suggests, the Nano Conference is small yet significant. It is modelled on the 3 Minute Thesis competitions that University students nationwide take part in, to provide a snap shot of learning and insights.

This year, we were delighted to experience keynote addresses from our academic partner Steve and Taylor from Year 5/6. Their words set the scene so well for an event that celebrated ‘Teachers as Story Tellers and Statisticians’. Hearing from Joe, a parent who supports our high performing mathematicians was another of the event’s highlights.

I thank Nancy for lending her catering flair, Megan and Noah for volunteering their services as waiters, and our extraordinary team of educators who bring passion and commitment to their work. In particular, I thank our Deputy Principal: Research and Strategic Development, Brendan for his outstanding leadership of this event and the guidance he provides to our inquiring staff.

A copy of this year’s program is attached to this newsletter. I know that our staff would welcome a follow up conversation if there is a title or two that intrigues or inspires you.

COMMUNICATION FROM SCHOOL

The electronic environment that marks our digital age provides many benefits for communication within and beyond Macquarie Primary School. Our website provides general information about the school, and is updated in cycles throughout the year.

While our weekly newsletter remains a key medium for communication between school and our families, at times, updated information is required throughout the week. Useful channels for just-in-time news and reminders include:

- the Macquarie Primary School P&C Facebook page;
- the roadside notice board on Bennelong Crescent; and
- 666 ABC Radio.
From our Principal continued ...

SHARING THE OUTDOORS
The mild weather we have experienced this season have created favourable conditions for growth of vegetation around the school. Long grass and damp ground provide appealing habitats for an array of beetles, bugs, spiders and reptiles that we don’t always notice at school.

We are increasingly aware of the rich potential of our playground as a setting for outdoor learning. Our learners are encouraged to practice the skills of observation and reporting should they see an unusual inhabitant on our playground. Remember to look but don’t touch!

BIKE RACKS
Our Active Streets focus and Bring Your Own Transport lunchtime riding sessions have had a significant impact on the volume of wheeled transport we see at school each day. The bike enclosure provides space and security for our students’ bikes, and is functioning well since its extension.

During the week, our General Service Officers, Richard and Vic will be fixing bike racks around our school grounds. We are curious to see if they are useful for families who ride to school together. Securing your bike with a lock is a great habit to build as we equip our young learners with skills and strategies to manage their property in the community beyond our school fence.

All the best for the week ahead.

Wendy Cave, Principal

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

Tanush  Enthusiastically creating 2 books: Mathbook Year 3/4 and 5/6, and The Bad Book 2: Book 4A
Ethan    Creating an Indonesian style fruit cart
Reuben   Creating an interactive human body diagram
Jayda    Producing a delicious lunch for staff, to conclude an iTime inquiry
Taylor   Producing a delicious lunch for staff, to conclude an iTime inquiry

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, aunts, uncles and friends are all welcome. No experience necessary.

Practice will begin this Wednesday and 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 or by emailing Janine.desimone@ed.act.edu.au. 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 and we can make other arrangements.

P&C MEETING
The next (and final for 2016) P&C meeting will be held at on Thursday, 24 November (Week 7). All welcome.

WEETBIX TRYATHLON
The Weetbix Tryathlon will be held on 12 February 2017 at the AIS and open to anyone between the ages 7—15. TRYathletes will swim, ride and run using the very same facilities where many great Australian sporting careers have begun. You can save $20 off the entry fee by registering before 18 December.

For more information go to https://tryathlon.com.au/locations/canberra

CONGRATULATIONS ...

… to Max, Valentina, Elliot and Meg for hosting an exceptionally powerful Remembrance Day Commemoration.

… to Amelia for the cooking awards she received at the Queanbeyan Show.

THANK YOU ...

… for observing our car park signage. Drivers are reminded to consider the environment by parking on asphalt surfaces. Please keep off the grass.

BRING YOUR OWN TRANSPORT (BYOT) SESSIONS

We invite Year P—3 students to a BYOT session on Thursday, 17 November and Years 4—6 on Friday, 18 November from 1.20pm.

SUSTAINABILITY SNIPPETS

Paper towel is definitely good for composts and can be put in the paper recycling bin also, even though it is a very low grade paper.

NOTES HOME

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<tr>
<th>EVENT DETAILS</th>
<th>YR GROUP</th>
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<tr>
<td>Warrambui Camp</td>
<td>Yr 3/4</td>
<td>Perm, medical notes &amp; payment by 18/11</td>
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<td>Cherry Drive</td>
<td>All families</td>
<td>Order &amp; payment by 25/11</td>
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ONELINK - NEW GATEWAY FOR HOUSING, HOMELESSNESS, CHILD, YOUTH AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

OneLink offers a streamlined service for people seeking human services support. People seeking support could access OneLink from the free phone line, 1800 176 468, or visit OneLink at Nature Conservation House in Belconnen.

www.onelink.org.au

DAD’S ADVICE WEBSITE

Beyondblue has launched a new four-part web series to help new dads. Dadvice features 12 brand new fathers sharing the joys and sleep-deprived disasters of their babies’ first weeks of life in a series of dad video diaries hosted by comedian Ben Lomas. The series shows how new dads can better deal with:

- Sleep deprivation and the effect on your working life and general health;
- Pressure on your relationship with your partner;
- Falling out of touch with your mates;
- Routines and time to yourself being turned upside down.

Dadvice.org.au

Rhee TaeKwondo

Classes held weekly at Macquarie Primary School, Bennelong St
Tuesday - 6:15pm - 7:15pm
Thursday - 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Adults and Children welcome
Family Discounts Available
FREE Introductory lessons

Stephen White Ph: 0438799986 or
Email: Stephen.White@rheevacs.com.au

Try on cot - 1/2 price uniform and 2 free lessons this month

SWISH

SPECIALISED WORKSHOPS IN SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

www.swisheducation.edu.au

IS YOUR CHILD STARTING KINDERGARTEN IN 2017?

SWISH Education workshops are designed for gifted children & children that need and want more than just childminding.

Topics include Forensics, Robotics, Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Anthropology, Geography, Geology & more

CCB/CCR APPROVED | LOCATED AT CAMPBELL PRIMARY
BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT