

## Dates for the Diary

Mon 19—Fri 23 Feb  
PIPS Testing (Kindergarten)  
Parent/Teacher interviews continue

Tue 20 Feb  
P&C Mtg

Wed 21 Feb  
House mtgs

Fri 23 Feb  
Board Meeting

Wed 28 Feb  
Junior Water Fun Day  
Swimming Carnival

Fri 2 Mar  
Volunteers Information &  
Induction Session

Thur 22 Mar  
School Orienteering

## Reminders

Please let the Front Office know, as soon as possible, if your contact details change (home address and/or telephone numbers).

Book club orders close on Friday,  
23 February



## From our Principal

Dear Families and Friends,

Many thanks to our P&C President, Christie and her team for hosting last Tuesday evening's Welcome BBQ. Feedback is always so positive about this informal opportunity for families and staff to meet and learn a little more about one another and our school. I thank the students who took time out from playing with friends to show their families through classrooms and share how learning routines have been established in the early weeks of term. We were delighted to see a number of new faces and welcome our 2018 committee.

It has also been very lovely to see so many of you moving to and from our *Parent Interviews* throughout the week. While there is a strong focus on parent/teacher communication as part of our start up to the year, our team are very happy to make a time to talk with you about your child's learning and social success at any time.

### SWIMMING CARNIVAL UPDATE

We are looking forward to our Swimming Carnival next week with the forecast of a warm day. With preparations well underway, we will be hosting our House Meetings to elect our Sports Captains. This is an exciting opportunity for students in Years 5 and 6 to take on a formal leadership role.

Swimming ability testing will happen on the day to ensure the safety of all who attend. The outcome of the testing may have an impact on the slides your child will be able to access. Please see the attached *How it Works Document* for more information.



### 50th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

As you may be aware, 2018 marks Macquarie Primary School's 50th birthday. I have thoroughly enjoyed the conversations and learning experiences this event has prompted. Last week I received a number of photographs of the first ever Macquarie Demons AFL team taken on the oval looking back at the school. The photos have generated some rich spontaneous and shared inquiries into how and why our learning spaces have changed over time.

### 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 ...

We are in the process of planning a series of events to celebrate this special occasion and look forward to sharing information about these through our newsletter and the Macquarie P&C Facebook page.

### UNIVERSITY OF CANBERRA CONNECTIONS

Our unique engagement with the University of Canberra supports the development of high quality professionals. This week we welcome Tessa, Amber and 60 Preservice teachers who will be studying the theory and practice of Literacy teaching through clinics with us. The preservice teachers will be working closely with students in Years 3 and 6.

This model of Preservice Teacher Education is something that we are very proud of. We know that Preservice teachers benefit from working with our teachers, and are well aware of the importance of working alongside people entering the profession. These educators bring different experiences and closeness to research. Not only is this an exciting opportunity for our students, our teachers also enjoy having the opportunity to share and reflect on the amazing work they do. They contribute immensely to the culture of inquiry that is so important to us.

### ACTIVE STREETS REMINDER

As we encourage physical activity around our grounds and streets, families are reminded that walking to school – even part way - promotes healthy habits. Our local footpaths adorn bright markings that indicate 800m drop off points from school, and may support families to help our students explore and grow confident around our neighborhood.

We thank you for reducing traffic congestion through promoting physical activity.

### KEEPING STUDENTS SAFE

Today we had one of our routine emergency drills, with a focus on the evacuation procedure. Macquarie's education team guided students through this process with care and sensitivity to the range of emotions children may express. I encourage families to talk with teachers should you require any further information regarding this, or other Workplace Health and Safety practices at school.

*Sophie Bissell*  
*Principal*

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

Michael	Composing a creative and very amusing Story.
Damon	Demonstrating outstanding self-management skills in a challenging learning experience.
Year 5	Applying their knowledge and listening skills effectively during the Instrumental Music Program Assessment.



## YEAR 6 BAND

The Year 6 band will recommence in Week 3 with Jacinta and Jim on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Students are reminded to bring their instruments and music.

## 2018 VOLUNTEERS

Students at Macquarie benefit from a strong tradition of volunteer support. The way in which parents, grandparents, preservice teachers and community members support our school is varied and wide ranging. Volunteer support can involve a routine commitment, such as supporting our reading programs, or less frequent support, such as sharing a skill or passion you may have with one of our classes from time to time.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please join us for an information and induction session on Friday, 2 March or alternatively, contact our front office team by email ([admin@macquarieps.act.edu.au](mailto:admin@macquarieps.act.edu.au)) or phone (6142 1550).

Being added to our School Volunteers register will ensure you are able to access programs and information to support you in this important role.

## STUDENT INJURY

### Insurance and Ambulance Transport

The Education Directorate does not provide any insurance cover for injury, disease or illness to students resulting from school activities or school-organised excursions. Claims for compensation are met where there is a legal liability to do so. Liability is not automatic and depends on the circumstances in which any injury, disease or illness was sustained.

As there is no automatic insurance cover for personal injury if your child is injured at school or during a school organised activity/excursion you should therefore consider whether taking out personal insurance cover for your child is warranted.

This insurance might cover contingencies including medical/hospital expenses, ambulance transport outside the ACT, and cancellation of transport/accommodation or loss of/damage to luggage.

The ACT Ambulance Service provides free ambulance transport for students who are injured or suddenly become ill at school or during an approved school organised activity within the ACT.



## SUSTAINABILITY SNIPPETS

Wash your clothes in cold water.

## P&C NEWS

Thank you to everyone who came to our Welcome BBQ and P&C AGM last week. It was wonderful to see so many familiar and new faces in our playground. A big thank you to our volunteers for helping to coordinate and run the BBQ on the night. We couldn't have done it without you!

The following P&C Committee members were elected for 2018:

*President:* Christie ([president.mpspandc@gmail.com](mailto:president.mpspandc@gmail.com))

*Vice President:* Sarah  
([mpspandcvp@gmail.com](mailto:mpspandcvp@gmail.com))

*Treasurer:* Lauren ([treasurer.mpspandc@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.mpspandc@gmail.com))

*Assistant Treasurer:* Sheree  
([assttreasurer.mpspandc@gmail.com](mailto:assttreasurer.mpspandc@gmail.com))

*Secretary:* Jane ([macquariepandc@gmail.com](mailto:macquariepandc@gmail.com))

*Public Officer:* Fleur  
([publicofficer.mpspandc@gmail.com](mailto:publicofficer.mpspandc@gmail.com))

*Book Club Coordinator:* Claire  
([bookclubmpspandc@gmail.com](mailto:bookclubmpspandc@gmail.com))

*Communications Coordinator:* Fleur  
([coms.macquariepandc@gmail.com](mailto:coms.macquariepandc@gmail.com))

*Uniform Shop Coordinator:* Sheree  
([uniforms.mps@gmail.com](mailto:uniforms.mps@gmail.com))

The following positions remain vacant:

- Grants Officer;
- P&C Council delegate;
- Canteen/Special Lunch Coordinator; and
- Events and Fundraising Coordinator.

Please let us know if you're interested in helping out with any of these positions.

### THANK YOU

A big thank you to last year's P&C team and all our hard-working volunteers for their time and energy throughout 2017.

### P&C MEETINGS

P&C meetings during 2018 will be held in Week 3 (Tuesday 7pm) and Week 7 (Thursday 7pm) of each term. We look forward to seeing you at our first general meeting tomorrow night (Tuesday, 20 February 2018).

### WHAT IS THE P&C?

The P&C is a great way to get involved with our school and have a say. The P&C is open to all Macquarie Primary families and community members. We bring together parents, citizens, students and staff.

The P&C contributes to the school and students through events, fundraising, canteen, uniform shop, book club, gardens and grounds, breakfast club, special projects and more.

### DID YOU KNOW

In 2017 the P&C organised the Welcome BBQ, special lunches, Autumn disco, Mothers' and Fathers' Day stalls, Reading Hour, Mt Painter picnic and the Spring Fling.

## P&C NEWS CONTINUED

The P&C supported the school and students with hats for the preschoolers, classroom musical instruments, Kindergarten/Year 1 farm excursion, 400 new books for classrooms, Musica Viva (Doctor Stovepipe) concert, parent information sessions, Year 6 graduation celebrations, as well as uniforms and other sponsorship for sporting teams.

### KEEPING IN TOUCH

If you have ideas, want to volunteer, or would like to know more come along to our meetings, leave a note in the P&C box near the Front Office or email us at [macquariepandc@gmail.com](mailto:macquariepandc@gmail.com)

*Christie  
President*



## 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.

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

### 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
Curriculum Resources (student stationary)	All families	Payment ASAP
Swimming Carnival		Payment & perm by Thurs 22 Feb
Student Information & Check Sheet	All students	Fri 23 Feb
Known Medical Response Plan	Identified students	Fri 23 Feb
Medical Information & Consent Form	All students	Fri 23 Feb

**Stressed about back to school costs?  
Make next year different.**



**Saver Plus will match your savings for school costs, dollar for dollar, up to \$500.**

To join Saver Plus, you must have a Centrelink Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, be at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner), and have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself.

- laptops & tablets
- camps & excursions
- uniforms & shoes
- lessons & activities
- sports fees & gear
- books & supplies



**Contact**  
Kathleen Watson  
your local Saver Plus  
Coordinator  
**Phone**  
0448 730 305  
02 6283 7606  
**Email**  
kathleen.watson@  
thesmithfamily.com.au  
**Web**  
www.saverplus.org.au

Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to [www.dss.gov.au](http://www.dss.gov.au) for more information.

## Community Notices

### BOOK LAUNCH BY LOCAL AUTHOR

Children's author, Leonie Pye has risen above her blindness and written her second children's book, *The Broken Shell*. It is a heart-warming story that's enhanced by delightful watercolour illustrations from local artist Susan Hey. Leonie is donating 20% of book sales to Guide Dogs NSW/ACT. She has already donated over \$2,000 to Guide Dogs from sales of her first book, *The Little Shell*. Susan is donating proceeds from the sale of her paintings to Guide Dogs NSW/ACT.

#### BOOK LAUNCH DETAILS:

**Time:** 3:15pm for 3:30pm - 4:30pm  
**Date:** Wednesday, 28 February 2018  
**Venue:** Rocksalt Restaurant Hawker Shops Ph: 6254 7865  
**Cost:** FREE - Original watercolour paintings and signed books for sale.  
Refreshments available  
**Tickets:** <https://the-broken-shell.eventbrite.com.au> or call Leonie on 0428 330 073 by Sunday, 25 February for catering purposes



Craig Mewett. Piano tuition. All ages and all styles.  
Beginners welcome.  
Ph (02) 6278 7382 Mob 0409 151 887



# RHEE TAE KWON-DO Macquarie



**Rhee TaeKwon-Do is Australia's oldest and best known traditional TaeKwon-Do school.**

**Rhee TaeKwon-Do is a family friendly martial art and is ideal for all ages, catering to young children with our Pee Rhee's program (ages 4-7) all the way through to kids, teens and adults.**

**Where & when: Macquarie Primary School, Bennelong Crescent, Macquarie**

**Tuesday and Thursday: 6:30pm - 7:30pm**

**Pee Rhee's classes – Tuesday: 6pm – 6:30pm**

**\*\*Receive a free uniform upon joining with**

**Rhee TaeKwon-Do Macquarie\*\***

For more information contact Sabum Stephen email:

[sejw92@gmail.com](mailto:sejw92@gmail.com)

phone: 0432 799 986 web: <http://rheeact.com.au/>