Dear Families and Friends,

The commencement of Children’s Week signalled a weekend of connections between Macquarie Primary School and our community.

The Early Years team welcomed many new and continuing families to our Next Steps morning on Saturday. We enjoyed sharing a little about the places and programs that our learners will be part of as they move to Preschool, Kindergarten and Junior Primary classes in 2017. The sausage sizzle and uniform stall were highlights for many of our small visitors. We thank the P&C for providing refreshments, and an opportunity for little people to model Macquarie Primary School fashion.

Strolling up Mount Painter was a very nice way to spend yesterday afternoon, and I thank Sarah for guiding another experience of this beautiful place for Macquarie families. Sarah introduced the walking party to Ranger Nick, and we enjoyed watching him in action as he cared for the scar tree.

CHILDREN’S WEEK ACTIVITIES

Over many years, the Scholastic Book Fair has been a Children’s Week highlight at Macquarie. It provides students with the experience of shopping, as they browse and consider books they are interested in purchasing for themselves or for the school. Since we know that real contexts lead to real learning, we have renamed this event as the Book Shop this year. Teachers are using it as a springboard to inquiry into how shops work.

Our Book Shop opens on Wednesday, and while our students will be making wish lists during the week for our library and their shelves at home, families are also invited to visit the display throughout the week. Opening times are listed later in this newsletter, and include an after hours session on Wednesday evening. The Book Shop will be held in Oasis until Friday.

We are looking forward to sharing some fun on Grandfriends’ Day this Thursday. Visitors will be treated to activities on our playground, morning tea and a musical finale.

From our Principal

A full program of Children’s week events for the Canberra community is available at www.actchildrensweek.com.au/

ACTIVE STREETS

Last Wednesday’s assembly was a fitting celebration to officially open our freshly marked car park. I congratulate our students for their meticulous planning and coordination of this outdoor event. We were delighted to see the return of special guests who have shared the design journey with us, to enhance the experience of using our car park.

We are noticing far better flow in this space at peak times, and I thank our community for observing the traffic signage. Classes continue to explore our surrounding streets as spaces for learning, and we are enjoying stories of families who have identified pick up and drop off points just beyond the school gates. Our preschool carpark is worth considering as an alternative meeting spot. Justine, Lianne, Sharni and Shirley always welcome visitors passing through, and the recent preschool landscaping is well worth a look.

If weather permits, we are aiming to have another Walk or Ride to School morning this Friday, with departures from Cook and Macquarie Shops. Watch our P&C Facebook page for confirmation.

TEACHER INQUIRY PROGRAM

Educators at Macquarie have been engaged in a process of personalised professional inquiry throughout the past three years. This work is helping to build our own inquiring dispositions, skills and experience. Our Teacher Inquiry Program promotes research literacy, and is guided by our Deputy Principal, Research and Strategic Development, Brendan. Our work as inquirers is positively influencing the way we design learning for students at Macquarie.

Preparations are underway for our 2016 Nano Conference, which will be held on Thursday, 10 November. This annual event on our school calendar provides an opportunity for our educators to share their own professional inquiries with one another. Feel free to contact your child’s teacher, or a member of our executive team if you would like to learn a little more about our Nano Conference.
From our Principal

continued ...

2017 PLANNING
With planning for 2017 underway, communication between home and school is very helpful. We encourage you to contact our school office team if:

- you know of families moving or returning to the Macquarie School community who are intending to enrol, or
- your family will be leaving our community in 2017.

Parents and students are encouraged to contribute to our class planning, and placement conversations can be arranged through the school office.

SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS AS SPELLERS
Confidently engaging with spelling is an important part of being a writer. Last week, Tessa from the University of Canberra shared her research into the teaching and learning of spelling with our teachers. She shared approaches to developing students as ‘linguistic inquirers’, who draw upon the sounds (phonology), meaning (morphology), symbols (orthography) and history (etymology) of words to spell with accuracy.

Tessa will continue to work with our teachers throughout the year. For interested families, she is presenting a workshop this Tuesday evening). We invite you to come along and join us in learning more about the wonderful world of spelling!

All the best for the week ahead.

Wendy, Principal

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

- Jonte  Showing 1 to 1 correspondence and careful concentration as he accurately matched footsteps to number tiles
- Jadyn  Adding numbers and matching designs to create an intricate picture
- Reuben  Adding numbers and matching designs to create an intricate picture
- Taylor  Sharing thoroughly researched and impeccably presented tasks in her Book of Knowledge
- Ryan  Courageously capturing images from creative vantage points as the photographer at last week’s assembly
- James  Courageously capturing images from creative vantage points as the photographer at last week’s assembly

BREAKFAST CLUB
There will be no Breakfast Club this week due to the Book Shop occurring in Oasis.

BEST WISHES ...
... to Wynetta, Macquarie’s Indigenous Education Officer, for her wedding day on Saturday.

SUSTAINABILITY SNIPPETS
Wait for a full load before you wash your clothes or the dishes.

BOOK SHOP IN OASIS

Opening Hours
Wednesday, 26 October
8.30am—9.30am; 2.30pm—3.30pm; 5.00pm—7.00pm
Thursday, 27 October (Grandfriends’ Day)
8.30am—12.30pm; 2.30pm—3.30pm
Friday, 28 October
8.30am—9.30am; 2.30pm—3.30pm

Each class requests 5—6 books they would like to see in the Library. The commission earnt from the Book Shop is used to purchase these books.

CONGRATULATIONS ...
... to Macquarie’s Kindergarten students for being exceptional ambassadors during their excursion to the National Zoo and Aquarium.
... to Senuka for his Judge’s Award in the Year 1/2 Picture Book Category of the Children’s Book Council of Australia’s inaugural Make Your Own Story Book competition.
... to Clare for securing a role in the upcoming production of the ‘Nutcracker’.
... to Valentina, Olivia, Ava, Amulya, Patrick and Jason, the Implementation Managers Macquarie team, for coordinating and hosting our Car Park’s Grand Opening. It was incredible!

RIDE OR WALK TO SCHOOL PROGRAM:
SURVEY REMINDER
Do you have a child in Years 4—6 at Macquarie Primary School? The ACT Government would like to know what you think about students riding or walking to school. By completing the short survey you can enter the draw to win a Trek mountain bike worth more than $500. For more information and to complete the survey visit: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ ActiveTravelSurveyTerm42016 or collect a printed copy of the survey from the Macquarie Front Office.

CUPPA AND YARN
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families are invited for a cuppa and a yarn on Wednesday, 2 November in the staffroom.

Are you interested in learning more about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture?
Macquarie Primary students are welcome to participate in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural workshops commencing in Week 4 on Fridays at lunch time. If you are interested please sign up at the Front Office.

NOTES HOME

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<td>Band Stravaganza</td>
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YWCA Canberra provides quality Before School Care, After School and School Holiday Programs for school age children. We aim to deliver high quality care for all children attending our programs, working closely with families, the school and community. Our staff are selected to ensure the children attending our programs have the best quality care, in a safe and friendly environment. Our school age programs are fully licensed and operate under the National Quality Framework (NQF), National Quality Standards (NQS) and the ‘My Time, Our Place’ Framework. Our school age care programs are approved for Childcare Benefit (CCB) and Childcare Rebate (CCR).

For more information and to request an enrolment form: www.ywca-canberra.org.au, email: childcareaccounts@ywca-canberra.org.au, or phone 6180 5777.

Please return completed enrolment forms to Childcare Accounts for processing by 14 December 2016:

Submit online: Complete and hit submit button at end of enrolment form
Scan/Email: childcareaccounts@ywca-canberra.org.au
In person: BSC/ASC Program before Wednesday, 14 December 2016
Post: GPO Box 767, Canberra ACT 2601
In person: Level 2, 71 Northbourne Avenue, Canberra City

Enrolments are processed and places are allocated as they are received at our Children’s Services Office – a notification of acceptance will be sent via email.

In order to secure a place for your child, all enrolments must be received by Childcare Accounts Team by Wednesday, 14 December 2016.