From our Principal

Dear Families and Friends,

How nice it was to spend a little time at school on Saturday morning, and experience the atmosphere that is always part of an election day polling booth. Canberra turned on the beautiful Spring weather we have been waiting for, as our P&C turned on the barbeque and fundraise stalls.

Many thanks to the families and friends of Macquarie who assisted with stalls on the day and donated books, gifts and treats for the cake stall. We are very grateful!

SHARING THE CURRICULUM

Teachers at Macquarie enjoy working with the Australian Curriculum to provide consistency and accountability for the learning they guide. This document is openly accessible at www.acara.

Since we know that real contexts lead to real learning, and that no two learners are exactly the same, we look for meaningful and relevant opportunities through which our students can explore and develop the knowledge, skills and understandings that are embedded in the Australian Curriculum. This way of working is part of our commitment to personalising learning to support engagement and growth of every child, every day. While all of the inquiry that occurs in our classrooms is underpinned by sophisticated research, and a viable career path. We are so fortunate to enjoy this ongoing partnership in our inquiring school.

Increasingly families are receiving information about how the Australian Curriculum is unfolding in classrooms through the online Google communities. We hope you enjoy the description of the Term 4 directions for classes later in this newsletter.

Please don’t hesitate to engage with your child’s class teacher if you would like further information about the interesting work in this area. We welcome conversations at any time regarding your child’s learning and development.

CAR PARK GRAND OPENING

I thank our community for observing the freshly painted markings in our car park. It has been interesting to see the improved flow of traffic at peak times, with this well researched, cost effective solution. The speed hump is proving particularly effective, as our DMA co design team suggested it would be, during prototype testing last year. The cones that assist with visibility of the hump will be removed once the concrete is cured, and linemarking material will be fixed to it within the coming weeks.

The final phase of implementation of the recommendations for our car park will involve physically narrowing the drive at peak times. Our General Service Officer, Vic Amsteins is looking forward to his traffic control training next month.

This Wednesday we will be celebrating the enhancements to our car park at a special Opening Assembly. Our friends, Justin Barrie and Mel Edwards, of Design Managers Australia will be amongst our guests. Their collaboration has allowed students and staff to explore design as a problem solving discipline, an extension of research, and a viable career path. We are so fortunate to enjoy this ongoing partnership in our inquiring school.

Families are most welcome to join us for an outdoor assembly, from 12:15-1:00pm. Student leaders have worked is part of our commitment to personalising learning to support engagement and growth of every child, every day. While all of the inquiry that occurs in our classrooms is underpinned by sophisticated design, we build on spontaneous events that spark authentic curiosity.

Office Hours

Monday — Friday
8.30am — 3.30pm

Macquarie Directory

K-6 Site Ph: 6205 6077 Fax: 6205 6333
Preschool Site 6205 6737 After School Care: 0451 681 604 (Melinda)
Email: admin@macquarieps.act.edu.au
Website: www.macquarieps.act.edu.au
Facebook Page: http://www.facebook.com/macquarieprimary

School Counsellor: Gabriela Perez (Thurs/Fri)
P&C President: Christie Horsfield
Board Chair: Claire Howell

School Contacts:
Principal: Wendy Cave wendy.cave@ed.act.edu.au
Deputy Principal: Brendan Briggs brendan.briggs@ed.act.edu.au
Deputy Principal: Sophie Bissell sophie.mendick@ed.act.edu.au
Executive (P—Yr 6): Jo Pearce joanne.pearce@ed.act.edu.au
Executive (P—Yr 6): Kate Greeney kate.greeney@ed.act.edu.au

Macquarie Memo

46 Bennelong Crescent, Macquarie ACT 2614
Issue 32: 17 October 2016
From our Principal continued ...

NEXT STEPS GATHERING
Preparations are well underway for the Next Steps gathering this Saturday morning. While the event targets families of our learners in early years classes at Macquarie, families and neighbours who would like to know a little more about the look and feel of our school are most welcome.

Tours begin at 10:00am and will run throughout the morning. We look forward to sharing company, activities and time to explore the grounds and facilities that our students enjoy each day. It would be wonderful to see you there!

MPS FRIENDS OF MOUNT PAINTER WALK
As Friends of Mount Painter, students at Macquarie have enjoyed many visits to this beautiful community resource throughout the year. On Sunday afternoon, Sarah Hnatuk will be leading a walk for interested members of the community. Whether you are new to the mountain, or a long familiar friend, do consider joining us. I’m looking forward to learning more about the scar tree, and its significance as a landmark of Belconnen. More details appear later in this newsletter.

SUPPORTING SPELLING AND SPELLERS
This week, teachers at Macquarie will be spending time with one of our academic partners, Tessa Daffern, from the University of Canberra. During the past few years, we have come to know Tessa and her research well. We were proud to be amongst the audience at the ALEA/AATE National Conference in Adelaide last July, when Tessa shared her study into the effectiveness of audience at the ALEA/AATE National Conference in Adelaide last July, when Tessa shared her study into the effectiveness of

CONGRATULATIONS ...
... to our senior students for their outstanding representation at Floriade last Tuesday. Our bands, Limelight Choir (pictured right) and Music Crew performed with confidence and school pride on Stage 88, and our student photographers captured interesting images to document the event. They were a pleasure to be amongst for this celebration of the arts.

The Deputy’s Desk
This term the shared inquires underway across the school focus on developing big understandings about cultural heritage, stewardship of our changing world and human dignity.

The new river bed and pathway at Preschool have generated a lot of wonderings about rock formations and what it feels like to ride a bike over the different textures. Some nesting birds have also been spotted in the Preschool creating a rich context for real learning about life cycles as the term progresses.

Kindergarten farewelled the much loved lambs at the end of last term as they returned to the farm. Although the lambs were no longer under the care of the students, their curiosity about living things has continued to grow. This has prompted the teachers to organise for some new visitors to join the class and we look forward to the arrival of tadpoles. The students have already thought about how to best meet the needs of the tadpoles and will be observing how they change in the coming weeks.

Identified areas of student interest are driving the guided inquiries in 1/2 classes this term. Teachers have used students’ wonderings from the year to design relevant learning experiences. 1/2B and 1/2Le are engaging with aspects of our playground enhancement planning while 1/2La and 1/2G are exploring concepts from the Creative Arts curriculum.

Students in Years 3—6 will be inquiring into how they can share and grow their learning. The culmination of this inquiry will be the student-led interviews which will be held towards the end of term. This inquiry will prompt many reflective discussions about the experiences they have had this year and what they now know about themselves as learners.

The Year 3/4 students will also be engaged in activities designed to support their camp experience in Week 9. The camp is an opportunity for students to celebrate their progress over the year and to put their social and emotional learning into practice in a new context. Teachers will design personalised goals with students for the camp experience and are excited to end the year in such an energising way.

Students in Years 5/6 will have the opportunity to learn more about the physical, social and emotional changes they will experience during this stage of their lives.

iTime sessions continue to generate creativity and curiosity across the school this term. These sessions provide students with an opportunity to explore an area of interest each week. Students have thoroughly enjoyed having experts from our community come in and support their iTime project. Please do not hesitate to contact your child’s classroom teacher if you have a particular skill or expertise you would like to offer to support an iTime project.

Sophie Bissell
Deputy Principal, Pedagogical Transformation

BOOK SHOP (FAIR)
SAVE THE DATES
26—28 October in Oasis
Bookshop (Wed—Fri)
Grandfriends’ Day (Thur)
10am Assembly
10.30am Sharing in the classroom
11am Morning tea in Staffroom
REMINDER

Wednesday, 19 October @ 12.15pm
Assembly: Official Opening of the Car Park
Host: 5/6BG & DMA Team
Venue: Car Park

PLEASE NOTE:
The carpark will be closed all day on Wednesday the 19th of October. No staff nor parents will be allowed to enter the carpark on that day.

The whole school will be having a picnic on the grass area in the carpark for lunch after the assembly. See you there! Parents are welcome to attend.
Community Notices

NOTES HOME

EVENT DETAILS | YR GROUP | DATE DUE BACK |
---|---|---|
Transition Gathering | Preschool, Kinder & prospective Families | Information &
Swimming | Yr 1/2 | Perm, medical notes & payment ASAP
Warrambui Camp | Yr 3/4 | Perm, medical notes & payment by 18/11

NORTH BELCONNEN GIANT COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

Over 50 stalls and 1000's of bargains all priced to sell. Come along to join in the fun or book your own stall for $20.
Sat, 22 October from 9am-2pm, Chomley Court, Evatt
Book your stall at www.northbelconnenbaptist.org.au
e-mail: events@northbelconnenbaptist.org.au
phone: 0406 375 887

BRILLIANT FOOTBALL

Term 4 Program
- Lots of fun
- High quality technical development
- Inclusive environment - everyone is welcome
- Football Federation Australia curriculum
- For boys and girls age 7 to 13
- Age-appropriate skill development

23 October to 11 December (with school term)
Location: Deakin Stadium
Sunday: 5:00 to 6:15 pm
Register by 17 October and get 15% off
Don't miss out on this amazing value!
brilliantfootball.com.au

GENTLE WALK ON MT PAINTER NATURE RESERVE TO VISIT AN ABORIGINAL SCAR TREE

2 – 4 PM ON SUNDAY, 23 OCTOBER

This is a guided walk specially for Macquarie Primary School families. It will be led by Sarah Hnatiuk from Friends of Mt Painter and the grandmother of Amber in 3/4BR. We will walk along dirt and grassy tracks at the base of Mt Painter and up a gully to the scar tree.

To get to the start point: drive towards the City along William Hovell Drive from the intersection with Coulter Drive – about 1km. Park two light poles beyond the large, overhead, illuminated sign. Look out for balloons.

Wear clothes that provide good sun protection, including long pants in case we meet some prickly plants. Please bring drinking water.

In the event of bad weather, check the Friends of Mt Painter’s Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfMountPainter/ to see if the walk has been cancelled. If so, we will hold the walk on Sunday, 30 October. For more information, contact Sarah via email at sarahhnatiuk@yahoo.com.au or phone 0424 283 565.

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