

## Dates for the Diary

**Wed 13 Dec**  
Volunteers Morning Tea

**Thur 14 Dec**  
Year 6 Celebrations

**Fri 15 Dec**  
Special Last Day  
Assembly  
FINAL DAY FOR 2017

**Mon 5 Feb 2018**  
FIRST DAY FOR 2018  
Kindergarten and new  
students commence

**Tues 6 Feb 2018**  
Returning students

## From our Principal

Dear Families and Friends,

Welcome to the final newsletter for 2017.

With just a few sleeps until the holidays, we are looking forward to learning the outcome of our recent election for School Captains during our Graduation Assembly this Thursday. Irrespective of the outcome, the staff and I are very proud of the calibre of our senior students, and we recognise their commitment to our school values and making Macquarie an extraordinary place for learning.

While we formally recognise a small number of these students as Captains, each senior student will have the opportunity to assume a leadership role in areas that include Hospitality and Community Liaison, ICT, Literacy, Sports, Environmental Stewardship and Curriculum Design during 2018.

We look forward to their contributions and thank our graduating Year 6 students for bringing spirit and personality to their citizenship and leadership of people and initiatives at Macquarie. The culture of student engagement and voice certainly grows from strength to strength each year.

### 2018 STAFFING

We congratulate a number of teachers on securing transfers to schools across the system for 2018.

- Kate will continue in her leadership position at Kingsford Smith School.
- Suze will be joining the staff at Lyons Early Childhood School.
- Chantelle will be joining the Ainslie Primary School team.
- Bec will be joining the team at Miles Franklin School.
- Angela will be joining the Mt Rogers team.
- Monique will be joining the team at Namadgi.

I know that the principals who will be receiving these educators are looking forward to the contributions they will bring, as leaders in the field of inquiry based learning, literacy and the integrated implementation of the Australian Curriculum. We wish these friends and colleagues all the best in their future placements and pathways, and thank them for their influence on our people, places and programs. They have each made a mark on our school and we look forward to continuing to have them on our broader educational network.

We congratulate our new educators, Wayde, Patrick, Ross and Andrea on their offers of permanency within the ACT Education Directorate, and continuing positions at Macquarie.

With a quality line up of staff at the ready, it is my pleasure to share the indicative composition of our teaching teams for 2018. Families are reminded that adjustments may be made during the next few weeks.

### Early Years Team (Preschool and Kindergarten)

- Shirley
- Justine
- Lianne
- Sharni
- Wayde
- Jackie

### Years 1—3 Team

- Faith
- Brooke
- Jess
- Ami
- Patrick
- Maree
- Karen

### Years 4—6 Team

- Ross
- Jim
- Lynda
- Andrea
- Sami



### 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 (Lauren)  
**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** Wendy Cave [wendy.cave@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:wendy.cave@ed.act.edu.au) **A/g Executive (Yr 4/5 & 6 Team)** Ange Donaldson [angela.donaldson@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:angela.donaldson@ed.act.edu.au)  
**Deputy Principal (Yr 2/3 Team)** Sophie Bissell [sophie.mendick@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:sophie.mendick@ed.act.edu.au) **A/g Executive (Yr 4/5 & 6 Team)** Jim Gray [james.gray@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:james.gray@ed.act.edu.au)  
**Executive (P—Yr 1 Team)** Amanda Hawkins [amanda.hawkins@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:amanda.hawkins@ed.act.edu.au)

## From our Principal Continued ...

### Learning Support Unit

- Stephanie
- Denise (Learning Support Assistant)

### School Support team

- Shelley (Business Manager)
- Jess (Community Liaison & Administration )
- Leesa (Staffing Officer & Executive Support)
- Richard (General Services Officer)
- Vic (General Services Officer)
- Heather (Learning Support Assistant)
- Lidiya (Learning Support Assistant)
- Leanne (Learning Support Assistant)

### Across School Support Team

- Wendy (Principal)
- Sophie (Deputy Principal / Team Leader)
- Amanda (Executive Teacher Professional Practice / Team Leader)
- Jim (Executive Teacher / Team Leader)
- Rebecca (Science)

We look forward to the return of Melanie towards the end of the year.

The 2018 school year will bring several new faces to Macquarie Primary School and selection processes are expected to conclude this week. We look forward to announcing our latest recruits as soon as possible.

### CLASS STRUCTURES FOR 2018

Class configuration will continue to evolve until school resumes, with the continuous enrolment practices for families within Macquarie's priority enrolment area and finalisation of staffing.

Consideration of class structures is a delicate work of design for Macquarie's education team. Each year we look carefully at the social, emotional, academic and physical needs of individual students, their cohorts, and the fields of expertise of our staff, and weave a plan through which we aim to position every learner for success.

We continue to be influenced by research that reflects how learning can plateau or regress during transitions. Typically we think of transitions as a part of the experience of children commencing Preschool, Kindergarten and Year 7. However, we are well aware that for students entering every new year, there can be a range of changes, including to their:

- peer group;
- teacher; and
- classroom.

Our planning aims to retain some continuity in these areas for our students and the teaching teams they will be working with.

We appreciate your contributions to supporting our children throughout their transition at every point in their primary school education, particularly through the early weeks of term. Please don't hesitate to contact me at school if you would like to talk through ways of making your child's start to 2018 a smooth and positive experience.

### END OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS

Our senior students, staff and parents will celebrate the Year 6 Graduation at a dinner on Thursday evening in the school hall. Afterwards, while these students and their Year 5 friends dance and play at the Graduation disco, our P&C will be hosting an end of year gathering for parents in the staff room.

The entry to high school is a very exciting time for students and this milestone marks the end to the special association we have had with a number of families. We hope you are able to join us in saying goodbye and wishing them well from 7:15pm.

### VOLUNTEERS

One of the things I value deeply at Macquarie is the way that our families support our school. Each week our volunteer team joins us to engage in activities such as:

- assisting in classrooms;
- supporting professional development;
- changing reading books and supporting the library;
- supporting us with excursions;
- assisting with sporting teams and events;
- managing the uniform shop;
- supporting classroom programs, particularly in the arts;
- upholding roles and responsibilities within the P&C and School Board;
- managing and coordinating fundraising activities;
- leading lunch time activities, for students with a passion for music and, the arts and technologies;
- maintaining the school garden; and
- mentoring through the Meccano program.

We are looking forward to seeing Macquarie's marvellous volunteers at a special morning tea on Wednesday morning from 11am.

I wish you all a very happy holiday, and send my deepest gratitude to parents and friends who help us so much with the most important task there is – educating our children.

Looking forward to seeing you in 2018.

*Wendy, Principal*

### P&C NEWS

The Macquarie Primary P&C would like to thank our families and community for your support in 2017. We have had a fantastic year and look forward to an amazing 2018 celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our school! We wish everyone a safe and merry Christmas and we will see you all next year!

### UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop is closed this week for stocktake.

### CANTEEN

The canteen will not operate this week.

### SAVE THE DATE

The P&C will host a welcome BBQ and Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, 13 February 2018 (Term 1, Week 2). Recruitment for all 2018 executive and sub-committee positions will be open at the meeting.

### SUSTAINABILITY SNIPPETS

Set your fridge at 3 degrees Celsius & freezer to -15 degrees Celsius (any lower and it adds to your energy bill).



## A LETTER FROM OUR SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR

How quickly the end of year has arrived! I wrote in the newsletter earlier in the year about the approval process for the school budget. Recently our 2018 Budget was approved at our board meeting on 1 December 2017 and a copy is available at the school office for anyone who may be interested.

Please remember our parent and citizen board members are available as representatives of the school community members should you have any questions about board items.

I hope you have all enjoyed your school year as part of the Macquarie Primary School community and I wish everyone safe and happy holidays.

*Emily, Board Chair*

## SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS 2018

Macquarie Primary School's Board provides a formal structure for parents, carers and staff to participate in school decision making. The Board plays an important role in establishing the strategic direction of the school, and monitoring and reviewing school performance.

31 March 2018 will bring an end to the term of School Board membership for Emily, Kate and Katie. We thank these board members for their contributions to our strategic thinking and planning, and for bringing the confidence to explore and support innovative educational practice.

Early in 2018, we will be seeking nominations to fill one parent and citizen member position and one staff member position. The nomination period for School Board Elections opens at 11am on Monday, 5 February 2018 (first day of school for new students) and closes at 11am on Monday, 19 February 2018.

Our Business Manager, Shelley is the Returning Officer and nomination forms are available from our school office.

## PLEASE WELCOME ...

... Abi and Mia who commenced in Preschool (Green Group) and 1/2B respectively last week.

## LIBRARY BOOKS

The library will be closed this week and it would be appreciated if all library books could be returned ASAP.

## 2018 CURRICULUM RESOURCES FEES LETTER

Resource lists for 2018 classes have now been ordered in bulk. To make things easier for families during this busy time of year, we will not be sending out the Curriculum Resources fees letter until the first week of Term 1 next year. Please rest assured that resource supplies for every student will be delivered to the school during January ready for the start of the school year.

## REMINDERS

*Thursday, 14 December*

The Year 6 Graduation ceremony will take place in the hall from 9:15am—10:30am. It will be followed by morning tea for families of graduating students and the Year 6 excursion to Flipout.

We invite volunteers to help set up the hall from 11:30am—3pm for the evening dinner and disco. Please let the front office team know if you are interested in helping with the event preparations.

## CONGRATULATIONS ...

... Macquarie alumni, Naris who was presented with the ADFA Long Tax Award for Youth Leadership and Teamwork.

... to Amalie who received an individual silver in 800m, bronze in long jump, 4th in 100m and 5th in both 200m and discus. She achieved a new personal best in the 100m, 200m, 800m and long jump. Amalie also received a bronze in the 4x100m relay and gold in the medley relay.

... to our 2018 school captain nominees: Paige, Sarah, Imani, Tista, Jorja, Eilah, Jane, Emily, Hollie, Amelia, Alex, Chloe, Lily, Meutia, Ella, Tiara, Lucy, Sofie, Alp, Connor, Hannan, Yoonie, Brayden, Jake, Dylan, Daniel, Alex, Finn, Joshua, James and Daniel.

## A LETTER FROM A SCHOOL CAPTAIN

To all school captain nominees,

I have been told some of you would like to know what it is like to be a school captain. Being a school captain means you have a big responsibility to set a good example. If you have stage fright I would not recommend being a school captain. You also have to know how to be a good leader.

Being a good leader means you have to listen to everyone (the loudest voice is not always right or the best), respect everyone and their ideas, treat others like equals, don't lead by fear, rather lead by trust and the school values. Have courage, compassion and don't give up on friends and peers.

I have found that if you are friendly to people they will be friendly back.

I have been told some of you are wondering about after school hours and extra work. The only two times I have had to go to school for more work are when I got to meet and welcome all of the new kindergarteners on their first day at school (when the rest of the school wasn't there and for the multi school rostrum competition). I was a timekeeper and I really enjoyed welcoming everyone.

I have particularly enjoyed being able to congratulate people on their efforts through announcing merit awards at assembly.

Remember that we are all leaders and have an opportunity to model our school values in our interactions with others.

Please feel free to come and talk with me if you have any further questions or wonderings.

All the best for 2018.

*Jamie*

## Community Notices

# PLAYSCHOOL



**ENROLLING NOW FOR TERM 1 2018  
GIRALANG PLAYSCHOOL**

Noah's Ark operates a licensed pre-preschool program for 3 year olds which aims to prepare children for the transition to formal schooling. The program fosters social, physical, cognitive and emotional development through a play-based program delivered by early childhood educators.

**Giralang Community Centre Tuesday and/or Thursday  
9.30am -2.30pm** You may choose 1 or more sessions.  
Cost \$11.00 per hour: 5 hour session \$550 per School Term.

*For more information contact Jan Brennan on  
6287 1117 or [j.brennan@noahsarkact.com.au](mailto:j.brennan@noahsarkact.com.au)*

## 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.

## Attention Year 6 Parents


With everything on their mind, make sure this is on yours

Your child's vaccinations are due next year

The following vaccines are offered **FREE** as part of the ACT School Immunisation Program

Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis (whooping cough) dTpa

Human Papillomavirus (HPV)

 Keep an eye out for consent cards which are sent home with students during the first couple of weeks in Term 1

 FIND

 SIGN

 RETURN



Where can I get more information?  
<http://www.health.act.gov.au/our-services/immunisation/high-school-immunisation-program>



YWCA CANBERRA

**Enrolments for 2018 YWCA School Age Care are now open.**

Please head to our website <https://ywca-canberra.org.au/childrens-services/before-school-care/>

for more information and to download a copy of the enrolment form.

**If you have any questions, please call child care accounts on 6180 5777.**



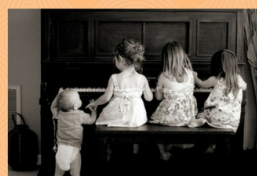
## After School Piano, Guitar & Violin Lessons Term 1 2018

Celtic Arts Agency offers private 1/2 hour after school music lessons at Macquarie Primary School in piano, guitar and violin in the classrooms above the Oasis Room.

Lessons are timetabled from 3.05 every half hour on a Tuesday and Wednesday and cost \$297 for a 9 week school term.

Lessons are booked on a per term basis.

**Enrolments for 2018 are now open**



Contact Sharon Casey on  
E: [musicfun@jocresswell.com](mailto:musicfun@jocresswell.com) or  
T: 0404 217 528

More information is available on our website:  
[www.celticartsagency.com](http://www.celticartsagency.com)