



The Macquarie Memo

Issue 37: 17 December 2020

From our Principal

Dear Families and Friends,

What a year! Who would have thought in February when we returned to school that we would have lived through such an eventful time? One thing that I have noticed about our community is how connected and together we have become during the challenges and limitations that 2020 has brought on. We started the year staying indoors to reduce the smoke exposure, we had air purifiers generously donated to help the air quality. Then COVID hit and we moved into remote learning for several weeks. By mid-term 2 we were back to school learning but without families being able to come to school, and just this term we have been able to have small assemblies and families coming back into school.

What I have realised is that school is much more than just education, it is a place where we connect with each other, staff, students and families. It is lovely to start to see our whole community coming back into school as restrictions lift.

We had a lovely whole school movie day on Tuesday with the junior school watching Elf and the seniors watching Hotel Transylvania. Everyone looked relaxed, lounging on their pillows. The positive feel at the school with everyone focussed on the ways in which we are safe, respectful, learners has been palpable. We are really starting to make gains in the way we all operate at school and students remind and praise each other for following our school expectations.

Work on the community garden and pizza oven space will continue during the school holidays and into next year. A small band of committed volunteers are planning on building the retaining wall during January and we have a working bee scheduled for March next year- keep your eye out for the details early next year. I would like to thank the Richardson family who have generously donated a variety of fruiting trees for the orchard. Jodie is keeping them safe over the holidays, for planting next year.

We farewelled our year 6s yesterday with a touching final assembly, a fun filled day of bowling and a lovely dinner and disco. Looking at their baby pictures during the assembly is a reminder of how quickly children grow and develop. We farewelled some of our families also as their long time with multiple children at Macquarie is finally at an end.

Have a safe summer break and we look forward to seeing all our preschoolers and kindergarten students on Monday 1 February and all out students from years 1-6 on Tuesday 2 February. Also make a note of Tuesday 9 February for the Welcome BBQ and P&C AGM from 5:00pm.

Cheers

Danielle



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For the latest information regarding COVID-19 in the ACT visit <https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/home>

NEWS FROM THE P&C

Container recycling

The big pizza party for the mighty Golden Wattles was held on Thursday. Congratulations to them for their recycling efforts.

2021 Welcome BBQ and P&C AGM

Next year's school welcome BBQ and P&C Annual General Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, 9 February 2021**. The BBQ will commence at 5.00pm with the AGM starting at 6.30pm. We hope to see many of you there.

Thanks to the P&C and volunteers though the year.

2020 was a different year due to Covid-19. Social distancing and other protective measures meant we missed out on some of the activities like school discos, a twilight fair and other fun events. However, we still managed activities and events such as a sausages sizzle, bake sale, readathon, several working bees and fathers' day stall.

Also, thanks to the tireless work of the grants team, the school now has funding for the espalier orchard and pizza oven area you can see being worked on in the school grounds.

I want to thank each and every person who helped out at the various events and activities.

Hopefully 2021 will see a reduction in restraints necessary to keep the community safe and we can do more. I encourage anyone who has toyed with the idea of helping out to join the P&C or just pitch in with one or more of the activities organized thought the year. It's a fun way to meet and work with the other parents and friends of the Macquarie Primary School community.

Have a safe and happy break.

Brendan Ding

President, Macquarie Primary P&C

P&C UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop is closed for 2020, however online orders can be placed on www.flexischools.com.au for collection from **Friday 31 January 2021**.

At the start of 2021, the MPS P&C Uniform Shop will be open for order collection and purchases:

Friday, 29 January 1pm – 4pm

Monday, 1 February 8:30am – 9:30am and 2:30pm – 3:30pm

Tuesday, 2 February 8:30am – 9:30am

Wednesday, 3 February 2:45 – 3:30pm

Friday, 5 February 8:30 – 9:30am

Any orders not collected in this week will be sent home with students.

Regular shop hours will resume from 8 February (Mon & Fri 8:45-9:15 and Wed 3-3:30).

LUNCH ORDERS

No lunch orders available this week, we'll be back in 2021.

CLASS PARENT REPRESENTATIVES PROGRAM 2021

The P&C are seeing parents/carers to be Class Parent Representatives for 2021. Class Parent Representatives act as a contact point for parents/carers, help with the flow of information from the school, families and the P&C. Express your interest by emailing classparentrepsmps@gmail.com



YOUR P&C NEEDS YOU – CONSIDER GETTING INVOLVED IN 2020

The P&C operates with a volunteer committee that includes a president, vice president, treasurer, assistant treasurer and secretary as well as a variety of coordinators and subcommittees. The committee is set up at the start of every year at our annual general meeting (AGM) which will be held on **Tuesday, 9 February 2021**. Below is further information on the roles. To register your interest, or if you have any questions please email: president.mpspandc@gmail.com

President (Office bearer)

Facilitates communication between P&C, Principal, Board and school community

Encourages family and community participation in P&C activities

Acts as first point of contact and spokesperson for the P&C

Chairs general and executive committee meetings

Vice President (Office bearer) – maximum of two

Supports and assists the President

Oversees and supports P&C subcommittees

Treasurer (Office bearer)

Manages P&C funds and financial records

Organises P&C insurance and ACT P&C Council Association membership

Organises annual audit, and prepares P&C accounts

Reports on P&C finances to P&C meetings.

Assistant Treasurer (Office bearer)

Supports and assists the Treasurer, including processing Uniform Shop receipts into the P&C accounting system in consultation with both the Treasurer and the Uniform Shop Co-ordinator.

Secretary (Office bearer)

Prepares and distributes meeting agendas, in consultation with President

Records and circulates meeting minutes

Deals with incoming and outgoing correspondence

Maintains P&C records.

ACT P&C Council delegate

Where possible, attends meetings of the ACT Council of P&C Associations, represents P&C views to the Council, and reports back to the P&C on Council items of interest.

Public Officer

Acts as point of contact between the P&C and the Office of Regulatory Services (ORS)/Access Canberra

Lodges Annual Returns and notifies ORS/Access Canberra of P&C committee and other changes

This position must be held by a resident of the ACT who is over the age of 18 years.

Grants Officer

Coordinates P&C grant applications, including developing contacts, school liaison, grant sourcing, and developing and submitting applications.

Reports on grant applications to P&C meetings.

Preschool representative

Represents the views of preschool parents, and reports to P&C meetings on preschool priorities and items of interest.

Canteen Coordinator

Coordinates canteen with Healthy Kids and the School, and manages volunteer rosters

Reports on canteen activities and priorities to P&C meetings

Breakfast Club Coordinator

Coordinates the Friday Breakfast Club, food purchases and volunteer roster

Reports on Breakfast Club activities and priorities to P&C meetings

Communications Coordinator

Shares information between the P&C, Principal, Board and school community via the school newsletter, P&C updates, Facebook page, Notes and other communications

Liaises with the P&C and school/Principal to streamline communications

Promotes P&C events and activities via the school newsletter and Facebook page, notes and other communications

Reports on communication activities and priorities to P&C meetings.

Events & Fundraising Coordinator

Coordinates P&C events and fundraising activities including planning and management, event calendars, risk management, food and drink purchasing, promotion and community awareness and volunteer rosters.

Establishes and maintains partnerships with local businesses to support social and fundraising events and activities.

Reports on events and fundraising activities and priorities to P&C meetings.

Gardens & Grounds Coordinator

Liaises with the P&C, school/Principal, Board, families and local community regarding gardens and grounds improvements

Coordinates the Playground Enhancement Project

Reports on gardens and grounds activities and priorities to P&C meetings.

Uniform Shop Coordinator

Manages the Uniform Shop including ordering and pricing stock, school liaison, opening times, volunteer roster, promotions, stock-takes, counting funds and liaising with the Treasurer.

Reports on Uniform Shop activities and priorities to P&C meetings.

We always need new parents and carers to help us continue making a positive and valuable contribution to our school and our kids, especially as families with older children move out of the school. Please consider getting involved in 2020.

Class Parent Representatives Coordinator

Coordinates class parent representatives including seeking reps for each class via the newsletter and other school communication channels, and advising on protocols and privacy.

Supports reps with liaison and communication with teachers, the school and the P&C.

Shares information throughout the year to class parent representatives to pass on to class parents.

Reports on class parent representatives' activity to P&C meetings.

SCHOOL BOARD VACANCIES

Two members of our school board will reach the end of their appointment in February 2021 creating one vacancy for a parent member and one vacancy for a staff member.

Our school board provides valuable input into strategic planning and monitoring across many aspects of our school. If you are interested in nominating for a position, or would like to know a little more about what is involved with being on the board, please contact our Business Manager, Ann Walker or talk to one of our current board members. Further information can also be found on the Education Directorate website : https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/get-involved-in-your-childs-school/school_boards

The 14 day nomination period for vacant positions on our School Board will open at **11am on Monday, 1 February 2021**.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT TOPICS THIS WEEK

Preschool— This week, we will be inquiring into the question what is a secret. We will investigate the concepts of safe secrets which can be told to anyone, everyone is safe and healthy, and makes people happy (e.g. surprise) and unsafe secrets which could hurt people physically or emotionally, makes someone sad and doesn't keep everyone safe and healthy.

Kindergarten— This week, the Acacias will be reviewing our learning over the term by looking at our big questions for our unit of inquiry and using these to guide our reflection.

Year 1/2— We will be learning about good secrets and bad secrets. Inquiry learning questions will include: What's the difference between secrets and surprises? Which secrets are for keeping and which secrets are for telling?

Year 3/4— We will be reviewing what they know about themselves and others.

Year 5/6— We will be reviewing what they know about themselves and others.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST

Hi everyone,

I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable school holidays. If during this time you have concerns for your child or a young person's mental health, please access the following services for support:

- *Make an appointment to see a **General Practitioner (GP)***
- *Contact **headspace** - 5109 9700*
- *Contact **Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) North** - 6205 1050 (during business hours)*
- *Contact **Access Mental Health Team** - 1800 629 354 (outside business hours)*
- *Attend **accident and emergency at the hospital** with the child/young person*

Other community services that might be of help include:

- ***Belconnen Community Service** – 6264 0200*
- ***West Belconnen Child & Family Centre** - 6205 2904*
- ***Kids Helpline** – 1800 55 1800*
- ***Lifeline** – 13 11 14*

I look forward to continuing to support the students, parents/carers, and staff at Macquarie Primary in 2021.

Erin

NOTES HOME & REMINDERS

All notes are available on our school [website](#)

EVENT DETAILS	YEAR GROUP	DATE DUE BACK
2021 Stationery supplies	All year levels	Payments welcome anytime
2020 Voluntary contributions	All year levels	Payments welcome anytime
2021 5/6 Camp Wombaroo	Year 4 & 5	As soon as possible

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Option 1: Electronic Funds transfer

Account name: Macquarie Primary School Management Account

BSB: 032 777 **Account number:** 001586

Use reference Child's Surname EXCURSION NAME

Option 2: Quickweb

Go to <http://www.macquarieps.act.edu.au/payment> and follow the prompts.

Use reference Child's Surname EXCURSION NAME

Option 3: Cash or cheque paid directly to the Front Office in a sealed envelope labelled with your family name

MEDICATIONS

In the interests of keeping all students safe, **medication that your child requires during the school day must be stored in the front office.** Macquarie's school office team manages first aid, emergency medical plans and medications for students. Please contact the front office team if you have any changes to your child's medical treatment plan.

For noting - ambulance

ACT School students who are injured or become ill at school or during approved school excursions within the ACT are entitled to free emergency ambulance services that includes medical treatment and ambulance transport.

SUSTAINABILITY TIPS

Shop locally. Shopping locally will support the local economy and employment, and minimise energy expenditure and emissions associated with transport.

For more common recycling mistakes go to <https://www.act.gov.au/our-canberra/latest-news/2019/april/are-you-making-common-recycling-mistakes>

SCHOOL CONTACT DETAILS

Office hours: Monday — Friday 8.30am — 3.30pm

**Macquarie Primary is an
ANAPHYLAXIS AWARE SCHOOL**

Avoiding all nuts.

Phone K-6 site:	02 6142 1550	Principal	Danielle Porter	danielle.porter@ed.act.edu.au
Phone preschool:	02 6142 1570	Deputy Principal	Jodie Rowell	jodie.rowell@ed.act.edu.au
Email:	admin@macquarieps.act.edu.au	Executive (P-Yr2)	Stacey Naden	stacey.naden@ed.act.edu.au
Website:	www.macquarieps.act.edu.au	Executive (Yr3-6)	Veronique Canellas	veronique.canellas@ed.act.edu.au
Facebook:	http://www.facebook.com/macquarieprimary	Business Manager	Ann Walker	ann.walker@ed.act.edu.au
P&C President	Brendan Ding	Board Chair	Amy McGuire	
	macquariepandc@gmail.com			

COMMUNITY NOTICES

January Holiday Program



NDIS Care, Support & Planning

ABN: 846 456 317 14

WEEK 1: MONDAY 11 JAN 21 – FRIDAY 15 JAN 21

WEEK 2: MONDAY 18 JAN 21 – FRIDAY 22 JAN 21

9AM – 3PM DAILY

Small group – 8 children – 4 staff

NDIS plan eligible

MORNING TEA, LUNCH & AFTERNOON TEA PROVIDED

Our awesome driver at **Spirited Kidz** will pick you up in the mini van and drop you home at the end of the day.

Pickup and drop off times can be negotiated to suit your needs

Location: Latin American Cultural Centre
28 Astrolabe Street, Red Hill

Activities will be dependent on the children's interests.

Examples of activities include the following:

Canberra Zoo and Aquarium - Swimming - Movies - Craft - Games
Cooking - Parks & Playgrounds - Power Cart Raceway Nerf Wars
Indoor Rock Climbing - Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve
Cockington Green Gardens - Dinosaur Museum

If you want to have lots of fun in a supportive environment and learn new skills please call

Nicole - 0425 872 696 or Andrew - 0433 031 053



CANBERRA YOUTH THEATRE

DISCOVER DRAMA AT BELCO ARTS

Canberra Youth Theatre is coming to Belconnen in 2021!

We bring young people together with professional artists to think imaginatively, act creatively, and make work that challenges us to see the world from a new perspective.

Some young people come to Canberra Youth Theatre because they love performance and want to pursue a professional career in the arts. Others want to have fun, build their confidence and make new friends. Whatever the reason, we create a safe, inclusive space for all young people to be creative, share their voice, and explore their passion.

Holiday Program

Discover the joy of performance and creative play in this three day workshop that introduces young artists to a variety of theatre skills. For young artists in years 1-6.

13 - 15 JANUARY 2021

Weekly Workshops

Years 7-9, Wednesday afternoons 4:30 - 6:30pm
Years 4-6, Friday afternoons, 4:30 - 6:30pm

SEMESTER ONE 2021

FIND YOUR VOICE.
EXPLORE YOUR CRAFT.
SHARE YOUR STORY.

BELCO ARTS

CANBERRAYOUTHTHEATRE.COM.AU/WORKSHOPS

DICE 4 DIVERSITY

Creating social inclusion through role play.

Dice 4 Diversity offers a unique social inclusion education service for people with diverse abilities, that focuses on teaching social skills, teamwork, confidence, and resilience through face-to-face role play in a group setting.

Dice 4 Diversity is running school holiday programs for the 2021 January school holidays. We are expanding our session offerings and have spots available for morning and afternoon sessions on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturday mornings.

If you, or someone you know, wants to join our exciting adventures and meet new people, visit and contact us at dice4diversity.com.au.



SOCIAL INTERACTIONS CAN BE DIFFICULT.

LET US HELP YOU FIND YOUR PATH.

