



The Macquarie Memo

Issue 5: 4 March 2021

From our Principal

Dear families and friends,

Can you believe we are half way through the term already! It has been a really settled start to the year and I think we are all appreciating the more 'normal' feel to 2021 (keeping our fingers crossed it continues this way).

Teachers have been engaging with ongoing development of how to teach spelling this week as part of our professional learning. We are deepening our understanding of the importance of conceptual understandings when supporting students to become better spellers. What we know is that spelling is a thinking process which requires students to notice patterns in words and make connections between words. English is a morphophonemic language, which means words are constructed by sound and meaning. This taking time to notice patterns and make connections in conjunction with being explicitly taught spelling strategies supports students to develop their spelling skills over time. At Macquarie we use the following language to describe what strategies students are using when spelling words;

Sound – focusing on hearing the recording sounds in words

Visual – noticing the letter patterns in words

Meaning – thinking about the meaning, structure and origin of words

Connecting – making connections between words

Checking – making use of live, print and electronic resources.

Our senior students enjoyed a visit from several Raiders players on Monday. They talked to the students about the importance of resilience and gratitude in their lives and the benefits of being part of a team.

Yesterday afternoon we held a parent education workshop for families of kindergarten students about how to support reading at home. We offer these sessions to support families with this important learning area.

Today we held our annual swimming carnival. It was fabulous to see all students actively cheering on their house mates, participating in swimming events and enjoying the waterslides during the unstructured play periods.

Have a great week,

Danielle

Dates for the Diary

Thursday 4 March

Year 2-6 Swimming
Carnival

Junior water fun day

Wednesday 10 March

Assembly 2.15pm

Host - Les Fraises

Monday 15 March—Friday 19 March

Year 2 & 3 Aquasafe
Swimming Program

Wednesday 17 —Friday 19 March

Year 5/6 Camp Wombaroo

Wednesday 17 March

Assembly 2.15pm

Host - Les Citrons Verts &
Les Oranges

Wednesday 24 March

Assembly 2.15pm

Host - Les Aubergines

Thursday 25 March

Les Cucamelons School
photos

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



ACT
Government
Education

NEWS FROM THE P&C

From the President: You might have seen an article in the Canberra Times last week calling for basic repairs to the school's bathrooms. It's important to note that Danielle and the school staff have the full support of the P&C and we believe they do the very best job they can managing our school's facilities with the funding provided. However as the oldest school in Belconnen, some of our school's ageing infrastructure requires additional funding from the Education Directorate to get up to a minimum acceptable standard--and this is what we are asking for.



A HUGE congratulations to Lauren Johnston and Jodie Rowell for their successful grant submission - being awarded a \$72,644 Healthy Canberra Grant for the school. Programs will run every term for the next three years and will include circus therapy, art therapy, drumming therapy and other resilience/anxiety programs for our children.

Gardens and Grounds: Working Bee - Saturday 20th March.

If you are able to volunteer some time to work on the school grounds at the working bee we will be working on:

- * the new community garden
- * the black top garden beds
- * preschool grounds
- * more if we get enough volunteers!

We had a great turn out for the last Working Bee and would love to build on that. Green thumb or not, we would love for you to join us. If you can make it, please let Chris know: grounds.mpspandc@gmail.com

Class Parent Representatives: We still require Parent Reps for most of our classes for this year. Class Parent Reps help to connect the parent/carer community with the school and the P&C, as well as with each other as Macquarie Primary parents/carers. It is really not a huge job – something that may take a few minutes of your time every week or so. Please consider volunteering ASAP by sending an email [to: classparentrepsmps@gmail.com](mailto:classparentrepsmps@gmail.com).

Canteen

Friday is lunch order day. Orders are made via Flexischools (<https://www.flexischools.com.au>) and need to be placed by 8:30am Friday morning.

MERIT AWARDS

Please congratulate the following students who will receive a merit award at the senior assembly next Wednesday:

Les Peches	Benny S
Les Brocolis	Shane F, Aidan S & Cami F
Les Aubergines	Mark R & Charlie D
Les Citrouilles	Tia H & Erdem B
Les Concombres	Dale B & Ysabel S
Les Groseilles	Sanjana K, Billy B & Nia M
Les Fraises	Henry D, Justin A & Elyssa R
Les Sureaux	Ayok L, Jadaan A & Par Mawi

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
Kindergarten Health Check	Kindergarten	As soon as possible
Aquasafe Swim Permission Note	Year 2 & 3	Friday 5 March
Enrichment program	Year 1-6	Thursday 11 March

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

Put on an extra layer of clothing instead of turning on the heating. Seriously, doubling up on your socks does wonders.

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
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	macquariepandc@gmail.com			