

Dates for the Diary

Thurs 21 March

Harmony Day

Wed 27 March

Assembly

Thurs 28 March

Belconnen Swimming Carnival

Selected students

Fundraising and Events

Subcommittee Meeting

Uniform Shop — Opening Hours

Monday: 8.45am—9.15am

Wednesday: 3.00pm—3.30pm

Friday: 8.45am—9.15am

From our Principal

Dear Families and Friends,

You can certainly tell that Autumn has arrived with all the leaves beginning to fall from our trees in the playground. The students have enjoyed building piles and playing in and with the leaves.



This week I want to focus on reading. Learning to read is an important life skill, and developing a love of reading is a wonderful way to learn about the world, the past, other ways of being, doing and thinking. One of the things we hold dear at Macquarie is developing a love of reading in our students. In junior primary, teachers explicitly teach reading strategies to students, model fluent reading, and provide guided and independent practice. In addition, our home reading program enables students to take easy texts home for further practice. These 'books' are designed to assist early readers practise the strategies they have learnt at school, however home reading isn't limited to these texts. We encourage students and families to engage with a variety of books, and we know that little people often develop favourites that they like to read, reread and read again. This is all part of the reading process. I would like to encourage you to read to and with your child as often as you can. Reading together is a wonderful opportunity to unpack a book, for your child to hear what a fluent reader sounds like and for you to connect with some of their daily learning.

There are no wrong ways to read together, however there are a few tips:

- ⇒ the reader holds the book;
- ⇒ use the pictures to help you; and
- ⇒ use the 3 Ps – pause (give learning readers 10 seconds to think), prompt (then tell – its not a test) and praise (I like the way you used the picture as a cue to find the word).

If you read for 10 minutes every day, by the time your child has finished year 2 they will have heard over 485 hours of reading! That would be amazing.

Office Hours

Monday — Friday
8.30am — 3.30pm

LOST PROPERTY

As the weather changes please don't forget to label new jumpers with your children's names so we can return lost items. We have also had a build up of lunch boxes and containers. There are some things on the table in the Front Office and in the basket in the Namadgi corridor.

Macquarie Directory

K—6 Site Ph: 6142 1550 Fax: 6142 1571

Preschool Site 6142 1570 After School Care: 0451 681 604 (Huw)

Email: admin@macquarieps.act.edu.au

Website: www.macquarieps.act.edu.au

Facebook Page: <http://www.facebook.com/macquarieprimary>

School Mobile Phone: 0434 751 607

P&C President: Sheree Murray
Email: macquariepandc@gmail.com

Board Chair: Mark Roddam
Email: mfroddam@bigpond.com

School Contacts

Principal
Deputy Principal

Danielle Porter
Jodie Rowell

danielle.porter@ed.act.edu.au
jodie.rowell@ed.act.edu.au

Executive (P—Yr 2 Team)
Executive (Yr 3—6 team)

Stacey Naden
Veronique Canellas

stacey.naden@ed.act.edu.au
veronique.canellas@ed.act.edu.au

From our Principal continued ...

BULLYING NO WAY!

Last Friday we participated in the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence. We are on a journey to develop our whole school expectations about how we operate at Macquarie and participation in these national events are part of how we raise awareness and conversations. Please talk to your children about their learnings in this area. Continued conversations and developing supportive networks are important protective factors for all students. I would like to especially thank Monique and Patrick for their co-ordination of this whole school event.

SUNSMART

We are still wearing sunsmart hats due to the high UV levels in Canberra. It is important that everyone has a sunsmart hat at school each day as we access the outdoor classroom regularly, and we want to keep people protected. If children don't have a hat at school they may be limited about where they can play as they are directed to shaded areas or the library.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Kindergarten – daily between 9-10 to listen to reading
 Years 1/2 – daily between 9-10 to listen to reading
 Years 3/4 – daily between 9:30-10:30 to listen to reading and other literacy activities
 Library – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday – 9-9:30 reshelving books and covering and Fridays from 2:00pm
 Lost Property – weekly to sort and return
 Is anyone interested in running an outdoor game during lunchtime? Any day from 1:00-1:40pm.

Please let us know when you're available by email, admin@macquarieps.act.edu.au or phone on 6142 1550.

Please make sure you have provided your Working with Vulnerable People (WwVP) card and required paperwork to the Front Office prior to volunteering.

Have a great week.

Danielle

CONGRATULATIONS ...

... to the following students who were selected by audition for the ACT Instrumental Music Program's Extension Ensemble: Holly, Kiara, Hayley, Joey and Reuben.

HARMONY DAY

On Thursday, 21 March Macquarie Primary will celebrate Harmony Day. Harmony Day celebrates the cultural diversity of Australia and promotes inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging. Throughout the day students will participate in a range of activities focusing on cultures, countries and celebrations.

Students are encouraged to wear orange or their traditional dress. If you are interested in running an activity to celebrate your culture on the day please email patrick.kien@ed.act.edu.au or tarni.cassidy@ed.act.edu.au to get involved.

NEWS FROM THE P&C

SCHOOL GARDEN WORKING BEES - Save the date

Saturday, 30 March

Saturday, 6 April

We need your help! Our sculpture garden (outside the library) is in need of a little TLC before the installation of new musical instruments. Garden working bees will be held on the above Saturdays. Many hands make light work. Further information will be sent home next week.

UNIFORM SHOP - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Uniform Shop is looking for volunteers who can work in the shop either Monday morning 8:45 - 9:15 or Wednesday afternoon 3:00 - 3:30 once a fortnight. If you are interested, please email Stephanie, the shop co-ordinator: uniforms.mps@gmail.com

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

The P&C are very proud to announce we have ordered some outdoor musical instruments for the school grounds. We have a wall marimba and some congas coming which we are sure the children will love! The instruments will hopefully be installed by term 2.

MEETING

The P&C Fundraising and Events subcommittee will meet on Thursday, 28 March at 7pm in the staffroom. We would love to see lots of you there as we plan our events for the year. We encourage everyone to come along even if you can only help with 1 event this year. There will be chocolate ...

Sheree, President



CHICKEN POX

A confirmed case of chicken pox has been identified within our school community. This is a highly contagious viral illness and ACT Government health regulations require students with chicken pox to be excluded from school.

Should a member of your family present symptoms, please contact your family doctor.

NOTES HOME

EVENT DETAILS	YR GROUP	DATE DUE BACK
Class Dojo	All families	Response ASAP
Bus Wash excursion	Preschool	Perm ASAP
School T-shirts	Year 6	Order form & payment by 25/3
Mount Painter	Kindergarten	Perm & \$5 by 29/3
Voluntary contribution	All families	Payment when possible

SUSTAINABILITY SNIPPETS



Install a solar hot water service. Or if your house is too shaded, go for a heat pump.

Community Notices

DEATH CAP MUSHROOMS

Death cap mushrooms have recently been found around Canberra. This is the first time they've been sighted in the ACT in 2019. Acting ACT Chief Health Officer Dr Kerry Coleman is reminding the community not to pick or eat any wild mushrooms found growing in and around the ACT region.

Death cap mushrooms are a deadly, poisonous fungi. In Canberra, the death cap mushroom often grows near established oak trees in warm, wet weather typically observed in late summer and autumn.

All parts of the mushroom are extremely poisonous and consuming even a small amount of the mushroom can be fatal. Cooking the mushroom does not make it safe. It can be extremely difficult for even experienced collectors to distinguish death cap mushrooms from edible mushrooms.

Anyone who suspects that they may have eaten death cap mushrooms should seek urgent medical attention at a hospital emergency department.

It is advised that people remain vigilant and remind friends and family who are visiting or new to Canberra not to pick or eat any wild mushrooms.

For safety, all mushrooms should be purchased from a reputable supplier.

If you see wild mushrooms in public areas, call Access Canberra on 13 22 81.

For more information, refer to the ACT Health Directorate Death Cap Mushrooms Factsheet <https://www.health.act.gov.au/sites/default/files/2018-09/Death%20Cap%20Mushrooms.pdf>



Canberra City Gymnastics Club is one of the premier gymnastics facilities in the ACT. With two great locations in Belconnen and Lyneham we're sure to be able to help to keep your child busy after school!

Contact us to book your child in for a free trial at either location – no gymnastics experience necessary! With classes available for children from 18 months we're sure to have something to suit your little one.

Website: <http://canberracitygymnastics.org.au/>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/canberracitygymnastics/>
Email: office@canberracity.org.au
Phone: 6251 1131
196 Mouat St, Lyneham
85 Chandler St, Belconnen

BELSOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB

Girls Needed to Play Under 10s and Girls and Boys Needed for Under 11s

Macquarie Primary School is one of the schools in Belsouth Football club's catchment area and many of the students play for the club.

Belsouth are seeking more girls to play in the under 10 and under 11 age groups and more boys in under 11s this season, places are still available in a number of these teams. If your daughter or son is interested please register online as soon as possible.

Belsouth's motto is 'Fun Family Football' and it's a great club to be part of. To find out more about the Club and all its junior football programs that starts from Peewees visit: <http://belsouthfootball.club/>



Belnorth
Football Club
ENROL NOW
Also offering
'Just for Girls'
competition
[belsouth.com](http://belsouthfootball.club/)

Belnorth registrations are open now for under 5 – 12 girls and boys. Please come and register and play football even if you have not played soccer before.

Please register at the following website.

<https://www.playfootball.com.au/register>

If you have any questions please email admin@belsouth.org



Belnorth
Football Club
Registration Open
ENROL NOW
belsouth.com



Being a parent is the hardest job we'll ever have. All parents at some time experience difficulties and stress. Parentline ACT is a confidential and free telephone and face-to-face counselling and information service.

Phone Parentline if you would like:

- To talk with someone about parenting issues.
- Help with some ideas on raising children.
- Support in the important job you are doing.
- To know what is available for parents, teenagers and children.
- To build better relationships in your family.
- Help to understand your child or teenager's behaviour.
- Make an appointment for a counselling session.

Monday—Friday (except on public holidays), 9am—5pm. Phone: 6287 3833

Community Notices continued



Are you the parent/carer of a child with a disability commencing primary (kindergarten) school in 2020?

The Education Directorate is holding information sessions for parents/carers of children with a disability who are commencing primary school in an ACT Government school in 2020.

Where: Hedley Beare, Centre for Teaching and Learning Fremantle Drive, Stirling

When: 11.30am – 1pm
Tuesday, 9 April

The session will cover the following topics:

- ⇒ Disability Education programs
- ⇒ Transition to primary school
- ⇒ The application process
- ⇒ The Student Centred Appraisal of Need process

To RSVP or for further information contact
SupportatPreschool@ed.act.edu.au or
Support at Preschool Team Leader on 0434 668 694



Are you the parent/carer of a child with a developmental delay or disability commencing preschool in 2020?

Children who are four by 30 April 2020 are eligible to attend an ACT Education Directorate preschool in 2020.

Disability Education and the Support at Preschool program are holding an information session for parents/carers of children with developmental delay or disability who are eligible for preschool in 2020.

Where: Hedley Beare, Centre for Teaching and Learning Fremantle Drive, Stirling

When: 11.30am – 1pm
Monday, 25 March

The session will focus on:

- ⇒ The enrolment process;
- ⇒ Preschool program options; and
- ⇒ Supporting preschool children with developmental delay and disability in ACT Education Directorate public schools.

To RSVP or find out more information please contact
Elizabeth Lea, Disability Education, Support at Preschool
Program, on 0434 668 694 or email
SupportatPreschool@ed.act.edu.au

NEW PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEM

A new integrated transport network including bus and light rail service for Canberra will be introduced on Monday, 29 April.

Parents and students are encouraged to:

- plan their journey to and from school in the improved Transport Canberra journey planner at www.transport.act.gov.au, which includes dedicated school services for the first time; or
- use the school pack that shows all the different services available for your school at www.transport.act.gov.au/getting-around/new-networks/schools/schools-a-z-listing.

You can also find other information about the changes at www.transport.act.gov.au to help understand how to use the new integrated public transport network, including information about student safety, fares and ticketing and maps.



Could \$500 help you with school costs?

Join Saver Plus and we'll match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for school costs.

- laptops & tablets
- lessons & activities
- uniforms & shoes
- books & supplies
- sports fees & gear
- camps & excursions

To join Saver Plus, you must be at least 18 years or over, have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself, have regular income from paid employment (you or your partner), have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card and be in receipt of an eligible Commonwealth social security benefit, allowance or payment*

Contact your local Saver Plus Coordinator
Phone or SMS your name and postcode to 1300 610 355
Email CanberraSP@thesmithfamily.com.au
Online saverplus.org.au
Find us on Facebook



*many Centrelink payments are eligible, please contact your local Coordinator for more information.
Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.dss.gov.au for more information.