



The Macquarie Memo

Issue 6: 12 March 2020

Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 17 March

Preschool photo day

Wednesday 18 March

Harmony Day

Thursday 19 March

Whole school photo day

6 pm P&C meeting

Friday 20 March

Bullying No Way Day

Wednesday 25 March

Assembly hosted by Lemon Myrtle

Board meeting

Friday 3 April

P&C Twilight Mini Fair

Tuesday 7 April

Acacias Mt Painter excursion

Wednesday 8 April

Assembly hosted by Waratahs

Thursday 9 April

Last day of term 1

From our Deputy

A great day was had at the Swimming Carnival on Tuesday. Our students competed with integrity and had a ball in the pools and on the slides. Back at school our younger students also had fun doing water play rotations. Congratulations to all our students and a huge thank you to staff for making the day so successful. There is an incredible amount of planning and time that goes into making everything run smoothly. We have a brilliant team at Macquarie Primary School.

NAPLAN is fast approaching. We will be doing some practice tests to familiarise students with the digital platform late in March. The assessment is from 12 May to 22 May – testing will be scheduled across this period. If you have a child in year 3 or 5 and plan to be away during NAPLAN testing please advise Veronique Canellas as soon as possible. If you would like to learn more about NAPLAN please visit this site <https://www.nap.edu.au/home>.

Photos take place next week. Students should wear full school uniform for photos - Tuesday 17 March for the Snuggle Pot preschool students and Thursday 17 March for all other students.

Next week, on the 20 March, we will be recognising the National Day Against Bullying and Violence. Students will learn about what bullying is, valuing diversity and bullying prevention. Parents can watch videos and learn more about the purpose of the day on the website <https://bullyingnoway.gov.au/nationalday>.

This week at assembly we reflected on class learning about what makes Macquarie Primary School a special place. In class students have been inquiring into what represents us as a community. They have explored our values, considered how we are safe, respectful learners and researched our building names. Using all their known and new knowledge students have been challenged to come up with a logo for the school – they were asked what would scream, this is us? Students can submit their logo for judging and prizes will be awarded to those who are finalists. Last submissions for logos will be 20 March.

Gardening Club have teamed with Belconnen Gardening Club to make some improvements to our gardening area. We have moved the garden to the area between the preschool and library. Our application to have chickens at school has been submitted, we have eight new garden beds and we are exploring changing them to wicking beds and we are building new composting bays. In the future we hope to plant some hedging of feijoas and rosemary along the fence to shelter our garden from strong winds, plant some fruit trees and berry bushes and of course grow some great vegetables. Last year the Edwards family generously donated a lemon tree. This tree will be the first tree planted in our garden. Any further donations of fruit trees or berry bushes would be appreciated. We would also appreciate any help from families on gardening days. With more adult supervision we can do much more. If you are an avid gardener or just happy to get your hands dirty please let me know – we could use your help.

There are some fun activities running at break times this term. Ami is doing dance club on Wednesday at lunch, disco is Friday at lunch and Gardening Club is Monday and Wednesday at recess. The library is open each day at lunch for students to access also. All children are welcome to attend these activities.

Yesterday families were invited to Wonderbook Story time in the library. Croissants, coffee, tea and milo were shared along with a healthy dose of reading. The purpose of Wonderbook is for families to enjoy some time at school together, share a love of books and promote the importance of shared reading. Thanks to Monique, Karen and Andrea for your efforts in organising this event. We look forward to another next term and hope to see even more families attending.

Jodie Rowell

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NEWS FROM THE P&C

This week the P&C has been busy starting to set up a network of parents and carers to act as Class Representatives. This is a wonderful opportunity to build a closer community in each classroom. I urge parents and carers who would like to become involved to look out for more information on this project in the coming weeks.

In my short time on the P&C committee I have found it wonderful to become more active in our school community. If you're thinking about doing something for your child and the school in 2020, this might be a great first step.

We are also planning an end of term event for the kids and families of the school for Friday, 3 April at the school (weather permitting). We have some fun activities planned and hope you will join us to farewell the first term in style. Stay tuned for further news.

The survey says ...

At the Welcome BBQ on 12 February we conducted a P&C survey to see what events and activities Macquarie families wanted us to organise and support in 2020, and to find out if there were parents or carer interested in helping out.

Thanks to the 41 people who completed surveys. The most requested events were a family picnic and school disco followed by a fete, gardening/planting day and bake sales. Also popular was a school musical, trash and treasure/market day, dress up/costume days, for example, Halloween.

Plans are underway to respond to the feedback and organise some of the events requested. We will put call outs for extra volunteers to help organise some of these in the coming weeks and months, so please consider lending a hand to get some of these great things up and running for our children and our school community.

Become a 2020 class representative

We are looking for class representatives to act as a contact point for parents and carers, help with the flow of information from the school, families and the P&C. Please refer to the form attached with this newsletter for more details.

Canteen is here

Don't forget that canteen is available on Friday so be sure to get your orders in via Flexischools before the strict cut-off time of **8.30am each Friday morning**.

Orders accepted via Flexischools only (sorry, no cash orders). Information about Flexischools and the canteen, including the menu, is available from the front office or on the school's website.

Did you know?

Parent & Citizens Associations have a long and important history in Australia. They began to emerge around 1900, usually to raise funds for educational needs, to bring schools and parents into closer contact, and to consider issues relating to the welfare of the school. At first, they were called Parents Unions but by 1908 the term Parents and Citizens Association had become general.

Useful links and resources

The Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY) has a range of information about what you can do to support your child during their school years. ARACY exists to ensure the wellbeing of children in Australia. For more information visit: <https://www.aracy.org.au/the-nest-in-action/parent-engagement>. Specific projects they have done, like the Education Capital: Progressing Parent Engagement in the ACT (<https://www.aracy.org.au/the-nest-in-action/education-capital-act>), have some great resources.

Best wishes

Brendan Ding

P&C President

Become a 2020 Class Representative

Have you ever wanted to become more involved with the school but don't know what to do or how to get more involved? Then why not consider becoming a Class Representative? The role doesn't take up much of your time and it can be a big help to the Macquarie Primary School community.

What do Class Representatives do?

A Class Representative will:

- » act as a contact point for parents/carers
- » maintain a contact list of parents/carers
- » pass on messages from the school and P&C
- » talk with your class teacher about parent/carer involvement in the classroom
- » help build community spirit.

Class Representatives may also:

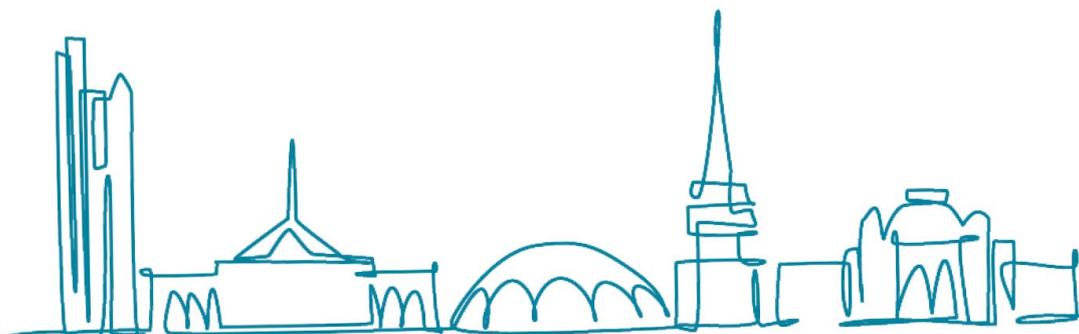
- » assist any new families in your child's classroom
- » organise or ask volunteers to organise social events
- » organise an end of year gift for your class teacher.

This is a fun opportunity and one where you can meet other parents/carers and make many new friendships along the way.

Our 2020 aim is to have a Class Representative in every classroom!

Interested?

For more information, please get in touch with the Macquarie P&C at msppandcyp@gmail.com



CONGRATULATIONS

Our congratulations go to the following students who have been selected by audition for the ACT Instrumental Music Program's Extension Ensembles in 2020. This is the equivalent of ACT representation in Music.

Talia & Kiara - Year 5 Primary Concert Choir

Tanush - Year 6 Primary Concert Band

These ensembles are directed and administered by the Instrumental Music Program and rehearse each school week at the Instrumental Music Program's Centre in Kaleen. The ensembles will perform at school, community and directorate events throughout the year.

BULLYING NO WAY DAY

On **Friday 20 March** we will be acknowledging Bullying No Way day at school. You are an important part of our work to prevent bullying and to respond effectively if it happens. Stopping bullying involves everyone.

If your child talks to you about bullying:

- **Listen** calmly and get the full story
- **Reassure** your child that they are not to blame
- **Visit** www.bullyingnoway.gov.au to find some strategies
- **Contact** the school
- **Check in** regularly with your child

BULLYING.
What would **you** do?

Be friends.
Talk nice.

BULLYING NO WAY!
Take Action Together
www.bullyingnoway.gov.au

BULLYING.
What would **you** do?

If someone was sad,
I would be their friend.

BULLYING NO WAY!
Take Action Together
www.bullyingnoway.gov.au

BULLYING.
What would **you** do?

Stand beside them and support them.
Don't give up.

BULLYING NO WAY!
Take Action Together
www.bullyingnoway.gov.au

BULLYING.
What would **you** say?

Tell someone you trust.
Talk to a teacher.

BULLYING NO WAY!
Take Action Together
www.bullyingnoway.gov.au

Managing novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in ACT Public Schools

Australia is very well prepared to deal with novel coronavirus (COVID-19), with a suite of measures implemented to help stop the spread of the virus and protect Australians. All states and territories are taking a highly precautionary approach based on the latest and best medical advice.

The Education Directorate continues to work closely with ACT Health. ACT public schools are operating as normal and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

Plans have been developed for ACT schools to respond to the potential spread of COVID-19 in school communities. When and if there is a case of COVID-19 in the ACT, these plans will be scaled in proportion to the spread of the virus.

Our response will be based on ACT Health advice and learnings from other jurisdictions. This may include that if a student or staff member were to test positive to the virus, the impacted school may close for a short period while ACT Health investigates the incident and the school is closed appropriately. Those students and staff identified as close contacts of a case will need to self-quarantine at home for 14 days

At this point in time, the best way to minimise any transmission of the coronavirus is for students and families to continue with good hand and respiratory hygiene to prevent the spread of germs.

Please be assured that the health and safety of students, families and staff is our top priority. We will continue to monitor any developments across Australia and here in the ACT and keep our school communities updated.

Parents and carers of children with an existing medical treatment plan may wish to review their plan with their child's GP and notify the school if there is a change to the plan.

What should I do if my child is sick?

If your child develops any symptoms such as a fever, cough, sore throat or shortness of breath:

- Call your GP in the first instance. By calling your GP before arriving they can take appropriate infection control measures.
- Call your school to let them know.

Please do not send your child to school if they are showing any symptoms of sickness. Once your child is well again, they can return to school.

Where can I go for more information?

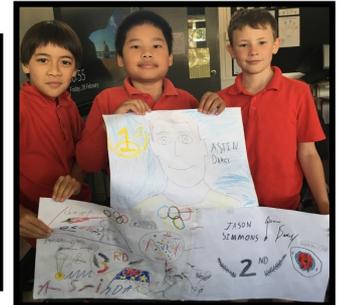
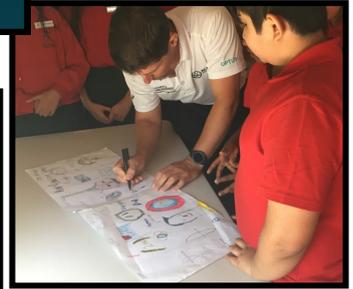
The community is urged to keep up to date through the ACT Health website (www.health.act.gov.au). This is where the latest health advice is available. People can also call the Coronavirus Health Information Line on 1800 020 080 for further information on COVID-19. The line operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Floral Emblems Term 1

Olympics Unleashed



The floral emblems were fortunate to have Australian archer Astin Darcy drop in for a visit as a part of the Olympics Unleashed program. It was very relevant to our learning around the new school values as all Olympians show integrity, persistence and excellence.



Clean Up Australia Day



Clean up Australia day took part at our school on Friday 28 February. We discussed the importance of contributing to our local environments and the positive impact it makes on where we play.



NRL Introductory Skills



We had Shane drop in from the League Stars program to introduce a range of skills and techniques, including fundamental movement skills like dodging and agility. It tied in perfectly with the movement program we have been exploring with Ross too.



Floral Emblems PBL Journey

An inquiry into our identity



By Jason

Desert Roses

The desert rose is the symbol of our class and so we brainstormed how this flower was similar to our classroom community. We discovered that like the flower, we flourish in the right conditions. This means that we show respect for one another, we work together and we ensure that every member of our class feels safe and valued.

Waratahs

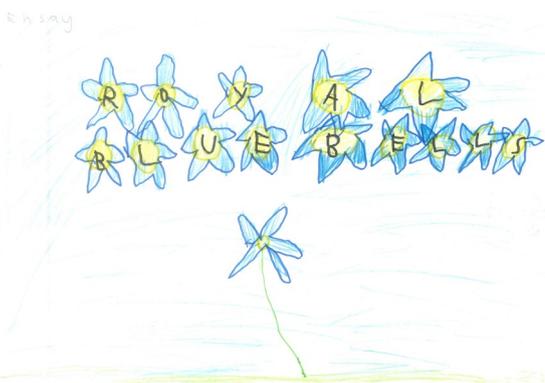
The waratah is the floral emblem of neighbour and home to some in New South Wales. The symbolism of the Waratah means that we are part of an inclusive learning community that helps each other to learn and grow, like the waratah itself.



By Aelywnn

Royal Bluebells

The royal bluebell, the floral emblem of the Australian Capital Territory was chosen as it reminds us of belonging and that we all have the right to feel safe. It stands for the excellence that we will show respectfully in our learning. The name 'royal' will continue to remind us to show integrity.



By Eh Say

Blue Gums

The Tasmanian Blue Gum is the floral emblem of Tasmania. As part of the Eucalypt Family, the Blue Gum represents familiarity, a sense of home and a connection of value to our first peoples. The Blue Gum was chosen as a symbol for growth, purity and unity in learning. Being a Blue Gum means that we are a family. We show persistence as we grow and thrive together. We show integrity as we appreciate each other, in our purest form, for who we are, what we do, and where we come from. We show excellence as we stand, united as one, to share a love for life-long learning.



By Pippi

NOTES HOME & REMINDERS

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

EVENT DETAILS	YEAR GROUP	DATE DUE BACK
2020 Stationery supplies	All year levels	Payments welcome anytime
Kindergarten health check	Kindergarten	ASAP
Student information check sheet	All students	ASAP
Medical Information and consent form	All students	ASAP
Mt Painter excursion	Acacias	Tuesday 24 March
Year 6 shirt orders	Year 6 students only	Friday 20 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

CARBON DIET

Each week we will be featuring facts and tips on how to cut your carbon footprint. The climate is changing because we've released too much carbon dioxide and other emissions. But it's really easy to cut back. Jo's family just cut 77%! Find out how with a weekly Carbon Diet tip.

These tips have been sourced from Jo Clay's website The Carbon Diet. Jo is a member of our school community who has been running this ACT Government sponsored project on cutting carbon for the past two years.

For more information on the project go to

<https://www.carbondiet.com.au/> .

Flying releases a lot of carbon emissions. Take your next holiday in our local region instead. Swim at the beach, hike in the mountains or learn to milk a cow on a farm stay.

**Macquarie Primary is an
ANAPHYLAXIS AWARE SCHOOL**

Avoiding all nuts and soft shell crab.

SCHOOL CONTACT DETAILS

Office hours: Monday — Friday 8.30am — 3.30pm

Uniform Shop — Opening Hours

Monday: 8.45am—9.15am
Wednesday: 3.00pm—3.30pm
Friday: 8.45am—9.15am

Library

Open for families
Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri
8.30am—9.00am

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	Janet Hope	janetehope@gmail.com
	macquariepandc@gmail.com			

COMMUNITY NOTICES



Offering a free and confidential
counselling service

Assisting and supporting parents with
ideas about raising children

Ph. 6287 3833

Interpreters available

FREE KIDS BUSH DANCE - SATURDAY 28 MARCH

The Monaro Folk Society is celebrating its 50th Anniversary
of musical events in Canberra

We are hosting a special free day at Yarralumla
Woolshed showcasing our activities.

This includes a Kids Bush Dance between 12.30 and 2.00pm

For info see: www.monarofolk.org.au/kids-bush-dances

Piano Lessons

Piano teacher in the local
Belconnen area.

Craig Mewett

All ages and all styles.

Beginners welcome.

Ph. (02) 6278 7382.

Mob. 0409 151 887.



EASTER T10 SMASH CUP



MATCH DATES

14th - 17th April
Dickson Playing Fields,
Antill Street, Dickson.

TIMES: 9AM - 3PM EACH DAY

(8:30am early drop off, pick up
no later than 3:30pm please).

\$375 FOR 4 DAYS
\$295 FOR 3 DAYS
\$110 A DAY

T10 SMASH CUP

The T10 SMASH Cup is a perfect environment for the kids to get up close and personal with the Pro's while having heaps of fun, making new friends and challenging themselves in competitive T10 matches - helping our young players take their games to a new level and be the stars of the future!!

T10 SMASH CUP FEATURES

- Teams of 10 players (form your own team) or come along individually and be allocated a team.
- Multiple days of match play T10 cricket with professionally qualified coaches supporting the players and teams throughout the week and providing valuable technical, tactical, physical and psychological development tips to each player!!
- Players will be exposed to a variety of match scenarios that aim to improve confidence, self belief, concentration, team work and leadership skills all while having a ball with their friends.
- When not playing, each player will be taken through our specialised 1:1 coaching stations where Cricket Australia qualified coaches will work individually with each player on all facets of their game.
- Photos and videos of the week are made available on our website and social media platforms.



BOOK NOW

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PROPERFORMANCECRICKET.COM

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