



The Macquarie Memo

Issue 13: 13 May 2021

From our Principal

Dear Families and Friends,

We were lucky with the weather last week for our cross country carnival on Friday. We held both competitive and participation events, and for the first year everyone was part of the carnival. It was terrific to see. Thanks to all those families who volunteered last week both for the much-loved Mothers' Day stalls and then the cross country carnival. After all the restrictions to visitors last year it is lovely to have our community back at school to share learning and events together.

This week our year 6 band has participated in a combined band practice at Aranda Primary, where they played with other bands and had further learning about their instruments. Les Fruits Tropicaux participated in storytelling with Larry Brandy enacting traditional stories using masks and tools, and many of our year 3 and 5 students have participated in this year's NAPLAN assessments.

This Sunday morning the P&C are holding the term 2 working bee. If you have an hour or 2 to spare it would be great to see you in the garden. We are starting at 9am. Our P&C still has some vacant roles, if you are interested in taking a more active role through being part of the committee please don't hesitate to get in touch with the caretaker President on president.mpspandc@gmail.com to indicate your interest.

Next week teachers will be involved in writing the end of semester reports describing the learning achievement up to this point. These reports provide an indication of where your child's learning is up to against the end of year achievement standard for their year level. These reports will be emailed to you on 17 June, and parent-teacher interviews are available across the following week, Monday 21 to Thursday 24 June. Out of hours interviews can be booked for Thursday 24 June. This year you can either meet with your child's teacher face to face or participate in an online meeting. We will continue to use PTO, the online booking system, so keep your eye out for that information coming home soon.

Finally the new fixed equipment has been installed in the preschool grounds. We ordered this at the end of last year, and it has certainly taken its time to get here and in the ground. Next week both Les Kalettes and Les Cucamelons will enjoy exploring the new outdoor learning addition.

Have a lovely week,
Danielle



Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 11—Friday 21 May

NAPLAN for Year 3 & 5

Wednesday 12 May

Assembly 2.15pm

Host: Les Aubergines

Friday 14 May

Walk Safely to School Day

Wednesday 19 May

Assembly 2.15pm

Host: Les Ananas

Monday 24 May

Year 5 combined band practice

Les Fruits Tropicaux excursion to Jerrabomberra Wetlands

Wednesday 26 May

Belconnen Regional Cross country

Assembly 2.15pm

Host: Les Sureaux including rostum final

Monday 31 May

Reconciliation day public holiday

In this Issue

In this issue

- [P&C news](#)
- [Library news](#)
- [Merit awards](#)
- [Board members](#)
- [Notes home & reminders](#)
- [Community notices](#)

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



ACT
Government
Education

INFORMATION SESSIONS—STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY

Information sessions - students with disability (primary/high school)

Do you have a child with disability? Are you looking at enrolment options for 2022?

Information sessions for students with disability are currently underway. Parents/carers are invited to attend to learn about enrolment options and support for transition. Information will be provided on the range of programs and supports provided across all ACT public schools.

The ACT Education Directorate recognises the importance of well-planned and supported transitions for all children and young people with developmental delay and disability. The partnership between parents/carers and schools is key to the positive outcomes for all students.

The remaining sessions are:

- 11 May – Kindergarten
- 12 May – College
- 13 May – High School
- 18 May – College

To register and learn more visit www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/enrolling-in-a-public-school/school-information-sessions



INFORMATION SESSIONS

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY

TRANSITION AND ENROLMENT OPTIONS

Transition to Preschool for children with developmental delay and disability	Transition Preschool to Kindergarten	Transition Primary to High school	Transition High School to College
10 May 2021 11.30am-1.00pm	6 May 2021 10.00-11.30am	6 May 2021 1.30-3.00pm	12 May 2021 1.00-2.30pm
	11 May 2021 6.00-7.30pm	13 May 2021 6.00-7.30pm	18 May 2021 6.00-7.30pm

To register for a session and for more information, visit www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/enrolling-in-a-public-school/school-information-sessions

NAPLAN TESTING 2021

Year 3 and year 5 students will be participating in the 2021 NAPLAN testing over the next two weeks. There are four tests in total:

1. Writing (year 3 students will complete a paper-based writing test whilst year 5 students will complete the writing test online)
2. Reading (year 3 and year 5 complete this test online)
3. Conventions of Language (year 3 and year 5 complete this test online)
4. Numeracy (year 3 and year 5 complete this test online)

Good preparation for the day is the key. You can help your child by having them go to bed early the night before, having a healthy breakfast to start the day. Keep stress levels low and arrive at school before 9.00am. Encourage your child to 'give it a go' and 'try their best' on the day.

The following timetable shows when the NAPLAN testing will occur for our students:

Monday 10 May	Tuesday 11 May	Wednesday 12 May	Thursday 13 May	Friday 14 May	Monday 17 May
No NAPLAN Testing	9.30-10.30am Year 3 Writing Test (paper-based) 40-minute test	9.30-10.30am Year 3 Reading Test (online) 45-minute test	9.30-10.30am Year 3 Conventions of Language Test (online) 45-minute test	No NAPLAN testing	11:30am-12:30pm Year 3 Numeracy Test (online) 45-minute test
No NAPLAN testing	9.30-10.30am Year 5 Writing Test (online) 42-minute test	9.30-10.35am Year 5 Reading Test (online) 50-minute test	9.30-10.30am Year 5 Conventions of Language Test (online) 45-minute test	No NAPLAN testing	11.30am-12.35pm Year 5 Numeracy Test (online) 50-minute test

If you require further information please contact Veronique Canellas, NAPLAN Coordinator, via email (veronique.canellas@ed.act.edu.au) or by calling the school office (6142 1550).

Information about NAPLAN testing is also available on the NAPLAN website: <https://www.nap.edu.au/naplan>

ACARA have also prepared an information brochure for parents/carers: <https://nap.edu.au/docs/default-source/resources/naplan-online-information-brochure-for-parents-and-carers.pdf>

Veronique Canellas

WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY

This Friday 14 May is Walk Safely to School day. This day is held to promote the health benefits of walking, reduce the level of air pollution created by motor vehicles and to develop road safety skills such as crossing roads and staying on paths. Students and parents are encouraged to meet staff at either Macquarie shops at 8.45am or Cook shops at 8:30am to walk as a group to school.

Hope to see you there.



FRIDAY 14 MAY 2021

WALK.COM.AU



NEWS FROM THE P&C

Gardens and Grounds: Working Bee – Sunday 16th May 9am—12pm.

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!

Refreshments will be provided during the working bee. Please RSVP to Chris if you are able to help: grounds.mpspandc@gmail.com

Canteen: Our Canteen is after more volunteers to help out this term please. If you are keen to help out for 1 hour at lunchtime on a Friday, please email canteen.mpspandc@gmail.com

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.

Breakfast Club: Don't forget Brekkie Club is on every Friday on the steps of the canteen between 8.45-9.00am. Come along for a piece of toast or bowl of weetbix.

Class Parent Representative: We still have two classes without parent reps. If you are able to volunteer to represent the Preschool class: Les Cucamelons or the Year 1/2 class: Les Fruits de Dragon, please contact Alethea via classparentrepsmps@gmail.com for more info.

Uniform Shop: Get ready for winter. Red and green polar fleece beanies and scarves are available for \$5 each. Open times are: **Mondays** 8:45 - 9:15, **Wednesdays** 3:00 - 3:30 and **Fridays** 8:45 - 9:15

Cash and card payments are accepted. Orders can also be placed online at www.flexischools.com.au which will be sent home directly with students.

Donations of pre-loved uniform items are gratefully accepted during open times, or may be left at the front office. Please contact uniforms.mps@gmail.com with any questions.



LIBRARY NEWS

Bookclub

Last chance to order Issue 3 Book Club! Orders close tomorrow, 14 May. All orders earn Reward Points for our schools, which are spent on beautiful new books for our library.

Family Reading Month

Have you been enjoying reading with your children every day? Please remember families are welcome to join our library to enable you to borrow up to 10 books at a time. Membership forms are available at the library or front office.

The next reading tips from 'Mem Fox's 10 Reading Commandments' are:

4. Read with joy and enjoyment: real enjoyment for yourself and great joy for the listeners.
5. Read the stories that the kids love, over and over and over again, and always read in the same 'tune' for each book: i.e., with the same intonations on each page, each time.
6. Let children hear lots of language by talking to them constantly about the pictures, or anything else connected to the book; sing any old song that you can remember; say nursery rhymes in a bouncy way; or be noisy together doing clapping games.

MERIT AWARDS

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

Les Citrons Verts	Kieran K & Mohamad A
Les Oranges	Mia A & Phoenix M
Les Ananas	Olivia P & Eliana M
Les Fruits de Dragon	Lewis R & Ella D
Les Kiwis	Lucy S, Xander D & Ryan W
Les Litchis	Faith B & Derrick N

BOARD MEMBERS PROFILES

Parent Representative Deputy Chair—David Momcilovic

I am honoured to be serving on the Macquarie Primary School board as deputy chair. My husband and I have lived in Macquarie for 15 years and we are very proud to send our son to this school. I look forward to continuing to support the implementation of the school's strategic priorities in relation to learning, respectful relationships, safety, inclusion and modernising the school environment. I welcome the opportunity to contribute towards creating better outcomes for our community. I am keen to explore more opportunities for collaboration with parents and the school community on strategic projects to enhance student learning outcomes and eliminate disadvantage. I encourage all parents and citizens to reach out to me via the front office or your P&C class parent representatives to discuss any ideas or concerns.

Staff Representative—Jodie Rowell

This is my second year of being a member of the Macquarie Primary School board. I am invested in the continuous improvement of the school and enjoy the opportunity to work with the Board to set the strategic direction for Macquarie Primary School.

Staff Representative—Lynda Leigh

I am the English as an Additional Language/Dialect teacher at Macquarie Primary School. I enjoy helping students develop their English language skills along with her own understanding of different cultures and beliefs through our rich multi-cultural community. This is my 11th year of teaching at this school and my third year in this role. I have interests in the Visual Arts and Sciences and I am passionate about the natural environment.

Parent Representative—Sander De Vries

With two boys attending Macquarie Primary School, I have been a part of this awesome school for 3 years, with quite a few more to come.

I work as an Architect with a speciality in Education design. Over the past 15 years, I have been involved, through design, with almost every Public school in Canberra.

Being on the Board I hope to build on the existing community within the school and help empower, nurture and encourage our students to be the best humans they can be. It's a great opportunity for me to give back to the school that provides so much to our boys.

Parent Representative Chair—Amy McGuire

I'm pleased to be re-elected to Chair the Macquarie Primary School Board, and continue supporting the school to deliver quality education for our children and community. I currently have two children attending Macquarie (Henry in year 6 and Ella in year 2), and value the diverse and inclusive learning opportunities the school presents to develop young minds centred around the philosophy of community. I look forward to working closely with my fellow Board members to further develop and implement our school's strategic priorities and support continued improvements to our school environment.



MANAGING HAZARDOUS MATERIALS IN MACQUARIE PRIMARY SCHOOL

The ACT Government is committed to ensuring all public school buildings are safe and have the infrastructure to support high-quality education.

Most ACT public schools were built at a time when asbestos and lead paint were widely used in the building industry. As [a recently published list of schools shows](#), 76 of our 89 schools have lead paint and/or asbestos. Nearly all asbestos in ACT public schools is non-friable, also known as bonded or sheet asbestos.

Macquarie Primary was opened in 1968 and both lead paint and asbestos are present at our school.

We know where these materials exist, or are likely to exist, we monitor the locations regularly and we have a management strategy in place to keep our school community safe. Detailed reports are kept at the front office in a Hazardous Materials Register which you are welcome to view.

If you have any general questions about how we manage hazardous materials drop by the front office, or come along to an information night at UC Senior Secondary College Lake Ginninderra on Thursday 13 May from 6-8pm.

The session will include members of the Education Directorate's Hazardous Materials Taskforce, and lead paint expert Professor Mark Taylor. He is one of the specialists guiding hazardous materials work in ACT public schools ensuring our management is informed by international best practice.

The ACT Government has committed \$15 million to remove hazardous materials from public schools during the next four years. This is in addition to a school upgrade budget of \$99 million which will also help manage lead paint and asbestos.

You can learn more about how hazardous materials are safely managed in our public schools [on the Education Directorate's website](#). It has a fact sheet about lead paint, details about the Directorate's commitment and approach to managing hazardous materials, and it links to a new [ACT Health fact sheet about lead exposure and your health](#).

INTERSCHOOLS SNOWSPORT CHAMPIONSHIPS

Does your child ski or snowboard? The Interschools Snowsport Southern NSW/ACT Regional Championships will be held at Perisher from 20 - 23 July 2021.

With an emphasis on fun and participation students compete for their school in skiing and/or snowboarding events. If your child would like to participate, please contact Liz Watterson via the front office.

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
2021 Voluntary Contributions	All year levels	Payments welcome anytime
Library Trust Fund donations	All year levels	Payments welcome anytime
Jerrabomberra Wetlands	Les Fruits Tropicaux	Friday 14 May
Camp Birrigai	Les Legumes & Les Pêches	Friday 21 May
Belconnen Region Cross Country	Qualifying students	Friday 21 May
UNSW ICAS	Year 3—6	Thursday 17 June

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

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.

OUR CLASS NAMES

Preschool	Les Petit Légumes	Les Kalettes & Les Cucamelons
Kindergarten	Les Agrumes	Les Citrons Verts & Les Oranges
Year 1/2	Les Fruits Tropicaux	Les Ananas, Les Fruits de Dragon, Les Kiwis & Les Litchis
Year 3/4	Les Légumes	Les Brocolis, Les Aubergines, Les Citrouilles & Les Concombres
Year 5/6	Les Baies	Les Groseilles, Les Fraises & Les Sureaux
Learning Support Unit	Les Fruits à Noyaux	Les Pêches

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

SUSTAINABILITY TIPS

Don't use plastic bags at shops, instead take reusable bags.

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	macquariepandc@gmail.com	Board Chair	Amy McGuire	

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Girls' Programming Network



Girls teaching girls how to code!

GPN is a community of women and girls who are interested in computer science, programming and IT. Workshops are held for girls in Year 4-12, they are free and no prior coding experience is necessary!

SUNDAY 23 MAY

Registrations open Tuesday 27 April

Register here for more info and to find out when applications open: canberragpn.github.io

ASD



| Approved by the University of Canberra's Human Research Ethics Committee (ID 2190).

Seeking Participants for Head Lice Treatment Trial

Does your child suffer from head lice? Your child may be eligible to participate in this research study

Research study on a natural, topical treatment for Head Lice

Treating head lice infestations can be a nightmare for parents with school-going children. The current treatments in the market use harsh, toxic chemicals which are rapidly becoming ineffective.

Researchers at University of Canberra are addressing this challenge by trialing a new natural product-based treatment shown to kill head lice and eggs in a rapid fashion in pre-clinical studies.

Are you eligible?

- Healthy children aged 5-16 years
- No known history of irritation or sensitivity to malathion, essential oils, or other components of the test product, pediculicides or hair care products

What is involved?

- Multiple in-person appointments at the University of Canberra Health Clinic, Bruce, across a two-week period.
- Telephone follow ups during the study.

Participants will receive:

- A ticket to a lucky draw to win an iPad.

Let's tackle head lice heads on!!

All treatments are provided FREE of cost! Also, FREE parking.



Book an appointment today:

<https://calendly.com/headlice-research-uc/head-lice-clinical-trial-appointment>



If you are unsure if you meet the requirements, contact the study team via:

headlice_research-uc@canberra.edu.au
Contact: 0431572314
Facebook link: UC Head Lice Trial (<https://www.facebook.com/UCheadlice>)



The flu vaccine is safe and will help protect you and your loved ones from influenza this winter. This year, a lot of Canberra's over the age of 18 will also be eligible to have the COVID-19 vaccination. You can have both but you should allow at least 14 days between the COVID-19 vaccine and the flu vaccine.

It's particularly important for children to be vaccinated, as they are more likely to contract influenza and spread it around. They're also at a higher risk of serious complications if they get sick.

The flu vaccine is free in the ACT for:

- children aged 6 months to under 5 years
- pregnant women
- all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 6 months and older
- people aged 6 months and older with some medical conditions such as severe asthma, heart or lung disease, diabetes or weakened immune systems
- people 65 years of age and older.

If you're not eligible for a free vaccine, you can still get vaccinated through immunisation providers including GPs and pharmacies.



ACT Health

health.act.gov.au/flu

FLU vaccine

Canberra High School
- ESTABLISHED 1938

6.00 - 8.00PM
INFORMATION NIGHT
THURSDAY
20 MAY 2021

COMMUNITY ATTITUDE RESPECT EXCELLENCE SAFETY

ACT Government Education

Phone 02 6142 0800
Address Bindubi Street Macquarie ACT 2614
Email info@canberrahs.act.edu.au
Web www.canberrahs.act.edu.au