



The Macquarie Memo

Issue 25: 19 August 2021

From our Principal

Dear Families and Friends,

Gosh what a difference a week makes. It has been great to see how we have all pulled together to reduce the risk of COVID-19 in our community.

Staff have been working really hard this week to transfer and change proposed learning to an online interface. While many of our staff experienced this last year, we also have a number of staff that this mode is completely new learning. We are taking feedback from last year and trying to improve the educational offering. This is through a combination of what techies call synchronous (live) and asynchronous (pre-recorded) learning each day. We have some locked in times, and others are flexible to work with your household.

Tomorrow our goal is to have a 'meet' with all the classes at 10am (exception Les Petite Legumes (preschool) who have different time slots). Teachers will talk their classes through their online classroom, show them how to navigate and talk them through their regular timeslots moving forward. The timetable for the following week will be available tomorrow in each student's google classroom.

Here are the class codes for each classroom. These have also been posted on your child's class dojo portfolio. Pamela has set up a library classroom for anyone who is interested in joining. This is an optional class.

Library with Pamela **eaheyf2**

Les Citron Verts & Les Oranges with Bek and Casey **w46t3vs**

Les Ananas with Nicole **oamjpzo**

Les Fruits De Dragon with Tei **i6qyx4y**

Les Kiwis with Monique (& Lauren P every second Wednesday) **7sy1bq3**

Les Litchis with Lauren **na6h4hu**

Les Aubergines with Meg **25b56wo**

Les Brocolis with Brooke **nzrawk3**

Les Concombres with Chlo **2vmphwq**

Les Citrouilles with Bec **vnttlk**

Les Fraises with Emma **6jfhber**

Les Groseilles with Patrick **kpnzjta**

Les Sureaux with Mel and Lauren **zctzqst**

Les Peches with Kathy **sxvxja6**

It has been a big week with lots of information coming from school. To try and reach everyone we have put the same messaging on our Facebook page and Class Dojo, more extensive information is emailed, and when we need to ensure we have captured everyone we send a text. I am sorry if you have been inundated this week, hopefully this will settle down as we move into remote learning from tomorrow.

An increasing number of households are being impacted by having to quarantine due to being close contacts at exposure sites. If you need support with getting food delivered to your household there are supports available. Have a look at <https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/community/access-help#Grocery-delivery-options>

Due to the lockdown being called the Education Directorate has delayed the annual School Satisfaction Survey for the time being. When we have a new opening date we will let you know.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to school for any help and support we can offer. The phone is monitored, 61421550 and I am available either on the phone or via email (Danielle.porter@ed.act.edu.au) at all times.

This is a difficult time for lots of people but we will pull through it as a community who cares about each other.

Take care, stay safe.

Danielle

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



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A MESSAGE FROM OUR SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST

Hi everyone,

The past week with the ACT lockdown due to Covid-19 has been a period of quick change, new information, stress, and uncertainty for all of us. If you have concerns for the wellbeing of your child, please contact your child's teacher and discuss your concerns with them. If necessary, your child's teacher will discuss the concerns with their team leader to ensure they are receiving the support they require during this period. The team leader may then make a referral to the School Psychologist if appropriate. The School Psychology Service also has a Central Telehealth service which can be contacted via an [online form](#) or by calling [6205 1559](tel:62051559) between 9:00am and 4:30pm. All referrals to this service will aimed to be forwarded the School Psychologist associated with the school of the student (i.e., me for Macquarie Primary School).

Other services that might be helpful to you include:

Support for Children:

Kids Helpline – 1800 55 1800

Lifeline – 13 11 14

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) North - 6205 1050

Support for Adults:

Lifeline – 13 11 14

Suicide Call Back Service – 1300 659 467

ACT Access Mental Health Team - 1800 629 354

Support for Families:

Capital Region Community Services – 6264 0200

West Belconnen Child & Family Centre - 6205 2904

Child and Youth Protection Services - 1300 556 729

Emerging Minds – <https://emergingminds.com.au/resources/toolkits/parents-carers-and-families-toolkit/covid-19/>

Please take care and don't hesitate to reach out to the school if needed.

Erin



NEWS FROM THE P&C

From the Acting President:

It is with a heavy heart we have decided to cancel the Father's Day stall this year, but we will be back bigger and brighter than ever next year. We wish all the Dad's, Grandfathers, Uncles and friends a wonderful Father's Day on the 5 September.



We are in our last week of reading for the readathon - and maybe the lockdown has increased the number of books read for everyone's list. Audio books are counted, and Sora - the app that lets you borrow books through the education department - have some really good ones. We've been listening to His Name Was Walter by Emily Rodda and I'm loving it. The last day of the readathon is Sunday 22 August. Please bring your reading lists to school when it is back.

Gardens and Grounds: Term 3 Working Bee POSTPONED. Further details will be announced once we know when the lockdown will end.

LIBRARY NEWS

Book Week

Book Week celebrations will be going ahead as planned and we hope to see lots of students dressed up in class meets at 10am next Friday. Please ask your children to keep checking Dojo and Classroom pages next week as we will celebrate the wonderful world of books in different ways.

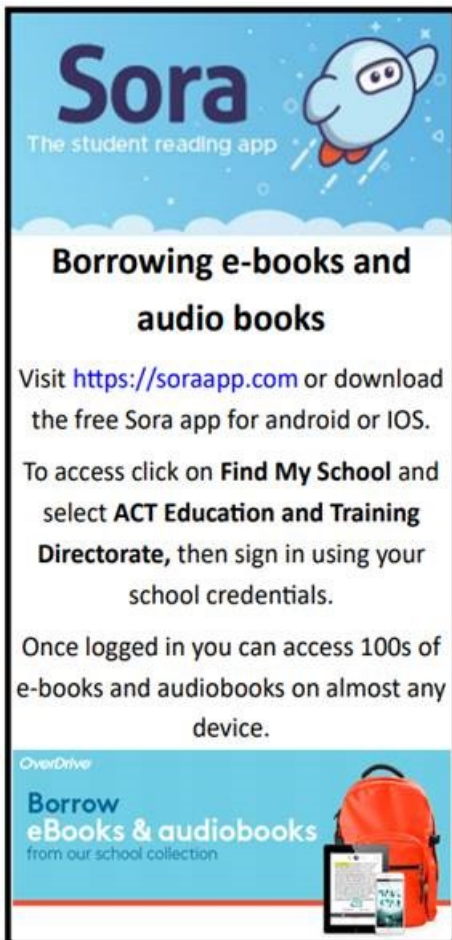
Book Club

A new issue of Book Club is now available. Obviously we couldn't send home brochures this week, so the link for the online Issue 6 catalogue is [here](#). Please complete all orders via [LOOP](#) as we won't be taking any cash orders for this issue. Orders are due in by Friday September 3, and please email me at pamela.gaukroger@ed.act.edu.au if you have any questions.

Digital Resources

Many of our students borrowed an extra book or two last week, but of course will need some extra reading over the coming weeks. We are very fortunate to have access to a digital book collection that the Education Directorate has purchased on our behalf. This collection of over 7000 e-books and over 1000 audiobooks can be accessed via an app/website called SORA or through our own school library catalogue, Oliver. Instructions for both will be available to students via their online learning platforms next week.

Reading for enjoyment – This is a perfect time to remind our community of the importance of reading for enjoyment. The normalities of everyday life have been turned upside down once again, which can be stressful for both children and adults. Many studies have shown that taking the time to do some reading every day can reduce stress levels enormously. This would be a great time to help your child choose some fantastic books and sit and read with them. My favourite quote at this time is “Reading takes you places when you have to stay where you are”. Hogwarts, Narnia, Neverland, 100 Acre Woods... you can visit them all!



Sora
The student reading app

Borrowing e-books and audio books

Visit <https://soraapp.com> or download the free Sora app for android or IOS.

To access click on **Find My School** and select **ACT Education and Training Directorate**, then sign in using your school credentials.

Once logged in you can access 100s of e-books and audiobooks on almost any device.

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Borrow eBooks & audiobooks
from our school collection



CBCA BOOK WEEK
#CBCA2021
OLD WORLDS, NEW WORLDS,
OTHER WORLDS
21-27 AUGUST 2021



DON'T FORGET!

Book Club
ORDERS ARE DUE

SCHOLASTIC