



The Macquarie Memo

Issue 33: 27 October 2022

From our Principal

You may have seen my post on Facebook this week about our school wellbeing dog (still to be named). A wellbeing dog is a working dog that comes to school to do a job. The job of a wellbeing dog is to boost positivity, assist in helping students to learn and improve social skills, and they can provide emotional support when a student or staff member requires help. Research shows that a wellbeing dog in school can improve student focus and concentration - there are so many benefits. Wellbeing dogs require intensive training in a variety of settings, including in the homes of primary carers and at the school. *Dogs Connect* support us to complete the training session by providing training for the staff, information for students and families, they also help us complete the range of paperwork required to have a wellbeing dog and support decision making to ensure the dog is given the best care.

Dates for the Diary

Friday 28 October

Pupil free day

Monday 31 October

Year 6 Passport to Success Program 9-10am

Tuesday 1 November

Year 6 Canberra High School tour and production visit

2023 Kindergarten transition visits 10.10-11am

Wednesday 2 November

P&C meeting 6pm

Thursday 3 November

Outdoor Learning Day

Grand Friends day

Friday 4 November

2023 Kindergarten transition visits 10.10-11am

Year 1/2 Brumbies clinic

Sunday 6 November

P&C working bee 9am-12pm

Friday 11 November

Remembrance Day Assembly

If your child is allergic to dogs it would be good for us to know this. The dog breed we have chosen does not shed hair so this helps reduce the likelihood of an allergy. We can also involve your child in ways other than direct contact with the dog in these circumstances. There may be some children who are frightened of dogs or who have had a negative experience with a dog. The introduction of the dog will be gradual and children will be able to choose if they interact with the dog. We will be asking students how they feel about having the wellbeing dog at school and will be monitoring the impact of having her here.

Last week the Executive Team participated in the PETAA Conference (Primary English Teacher Association Australia). The conference had a range of researchers presenting. Being part of the conference allowed us to reaffirm the choices we make around selection of pedagogy and practice. We look forward to working with Dr Paul Swan for two days in January on our mathematics practice. It has been so beneficial to have highly regarded researchers working with us so we can gain the best outcomes for students.

This term is so busy for our year 5/6 classes. Last week the boys participated in a Menslink Program, "Silence is Deadly." The program raises awareness of the importance of boys accessing support and talking to people when things get tough. I hope your boys talked to you about this when they came home. The girls did some work with their teachers around accessing help. Our 5/6 students reported in the Social Emotional Wellbeing survey that they did not have good skills in accessing support and talking about their feelings. It's an important conversation to have with our pre-teens.

Year 6 students are also accessing the Smith Family program, "Passport to Success." This is a transition program that we've done with previous year 6 cohorts. Over six hours of program delivery, students learn skills that will assist with the increased school work load including time management, planning, goal setting, motivation to engage with learning, and increase their knowledge about what to expect in high school. Students have the opportunity to raise their concerns and hear from a secondary student about their high school experience.

Last week we held our first Stay and Play session in the Preschool. These session will be weekly and allow parents of our 2023 preschool classes to meet, interact and learn about the preschool program. It is also a wonderful opportunity for our smallest students to transition into school life.

This week is Children's Week, students engaged in a range of activities with their buddy class today to celebrate. They also enjoyed having lunch with their buddies.

World Teachers' Day is on Friday. I'd like to personally thank all our teaching staff for the support you provide our students, the professionalism you show each day, the progress you've made with students and the immense contribution you make to our community. We have such an incredible staff here at Macquarie and it makes coming to work such a pleasure.

Lastly, don't forget tomorrow is a teacher planning day. We ask that students stay home where possible. Don't forget to book your child into school for the day if they need to attend. Give the front office a call if you need more information.

Have a great week.

Jodie

In this Issue

In this issue

- [P&C news](#)
- [Notes home & reminders](#)

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

NEWS FROM THE P&C

****P&C Term 4 Meeting****: EVERYONE WELCOME! Our fourth and final P&C meeting of the year will be held on Wednesday 2 November at 6pm. Excitingly we are going to have it in person at the schools very own Garden Side cafe and to celebrate, the P&C will be catering with some drinks and nibbles. We would love for you to attend and if you would like to, please send an email to: macquariepandc@gmail.com to have you included in the invite and for catering purposes.



Fundraising and Events: Cherry Drive! The P&C are holding a cherry drive this term, with funds raised going toward P&C projects. Prices for Cherries are \$20 for 1kg, \$40 for 2kg and \$70 for 5kg. Cherry orders will be available for purchase on Flexischools shortly.

Term 4 Working Bee: Sunday 6 November 9am - 12pm

Please come along for all or part of the last working bee for 2022 - and as an added bonus the Cafe will be open for your morning coffee! Please RSVP to grounds.mpspandc@gmail.com

The **P&C Uniform Shop** will be closed on the staff planning day **Friday 28 October**. Regular open times are: **Mondays** 8:45 - 9:15, **Wednesdays** 2:55 - 3:15 and **Fridays** 8:45 - 9:15

Orders for new uniform items can be placed online at www.flexischools.com.au or via the flexischools app. Flexischools orders will be sent home with students. Discontinued items such as bootleg pants, bike shorts, polar fleece vests and winter pinafores are available on flexischools. Prices from \$5. Limited sizes so get in quick to grab a bargain! Donations of pre-loved uniform items are gratefully accepted during open times. Contact uniforms.mps@gmail.com for further information.



Your P&C Uniform Shop needs you!

Can you spare half an hour once a fortnight?

We need a volunteer once a fortnight on a **Wednesday** afternoon, and another volunteer once a fortnight on a **Monday** morning.

Working in the uniform shop is a great way to be involved in the P&C and the Macquarie Primary community.

Contact Liz unifomrs.mps@gmail.com to volunteer or for more information.

WORLD TEACHERS' DAY

Australia will celebrate the teaching profession on World Teachers' Day on Friday 28 October 2022.

Our teachers have shown great resilience during challenging times, all so they can give Australian students the best future possible.

Hats off to teachers this World Teachers' Day!

Share your "hats off" selfie to celebrate teachers and tell us what they mean to you.

We are encouraging students, their families and the community to celebrate teachers. What do teachers mean to you?

On Friday 28 October, you can show your appreciation to teachers by posting a "hats off" selfie on social media, either on your own or with family or friends. Use these tags: #WTD2022 @aitsl



Hats off to Teachers

Friday 28 October 2022

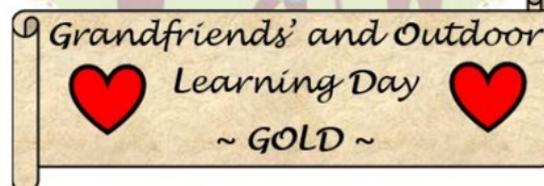
worldteachersday.edu.au

Save the date:

Thursday 3 November

Time:

The Garden Side Café will be open from 8:30 am for Grandfriends. Activities will begin from 9:30 – 11:00 am.



Please be aware that in the event of rain, GOLD will be cancelled. Text messages will be sent out to all families to notify cancellation.

Can't wait to see you all!

NOTES HOME & REMINDERS

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

| EVENT DETAILS | YEAR GROUP | DATE DUE BACK |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Library Trust Fund donations | All year levels | Payments welcome anytime |
| 2022 Stationery supplies | All students | Payments welcome anytime |
| Voluntary Contributions | All year levels | Payments welcome anytime |
| Canberra High School visit | Year 5/6 | Friday 28 October |
| National Gallery visit | Year 3/4 | Friday 11 November |

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.

OUR CLASS NAMES

| | | |
|--------------|--------------------|--|
| Preschool | The Little Nippers | Green Yabbies & Red Crayfish |
| Kindergarten | The Great Barriers | Curious Crocodiles, Super Seahorses & Shiny Sharks |
| Year 1/2 | The Mangroves | Sensational Sea Snakes, Courageous Clams, Sweet Sea Stars & Great Ghost Crabs |
| Year 3/4 | Coral Coliseum | Majestic Mud Crabs, Terrific Tiger Sharks & Electric Eels |
| Year 5/6 | Freshwater Fish | Magnificent Murray Cod, Splendid Silver Perch, Golden Galaxias & Scintillating Saratogas |
| Small Group | The Water Birds | Proud Pelicans |

SUSTAINABILITY TIPS

Carry a hankie instead of paper tissues.

SCHOOL CONTACT DETAILS

Office hours: Monday — Friday 8.30am — 3.30pm

Macquarie Primary is an
ANAPHYLAXIS AWARE SCHOOL

| | | | | |
|------------------|---|----------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|
| Phone K-6 site: | 02 6142 1550 | Principal | Jodie Rowell | jodie.rowell@ed.act.edu.au |
| Phone preschool: | 02 6142 1570 | Deputy Principal (P) | Stacey Naden | stacey.naden@ed.act.edu.au |
| Email: | admin@macquarieps.act.edu.au | Executive (K-Yr2) | Candice Kingston | candice.kingston@ed.act.edu.au |
| Website: | www.macquarieps.act.edu.au | Executive (Yr3-6) | Mariam Hijazi | mariam.hijazi@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 | Sander De Vries | admin@macquarieps.act.edu.au |