

From our Principal

It's been great for teachers to meet so many parents (online) this week. The information parents share with us really does help us support children to access learning. Thank you for being open and honest and trusting us.

Over the past two years we have been implementing Positive Behaviour For Learning (PBL) in non-classroom areas. This year we've had a focus on moving PBL into classrooms. PBL brings together the whole-school community to contribute to developing a positive, safe and supportive learning culture. The framework assists schools to improve social, emotional, behavioural and academic outcomes for children and young people.

When PBL is implemented well, teachers and students have more time to focus on relationships and classroom instruction. Students and staff benefit from:

- reduced inappropriate behaviour
- increased time focused on instruction
- improved social-emotional wellbeing
- positive and respectful relationships among students and staff
- support for teachers to teach, model and respond effectively to student need
- a predictable learning environment where staff and students know what is expected to deliver effective practices that can be sustained over time.

Over the past two weeks students have been discussing the class expectations based on being safe, respectful learners. Teachers are being explicit about routines and procedures in the classroom. To encourage positive behaviour teachers are acknowledging students using coloured tokens. When students demonstrate safe, respectful and learning behaviour they are given a token and that is recorded on our electronic system. When students reach milestones, they are offered reward options and certificates.

Students provided the PBL team with suggestions for reward options. The PBL team will now use those to come up with a menu of rewards and how many of each token students will need to achieve bronze, silver or gold certificates. These certificates will replace what we used to call 'merit certificates' at the school. We will provide more information about milestones soon.

Don't forget to join up on Class Dojo so you can see your child's learning and the interesting things the class is doing throughout the week. Also a great source of information is our school Facebook page.

Attached to this newsletter is a new pick up process. We are implementing changes to the carpark if you pick up you drive to pick up your child. Please read and make yourself familiar.

Jodie

Dates for the Diary

**Monday 14 February—
Friday 18 February**

Getting to know you
Interviews

Thursday 17 February

Board Meeting online
4.30pm

Friday 4 March

Clean up Australia Day

Tuesday 15—18 March

Harmony Week

Friday 18 March

National day against
bullying

Friday 25 March

Ride or walk to school day

**Monday 28 March—Friday
1 April**

Year 2 Aquasafe TBC

Friday 8 April

Term 1 ends

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Birthday Food

With current Covid restrictions we are unable to share food at school. This includes birthday cakes, lolly bags etc. We request families don't send in food to celebrate birthdays. We appreciate this is a change for families but hope you can understand the reasoning behind it. We want to keep everyone as safe as possible. Teachers are celebrating with students and making their day special in other ways.

Sunscreen

We are a SunSmart school. We are happy to give children reminders to wear sunscreen if they bring their own along in their bag. If your child brings sunscreen please let the teacher know.

NEWS FROM THE P&C

From the President: We still have a few vacant positions on the P&C for 2022. These include:

- Secretary (Office Bearer)
- Events and Fundraising Coordinator
- Preschool Representative

These positions are all supported by other committee members and can be shared with another person - so feel free to join forces with a fellow parent or carer. Please contact macquariepandc@gmail.com asap if you are able to fill one of the roles.

Uniform Shop: The P&C Uniform Shop is located in the Tidbinbilla Building. It is run by volunteers and sells new uniforms as close to cost price as possible, and second-hand items for \$2 and \$5. Open times are: Mondays 8:45 - 9:15am, Wednesdays 3:00 - 3:30pm, and Fridays 8:45 - 9:15am.

Cash and card payments are accepted. Orders can also be placed online at www.flexischools.com.au. No need to collect online orders - they will be sent home with students. Any questions can be sent to uniforms.mps@gmail.com. Donations of pre-loved uniform items are gratefully accepted during open times.

**Volunteer needed. The Uniform shop is looking for a volunteer once a fortnight on Wednesday afternoons. Get in touch with Liz: uniforms.mps@gmail.com if you can help.

Canteen: Canteen is back up and running. Orders can be placed via Flexischools with a strict cut off of 8.30am Friday mornings. To top up your existing account or set up an account for new students head to flexischools.com.au or install the app to your phone. There has been some changes to the menu this year, so log onto Flexischools and check it out. Vegetarian, gluten free and halal dietary requirements are catered for.

Class Parent Representatives: If you would like to volunteer as class parent representative for your child's class in 2022, please let us know by emailing classparentrepsmps@gmail.com. Class Parent Reps communicate with their child's class every so often to advise on class or school activities, P&C events and information, as well as any other social events or opportunities that we can be part of with the Macquarie Primary Community. It really only takes a few minutes every couple of weeks to send an email out to your class. We currently have 6 classes with Parents Reps, but there are still 12 without one. Please consider this role if you can.

Breakfast Club: Unfortunately, Breakfast Club will not be running for the foreseeable future due to the restrictions currently in place. We hope to be back up and running later in the year.

Macquarie Community Netball Team

If your child (girl or boy) from year 2-6 is interested in playing Saturday morning Netball this year, please fill out the attached form and email it to: Deb - debstuhome@gmail.com. Forms must be returned by Friday 18 February 2022.

IT'S THEIR TURN

There are many benefits of getting your children vaccinated against COVID-19:

- To protect them – although children are at lower risk of serious illness, they are not immune from COVID-19.
- To protect others – younger people and children experience the highest rates of COVID-19 and are one of the biggest spreaders of the virus. Children who are vaccinated are less likely to pass the virus onto others.
- Less disruption from school – being vaccinated will make your child less likely to experience disruption from school, socialising with others and doing other activities they love.

Find out more at covid19.act.gov.au/vaccinechildren



SCHOOL BOARD VACANCIES

One member of our school board will reach the end of their appointment in March 2022 creating a vacancy for a parent member .

Our school board provides valuable input into strategic planning and monitoring across many aspects of our school. If you are interested in nominating for a position, or would like to know a little more about what is involved with being on the board, please contact our Business Manager, Ann Walker, or talk to one of our current board members. Further information can also be found on the Education Directorate website : https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/get-involved-in-your-childs-school/school_boards

The 14 day nomination period for vacant positions on our School Board will open at **11am on Monday, 7 February 2022.**

2022 STATIONERY SUPPLIES

Congratulations to the following families who have won the early bird prize for stationery. These families will receive a refund for one stationery pack.

The Little Nippers winner—Tilly

The Great Barriers—Millie

The Water Birds—Seeneen

The Mangroves—Naisyah

Coral Coliseum—Daria

Freshwater Fish—Ysabel

Payments for stationery can still be made at any time.

Payment options are listed on page 4 of the newsletter.

2022 year level	Price of pack
Preschool	\$45
Kindergarten	\$75
Year 1	\$70
Year 2	\$60
Year 3	\$65
Year 4	\$55
Year 5	\$60
Year 6	\$50
Small group program	\$40

SCHOOL PHOTOS: RELEASE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION TO MASTER SCHOOL PORTRAITS (MSP PHOTOGRAPHY)

On enrolment at Macquarie Primary School you provided the school with personal information that assists us to support the educational needs of your child/ren while they are enrolled in an ACT Government school. The ACT Information Privacy Act 2014 states that this information cannot be used or released without satisfying certain conditions. MSP Photography will be returning for school photos this year in term 1. They have requested your child's name, student ID and class. If you do not consent to include your child in this year's school photos please complete the slip below and return it to the Front Office as soon as possible.

I do not give permission for my child/ren _____ in class/es _____ to be included in the 2022 school photos.

Signed _____ Parent Name _____ Date ___/___/___

LIBRARY NEWS

Library Bags

We would like to see all students in P-2 using library bags when they borrow books. The bags will help to keep the books clean and safe, and the books will also be less likely to go missing. Some bags are handmade by clever family members, some are bought from a shop, and some are plastic or fabric shopping bags. We don't mind what kind of bag your child brings, as long as it is clean. Please help your child remember to bring their bag on library day:

- Preschool – Wednesday
- Kindergarten – Friday
- Year 1/2 – Monday

Of course we still encourage our year 3-6 students to have a library bag too. It is important to take care of our library books regardless of student age.



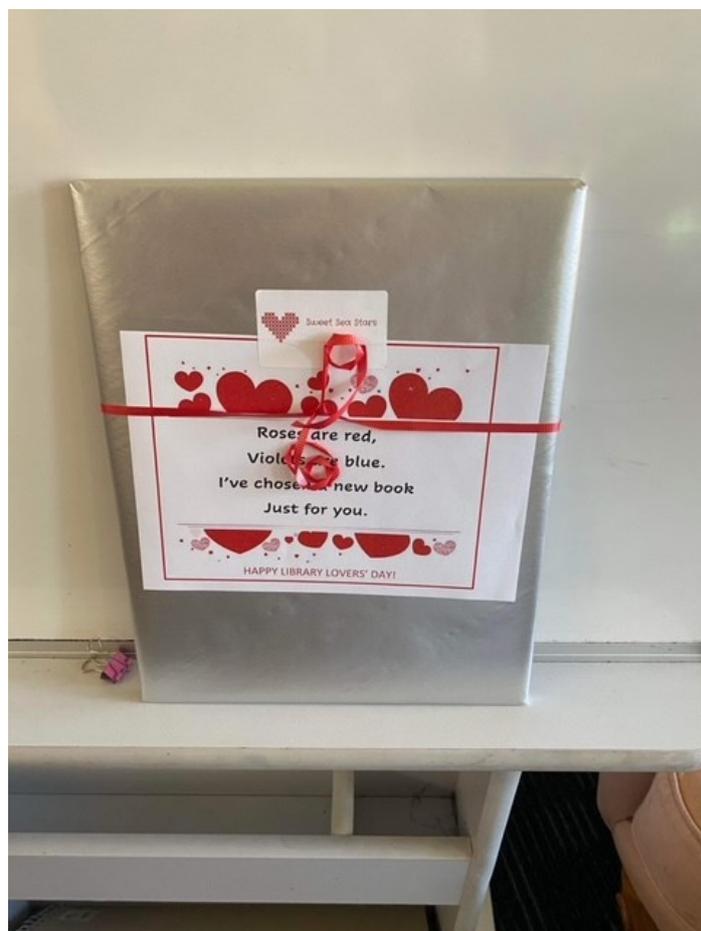
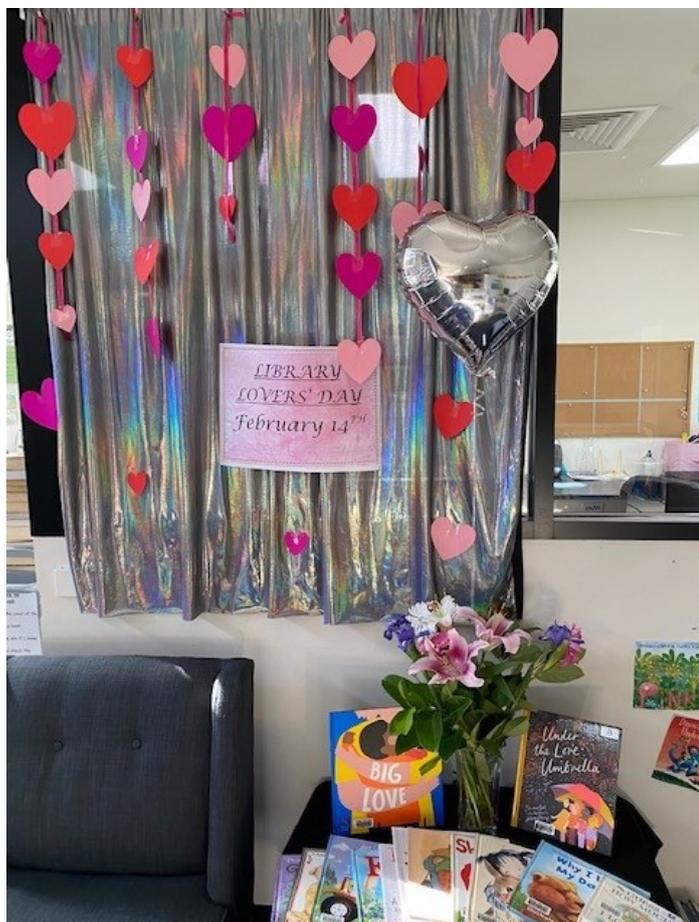
Oliver

Oliver

Oliver is the name of our Library Management System and it is accessible from anywhere with an internet connection. If your child knows how to access their student backpack where they accessed Google Classroom during remote learning, they will also be able to see the Oliver icon. Oliver can be used at home for looking up books, finding out which books they have borrowed and their due dates, and writing book reviews. Students will learn more about this as the year progresses but it is worthwhile having a look at home to check out some of the fabulous features.

Library Lovers' Day

February 14 marks a very special day – Library Lovers' Day! It was especially important to celebrate it this year, to remind students that our library is always here and ready to help them, even if they can only physically access it on one day per week. When restrictions ease we will welcome our community members back into our library and start family borrowing again. Meanwhile, Belconnen Library is very close... have you loved your library lately?



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
Medical Consent Form	All students	Friday 18 February
2022 Stationery supplies	All students	Payments welcome anytime
Getting to know you information sheet	All students	Friday 11 February

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

Updating Contact Information

Please update the school office if you have any changes to phone numbers, home address or email address.

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

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

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, Superb Stingrays & 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

Take a reusable bag to the shops.

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	Stacey Naden	stacey.naden@ed.act.edu.au
Email:	admin@macquarieps.act.edu.au	Executive (P-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	Amy McGuire	