

From our Deputy Principal

One of the top priorities for us at MPS is maintaining high levels of communication with you, your child's first and most important influences and teachers. There is a wide range of ways we communicate formally and informally across the year. These include but are not limited to:

Informal communication

- Conversations at the start and end of the day as needed
- Phone calls and emails to share information
- Social media communication via Facebook and Class Dojo
- Weekly newsletters
- School website
- Art Showcase in term 4

Formal communication

- Getting to know you interviews in term 1
- Midyear parent teacher interviews at the end of term 2
- Semester one and two academic reports
- Learning Journey in term 3 – an opportunity for your child to lead you through a journey.

We value open and honest communication and invite you to email any member of staff at any time to discuss your child, or to arrange a time for more in-depth conversations.

We are currently reviewing some aspects of the formal kindergarten to year 6 semester one and two academic reports. Many parts of the reporting template are set by the ACT Education Directorate to ensure consistency across all schools in the ACT but some elements can be adjusted to suit our community. We value community input as part of this process and would appreciate you completing this short 5 question survey <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1cp1g3o-VsM5NZqphIH7iUpQhgyUsiBHV-c3qcOk8yhC/edit> before Friday 8 April. This feedback will be used to finalise the semester one report template for 2022.

Tomorrow is National Walk or Ride to School Day. We encourage students to get active in the morning as their means of getting to school. Not only is it great exercise, it also supports students to be learning ready when school starts. There will be staff at two locations to create walking buses. These are

- Cook shops – at 8.40am
- Macquarie shops – at 8.40am

Have a great week.

Stacey

Dates for the Diary

Friday 25 March

Ride or walk to school day

Sunday 27 March

P&C Gardens and Grounds Working Bee

9am-12pm

Monday 28 March—Friday 1 April

Year 2 Aquasafe

Thursday 7 April

Board meeting

Friday 8 April

Cross country carnival

Junior school 11.15am-12.15pm

Senior school 1.00-2.30pm

Term 1 ends

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NEWS FROM THE P&C

From the President: We still have a couple of vacant positions on the P&C for 2022:

Events and Fundraising Coordinator
Preschool Representative



Please contact macquariepandc@gmail.com asap if you are able to fill one of the roles.

Gardens and Grounds: Working Bee this weekend.

We would love you to come along to the working bee this Sunday 27 March from 9am. We will be doing various activities in the gardens and grounds, all are welcome to help out for all or part of the working bee. If you are able to attend, just send me an email: grounds.mpspandc@gmail.com so we can cater accordingly. Thanks and hope to see you this Sunday. Chris.

Fundraising and Events: Online Mother's Day Stall coming soon! An online Mother's Day stall will be setup on Flexischools shortly. Items ranging from \$1 - \$10 will be available for sale leading up to Mother's Day and will be sent home with the children on Friday 6th May.

Uniform Shop: **** VOLUNTEER NEEDED **** Are you available Wednesday afternoons once a fortnight? The Uniform Shop needs you in order to continue this valuable service to the school community every week. If you can help please contact Liz: uniforms.mps@gmail.com

The P&C Uniform Shop is open:

Mondays 8:45 - 9:15am, Wednesdays 3:00 - 3:30pm, and Fridays 8:45 - 9:15am.

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

Donations of pre-loved uniform items are gratefully accepted during open times. Any questions can be sent to uniforms.mps@gmail.com

Class Parent Reps: We only need four more class parent reps for our classes this year: Red crayfish (Preschool), Electric Eels (year 3/4), Golden Galaxias (year 5/6) and Splendid Silver Perch (year 5/6). Please send an email to: classparentrepsmps@gmail.com if you can fill one of the rolls.

LIBRARY NEWS

Book Club

Issue 2 brochures have been sent home with students. Please remember we are taking online orders only at the moment – no cash orders. Orders can be placed at www.scholastic.com.au/loop and are due in by **Sunday March 27**.

Holiday Borrowing

Next week (Week 9) we will be encouraging students to return any books they have finished with so they will be able to borrow new books for the holidays. **The library will be closed in Week 10 for some building and resource maintenance**, so overdue notes will be sent home this week to remind students to look for missing books.

SCHOOL SPORT ACT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

School Sport ACT has launched the SSACT Scholarship Fund. The School Sport ACT Scholarship Fund aims to:

- Provide assistance to families who may choose not to have their child trial for selection or accept the selection of their child to an ACT representative team, as they are unable to meet the financial requirements of competing
- The Scholarship Fund is open to applications from students travelling interstate to attend a School Sport Australia Championship. Students attending an ACT hosted Championship are not eligible
- To be considered, each application must be endorsed and signed by the student's Principal. This will include a confirmation of enrolment status, attendance and endorsement for each applicant
- To be eligible to apply, the applicant must be able to demonstrate financial need by providing evidence
- In its inaugural year, the fund will support 25 Scholarships of \$500 each.

Assessment of applications and the allocation of funds are to be spread across the year so students from all 17 sports have fair access to assistance.

If you would like to apply please contact the school for the application form.

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.

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.



CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL

We will be holding our school cross country carnival on Friday 8 April, which is the last day of school this term.

A permission note will not be going home for this event, as it will be held in the vicinity of the school. All children are encouraged to participate to the best of their ability, however if your child is unable to participate in this event please inform your child's class teacher. Children are encouraged to wear house colours this day.

At this point it is our understanding that the Belconnen Regional carnival will go ahead, so if you believe your child would like to be selected to represent Macquarie Primary at this event please encourage them to train.

Unfortunately, we are unable to invite parents to watch their child run this year. Expect lots of Dojo posts to see the excitement.

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 2. 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 ___/___/___

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
Band payment	Year 5 & 6 band	Payments welcome anytime
Year 6 shirts	Year 6	Thursday 7 April

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

Plan your meals for the week so you only buy the amount of food you need. This will also save you money.

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	

What is *Learning for Life*?



everyone's family

Learning for Life provides families with opportunities to increase their children's success at school.

The *Learning for Life* program helps each child to reach their potential by supporting their education from primary through to post-school studies.

Learning for Life provides:



Am I eligible for *Learning for Life*?

To be eligible, you must:

- ✓ Have a child/ children in Kindergarten/ Prep/ Reception to Year 6, who attend a school that we work with
- ✓ Have a current Health Care or Pension Concession Card
- ✓ Demonstrate a strong commitment to education through regular school attendance



What else do I need to know?

Learning for Life is a partnership between your family and The Smith Family.

As a parent/guardian or caregiver, you will be committing to:

- Your children attending school regularly
- Providing a school report yearly for each child
- Returning a yearly progress report for each child
- Maintaining contact with The Smith Family

How do I apply for *Learning for Life*?

If you meet all of the above criteria and would like to apply for the *Learning for Life* program, please complete the referral form provided and return to your school.

For further information, please contact the Family Partnership Coordinator:



Monica Watson

Family Partnership Coordinator (Belconnen)

Mob: 0466 941 375

Email: monica.watson@thesmithfamily.com.au