



The Macquarie Memo

Issue 23: 4 August 2022

From our Principal

Only a year or two ago we did a values review. This process involved consultation with our community to really unpack what the key values were that we wanted all students to leave Macquarie Primary School with – values that would shape their lives and values that aligned with what parents wanted for their children into the future.

As a school we believe students learn best when they feel safe, valued and happy. Our staff is committed to providing an environment that nurtures personal growth and self-esteem. The school values underpin how we support our students to interact in positive and productive ways.

Dates for the Diary

Friday 5 August

Pupil free day

Sunday 7 August

Book Club orders due

Monday 8 August

ICAS Writing testing 12pm

Thursday 11 August

ICAS Digital Technologies testing 9am

Monday 15–Friday 19 August

Science Week

Thursday 18 August

ICAS English testing 9am

Monday 22–Friday 26 August

Book week

Monday 22 August

ICAS Science testing 12pm

Thursday 25 August

Year 6 combined band

ICAS Spelling testing 9am

Integrity – this was chosen because it incorporates so many of our previous values including acceptance, honesty, responsibility, respect and kindness. When explaining this with children we talk about ‘making good choices, even when it’s hard’ and ‘making good choices, even when no one is looking.’

Persistence – this value is about persisting with tasks and learning, being resilient, and continuing to strive to achieve goals despite challenges. When explaining this to children we talk about ‘trying different strategies to overcome challenges,’ ‘having a go and learning from mistakes,’ ‘following through on commitments’ and ‘to keep trying, even when it is difficult’.

Excellence - this value is about supporting students to strive to do their personal best. Excellence means we give our best to everything we do. When explaining this to children we talk about ‘when we practise excellence, we are not trying to be better than anyone else; we are striving to be the best we can be’.

All members of the school community have rights and responsibilities, and these are best ensured when agreed procedures are accepted and followed. Primary school students are developing appropriate ways to interact with others. The school and its community share the responsibility to assist students in learning appropriate behaviours.

Our PBL Matrix of expectations supports students to interact in positive and productive ways. The matrix outlines how we - students, staff and the community - are **safe, respectful, learners** at school.

You may have heard in the media that Australian Curriculum has been updated recently. Some of the changes include:

- a 21% reduction in content descriptors, encouraging school to go deeper into learning
- a stronger focus on phonics teaching in English
- a stronger focus on students mastering essential mathematical facts, skill, concepts and processes
- a revision of the sequencing of maths content.

These changes have an impact on our school-based documentation and teachers now have the job of updating our documents to reflect current Australian Curriculum. This is quite a task so we will be doing a staged process across the next six to twelve months.

A reminder that tomorrow is a school planning day and we ask that where possible, children stay home. If your child needs to attend school please call the office to book them in so we can plan supervision across the day.

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Happy reading to everyone this week! Enjoy the first week of our Readathon.

Jodie

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



ACT
Government
Education



Values	Persistence Integrity Excellence										
Expectations	Settings										
	ALL SETTINGS	Assembly	Library	Hallway/ corridors	Staff Room/ Meeting Room	Front Office	Toilets	Bus Stop	Playground spaces	Front of School (including arrival and leaving school)	Cyber Space
We are Respectful	We communicate positively We care for our environment We care for ourselves and others	We enter and exit the hall respectfully We listen	We are quiet We return resources We use furniture appropriately We treat books with care	We use quiet voices We treat displays with care We walk quietly and, on the left, We wear shoes	We only touch things with adult permission We knock and wait We use a quiet voice	We use quiet voices We wait our turn	We keep toilets clean We respect others' privacy	We listen to the teacher We are respectful to others catching the bus	We put rubbish in the bin We respect others' creations We use paths		We treat technology with care
We are Safe	We play safely We are in the right place at the right time We are SUNSMART We seek help if needed		We move safely	We keep corridors tidy We play outside We use a corridor pass	We enter with an adult	We move safely through the foyer	We wait for friends outside We wash hands We wear shoes We play away from the toilets	We keep ourselves and others safe We are road safe	We play where a teacher can see us We use equipment with care We eat on the silver seats	We walk or push our bikes/scooters We wait safely We are road safe	We report inappropriate use to an adult We are supervised by a teacher
We are Learners	We mend relationships We support each other to learn We self-manage	We focus on the presenters	We use the library to support our learning	We use corridors as a learning space with permission	We use the space for learning with permission			We get to the bus on time	We dress appropriately for the weather We move quickly to line up		We use devices for learning during class time We are critical thinkers



NEWS FROM THE P&C

Readathon: The readathon is now underway. Don't forget to remind your children to record every book they've listened to, had read to them or read themselves on their readathon sheets - they all count. The readathon ends at midnight on the 26th of August, with prizes awarded. Happy reading!



Uniform Shop: The P&C Uniform Shop will be closed on the staff planning day on **Friday 5 August**. Regular open times are: **Mondays** 8:45 - 9:15, **Wednesdays** 2:55 - 3:15 and **Fridays** 8:45 - 9:15. Grab a bargain - discontinued items are available on flexischools in limited sizes with prices from \$10. Scarves and beanies are still available for \$5 each. Orders for new uniform items can be placed online at www.flexischools.com.au or flexischools app. Online orders will be sent home with students. Second hand items are available in the shop for \$2 and \$5, and donations of pre-loved uniform items are gratefully accepted during open times.

Any questions can be sent to uniforms.mps@gmail.com

Gardens and Grounds: Save the Date!! Working Bee - 9am Sunday the 28th August!!

LIBRARY NEWS

Library News

Mem Fox's Read-Aloud Commandments

3. Read aloud with animation. Listen to your own voice and don't be dull, or flat, or boring. Hang loose and be loud, have fun and laugh a lot.

Book Club

Issue 5 orders are due in by **Sunday August 7**. Don't forget you receive a free book if you order is over \$30! Place orders at www.scholastic.com.au/loop

Book Week

Book Week will be celebrated in Week 6. The 2022 theme is 'Dreaming With Eyes Open.' One of our celebrations will be the return of our Book Character dress up day and assembly, held on August 26. I know some of the staff have already started thinking about their costumes!

If you are interested to see which books have been judged to be the best of the best, the shortlist is at <https://cbca.org.au/shortlist-2022> . Ask your child which books they have read. There are already some clear favourites!

Chief Minister's Reading Challenge

All of our students at Macquarie were enrolled earlier in the year to participate in the Chief Minister's Reading Challenge. Most of the classes decided to complete the challenge and the forms at school, and a few classes chose to send the forms home for students to complete with the help of families. If your form is at home, there are only 2 weeks left to finish reading 30 books and record the titles on the form. Any students that have already completed the challenge are encouraged to return the form to the library.

Overdue Notes

The first overdue notes for Term 3 will be printed next week. As always, I'm hoping to save paper by everyone having a weekend search for missing books and returning them on Monday BEFORE the notes are printed. We currently have over 400 overdue books – that's a lot of paper that will end up in the recycling bin. If you would like to know which books your child has out, ask them to log into their school **Backpack** <https://backpack.act.edu.au> click on **Oliver** , find your **child's name** on the right hand side of the black toolbar, and click on **Loans**.

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
Band payment	Year 5 & 6 band	Payments welcome anytime
Voluntary Contributions	All year levels	Payments welcome anytime
Arboretum excursion	Preschool	Friday 26 August

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	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

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.

SUSTAINABILITY TIPS

Pack a waste free lunch.

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	