

From our Deputy Principal

I hope everyone has had a good week. It is hard to believe that next week we are halfway through term 3. We have made the most of the first part of the term; wherever I walk around the school I am seeing deep and focused learning from all our students.

Many of you will be aware, in 2020 we successfully applied for a large grant titled 'Building a mentally healthy and socially connected Macquarie Primary School community'. This grant is very important in making sure all students are supported, and has thus far allowed us to complete a range of initiatives across our school, including:

- The implementation of two successful Cool Kids programs run by the University of Canberra Psychology Clinic
- Train two teachers in African Drumming, purchase a set of Djembe drums and implement a drumming program with selected students
- Implement two successful circus skills groups with Warehouse Circus with selected students
- Purchase books and resources to support students and parents to understand, increase and maintain positive mental health, and
- Complete Social Emotional Wellbeing surveys with year 2 to 6 students.

All of these programs and purchases have benefitted the students involved and we see positive results within the school environment. This grant has a completion date of December 2023 so we still have quite a while left to continue many of the programs above and introduce others. Here is a list of some programs and experiences we have coming up during the remaining life of the grant:

- More Cool Kids programs
- Two more African drumming groups in 2023
- An Art Therapy Program run in term 4, 2022 and again in 2023
- Two more Warehouse Circus groups
- Targeted Social Skills groups run by Erin and Stacey
- Stay and play sessions for children in term 4 prior to their transition to preschool
- A targeted transition program to Canberra High School for students, including additional visits and programs with the 2023 year 7 coordinators
- Additional purchase of resources to support mental health
- Professional learning for our teachers focused on supporting students with mental health challenges in the classroom, with a particular focus on anxiety.

Students are identified to participate in the programs offered through the grant by analysing their results from the Social Emotional Wellbeing Survey, data collected from teacher surveys, and by parent referral. If you think your child would benefit from participation in any of our programs please reach out to me at any time and I can give you the parent referral form.

Next week is Science Week. All classes will be engaged in science rotations based around this year's theme which is 'Glass'. Make sure to ask your child what they learned at the end of the week.

Next week also marks the opening of the 2022 School Satisfaction Survey. As part of the Education Directorate's continuous effort to improve ACT Schools, this survey is completed every year by all staff, students in years 4 to 12, and parents/carers. Responses are collated and help our school to identify what we do well and how we can improve what we do to support your child's education. Data is also used to identify school improvement practices. Next week you will receive an email with details so you can complete the survey which is open from Friday 19 August to Friday 9 September.

Have a great week,

Stacey

Dates for the Diary

Thursday 11 August

ICAS Digital Technologies testing 9am

Monday 15—Friday 19 August

Science Week

Thursday 18 August

ICAS English testing 9am

Belconnen Zone Athletics Carnival

Monday 22—Friday 26 August

Book week

Monday 22 August

ICAS Science testing 12pm

Wednesday 24 August

ICAS Spelling testing 12pm

Thursday 25 August

Year 6 combined band

Friday 26 August

Book week dress-up day

P&C readathon ends

Sunday 28 August

P&C working bee

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HATS ON!
Please ensure your child brings a sunsmart hat to wear to school every day.



A MESSAGE FROM THE ACT EDUCATION DIRECTORATE: KEEPING OUR STUDENTS LEARNING IN TERM 3

Every ACT public school is working hard to manage the impacts of COVID-19 and the flu in our schools to ensure minimal disruption for everyone and keep students learning.

Face-to-face learning in the classroom remains the core way students are learning this term; however, staff shortages may see them learning a little differently from time to time.

What can parents and students expect?

When schools do not have appropriate staffing levels to support students in their usual classrooms the following measures may be put in place:

- Older students may learn online in a supervised setting.
- Students may be engaged in a modified program of learning in their regular classroom with supervision from school staff.
- Students may participate in self-directed learning (supervised by other classroom teachers this may be via Google Classrooms or a pre-prepared activity).
- Students may be split into classes across the school, where children may engage in self-directed learning and/or the learning of their host class.
- Some activities may be put on hold (eg lunchtime clubs)

Where schools are no longer able to manage using the above strategies students may move to learning from home for short periods of time.

If this is the case your school will work with the Directorate ahead of time to make this decision and families will be provided with learning activities for use during this time.

Sometimes this decision will need to be made quickly. We appreciate that the short notice is difficult for families and, where we can, will ensure we give as much notice as we are able.

Non-essential events and excursions

There may also be the need to postpone/cancel planned activities and events offsite (eg camps, excursions, sporting days etc) from time to time, sometimes at short notice.

We appreciate any cancellation is disappointing and wherever possible schools will reschedule these missed opportunities.

Thank you once more to our parents, carers and staff for their ongoing support and commitment again this term.

**Students need to
bring a drink bottle
to school everyday.**



NEWS FROM THE P&C

Grants Coordinator: Hopefully by now you have seen our new digital sign outside the school's front gate. It looks fantastic and will enable the P&C to share important messages with our school community. This sign was jointly delivered by the school and P&C and was supported with grant funding under the ACT government's 2021-22 Technology Upgrade Fund Grant Program. If you haven't seen it yet, walk or drive past the school's front gate on Bennelong Crescent!



Readathon: We're well into the readathon now. Don't forget that books read at school also count towards the number of books read. We have a prize for the child in every grade who reads the most books, as well as a participation prize. Every child who submits their reading list will go into the draw to win a book voucher. Happy reading!

Uniform Shop: The P&C Uniform Shop is open: **Mondays** 8:45 - 9:15, **Wednesdays** 2:55 - 3:15 and **Fridays** 8:45 - 9:15

Grab a bargain! Discounted items are available in flexischools (limited sizes), as well as scarves and beanies for winter. Orders for new uniform items can be placed online at www.flexischools.com.au or on the flexischools app. Flexischools 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

Overdue Library Books

The overdue notes were distributed through the week. If you have any questions or concerns please email me at pamela.gaukroger@ed.act.edu.au.

Mem Fox's Read-Aloud Commandments

4. Read with joy and enjoyment; real enjoyment for yourself and great joy for the listeners.

CANCELLATION OF LIMELIGHT GALA 2022

As foreshadowed at the beginning of term, pressures as a result of staff availability continue to impact our schools. As a Directorate our priority remains ensuring continuity of learning, prioritising our efforts to ensure we deliver our learning program.

It is with regret that we inform you the Education Directorate has made the difficult decision to cancel the Limelight Gala for 2022.

When the program was launched at the beginning of this year, we did not anticipate such impacts on our schools and teaching workforce at this point in the year.

We appreciate the commitment from our schools to this event. We recognise there has already been significant work invested in the creation and rehearsal of performances. Schools have been contacted by the Directorate in regard to next steps and opportunities to showcase your performances within your school.

The Limelight Team would like to take this opportunity to thank you for being enthusiastic supporters of the Limelight Gala. We appreciate everything you do in your schools as advocates for this program and we hope that 2023 will see students back on stage for this event.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Limelight Team on limelight@ed.act.edu.au

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
Belconnen Zone Athletics	Selected Students	Monday 15 August
Year 5 Combined Band	Year 5 band	Wednesday 31 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.

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

When electronics are not in use, turn them off so they're not wasting energy and battery.

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	

COMMUNITY NOTICES



Kippax Kids

Holiday Happenings

for Primary aged children

presented at

Kippax Uniting Community Centre

Hardwick Cres, Holt (opposite Kippax Fair)



10 am - 2 pm

September 29 & October 6 2022, Thursday

Different craft, games, stories and activities each day



Cost: \$5 per child, \$10 for two or more in a family (covers craft and morning tea).

BYO lunch, drink bottle and hat. Do not attend if unwell.

Bookings essential - 6254 1733

An activity of Kippax Uniting Church



**This is a Covid
Aware event**



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THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY. ANU SPORT FITNESS CENTRE. 19 NORTH RD, ACTON 2601.



1300 914 368
admin@australiansportscamps.com.au
<https://australiansportscamps.com.au>

NOT APPLICABLE TO PARTNER PROGRAMS