



The Macquarie Memo

Issue 9: 7 May 2020

From our Principal

Dear Families and Friends,

Well here we are almost at the end of the second week of term two. You can see that autumn has hit Canberra, with the leaves turning and those cold mornings with beautiful blue skies during the day. Thanks to those families who have provided feedback to teachers about the program so far. We are continuing to make adjustments each day, trying to refine and better meet everyone's needs during this period.

This remote learning period will continue for the next week for all students and then:

- preschool, kindergarten and years 1 and 2 students will return to school on Monday 18 May;
- years 3 and 4 students will return on Monday 25 May;
- and finally years 5 and 6 on Tuesday 2 June (after the Reconciliation Day long weekend).

Students who have been attending a Safe and Supervised School site will resume being supervised at Macquarie from Monday 18 May.

At school the plants in the adventure playground are enjoying bedding down into the space and we can't wait to have everyone back to enjoy the new experiences. We are taking the opportunity while there is no traffic through the school to enhance the toilets in the Namadgi building. I am sure anyone with boys have heard the complaints about how terrible the toilets are, and for a long time we have been agitating for an upgrade. Unfortunately there isn't enough money in the Directorate's budget to upgrade the toilets and install air conditioning, so we have opted for the reverse cycle air conditioning – which should be installed anytime now. So we are self-funding an improvement in the boys toilets including installing a new long line sink and taps that are self-closers, so you can turn them on, wash your hands and they will turn off themselves – a big improvement. We have painted the doors – and found some more! So all the stalls will be fully functional upon the students return. We can't afford to re-tile, so we are getting the tiles and wall painted to freshen it all up. Look out for photos when it is complete.

In this Issue

In this issue

- [Library News](#)
 - [Community notices](#)
- Danielle

SCHOOL CONTACT DETAILS

Office hours: Monday — Friday 8.30am — 3.30pm

Phone K-6 site:	02 6142 1550	Principal	Danielle Porter	danielle.porter@ed.act.edu.au
Phone preschool:	02 6142 1570	Deputy Principal	Jodie Rowell	jodie.rowell@ed.act.edu.au
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P&C President	Brendan Ding macquariepandc@gmail.com	Board Chair	To be confirmed	

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



ACT
Government
Education



2021 school enrolments now open



Education

- 1. Go to education.act.gov.au for information on your local school and to enrol online.**
- 2. Apply before 5 June 2020 to receive an offer from 27 July 2020. This means there is ample time to submit your application to be included in the initial round of offers.**



Enrolling in Preschool in 2021



Education

If your child turns four on or before 30 April 2020, they were able to start preschool in Term 1, 2020. **If your child turns four after 30 April 2020, they can start preschool in 2021**

All four year old ACT children are guaranteed a place in a public preschool. However, you are not guaranteed a place at the preschool site of your preference, due to capacity constraints at some sites. All preschools offer a high-quality early childhood education.

Enrolments for 2021 open from 6am on Tuesday 28 April. Apply before 5 June 2020 to receive an offer from 27 July 2020. Apply online at education.act.gov.au

LIBRARY NEWS

E-Books and Audiobooks – We are very fortunate to have access to a digital book collection that the Education Directorate has purchased on our behalf. This collection of over 7000 e-books and over 1000 audiobooks can be accessed via an app/website called SORA (instructions attached) or through our own school library catalogue, Oliver (accessed via digital backpack).

Reading for enjoyment – This is a perfect time to remind our community of the importance of reading for enjoyment. The normalities of everyday life have been turned upside down, which can be stressful for both children and adults. Many studies have shown that taking the time to do some reading every day can reduce stress levels enormously. This would be a great time to help your child choose some fantastic books and sit and read with them. My favourite quote at this time is “Reading takes you places when you have to stay where you are”. Hogwarts, Narnia, Neverland, 100 Acre Woods... you can visit them all!



The advertisement features the Scholastic logo at the top. Below it, the text "Book Club LOOP" is prominently displayed in large, bold letters, with "Book Club" in blue and "LOOP" in red. Underneath this, the word "for Parents" is written in a smaller, grey font. A descriptive paragraph follows: "LOOP is the Scholastic Book Club Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for parents. To order and pay for Scholastic Book Club by credit card visit: www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP". At the bottom, there are two download links: "GET IT ON Google play" and "Download on the App Store".

Book Club

The orders for **Issue 2** book club have been delivered to the school. You can collect your orders from the front office between 9.00am – 3.00pm. Please call the front office on 6142 1550 before you come so Jess and Ann can ensure we adhere to the safety measures we have in place.

Issue 3 book club will go ahead with only a slight change to accommodate our unusual circumstances:

No paper brochures will be available. Instead, please click [here](#) to view the online catalogue.

No cash orders will be taken. ALL orders must be completed using the LOOP digital platform.

If you have not used LOOP before, you will need to create an account for your family before you place an order. Please email me at pamel.gaukroger@ed.act.edu.au if you have any issues with creating an account.

Orders are due in by **Friday May 13** for free delivery. After this date Scholastic can deliver directly to your home address but will incur postage costs. I will notify you when orders have arrived at school and are available for collection.



Getting started with Sora

With Sora, you can borrow free e-books and audiobooks from the central **ACT Education Directorate** collection. More than 7,000 e-book titles and 1,000 audiobooks available for recreational reading. Borrow up to 10 resources at a time! Loan period is two weeks with an early-return option for those quick, enthusiastic readers. Need a bit more time, then use the renewal option if no one has placed a HOLD (reserve).

Step 1

Go online to soraapp.com, or install the free Sora app from the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#)

Step 2

In Sora, in **Find My School** enter the set-up code **ACT Education Directorate (NOT the individual school name)**, then, sign in using your school, individual login credentials, ie. student ID number and password or the staff Schools net account and password.

Step 3



Explore

Browse the **Explore** tab and borrow an e-book or audiobook. Your book will open so you can start reading or listening right away.

Step 4



Shelf

Close the book and go to **Shelf** & see all your books (up to 10!). From there you can:

Select **Open book** or **Open audiobook** to read or listen to the book.

Select **Options** to renew or return the book.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

CARBON DIET

Act on climate change - cut carbon now

Red meat like beef and lamb produce a lot of carbon emissions. Eat less red meat and more chicken, duck, kangaroo or pork. Plant-based foods are even better for the planet. Eat your vegetables!

These tips have been sourced from Jo Clay's website The Carbon Diet. Jo is a member of our school community who has been running this ACT Government sponsored project on cutting carbon for the past two years.

For more information on the project go to

<https://www.carbondiet.com.au/>.



PARENTLINE ACT

WE HELP
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6287 3833

The advertisement features a yellow rectangular graphic on the left side containing text and a small logo. To the right of this graphic is a photograph of a woman with dark skin and braided hair, wearing a red cable-knit sweater, sitting and looking at a young child. The child, also with dark skin, is wearing a striped shirt and blue jeans, facing the woman. The background of the photo is a blurred outdoor setting.