



The Macquarie Memo

Issue 1: 3 February 2022

From our Principal

Welcome back to families for the 2022 school year. It's been a smooth return to school for our students and teachers are excited to see them all back and well.

We want to reassure families that we are implementing COVID safe practices such as regular handwashing, sanitiser available in all classrooms, adults wearing masks or shields, different entry and exit points to reduce cross over of cohorts just to name a few. The most important thing you can do to help us reduce transmission is to keep sick children at home, use the rapid antigen tests we've supplied to regularly test children and for adults to stay off school grounds as much as possible. We have a detailed process to respond to positive case notifications at school, whether that be a student or staff member. When we receive a notification of a positive case we call the COVID Response Team in Education Support Office to help us assess the level of risk. We will then provide notification to parents with information about what families will need to do. Please report all cases of children with COVID to the school so we can assess risk to others. If children are staying home to isolate because other family members have COVID please call the office and let us know.

Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 8 February

P&C meeting online 6pm

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

For our new families I'd like to provide some information about our whole school goals and focus on continuous improvement. In 2018 we undertook School Review. From this review we were provided with a report on areas of strengths and development. We then wrote three goals, based on the report, to drive the school improvement process for the next five years:

1. Improve student gain in writing and spelling
2. Improve student wellbeing and learning for all through development of consistent practices
3. Improve student gain in numeracy.

The week before students returned, teachers completed maths professional learning (PL) with Dr Paul Swan. This PL contributed to our School Improvement goal, *improve student gain in numeracy*. Teachers learned more about the important sequence of maths learning and how to support students to move from strategies to recall. We will use this PL to continue the conversation about consistent maths language at MPS.

You will probably have children come home this week talking about our school values – persistence, integrity and excellence. It is really helpful if you can have conversations with your children about how they might apply these values at school and home and for our older students you could explore how they are applied more broadly, in the community and beyond. The values are the basic beliefs that guide our attitudes and actions. They were chosen by the whole school community when we conducted a review in 2020. Staff, parents, visitors and students are expected to apply the values in their interactions at school.

Along with our values, we also have community developed expectations. The expectations are our ways of operating to support the development of an orderly learning environment. Our first inquiry focus for the year is all about exploring the expectations and what they look like in different spaces in the school and in different situations. Below is our matrix which outlines what students will cover over the next few weeks. Again the expectations aren't just for the students, all staff and families also follow the expectations.

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



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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 enter and exit the hall respectfully	We are quiet	We use quiet voices	We only touch things with adult permission	We use quiet voices	We keep toilets clean	We listen to the teacher	We put rubbish in the bin		We treat technology with care
	We care for our environment	We listen	We return resources	We treat displays with care	We knock and wait	We wait our turn	We respect others' privacy	We are respectful to others catching the bus	We respect others' creations		
	We care for ourselves and others		We use furniture appropriately	We walk quietly and, on the left	We use a quiet voice			We use paths			
We are Safe	We play safely		We move safely	We keep corridors tidy	We enter with an adult	We move safely through the foyer	We wait for friends outside	We keep ourselves and others safe	We play where a teacher can see us	We walk or push our bikes/scooters	We report inappropriate use to an adult
	We are in the right place at the right time			We play outside			We wash hands	We are road safe	We use equipment with care	We wait safely	We are supervised by a teacher
	We are sunsmart			We use a corridor pass			We wear shoes		We eat on the silver seats		
	We seek help if needed			We wear shoes			We play away from the toilets				
We are Learners	We mend relationships	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 use devices for learning during class time
	We support each other to learn								We move quickly to line up		We are critical thinkers
	We self-manage										

In week three (14/2-18/2) we will be holding online getting to know you interviews. There will be a note in your child's bag today asking for information about your child that will help the teachers support their learning and development. The getting to know you interview is the perfect time to share your goals and aspirations for your child for the year. You will be able to book your online interview time next week – expect more information. We look forward to a positive partnership with families in 2022.

Teachers will be discussing Individual Learning Plan goals, Personal Learning Plan goals and Behaviour Support Plans with parents of children who have plans during getting to know you interviews. If your child has a plan, you need a double appointment which can only be arranged via the front office. Please call the front office once you've seen the teacher's availability and they will book you a double appointment.

Be sure to connect with us on Facebook and Dojo. These are the two platforms we do most of our communication and updates on. Parents of new students will get a unique code to join Dojo once you've given permission for your child to be on it. We also use Dojo to share your child's individual portfolio of learning and teachers will post class photos for all parents in the class to see what they are doing during the day. With reduced physical access to school, these platforms have become extremely important in helping us keep you connected to what your children are doing at school.

Lastly, it is unfortunate that we will not be having our annual welcome barbecue this year due to COVID restrictions. We have also had to cancel our 2022 swimming carnival. The 5/6 camp dates have changed, in the hope it can go ahead later in the year. The new date for the camp is 14-16 November.

Jodie

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



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 Acting President:

Welcome to the 2022 school year to all of our students and parents. Macquarie Primary School has a wonderful school community of committed and involved parents and the P&C encourages you to get involved.

Usually at the start of each year the P&C holds its welcome BBQ for families to gather and enjoy a sausage while getting to know staff members and other families at the school in an informal and friendly atmosphere. Unfortunately, with the current restrictions in place this is unable to happen this year. We will have to wait and see what is possible later in the year.

The P&C will be holding its AGM online at 6pm, Tuesday 8 February 2022. Having a role on the P&C is a great way to meet other families and get to know the school. There are a variety of roles available, with something to suit everyone. More details of the roles available are on below. All P&C positions will be declared vacant at the AGM, so if something interests you we would love to see you there. We have a number of long standing committee members who will not be nominating for a position in 2022, so we really need some new people to come forward to take on a role on the P&C for the next 12 months. Please RSVP to macquariepandc@gmail.com. Meeting link: <https://meet.google.com/zbw-xxup-bbj> Please use the attached nomination form to nominate for a position.

If a P&C committee role doesn't suit you, perhaps you might like to consider volunteering at either the Uniform Shop, Canteen or as a Class Parent Representative. Uniform Shop shifts are 30 minutes, once a fortnight while the Canteen shifts are 45mins at lunchtimes on Fridays and can be regular or occasional, depending on your availability. Contact macquariepandc@gmail.com for more information about volunteering in any capacity.

Canteen: Canteen is back up and running from Friday of Week 2. 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.

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.

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.

P&C COMMITTEE POSITION DESCRIPTIONS

President (Office Bearer)

Facilitates communication between P&C, Principal, Board and school community

Encourages family and community participation in P&C activities

Acts as first point of contact and spokesperson for the P&C

Chairs general and executive committee meetings

Reports about P&C activities to P&C meetings.

Vice President (Office Bearer) – maximum of two

Assists the President

Oversees and supports P&C subcommittees

Treasurer (Office Bearer)

Manages P&C funds and financial records, including annual budget

Receives and deposits P&C monies, including subcommittee funds raised and spent

Actions P&C funding decisions made at P&C meetings

Organises P&C insurance and ACT P&C Council Association membership

Prepares annual P&C accounts (Financial Statement of Income and Expenditure and Balance Sheet) and organises annual review of financial statements

Reports on P&C finances to P&C meetings.

Assistant Treasurer (Office Bearer)

Assists the Treasurer with banking and accounting system processes, including overseeing operations of the Uniform Shop and Breakfast Club in consultation with the Treasurer, Uniform Shop Coordinator and Breakfast Club Coordinator.

Secretary (Office Bearer)

Prepares and distributes meeting agendas, and records and circulates meeting minutes

Acts upon decisions as directed by meetings

Deals with incoming and outgoing correspondence

Maintains P&C records.

Public Officer

Acts as point of contact between the P&C and the Office of Regulatory Services (ORS)/Access Canberra

Lodges Annual Returns and notifies ORS/Access Canberra of P&C committee and other changes

This position must be held by a resident of the ACT who is over the age of 18 years.

ACT P&C Council Delegate

Attends meetings of the ACT Council of P&C Associations, represents P&C views to the Council, and reports back to the MPS P&C on ACT P&C Council items of interest.

Breakfast Club Coordinator

Coordinates Friday Breakfast Club including food purchases and volunteer roster

Reports on Breakfast Club activities and priorities to P&C meetings

Canteen/Special Lunch Coordinator

Coordinates canteen/special lunch with Healthy Kids Association and the school, and manages volunteer rosters

Reports on canteen/special lunch activities and priorities to P&C meetings

Class Parent Representative Coordinator

Coordinates class parent representatives including seeking reps for each class via the newsletter and other school communication channels, and advising on protocols and privacy

Supports reps with liaison and communication with teachers, school and the P&C

Shares information throughout the year to class parent representatives to pass on to class parents

Reports on class parent representatives' activity to P&C meetings.

Communications Coordinator

Shares P&C information between the P&C, Principal, Board and school community via the school newsletter, and other communications

Promotes P&C activities and events via the school newsletter and other communications

Maintains/updates P&C communications such as the P&C page on the school website

LIBRARY NEWS

Welcome back everybody. I hope you all had a good holiday and read some great books.

We will be able to welcome all students back into our library this term, on one day per week as follows:

- Preschool (*Little Nippers*) – Wednesday
- Kindergarten (*The Great Barriers*) – Friday
- Year 1/2 and Small Groups (*The Mangroves and Water Birds*) – Monday
- Year 3/4 (*Coral Coliseum*) – Tuesday
- Year 5/6 (*Freshwater Fish*) – Thursday

Please help your child remember their books on their correct day. Students may borrow books for up to two weeks.

Library bags – we encourage all students to bring a library bag, especially our junior classes. Not only do they protect our books, but also usually prevent books from going missing. We don't mind if it's a bought bag, a homemade bag or even just a clean grocery bag.

Bookclub – Issue 1 brochures are going home today, and it's a bumper issue. Orders are due by **Sunday February 13** (although if you order by midnight on Friday February 4 you get \$5 off your order with the code BACKTOSCHOOL). We can only accept online orders, so please head to the parent payment page at www.scholastic.com.au/loop (also available as an app – "Book Clubs Loop for Parents"). You will need to create a login if this is your first order. Orders are sent to the school for distribution; there is also a home delivery option but postage costs will be added to your order.

ALL Scholastic Book Club orders earn reward points for our school, which is our major library fundraiser. It enables us to purchase over \$1000 of new resources each year, so thank you in advance for your support.

Please email me if you have any library questions or book queries at pamela.gaukroger@ed.act.edu.au

Pamela

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

Notes have been sent home regarding 2022 stationery supplies for students. Each year stationery supplies are ordered in bulk and delivered to your child's classroom prior to the commencement of the school year to assist in setting up students for learning success in 2022. The pack has all the necessary consumable items your child will need throughout 2022.

Families who pay for stationery packs before 4 February 2022 will receive a discount AND go into a draw to receive their money back.

Cashless payments are preferred. Payment options are listed on the following page.

2022 year level	Price of Pack before 4 February	Price of pack after 4 February
Preschool	\$40	\$45
Kindergarten	\$70	\$75
Year 1	\$65	\$70
Year 2	\$55	\$60
Year 3	\$60	\$65
Year 4	\$50	\$55
Year 5	\$55	\$60
Year 6	\$45	\$50
Small group program	\$35	\$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 years 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	Preschool—Year 5	Payments welcome anytime

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

SUSTAINABILITY TIPS

Make your own reusable napkins with scrap material.

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 Kingson	candice.kingson@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	

COMMUNITY NOTICES



After School Piano, Guitar & Violin Lessons Term 1

Celtic Arts Agency offers private 1/2 hour music lessons after school at Macquarie Primary School in piano, guitar and violin on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3.15 pm onwards.

We will recommence face to face teaching week 2 of school (Tuesday 8 Feb) for a 9 week term (\$315)

More information is available on our website: www.celticartsagency.com



Contact Sharon Casey on
E: musicfun@jocresswell.com or
T: 0481 405 236

More information is available on our website:
www.celticartsagency.com



Kippax Uniting Church - Luke St, Holt

***Indoor
MARKETPLACE***
plus different focus stalls each month in our hall
3rd Saturday each month 8am – 12noon

Information and Market bookings
Kippax.Marketplace@gmail.com

Stalls

- February 19 Kitchenware, household items, cakes
- March 19 Outdoor, sport, travel, d.i.y.
- May 21 Clothing & accessories, manchester
- June 18 Games, puzzles, art, treasures, knick-knacks
- July 16 Books, records, CDs, DVDs
- August 20 Craft supplies, hand crafted items, cakes
- September 17 Clothing&accessories, manchester
- October 15 Garden, plants, pots, tools
- November 19 Children's goods, cakes