



The Macquarie Memo

Issue 31: 14 October 2021

From our Principal

Dear families and friends,

It has been great to see how the students have re-engaged with remote learning this term. While it isn't the ideal learning environment, mostly we are all making the best of it. Here at school we are doing lots of planning and getting ready for the return of students. Tomorrow further information will be coming home via email which explains lots about the return to school.

Some things to start to think about getting ready are, locating everyone's sun smart hat – that will be essential every day at school. A large water bottle. The bubblers are closed again like last year, so everyone needs a water bottle each day for school. Masks for your children if that is something you want them to wear. Students in primary school are not required to wear masks, but can if families want them to. It's also a good time to check that the lunchboxes are in working order and you have everything you need.

I will be out of the school for the next two weeks as I am participating in this year's teacher transfer panel. Over the next two weeks a team of school leaders from across the ACT work at matching teachers with schools for next year. Jodie will be acting principal while I am away.

We have begun planning for 2022 and are beginning to look at class configurations and locations for next year's classes. As soon as students return to school, we will be sending home the class placement hands to support groupings for next year. Have a think about and talk with your child about what makes a good working relationship, learning helpers, and growing and developing new relationships.

Next Tuesday evening at 6:00pm we are hosting an online Q&A session for families who would like some further information. If you would like to participate, use the following google meet link; <https://meet.google.com/mhx-mhsj-zet>. If you have questions after tomorrow's information, feel free to email them to me ahead of time.

Take care, stay safe.

Danielle

Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 19 October

6pm Q&A session with Danielle

Wednesday 20 October

6.30pm Remote P&C Meeting

Thursday 21 October

3.30pm Online maths session for parents

4.30pm Board Meeting

Friday 5 November

Outdoor Classroom Day

Thursday 18 November

6.30pm P&C Meeting

Wednesday 1 December

Performing Arts Showcase

Wednesday 15 December

Year 6 Farewell

Friday 17 December

Last day of term 4



LIBRARY NEWS

Book Club

Issue 8 ([click here](#)) has been released as a paperless “Home Edition” catalogue. Place orders via LOOP ([click here](#)) and choose **home** or **school** delivery at the ORDER SUMMARY page. The first due date for free delivery to school is next **Monday, October 18**. If you miss this date, your other opportunities are:

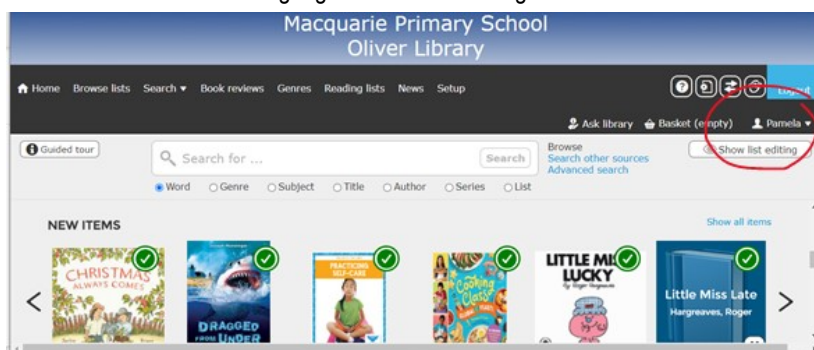
- Home delivery available for \$7.50 from now until December 9 OR
- Order by Monday November 22 for free delivery to school (orders will arrive AFTER this date, so if you need your items sooner, please choose home delivery).

Oliver

Oliver is the online platform to view our library catalogue – both physical books and digital books. Students have access to Oliver through their student backpack (<http://backpack.ed.act.edu.au>).

The home screen of Oliver will show some of the new resources that have been catalogued, ready for borrowing once students return to school. New E-books will also appear here, which will interest those children who have been borrowing digital resources through Oliver or SORA over the remote learning period.

The other function that will be very useful as students prepare to return to school is to view their current loans from the library. Most students will have borrowed at least 5 books before we went into lockdown, and now might be a good time to track down those books ready to be returned to the library. Click on the student name at the top right of the screen, and choose “Loans”.



NEWS FROM THE P&C

From the Acting President: Please save the date for our next P&C meeting being held Wednesday 20 October (Week 3) 6.30pm via Google Meet. This meeting will be held remotely, so you may join from the luxury of your warm and toasty home. If you would like to attend, please send an email to the P&C secretary and a link will be sent to you prior to the meeting: macquariepandc@gmail.com.



Cohort	Class	Teacher	Class parent rep
Preschool Les Petit Légumes (the Tiny Vegetables)	Les Kalettes (Mon-Tues)	Maree	Michelle Simmons Simmons.family@outlook.com
	Les Cucamelons (Thur-Fri)		Jacinta Townsend jaztownsend@yahoo.com.au
LSU Les Fruits à Noyaux (The Stonefruits)	Les Pêches (The Peaches)	Kathy	Sarah Wallach sarahwallach77@gmail.com
Kindergarten Les Agrumes	Les Oranges (The Oranges)	Casey	Nicole mobeynicole@gmail.com
	Les Citrons Verts (The Limes)	Bek	Aqsa Ahsan aqsaahsan@hotmail.com
1/2 Les Fruits Tropicaux (The Tropical Fruits)	Les Kiwis (The Kiwifruits)	Monique	Lauren Johnston lzjohnston@gmail.com
	Les Fruits de Dragon (The Dragon Fruits)	Tei	STILL REQUIRED
	Les Litchis (The Lychees)	Lauren	Stacey Searle staceysearle@gmail.com
	Les Ananas (The Pineapples)	Nicole	Bec Richardson bec.j.richardson@gmail.com
3/4 Les Légumes (The Vegetables)	Les Aubergines (The Eggplants)	Meg	Shannon Laffan aubergines2021@gmail.com
	Les Brocolis (The Broccolis)	Brooke	Chloe Spratt chloe.spratt@act.gov.au
	Les Concombres (The Cucumbers)	Chlo	Fleur Roddam mfroddam@bigpond.com
	Les Citrouilles (The Pumpkins)	Bec	Bhavani Durgam bhavani_durgam@yahoo.com.au
5/6 Les Baies (The Berries)	Les Groseilles (The Gooseberries)	Patrick	Mhera Nelson mheranelson21@gmail.com
	Les Fraises (The Strawberries)	Emma	Alethea White alethea.white@yahoo.com
	Les Sureaux (The Elderberries)	Mel	Ilana Cunha ilana.anjos.cunha@gmail.com

ONLINE MATHS SESSION FOR PARENTS

**Are you interested in finding out more about maths in the early years?
If so, then this online session is for you!**

Let's Count is an early mathematics program designed by The Smith Family and the authors, Bob Perry and Ann Gervasoni, to assist parents and other family members help their young children aged 3-5 years play to investigate and learn powerful mathematical ideas. Through this play and investigation, the aim is for the children and adults to develop positive dispositions to learning as well as mathematical knowledge and skills. *Let's Count* relies on the parents and other family members providing the opportunities for the children to engage with the mathematics in their everyday lives, talk about it, document it, and extend it in ways that are relevant to them. This leads to the *Let's Count* mantra: **Notice, Explore and Talk About.**

You are invited to a **Let's Count Online Session** to find out more about how we can be mathematicians for life.

When: Thursday 21 October 2021

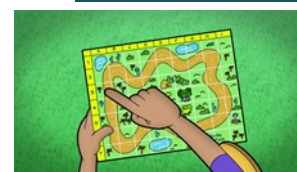
What Time: 3:30 pm – 4:00 pm

For: Parents/Carers of Preschool Children

Presenters: Mary Pezzella (Built In Relief Teacher) and Maree Sweeting

RSVP: To Maree by email: Maree.Sweeting@ed.act.edu.au by no later than Tuesday 20 October 2021

Google Meet for session: <https://meet.google.com/vvh-snuu-zrk>



A MESSAGE FROM OUR SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST

Hi everyone,

The past few months with the ACT lockdown due to COVID-19 have been stressful and challenging but there have also been some benefits to it (e.g., increased family time, slower pace, one on one support for learning etc.). Now another period of change is upon us with the transition back to face-to-face learning and school in the coming weeks. This period of transition will come with a mix of feelings for yourself and your children including relief and excitement as well as perhaps anxiety and stress.

Here are some strategies and information that may be helpful in preparing yourself and your child for the translation back to school:

- **Re-establishing normal routines.** For instance, the week before school return children to their usual wake up and bedtime routines, as well as breakfast and morning snack/lunch. The day before, involve your child in packing their bag and preparing their uniform - this leaves you time to notice if anything is forgotten. For the morning of return to school, allow more time than usual to get ready to answer any questions your child might have and provide extra cuddles and kisses.
- **Prepare your child for return to school.** This may include walking past and talking about school, talking about how they are going to get to and from school (car, bike, bus, walking), discussing who they are looking forward to seeing at school and what they are looking forward to doing, discussing what they are worried about with returning to school, asking what will make their return to school easier etc.
- **Preparing your child for changes to usual school processes.** This may include talking to them about adults wearing masks, new hygiene practices (hand sanitiser and/or regular washing of hands), reduced contact with parents/carers at school etc.
- **Reassure your child it is safe to go to school and answer any concerns they may have in relation to COVID-19 and school.** Many parents/carers had conversations with their children about the importance of learning from home to keep them healthy and safe, so some children may now worry about the safety of returning to school. To help your child feel safe, have a conversation with them explaining that the decision to return to school is based on medical advice, everyone at school is working hard to make sure that children are safe and anyone who is unwell will stay at home.
- **Reassure your child it is okay to have mixed feelings about returning to school.** If you notice your child is experiencing anxiety associated with return to school these videos (created by the School Psychology Service) may be helpful to you in talking with your child about their anxiety related to returning to school.

[Understanding Anxiety](#)

[Responding to Your Child's Anxiety](#)

[Return to School Plan](#)

Additional information about helping children transition back to school can be found [here](#)

Take care and I look forward to seeing students at school.

Erin

COMMUNITY NOTICES

ACT Instrumental Music Program

Primary Concert Choir - 2022

The ACT Instrumental Music Program is seeking students who will be in Year 4 to Year 6 in ACT public schools in 2022 to audition for the ACT Primary Concert Choir.

Auditions will be held online this year.

Choir auditions will be held in late in Term 4 with audition times to be allocated in mid Term 4.

All audition requirements, including music and recordings are on the Instrumental Music Program website – follow the Auditions link.

Membership in the choir provides an excellent opportunity for talented, skilled and committed young musicians to work together in an enriching environment. The group is an active performance ensemble, and the families of students auditioning will need to be prepared to make a strong commitment to rehearsal and performance attendance for the year.

Further details and information about how to apply for an audition are available from the Instrumental Music Program website at www.imp.act.edu.au. The application form can be accessed through this site or by clicking on the links below.

Complete your online application at: How to apply for an audition:

The application form is online and can be accessed using the QR code or direct link

<https://forms.gle/Ttwe2EBZNcqG6ZZy6>

The form can also be accessed through the IMP website at: https://www.imp.act.edu.au/our_ensembles/auditions

If you do not have internet access or would prefer to complete and post a paper version, please contact the IMP – details above in letterhead

Applications are now open and close Monday 8 November.



Singing Lessons

(Online)

Are you interested in becoming a singer? Have you always loved to perform?

Sophia Marzano is currently accepting new students who are passionate about singing, and who would love to learn more!

If you, or your child are interested in learning about the voice, feel free to contact Sophia on:

(Ph) 0439 544 703 or at

(Email) sophiamarzano15@gmail.com.