

## From our Principal

In our Annual Action Plan, one of our goals is to 'improve wellbeing and learning for all through development of consistent practices.' One of the ways we are working towards this goal is to improve our curriculum planning, looking at both the sequence of learning, the alignment of learning across the school and the integration of learning to support students in making connections.

### Dates for the Diary

#### Friday 18 March

National day against bullying

#### Friday 25 March

Ride or walk to school day

#### Sunday 27 March

P&C Gardens and Grounds Working Bee

9am-12pm

#### Monday 28 March—Friday 1 April

Year 2 Aquasafe

#### Friday 8 April

Cross country carnival

Junior school 11.15am-12.15pm

Senior school 1.00-2.30pm

Term 1 ends

To achieve this, we have had a major focus on the use of conceptual planning - conceptual planning is designed around transferable conceptual understandings, providing an effective way to develop students' critical, creative, and reflective thinking. Articulating conceptual understandings in the planning process allows teachers to craft factual, conceptual, and provocative questions that students encounter during learning experiences. Using both conceptual planning and the inquiry model to drive teaching and learning enables our students to further build the skills they will need in the future as 21st century learners.

Tomorrow we will be participating in the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence. Students will be discussing how we can further build a *kindness culture* at Macquarie Primary School. In most instances our students show our value of integrity in all they do. There are times when students need support to recognise how actions may impact others. We use restorative questioning where possible to achieve this. Please find attached our school 'How it Works: Responding to Violence, Bullying and Harassment' document for parent information.

Ride and Walk to School is next Friday 25 March. Nicole will be sending out information via our social media (Facebook and Dojo) for parents to access. We encourage children to join in on the day and do some active travel to school.

Over the school holidays we are expecting some new fencing to go in. This fencing will run along the front of the school allowing us to open the drive through gates again. The purpose of the fencing is to ensure safety of all students by limiting access to the carpark.

We have been so lucky to win several grants over the past couple of years. The latest grant provides some funding to make a start to a gathering space in the foyer of the junior school building near the library. We will be putting a basic kitchen in and a coffee machine. The purpose of the space is for:

- small groups and classes to use for food prep and cooking from the community garden
- building community connections – inviting parents to participate in 'coffee and reading' with students before school or gathering parents in a café style setting to share information and discuss community priorities.

### In this Issue

#### In this issue

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- [Notes home & reminders](#)
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A huge thank you to our grants writer Lauren Johnston.

Have a great week.

Jodie



# NEWS FROM THE P&C

**From the President:** We still have a few vacant positions on the P&C for 2022. These include:  
 Secretary (Office Bearer)  
 Events and Fundraising Coordinator  
 Preschool Representative  
 Please contact [macquariepandc@gmail.com](mailto:macquariepandc@gmail.com) asap if you are able to fill one of the roles.



## Uniform Shop:

\*\*\*\* **VOLUNTEER NEEDED** \*\*\*\* Are you available Wednesday afternoons once a fortnight? The Uniform Shop needs you in order to continue this valuable service to the school community every week.

If you can help please contact Liz: [uniforms.mps@gmail.com](mailto:uniforms.mps@gmail.com)

The P&C Uniform Shop is open:

Mondays 8:45 - 9:15am, Wednesdays 3:00 - 3:30pm, and Fridays 8:45 - 9:15am.

Cash and card payments are accepted. Orders can be placed online at [www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au). Online orders will be sent home with students.

Donations of pre-loved uniform items are gratefully accepted during open times. Any questions can be sent to [uniforms.mps@gmail.com](mailto:uniforms.mps@gmail.com)

## Gardens and Grounds Working Bee:

**When:** Sunday 27 March

**Time:** 9am to 12pm

If you are able to make it to our first working bee of 2022 we would love to have you there. We will kick off at 9am and wrap up around 12pm, but feel free to come to part or all of the working bee. If you are able to attend, please email Chris on: [grounds.mpsandc@gmail.com](mailto:grounds.mpsandc@gmail.com). Looking forward to seeing you there.

**Fundraising and Events:** What Fundrasing and Events would you like to see in 2022? Please send us any ideas that you have and we will put together a list that can be voted on. Please send your ideas to: [fundraising.mpsandc@gmail.com](mailto:fundraising.mpsandc@gmail.com)

**Class Parent Representatives:** We still have a few classes without reps – in particular the year 3/4 cohort. Please email Alethea if you are able to help: [classparentrepsmps@gmail.com](mailto:classparentrepsmps@gmail.com)

Cohort	Class	Teacher	Parent Rep	Rep Email
The Little Nippers	Red Crayfish	Maree Sweeting	CLASS REP REQUIRED	
	Green Yabbies	Maree Sweeting	Shane Emami	<a href="mailto:shane.emami@gmail.com">shane.emami@gmail.com</a>
The Water Birds	Proud Pelicans	Mary Pezzella	Sarah Wallach	<a href="mailto:sarahwallach77@gmail.com">sarahwallach77@gmail.com</a>
The Great Barriers	Shiny Sharks	Garima Singh	Celia Rideaux	<a href="mailto:rideaux.celia@gmail.com">rideaux.celia@gmail.com</a>
	Super Seahorses	Monique Darragh	Tajnin Lopa	<a href="mailto:tajninlopa@gmail.com">tajninlopa@gmail.com</a>
	Curious Crocodiles	Nicole Chapman	Dana Connan	<a href="mailto:daanish333@gmail.com">daanish333@gmail.com</a>
The Mangroves	Sweet Sea Stars	Lauren Green	Tina Apps	<a href="mailto:christina.apps@hotmail.com">christina.apps@hotmail.com</a>
	Great Ghost Crabs	Sean Gourlay	Rachel Sanderson	<a href="mailto:rachelsanderson787@gmail.com">rachelsanderson787@gmail.com</a>
	Sensational Sea Snakes	Brooke Behan	CLASS REP REQUIRED	
	Courageous Clams	Chlo Sutherland	CLASS REP REQUIRED	
Coral Coliseum	Terrific Tiger Sharks	Nicky Kent	Matt White	<a href="mailto:mattwhite82@gmail.com">mattwhite82@gmail.com</a>
	Electric Eels	Eddie McCallum	CLASS REP REQUIRED	
	Magestic Mud Crabs	Patrick Kien	Katy Norman	<a href="mailto:Knorman@iinet.net.au">Knorman@iinet.net.au</a>
	Superb Stingrays	Rachel Appleby	CLASS REP REQUIRED	
Freshwater Fish	Golden Galaxias	Jenelle Martin	CLASS REP REQUIRED	
	Splendid Silver Perch	Lauren Price	CLASS REP REQUIRED	
	Scintillating Saratogas	Ben White	Fleur Roddam	<a href="mailto:mfroddam@bigpond.com">mfroddam@bigpond.com</a>
	Magnificent Murray Cod	Emma Murphy	Lauren Clancy	<a href="mailto:lclancym@gmail.com">lclancym@gmail.com</a>
Class Parent Representative Coordinator			Alethea White	<a href="mailto:classparentrepsmps@gmail.com">classparentrepsmps@gmail.com</a>

## HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF INCLUSIVE EDUCATION IN ACT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The inclusive education survey on disability and education in ACT Public Schools has re-opened. Discussion groups are also being held over the coming month.

Students with disability (both current and former), carers, families, advocates, school staff and the broader community are invited to join the 'Community Conversation' and help shape how we strengthen inclusive education in ACT Public Schools. If you haven't already done so, visit 'A Community Conversation' to complete the survey and/ or join a discussion group.

For more information about the survey and this work visit the Education Directorate website: <https://www.education.act.gov.au/support-for-our-students/students-with-disability/strengthening-inclusive-education>

## INCIDENTS INVOLVING STRANGERS APPROACHING STUDENTS

This is reminder to help our children understand the importance of stranger safety and the need to report any unusual incidents or approaches to staff immediately.

If you become aware of an incident, or notice anyone acting suspiciously around a school or child, contact police immediately on 131 444 or in the case of an emergency call 000. If you witness incidents or if you have any information that could assist Police, contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000. Information can be provided anonymously.

Please support us to keep our children safe by having conversations about moving safely around the community and what to do if they ever feel unsafe. You may wish to visit the Australian Federal Police website for tips on [Child Safety](#) or the [Safety4Kids](#) non-government website for useful information and links. The [Constable Kenny website](#) also has a number of tips for parents.

The school and the Education Directorate will continue to work with ACT Policing on this issue.

## LIBRARY NEWS

### Book Club

Issue 2 brochures have been sent home with students. Please remember we are only taking online orders only at the moment – no cash orders. Orders can be placed at [www.scholastic.com.au/loop](http://www.scholastic.com.au/loop) and are due in by **Sunday March 27**.

### Overdue Books

One of our Covid protocols is to quarantine our library books as they are returned to the library, usually BEFORE they even get scanned. This makes it a little tricky to let students know what books they need to return, and therefore we have been a little more relaxed about overdue books. We will print overdue notes before the end of term to see if we can get some of those books returned before the break. In the meantime please start having a look at home for any books you know your child has had for more than two weeks.

## National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence



Join us on Friday 18 March 2022 for the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence (NDA). Australia's key bullying prevention initiative celebrates 12 years of action, connecting schools and communities to find workable solutions to prevent bullying.

The theme for 2022 is Kindness Culture. By building Kindness Culture together, we can promote inclusion, respect and community belonging for all students in schools across Australia.

Students  
can wear  
orange in  
support

**Bullying-  
No way!  
Friday  
18th of  
March**

**TOMORROW!**

### 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.

## MASK RULES REMAIN IN SCHOOLS

The mask rules for ACT schools and early childhood settings have not changed. Face masks must continue to be worn by staff and visitors in all indoor spaces at school and early childhood education and care settings.

Students in years 7 to 12 are also required to wear a face mask while in an indoor space at school.

The wearing of masks for primary school students is at the discretion of the student and their parents/carers but is not recommended for children in ECECs, or preschool to year 2.

The measures we have in place, including mask-wearing, are helping to limit the impact of COVID-19 and ensure continuity of learning for our students.

## CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL

We will be holding our school cross country carnival on Friday 8 April, which is the last day of school this term.

A permission note will not be going home for this event, as it will be held in the vicinity of the school. All children are encouraged to participate to the best of their ability, however if your child is unable to participate in this event please inform your child's class teacher.

At this point it is our understanding that the Belconnen Regional carnival will go ahead, so if you believe your child would like to be selected to represent Macquarie Primary at this event please encourage them to train.

Unfortunately, due to current COVID restrictions in schools we are unable to invite parents to watch their child run.

## 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 2. They have requested your child's name, student ID and class. If you do not consent to include your child in this year's 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	All students	Payments welcome anytime
Band payment	Year 5 & 6 band	Payments welcome anytime
Aquasafe	Year 2	Monday 21 March

## 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

### 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, Superb Stingrays & Electric Eels
Year 5/6	Freshwater Fish	Magnificent Murray Cod, Splendid Silver Perch, Golden Galaxias & Scintillating Saratogas
Small Group	The Water Birds	Proud Pelicans

## SUSTAINABILITY TIPS

Avoid using your dryer. Make the most of the sun and dry items outside.

## 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 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:	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/macquarieprimary">http://www.facebook.com/macquarieprimary</a>	Business Manager	Ann Walker	ann.walker@ed.act.edu.au
P&C President	macquariepandc@gmail.com	Board Chair	Amy McGuire	

# COMMUNITY NOTICES



For 20 years, Menslink have provided free counselling to young guys throughout the Canberra region.

If your young guy is having a hard time and could really use someone to talk to, get in touch - our wait times are currently low so we're ready to help when your young guy needs it. We provide a welcoming and supportive environment for young guys to share their concerns and worries and we provide tips and strategies to get them through those tough times that many of them are facing right now.

Menslink Counselling sessions are completely confidential and are available to any young guy aged 10-25. There are no fees or charges or limits to the number of sessions. You don't need a mental health plan and we are available during school terms and school holidays.

Do you think your young guy would really benefit from a counselling session? If so, have a chat with them and head to [www.menslink.org.au](http://www.menslink.org.au), hit the 'Get Help' button, fill in the form and we'll get back to you, generally the same or next business day.

If you need more info on how to have that chat with them, just email [admin@menslink.org.au](mailto:admin@menslink.org.au) or call 6287 2226 and we will send you some information.



The Belconnen Cats Junior Australian Football Club is a community focused club aimed at providing a safe and encouraging environment for children of all ages to learn and enjoy the spirit of sport and the skills of AFL.

Come play with the Belconnen Cats in 2022. Develop skills, coordination and teamwork while having fun with your mates.

Registrations now open for age groups 5 to 18 years.

[www.belconnencatsafl.com.au](http://www.belconnencatsafl.com.au)

Season costs:

**Auskick Rookie: (5-6): Cost \$85 (born 2016, 2017)**



**Auskick Pro (7-8): Cost \$105 (born 2014, 2015)**



**Junior: under 9s (born in 2013) to under 18s (born 2004)**

**Cost \$180 discount for siblings**

**Open Day: Sunday 20 March 2022; Giralang Primary School, Canopus Cres**

**10.00 am – 12.00 pm**

**Season starts Saturday 30 April 2022**



Training venues are Aranda Oval (our home ground) or Giralang Oval.

# HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS™



The next Holiday Happenings edition is now available online.

To see the *Programs, Activities & Events* happening these holidays go to:

[www.holidayhappenings.com.au/online-booklet](http://www.holidayhappenings.com.au/online-booklet)



**Koala Playschool** is a play-based educational program that meets the developmental needs and interests of three and four year olds.

Sessions are conducted by our Early Childhood Teacher and Assistant Teacher with the help of parents and carers.

Koala Playschool is the ideal setting to provide opportunities for your child to gain independence and develop social skills in a safe, supportive and stimulating environment. With the focus on warm reciprocal relationships, children are given the opportunity to play and learn in a rich, vibrant learning community. Our learning spaces are welcoming and well-resourced with a bright airy classroom and a beautiful natural garden.

We are located in Cook.

**Limited places are available for our 2022 sessions**

For more information or to place your child's name on our waiting list please visit

[www.koalaplayschool.com.au](http://www.koalaplayschool.com.au)

# What is *Learning for Life*?



everyone's family

*Learning for Life* provides families with opportunities to increase their children's success at school.

The *Learning for Life* program helps each child to reach their potential by supporting their education from primary through to post-school studies.

## *Learning for Life* provides:



## Am I eligible for *Learning for Life*?

To be eligible, you must:

- ✓ Have a child/ children in Kindergarten/ Prep/ Reception to Year 6, who attend a school that we work with
- ✓ Have a current Health Care or Pension Concession Card
- ✓ Demonstrate a strong commitment to education through regular school attendance



## What else do I need to know?

*Learning for Life* is a partnership between your family and The Smith Family.

As a parent/guardian or caregiver, you will be committing to:

- Your children attending school regularly
- Providing a school report yearly for each child
- Returning a yearly progress report for each child
- Maintaining contact with The Smith Family

## How do I apply for *Learning for Life*?

If you meet all of the above criteria and would like to apply for the *Learning for Life* program, please complete the referral form provided and return to your school.

For further information, please contact the Family Partnership Coordinator:



**Monica Watson**

Family Partnership Coordinator (Belconnen)

**Mob:** 0466 941 375

**Email:** [monica.watson@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:monica.watson@thesmithfamily.com.au)