



The Macquarie Memo

Issue 11: 28 April 2022

From our Principal

Welcome back to term 2. Students have come back refreshed and ready for learning so I'm thinking that is an indicator that families had a restful break.

We started this week with a whole school assembly, the first for the year, to commemorate ANZAC Day. It was lovely to hear the students all singing together again and all showed great respect for the occasion. I'd like to take the opportunity to thank all our serving community members for the important work you do and the sacrifices you make in order to do that work.

You probably noticed the new fencing that has been erected over the break. This fencing allows us to open up the carpark again. You will find there is a doorbell at the front office doors to ring when you arrive and need to see Jess, Lidiya or Ann at the front office. We are in the process of having an auto door installed but this is the second phase of the project so will take a little time. Our library was also renovated and we had the carpets cleaned. It was a very busy time for us here at school.

We welcomed Karen Bell to the school this week. Karen is taking over from Shirley Larsen three days a week teaching specialist arts. Also new to our staff are Jessica Trembath and Nikki Kozak. Both are working as Learning Support Assistants, Jessica mostly in the junior school and Nikki mostly in the senior school.

With the middle of the school year fast approaching our teachers will soon be preparing student reports for semester 1. This semester we will be providing students with an overall A-E grade, and an assessment of achievement standard statements on a 5-point scale. While semester 1 reports won't include detailed teacher comments, parents are encouraged to speak directly with their child's teacher(s) if they have any questions or concerns about their progress. Our teachers will also continue to communicate directly with you when there are any concerns about student learning or other classroom updates. This was not our original plan but with staff shortages across the Directorate we've needed to look at how we manage work load for teachers. This strategy is being used across the ACT Public Education system.

Another strategy we are implementing will be to hold two staff planning days during term 2. These days will provide teachers with some extra space to complete student reporting and lesson planning. Where possible, we ask that students do not attend school on these days. Students who can't stay at home will be able to attend school and be supervised while undertaking general learning activities. We will communicate with our community once we've established dates and have further information. Expect a letter with more information soon. This strategy is being used across the ACT Public Education system.

Today we sent home the Voluntary Contributions note with students – please check your child's bag for this note. Attached to this Macquarie memo are two additional fact sheets about Voluntary Contributions – Library Trust Fund Fact Sheet and Contribution to Schools Fact Sheet. We have changed the amount for voluntary contributions this year, reducing the amount, to support families to make this payment. Voluntary Contributions help us purchase items that enrich student learning at Macquarie Primary School.

Lastly, don't forget it's Cross Country tomorrow. Students are encouraged to wear their house colours. Make sure they have good running shoes on. Parents are welcome to come and watch from the Adventure Playground area. See dojo for more information about parents coming to cheer their children on.

Enjoy your week.

Jodie

Dates for the Diary

Friday 29 April

Cross country carnival

Thursday 5 May

Kenny Koala visit to Kindergarten

Monday 30 May

Reconciliation Day

Friday 10 June

Red Crayfish school photos

Monday 13 June

Queen's birthday

Tuesday 14 June

Green Yabbies & K-6 school photos

Friday 1 July

Term 2 ends

Monday 18 July

Term 3 starts

In this Issue

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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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NEWS FROM THE P&C

From the President: We would like to welcome Matt White as the new Macquarie Primary School P&C Secretary. A big thank you to Celia Rideaux for acting in this role over the past few months.



Fundraising and Events: Our online Mother's Day stall is now available via Flexischools. Items ranging from \$1 - \$10 and are available for sale up until Thursday 5 May at 11.59pm. All items will be sent home with the children Friday 6 May. **If you are able to volunteer to help pack the items, please send an email to: fundraising.mpspandc@gmail.com**

Uniform Shop: The Uniform Shop is open: **Mondays 8:45 - 9:15, Wednesdays 3:00 - 3:30 and Fridays 8:45 - 9:15**

Get ready for winter. Red and green polar fleece scarves and beanies are available on flexischools and in the shop for \$5 each. Orders for new uniform items can be placed online at www.flexischools.com.au. Online orders will be sent home with students. Second hand items are available in the shop for \$2 and \$5. Donations of pre-loved uniform items are gratefully accepted during open times. Any questions can be sent to uniforms.mps@gmail.com

Class Parent Reps: We still need parent representatives for Splendid Silver Perch, Electric Eels and Sensational Sea Snakes. Please contact classparentrepsmps@gmail.com to volunteer for this easy way to be a part of the school community. Get in before someone else does.

Canteen: 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.

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 ___/___/___

LIBRARY NEWS

What a busy time we've had over the last three weeks! And what fun it has been...new painting, new shelves, rearranging things. It looks like a new library! We hope that before long we will be able to invite our community back in to see the changes and borrow some books again.



A confirmed case of Impetigo (school sores) has been identified within our school community. For more information go to: www.health.act.gov.au

ENROLMENT INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS OF CHILDREN WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DELAY AND DISABILITY

Enrolment and transition information sessions for parents and carers of children with developmental delay and disability are available. The sessions will support parents to understand the enrolment process and to start planning for 2023. All sessions will be held online.

Enrolling for Preschool 2023 on Monday 9 May from 1:00 to 2:30 pm, or Thursday 12 May from 10:00 am to 11:30. Register and forward questions to preschoolpathways@act.gov.au.

Enrolling for Kindergarten to year 6 on Tuesday 10 May from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm, or Wednesday 11 May 10:00 am to 11:30 am. Register and forward questions to disabilityeducation@act.gov.au.

Enrolling for year 7 to year 11 on Wednesday 11 May from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm, or Friday 13 May from 10:00 am to 11:30 am. Register and forward questions to disabilityeducation@act.gov.au.

For more information, contact jean.walker@act.gov.au.



Every ACT public school is a great school

ENROL NOW FOR 2023

Enrol online by 3 June to receive an offer from 25 July 2022.

Need assistance?
Visit education.act.gov.au
or call the Enrolments Telephone Service 6205 5429.

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Mother's Day Stall

Mother's Day stall items are now available on Flexischools for purchase until Thursday 5th May at 11.59pm. Items range between \$1 and \$10 and will be packed to send home with your child on Friday 6th May. Happy shopping!

BOARD MEMBER PROFILES

School Boards work in partnership with the principal and school communities. They have specific responsibility for:

- endorsing and overseeing the strategic direction and priorities of the school
- monitoring and reviewing school performance
- developing, maintaining and reviewing curriculum
- approving budgets for the effective use of school resources and management of financial risk.

School Boards provide robust forward-thinking governance at the local level to ensure that schools meet the present and future needs of their school communities.

At Macquarie Primary School the Board works closely with the P&C. The P&C and Board provide reciprocal reports to share relevant information and a parent Board member and the Principal attend P&C Meetings. The following short profiles introduce our community to each member of the Board.



Jodie

My name is Jodie Rowell and I have now been on the Board for three years, initially as a teacher representative and now as the Principal. As the Principal my role on the Board is to collaborate to secure the best possible learning outcomes and wellbeing for all students. Being part of the Board provides me with opportunities to share and strengthen the strategic direction of the school. As a Board we are committed to the continuous improvement of the school.

Lynda

My name is Lynda Leigh and I am the English as an Additional Language/Dialect (EAL/D) teacher at Macquarie Primary School. I enjoy helping students develop their English language skills and aiding them in understanding the many differences and nuances of a new country. It is my 12th year of teaching at this school and my fourth year in this role. I have interests in the Visual Arts and Sciences and is passionate about the natural environment.



Mariam

Hello! My name is Mariam Hijazi and I am one of the staff representatives on the Macquarie Primary School Board for 2022. This is my first year at Macquarie where I am Team Leader for the year 3-6 cohort. I am thoroughly enjoying this role and getting to know and work with our amazing students and staff. I look forward to the opportunity to continuing my contribution to this amazing school community as a member of the Board. If you see me around, please don't hesitate to come and have a chat – I'd love to meet you all!

Sander

Hello everyone, I am Sander de Vries. Jasper (y3) and Max's (y1) Papa.

Our family is very committed to the South Belconnen area, having lived here for over 15 years. We do really enjoy being part of the MPS community and want to support it where we can.

A bit about myself, over the past years I have been working as an Architect on many different school projects, ranging from capital upgrades work to whole new buildings. Most recently I have been working on the new Kenny High School. I am very engaged with the thinking around how pedagogy interacts with the built form.

I have enjoyed representing the parent cohort on the MPS Board and look forward to this next year in the position of Board Chair.



Amy

I have been an active member of the Macquarie Primary School community since 2017, and a member of the School Board since 2019. My three children have benefited from the exceptional, inclusive and supportive education that Macquarie Primary offers. My two eldest children have now moved on to Canberra High, with my youngest, Ella, in year 3 at Macquarie Primary. Professionally, I work for the Commonwealth Government, administering programs and leading strategic policy across the skills and training portfolio. I am a strong advocate for inclusive education, and am keen to ensure all children have the support they need to access educational opportunities. As a continuing member of the School Board, I am proud to build on the Board's achievements over the past few years, supporting the school to deliver high-quality education aligned with the school's strategic priorities, and enhancing the physical environment.

Leah

I have 2 kids in Macquarie Primary, in kindy and Year 3, and we live just down the road. I work in a community engagement and education space for the Department of Veterans' Affairs, and I'm delighted to take up a role on the Board. I'm looking forward to working with everyone and connecting with families in the school!

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

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 plan.

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.

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

Put on an extra layer of clothing instead of turning on the heating.

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	