



The Macquarie Memo

Issue 17: 9 June 2022

From our Principal

Last week we prepared a presentation for new families coming to Macquarie Primary School in 2023. I thought it would be worthwhile sharing some of the information from that session with our whole community because it consolidates how we do things and reasons behind why we do things in a particular way.

Parents often want to understand how we manage student behaviour. School is different to home and we need tighter boundaries in order to maintain a high level of safety due to the number of students and the range of experiences and knowledge they come with.

Dates for the Diary

Thursday 9 June

Red Crayfish School Photos

Friday 10 June

Kindergarten—Year 6
School Photos

Monday 13 June

Queen's birthday

Tuesday 14 June

Staff planning day

Sunday 19 June

P&C Working Bee

Monday 20 June

Year 5 combined band

Wednesday 22 June

Green Yabbies reports
home

Friday 24 June

Red Crayfish & K-6 reports
homes

Monday 27 to Thursday 30 June

Parent Teacher Interviews

Friday 1 July

Term 2 ends

At home your children may climb trees, may wrestle with you or siblings, in some homes reacting physically to a situation is ok - at school we have different boundaries to ensure everyone feels safe and that being part of our community is a good place to be. This can be challenging for children to understand that in different places, there are different expectations around how they interact with others. Sometimes children struggle to meet the expectations around behaviour in the school environment. When a student struggles with reading we provide additional support and adjustments, we do the same with behaviour. We believe all behaviour is communication, all behaviour serves a function - to seek or avoid - and when we understand the function we can provide alternate, often more appropriate, ways for students to have their needs met in the school environment. Our **Positive Behaviours for Learning** approach guides this work.

Sometimes, students find meeting expectations particularly challenging due to a disability, trauma, behavioural diagnosis or a range of other reasons. When a student responds by hurting or attempting to hurt others, we have a number of steps to implement to reduce risk. We use our student support team, drawing on collective knowledge to address behavioural challenges and safety risk. We work with the Education Directorate to complete risk assessments, make use of Allied Health services within the Directorate, allocate additional resources to support individual students, work closely with families who know their child best...all in order to increase safety. We document all adjustments, update plans and meet regularly with school staff and professionals working with students. In these situations it is a bit of an iceberg, what you see on the surface may look like we are calmly implementing various strategies, looking for effectiveness and adjusting as needed but below the surface we are doing a plethora of actions to reduce risk and create a safe and engaging environment for all students to learn.

I'd also like to share with you some information about our learning approach. We choose to use inquiry pedagogy - **Inquiry** helps position 'how' we teach. The **Australian Curriculum Achievement Standards** guides 'what' we teach. We use the **inquiry lenses** - *Social Responsibility, Environmental Sustainability, Identity, Creativity, Wellbeing and the Physical World* - to connect learning in meaningful ways. The **Learning Assets** - *we are thinkers, we are collaborators, we are researchers, we are communicators and we are self-managers* - identify the 21st century skills and dispositions we want learners to have into their future. The **school values** - *persistence, integrity and excellence* - are some of the basic beliefs that guide attitudes and actions. The **school expectations** are our ways of operating to support the development of an orderly learning environment. Teachers do an incredible job of designing learning and engaging students using each of these to drive decision making, maximise learning opportunities and provide a rigorous program.

A couple of reminders...Don't forget we have photos tomorrow so all students need to be in full school uniform. On Tuesday 14 June, teachers will be having their second planning day for the term. We ask that families keep children at home on this day. If you need to send children to school you must let the front office know prior so we can plan for supervision.

On Tuesday, Jazzy Jumpers came to school to do a skipping demonstration. It was very exciting and inspired so many of our students to get skipping during break one. I'd like to thank the Jazzy Jumpers team for coming and showing us their impressive skills.

Jodie

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- [P&C news](#)
- [Notes home & reminders](#)

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

NEWS FROM THE P&C

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

Grab a bargain. Discounted items (limited sizes) are available in flexischools from \$10, as well as scarves and beanies for winter for \$5 each. Orders for new uniform items can be placed online at www.flexischools.com.au or flexischools app. Flexischools orders will be sent home with students. Second hand items are available in the shop for \$2 and \$5, and donations of pre-loved uniform items are gratefully accepted during open times. Any questions can be sent to uniforms.mps@gmail.com



Gardens and Grounds: Our Term 2 Working Bee will be on Sunday 19th June. Pop the date into your diaries now!



HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE 10-YEAR ACT DISABILITY STRATEGY

The ACT Government wants to hear from people with disability, families, carers and interested community members on how to create a more inclusive future for all Canberrans. The consultation for the ACT Disability Strategy has been co-designed with the ACT Disability Reference Group and all conversations will be led by people with disability. The consultation is open until the end of July 2022. Find out more at [ACT Disability Strategy | YourSay ACT](#).

Join us on Wednesday 15 June from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm for an online conversation on lifelong learning. The Lifelong Learning conversation will look at learning pathways for people with disability across all educational settings: primary and high school, Canberra Institute of Technology, university and adult learning opportunities. Register at [Focused Conversation: Lifelong Learning | ACT Disability Strategy | YourSay ACT](#).



**Students need to
bring a drink bottle
to school everyday.**



LIBRARY NEWS

Book Club

If you would like to order something from Issue 4, please do so online at www.scholastic.com.au/loop by this Sunday, June 12. There are some fabulous books in this issue, including a gorgeous cook book, origami, box sets of some of our most popular series, and new books from David Walliams, Jack Heath (a Canberra author) and Stephen Michael King (my favourite!)

Reading Tip - Don't forget to tell your children how much you love reading with them. This helps children form a powerful, emotional bond with books.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR APPOINTED MEMBER ON SCHOOL BOARD

Do you know someone that would be a suitable addition to our school board or another school board in the ACT?

The Education Directorate is seeking expressions of interest from people to fill the position of "Appointed Member" on ACT public school boards. Expressions of interest will be used to fill vacant positions in schools across the ACT.

All ACT public schools have a school board. The school board is responsible for the school's strategic direction, its budget, policy implementation and related issues. Generally, school boards consist of:

- the school's principal;
- three parents and citizens members;
- two staff members;
- two student members (at high schools and colleges);
- one Appointed Member; and
- up to two Board Appointed Members (if any).

The appointed member is usually someone from outside the immediate school community, who is interested in and committed to public education. They bring an independent voice to board decisions. Appointments extend for periods up to two years and an appointed member may also be re-appointed after the conclusion of their term.

People interested in becoming an appointed member on a school board, should complete the [expression of interest form](#) and return it to the school boards team in the Education Directorate Email: EDUSchoolBoards@act.gov.au

Expressions of interest for this recruitment round will be open until COB Monday 20 June 2022 (week 9, term 2).

CANBERRA HIGH SCHOOL SAFE AND INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS PRESENTATION

Sexual Health and Family Planning ACT (SHFPACT) will be holding a parent information evening in the Canberra High School library on Wednesday 15 June from 6-7:30pm.

They will be discussing topics such as: Sex; Sexuality; Gender diversity; teenager trends in behaviour.

This presentation was a huge success last year and we have invited SHFPACT back to present and answer the questions parents need to know about their children.

We will need to keep track of numbers for the evening due to covid restrictions. If you would like to attend, please send an email to [rsvp \(graeame.lambert@ed.act.edu.au\)](mailto:graeame.lambert@ed.act.edu.au).

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
National Arboretum Excursion	Year 3/4	Friday 1 July
National Zoo and Aquarium	Kindergarten & Proud Pelicans	Thursday 21 July

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

ABSENCE NOTES

Class rolls are marked electronically every morning by 9:10am. We ask that parents contact the school when a student is going to be late or absent via a phone call **6142 1550** or email to admin@macquarieps.act.edu.au

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

Drink tap water and avoid single-use water bottles.

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	



AUSTRALIAN GIRLS CHOIR



Is this your daughter?

Look no further than the Australian Girls Choir because we encourage, challenge and inspire girls as they learn to sing, dance and perform.

Join us at our JUNE OPEN DAY



AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS

aspagroup.com.au



AUSTRALIAN GIRLS CHOIR

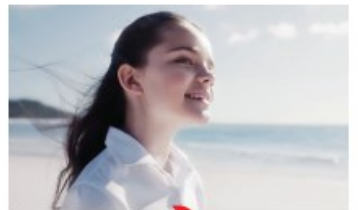


An experience that goes far beyond the stage!

We believe in growing girls through the hidden elements of our curriculum; your daughter will develop confidence, public speaking skills, resilience and friendships that will last a lifetime.

We are proud to have featured in the iconic 'I Still Call Australia Home' advertising campaigns as well as performing at hundreds of live events for Qantas over our 24 year relationship.

Now accepting Semester 2 enrolments for our rehearsal venue in Deakin.



JOIN US AT OUR JUNE OPEN DAY

Register now at ausgirlschoir.com.au/joinagc or phone 02 9922 6733



AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS



SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMPS



5-7 July 2022

**BELCONNEN BASKETBALL
STADIUM**

TWO AGE GROUPS

- 5-9 years - 9am-12pm

- 10-13 years - 1pm-4pm

11-12 July 2022

**TUGGERANONG SOUTHERN
CROSS STADIUM**

TWO AGE GROUPS

- 5-9 years - 9am-12pm

- 10-13 years - 1pm-4pm

**Further details about cost, requirements and registration at
www.basketballact.com.au**



Kippax Kids

Holiday Happenings

for Primary aged children

presented at

Kippax Uniting Community Centre

Hardwick Cres, Holt (opposite Kippax Fair)



10 am - 2 pm

Thursday 7 & 14 July 2022

**Different craft, games, stories and
activities each day**



**Cost: \$5 per child, \$10 for two or more
in a family (covers craft and morning tea).**

BYO lunch, drink bottle and hat. Do not attend if unwell.

Bookings essential - 6254 1733

An activity of Kippax Uniting Church



**This is a Covid
Aware event**

