



The Macquarie Memo

Issue 1: 4 February 2021

From our Principal

Dear Families and Friends,

Welcome to 2021. It was fantastic to see so many returning and new families on the school grounds on Monday and Tuesday. Current Covid restrictions enable us to have up to 500 community members at school. Indoors we are limited to 1 visitor per 2 square metres. Which has led us to continue to run assemblies as junior and senior to enable more of our community to attend. We will be holding two whole school assemblies each term in the first and last weeks to allow the students to see and hear whole school messages. We have reassessed our hall capacity and for whole school assemblies we will be able to have up to 30 community members and for junior or senior assemblies up to 80 community members. Please feel welcome to attend at 2:15pm on Wednesdays and either check in via the app or sign in by paper form.

Arrivals and farewells. This week we welcome a new teacher to MPS, Lauren Price will be teaching every second Wednesday on Les Kiwis and each Thursday and Friday on Les Sureau. Lauren has recently moved from the Northern Territory and we are glad to have her on board. This week we farewell Heather Millar who has worked at Macquarie, Cook and Florey primary schools for an extended period as a learning support assistant for the past 21 years. Heather has been at Macquarie since 2005. She is retiring to spend time with her family and in her garden. We will miss her very much and wish her all the best for her new chapter in life.

Over the past couple of years teaching staff have been working on how we organise, deliver and document learning. One of our challenges has been how to provide rich learning experiences that also cover Australian Curriculum requirements. This year to support our balanced coverage of curriculum and deepening and developing authentic learning experiences our guided inquiries will be driven by four lenses with a range of key concepts to be addressed, these are:

Social Responsibility – this lens is about social organisation and the ways in which people are connected to have responsibility for each other and covers the concepts of; diversity, social systems, change, citizenship, relationships, culture, history, citizenship

Environmental Sustainability – this lens emphasises the need to care for and live responsibly with the environment at a local, national and global level and covers the concepts of interdependence, place, responsibility, environment, conservation, cycles, location

Identify, Creativity, Wellbeing – this lens is about expression through the arts and how this in turn helps us communicate with others and covers the concepts of expression, wellbeing, change, identify, choices, personal responsibility

The Physical World – this lens promotes processes used to innovate, create, make and evaluate and covers the concepts of systems, innovation, ethics, design, classification, cycles.

Students will apply their learnt reading, writing and numeracy skills during these guided inquiries. Term overviews will use this terminology to describe what lens is the focus for the guided inquiry.

We are excited that the Welcome BBQ can proceed this year, and look forward to seeing all our families on Tuesday 9 February at 5:00pm. The P&C are sponsoring a sausage sizzle so bring a picnic blanket and have an early dinner at school. Please note the P&C AGM will follow at 6:00pm where the elections for the new committee will take place in le Verger ((the Orchard) double classroom in Brindabella building).

Have a great week,

Danielle

Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 9 February

Welcome BBQ

5.00pm

P&C AGM

6.00pm

Wednesday 10 February

Assembly 2.15pm

Host - Les Groseilles

Wednesday 17 February

Assembly 2.15pm

Host - Les Kiwis

Wednesday 24—Friday 26 February

Year 5/6 Camp Wombaroo

Wednesday 3 March

Assembly 2.15pm

Host - Les Fruits de Dragon

Thursday 4 March

Year 2-6 Swimming
Carnival

Junior water fun day

Thursday 18 February

Board Meeting 4.30pm

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



ACT
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NEWS FROM THE P&C

Dear community,

Welcome to 2021.

A big welcome to all the new kids and their families who will be joining the school. I hope you will enjoy your time and get the most out of school life.

A reminder that the school Welcome BBQ and the Annual General Meeting for the Parents & Citizens Association (P&C) will be held on **9 February, commencing at 5pm** in the school grounds. Sausages are complimentary and everyone is welcome. I hope to see you there.

If you have thought about joining the P&C Committee, perhaps this is the year for you. It's great way to help the school. There are plenty of interesting and fun activities we hope to achieve. Last year we had a bake sale, a sausage sizzle at Bunnings, Christmas and Father's Day sales, gardening working bees, and a read-a-thon, just to name a few.

If you would like to find out more, please drop me a line or simply turn up for the AGM—all are welcome.

Best wishes,

Brendan Ding

President | Macquarie Primary School P&C

E: president.mpspandc@gmail.com



MPS P&C AGM & ELECTIONS

The Macquarie Primary School P&C will hold their Annual General Meeting & Elections on **Tuesday, 9 February at 6:00pm in** le Verger ((the Orchard) double classroom in Brindabella building) following the Welcome BBQ.

Many of our longstanding committee members are standing down. This means we need you to think about how you can support the school community.

Position details are attached to the newsletter, or email president.mpspandc@gmail.com with any questions.

WELCOME BBQ

Tuesday, 9 February at 5pm

The P&C are pleased to sponsor the annual Welcome BBQ.

Gluten free, halal, chicken and vegetarian options will be available or feel free to bring your own picnic.

Come along and meet your school community!

P&C 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

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

LUNCH ORDERS

Our Friday Canteen Service will resume this week. Be sure to get your order in via Flexischools before the strict cut-off time of **8.30am each Friday morning**. Orders are accepted via Flexischools only (sorry, no cash orders). Information about Flexischools and the canteen, including the menu, is available from the front office.

CLASS PARENT REPRESENTATIVES

How will you volunteer in 2021?

If you aim to do 'just one thing' to help in 2021, think about becoming a class parent representative. It will be a huge help to our P&C and the parents/carers in the school community. It is also a great way to engage with the school community.

Class parent reps help to connect the parent/carer community with the school and the P&C, as well as with each other as Macquarie Primary parents/carers. In 2020, Class Parent Reps arranged class and year group catch-ups, coordinated end of year class gifts for teachers, called for volunteers for events and helped to connect the parent/carer community. Being a class parent rep is not a time intensive role, and it would be great if we could fill up all of the class parent rep places early in the year. Please volunteer ASAP by sending an email to classparentrepsmps@gmail.com

If you can't volunteer as a class parent representative, that's absolutely okay. There are lots of ways to help and become involved with your School, starting with engaging with your **class parent rep when they reach out to you for your contact details**. You could also consider volunteering with your P&C, the Friday canteen service or uniform shop, volunteering for working bees, the Mothers' Day or Fathers' Day stalls throughout the year, and much more. Keep an eye out in the school newsletter for upcoming opportunities.

Cohort	Class	Teacher	Class parent rep
Preschool Les Petit Légumes (the Tiny Vegetables)	Les Kalettes (Mon-Tues)	Maree	
	Les Cucamelons (Thur-Fri)		
LSU Les Fruits à Noyaux (The Stonefruits)	Les Pêches (The Peaches)	Kathy	
Kindergarten Les Agrumes (The Citrus Fruits)	Les Oranges (The Oranges)	Reannon	
	Les Citrons Verts (The Limes)	Bek	
1/2 Les Fruits Tropicaux (The Tropical Fruits)	Les Kiwis (The Kiwifruits)	Monique	
	Les Fruits de Dragon (The Dragon Fruits)	MaryAnn	
	Les Litchis (The Lychees)	Lauren	
	Les Ananas (The Pineapples)	Nicole	
3/4 Les Légumes	Les Aubergines (The Eggplants)	Meg	
	Les Brocolis (The Broccolis)	Brooke	
	- Les Concombres (The Cucumbers)	Chlo	
	Les Citrouilles (The Pumpkins)	Bec	
5/6 Les Baies	Les Groseilles (The Gooseberries)	Patrick	
	Les Fraises (The Strawberries)	Emma	
	Les Sureaux (The Elderberries)	Mel	

SCHOOL BOARD VACANCIES

Two members of our school board will reach the end of their appointment in February 2021, creating one vacancy for a parent member and one vacancy for a staff 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, 8 February 2021**.

DISABILITY ROYAL COMMISSION

The Disability Royal Commission is keen to hear about the lived experiences of people with disability, families, support people, organisations and the broader community. You can share your experience with the Royal Commission:

- in writing, over the phone, in a video or audio recording by [making a submission](#)
- in a [private session](#) with a Commissioner
- in your preferred language – including Indigenous languages and Auslan. The Royal Commission will provide interpreters and translators.

ESAFETY ADVICE FOR FAMILIES FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ESAFETY

The Office of the eSafety Commissioner has produced a range of resources to help families have conversations about online safety:

[Online safety for under 5s booklet](#), which tackles online safety issues for children under 5 years

[The hard-to-have conversations](#), which gives advice about how to talk to your child about tricky personal subjects

[Cyberbullying: A guide to online bullying for parents and carers](#), which gives advice on what to look for and steps to take if your child is being cyber-bullied.

MACQUARIE COMMUNITY NETBALL TEAM

If your child (girl or boy) from year 2-6 is interested in playing Saturday morning netball this year, please pick up an application form from the school office. These must be returned by Friday 26 February 2021.

NOTES HOME & REMINDERS

All notes are available on our school [website](#)

EVENT DETAILS	YEAR GROUP	DATE DUE BACK
2021 Stationery supplies	All year levels	Payments welcome anytime
Medical Information & Consent form	All year levels	Friday 19 February
2021 5/6 Camp Wombaroo	Year 5 & 6	Wednesday 10 February
Swimming Carnival	Year 2—6	Friday 19 February

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

Option 3: Cash or cheque paid directly to the Front Office in a sealed envelope labelled with your family name

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.

SUSTAINABILITY TIPS

Acquire basic sewing skills to patch holes and sew buttons back on. Or if you have a bigger job, take to an alterations shop.

SCHOOL CONTACT DETAILS

Office hours: Monday — Friday 8.30am — 3.30pm

Macquarie Primary is an
ANAPHYLAXIS AWARE SCHOOL

Avoiding all nuts.

Phone K-6 site:	02 6142 1550	Principal	Danielle Porter	danielle.porter@ed.act.edu.au
Phone preschool:	02 6142 1570	Deputy Principal	Jodie Rowell	jodie.rowell@ed.act.edu.au
Email:	admin@macquarieps.act.edu.au	Executive (P-Yr2)	Stacey Naden	stacey.naden@ed.act.edu.au
Website:	www.macquarieps.act.edu.au	Executive (Yr3-6)	Veronique Canellas	veronique.canellas@ed.act.edu.au
Facebook:	http://www.facebook.com/macquarieprimary	Business Manager	Ann Walker	ann.walker@ed.act.edu.au
P&C President	Brendan Ding	Board Chair	Amy McGuire	
	macquariepandc@gmail.com			



positive partnerships

Working together to support school-aged students on the autism spectrum

Free
to attend

2 Day Autism Workshop for Parents and Carers



Join other local families to learn more about autism and ways to strengthen the home-school partnership

Learn about:

- Autism: characteristics, impacts and strategies
- Understanding behaviour
- Sensory processing
- Working together with your school

Location:

Rydges Canberra
17 Canberra Ave,
Forrest ACT 2603

Morning tea and a light lunch are provided

Canberra, ACT

Wednesday 10th and
Thursday 11th March 2021

9.30am - 2.30pm



Interpreters available



For more information and to register, visit

www.positivepartnerships.com.au or, contact Rachael

Rachael Dillon e: rdillon@autismspectrum.org.au

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