



# Palmerston Post

Issue 2 - Term 1

Palmerston District Primary School acknowledges the  
Ngunnawal People, the traditional owners and  
custodians of this land.



# Principal's Message

What a busy fortnight we have had at Palmerston. It was wonderful to see so many families attend the Information Session last week, we were delighted with the positivity on the night. Please remember, if ever you have a concern or question, please contact your child's teacher in the first instance. They are more than happy to navigate your way through to a solution. I was honoured to introduce the entire teaching team to the audience in the Hall and share that together we have 544 years of teaching experience, the longest being ( guess who) with 33 years and the shortest being four weeks!

Mrs Lisa Fior has been an outstanding contributor to our community for several years in the roles as Board Chair and P&C President. I would like to personally thank Lisa for being so welcoming and approachable in helping me settle in and to work together in such a positive way. Your work has been greatly appreciated by our community Lisa, you have certainly added great value to our school. We held a P&C Meeting on Monday night and had a record number of parents come along, and it is wonderful to see new faces, and start to build new relationships. Congratulations to Helen Ritchie who was voted in as our new President. I look forward to moving into the next steps of our journey at Palmerston.

Morning lines are a time where teachers can share some quick and important information for the day ahead. We are struggling at the moment with the volume of parents, and continued talking throughout the teachers' announcements, could we please ask for your support in modelling respectful behaviour and just listening during this time. Thank you so much.

This year, we have introduced two new Arts initiatives. Kulturebreak Hip Hop dance lessons have been opened to Yrs 4,5 and 6 students. Across a 15 week program, they will help choregraph a routine to the theme of IMAGINE and then, alongside 13 other schools, will perform at the national Convention Centre later in term 2. I have been involved with this for years, and the Dance nation Finale event is quite spectacular.

Secondly, we have expanded our Instrumental Music Program for Yr 3 students to learn the violin. We originally considered offering 22 positions, however, with the popularity, we have around 33 students taking up this opportunity. A IMP teacher will come weekly to provide lessons for this cohort of musicians in a small group model. We are very excited to hear the music that will be created.

Our highlight this week has certainly been the Swimming Carnival. With Mr Joy leading the way, and ordering beautiful weather, we were certainly set for a fun filled day. I was impressed with the swimming efforts by our competitive swimmers, delighted in the laughter and fun when students participated in the rotation activities and was amazed by the loud cheering. Thanks to everyone involved. The watermelon station was a hit thanks to our P&C!!

Thanks to Ms Green for making my t shirt and Helen Ritchie for printing all the house names! I can certainly now confidently cheer for EVERY team! Everyone is a winner!

Until next time –

***Kate Smith***



# Swimming Carnival













# Deputy Principal Message



## Marijana Pasalic - Deputy Principal: Inclusion, Diversity and Wellbeing

Palmy invited me to his house down by the beach last weekend. We ran around the beach collecting shells, built sandcastles and jumped through waves. We had a lot of fun together. After a day playing and frolicking on the sand, we made our way back to his place where his father had just prepared fresh








and ironicking on the sand we made our way back to his place where his father had just prepared fresh coconut juice and coconut slice. It was delicious. While we sat and enjoyed afternoon tea his parents talked about how important the home/school partnerships were and how proud they were of Palmy for helping our school communicate our whole school expectations of being safe, respectful learners to the community. They said the PBL framework was the perfect tool to help ensure that a predictable and safe environment was maintained at school and then they told me how they had adapted it to work for them at home.

Palmy's dad was so excited to tell me how he and Palmy had sat down together one afternoon to determine what behaviours were appropriate at their house. Palmy said he had spent time to practice routines and procedures, like packing away his board shorts, with his dad. His dad had to teach Palmy what some of the behaviours looked like and made sure Palmy knew he was doing well. Palmy and his family may be on to something here and they were more than happy for me to share what they created to give you an idea.

This is just an idea, and Palmy's family hopes it is helpful. Like always I would love to hear your feedback and thoughts!

Marijana Pasalic

	Morning  Good Morning Sunshine!	<u>Meal Times</u> 	Homework 	Free Time and Play 	Bedtime 
Be Safe	Stay indoors  Put your shoes and clothes away	Stay in your seat  Keep chair legs on the floor  Use utensils properly	Stay in designated homework spot  Clean up materials when finished  Hang up your schoolbag	Use toys as intended  Keep hands and body to self  Tell an adult where you are playing	Stay indoors/in room  Put shoes and clothes away  Calm body in bed
Be Respectful	Use a quiet voice until everyone wakes  Use kind words e.g. say good morning  Follow directions	Use manners e.g. say "please" and "thank you"  Chew with mouth closed  Take turns listening and talking  Try new foods	Work quietly  Ask for help if needed	Include others  Share and take turns	Use a quiet voice at night-time  Use kind words e.g. say "good night"
Be A Learner	Get up on time  Brush your teeth  Make your bed  Get materials ready for school	Wash hands  Clean up dishes after eating  Keep food on the table	Finish all of your homework  Prepare schoolbag for the next day	Take care of belongings!  Turn off electronics when finished!  Charge electronics when necessary  Clean up when you are finished playing	Put on <del>clothes</del> pajamas  Wash up and brush teeth  Use bathroom  Go to bed on time



## Helen Cox - Deputy Principal: Achievement and Potential

This year, one of our school priorities is to *increase writing efficacy and engagement for all students*. To facilitate this priority, our school is part of an ACT Education Directorate initiative, the Early Years Literacy (EYL) initiative, led by Christine Topfer, an Australian literacy expert.

Programs delivered as part of the EYL initiative include an intensive program which supports us as school leaders and incorporates a series of Masterclasses and coaching workshops and literacy workshops for beginning teachers.

At the beginning of the year, prior to the commencement of school, all staff attended a one-day workshop with Christine Topfer on the 10 Essential Instructional Practices (10EIP) in Literacy. In addition, we have joined the Primary Leader Writing Inquiry for ACT public primary schools. All these initiatives are designed to support teachers to improve outcomes in children's literacy.

We are most excited by this initiative and will share student writing examples across the year. Watch this space!

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The SkoolBag app is the easiest way keep up with school events, last minute notices, newsletters and all school communications.

5 Easy Steps to Staying Informed



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SkoolBag: School Communication



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Follow the prompts to create your account in seconds.

### 3. Add your School

Type your school's name and press enter. Tap the plus icon to add.



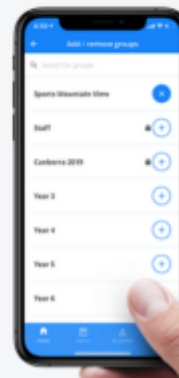
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### 5. Subscribe to Groups

Select Year Groups / Sports Teams to appear in your feed.





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## Meet the Palmerston Staff



### 2020 Palmerston Staff List

Download

## Kindergarten Team







Hi, my name is Fiona Dean. I am lucky to be teaching kindergarten again this year. My class is called KFD. I have been teaching at Palmerston for 4 ½ years. At home, I am the mum of three active children who love to play a variety of sports which keeps me very busy on the weekends. I love bumping into Palmerston families around the soccer and footy fields. I am a big AFL fan. I am looking forward to a fun filled year of learning with my class.



Namaste. My name is Garima Singh. I am a kindergarten teacher. I live in North Canberra with my husband and two sons. I was born in India in the city where Dalia Lama lives. My favourite colour is pink. I am passionate about cooking and my favourite fruit is watermelon. I love watching Disney movies with my family. I can fluently speak Hindi and English. I can also say hello, in 10 different languages. A fun fact about me is that I learned Taekwondo for a year in 2016. When you see me at school, please come and say hello.



Hi everyone! I'm Georgia Morrison and I'm teaching Kindergarten this year, my class is KGM. I love spending time with my family and friends, travelling and watching movies. A fun fact about me is that I grew up in Orange NSW which is famous for growing apples and cherries. Please say hi if you see me around the school.



Hello to our wonderful Palmerston Community. I am Melissa (Mel) Cameron and I throughout 2020, have the privilege of working alongside 19 vibrant Kindergarten students. Together we make up KMC and are located in the Bimberi PoD. Outside of school I love spending time with my family and friends. Some of my favourite things to do are, to read, eat delicious foods and get away to the beach on the weekends. A fun fact about me, is that later this year in November, I will be getting married.





My name is Jodie Robbins. This is my first year at Palmerston but my third amazing and wonderful teaching year with Samantha Burgess. I love to knit and crochet and am currently making a pair of socks!! I am really looking forward to an exciting year in the Budawang pod!



My name is Samantha Burgess and I have been teaching since 2002. This is my first year at Palmerston and I am very Lucky to have moved with my teaching partner Jodie Robbins for our third year together as a team. I teach kindergarten this year in the Budawang Pod. I love creative things and try to bring an artistic to flair to my teaching. A fun fact is that most people's favorite food is my least favorite, that is because I am allergic to chocolate. I am very excited to be at Palmerston and looking forward to all the amazing things I get to do here.



My name is Mrs Starr and I am the Kindergarten classroom teacher for KCS. I have two children and my husband is also a teacher. I enjoy jogging in our beautiful nature reserves and spotting all our wonderful native plants and animals. I am excited to be teaching at Palmerston and supporting every student's learning journey.



Hi my name is Natalie Edwards and I am new to Palmerston School, I have been teaching early childhood for 7 years and am very excited to join this amazing team. Fun fact I was previously a motor mechanic for 6 years in Sydney!



# LIBRARY NEWS

The Library is open every day at lunch for students to read, borrow books or play chess. Students, accompanied by their parents, are welcome to visit the library to borrow before and after school (8.30-9.00 and 3.00-3.30).

We welcome the assistance of parents or carers to assist us in developing and maintaining our large collection. If you are able to assist with covering books or with shelving please let us know by email: [Kristina.collins@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Kristina.collins@ed.act.edu.au) or pop into the Library and speak to us.

## Classroom Connections



## Japanese News

Students in Years 3-6 have all begun Japanese lessons and are well on the way to learning the Hiragana alphabet. We divide this up into “belts” with students working to achieve a Black Belt where they can read and write the full alphabet. It’s quite a challenge!

For weeks 5-10 Ms Collins will be on leave and replaced by Brydie Sensei. In Term 2 we will also be joined by our Japanese Teacher’s Assistant Ms Asahi Sekimoto. We are still looking for a few host families for her later in the year. Please email if you might be interested [Kristina.collins@ed.act.edu](mailto:Kristina.collins@ed.act.edu)

Manga Club each Monday lunch regularly has in excess of 30 students! Its fantastic to see how many enthusiastic artists we have! We’re already seeing improvements as students practise new skills and techniques!



## 2020 Host Families Needed

In 2020 Palmerston will be hosting a volunteer Japanese Language Teacher's Assistant (JTA), Miss Asahi Sekimoto from Kagoshima University in southern Japan. During her stay she will be assisting in Japanese language classes 3-6, while also hoping to also improve her English skills. (Please see attached for more information on her.)

JTAs are home stayed within the school community and pay a contribution towards food and board of \$180 a week to their host families. Assistants need their own rooms but can share the family bathroom.

We are therefore seeking expressions of interest from families who would be willing to host our JTA for a period of 6-10 weeks (eight weeks is ideal) in Terms 3 – 4 of 2020.

If you are unable to host for a longer term but are interested in offering weekend stays, emergency back up or the occasional social activity please also return the form attached.

[Download](#)

## P & C/Board News

## P & C Parent Corner

All P & C activities, meeting agendas and minutes are available from the school website. Please click on the button above to take you there.



# Scholastic Book Club

The P & C will now only be accepting orders via the ONLINE ORDERING SYSTEM (LOOP).

**NO CASH ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED**

When you order and pay by **LOOP**, you do not need to fill in any order forms or return anything to school. Your order will be electronically linked to the rest of your schools order.

Visit **[scholastic.com.au/LOOP](https://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP)** or download the app.

This will eliminate issues that include: incorrect money received, foreign money received & also no name or contact details being written on orders. By changing to online orders only, it will make the process much easier for the volunteers who offer their time to manage the large numbers of orders we receive for each catalogue.

Any cash orders received will be returned to the students.

We appreciate your assistance with these changes.

## P & C 2nd Hand Uniform Shop

**Location:** School Hall Foyer

**Opening times:**

Tuesday 2:45-3:15pm

Friday 9am-9:15am

Other times by Appointment. Contact Kate Baron 0404 675 508

Donations of 2nd hand uniform items are always welcome. Items can be brought to the shop during opening times or left at the Front Office.





## School Banking

Palmerston Primary is excited to offer the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program to all students.

School Banking is a fun, interactive and engaging way for young Australians to learn about money and develop good savings habits. Children who deposit money into their Youthsaver account through School Banking earn Dollarmites tokens, which they can save up and redeem for exciting rewards.

The rewards available during 2020 are:

- o Terry Denton's Activity Book
- o Mini Soccer Ball (size 2)
- o Treetop Stationary Set
- o Treetop Handball
- o Tomato Seed Kit
- o Magic Mist Drink Bottle
- o Emoji Wallet
- o Snakes & Ladders Game

School Banking is also a great fundraiser for our school. Our school receives a Regular Savers Contribution of \$5 for every 10 deposits processed per student as well as an Annual Contribution which is based on the number of students who made at least one School Banking deposit in the prior year.

**School Banking day is Wednesday.** Each week you need to deliver your book to the Front Office.

If you are interested in opening a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account for your child you can visit [www.commbank.com.au/schoolbanking](http://www.commbank.com.au/schoolbanking) and click on the link to open a Youthsaver account. A School Banking representative will be available at the Information Session to explain how you can do this. In order to verify yourself and your child, you will need your driver's licence and your child's birth certificate, but if you don't have these with you on the day, you can complete verification online at home.

## Pride Awards





We are...

**SAFE**

**RESPECTFUL**

**LEARNERS**

Congratulations to the following students who received a PRIDE Award at assembly.

**PARTICIPATION** – becoming involved, “having a go” and cooperating with others.

*Neha - KBR Wynne - KBR Jack - KCS Miyuki - KFD Yash - 1RN Kyla - KGM James - KGM  
Tevita - 1MP Nina - KMC Eloise - 2SH Nelson - 2SH Coen - 2SZ Kittevat - 2SZ  
Finlay - 2CC Olivia - 1FT Jewel - 1FT*

**RESPECT** – having respect for self, others and their property.

*Isla - KGS Harrison - KFD Yara - 2MO Grace - 1FS Ethan - 1FS*

**INTEGRITY** – being honest, fair, responsible and loyal.

*Daniel - KGS Thu - KCS*

**DETERMINATION** - being persistent and resilient

*Yicheng - 1BD Sebastian - 2DH Viraj - 1RN Dev - 2MO Ethan - 1MP Maxwell - KMC  
Zayaan - 2CC*

**EMPATHY** - understanding and supporting others regardless of our differences

*Lani - 1BD Matilda - 2DH Charlotte - 1AS Lillie - 1AS*



## Dates to Remember

Tuesday 3 March 5.30-6.30pm	Protective Behaviours - Parent Information Session
Wednesday 4 March	Sibling catch up photo day
Friday 6 March 2.00 - 2.50pm	Senior Assembly 3-6 (Yr 5 hosting)
Friday 13 March 2.00 - 2.50pm	Junior Assembly K-2 (Kindergarten hosting)
Wednesday 18 March 6.00-7.00pm	Yr 1 Parent Reading Seminar
Wednesday 1 April - Friday 3 April	Year 5/6 Camp - Borambola
Thursday 9 April	Term 1 Ends

## Defence News

### Parent/Carer Information

## School Photo Catch Up Day - Wednesday 4 March

MSP Photographers will be coming back to Palmerston on Wednesday 4 March to take any missed sibling photos and any students who may have been absent/missed their individual photos.

If you are unsure if your child needs to have their photo taken please contact MSP (6255 9208) or your child's teacher.

There will be no whole class photos on this day.



# Important information - Bookpacks

As you may be aware, some families/carers are still waiting for book packs or items from book packs to be delivered by the book pack provider. The Education Directorate has decided to terminate their agreement with this provider and has arranged for families/carers to receive a refund for packs and items not delivered. A new provider has been engaged to provide outstanding packs and items and these will be delivered to our school next week. The school will arrange for these outstanding packs and items to be distributed to students.



## Palmerston SUPA Club 2020

SUPA Club is a fortnightly lunchtime club that allows children to explore who Jesus is, in a fun and relaxed way. It is coordinated by Scripture Union and volunteer teachers belong to local churches. Participation in SUPA Club is voluntary and all children require a signed permission slip.

**WHO:** Children in Kindy to year 6 who have a signed permission slip.

**WHEN:** Thursday lunch fortnightly (Odd weeks)

**WHERE:** Music Room

Contact Kate Baron ([kate\\_baron@outlook.com](mailto:kate_baron@outlook.com)) or Scripture Union (6251 3677) for more information

Download

## Community Connections



### Could \$500 help you with school costs?

Join Saver Plus and we'll match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for school costs.

- laptops & tablets
- uniforms & shoes
- sports fees & gear
- lessons & activities
- books & supplies
- camps & excursions

To join Saver Plus, you must be at least 18 years or over, have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself, have regular income from paid employment (you or your partner), have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card and be in receipt of an eligible Commonwealth social security benefit, allowance or payment\*

**Contact**  
your local Saver Plus Coordinator  
**Phone or SMS**  
your name and postcode to 1300 610 355  
**Email**  
[CanberraSP@theunitedfamily.com.au](mailto:CanberraSP@theunitedfamily.com.au)  
**Online**  
[saverplus.org.au](http://saverplus.org.au)  
Find us on Facebook

Communities@Work

## Before & After School Care

NOW AVAILABLE

For children enrolled at Palmerston Preschool

7:30am - 9am and 3pm - 6pm  
School terms only

BOOK NOW!



CALL 6287 3833

PARENTLINE ACT

## NEED TO CHAT ABOUT RECENT BUSHFIRE EVENTS?

Parentline ACT is the only telephone  
counselling service for parents and carers  
in Canberra



Available to all families in  
the ACT.

Offering a free and  
confidential counselling  
service.

Assisting & supporting  
parents with ideas about  
raising children.

**\*Interpreters available**

The only telephone counselling service for  
parents and carers in the ACT.

**PARENTLINE  
6287 3833  
9 AM - 5 PM**

**FREE TELEPHONE  
COUNSELLING**



### Parent/Carers Workshop



#### Literacy Accessibility Tool

*Boost reading and writing confidence*

#### Read & Write for Google Chrome (RW4G)

Read & Write for Google Chrome (RW4G) offers support for Google Docs and the web and is especially beneficial for students with diverse literacy needs. It offers a range of powerful support tools to assist students to gain confidence with reading, writing, studying and research e.g. text to speech, speech to text, word prediction.

RW4G is available free for all students and teachers in ACT Public Schools. Students can access the tool anywhere at school, home etc. The licence has been extended for the next 3 years.

#### Workshop details and registration

Two workshop sessions will be offered, if you are interested in attending please register for one of the workshop dates by emailing to [michelle.vanpuyvelde@act.gov.au](mailto:michelle.vanpuyvelde@act.gov.au) and/or 6207 4225.

Term 2 2020, wk.2

Thursday 7th May 4.00-5.30pm

Venue: Centre for Teaching & Learning Hedley Beare  
51 Fremantle Drive Stirling ACT  
Room: Mezzanine

Term 3 2020, wk.6

Tuesday 25th August 4.00-5.30pm

Venue: Mount Stromlo High School 220 Badimara St, Waramanga  
ACT  
Room: Library

If you want to learn more about Read & Write for Google Chrome below are links to a variety of videos.

- [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvS2bmGbkpCTk3S93CXIQWNF5Of\\_Ow3D&disable\\_page=true](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvS2bmGbkpCTk3S93CXIQWNF5Of_Ow3D&disable_page=true)
- <https://www.texthelp.com/en-au/products/read-write/read-write-for-google/>
- <https://www.texthelp.com/en-au/sectors/education/schools/>



## Child Development Service: Speech Drop in Clinics 2020

Download





## Child Development Service: Physiotherapy Drop in Clinics 2020

Download



## What is a Drop in Clinic

Download



## Child Development Service Referral Information

Download

## Marymead Autism Centre

Marymead Autism Centre is pleased to present this month's newsletter to share updates on current events and activities for families of and individuals on the Autism Spectrum.

Please follow the following link for more information.

<https://www.marymeadautismcentre.org.au/activities/events-calendar>



## PoP! Goes the Muso

Hi Palmerston,

Mr Elks is running an event this weekend called Pop! Goes the Muso.

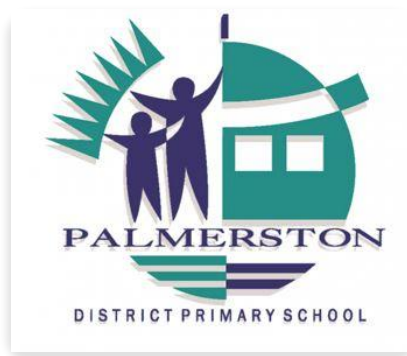
Pop! Goes the Muso is a free family-friendly series of summer concerts by Yerrabi Pond presented by Gungahlin Arts. The series is run to create an opportunity for Gungahlin locals to connect with each other and enjoy some live local tunes and art projects. Discover local musicians and artists, join in crafting activities and share stories in a relaxed community atmosphere.

Food and drinks will be available for purchase, or bring along a picnic to enjoy as you boogie along to the music with your family. The stage will be close to the big playground for those little ones who need an active adventure between musical encounters.

Participate in the pop-up printing station run by local artist Jo Hollier and play with colour, texture and pattern using her simple and exciting printmaking technique that will allow you to explore and satisfy your creative urges. Create one print to take home with you, and another to contribute to a community quilt!

The Pop! Goes the Muso stage will be powered by Communi-fi Sound Solar Sound Bike.

Hope to see you there!



# Palmerston District Primary School

 Kosciuszko Avenue, Palmerston ACT, Australia

 [www.palmdps.act.edu.au/](http://www.palmdps.act.edu.au/)

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