Dear Parents and Carers,

As I walk around to visit classrooms each day, I continue to be impressed with the standard of learning our students are engaging in. There are high quality pieces of writing being produced across all year groups. I observed a lesson in which each student provided constructive feedback to another peer about how to improve their writing. This served as a very powerful experience for the students in how to receive and provide feedback that moved their learning forward.

**Nationally Consistent Collection of Data**
The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data is a process every Australian school engages in. This allows the federal government to better support and resource students who require adjustments to access and participate in education. A note explaining this will be distributed this week. If you have any questions, please contact me via the schools front office to discuss.
Athletics Carnival
The Athletics carnival last Thursday was a success. It was wonderful to see a high level of participation from our students across the school. Staff also noticed the outstanding sportsmanship our students displayed towards one another. We look forward to the big announcement of the winning house at this week’s assembly.

Jump Rope for Heart
Jump Rope for Heart saw our school have a special presentation by our top level skippers. Representatives from each class participated in a rope tie off as well as a speed skipping challenge. It was wonderful to see so many teachers participate also. Congratulations to Ms Cox who won the speed skipping with 115 continuous skips in a minute.

Semester 1 Reports
Semester 1 reports will be handed to students next Thursday 25 June. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to discuss your child’s learning with them. We will be holding parent teacher interviews throughout week 10. Please contact the school’s front office on 6205 7241 to make an appointment with your child’s classroom teacher.

Fresh Taste Update
In 2014 Nutrition Australia presented to Palmerston parents a variety of nutritious eating options for lunchboxes. In line with this we encourage healthy fruit breaks, recess and lunches. We have been observing that on occasion some student’s have been coming to school with ‘occasional’ foods instead of healthy options. Occasional foods that we have noticed recently include meat pies, cold fried chips, chicken nuggets and packaged foods high in sugar and salt. If you would like additional information please follow the link to Nutrition Australia’s website on healthy eating options and the ‘traffic light’ system.
Nutrition Australia website: http://www.nutritionaustralia.org/

Traffic Congestion
As our school continues to grow, we will face further traffic congestion in our car parks. Thank you to the parents and carers that continue to adhere to the correct parking practices, our children’s safety around our roads is paramount. Mrs Travers had a productive discussion with Roads ACT. They have agreed to provide 15 minute parking spaces (at least 5 spaces) on Kosciusko Avenue adjacent to the bus stop and install bollards at the kerb ramps adjacent to the children crossing and footpaths. A map outlining these new parking arrangements will be placed on our website.

Assemblies
We are making a slight adjustment to the commencement time of our senior assemblies. As these occur in the multi-purpose room when Before School Care is finishing its session, we ask that the senior assemblies start at 9:10am. All other assemblies will continue to start at 9am. We apologise for any inconvenience.

Ben Hall
Deputy Principal
Palmerston PRIDE Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received a PRIDE Award at assembly on 12th June:

**PARTICIPATION** – becoming involved, “having a go” and cooperating with others
Emily – 1HD  Charlotte – 2VS  Johanna – 2EG

**RESPECT** – respect for self, others and their property
Declan – 1HD  Georgia – 2VS

**INTEGRITY** – being honest, fair, responsible and loyal
Jessica – 1HD  Ryan – 2EG

**DETERMINATION** - being persistent and resilient
Oliver - 1BR  Savannah – 1BR  Rafay – 1HD  Natalie – 2EG

**EMPATHY** – understanding and supporting others, regardless of our differences
Grace – 1HD  Thisuri – 2EG

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Preschool

**Preschool Ranger Incursion**

On Tuesday 2nd June and Thursday 4th June, our Preschool students experienced a hands-on encounter of local flora and fauna, from ranger Luke Johnston, who also happens to be a proud Palmerston parent. Luke spoke to the students about local ‘Communities in Nature’ and about local flora and fauna found in and around Canberra. This encounter links with current learning experiences as students have been having looking at Canberra, the surrounding area and now Australia as a whole.

During the incursion, students handled a variety of local and national flora and fauna including grasses, gumnuts, goannas and barn owls.

![Image of students handling local flora and fauna](image)

Have a lovely week,

Georgina Sofatzis

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Preschool Enrolments 2016

Enrolments for 2016 are open. If you know of a preschool aged child please let them know to enrol now. The online application can be found at: [http://www.det.act.gov.au/school_education/enrolling_in_an_act_public_school](http://www.det.act.gov.au/school_education/enrolling_in_an_act_public_school)

If you do not have access to a computer please contact the front office and they will assist you to complete the application process at school.

Offers of placement will be made from Friday 19 June 2015.
Semester 1 Reports 2015
Reports will be sent home with children in week 9. Preschool children will receive a developmental report. If your child is in Kindergarten you will receive the school report. Children in Year 1-6 will receive the school report and an A-E report.

Please indicate whether you require duplicate copies of your child’s report.

Interview schedule times are available in the front office, please contact the front office to book in a time.

YEAR TWO 2015
This term year 2 is learning about Australian animals and their environments. We have looked at the different classifications of Australian animals, their habitats, food habits and conservation status. We have applied this new knowledge during writing times to write detailed information reports.

In week 5 we had an excursion to the National Zoo and Aquarium, to discover more about Australian animals. During our time at the zoo we received a guided tour to visit different animals and even got to feed some. Here are some photos from our excursion.
Defence News
Soldier On is a charity organisation offering support to Australian service men, women and their families, that may have suffered physical or psychological wounds due to their service. They support serving and ex-serving members by providing health and wellbeing programmes covering many interests.
They have recently re-launched the Robert Poate Reintegration and Recovery Centre at 44 Bellenden St Crace. Regular activities include coffee mornings, music sessions, yoga, gym facilities and library/lounge facilities. A Family Day is being held on Sunday 19th July at Grand Prix Karting, 39 Collie St Fyshwick from 12pm to 4pm. If you would like to attend, please RSVP by 16th July by emailing admin@soldieron.org.au
If you would like more information regarding any of the events or activities that Soldier On facilitate, check out their website at www.soldieron.org.au or have a look at the flyers in the DSTA News window.

Regards,
Marina Pilicic
DSTA

P&C News
Winter Sparkle Disco
Friday 19 June
Juniors: Preschool – Yr2 6:00pm – 7:15pm
Seniors: Yr3 – Yr6 7:30pm - 9:00pm

PARENT HELPERS ARE ESSENTIAL
Are you staying at the Disco? Can you help for half an hour?
We need volunteers for 4pm setup, collecting door entry fee, in the canteen, door & dance floor security, pack up & lock up (til 10pm)
Please contact Edwina on 0422 006 142 if you can assist.

Entertainment Books
2015-2016 Entertainment Books are now available. Purchase your book or digital copy online by following this link https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/2487s6
Or purchase with cash at the front office. For any questions, please contact Jenni Palombi on 0416 180 225
Being a parent is the hardest job we’ll ever have. All parents at some time experience difficulties and stress.

Parentline ACT is a confidential, anonymous telephone counselling and information service.

Phone Parentline if you would you like:

- To talk with someone about those parenting issues.
- Help with some ideas on raising children.
- Support in the important job you are doing.
- To know what is available for parents, teenagers and children.
- To build better relationships in your family.
- Help to understand your child or teenager’s behaviour.

Parentline ACT.
Monday to Friday (except on public holidays), 9am to 5pm.
Phone: 6287 3833

PARENT EFFECTIVENESS TRAINING (P.E.T)

Supported by Parentline ACT

Communication skills for peaceful parenting and resilient children (without the use of punishment or reward). Helps develop emotional intelligence, and grow confident, considerate children. Powerful, proven and practical. Yell less, enjoy your children more. Build relationships that last a lifetime.


The course consists of three-hour sessions, once per week, for eight weeks. Booking is essential. $320 pp for the course (investment includes a workbook and textbook).

Course begins: Monday 27th July, 2015; Time: 6.30 pm to 9.45 pm; Place: Weston, ACT.

Enjoy P.E.T. with Larissa, Canberra’s most experienced P.E.T. instructor.
0413 451 607 www.parentskills.com.au info@parentskills.com.au
THE WINTER PROGRAM AT LIBRARIES ACT

It’s full of fun and games (and learning too)! There’s something for all ages.

In July there’s the School Holiday program. Book the kids in to one of the activities designed to appeal (and educate)! There’s an awesome science show (that’s travelled the world) which involves marshmallow bazookas and leaf blowers, hover crafts, liquid nitrogen and rockets! There’s steam punk jewellery making, stop motion animation movie making and craft making to name some of the fun.

While the kids are having fun, you can grab a coffee and hook in to our free Wifi. Download a free magazine to your own device – you can even take it home with you. Or book in for a 1:1 digital session with one of our friendly computer gurus. Ask any of those computer related questions you’ve been too embarrassed to ask before now! ALL FOR FREE!

For more information or to book, go to www.library.act.gov.au/learning/whats_on

Or follow us:  
Twitter – @librariesact  
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