Dear Parents and Carers,

We are at the end of the term. The weather has turned very cold, but enthusiasm for school remains high. This term has seen so many exciting events. We joined together for and/or classes participated in:

- Transition visits to High School
- Jump rope for Heart, mother’s day stay and play / concert
- ACT swimming carnival / Athletics carnival / North Gungahlin cross country
- Reconciliation Week / NAIDOC week
- Zoo, Parks and Botanical Gardens excursions
- Colonial Day / Billy Bush Tea dance
- Author visits on Poetry and on writing a story
- ICAS writing/ spelling/ Science/ NAPLAN year 3 & 5
- Parent Teacher interviews and Reports home
- Hosted school assemblies
- PJ day
I look forward to what Term 3 brings. From the Wednesday of week one next term to the Tuesday of the fourth week, I will be working across fours Canberra Government School on External Validation. I will be working with a group of executive teachers from the Catholic and Government sectors. Ben Hall will be acting Principal during this time. Kate Flynn will be the acting Deputy and I welcome Will Powell as an acting executive teacher.

This week is NAIDOC week and for our celebrations, Palmerston won a grant to produce a whole school artwork. Ask your child about their hand printing. This artwork will be on display soon. The Boomerang club held a ceremony and BBQ. I would like to thank the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families who attended this wonderful event. This year’s NAIDOC theme is ‘we all Stand on Sacred Ground’.

This week is parent teacher interview week. A big thank you to the parents who came along to discuss their child/ren’s achievements. Education is always a partnership and together we can achieve so much.

The students from 2/3WW, 3/4CC, 5SL and 6JM shared their experience of philosophy on Wednesday evening. The classes were investigating and creating a Philosophy Project to develop their thinking skills. This culminated in a Philosophy evening. We all had a wonderful evening listening to their presentations.

A car park reminder. We have had a few parents upset about some families choice of parking. Please remember to slow down when driving near the school. We have many car spaces and surrounding parking near the shops or streets. We have recently had ACT roads out to view our parking and traffic flow to advise us on safety. They will be giving us 5 more car spaces in the bus pulling up bay. They will also be placing bollards near the children’s crossing to allow for more visibility. Remember to drive safely around our children.

Have a safe and happy winter break. Remember that the school grounds will not be a safe place to play, as we cannot guarantee safety when the school is closed and the teachers are not on site. Remember to stay off the school roof and play only when accompanied by an adult in a safe location during the school holidays.

“To the world you may be one person, but to one person you are the world.” Dr Seuss

Melissa Travers
Principal

Palmerston PRIDE Awards
Congratulations to the following students who received a PRIDE Award at assembly on 26 June:

**PARTICIPATION** – becoming involved, “having a go” and cooperating with others
Lucas – KFC Oliver – 1BR

**RESPECT** – respect for self, others and their property
Malaki – KLM Reuben – KFC Naithen – 2EG Rachel – 2VS

**INTEGRITY** – being honest, fair, responsible and loyal
Gracie – 2EG

**DETERMINATION** - being persistent and resilient
A Message from the Minister

During Public Education Week this year, I launched the Canberra Public Schools web portal. 

The Canberra Public Schools webpage is a ‘one-stop shop’ for you to find information specifically about Canberra public schools. The webpage has a fresh look and feel, and contains important information, feature articles and useful links. It also has a search function for you to search for schools by geographic area, details on curriculum, programs and student enrolment. The page also links to useful information including school websites, holiday and school term information, ACTION Buses and SunSmart.

The Canberra Public Schools webpage is also links to the ‘Parents and Students at the Centre’, ‘Trending #successstories’, and ‘Public School Alumni’ pages. These pages contain stories and articles about the achievements our schools, teachers, principals, alumni and students.

I encourage you to explore the new webpage, and let us know your thoughts. Please email DET.Media@act.gov.au with your feedback. As you know, Canberra public schools are fantastic and students deserve to have their successes shared.

Kind regards

Joy Burch
Minister for Education and Training

Preschool

Communication between the home and school is paramount in education. Effective communication allows for staff and families to have a shared understanding of the needs of the children at Palmerston as well as ensuring that your children get the best start in school life. Last week and this week we have engaged in another mode of communication, that being the After School Interviews. Thank you to parents for supporting our valuable interview process, this is such an important time as we get the opportunity to celebrate and discuss student’s work and achievements.
It’s hard to believe that it is week 10. The term has flown and to say that we are already half way through the year is amazing. We would like to thank you for your ongoing support and look forward to working with all children and families next term.

Wishing you all a happy and safe holiday,
Kate Flynn

Preschool Enrolments 2016
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

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.

News from the Learning Support Unit
Students and staff from the Learning Support Unit used the tickets they won in last year’s ACT Science Fair to go to Questacon on Friday. It’s a place the students don’t go to very often and, for one student, it was her first time. Two of the braver students were able to go down the big slide multiple times and everyone enjoyed the hands on activities. We went to a Science show about rockets, which was lots of fun. We didn’t go to all the galleries, so we plan to go back again.

Science Club News
Science Club is on at lunch time in the year 3/4 Art Room. It is on every day while we are preparing our entries in the ACT Science Fair. Children decide what experiment they would like to do, choose a day and write their name on the calendar for that day. On that day, they bring the things they need to do the experiment and do it at school in Science Club time with help from Mrs Fisk and other Science Clubbers.

Then they write their report – again with help from Mrs Fisk – and display their project as a poster, a book or another form of display. The report enables the judges to understand what work the student has done and found out. Entries for the ACT Science Fair are due on 28 August.

Defence News
As of Term 3, my working hours at PDPS will be changing. As Defence student numbers at Gungahlin College are increasing, my position has had an increase in funding by the ADF and I have been asked to work extra hours. As such, I will be decreasing my hours at Palmerston and will only be working at the school on Fridays. I will be available from 8.30am to 3.30pm and will continue with Defence Club. As I have the same email address at both schools, feel free to send me an email at any time Marina.Pilicic@ed.act.edu.au
I hope everyone had a chance to read this month’s E-news from DCO with the many activities that are on. There are some great ideas for entertaining the kids over the holidays. Finally, I would like to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday and look forward to seeing you next term.
Introductory English Centre News
Throughout term 2, we have been learning all about shops in the local community. IEC students have had opportunities to learn about Australian money and foreign currency, grocery items and different shopping experiences around the world. Teachers have also learnt about some very interesting differences between supermarkets around the world! At the end of week 9, we all visited the Palmerston local shops and bought some healthy snacks to share. Here are some examples of student work during this unit.
P&C News
Lost Property
The Lost Property area is very full, if you are missing any items please come and check the lost property drawers in the hall foyer area.

Pyjama Day Reminder
Remember tomorrow to wear your pyjamas & bring your gold coin donation to help fundraise for the Twilight fair.

School Banking
Thank you to everyone who continues to bank each week. Stay tuned in Term 3 a great competition.

Book Club
Everyone should have received their orders for this term. There should be lots of great reading over the holidays as lots of people ordered some great books through book club.

Disco
Thank you to all the parents who helped out at our ‘Winter Sparkle’ Disco. Without your help these реat events can’t continue. Everyone had lots of fun and the P&C raised over $1200.

Edwina Samuelson

School Hirers
Expression of Interests are still being taken for the Emeralds Cheer Squad Enrolments. Please return your form to the front office if your child is interested.

Community News
Woolworths Earn & Learn 2015

Woolworths Earn & Learn is back and it is now easier than ever to earn valuable resources for your local primary school, secondary school or Early Learning Centre. Last year more than 14,500 schools and Early Learning Centres benefited from the program, boosting supplies in classrooms, libraries, music rooms, gymnasiums and science labs.

It’s simple to participate. From Wednesday 15 July to Tuesday 8 September 2015, when you shop at Woolworths you can collect Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers from the checkout operator or through an online order and place them on a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet. There’ll be one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every $10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco, and gift cards). Once completed, simply place the Sticker Sheet in the Collection Box, either at your local school or at your local Woolworths.
The HACT Event  
[http://hact.io/events/hact/](http://hact.io/events/hact/)

HACT is about doing cool projects you want to make, using real tools, and making friends with other people that are into the same thing.

HACT Canberra Winter 2015 is taking place from Friday 10 July to Sunday 12 July 2015 during the Winter school holidays. Each day begins at 8am and ends at 6pm.

HACT promotes a fun and engaging project-based learning approach to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines and entrepreneurship.

We have designed this event to cater to ACT students (ages 10-17) of all levels of experience.

**Venue:**

HACT Winter is taking place at the Snow Centre at Canberra Grammar School, Red Hill. This building was opened in March 2015 and used at our first HACT event in April. One student described the atmosphere as though ‘it feels like we’re working at a younger version of Google!’ The Snow Centre boasts a 1 Gigabit fibre connection and a great setting for our tech event.

**Tickets:**

Tickets for each category are $149 (GST inc). Each ticket provides students with:

- Event entry
- Event t-shirt
- Certificate of participation
- Morning Tea
- Afternoon Tea
- Snacks & Drinks
- Lunch on Sunday
- Eligibility for prizes (on submission of a Pitch Video)

For more information visit the website:  [http://hact.io/events/hact/](http://hact.io/events/hact/)
43rd ANNUAL MALKARA MODEL RAILWAY AND SCALE MODEL EXHIBITION

SATURDAY 1 AUGUST 2015 9am- 5pm
SUNDAY 2 AUGUST 2015 9am- 4pm

ADMISSION
Adults $10.00,
Children over 5 & Seniors $5.00
Family Ticket $20.00
(2 adults/ 2 children or 1 adult/ 3 children)

MALKARA SPECIALIST
Wisdom Street, Garran

Model Railway layouts, Victorian Doll's Houses, Model Retailers,
Big Boy Toys Remote Controlled Vehicles, Miniature Live Steam Train Rides and Lego.

Organised by the Malkara School P&C and The ACT Model Railway Society Inc.