Term 3 Week 4  13 August 2015
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Board Members: Parent Reps: Shelley Penyu, Saravanan Thavamanikumar and George Villaflor
Board Chair: George Villaflor P&C President: Lisa Fior
Principal: Melissa Travers  Deputy Principal: Kate Flynn (Acting)
Executive Teachers: Alex Breen, Mandy Lee, Haeley Simms (Acting), Grant Smith (Acting) and Will Powell (Acting)

Next P&C Meeting Monday 14 September at 7pm
All P&C activities, meeting agendas and minutes are available from the School website at –

Parent Corner

Recent Notes Home
Science Fair – Expression of Interest
School Satisfaction Survey

Assembly Dates – Fridays at 9am
14 August Whole school led by year 5/6
21 August Junior/Senior led by 2EG, 56ML
28 August Whole school led by year 1 including Book Week Parade
4 September Father’s Day BBQ

Dates to Remember
17 August Hatching Chicks – Preschool
18 August Nth Gungahlin Track & Field
18 August CAP Information night 5:45pm
19 August Hockey Clinic Yrs 3-6
20 August Baulkham Hills High Concert Band
24 Aug-4 Sep Yr 2 Water Safety Program
24 August Book Week
25 August Preschool Book week Parade
26 August Hockey Clinic Yrs 3-6
27 August Kenny Koala Visit – Kindy
27 August Yr 5 Combined Band Rehearsal
28 August Book Week Parade

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is great to be back. I would like to thank Mr Ben Hall for acting as principal of Palmerston District Primary School for the last three weeks. I would also like to thank the executive and teachers for supporting Mr Hall and maintaining consistency across the school. During that time I was the chair on the External Validation Panels for four schools. I had the honour of visiting the schools, talking to the key stakeholders and reviewing the school’s documents and data. I have to say that the ACT has outstanding schools and very hard working teachers across the system. Palmerston will be externally validated next year and we will have the opportunity to showcase our outstanding results, programs, community, students and teachers.

It is that time again! Satisfaction Survey for parents/carers, teachers and year 5/6 students. The online School Satisfaction Surveys provide an opportunity to have a say on the school. Every school is on an improvement journey and together as a whole school community, we can have a say on our journey and what we value. Earlier this year, we held a number of consultative parent sessions on our school vision and this will be finalised by the end of the year. Please take the time to fill in the online survey - a note

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came home to you and we have computers available at school for you to use (this will be announced at morning assemblies) if needed.

Palmerston school values input from their key stakeholders and this term we participated in a program called ‘Student Voice’. We asked our students in years 4-6 to give feedback to their teachers on the teaching provided and learning in the classrooms. Teachers, in teaching teams reflect on the results and in planning work to address the student identified learning needs. This will be an ongoing initiative for the older students. We wish to continue to give our students a voice in their learning and say how best they learn. Palmerston is the first primary school to take on this initiative in the ACT and assist teachers in listening to student voice and review our pedagogy (the art of teaching).

On Wednesday, Palmerston had the Director General ETD, Dianne Josephs, visit the school. Ms Josephs walked around the school, talked to students, read their stories and congratulated Mrs Leanne Leake on being shortlisted in ‘Outstanding Early Childhood Educator’ (see us on Facebook) category. As time was short, we were not able to visit every class. Ms Josephs reviewed our data on student achievement and was impressed with our progress and how we are adding value to each child’s learning.

This term we have also held parent sessions(P-1 & 2-6) on ‘Helping your child on writing and spelling at home’ I hope this session was helpful and thank you to the parents who came out in the cold. A big thank you to the staff who volunteered their time to support the home-school partnership in learning.

The weather has turned icy and we even had snow yesterday. I took this opportunity to read to the children over the PA, a poem by Allan Ahlberg – Only Snow.

Have a great week and I am looking forward to seeing you this term, at our events such as Father’s Day BBQ, Learning Journey, Science Fair, morning and Friday assemblies, around the school in the mornings and afternoons and when you drop by to fill in your Satisfaction Survey.

Melissa Travers
Principal

Only Snow by Alan Ahlberg -
Outside, the sky was almost brown
The clouds were hanging low.
Then all of a sudden it happened:
The air was full of snow.
The children rushed to the windows.
The teacher let them go,
Though she teased them for their foolishness.
After all, it was only snow.
It was only snow that was falling,
Only out of the sky,
Only onto the turning earth
Before the blink of an eye.
What else could it do from up here,
But fall in its usual way?
It was only weather, really.
What else could you say?
The teacher sat at her desk
Putting ticks in a little row,
While the children stared through the steamy glass
At the only snow
Palmerston PRIDE Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received a PRIDE Award at assembly on 7 August:

**PARTICIPATION** – becoming involved, “having a go” and cooperating with others
Toby (2HS), Remieal (KLM), Jessica (1CG), Maurice (IEC-TD), Akio (34CC), Layla (34CC), Tijanna (34CC), Anhminh (34RH), Vy (56ML)

**RESPECT** – respect for self, others and their property
Declan (1HD), Dristi (KLM), Lachlan (5SL), Anona (5SL), Will (5SL)

**INTEGRITY** – being honest, fair, responsible and loyal
Ashleigh (23WW)

**DETERMINATION** - being persistent and resilient
Dona (1HD), Dante (23WW), Duy (56ML), Abdulllah (6JM)

Payments

Please note the P&C and the School account are two separate accounts. When transferring funds please make sure you are sending your payments to the correct bank account.
The tea towel fundraiser is run by the P&C and they are receiving the money for this fundraiser. Please refer to the note for the P&C account details.

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A letter from 3/4CL

Dear Mrs Travers,

Thank you for letting us know that it was snowing outside. Our teacher let us go out and have a quick play. For many of us this was the first time we have seen snow falling from the sky.

We are learning about forces and motion in our classroom. We noticed that the snow was being pulled to the ground by gravity and the wind was pushing the snowflakes diagonally. We wish it would snow all day.

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We are learning about forces and motion in our classroom. We noticed that the snow was being pulled to the ground by gravity and the wind was pushing the snowflakes diagonally. We wish it would snow all day.
As we head towards the middle of the term (and a little bit closer to the warm weather) I want to say a big thank you to all families for remembering to send sun smart hats with their children to preschool. The hats off period (June and July) has now ended and it is a requirement that all children wear appropriate sun smart hats. Please ensure that all of these hats as well as jumpers have children/family names clearly labelled on them.

Throughout the month of May we toured many prospective families through the preschool as well as running an Information Session about our preschool for these families. Feedback about the educational program on offer as well the outstanding attitude of students and staff was overwhelmingly positive and we are now currently offering places for Palmerston Preschool for 2016. It is really hard to believe that we are thinking about 2016 already!

I would like to thank Katherine Wilson, Brianna Reeve and Alex Breen who led our preschool to year 1 parents through an Information Session around writing and spelling at Palmerston. I really enjoyed hearing about the different strategies utilised in the classroom and ways that families can support their children at home. Feedback from families indicated how much they enjoyed this session as well as learning a great deal.

Each year the preschool community completes a Quality Improvement Plan. This plan is informed by surveys carried out by preschool families and staff. The aim of this plan is to inform and guide what we do at the preschool. Copies of this plan are available to our community at all times- please see us if you would like to read a copy of this. We look forward to completing the 2015 Quality Improvement Plan with you towards the end of the year.

We are always looking for parent volunteers and we would like to thank all parents/carers/grandparents who have been able to help with things such as fundraising, attending excursions or helping in the classrooms. If you have any spare time and would like to come in please let your child’s teacher know.

Have a lovely week,
Kate Flynn

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**Name Our Cow**

Do you have any fantastic or udderly funny ideas for a name for our lovely cow?

Students have all had an opportunity to write their suggestions on a clover cut out and place them on the wall in the office hallway.

If you have an idea for the cows name that you would like the SRC to consider, please pop into the office, grab a clover and write it down.

Over the next fortnight the Student council will select their favourites before we vote on them as a school.
‘Zentangle’ Cows
These Zentangle Designs are practice designs from our students for covering our cow. Each student will draw a design which will then be pasted on to our cow.

Director General Visit
On the 12 August, Director General Diane Joseph visited Palmerston District Primary School. The executive team met her, discussed our student data and shared our fantastic results. We then took Diane on a tour and she was able to meet some of kindergarten/preschool students and see some of their outstanding work.

Book Week Dress Up Parade
Book Week is coming up and it’s time to start thinking about your character costumes. On Friday 28 August we will be having our Book Week Parade first thing in the morning during Whole School Assembly. Parents are welcome to come and share in the festivities and watch the Parade. Any parents who would like to dress up and participate are also welcome to do so. Come and join in the fun!
Defence News

Invitations to all the Defence families for the School Vision meeting and afternoon tea were sent home on Friday. This is a great opportunity to have your say on how Palmerston Primary School can provide assistance to Defence families in the future. Mr Grant Smith will speak about the school vision and ask for feedback. Don’t miss out on this chance to make a difference and enjoy afternoon tea as well. My working hours for this term are Fridays only, 8.30am to 3.30pm. I’m now working at Gungahlin College for 4 days a week. If you wish to contact me, I access my emails daily, so please feel free to send me an email with your queries or concerns. My email address is marina.pilicic@ed.act.edu.au.

Regards,
Marina, DSTA

P&C News
Palmerston Twilight Fair 2015
Volunteers needed - 2015 Palmerston P&C Twilight Fair – Friday 20 November
If you would like to discuss further or find out what you can do to help make this event a success feel free to call Lisa Fior (P&C President) – 0407107595.

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.
Perspective art is a symmetrical artwork which if done properly it looks like you can walk through it. It uses repetitive patterns and lines. It looks very realistic which makes a very weird effect on the eyes. Perspective art is a very hard thing to do. You must use many angles and lines to make a realistic effect. You need to use complementary colours to make the floors.

For our perspective artworks, the setting we used was an aquarium. We had to make the effect of a person staring forward into an aquarium tunnel. It may look very complicated to do, but it is actually very simple because of the repetitive patterns. To make the effect of 3D, you need to draw straight lines from corner to corner. To make the effect of the floor, we had to use complementary colours.

Interviews!

Haider - I really liked the 3D effect that we had to use!
Stjepan - I loved the colour scheme that we used. It was hard to do.
Henry - I liked the floors because they were colourful. And I like the fish.
Julia - It's good. It's hard to get the angles and straight lines exact.
Tharaphi - It's great because we get to learn new things and make new art pieces!
Alex P - It's cool how you can make 3D shapes out of just lines!
Deacon - It's very creative and has different techniques. That's why I like it sooo much!
Siobhan - I think it's good because it shows how art is more complicated than it actually is.
Colours!

We had to use bright and original colours to make the artwork look alive. We used black paper to draw people walking in and out of the corridor. We also needed to make little fish using white paper. It was compulsory to make different marine life. It was quite hard.

Perspective Art was a fun activity. The challenge of drawing lines on an angle was awesome. There were some certain challenges in the making of this art. Getting to talk to our classmates for tips on drawing and colours was interesting and spectacular. Overall, we think perspective art is an ideal art for children our age. So we have one thing to say, DEFINITELY TRY THIS AT HOME!!

Our Rating: 9/10

By Ella, Claire, Kai and Pietro
Palmerston Projects 2015

Look at the amazing activities that have been happening at Palmerston this year so far!

3/4 Colonial Day
Swimming Carnival
Year 6 Gold Creek Transition
K—2 Stripey Theatre Excursion
Clean Up Australian Day
Kenny Koala Visits
Principal Awards
Zoo Excursion
Year 5 and 6 Bands
ICAS Competitions
Author Visits
Parent information sessions on reading, writing and spelling
Preschool Bus Wash
Mother’s Day Stall and Celebrations
World Maths Day
Questacon Science Incursion
Harmony Day
Billy Tea Bush Dance
5/6 Camp Cooba
3/4 Day Trip Birrigai
PRIDE Awards
Athletics Carnival
Preschool Botanical Gardens Excursion
Walk Safety to School Day
Jump Rope For Heart
Lunchtime Clubs
FIFE Band
SRC
Rostrum

English Mathematics Science The Arts Technology P.E History LOTE
School Uniforms – Promotions

**Savvy Schoolwear** is having an exclusive 3 day sale with 20% off Palmerston Primary School Uniforms (floor stock only) Thursday 20–Saturday 22 August

**Chilada** is also having a 20% off sale for Palmerston school uniforms (floor stock only): Saturday 15 – Saturday 22 August

**MacDonallds Schoolwear** is having a 30% off sale on Palmerston Primary School uniforms until 31 August.
No laybys or rainchecks.
You can also save 15% off ‘New Starter Special’ packs if you come in before Christmas. No deposit layby available on new starter packs.