Welcome to another sunny week. **Tonight is Carols Night at 5:15pm.** Excitement is all around us. All week I have heard great singing and musical performances from our students. Thank you in advance to the families and whole school community who are supporting the school by attending tonight and by joining in on the spirit of being a community. Unfortunately, I am unable to attend tonight, as this week is my youngest daughter’s week of graduation/formal for year 12.

Thank you to all our volunteers who have helped throughout the year with various activities and events. It is through the assistance of volunteers that builds our school community as well as raise funds for a wide arrange items around the school.

On Tuesday, we celebrated and thanked our volunteers with a morning tea.

I am in a very fortunate position of being able to read all the school reports. The students have once again had a great year of learning and maturing. I hope you also see the growth in your child both educationally and socially. At this time of the year, the students may become a bit tired and any incident may seem like a big one. We often say to them, ‘your day here is for about 6 hours and in that 6 hours, you had a minute or two of not finding a friend or a disappointment. Let us work through that together and then that means that you have had an overall great day.” We try to work on the positive with children and build their resilience.

As a famous band once sang “**You always take the weather with you**”

Mrs Campbell lent me a year 4 reader from 1962 from Watson Road State School. One passage is about what makes a fine employee. I hope you enjoy it as much as I did and reflect on our readers today.
Letter of Recommendation.

1. A gentleman once advertised for a boy to assist him in his office, and nearly fifty applied for the place. Out of the whole number he in a short time chose one, and sent all the rest away.

2. “I should like to know,” said a friend, “on what ground you chose that boy. He had not a single recommendation with him.”

3. “You are mistaken,” said the gentleman; “he had a great many:—He wiped his feet when he came in, and closed the door after him: showing that he was orderly and tidy.

4. “He gave up his seat instantly to that lame old man; showing that he was kind and thoughtful. He took off his cap when he came in, and answered my questions promptly and respectfully; showing that he was polite.

5. “He lifted up the book which I had purposely laid on the floor, and placed it on the table, while all the rest stepped over it or shoved it aside; showing that he was careful. “And he waited quietly for his turn, instead of pushing the others aside; showing that he was modest.

6. “When I talked with him, I noticed that his clothes were carefully brushed, his hair in nice order, and his teeth as white as milk. When he wrote his name, I observed that his finger-nails were clean, instead of being tipped with jet like the handsome little fellow’s in the blue jacket.

7. “Don’t you call these things letter of recommendation? I do; and what I can tell about a boy by using my eyes for ten minutes, is worth more than all the fine letters that he can bring.

I wanted to inform you that we had a snake visit our school today. We ‘catered’ for it in our multipurpose room, had the students in classes and the ranger collected the snake and released it in the bushland of Crace.

We have engaged a gardener to mow all the school surrounds to ensure we have short grass. We have put in a request to TAMS to mow under the oval trees which is land they own. Teachers have spoken to classes about being ‘snake aware’. We put extra teachers onto the oval to ensure safety. A number of schools in Gungahlin have also had reptile visitors over the last few weeks and I encourage you to have a talk to your child/ren about being safe around snakes and walking away slowly from them.

This weekend we have the new preschool building delivered and installed. We are all looking forward to seeing it next Monday.

Have a great week,

Melissa Travers
ECO BUS TOUR EXCURSION

On Wednesday 23 November four students from Palmerston; Ava, Ryan, Brendon and Nina, with Mrs Campbell went on an eco-bus tour. The tour was so that we could see what some schools were doing with sustainability and environment groups. We started at Ainslie Primary school, visiting 2 other schools on the tour (Evatt and Chapman Primary) before returning to Ainslie. It took the whole day and we enjoyed a yummy morning tea and lunch provided for us.

The eco-bus tour was organised by Actsmart and it involved transporting students and teachers by bus to each school. On the bus we discussed and shared ideas. Students and teachers from each of these schools toured around 70 visiting students and teachers. Even the rain didn’t stop us. It was a fantastic day of learning and observing what other schools are doing for the environment and sustainability. We came back with lots of ideas that we could use at Palmerston. Students liked the sensory garden at Evatt the best and wondered whether Palmerston could create such a place in the future. They especially liked the lemon mint and could see how this herb could be used to make naturally flavoured ice blocks which could be used to reward waste free classes.
**SCHOOL INTENTIONS 2017**

**School Leavers 2017**

We have now reached the time in the year when we begin to look at our school numbers and staffing arrangements for 2017. If your circumstances have changed and your child/ren will not be attending Palmerston District Primary School in 2017 can you please let the front office staff know as soon as possible.

My child/ren will **not** be returning to Palmerston in 2017.

Child’s name: ___________________________  Child’s class: __________

Child’s name: ___________________________  Child’s class: __________

Child’s name: ___________________________  Child’s class: __________

Child’s name: ___________________________  Child’s class: __________

My child/ren will be attending:

_________ Another government school in the ACT

_________ A non-government school in the ACT

_________ Moving out of the ACT
Thank you everyone for coming along to the Palmerston District Primary School Twilight Fair 2016!

We hope that those who joined us at the school for the Twilight Fair had as much fun as we did. The rides were a hit, the food was absolutely delicious and the entertainment was a stand out.

A very big Thank you

Our fair could never have happened without the tireless effort and commitment from all of the volunteers including parents, students, community and staff.

Thank you to the P&C members for all of their hard work in the overall planning organisation and running of the fair.

A special thank you in particular to the stall coordinators who spent many hours planning and preparing for the day, Emma Davidson (cakes), Mandy Scanes (stall holders), Julian Flor (BBQ), Helen Ritchie (art/craft/hands), Tara McGowan (trash &treasure/raffle) Edwina Samuelson (multicultural food), Karon Campbell and Jasmine (plant stall).
Thank you to the school and teachers who contributed in many different ways to making the fair a positive and enjoyable experience for all.

Thank you to all of our entertainment providers who showed us their amazing talent.

Thank you to the stall holders for bringing many things along for us to purchase.

Thank you to all who played a part in helping make the fair happen in anyway.

Finally thank you to everyone who came along and helped Palmerston have a very enjoyable and successful day.

See you all again at the fair in 2017!

Thank you to the following businesses for supporting our fair:
2017 BOOK PACKS

Book pack lists have been sent home and the link is available on our school website. To ensure we have the best quality product and for the ease of parents, we are ordering from OfficeMax. Teachers prefer to have all book packs sent directly to the school for them to cover and distribute. This will allow for consistency across all the year levels and within the classes. To avoid a delivery fee the due date for book pack orders to be returned to the school is 4 December 2016. After 5 December 2016 there is an option to have book packs sent home or to school, a delivery fee will apply after the 4 December. Thank you for your support. Please direct any questions to the front office.

Kind regards
Kate Flynn

2017 Office Max book packs are ready to be ordered. Simply follow the link and enter the code: 27SD5T to order the pack for your child.
https://www.officemaxschools.com.au/ACT/Palmerston/Palmerston-Primary-School

Back to School Shopping that Gives Back.
Your child's School Requirements List is ready to go. And every time you buy textbooks or stationery, we give a portion back to your school.*
Order today at officemaxschools.com.au

*Excludes graphic calculators and textbooks sold with OfficeMax eBooks.

Catch the first wave and wipe out delivery fees by December 4.

Delivery for orders placed after December 4, $9.95.
Delivery for orders placed after December 18, $19.90.
Order today at officemaxschools.com.au

Orders placed after December 31 are not guaranteed to arrive before school starts.
Do you assist family members, friends or others who are frail aged, living with disability, long-term physical or mental health conditions, or drug and alcohol issues?
Carers ACT provides information and support to carers of all ages and backgrounds, including support and assistance for young carers to complete their education.

Would you like to...
- Know what supports and help you can get?
- Take a break or go shopping?
- Get some help around the house?
- Talk to someone?
- Meet others who understand you?
- Learn new skills?

If the answer is yes, contact Carers ACT today.

1800 052 222 | 1800 242 636 | carers@carersact.org.au

Carers ACT is supported by funding from the ACT and Australian Governments.