



**ACT**  
Government

Education

# PALMERSTON POST

1 March 2018  
Week 4, Term 1



DISTRICT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Together we learn from each other.

**Board Chair:** Julian Fior, **Board Members:** Parent Reps: Jesse Dang and George Villaflor

**P&C President:** Lisa Fior

**Principal:** Melissa Travers **Deputy Principal:** Kate Flynn

**Executive Teachers:** Haeley Simms, Kylie Moller, Jacqui Warden, Matt Gowan, Catherine Griffin (acting)

## ASSEMBLY:

2 Mar	No assembly
9 Mar	Junior - 2LM & 2EG
16 Mar	Senior - Yr4

## DATES TO REMEMBER:

2 Mar	Clean Up Australia Day
7 Mar	Yr 3-6 Author visit
13 Mar	9am Parent Info Session - Reading (P/S - Yr1)
15 Mar	9am Parent Info Session - Reading (P/S - Yr1)
16 Mar	Harmony Day

## NOTES HOME:

- Harmony Day - youngest
- Parent Information Session on Reading - P/S - Yr 1

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It is with sadness that we together mourn the loss of Riley Moon who passed away unexpectedly over the weekend. I would like to extend my condolences to Riley's family and I extend my sympathy and thoughts to everyone in our school community at this time.

Over the last few days, I have witnessed many families, teachers and students support each other through this difficult time. I would like to acknowledge the sense of community you all bring to Palmerston District Primary School. I feel honoured to be part of such an amazing community.

*Melissa Travers*

## DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I too would like to start my newsletter item today by paying my respects to Riley Moon, a wonderful member of our school. This week we have spent time discussing his contributions to the Palmerston community.

The following link may assist you in talking with your child/ren about grief and loss.

[https://www.parentlink.act.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0003/405633/Grief-and-loss.pdf](https://www.parentlink.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/405633/Grief-and-loss.pdf)

## Upcoming Events:

We have numerous events coming up over the term, which I have explained in detail below:

### PIPS

This week our kindergarten children have been participating in the Performance Indicators in Primary Schools assessment (PIPS). This is an individual assessment that is carried out online. We look forward to this as we gain insight into what

## P&C BOARD NEWS

### P&C:

All P&C activities, meeting agendas and minutes are available from the School website at – [Parent Corner](#)

**School Board Elections held in early 2018**

literacy and numeracy skills the children currently possess. This information supports the teachers to develop an accurate program that targets the needs of the students. A report will come home towards the end of the term for parents to view their children's results. This assessment will then be carried out again in term 4.

### **Clean Up Australia Day**

Tomorrow, as a school community, we will be participating in Clean Up Australia Day from 2-2:30pm. Clean Up Australia Day is held each year. The Clean Up Australia organisation works with the community, government and business to provide practical solutions to help us all live more sustainably every day of the year. We encourage you to provide a gardening glove or two for your child.

### **Author Visit**

On Wednesday 7 March our year 3-6 students will have a visit from author Harry Liang, who will take them on a awesome writing adventure.

### **Harmony Day**

Harmony Day is an annual event where we come together as community to engage and participate in respecting cultural and religious diversity and foster a sense of belonging for everyone. At Palmerston, we will be acknowledging Harmony Day on Friday 16 March. We are also including *Bullying No Way Day* with our Harmony Day this year, as part of our Positive Behaviour Learning (PBL) initiative. On this day we encourage all children to wear orange clothing (Harmony Day colour) or a traditional costume.

### **Pathways**

Next week our senior students will be participating in Pathways. This is a wonderful opportunity to support children in their career planning and during times of transition. This happens across ACT schools , with all children from year 5 invited to participate.

### **Emergency Evacuations**

It is a requirement of the Directorate that we run practice fire drills and lock downs. This is to ensure we are able to keep children safe in case of an emergency and to ensure our procedures run smoothly and that both staff and students are aware of their roles and responsibilities. On Tuesday next week the whole school will be participating in a fire drill. On Thursday there will be a second fire drill just for preschool groups who don't attend school on a Tuesday.

*Kate Flynn*

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### Clean Up Australia Day

Date: Friday 2 March 2018

Location: Palmerston District Primary School

### Yr 3-6 Author Visit



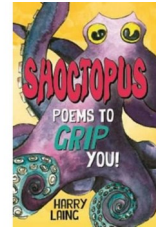
Date: Wednesday 7 March 2018

Location: Palmerston District Primary School

#### Harry Laing– Author Visit

Years 3-6 students will have the opportunity to attend a writing workshop on Wednesday 7 March with local author Harry Laing.

The event has been funded by the PDPS P&C to enrich our literacy program.



### Parent Information Session on Reading - Preschool to Yr1

Date: 9:00 - 9:30am Tuesday 13 March & Thursday 15 March 2018

Location: Palmerston District Primary School, library

## HARMONY DAY

Date: Friday 16 March 2018

Location: Palmerston District Primary School



## CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY



Clean Up Australia Day is an event that is held each year. The Clean Up Australia organisation has evolved into an organisation that works with the community, government and business to provide practical solutions to help us all live more sustainably every day of the year.

Friday we will be participating in Clean Up Australia Day from 2:00-2:30pm.

We encourage you to provide gardening gloves for your child.



NAPLAN will be online  
from **15-25 May 2018.**

#### NAPLAN Online:

- is more engaging and adjusts questions to meet your child's achievement level.
- delivers more precise literacy and numeracy achievement results to schools and parents more quickly.
- supports school improvement by enabling teachers to monitor student progress over time and to identify areas of strength and development.

Our school encourages all eligible students to participate in NAPLAN.  
Visit [www.nap.edu.au](http://www.nap.edu.au) to see how the test works and for more information.





## KINDERGARTEN HEALTH CHECK

The Kindergarten Health Check Program is conducted across ACT Government schools to assist children to have the best possible start at school. Forms were distributed to Kindergarten parents. The school nurses will visit Palmerston District Primary School during 2018 and, if you have provided consent, will conduct a health check with your child. **Please return the completed forms to your child's teacher if you haven't already.**



**Kindergarten Health Checks are happening this year!**

**All kindergarten students in the ACT are eligible to receive a FREE health check**



**VISION CHECK**



**HEARING CHECK**



**HEIGHT, WEIGHT AND  
BODY MASS INDEX (BMI)**



**If you have not returned your child's Kindergarten Health Check Consent and Questionnaire**



**FIND** — Information packs will be sent home early in Term 1



**SIGN** — Complete The Kindergarten Health Check Consent And Questionnaire



**RETURN** — To your school by 28th February 2018

**Your school can provide you with the date of the health check.**



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[www.health.act.gov.au](http://www.health.act.gov.au) | [www.act.gov.au](http://www.act.gov.au) | Enquiries: Canberra 13ACT1 or 132281



Did you know we have an app you can download to keep you up to date with what is happening at Palmerston?



## Think before you park...and keep our kids safe!

With school now back for the year we are encouraging all parents to make parking safety a priority!

This means:

- keep clear of 'no stopping' and 'no parking' zones
- don't park in bus zones, on school crossings, across footpaths or driveways; and
- don't double (or triple) park

**Remember** - it's okay to park a little further away from the school and walk the rest of the way

**Consider** - having a pre-determined meeting spot agreed with your kids. That way if you are a little late, they know where to wait.

**Think** - visibility around schools and if your car may be blocking the view of crossings for other motorists. Also be mindful when entering or leaving parking spots - look twice!

**Be kind** - to other road users and pedestrians and also if you see any parking officers in the area - they are doing their job and working to keep our kids safe!

**Note** - licence Plate Recognition (or electronic chalking) vans are now actively monitoring schools. Penalties range from \$114 upwards to \$600. Details at [www.act.gov.au/accessCBR](http://www.act.gov.au/accessCBR)

## SCHOOL BOARD 2018

In the first nomination period we had one nominee, we would like to congratulate Mr George Villaflor to our school board.

As we still had one position available after the first nomination period we extended the period. We now have two nominees for our one remaining position. You can read about the nominee in next week's newsletter. You will then have the opportunity to vote for your school board representative.

Voting period: Monday 9 March - 23 March 2018

Voting forms will be available from the front office.



## Y's Bites Canteen Service

### New Menu Starts at PDPS

Kindergarten-Year 6

# Thursday 1st March 2018

### What can I order?

Chicken Enchilada	\$6.00
Beef Lasagne	\$6.00
Build your own Wrap	\$5.00
Build your own Salad	\$5.00

### What's new?

Beef Bolognese w/ Penne Pasta	\$5.80
Beef Bolognese w/ Gluten free Penne Pasta	\$6.00
Vegetable Bolognese w/ Penne Pasta	\$5.80
Beef & Pork Sausage Roll	\$4.00
Vegetarian Spinach & Ricotta Roll	\$4.00

*Meat is Halal (except the pork sausage roll)*

## Who can order?

Kindergarten– Year 6 students

PDPS Staff



## How do I order?

Register online at [www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au)

Follow the easy steps on the flyer provided

Orders need to be completed by 5pm each Wednesday



## Other Information:

- Meat is Halal (except the pork sausage roll)
- Gluten free wraps are available
- Orders are due on the Flexischools website by 5pm Wednesday [www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au)
- Orders **will not** be taken at the school office or by the classroom teachers
- Orders can be made in advance
- This is the second year PDPS has offered this service
- There will be a survey later this year for community input
- For more information please email [catherine.griffin@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:catherine.griffin@ed.act.edu.au)





## New cashless system is here!

We're constantly on the lookout for new ways to make your interactions with the school more convenient. That's why we've engaged with Flexischools, Australia's leading school payment system, to provide a new cashless way to pay for school services.

### Order and pay online

Flexischools is the fast, convenient and secure way to order and pay for school services from home or on your mobile. Flexischools makes our school services available to you 24/7. All you pay is 25c per canteen order and all other services are free to use.

- ✓ **PARENT SETS UP A FLEXISCHOOLS ACCOUNT ONLINE AND PRE-LOADS THE ACCOUNT WITH FUNDS**
- ✓ **PARENT CAN USE THE FUNDS IN THEIR ACCOUNT TO ORDER AND PAY FOR A RANGE OF SERVICES ONLINE**
- ✓ **PARENTS CAN VIEW THEIR ORDERS ONLINE AND CAN SET DAILY SPENDING LIMITS**

### Get started with Flexischools

You can set up an account online - it only takes a minute.

- ✓ Register for Flexischools by visiting [www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au). Add your student, their school and form class to get started.
- ✓ Top up your account via Visa, Mastercard, PayPal or direct deposit.
- ✓ Make an order by selecting from the range of options made available by your school and proceed to make a payment for the order listed in your order pad.
- ✓ Review orders by logging back in to your Flexischools account. You can set recurring orders, view transaction history or cancel orders via your Flexischools login.

### What does it cost to top up?

Choose to top up your Flexischools account via credit card, paypal or bank transfer. Funds are automatically debited from your account as purchases are made via Flexischools online ordering.

**15c + 1%**  
Credit Card  
(Immediate)

**15c + 1%**  
Paypal  
(Immediate)

**\$0**  
Bank Transfer  
(2-3 days)

Australia's leading online ordering & cashless system for schools

**flexischools**.com.au



## COMMUNITY NEWS



Australian Government  
Department of Defence



**ASD**  
Australian Signals Directorate

The Canberra Girls' Programming Network is a community for female students to learn about programming and technology through hands on workshops. The girls are introduced to female role models across academia, government and industry.

Our next workshop will be held on March 18th!

#### What

We're playing Scissors-Paper-Rock! Test your skills against the computer, as you scissors-paper-rock your way to victory!

#### Where

University of Canberra, University Drive, Bruce ACT 2617

#### When

- Sunday, March 18
- Please arrive by 9:45am for registration
- Workshop begins at 10am
- Parents and teachers invited for afternoon tea at 3:30pm
- Conclusion at 4pm

#### Who

Female students from grades 4 – 12

#### What do I need to know?

Absolutely no coding experience necessary! We cater for girls of all programming skill levels.

#### How do I register?

You'll need to register to attend. Please visit <https://canberragpn.github.io/register> or have a chat with your IT teacher to get the registration forms. Places are limited, so please return your forms quickly to [asd.csps@defence.gov.au](mailto:asd.csps@defence.gov.au).

You will receive information and confirmation of registration via email prior to the workshop day.



UNIVERSITY OF  
**CANBERRA**



## Speech Pathology

CatholicCare's Speech Pathology service provides flexible, high quality, evidence based and person centred support to children of all ages in the following areas:

- |   |                                   |  |
|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| » Speech sounds   | » Literacy (reading and spelling) | » Using alternative and augmentative communication systems |
| » Language (expressing themselves and understanding others) | » Voice                           | » Eating, drinking and swallowing                          |
|   | » Fluency                         |  |
|   | » Pragmatics and social skills    |  |

CatholicCare's Speech Pathology services are NDIS registered. The service is also offered for a fee.

Please contact us on 6162 6100 for more information and enquiries.

[www.catholiccare.cg.org.au](http://www.catholiccare.cg.org.au)

P:02 6162 6100



# SCHOOLS CHESS CHALLENGE AT WODEN 2018

## (PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS DIVISIONS)

Organised by Canberra Academy of Chess

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**DATE:** SUNDAY 11TH MARCH 2018

**VENUE:** CANBERRA ACADEMY OF CHESS CENTRE  
UNIT 4, 32 DUNDAS COURT, PHILLIP, ACT

**DIVISIONS:** PRIMARY AND SECONDARY DIVISIONS

**TIME:** 9:30AM – 9:50AM REGISTRATION  
10:00AM ROUND 1 BEGINS  
3:00PM PRIZE-GIVING

**COST:** \$25 PER CHILD

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### FORMAT

This tournament is run as an individual event, however there are also school prizes awarded. The winning school is determined by adding the 4 highest scorers from each school. This means that your school can enter **any number of players**, and there is no need to rank them by ability, or assign teams.

This tournament is a 7-round 'Swiss' competition. This means that all players play 7 games and no-one is 'knocked out' of the tournament.

### TIME LIMIT

Chess clocks will be used in this event. There will be a short demonstration on the use of chess clocks before the start of the tournament.

The time limit is 15 minutes per player per game.

### PRIZES

- ★ First placed school in each division will receive **\$250** worth of equipment from Canberra Academy of Chess
- ★ Trophies given for 1st to 5th individuals and 1st to 3rd schools in each division.
- ★ All participants receive a certificate of participation.

Children must wear their school uniform on the day of the tournament.

### TO ENTER

Fill in the entry form and pay by credit or debit card at: [www.canberraacademyofchess.com.au/payment](http://www.canberraacademyofchess.com.au/payment)  
Enter the code **JZII199JOF** then follow the prompts. If you are unable to pay online, please contact us for more options by emailing [info@canberraacademyofchess.com.au](mailto:info@canberraacademyofchess.com.au)

Please inform your school chess co-ordinator if you are entering this competition. To ensure your place in the competition, please enter by **Friday 9th March, 2018**. For general enquiries about the tournament, please call us on 9745 1170. For information about this event and other chess activities, please visit our website: [www.canberraacademyofchess.com.au](http://www.canberraacademyofchess.com.au)



CANBERRA  
ACADEMY OF CHESS

Email: [info@canberraacademyofchess.com.au](mailto:info@canberraacademyofchess.com.au)  
[www.canberraacademyofchess.com.au](http://www.canberraacademyofchess.com.au)

Address: Unit 4, 32 Dundas Court, Phillip ACT  
Postal Address: PO Box 1325, Burwood NSW 1805