



Palmerston Post

Issue 2 - Term 4

Palmerston District Primary School acknowledges the Ngunnawal People, the traditional owners and custodians of this land.



Principal's Message

Firstly, I would like to start off this fortnight's newsletter with a hearty congratulations to our Ms Faeza Samnakay for recently being named a Finalist out of 35 nominations for ACT Public Education Excellence Awards for ACT Primary Teacher of the Year. We absolutely delight in the rich contribution that Faeza brings to her students, her class, our school and further across the network of Gungahlin. Thank you for your leadership and passion every day. A team of us represented the school to cheer Faeza on. It is a very important part of our learning community to celebrate efforts and achievements. Teachers and support/admin staff at our school do such an incredible job.

As we prepare for 2020, last week, we sent home a form for you to look at carefully with your child/ren. We look forward to you sending those forms back to us to be used a part of the data when we form classes for 2020. We hope the letter explained our new situation, and as always, we are keen to answer any questions you may have.

I am very excited for the upcoming Spring twilight fair – I am really looking forward to spending time, on a warm Saturday afternoon, meeting more of you as the afternoon unfolds. Please encourage friends, family and neighbours to come along and spend an afternoon with us, helping the P&C raise funds to support our learning programs in 2020. Just a lovely time, to be together and celebrate what makes us “us”.

Teachers are very busy writing reports that will make their way home to you at the end of the term. Students are busy auditioning for the Talent Quest, held in the last week of term. Kinder and Yr 1 students have been busy swimming for a fortnight. The Green Team have been very busy planting and tidying up the garden beds. The Drumming Club is really sounding awesome. The Executive team have been very busy planning for 2020, whilst we still have our head in the game of 2019.

Please remember to hop onto our school Facebook page and see daily posts of some learning at this beautiful school.

Until next time –

Kate Smith



Congratulations Ms S

Download the SkoolBag App

The SkoolBag app is the easiest way keep up with school events, last minute notices, newsletters and all school communications.

5 Easy Steps to Staying Informed



SkoolBag is the easiest way to stay up-to-date with school events, last minute notices, newsletters and all your school's communications.

1. Download SkoolBag

Search SkoolBag in the Apple App or Google Play Store, download the FREE app:

SkoolBag: School Communication



2. Create an Account

Follow the prompts to create your account in seconds.

3. Add your School

Type your school's name and press enter. Tap the plus icon to add.



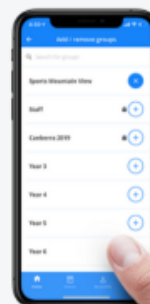
4. Allow Notifications

Ensure you Allow SkoolBag to send you push notifications when prompted.



5. Subscribe to Groups

Select Year Groups / Sports Teams to appear in your feed.





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OR

Download the skoolbag multi-language App: SKB: Multi-language in the App Store

Deputy Principal Message





Helen Cox - Deputy Principal: Achievement and Potential

Meeting Diverse Learning Needs

The online format of the Australian Curriculum provides flexibility in how the curriculum can be viewed: by learning area, by multiple year levels or by year level across learning areas. The curriculum may also be filtered to show where general capabilities and cross-curriculum priorities are embedded in learning area content; they can also be viewed separately.

The relationship between the three dimensions (learning areas, general capabilities and cross-curriculum priorities) provides teachers with flexibility to cater for student diversity through personalised learning. Teachers can help meet individual learning needs by incorporating specific teaching of the general capabilities or cross-curriculum priorities through the learning area content (for example, teaching targeted literacy skills through a history lesson, providing opportunities to explore sustainability in a science lesson, or scaffolding language specific to mathematics).

The following flowchart illustrates the process for using the three-dimensional design of the Australian Curriculum to meet the learning needs of all students. The process applies to all students, regardless of their circumstances, progress in learning or the type or location of school they attend. The process reinforces every student's entitlement to rigorous, relevant and engaging learning experiences across all areas of the curriculum and ensures that all students have the same opportunities and choices in their education.

Helen Cox

Using the Australian Curriculum to meet the learning needs of all students

Teachers refer to the Australian Curriculum learning area content that aligns with their students' chronological age as the starting point in planning teaching and learning programs.



Teachers take account of the range of their students' current levels of learning, strengths, goals and interests, and personalise learning where necessary through adjustments to the teaching and learning program, according to individual learning need, by:

- drawing from learning area content at different levels along the Foundation to Year 10 sequence to personalise age-equivalent learning area content
- using the general capabilities and/or cross-curriculum priorities to adjust the learning focus of the age-equivalent learning area content
- aligning individual learning goals with age-equivalent learning area content.



Teachers assess students' progress through the Australian Curriculum in relation to achievement standards. Some students' progress will be assessed in relation to their individual learning goals.





Marijana Pasalic - Deputy Principal: Inclusion, Diversity and Wellbeing

Next Wednesday is World Kindness Day. A day to encourage unity, celebrate diversity and promote positivity. It is a day to celebrate spontaneous acts of kindness towards each other. This day also acts as a way to highlight to our students the school environment and culture we continue to promote, and value, as a school community. We want our students to be advocates for change.

Change the way they think of others, change the way they empathise with others and change the way they act when they find themselves in situations where others are being harmed.

I see random acts of kindness in our school on a daily basis. For example, I see the office administration staff tend to the wounded, wipe the tears of little ones and go out of their way to help staff with issues and concerns. I see learning support assistants talk one on one with students, showing patience and care, and taking time out of their day to engage with students during their break times. I speak to teaching staff each day about concerns they have for their students and how to best support them. I watch them sit with students to comfort those who are distressed or chat about how their day is going. I observe them sitting with students in the classroom, at desks and on the floor, discussing ideas and planning future goals. I listen to staffroom discussions where all staff sit and discuss whole school events to make our school a fun place to be. I am amazed at all the tasks Mr Phil (our building service officer) can complete in one day and how he goes out of his way to ensure our school areas are fit for purpose. I chat with parents who take time out of their busy schedules to say, "thank you" and who applaud loudly at assemblies, for their own child and the children of others. I appreciate the random acts of kindness I witness by the adults in our school community each and every day.

Our students are kind little people too. Each day I am greeted by smiles, hugs, warm hellos, a gift of a yummy treat made by an amazing baker at home and a story to be shared. I see students walking hand in hand, laughing and talking and I see apologies when things haven't gone to plan. I see students sharing resources and talking to me when they have seen an injustice on the playground.

However, kindness can also be complicated. We all need to continue working hard to help teach our students/children about kindness. Sometimes they simply don't understand the impact of their words and actions. The ability to take others' perspective, and empathise, is something they have to develop through experience. Sometimes students simply don't know what to do in situations that make them feel uncomfortable. They aren't sure what their job as a bystander is. These are all things we continue to teach at our school each day. As teachers, school staff and parents there are many ways we can help our little people be kinder to each other and the world around them. These can include (taken from www.kidspot.com.au);

1. Leading by example - Our children/students learn from us just by observing our actions and interactions. So, as adults, we need to set positive examples all the time to teach them how to 'be kind'. We are their role models.

2. Watch our language – What we say, and how we say it can have a massive impact.
3. Welcome difference and promote acceptance - Whether it's skin colour, religion, lifestyle, opinions, values or socio-economic status, it's important that our students/children are aware that it's these many differences between us that make us all unique.
4. Praise and encourage as often as possible- We can encourage our children/students to do kind things and when they do be generous with our praise.
5. Seek out opportunities to be kind – Let's encourage random acts of kindness!

I'd love to hear your thoughts about this. Happy World Kindness Day everyone!!

Marijana Pasalic



Why have deadlines?

Why have deadlines?

When we plan incursions, excursions and camps, at school, I often think it's so much like planning a children's birthday party – one where we've decided to go with hiring a venue or a party planner.

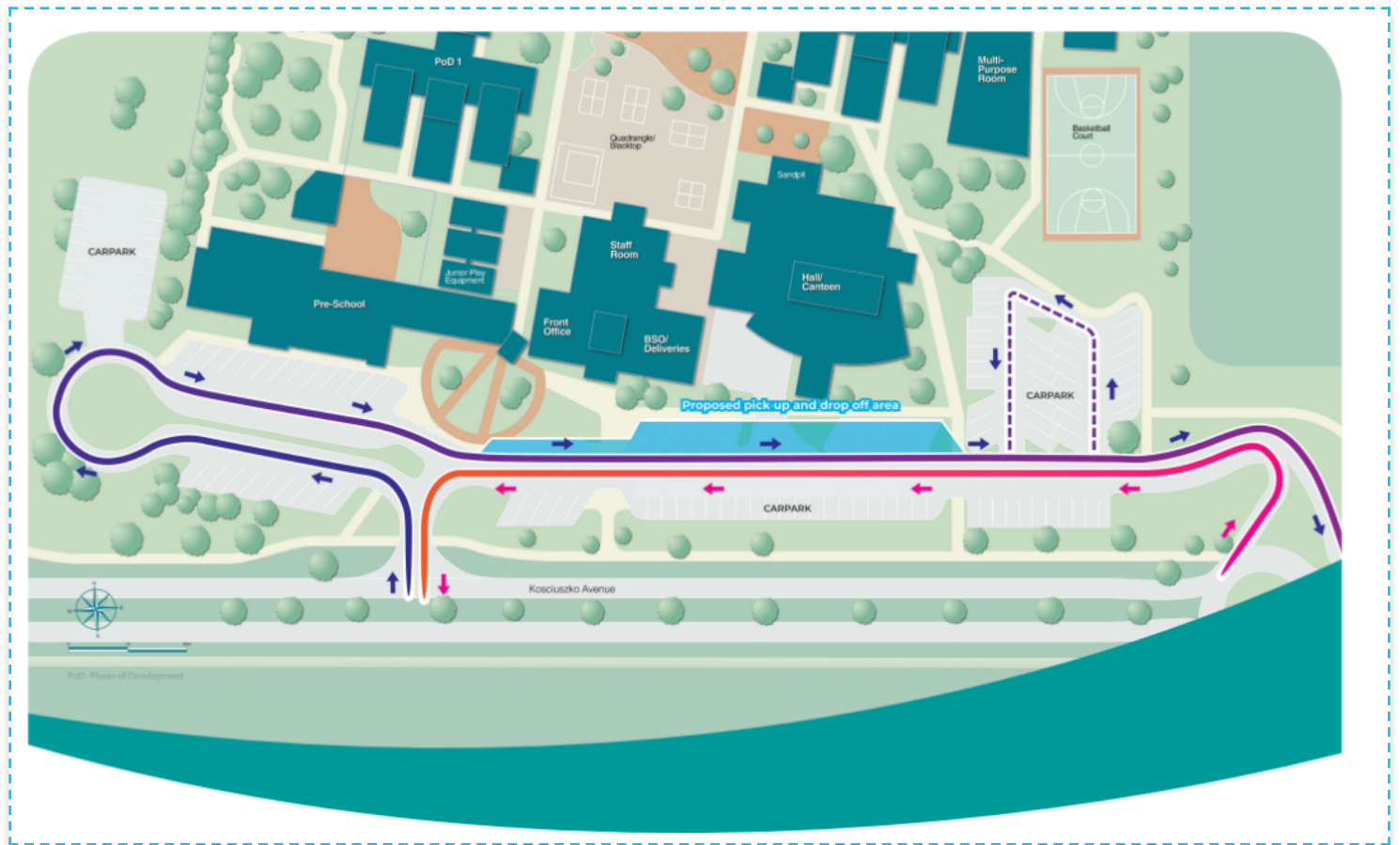
We know the birthday (or incursion, excursion, camp) is coming up and, once we've decided on the time and venue, we book it in (having checked to see what else is on the calendar at this time). We can often then allow a little time to go by as it's still some time in the future. However, before you know it, it's time to send out invitations (or parent/carer notes) to invite people to attend – and to give them time to buy a birthday present (or pay the cost of the event). It's also the time to find out how many children can attend, together with any who have any dietary requirements or special needs – after all, the party's not that far away and these things must be factored into planning and preparation!

We need to plan who's going to be there to assist in the execution of the party – additional support people are so important! What will the venue provide and what will we need to bring? How is everyone going to get there? Does everyone make their own arrangements, or do we organise transportation for the party goers? What activities will be organised for the party? The list goes on and on!

We know, when planning a birthday party, that these things can't happen spontaneously – even a simple party requires planning if it's going to be successful. And, when we've hired a venue or employed a party planner, we acknowledge that there will be deadlines they are going to impose for them to ensure that the party is successful.

This is why, when we're planning an incursion, excursion or camp for school, we ask for information to be provided within a certain period. We have deadlines that must be met for the venues and organisers to be able to organise things for us, or for us to organise it for ourselves.

We are always so grateful for the way Palmerston parents/carers endorse and support our educational programs including incursions, excursions and camps. We just ask that you stay mindful of the deadlines that we set - not because we want to make life difficult but because information is required by the event organisers – to ensure that your child's/children's events are successful: a deadline is a deadline for a reason and therefore can't be extended.



New Car Park Directions

As you are aware we now have a new car park with some changes that we want to explain and ask for your compliance to ensure safety for all, by doing the following:

- If you are entering the car park nearest the preschool end, from Kosciuszko Ave, you **must** turn left and drive down around the loop at the end of the car park, heading up towards the Administration building.
- We have a new elongated drop off zone along the school side of the car park. There is **NO** permanent stopping at all along the school side of the car park. The intention is to create a smooth flow of traffic in and out.
- There are now 14 additional car parks on the Kosciuszko Ave side of the car park.
- The two disabled car parks are located on the Kosciuszko Ave side of the car park.
- The four separate reserved car parks at the front of the school are for Principal, Deputy Principals and Executive Staff, please do not park in those car parks as these staff frequently leave the school for meetings etc and must be guaranteed a space.
- If you enter the car park via the eastern end near the Hall, you will notice the central island has been removed. Please either park in the designated parks, or keep driving through the car park to the preschool end.
- You may **NOT** park behind cars parked in designated bays or along the kerb of the middle island at the preschool end - Kosciuszko Ave side of the car park.

A member of staff will be on duty until 3.15pm every day to assure everyone is driving safely and following the new structure.

Thank you for your cooperation with this change.

Scholastic Book Fair

Our scholastic Book Fair was a big success with student, teachers and parents. With community support we have raised funds to purchase new books for the Library and some special books for end of year awards.

Classroom Connections

Whats been happening in Digital Technologies

Kindy

The kindergarten grades have been exploring how we can use the computers and communicate safely using Google Classrooms. They have been practising their typing and use of the trackpad. We have used the Google Drawing program to create some interesting images.

Year 1/2

Years 1 and 2 have been exploring how programming is a sequence of steps. We've linked this to different situations in our life, like moving across a room or making breakfast. They've also used the Google suite of software to look at and organise information.

Years 3/4

Students in years 3 and 4 have begun their first big project in Scratch, following a tutorial to create a game. This challenging project gives the students experience in troubleshooting their work and how complex even a simple program can be. They've also begun to explore how computers look at information and how it can be represented in many ways, such as Morse Code!

Years 5/6

Students in 5 and 6 have had their big game project and are working on their own program. Building upon the skills they have learnt, they will create their own program. They have also explored how computers store information using nothing but 1's and 0's.

Programming in Scratch

Scratch is a free online programming system with easy to use blocks to support people learning how to program. Built by MIT, Scratch has become the standard way for beginners to learn how to program. While simple, it is also powerful, with the potential to build complex games and animations.

Our students have been working through to make their own projects. Follow some of these links to see examples of what they've come up with. Once you've opened a link, click on the green flag to start the program!

https://scratch.mit.edu/projects/319569857/	https://scratch.mit.edu/projects/315134706/	https://scratch.mit.edu/projects/322535338/
Andy	Scarlet	Annabella
Niki	Leanne	Jessica
Dylan	Johanna	
Jasper		

LSU - Assembly, Dream Cricket Gala Day and ACT Science Fair Awards

The Alpacas at LSU FS have been rather busy. We won second place in biological sciences at the ACT Science Fair. We also hosted assembly and showcased our cultural integrity project and presented our song and dance with Mr Shaw's musical expertise. On Tuesday we spent the day at a Dream Cricket Gala hosted and run by Radford students with the backing of Rotary club. It was a fantastic day.



Hosting Assembly



Hosting Assembly



Hosting Assembly



Cricket Gala Day



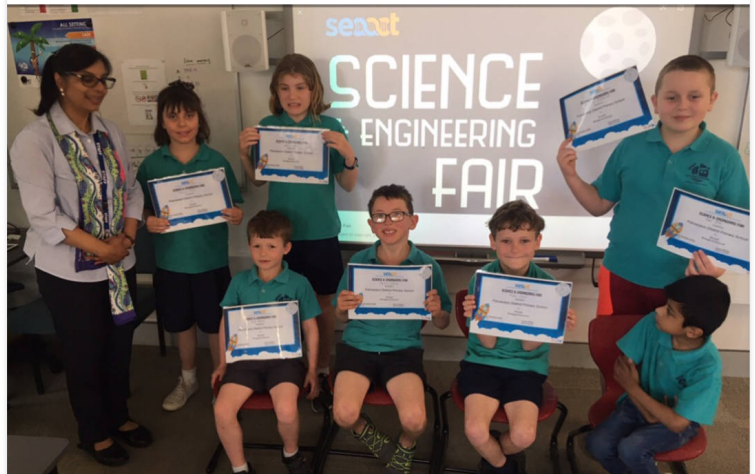
Cricket Gala Day



Cricket Gala Day



Cricket Gala Day



ACT Science Fair Awards

P & C/Board News



The P&C are fundraising with the Entertainment book. The Entertainment™ Book is a local restaurant and activity guide which provides hundreds of up to 50% off and 2-for-1 offers from the finest restaurants, cafes, attractions, activities, retailers and hotel accommodation. The Membership entitles buyers to exclusive offers that are virtually restriction-free, and is valid through to 1 June 2020!

The Entertainment™ Digital Membership (app) puts all of the value of the Entertainment™ Book into the customer's smartphone. With 'near me' technology and the ability to show and save using a phone, this is perfect for the person on-the-go, with no card or voucher to present.

You can purchase a book through the front office or download the app via this link

<https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/2487s6>

2020 Board Vacancy

Next year we will have 1 parent vacancy on the School Board. Nominations will open on the 4 February 2020 and close on 18 February. Please keep these dates in mind if you are interested in applying for this position.

Scholastic Book Club

The P & C will now only be accepting orders via the ONLINE ORDERING SYSTEM (LOOP) starting from this last catalogue and continuing on through next year.

NO CASH ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED

When you order and pay by **LOOP**, you do not need to fill in any order forms or return anything to school. Your order will be electronically linked to the rest of your schools order.

Visit scholastic.com.au/LOOP or download the app.

This will eliminate issues that include: incorrect money received, foreign money received & also no name or contact details being written on orders. By changing to online orders only, it will make the process much easier for the volunteers who offer their time to manage the large numbers of orders we receive for each catalogue.

Any cash orders received will be returned to the students.

We appreciate your assistance with these changes.

P & C Parent Corner

All P & C activities, meeting agendas and minutes are available from the school website. Please click on the button above to take you there.



Twilight Fair Volunteer Sign Up

The Twilight Fair is seeking volunteers to assist at the twilight Fair on 23 November. If you can spare an hour or two to help out on the day please click on the above button and register your time. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated in making the day a success!



Dates to Remember

Remembrance Day Assembly	11 November
Junior Assembly	15 November
Protective Behaviours for	
Parents Information Session	20 November
Senior Assembly	22 November
Twilight Fair	23 November
Whole school Assembly	29 November
Christmas Concert	4 December
Junior Assembly	6 December
Preschool End of Year Celebration	10 December
Whole School Assembly	13 December
Preschool End of Year Celebration	13 December
Aqua Safe Yr 2	16-19 December
Year 6 Graduation	18 December



Palmerston Pride

Congratulations to the following students who received a PRIDE Award at assembly.

PARTICIPATION – becoming involved, “having a go” and cooperating with others

Miley - 2DZ Olivia - 2DZ Aynalem - 2DZ Mackenzie - 2DZ
Tomi - 2SH Yuchen - 2SH Julian - 2MO Haiqa - KGS
Toby - KGS Diyon - KKA Madeline - KGM Hareth - 4MG
Addison - 4VS Krystelle - 4RE Marija - 4RE Yazmin - 5/6KB

RESPECT – having respect for self, others and their property

Eisa - KMC Arielle - KKA Siwoo - 3AP Htat Htat - 3AP Vaibhav - 3AP Rahul - 4VS Emily - 5/6KB

INTEGRITY – being honest, fair, responsible and loyal

Ayaat - KMC Yusra - 3NS Kay - 5/6KB Toby - 5/6CW

DETERMINATION - being persistent and resilient

Arnav - 2SH Atreya - 2DZ Samuel - 2AF Jamie - 2AF
Rehma - 2AF Jacqueline - 2AF Layla - 2MO Violet - KMC Marvin - 4MG Lacey - 4VS Sanuth - 3NS
Oliver - 5/6KB James - 5/6DT Emily - 5/6CW

EMPATHY - understanding and supporting others regardless of our differences

Sebastian - 5/6KB Grace - 5/6CW Ava - 5/6CW



Remembrance Day

*Never forget,
Always remember.*

Remembrance Day

Our whole school Remembrance Day Assembly will be on Monday 11th November at 9:15am. Defence families are invited to attend, and are welcomed to stay for light refreshments afterwards. Please RSVP by Friday 8th November to kristy.retzlaff@ed.act.edu.au for catering purposes.



HMAS Harman Christmas Party

HMAS Harman Christmas Party

Sir Victor Smith Oval

Friday 29th November 2019

5:00pm – 10:00pm

Tickets \$5.00 through online booking

All ADF/APS members and families welcome

<https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=550956>

Entry tickets on the night are \$10 for adults and children.

Postings

Postings – Are you posting this year or early next year? I would love to know where you are heading for 2019/2020 so I can support your child, if your family are moving into another locality or school. You can contact me via email

kristy.retzlaff@ed.act.edu.au or 6142 1440.

Year 6 Bandstrav is on again this year!

Our Year 6 band will be joining other Canberra Schools as part of a massive showcase of their musical talent!

Having practiced and performed for 2 years, our Year 6 band will be taking the Llewellyn Hall Stage at the ANU, on Wednesday the 20th of November (week 6).

Our students will be taking part of the B Concert starting at 7:30.

Performers are to be at the Hall at 7 o'clock on the night where they will meet Mr Shaw before going behind stage to prepare.

Tickets are \$15 per person and are likely to run out, so get your ticket soon!

Tickets can be purchased by clicking on the following links and remember Palmerston is part of the B Concert.

<https://m.ticketek.com.au/shows/show.aspx?sh=BANDSTRA19>

ACT Secondary Bursary Scheme 2020 Applications

The ACT Government's Secondary Bursary Scheme provides financial assistance to low-income families with student(s) in years 7 to 10 with the costs of schooling. To be eligible, applicants must have a current means tested Centrelink card or Healthcare card.

The ACT Secondary Bursary Scheme is an annual payment of \$750 per eligible student. To ensure eligible applicants receive a payment in February or March 2020, **applications must be lodged by 30 November 2019**. Applications received after this date will be processed as soon as possible after receipt.

The ACT Education Directorate will send out application forms to all current recipients. Additional copies of the application form are also available at the school's front office. Electronic copies can be found on the Directorate website at:

<https://www.education.act.gov.au/support-for-our-students/financial-assistance>



Student Accident/Incident Insurance Arrangements

The ACT Education Directorate does not provide any insurance cover for injury, disease or illness to students resulting from school activities or school-organised excursions. Claims for compensation are met where there is a legal liability to do so. Liability is not automatic and depends on the circumstances in which any injury, disease or illness was sustained.

As there is no automatic insurance cover for personal injury if your child is injured at school or during a school organised activity/excursion you should therefore consider whether taking out personal insurance cover for your child is warranted.

This insurance might cover contingencies including medical/hospital expenses, ambulance transport outside the ACT, and cancellation of transport/accommodation or loss of/damage to luggage.

The ACT Ambulance Service provides free ambulance transport for students who are injured or suddenly become ill at school or during an approved school organised activity within the ACT.

[Download](#)

Community Connections



Available to all families in the ACT.

Offering a free and confidential counselling service.

Assisting & supporting parents with ideas about raising children.

The only telephone counselling service for parents and carers in the ACT.

PARENTLINE
6287 3833
9AM-5PM

FREE TELEPHONE COUNSELLING



Protective Behaviours For Parents

An information session for parents at Palmerston District Primary School

“How to teach children about personal safety skills”

When: 20 November 2019 at 9.15am to 10.45am in the library

- During this session learn how to teach children about their early warning signs.
- Find out what safe behaviours are.
- Learn how to practice personal safety skills in your family.
- Teach how to find safe adults to ask for help.
- Teach children about being safe without making them scared.
- Find out what are important safety rules about touch.
- Find out how to teach children to be the boss of their bodies.
- Learn about stranger safety.
- Find out how to develop a family safety plan.

This session will be run by a school psychologist.

Stay and have tea or coffee and a chat after.



Could \$500 help you with school costs?

Join Saver Plus and we'll match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for school costs.

- laptops & tablets
- lessons & activities
- uniforms & shoes
- books & supplies
- sports fees & gear
- camps & excursions

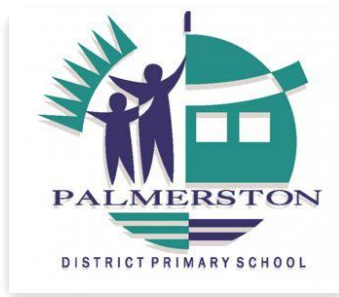
To join Saver Plus, you must be at least 18 years or over, have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself, have regular income from paid employment (you or your partner), have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card and be in receipt of an eligible Commonwealth social security benefit, allowance or payment*



Contact
your local Saver Plus Coordinator
Phone or SMS
your name and postcode to 1300 610 355
Email
CanberraSP@thesmithfamily.com.au
Online
saverplus.org.au
Find us on Facebook



*many Commonwealth payments are eligible, please contact your local Coordinator for more information.
Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.dss.gov.au for more information.



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