Dear Parents and Carers,

Our students have highly engaged in their learning. I have been invited to attend several lessons this week as an opportunity for students to share their work with me. Below are some outstanding examples student achievements worth sharing.

Verity from KSH taught me some reading strategies. She was able to decode many of the unknown words in the text by using the pictures as clues as well as using a “chunking” strategy in which we broke the words into bits.
Jimi from 3/4RH completed a term long project in which he designed a new country. Economy, tourism, laws and a historical narrative were significant inclusions in this project.

Laith from 2EG shared his narrative writing about hot wheel cars. It was impressive to see his correct use of paragraphs to separate his ideas as well as using descriptive language.

3-6TD invited me to listen to them sing their favourite song. Additionally, I was very impressed with their food journals they are keeping. Their learning is based around what are healthy option foods for different meals throughout the day.

Thank you to the Year 3/4 Fife band for inviting me to their rehearsal in which they played Skye Boat, London is Burning and Grand Ole Duke of York.

The ACT Public Education Awards recognise outstanding school leaders, teachers and administrative staff. We are very proud to have three members of our staff nominated for the 2015 awards. We want to acknowledge the wonderful contributions they make to our school. Congratulations to Leanne Leake nominated for Early Childhood Educator of the Year.

Congratulations to Vidhya Saravanan for New Educator of the Year and congratulations to Melissa Travers for Outstanding School Leader of the Year. Winners of these awards will be announced next week at a special ceremony at the National Gallery of Australia. Regardless of the outcome, we are very proud to have such a professional staff at our school.

Mrs Travers is enjoying her time working with other schools to help them improve how they operate. She misses the students and parents of Palmerston and is looking forward to returning to us in Week 4.

Ben Hall

Acting Principal
Writing Awards – Outstanding Achievements

Congratulations to the following students who received writing awards for achieving their goals on 24 July:

Oliver (1BR), Emily (1BR), Autumn (2VS), Hamza (2VS), Andie (2VS), Amarlie (2VS)

Palmerston PRIDE Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received a PRIDE Award at assembly on 24 July:

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

**RESPECT** – respect for self, others and their property
Alicia (1BR)

**DETERMINATION** - being persistent and resilient
Obaid (1BR),

Proposed School Parking Map

Thank you to the parents and carers that continue to adhere to the correct parking practices, our children’s safety around our roads is paramount. Roads ACT have agreed to create some additional parking spaces on Kosciusko Avenue adjacent to the bus stop. They will also be installing bollards at the kerb ramps adjacent to the children crossing and footpaths. A map outlining these new parking arrangements is on our school web-site [www.palmdps.act.edu.au](http://www.palmdps.act.edu.au) in the ‘School Notes’ section.

2015 School Satisfaction Surveys

The 2015 School Satisfaction Surveys will be conducted later this term. Parents and carers, school staff and students (in years 5 to 12) will be asked to participate in these important surveys. The survey results will contribute to the school improvement process, which aims to achieve high standards in student learning, innovation and best practice in ACT public schools. Although the survey is voluntary, we hope you will want to participate. It won’t take much of your time and it will help us understand areas where we are doing a good job and areas for further development. A letter or email about the parent survey will be sent to you in August. The key ACT results from the 2014 School Satisfaction Surveys have been published on the Education and Training Directorate website ([www.det.act.gov.au](http://www.det.act.gov.au)) and a summary of our school results is provided in our 2014 School Board Report.
Spelling and Writing Parent Information Sessions
We would like to invite you to our Spelling and Writing Parent Information Sessions in weeks 3 and 4, term 3. The purpose of these sessions is to provide you with strategies and ideas for supporting your child with spelling and writing at home.

Preschool to Year 1: Wednesday 5 August, 2015 at 9:00 - 9:30am OR Thursday 6 August, 2015 at 9:00 - 9:30am

Years 2 – 6: Wednesday 12 August, 2015 at 5:30 - 6:00pm OR Thursday 13 August, 2015 at 9:00 - 9:30am

Where: Palmerston District Primary School Library

Today your child received an invitation to these sessions. If you would like to attend please let the front office know of the date and session time, or alternatively return the RSVP slip to your class teacher by Monday 3 August, 2015.
We look forward to seeing you there.
Literacy Committee

Staff Introduction
My name is Mr Will Powell. I’m lucky enough to be at Palmerston until the end of the year as the new SLC for K-2 and the IEC. I will be taking over from Mrs Haeley Simms while she goes on maternity leave.
I have qualifications for both Early Childhood and Primary Teaching and have a wealth of experience working at Calwell Primary School, Red Hill Primary School and Miles Franklin Primary School with students across all year levels. My broad range of teaching experience includes a period in an International School in Dili, East Timor. I believe strong relationships are the cornerstone to my teaching.
I really enjoy teaching all subjects but I have a passion for maths and IT. I’m a facilitator in a range maths programs. I have also been working with Chromebooks and Google Apps for the classroom.
I would like to thank all of the Palmerston District Primary School community for the very kind and warm welcome you have given me. I look forward to working with you all so we as a community can achieve the best for our students.

Baulkham Hills High School Concert Band Visit
On Thursday 20 August, the Baulkham Hills High School Concert Band will be touring the ACT. They will be performing a free concert to our school at 2:30pm.
Each year they travel to a different part of NSW/ACT with approximately 50 senior students from their Band Program. The excursion gives the students the opportunity to share their music with communities while building their performance and leadership skills. This is a great opportunity for our students to see an experienced school band.
They usually present a concert of approximately 30 minutes for the whole school, which includes instrument demonstrations, audience participation and a variety of popular and easily recognised tunes.
We all are looking forward to this exciting concert at Palmerston.
**Picasso Cows 2015**

Kids, a cow, paint and glue. Curious? Over the next 6 weeks Palmerston Primary School is bringing the farm to the classroom with the Picasso Cows program. The program celebrates one of Australia’s biggest agricultural industries, the dairy industry, and also teaches kids that milk doesn’t just come from the supermarket!

Students across the school will get to design and paint a life-sized fibreglass cow in one of three themes – Unbeatable Bones, Fuel for Life or Farm to Plate – documenting their findings from start to finish in a learning journal. It’s interactive fun with an important educational message.

We often hear from nutrition experts that Australian children aren’t having enough calcium every day and that dairy foods such as milk, cheese and yogurt are one of the biggest sources. Despite this, most primary school kids aren’t having enough. This program will tie in with our classroom nutrition education, teaching children about the importance of the five food groups, including dairy foods, for good health and wellbeing.

And that’s not all! Our school is one of several schools in the ACT participating in Dairy Australia’s Picasso Cows program, creating some healthy competition! At the end of the program there’ll be a presentation day and the winning school will be awarded $250.

We look forward to keeping you updated on the program. Any ideas or suggestions you have to celebrate dairy within the school community, let us know. You can also find out more about dairy foods at: [www.legendairy.com.au](http://www.legendairy.com.au)

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**Lost Property - Reminder**

Please come and check the Lost Property area in the school hall foyer, as tomorrow is the last day before all items that haven’t been collected will be donated to charity. There are labelled items in the front office and we will endeavour to return these items to families.
Kids Teaching Kids
A group of students from years 3/4 CL and 3/4 CC will be participating in Kids Teaching Kids Student Conference in September. This will be held at the National Zoo and Aquarium in Canberra. This is a program that encourages young people to learn and care about their environment. It is a national, inquiry based, peer teaching program that uses the environment as a theme and focus for learning. Students involved will research, develop and then present workshops on the importance of proper rubbish disposal and alternatives to landfills.

Parenting Ideas – Insights
Our school has a membership with Parenting Ideas who have a focus on building parent-school partnerships. They have published an article, titled ‘Raising a Critical Generation’ in a digitally literate world of ‘likes’ and social criticism Lakshmi Singh looks at how parents can foster critical spirit in a constructive, healthy and balanced way.
This article is available to view on our school web-site: www.palmdps.act.edu.au

Woolworths Earn & Learn 2015
Dear Parents,
This year we will be participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Through this program we will be able to get new educational resources for our school/early learning centre – and all we need you to do is shop for your groceries at Woolworths.
From Wednesday 15 July to Tuesday 8 September, we are collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers. You will get one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every $10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards). Place the Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet and when it’s complete, the Sticker Sheet can be dropped into the Collection Box here at the school or at your local Woolworths.
At the end of the promotion, we’ll be able to get some great new equipment. The range is extensive and offers lots of items ideal for our students – including resources for Maths, English, Science and some fantastic fun supplies for Arts & Craft, Sport and for our library. If you’d like to know more visit www.woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn
Planet Ark School Tree Day

Students from Palmerston Primary participated in the Planet Ark Schools Tree Day. Bunnings Hardware kindly donated dwarf fruit trees for the event. The Tree Day event is now in its 20th year and Palmerston celebrated the event by planting 2 apple trees, a cumquat and a whole garden bed of rocket that 2VS propagated.
P&C News

Book Club
You hopefully have received Issue 5 this week. The deadline for this issue is Thursday 6 August. If you have misplaced your copy there are additional copies located on top of the boomerang box in the foyer of the school entry area.

Banking
There are some great prizes to win this term along with the knowledge that all the fantastic saving that has happened over term 1 & 2 has given the P & C over $470 in commission. Thank you to everyone who banks either occasionally or every week, it all counts!
Edwina Samuelson

Entertainment Books
2015-2016 Entertainment Books are still 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.

Community News
Sue Dengate – Fed Up with Children’s Behaviour Talk
Sue Dengate – renowned advocate for families adversely affected by food and chemicals – will be speaking at Namadgi School on 13 August from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. Cost is $10 per person/couple. Former teacher and psychology graduate, author of the famous Fed Up series, Australian of the Year finalist in 2009, Sue Dengate became interested in food intolerance after recognising the effect of foods on her own children. In the past 25 years, Sue has spoken to tens of thousands of parents in Australia, the USA and the UK. Further information on Sue's work at www.fedup.com.au
For further information contact Sheryl on: tee_coach1@hotmail.com
SCHOOL BANKING NEWS

This term is sure to bring a lot of excitement to our School Banking community. Students are still in the running to win a family trip to California’s Disneyland and the Term 3 competition has now been launched. The rewards available this term to students with 10 or more tokens are:

- Cosmic Light Beam Torch
- Invisible Ink Pens
- Glow in the Dark Solar System
- ET DV
- Planet Handball
- Intergalactic Rocket

Commission - We have received $472.13 in commission for 2015 from the Commonwealth Bank for participating in the School Banking Program. It is a great way to raise much needed funds for our school while teaching our children the importance of savings and the value of money.

2015 Competitions Details

Disney Land Competition – Every student who makes 25 or more School Banking deposits during 2015 will automatically go into the draw to win a trip to California’s Disneyland for up to two adults and two children. If you have already done approximately 10 deposits so far this year you are still in the running to go into the draw for this competition, there are approximately 17 weeks of school left so remember to bring your deposit books in each week until the end of the year to make sure you don’t miss out.

Term 3 Prize Portal Competition - A Prize Portal from another dimension has appeared on Planet Savings, giving students who demonstrate good savings behaviour the chance to win one of hundreds of astronomical prizes.

To activate the Prize Portal, students must simply make three or more School Banking deposits during Term 3. They will then automatically be entered into the competition for a chance to win one of these prizes:

- 75 x iPad minis Wi-Fi 16GB
- 125 x Beats by Dr. Dre Solo²™ Headphones
- 200 x $30 Booktopia Gift Certificates

Students can also complete a Money Mission at www.Commbank.com.au/prizeportal to double their chance of winning a prize. Students can complete the Money Mission at any time during Term 3, but are required to make three deposits by the end of Term 3 to double their chance of winning.

SCHOOL BANKING DAY is Wednesday.

For further information about School Banking please contact your School Banking Coordinator Edwina Samuelson 0422 006 142 or Jo Whatman at CBA on 0475