Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to week 4!

Part of our school vision at Palmerston is to promote quality learning programs which recognise the uniqueness of each child. This year we have reviewed our English Vision which promotes increasing student achievement in English. Next year we will revisit our Vision for mathematics. Through the English and mathematics Visions we are able to plan for an increase in students achievement in these areas, as outlined in our school strategic plan.

Each week our teachers meet to discuss the learning needs of all students, as is part of our Professional Learning Teams. Together the teachers plan differentiated units of work that engage and support/extend student learning. By working collaboratively teachers are able to best meet the needs of all of our students at Palmerston. This allows the teachers to work towards another part of the school vision: of supporting and challenging our students to achieve to the best of their abilities.
Last week we celebrated World Teachers Day. The School Board and members of our community thanked teachers for the work they do for students at Palmerston and the P&C provided a lovely afternoon tea. All of it was greatly appreciated by the staff. I would like to take this opportunity to add my thanks to all our staff members for the work they do each day here for all students at Palmerston. Together we are making a difference.

Walkathon
On Monday we had our hugely successful Walkathon. The Walkathon is an important fundraiser helping to resource the school. In the past the funds have been used to purchase iPads for each classroom and resources to help our Environmental Science program. This year the money raised will be used to purchase friendship benches for the playground. Thank you to everyone who sponsored and to all our students for their participation in this great event. Don’t forget to return your sponsorship form by the end of next week.

Annual SRC Talent Quest
The annual SRC Talent Quest will be held on the last day of this term. The SRC Talent Quest is a much loved event here at Palmerston and we are looking forward to seeing all the exciting acts. Each morning during morning lines the SRC have been reminding students about auditions times. Any students using music are asked to provide it on a CD.

Book packs
Book pack lists for 2015 came home today. To ensure we have the best quality product and for the ease of parents, we are ordering from OfficeMax, with all orders are delivered to the school. More information on this and how to order is on the letter and order form. The due date for book pack orders to be returned to the school is **19 December 2014**. Please ensure you order on time, to avoid a delivery fee.

2015 classes
We are currently looking at class organisation for 2015. If you are planning on not returning to Palmerston in 2015, we will miss you! Please fill out the form today’s newsletter and hand it to the front office ASAP. If you any have any particular requests around friendship groupings, please contact me via the front office. At Palmerston we do not take requests for particular teachers.

2015 Gifted and Talented Classes
Differentiation is part of every program here at Palmerston meaning all students are catered for. We also run a specific program for children identified as gifted and talented. Over the last few weeks, our teachers have been assessing students as part of our school procedures for identifying gifted and talented students. Next week we will be sending out letters to all families of children who were tested. We are also looking at configurations of Gifted and Talented classes for 2015. I have been consulting with past and present members of the School Board, teachers and students to discuss possible class make-up for 2015. If you would like to speak with me about this please contact the front office. We will continue to have a mix of self-contained and cluster groupings as outlined in our procedures.

Trivia Night
The P&C Trivia Night is on next week! Further information is in this newsletter. If you haven’t yet purchased your ticket please contact Jenny or Janet to make a booking. The Trivia Night is a fun night out and we would love to see you there!

Have a great week!
Preschool newsletter item.
This term has been busy with plenty of events occurring including the Walkathon, Kindergarten Transitions and the Preschool Orientation.

The whole school Walkathon was held on Monday with Blossoms and Gumnuts completing their Walkathon at the end of the week. Monday was a beautiful day and all of the children across the preschool and school appeared to thoroughly enjoy themselves. Thank you to all families involved in sponsorship. All the proceeds are going towards the purchasing of friendship benches. We look forward to having these placed around the school.

The Kindergarten Transition program has been a real success. The preschool children appear so grown up! The kindergarten children and teaching team have enjoyed getting to know the pre-schoolers. During transition time the preschool children have been engaging in many aspects of the curriculum including literacy, numeracy and art.

We welcomed the 2015 preschool children to Palmerston Preschool on Tuesday morning. We have 100 children enrolled for 2015 and a few on the waiting list! The children appeared to have a wonderful time- I think many of them would have liked to have permanently joined the classes. We are really looking forward to welcoming these children and getting to know them next year.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work of the educators. They are in the process of writing our end of year Developmental Summaries. These summaries provide families with information regarding the progress of children. They complement all the other avenues for feedback including informal verbal conversations, meetings and interviews. These Developmental Summaries will come home at the end of the term.

Have a great week.

Kate Flynn
Executive Teacher - Preschool

SRC talent quest
Every year the SRC holds a quest to seek talent within the school. The talent quest is held on the very last day of term, Wednesday 17 December. This year students will be asked to audition for this event. Auditions will be held in the hall on Thursday lunch times in week 4 for 5/6 students, week 5 for 3/4, week 6 for 1/2 and week 7 for Kinder. Students auditioning will be required to prepare a two minute act, bring all props and music and be sure to sign up to audition at recess time on the day of their audition. We look forward to seeing as many acts as possible!

From
The Palmerston SRC
Book Fair – just in time for Christmas!
The Book Fair has been a great success so far. It is still running up until this Friday morning finishing at 10:30am – last chance! We still have plenty of books to purchase and novelty items for Christmas stockings. Thank you to everyone who has supported our fundraising venture to date.

Walkathon

On Monday the 3 November the Palmerston students participated in our annual Walkathon. It was a beautiful spring day and the students had a terrific time. All of the students were very excited and some completed as many as eight laps! The Walkathon is raising money for friendship benches, if your child has lost or has not brought back their sponsorship form they still have until the end of week five to get it in and their class could win a pop-corn and movie party. There is also a movie voucher prize for the child who raises the most money. The students really enjoyed their lemonade ice clocks at the end, thank you to the P&C who provided them.

Thank you for all of your support and I look forward to letting you know the total amount fundraised.

Haeley Simms
Walkathon Coordinator

P&C Trivia Night - Get a table together for a great night out!

We are very exciting to be hosting a Trivia Night here at Palmerston on Friday 14 November at 7pm for a 7.30 start. Tickets are $10 per person, with tables of up to 8 people. This year the theme for the night is Movies. If you like you can organise to decorate your table and dress up. Tea/Coffee and cake can be purchased on the night or you are welcome to bring your own food for your table to share. Ticket orders can be placed in the Boomerang Box at the front office.

If you haven’t been to a Trivia Night before you may know them better as a Quiz Night. At a Trivia/Quiz Night, groups of people work together to answer questions. The questions are completed in rounds, with usually 10 questions or so per round. They are great fundraisers and a fun night out for all involved.
Defence News

The 11th day of the 11th month each year is commemorated worldwide as Remembrance Day. This year marks the 96th anniversary of the Armistice of World War 1. Palmerston will be holding a special whole school assembly on Tuesday 11 November at 9am to honour those men and women who have proudly served in all wars for their country, many of whom did not return. I hope you have all had a chance to see the magnificent display in the Front Office. A big thankyou to Mrs Kimberley Bell for her help with the wonderful poppies.

I would like to invite all parents and carers to attend the special assembly. The Defence children have been working very hard on this service to commemorate this important date and they would appreciate your attendance.

Regards,

Regards,

Marina Pilicic
DSTA

Gold Creek – Prospective year 7 2015 students
Thursday 13th November, 6:30-7:30pm in the Senior Site Gymnasium

(Barista coffee will be available for sale at this event from 6:15pm)

The documents (listed below) are required to finalise your enrolment:
- Birth Certificate or Passport (if born overseas)
- Proof of student’s residential address (e.g. original copies of lease, electricity accounts etc)
- Copies of any family law or other relevant court orders (if applicable)
- Emergency Treatment Plan (if applicable)
- Current visa and previous visas (if applicable)

Please submit document to the front office or email electronic copies to info@goldcreek.act.edu.au.

At the information night you will receive information on Gold Creek School including:
- School structure and supports (timetable, classes, student services)
- Year 7 camp information
- School uniform information
- Book pack lists

You will also have the opportunity to meet the school leadership and executive team and ask them questions. If you require any further information or clarification, please don’t hesitate to contact the school on 6205 1814.

Fresh Tastes: healthy food at school
Fresh Tastes: healthy food at school supports the Healthy Weight Action Plan by increasing healthier food and drink choices in ACT preschools, early childhood schools and primary schools.

Since the launch in February 2014, 24 schools are participating in the program, with another 50 schools to be recruited over the next 18 months.

Participating schools develop healthy food and drink guidelines; provide nutrition education in the classroom; give students hands-on cooking and gardening experiences; and provide students healthy food and drink options through the canteen, fundraising activities and events.

Fresh Tastes is a partnership between ACT Education and Training Directorate, ACT Health, Catholic Education Office, and leading local businesses and community organisations.

This article can also be found at [http://sharedservices/ACTGovt/News/Healthy-Happenings/Issue-1/Article-6.htm](http://sharedservices/ACTGovt/News/Healthy-Happenings/Issue-1/Article-6.htm)
Congratulations Amarlie and Sianna - Gungahlin Physi & Dancers!

Amarlie and Sianna from year 1 have been participating in Phyis for the past two years. Physi and dance is a unique style of dance that incorporates many different types of dancing into choreographed routines. These routines include a mix of ballet, jazz, contemporary and lyrical components in addition to pilates, yoga, flexibility and general fitness movements.

Both Amarlie and Sianna perform in various competitions for Physi throughout the year. On the 20 October the girls travelled to Nowra to compete in the APDA Champion Girl competition. This competition is a fantastic opportunity to perform the work they have been perfecting all year. Champion Girl competitions provide the chance for girls to qualify for the national finals held in Sydney each year.

Amarlie and Sianna competed in the 6 years age group with 36 other girls in their zone. They danced in 2 heats and were very proud when they were selected to represent their zone and club at the Nationals. At this next competition the girls will now perform with finalists from all over Australia.

We are very proud of the girls and wish them all the best at their performance at the Nationals in Sydney.

Education Forum: Supporting Education for Migrant and Refugee Families

Wednesday, 12 November 2014
6.00 pm - 8.30 pm
Community Hall, Cook Community Hub, 41 Templeton St, Cook

A light dinner, including vegetarian food, will be provided.

Parents and teachers are invited to attend the annual information exchange between schools, parent groups, teachers and newly emerging communities in Canberra. We ask you to promote this event in your community.

For information please contact Hongsar Channaibanya on 6251 4550 or hongsar.channaibanya@companionhouse.org.au or Libby Glasgow on 620 59346

Regards,
Leanne Wright, Director, Learning and Teaching
Enrolment and Leavers - 2015

At this time of the year some families may know if they are going to be leaving Palmerston at the end of the year. We understand that families may need to relocate because of changes in jobs or housing. Could you please inform the front office if you know your child will not be attending Palmerston in 2015.

If your child is in preschool this year, they will automatically be enrolled in Palmerston Kindergarten for 2015.

2015 Class Information

Child/ren’s names and year level: ____________________________________________

_____ My Child/ren will not be returning to Palmerston in 2015.

My child will be attending:

_____ Another government school in the ACT

_____ A non-government school in the ACT

Semester 2 Reports 2014 – A-E Reports and Duplicate Report Request

Reports will be sent home with children in week 9. Preschool children will receive a developmental report. If your child is in Kindergarten, you will receive the school report. Children in Year 1-6 will receive a copy of the school report and an A-E report.

As parents/carers you have the option of withdrawing your child from the A-E reporting process. This means that your child will still be awarded an A-E grade in the key learning areas, and a copy of the A-E report will go onto their school file. However, an A-E report will not be sent home with your child. You will receive only the school report.

If you choose to withdraw your child from the A-E reporting process, please advise the school in writing. Please indicate below whether you require duplicate copies of your child’s report.

Request for duplicate reports – please return to the Front Office – Semester 2, 2014

I will require a duplicate copy of my child/ren’s report.

My child/ren’s name/s are __________________________________________________

class __________________________

Please post the duplicate report to the following: (please include name & address)
**P&C News**

**Trivia Night – Friday 14 November**
Trivia Night on Friday 14 November. Come along for a great night and join in the fun and laughter of a trivia night. Tickets are only $10 per person and available at the front office.

Remember it is a fund raising event so bring along lots of small coins. It is a movie themed night, feel free to dress up or dress up your table. Tea/coffee / cake and soft drinks will be available on the night. There will be some great prizes to be won that have been kindly donated by local businesses.

**Disco – Friday 28 November**
The P & C will be hosting an end of year disco to celebrate another great year at Palmerston. This will be held on Friday 28 November. More details to come shortly.

**Second Hand Uniform Shop**
Do you have unwanted school uniforms, particularly summer dresses and boys shorts? The second Hand Uniform Shop at Palmerston is looking to restock ready for 2015! Please bring any donations to the Front Office.

**Palm Café canteen - Open Tuesday and Friday recess**
The canteen is open on Tuesday and Friday recess from week 3. The items being sold in the canteen this term meet Nutrition Australia’s AMBER and GREEN traffic light healthy food guidelines. The menu is also available on the school website.

Have a great week!

Jo Prezzi
P & C President

Edwina Samuelson
P & C Vice-President

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**Community News**

**Marymead Fete – Saturday 8 November from 9am to 1:30pm**
At 225 Goyder Street Narrabundah. There will be face painting, a petting zoo, plants, toys and more.

**Zumbathon – Party in PINK for Breast Cancer – Saturday 15 November at 6:30 – 8:00pm**
Held at the AIS Basketball Courts. For more information contact BJ on 0439 764 578 or funkshirlnal@gmail.com
Dear Families,

As 2014 draws to a close, I would like to touch base with you regarding School Age Care in 2015.

We have received some expressions of interest in operating a School Age Care program for preschool children at Palmerston Primary and would like to explore how many families would utilise the Before and After School Care if it was available.

If this is of interest to you for 2015, could you please fill out and return the slip below to the front office, the School Age Care staff or alternatively it can be scanned through to me karen.taunton@commsatwork.org

Please keep in mind this is simply a letter seeking interest only. At this stage there is no definite decision made. Before and After School Care will continue to operate as per usual for primary aged children.

Bookings for After School Care in 2015 are now open and can be accessed on the Communities @ Work website www.commsatwork.org

Regards
Karen Taunton
Manager - School Age Care
Communities@Work

I am interested in School Age Care for my preschool child in 2015 and would need the program on the following days:

Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday

I have .......... child/ren in year/s ............

I currently utilise Palmerston School Age Care: Yes. No...