Dear Parents/Carers

It is holiday time again…term 1 has flown by. Thank you to all the parents who have volunteered their time at Palmerston this term. We have a new P&C and School Board. Both are up and running with fantastic enthusiasm and ideas. There are so many ways to assist our school community. We have a very active uniform shop again this year and next term we will have the first steps towards a canteen. A very big thank you to the parents and carers who attended our Preschool forums this week. We have great support for our changes to preschool to meet the new National Standards. Together we are working towards meeting all the new accreditation needs. Come along to the preschool and have a look at our changes.

Year 3/4 and 5/6 Camp

I visited our happy year 5/6 campers yesterday. The camp at Tallong is a fantastic bush environment. The first comment a teacher heard when the students got off the bus was “They are real cabins!” The cabins are made of logs and the main eating area has a big roaring fire. I heard the food was fresh and healthy and yummy. The students and teachers were all involved in team building exercises and use of brilliant low rope activities. I was very impressed with the quality of the recreational staff there and the activities and accommodation provided. I am off to visit the year 3/4 campers later today.

Next P&C Meeting Monday 14 May @ 7pm

Mrs Collis visited on Wednesday and said that all were involved in great activities and the students were loving their accommodation and surrounding natural environment.

Trial Term 1 Report

We sent out a trial term 1 report this week. We have had many positive comments about the format. We included a survey in the envelope and are looking forward to your comments. Early next term the school board will be reviewing all policies and procedures of the school and we will be sending out information to keep you updated.

Welcome to Alex Breen

We will have a new permanent executive teacher commencing from next term, Alex Breen. Ms Breen has been acting in the executive teacher role at Amaroo School this year. Ms Breen is taking up the role of Literacy and Numeracy Officer and will be coaching and mentoring teaching staff in the specialty areas of literacy and numeracy. This is a continuation of our ongoing priority to improve our teaching of literacy and numeracy at Palmerston.
Safe and happy holidays
As the holidays approach, I would like to remind everyone about safety. Please be aware that our fence should be completed this school holidays and that schools are not a place to play over the holidays. The school roofs are off limits as it is unsafe to climb on school facilities. If you see any unwanted people around the school, please report it to the police. Over the Easter holiday weekend, the school had our double glazed multipurpose windows smashed and graffiti on the school walls. We hope the school fence will minimalize the vandalism which has recently started.

Have a very happy holiday and enjoy being together as a family.

Melissa Travers
Principal

Assembly Dates – 11.30am
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assembly Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 13</td>
<td>K-3 Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 5 May</td>
<td>Junior and Senior Assemblies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dates to Remember
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 11 – Friday 13</td>
<td>Year 3/4 Camp to Warrumbui&lt;br&gt;Year 5/6 to Tallong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 30</td>
<td>First Day Term 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday May 3</td>
<td>ACT Swimming Championship</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes Home:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Due Back</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Questacon Incursion – Year 1 &amp; 2 and K/6EF</td>
<td>Now</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken Pox</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMP – Recorder Class – year 3/4</td>
<td>Now</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAPLAN 2012 Information for Parents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tournament of Minds (TOM) – Years 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>Friday 13 April</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Palmerston PRIDE Awards
The following Palmerston PRIDE Awards were given out on Thursday 4 April:

PARTICIPATION – becoming involved, “having a go” and cooperating with others
Akio, Ricki, Aryan, Hannah, Brittany and Charlotte.

RESPECT – respect for self, others and their property
Nathan, Julia, Byron, Elyse, Jeremy, Bryn and Raya.

INTEGRITY – being honest, fair, responsible and loyal
Morsa, Kunnrot and Luka.

DETERMINATION – being persistent and resilient
Lachlan, William, Raafi, Hunter, Thomas, Angelina and Raychell.

EMPATHY – understanding and supporting others, regardless of our differences

Congratulations to you all!
Preschool News

Can you believe that it is week 10 already? We cannot believe that we have nearly reached the end of our first term at Preschool. It has been a very busy 10 weeks that’s for sure!

We would like to take the opportunity to congratulate all of the preschool children from the Snowgum, Boronia, Waratah and Banksia classes; they have come so far in such a short amount of time. The children now know everyone’s names, have created lovely friendships with their peers, have learnt a lot of new skills as well as worked on the skills that they already know. Overall the children have settled in so beautifully having lots of fun and enjoying all of the great experiences that preschool has to offer. We are really enjoying working alongside the children to watch them grow each and every day. Also we are so proud of all of the achievements that each child has met along their journey so far.

On Thursday 22 March the Waratah and Banksia classes were lucky enough to have a visit from Constable Kenny Koala. The children and teachers thoroughly enjoyed the visit learning all about how to keep safe when out and about in the community, who can help us if we need it, what is the safest way to cross the road (we practiced this out in the school car park), learning about stranger danger and car safety. Constable Kenny was very funny and kept us all amused. The children were very excited to see and hear the sirens on his car also. The Snowgum and Boronia classes will be having a visit from Constable Kenny on Tuesday 1 May (Week 1, term 2).

This year at Palmerston District Preschool, we are undergoing the accreditation process for the first time with the Australian Children’s Education & Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) which follows the guidelines set in place from the National Quality Framework. This is a very large and detailed ongoing process, in which all preschool staff, assistants and school executives will be working on throughout the year. We are currently working on getting everything up to the highest of possible standards to be prepared for when they will come out to assess us, unfortunately we are not yet aware of when this will be, but we have been told sometime in the near future. We are very positive about this and believe that we are upholding quality preschool education as well as maintaining a quality preschool environment.

Preschool children, teachers and assistants have all smiled beautifully for the school photos that were held in week 8 of this term. Overall the majority of children enjoyed this process. We look forward to seeing the hard copies when they arrive later on in term 2.
The Snowgum and Boronia classes made lovely Easter hats and were invited up to the junior school pods to do their Easter hat parade. The children were very enthusiastic about this and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. We were so happy to see the children so happy and involved in this parade. You could tell from their happy expressions that they loved every minute. The teachers and children from the junior school gave remarkable comments and feedback regarding the preschool parade, well done preschool!

The Waratah and Banksia classes were invited to join in with the junior school at their Easter hat parade. We were so delighted to see the enjoyment, fun and enthusiasm in each of the preschool children. They each created an Easter crown to wear for the parade, and we must say they all looked fantastic! We are very proud of all of the children, they sat, watched, listened, participated and encouraged all of the other classes and were very engaged and patient throughout the whole parade. The feedback we received from the parents and other teachers in the school was very positive. Well done preschool!

We need to make a special note to thank our wonderful families for coming and supporting the children for both parade days. The preschool children loved that you were there to share the experience with them and were very proud of themselves that they were able to show you their great hats.

It has been fantastic to see so many family members in the preschool helping out in Term 1 on roster and we hope to see many more in Term 2. We would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for your support throughout the term, it is nice to know that the preschool children and their families enjoy coming to preschool each week. We hope everyone has a safe and relaxing break and we will see you back at Preschool in Term 2.

Rubik’s Cube Orders

I would like to thank everyone who has shown interest in speedcubing. Many of our senior students are now able to solve (or almost solve) the various puzzles, and some of our 5/6 students are now solving the 3x3x3 puzzle in under one minute!

The demand for cubes has been almost overwhelming, with roughly 60 cubes sold so far. The current sales system is unable to keep up, so I will put in one final order at the end of week 1 next term. If your child wishes to obtain a cube:

a) and they already have a token, please take this to the office and their name will be placed on the order
b) and they don’t already have a token, please hand in a signed note (available from the office) with $5

If your child is in year 2 or below, I would recommend you specify that they should receive a 2x2x2 cube as it is more age-appropriate. Cubes will be delivered to classes when they arrive.

If your child is struggling to solve the cube, please let them know that I had great trouble at first. It really does take some patience and persistence. Please encourage your child to seek help from the senior students, many of whom can teach the art of solving a cube better than I can! Cube club will run next term once a week (time to be confirmed).

Thank you for your co-operation,

Mr. Landman.
COMMUNITY NEWS:

Bus Passes for Deane's Transit Group

The drivers expect a pass or payment now. For any students who do not know how much they need to pay, they must call the SSTS department on 6299 3722.

For students that have forgotten a pass, a payment is expected. If students have lost their passes, they will be asked for payment until their pass is replaced. Students will still need to produce a pass or payment on swim carnival days, non-uniform days etc.

The Ministry of Transport is getting VERY strict this year and has already boarded our buses and issued fines! The need has never been greater now for students ALL to be doing the right thing as now!

Zumba Fitness is now at Palmerston Primary School Hall 7.30-8.30pm on Tuesday evenings, starting back for term 2 on May 1

It's getting cold outside, so come along and heat up your workout rather than hibernating this year! You don't need to be a gym junkie or a dancer to enjoy and benefit from this class. Get out of the cold and into Zumba!

Zumba Fitness is a cardio/dance workout, where we use many kinds of music from all over the world to fuse together a class that is so much fun it's easy to forget that you're exercising. Both higher and lower intensity options are provided, so if you need to tone it down a little you can, or if you want to step it up the option is there. There are many different dance styles used in each class, but the steps are simplified in order to make them easier to pick up and are designed for fun and fitness, rather than dance technique.

Please contact me via lisa.d.zumba@gmail.com if you would like to come along, or to find out about discounted multi class passes.

Home School Communication: A workshop for parents/carers of students with a disability.

Tuesday 15 May 9.30am – 12.30pm or 6.00pm – 9.00pm at Hedley Beare Centre Fremantle Drive, Stirling ACT.

The workshop will focus on increasing positive communication and collaboration between parents/carers of students with a disability and staff in schools. To reserve a place in one of the workshops please ring 6205 9300

Come & Try Scouts

You are invited to Come & Try Scouts for a FREE 3 week trial

What will I get from Scouts?

Friendship, confidence, life skills, adventure, challenges, responsible risk taking, leadership, fun and much more...

Call 1800 SCOUTS or visit our website www.act.scouts.asn.au to find your local Scout Group