Term 2 Week 6  4 June 2015
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www.palmdps.act.edu.au

Board Members: Parent Reps: Shelley Penyu, Saravanan Thavamanikumar and George Villaflor
Board Chair: George Villaflor  P&C President: Lisa Fior
Principal:  Melissa Travers  Deputy Principal: Benjamin Hall
Executive Teachers: Alex Breen, Kate Flynn, Mandy Lee, Haeley Simms (Acting) and Grant Smith (Acting)

Next P&C Meeting Monday 22 June at 7pm
All P&C activities, meeting agendas and minutes are available from the School website at –

Parent Corner

Recent Notes Home
Athletics Carnival
Preschool Parks & Conservation incursion
Preschool Botanical Gardens excursion

Assembly Dates – Fridays at 9am
5 June  Whole school assembly led by year 5/6 held at 10:15
12 June Junior/Senior assembly led by KKW, KSH & 5/6RA
19 June Whole school assembly led by year 3/4 & 2/3 CAP
26 June Junior/Senior assembly led by KFC & KLM & 5SL
3 July Whole school assembly led by year 2

Dates to Remember
5 June  Jump Rope for Heart Jump Off
8 June  Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday
10 June  Christian Education
11 June  Athletics Carnival
15-17 June  ICAS - Writing
16 June  Preschool Botanical Gardens
16 June  ICAS - Spelling
18 June  Preschool Botanical Gardens
26 June  5/6 Visit from author Michael Gerard Bauer
22 June – 3 July  Preschool Parent teacher interviews
29 June – 3 July  Parent teacher interviews

Year 5/6 assembly timing change
Year 5/6 Jump Rope for Heart assembly will now begin at 10:15am, not 9am, on the blacktop.
Sorry for any inconvenience.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to winter! Remember to rug up and put names of jackets and beanies. As a Sunsmart school, we can now officially not wear hats over June and July. This information is on the SunSmart website for the Cancer Council. Each state and territory is different.

This week I have been in Queensland with Mr Smith and Ms Campbell. We attended the EduTech conference. Palmerston is about to embark on an IT upgrade this year. EduTech assists us as educational leaders and as a Business Manager, to understand what is needed in infrastructure and to know what other schools around Australia are trialling. We are looking into Chrome books (laptops) and wireless networking. We are also interested in what will eventually replace our ageing Interactive Whiteboards (IWBs). So far we have iPads and laptops in laptop trolleys and IWBs in each classroom. We no longer
have a computer lab. We also have coding as a club that Mr Landman runs each week for the older students and Ms Breen runs computer club at lunchtimes as well.

Last week the teachers had an opportunity to be part of a maths coaching session. Your child may have mentioned that a different teacher taught maths around the school. We brought in a NSW maths consultant, Carol Spencer, to coach and mentor our teachers in explicitly teaching number in maths. We have taken an across school approach. We use the Australian Curriculum and our approach to teaching number will now be more consistent and sequential across the school. We look forward to more sessions each term with Carol Spencer working with teachers in classrooms. This is part of our Whole School Plan and outlined in our 2015 annual operating plan.

Last week also saw Palmerston host poets, to work with our senior students. We had two poets from America visit the ACT and work with a number of schools. This is part of our commitment to increasing our students’ exposure to different text types and increasing their literacy skills. A great time was had by all. Our wonderful P&C have donated money to the school and we have used part of the $5000 to fund our literacy work. We will continue this year with Author visits and trips to the Canberra Theatre. Exposing students to quality literature through books, plays and authors is a commitment we have made through our school plan. We can see our students reading results increase through NAPLAN and through in class data. We believe this is a direct result of increasing their exposure to quality literature leading to a love of reading.

Teachers have been busy writing school reports. Keep skipping, as our skip off is on Friday.

Have a great week,

Melissa Travers
Principal

Palmerston PRIDE Awards
Congratulations to the following students who received a PRIDE Award at assembly on 29 May:

RESPECT – respect for self, others and their property
Esther – KLM

INTEGRITY – being honest, fair, responsible and loyal
Andy – 1BR

DETERMINATION - being persistent and resilient
Trinity – KLM    Savannah – 1BR    Oliver – 1BR

EMPATHY – understanding and supporting others, regardless of our differences
April - KLM
Preschool
Welcome to Week 6.
I would like to remind you to label all items of clothing - particularly jackets and other warm clothes. On sunny winter days, the children often peel off a layer of clothing as they come inside. Having labelled items ensures that nothing goes missing. Please pack spare clothes for your children as well.
As we have just entered the month of June I want to remind you of Hats off Day. In Canberra during the months of June and July the ACT Cancer Council recommends that children leave their hats at home and get some winter sun exposure - this is to assist to maintain appropriate levels of vitamin D within the body.
Parents and community members play an important role in their children's education and strong and effective communication between parents and schools enriches the learning experience. To assist you with this process, I have listed below the avenues for communication that are in place at Palmerston District Preschool:

1. Contact the educators: 62058361
2. Contact the deputy/executive: 62057241
3. Contact the principal: 62057241
4. Concerns, suggestions or complaints:

Education and training directorate
Community Liaison Section
Phone: 02) 62055429
Email: DET.CommunityLiaison@act.gov.au

As we have been preparing for our National Quality Standard assessment we have been engaging in visits and other forms of communication with representatives from the Children's Policy and Regulation Unit (CPRU) I have included information below about their role:
The CPRU- a section of the Education and Training Directorate-comprises a group of highly qualified, skilled and experienced early childhood professionals who support our preschools in the implementation of the National Quality Framework and, supports our preschools to deliver high quality services to children.
The role of the CPRU includes:

- Providing information about education and care in the ACT to families, services and the community;
- Issuing approvals for providers, services, waivers, certified supervisors and licenses;
- Monitoring compliance with the Children and Young People Act 2008 and the Education and Care Services National Law (ACT) Act 2011
- Quality assessment and rating of education and care services in accordance with the National Quality Framework; and
- Investigating complaints relating to compliance with the relevant education and care law.

Phone number 6207114
GPO Box 158, Canberra ACT 2601
Level 7, 11 Moore Street Canberra City ACT 2600
www.det.act.gov.au

Have a lovely week,
Kate Flynn
Preschool Enrolments 2016
Preschool Enrolments for 2016 opened on Tuesday 28 April 2015. Children enrolling for Preschool in 2016 need to turn 4 years of age by 30 April 2016. Enrolment forms can be found online at the link below:
Application to Enrol in an ACT School

Christian Education – Wednesday 10 June
Christian Education is an opt-in program run at the school by Combined Gungahlin Churches. If you are interested in your child attending the session, and have not previously notified the school, please see the Front Office to fill in a form. Otherwise your child will remain in class.
The program occurs in week 7 of each term and there is a junior and senior program.
This term it will be held on Wednesday 10 June in the school hall.

Julia Polkinghorne
Ministry Facilitator
New Life Presbyterian Church

Reporting at Palmerston District Primary School
As we come to the end of the term, our teachers are diligently working on the semester 1 reports for our students. Palmerston District Primary School strives to promote a quality learning program which recognises the uniqueness of each child. We support and challenge our students to achieve to the best of their ability and we foster a passion for lifelong learning. As such, we value a variety of reporting formats to ensure parents receive the ‘whole’ picture of their child’s progress and development. These include the written reports, looking at classroom work samples, Learning Journeys, Parent-Teacher Interviews, NAPLAN results, PIPS results and the Departmental A to E Summary Report. Palmerston Primary also values informal reporting strategies as an important element in promptly informing parents if their child is experiencing difficulties at school.

With the introduction of The Australian Curriculum we now report to the Achievement Standards for English, mathematics, science and history. The ACT Every Chance to Learn curriculum framework remains the reference point for all other learning areas until remaining Australian Curriculum subjects are phased in. Teachers use the standards and online annotated work samples as a reference point for assigning grades. We also work with other schools in our cluster, and across the ACT, to ensure the expected standards are moderated.

In the ACT, student achievement in Years 1–10 is reported using A–E grades. It has been agreed that a ‘C’ grade represents a significant achievement and indicates that a student is performing at the standard expected at that year level. This may be different to when you were at school so you may like to look at The Australian Curriculum website to gain more information (http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/)
The learning progress of kindergarten students will be reported twice a year by schools using the Australian Curriculum Achievement Standards. As is currently the case, kindergarten students will not be graded on an A–E scale. Australian Curriculum Achievement Standards describe expected end-of-year achievement. Grades given on the semester 1 report reflect the knowledge, skills and understandings studied so far in the learning area. The end-of-year, or semester 2 report, is summative and based on achievement over the whole year.

Semester 1 Reports 2015
Semester 1 reports will be sent out on Thursday 25 June with Parent-Teacher Interviews following in week 10 (29 June -2 July). Interview schedule times are available in the front office/please contact the front office to book in a time.
Preschool Parent Teacher Interviews will be offered in weeks 9 and 10 (22 June – 3 July). Could preschool parents please make an interview time directly with the preschool teachers instead of the front office.

‘I say to parents, come with questions and make the most of the time you have with your child’s teacher. Clarify points if you are unsure what the teacher is saying and ask how you can assist with your child’s education. Once the interview is over, consider how you will discuss it with your child in positive terms. Involve your child in discussing any plans for improvement and to achieve success.’ Michael Gross

Preschool children will receive a developmental summary report. If your child is in Kindergarten you will receive the school report. Children in Year 1-6 you 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 1, 2015

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

My child/ren’s name/s are ____________________________________________

          class ______________________

          class ______________________

          class ______________________

Please address the duplicate report to: (please include name & address)

Introductory English Centre Volunteers

As many of you would know Palmerston now has two introductory English classes. These classes are for newly arrived students who speak a language other than English. The classes assist students to develop their English language skills, confidence and self-esteem so they may integrate into an Australian primary school. As a part of the student’s learning we are seeking parents from different occupations to volunteer to talk in front of the class about their occupation and answer questions.

If you are interested in participating and assisting these students with their learning, please leave your name, telephone number and occupation at the front office.

Thank you

Mathletics and Reading Eggs Subscriptions are ending this term
As the natural progression of information technology and education develops, and after great discussion, we have elected to discontinue our subscription to Mathletics and Reading Eggs. Teachers, students and parents are using numerous other apps, websites and games to assist in the development
of numeracy and reading skills, therefore we are finding that these resources are not used as frequently as before. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Palmerston P & C for their contribution of funds towards these resources that have assisted many students at Palmerston. If you would like to continue to use these resources at home, there are family subscriptions available online. The school subscription will expire at the end of this term.

2/3/4 CAP PoD Happenings
Term 2, 2015
We are having a very busy term full of learning and fun activities in 3/4CC and 2/3WW. Our integrated inquiry unit, ‘Our Fleeting Past’, has been a very engaging unit. The very first day of term, the students received a convict identity and were sentenced to transportation to New Holland! In addition, on Colonial Day, the students experienced engaging hands-on learning about the First Fleet journey and the setting up of the new colony in Sydney Cove. Students are now hard at work researching an open-ended question of their choice about the First Fleet. Students will have three weeks to research and present their new understandings.

In English, both CAP classes are learning about historical narratives and their purpose and structure. Each student is writing a historical narrative in the form of a journal. Each entry is from either a convict’s or Indigenous Australian’s perspective. Before the students begin writing, they first learn to ‘visualise’ and ‘determine importance’. These strategies, along with a lot of discussion, make the writing process easier.

In maths, you can hear lots of multiplication challenges taking place across the PoD. Students have been learning their times tables and challenging themselves to become faster and more accurate. This Friday is the Jump Rope for Heart Assembly. Both classes have been practising new jump rope tricks and building our stamina to jump longer and faster. Ethan from 3/4CC and Leanne from 2/3WW will represent our classes in the jump off!

Lastly, all the CAP classes from Years 2-6 have been gathering to discuss philosophical questions and thinking. The students are now hard at work preparing a dramatic presentation on a specific philosophical question. These presentations will be performed for parents and guests at the upcoming CAP Philosophy Evening.
Selamat siang! It has been a busy couple of terms for Indonesian, with students learning about ‘The Weather and Seasons’ last term and ‘School Life’ this term. Students are looking at and comparing school life in Indonesia and Australia, daily schedules, subjects, uniforms and customs and norms. Students have enjoyed seeing the similarities and differences between the two neighbouring countries, and have demonstrated skill in constructing new Indonesian sentences, describing for example what subjects they are good at and enjoy. Children have also continued to take part in ‘interviews’. Please look at the interview questions and answers below and practise those with your kids as it helps them to retain the language.

1. Siapa namamu? (What’s your name?)
   Nama saya…. (My name is …)
2. Apa kabar? (How are you?)
   Baik baik saja (Just fine) / Baik sekali (Very good) / Kurang baik (Not so good)
3. Bagaimana cuaca hari ini? (What’s the weather like today?)
   Hari ini … panas/hujan/berawan / ada kilat/dingin (Today is … hot/raining/cloudy/lightning/cold)
4. Berapa umurmu? (How old are you?)
   Umur saya … tahun (I am … years old) *See numbers below
5. Kamu di kelas berapa? (What grade are you in?)
   Saya di kelas … (I am in grade …) *See numbers below

**Numbers 1-12**

1 - satu 2 - dua 3 - tiga 4 - empat 5 - lima 6 – enam
7 – tujuh 8 - delapan 9 - sembilan 10 - sepuluh 11 - sebelas 12 – duabelas

Some photos of students constructing some Indonesian sentences.
I will be attending a professional development seminar tomorrow (Friday 5.6.15) and will not be working at the school. Please let your children know that there will be **no defence club** held this week. It will be on next week as per usual.

I regularly update the DSTA News noticeboard, located in the library window closest to my office, with information on local events and services available to Defence families. Please take some time to check out the flyers advertising special functions such as “The Cook’s Night Off”. June’s event is happening at the George Harcourt Inn, nice and local. There is also a “Turkish Pide and Panel” night for families experiencing or about to experience a deployment. Take a look!

Regards,
Marilyn Pilicic
DS

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**P&C News**

**Entertainment Books**


Or purchase with cash at the front office. For any questions, please contact Jenni Palombi on 0416 180 225

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**School Hirers**

**MusicEducation**

Dear Parents,

**Professional Guitar & Keyboard Tuition is available through Music Education Australia in term 3 2015.**

We have an amazing opportunity to offer professional guitar and keyboard tuition to students. The program will be commencing in term 3, 2015 and continuing throughout the year. Class sizes of 4-6 students for 30 minute lessons are available.

Please phone 02 9191 4925 to enroll or for more information about the lessons visit [www.musiceducationaustralia.com.au](http://www.musiceducationaustralia.com.au)

**IMPORTANT!** Spaces are limited and minimum numbers are required for lessons to run.

**About Music Education Australia (MEA)**

MEA is Australia’s leading provider of school music tuition. We provide a wonderful opportunity for children to have quality group guitar and keyboard lessons at school.

- Small groups (3-6 students)
- Caters for all ages and abilities
- Weekly 30 minute lessons
- Amazing value = $110 p/term
- 70% less than private tuition
- Instruments supplied during lessons