

Palmerston District Primary School Newsletter

Issue 10



Principal





Firstly, I would like to thank everyone for navigating the car park space so successfully. We are confident that the construction teams are working to their schedule and that this space will be restored next term. We have been told our new Relocatable Learning Units (RLUs) will be delivered in the next few weeks. However, it may be still some time before they can be used as there is still pipes to be connected and the interiors still need to be completed.

Mahatma Gandhi once said, "There are no goodbyes for us. Wherever you are, you will be in (our) heart." This term we have farewelled some much loved staff members. Mr Todd, Miss Rowland, Mrs Carn, Miss Jayne and Miss Eleni have left us this term. The impact they have had on our students has been so positive and we wish them success in their future endeavours. We look forward to welcoming back staff as well. Ms Allen (formerly Miss Lago), Mrs Chona, Miss Orro and Mrs Cooper will all be returning to Palmerston District Primary School next term. We also look forward to Mrs Smith's return. The school is definitely not the same without her.

I would like to express my thanks and gratitude to our whole school community. I tried to express this at our staff meeting on Tuesday, but the tears got in the way, and in many ways thank you does not seem to suffice. I have felt so supported and loved this term and am extremely grateful to be have been able to lead our school community this term. We have some challenging situations and have navigated them successfully. I have had many people come to me over the past couple of weeks to share their positive feedback. However, I could not have done what I have done this term, without the amazing people around me. Across all levels of our school staff supported each other to manage waters we have never swam in before. Our staff are unlike any other I have worked with before, truly a sensational team. Our students, our resilient and strong students, came to school each and every day and did the best they could. They continued to smile. They continued to learn and they continued to play. Finally, I would like to acknowledge the care and positivity of our parents and carers. I appreciate you all so much and the support you have provided.

I am sincerely hoping that all our whole school community enjoys a well deserved break. Take time to rest, breathe and reset.

Marijana Pasalic

A/g Principal

Deputy Principal



Dear parents and carers,



Last newsletter I mentioned that we have two wonderful occupational therapy students in our school. Below is a message from them. Thank you for your support this term and I look forward to seeing you all in term 3

Loose Parts Play

Over the past 5 weeks we have been learning about how the students at Palmerston like to play and what they want from their playground. We did this by observing students in the playground, conducting a survey, and running workshops.

We found that the students are active, playful, and creative, with majority of students wanting more play materials that they can physically engage with. We took on this feedback and over the school holidays will be implementing a loose parts play area. Loose parts play develops social, creative, and cognitive thinking skills by allowing the children to experiment using their imagination.

We aim to have this space available in the playground in week one for all students to use. It will contain a variety of materials, including tires, pipe, milk crates etc. that they students can build and play with.

Emily and Janet

Occupational Therapy students from the University of Canberra

Emma Campbell

Deputy Prinicipal

A/g Deputy Principal

Preservice Teachers - The Power of a Healthy Palmy Forest

Mark Grant, CEO of the Australian Institute of Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) advocates for the importance in *“ensuring that all 4 million Australian school students experience quality teaching in every classroom, every day, no matter where they are located as critical to Australia’s success. This starts with the beginning of the teaching journey, and an important part of that is quality placement experiences for pre-service teachers whether in metro, regional, or remote areas.*

What we find is that the pre-service teachers who immerse themselves in the school and local community, who learn about the culture and foster strong working relationships, enjoy a much more positive placement experience. The students they teach benefit from this too. The school community's experience of the placement is just as important as the pre-service teacher's learning experience".

At Palmerston District Primary School, we validate and support this messaging by working very closely with Universities across eastern Australia to host and mentor Preservice Teachers to become high quality Graduates. Our goal, along with the Coaching and Mentoring Framework and the New Educator Support program is to build a culture of support and development where our experienced teachers nurture the next generation of teachers. We are so proud of our mentors and the support and guidance they provide to co-plan, co-teach and co-reflect on their teaching practice. This term, I have been able to see wonderful professional practice and engagement from our current Preservice Teachers. I have observed strong collaborative partnerships between mentors, teaching teams and preservice teachers and supportive student/teacher relationships. Thank you to our wonderful mentors and to our preservice teachers. Our school benefits from the experience as much as our preservice teachers.

A Message of Thanks and Appreciation

I would like to extend a warm appreciation and thanks to the community for their continued support, partnership and collaboration this term. In this position, I have been fortunate to meet many parents and carers. Thank you for reaching out to me and introducing yourself. Since starting here in January, I have been able to connect with many parents and carers within our community to support our young people in being successful here at school. In my leadership role, I work with teachers, students and families to ensure active engagement and participation by our students in their learning. Sometimes this can be complex and challenging, however our core goal is that both our teachers and students are successful. Whilst acting in the Deputy position, I have been able to extend this very important work across the school, allowing me to meet many more of you. Thank you for your openness, communication and your support. Please enjoy a wonderful break if you can with your children. I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank the wonderful teachers, administration and learning support staff, building support staff and executive teachers in the continued professional, collegial and tireless approach to their work. All contributors to our healthy Palmy Forest!

Trish Foster

Deputy Principal A/g

Jeremy Hickson on 3B, Olivia Skein on 3G, Kayla Forrest on 1R

Pride Awards

PARTICIPATION

Matea - 4O, Finlay - 4G, Arya - 5O, Naeva - 5O, Htat - 6Y, Amelia - 6R, Saad - 6R, Caleb - 3G, Amirali - 3R, Nick - 3R, Ryan - 1R

Quinn - 1R, Stevi - 1O, Emre - 2G, Participation - 1B, Ethan - 1B

RESPECT

Natasha - 4R, Max - 1Y, Isabel Mary - 2G, Felicity - 2I

INTEGRITY

Jamie - 5G, Miley - 5Y, Ojas - 6Y, Kimia - 6O, Imogen - 2I

DETERMINATION

Yuchen - 5R, Alyce - 4Y, Lincoln - 4Y, Maki - 4O, Thomas - 5G, Niansh - 5Y, Delaney - 3G, Payton - 6O, Louis - 3Y

Elijah - 3R, Arielle - 3R, Caitlyn - 3Y, Reyanash - 1R, Quinn - 1R, Thomas - 1Y, Malcolm - 2B, Yazan - 1O, Liam - 1V

EMPATHY

Alex - 4R, Chimezie - 5R, Ryan - 4G

Key Dates

1st July - Last Day of Term 2

2nd August - August Senior Athletics
Carnival (years 3-6 incl. competing year 2
students turning 8 yrs in 2022)

18th July - First Day of Term 3

8th August - August Junior Athletics
Carnival (P-2)

Library News

Library Borrowing

Dear Families, we are so excited to be able to reopen the Library (at least partially) next term.

For K-2 students the Library, will be open on Monday and Friday (first half of lunch)
1.00-1.25pm and for the Seniors again on Monday and Friday (first half of lunch)
11.30-11.50am.

This will be a time for returning and borrowing only. Quiet borrowing will be held in the Library until our new buildings arrive when we will reassess based on our timetable.

In Term 3, a number of clubs will be operating at lunchtime for students who prefer a different play space and these will be advertised to teachers and students early next term.

Chief Ministers Reading Challenge

Chief Ministers Reading Challenge

Are you looking for a challenge for your child/ren over the school break? Why not consider encouraging them to complete the Chief Minister's Reading Challenge? The Chief Minister's Reading Challenge encourages students to read 30 books between the 19th February and 19th August, 2022. Each book that is read is recorded and the record sheet is returned to our teacher-librarian before the 19th August, 2022. Books recorded can either be read by students or read to them. For more information please visit the CMRC website: https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/additional-programs/chief_ministers_reading_challenge/how-to-meet-the-challenge

New Books

I am excited to see some of the new books flowing into the library ready for next term. Below is a selection of some of the books hitting the shelves.

Here is a preview of the latest books to arrive in the library (insert photo) .

The Glitter Dragon series: A series following the adventures of a group of girls as they discover the magical power to transform into a dragon.

Narwhal and Jelly: a graphic novel that follows the unlikely friendship between a narwhal and a jellyfish.

The Aquanaut: a graphic novel for readers in Year 4 and above. The Aquanaut is the story of a group of sea creatures and their friendship and a young girl trying to find her place in the world.

Sports News

Rugby Fun!!!!

Our Club Connect program with Gungahlin Eagles and ACT Brumbies this term saw a group of year 5/6 students learn new skills and have a heap of fun in the game of Rugby. Term 3 will invite students from years 3 and 4 to come and have a go. No experience is required, this is a come and try program with qualified coaches at no expense to families. If your child is interested please register your interest by emailing Natalie.edwards@ed.act.edu.au if you haven't already. Term 4 will invite K-2 students to participate. There are still spaces available for both groups. More info will be emailed to interested families. Please do not enquire at front office as all enquiries need to go to Natalie Edwards via email.

School House T-shirts

School House T-shirts are now available through Even Playing Field. Please order through the website

<https://evenplayingfield.com.au/products/palmerston-district-primary-house-tshirts>

Natalie Edwards

HPE Specialist

Natalie.edwards@ed.act.edu.au

5/2
12/3

Cultural Integrity at Palmerston

P&C/Board News

School Uniform Shop

Second hand uniforms can be ordered through the My School Connect App under Uniform Shop.

The school is asking for any small (size 4-8) donations of pants, skirts, undies etc to be used in our first aid room. If you could please drop them to the front office. If your child has come home with borrowed school clothes can you please wash and return them.

Canteen News

The canteen is operated by Healthy-Kids Association.

The canteen is open for online orders Tuesday to Friday

Counter sales are available for recess snacks, drinks & ice blocks.

Your student can order via **myschoolconnect.com.au**

Interesting items such as honey soy chicken, pasta bolognaise, salads, muffins, and lots more are available.

Additional Information

RAT TESTS

The ACT Education Directorate will no longer be asking schools to distribute two RAT's per week to students. Instead from the commencement of week 9, RATS will be provided on an as needed basis for all students in ACT schools. Schools will hold a supply of RATS that can be sent home with students at the request of a parent/carer (2 per student) if required or can be collected from the Front Office between 8.30am to 3.30pm.

In the event that you require RAT tests please email info_palmops@ed.act.edu.au stating:

Child's name

Class

RAT tests will then be given to your child to bring home and a confirmation email sent to you that this has occurred. If students are not attending school when requesting tests, or are subject to isolation or quarantine requirements, families can make alternative arrangements to collect RATs through a relative, neighbour or other student.

If you have any queries please feel free to contact the Front Office on 61421440.

Rapid-Antigen-Tests, Symptoms, When to get tested

Defence News

Term 2 done and dusted. Thank you to all our families who had been so resilient during this term of many ups and downs. I am very proud to work with the incredible defence students who have shown they can handle whatever life throws at them. They truly are amazing and deserve a well-earned break.

If you are planning on going to the snow during the school holidays, Duntroon Community Centre have snow gear for hire if you are needing to borrow anything.

Information in the flyer attached.

Term 3

I will be hosting a **morning tea** at school in week 3 on **Wednesday 3rd of August at 9am to 10am**. This will be our first chance to get together and meet other defence families within our school community. The Defence Education Liaison Officer will be joining us and happy to answer any of your question. Can you please **RSVP** with any dietary requirements by the **20th of July**.

I look forward to catching up with you.

I hope you all have a wonderful school holiday break.

Kristle Cross | Defence School Mentor

Community Connections

FUN WITH FRIENDS OLD AND NEW THESE WINTER HOLIDAYS!

Communities at Work Winter School Holiday Programs are open for bookings. The Daily Highlights (program calendars) with a list of activities for each program location will be available in early June on their website, but bookings can already be made!

The programs will be running weekdays from 4 July to 15 July 2022 (inclusive) from 7.30 am to 6 pm, with qualified and dedicated educators providing a nurturing and entertaining environment. Children will enjoy a variety of excursions, incursions and fun activities that will encourage lots of fun with friends, old and new, and guarantee a new adventure every

day!

Communities at Work continue to ensure the safety of your child is paramount with increased hygiene and cleaning protocols, guided by the latest advice from the ACT Government and ACT Health.

Visit www.commsatwork.org/shp for more information about the upcoming school holiday programs, locations in Canberra, activities in store, and to make a booking.

Enrol now

1st round of Enrolments for 2022 has now closed, however enrolments are still open for 2nd round.

Every ACT public school is a great school, and if Palmerston District Primary School is your local priority enrolment area (PEA) school your child is guaranteed a Kindergarten to Year Six place here.

Your best source of information for enrolling is the Education Directorate website education.act.gov.au or the Enrolments Telephone Service (02) 6205 5429. You can also contact us about enrolments directly by emailing PalmerstonPS.Enrolments@ed.act.edu.au

Preschool

Every four-year-old is guaranteed 15 hours of preschool

Enrolment timeline for 2023 [2023-enrolments-timeline-public.pdf \(act.gov.au\)](#)

Contact Us

You can contact our school using our details below.

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