



# Palmerston Post

Issue 3 - Term 2 2021

Palmerston District Primary School  
acknowledges the Ngunnawal People, the  
traditional owners and custodians of this land.

## Principal Message



Hello families,

As we approach winter, we are noticing many cooler mornings, yet benefitting mostly from lovely sunshine as well. As of next week, sun hats are no longer needed across the winter term, why not purchase a fabulously warm PDPS beanie from the front office for only \$5! They are scrumptiously warm!

### **Farewell to Ms Veronica Rapp**

Today we farewell Veronica from the Preschool, Veronica joined us last year, and is a dedicated, passionate advocate for early childhood. We thank Veronica for all she has done here at Palmerston and wish her well in her new school in Tuggeranong. Veronica's classes will be taken over by current preschool teachers Yukari and Laurie.

## Reconciliation Week

This week we started off with a very special visitor to our school to Welcome us to Country – Auntie Violet Sheridan, who as a local Ngunnawal Elder, is also the Nana of our very own Emerson in Yr 6. Across this week and next, classes are focussing on the year's reconciliation theme, 'More than a word. Reconciliation takes action'. At Palmerston we are actioning through learning truths and making steps towards reconciliation. I would like to thank especially Ms Christina Starr who is leading the way for our staff and students.

## eSafety

Yesterday, Nic Aguis, Assistant Director of eSafety from our Directorate spent the day workshopping with our Yr 5 and 6 students about awareness and awakening of responsibilities of using online apps in a responsible and lawful manner. There were many 'aha' moments as students learnt about the age (13+) you need to be to actually be using some apps, such as Snapchat and Instagram – a commonly used app. Teachers and students both declaring her sessions to be very informative. Nic continued to stay on for two parent workshops into the evening and I deeply thank the 15 parents who attended, they found the sessions informative and were glad they attended. I would like to make Nic's presentations a regular occurrence at Palmerston to keep you abreast of vital information, so please book in when they are advertised.

Some valuable links for you to look at are:

[www.esafety.gov.au/parents](http://www.esafety.gov.au/parents) and a great free app to download to help with information around apps is Beacon.

A reminder to parents with children who bring phones to school, they are to be dropped into the Front Office each morning upon arrival and collected at the end of the day.

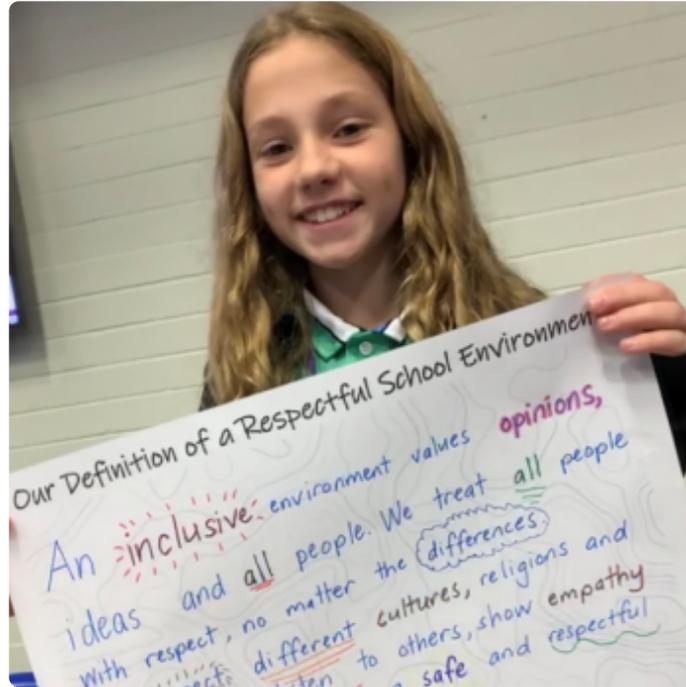
## Carpark

I am receiving written complaints from parents about cars that are being parked and left in the Drop Off Zone regularly. Parents, please consider each other and how the behaviour of a few parents can affect many. If everyone was to respect the flow of the carpark, and not park in the Drop Off Zones, everyone would have a smoother and happier afternoon.

## Student Voice

At Palmerston we are proud of our students, their initiatives, their leadership. We have Yr 5 working with Preschoolers, we have senior students from Defence families assisting junior students from Defence families, we have young helping the younger, students who run the lunch time Sport Equipment borrowing shed and coming up with ideas for lunch time clubs. Today, two of our Yr 6 Leaders attended a system wide Student Leadership Forum with Ms Pasalic. We are very keen to hear what they have learnt by listening to the adult leaders of Congress, and working with other students from all other schools in the ACT. Our students make us very proud!

***Kate Smith***



## Deputy Principal Message



### Marijana Pasalic - Deputy Principal: Inclusion, Diversity and Wellbeing

This week our school is acknowledging and celebrating National Reconciliation Week (NRW) and the ongoing contribution of Indigenous people in our community. This year the theme for NRW is 'More than a word. Reconciliation takes action'. The theme is calling to us all to take greater steps towards meaningful reconciliation, to be brave and to be active in forging stronger, deeper relationships with our Indigenous neighbours and community members. We all have a role to play and no action is too small or too insignificant.

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey— the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision respectively.

27 May 1967 On this day, Australia's most successful referendum saw more than 90 per cent of Australians vote to give the Australian Government power to make laws for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and recognise them in the Census.

3 June 1992 On this day, the Australian High Court delivered the Mabo decision, the culmination of Eddie Koiki Mabo's challenge to the legal fiction of 'terra nullius' (land belonging to no one) and leading to the legal recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of lands. This decision paved the way for Native Title.

Reconciliation must live in the hearts, minds and actions of all Australians as we move forward, creating a nation strengthened by respectful relationships between the wider Australian community, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. (taken from - <https://nrw.reconciliation.org.au/about-nrw/>).

This week as part of NRW we are taking action to highlight all of the ways we can take action as a community. Mrs Starr has been integral to making this happen. She has organised and coordinated several whole school activities as part of NRW. These include;

- Welcome to Country ceremony by Aunty Violet Sheridan
- Daily sharing of Welcome to Country by students
- Meaningful classroom discussions about NRW, Indigenous culture and national Sorry Day (May 26)
- Rockin' reconciliation concert – hosted by students, showcasing learning and featuring performances by

Year 3 and 4 students

- Yuin mob dance led by Rebecca Ashmore (a parent volunteer – Thank you!)
- Sharing of poetry and literature
- Coding experiences at lunch time
- Art activities

However, our work does not begin and end during NRW. We are constantly striving to strengthen our relationships with Indigenous people, to provide an avenue for authentic experiences and share engaging learning experiences. Mrs Starr has been working hard in this space too. As the Cultural Integrity teacher across Kindergarten, Year One and Year Two she has done an exceptional job so far in bringing experiences to our students that they otherwise would not have access to. She has a deep appreciation for all that Indigenous people and culture bring to our school. Our students are very lucky to have her. In saying that, there are many ways that we, as a whole community, can acknowledge NRW. These include (and more can be found using this link <https://nrw.reconciliation.org.au/actions-for-reconciliation/>);

- Buying from Indigenous businesses
- Take time to learn about local Indigenous languages
- Caring for country
- Learn about the history of First Nations people and Native Title in Australia
- When talking about the history of Australia, always include the participation and presence of First nations people

Together we can make a difference. Be brave. We can affect change in a real way – #morethanaword.

***Marijana Pasalic***

# Miss Singh and the IEC class with Aunty Violet as part of our language learning about Australia



# Helen Cox - Deputy Principal: Achievement and Potential



## ACT Student Reporting

Towards the end of this term, student reports will go home to families. ACT public schools use the appropriate reporting template on the Schools Administrative System (SAS) to report on student achievement. Students from Year 1 – 10 will receive an A – E graded report for each subject studied; Kindergarten students will receive a report without overall grades per learning area; a descriptive scale will be used instead. Assessment and reporting practices for students in ACT public schools are aligned to the Achievement Standards of the Australian Curriculum. The Achievement Standards describe the knowledge, skills, and understandings a student is expected to learn in each subject for their year level.

For students in Years 1-10, the following A-E descriptors will appear on the report:

- A** demonstrating outstanding achievement of the  
- standard
- B** demonstrating high achievement of the standard  
-
- C - demonstrating achievement at the standard**
- D** - demonstrating partial achievement of the standard
- E** - demonstrating limited achievement of the standard

When a student receives a 'C' grade, it means they have demonstrated the quality of learning described in the Achievement Standard, based on the content studied in the reporting period. If a student receives a 'C' in both

Semester 1 and 2 reports, it indicates that the student has made progress, and learned new knowledge and skills based on the new and more challenging material studied.

Teachers also write comments for English and Mathematics on the reports to provide additional information about a student's strengths and indicate areas for development and strategies for improvement. A General Comment is also provided to enable teachers to discuss other areas of the curriculum, areas of interest e.g. clubs, band and to personalise the report for each child.

A Status Grade ('S') grade is applied in situations where the classroom teacher has been unable to obtain sufficient evidence of a student's academic achievement against the relevant Achievement Standard for a variety of reasons e.g. extended absence caused by illness or injury. It is a school-based decision to award an 'S' grade on a case-by-case basis.

And, occasionally, a 'P' Identifier ('P') is used when a student is receiving a tailored or personalised learning program due to significant learning needs or disability diagnosis. It is applicable where a significant amount of a student's learning is drawn from one or more Achievement Standard sentences below the student's academic year for the purposes of academic reporting. There is consultation with the Principal because they must ensure there is appropriate oversight and accountability measures in place to ensure that the 'P' identifier is applied appropriately.

*Helen Cox*

## Enrolments are now open for 2022

<https://actedu.sharepoint.com/:i:/r/sites/Intranet-Education/Shared Documents/20210420 - SB - W1N21 - Social media tile - primary school.jpg?csf=1&web=1&e=iwaZmh>

Enrolments are now open **(for use from 27 April 2021)**

Enrolments for the 2022 school year are now open. Enrol by 4 June to receive an offer of enrolment from 26 July.

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](http://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](mailto:PalmerstonPS.Enrolments@ed.act.edu.au)

Additional message – Preschool

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

Enrol for Preschool in 2022 if your child turns four on or before 30 April 2022

<https://actedu.sharepoint.com/:b:/r/sites/Intranet-Education/Shared Documents/20210420 - SB - W1N21 - Information sessions - students with disability - flyer.pdf?csf=1&web=1&e=VSmeFI>

Information sessions - students with disability

Did you know information sessions for students with disability are being held in May? Come along to learn about enrolment options and support for school transition.

You'll also hear about a range of programs and supports provided across all ACT public schools.

There are sessions for preschool to primary, primary to high school and high school to college. To register and learn more visit [www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/enrolling-in-a-public-school/school-information-sessions](http://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/enrolling-in-a-public-school/school-information-sessions)

## Heating of Student Lunches

As the cooler months are approaching, it is understandable that you might like your children to have hot food at lunch time. Due to Directorate guide lines we are unable to heat students lunches. However, you are able to send your child's food in insulated food or beverage

containers.

## Palmerston Well Being Website

### Parent Workshop on Anxiety

We are excited to offer a parent information workshop about anxiety. It will cover what anxiety is, what are some of the signs of an anxious child and most importantly – what can you do as a parent to support your child.

Anxiety is a normal human emotion and experience. In fact it can be beneficial. However, there are times anxiety can become overwhelming and impact on daily living.

This workshop, facilitated by Michelle Brayshaw (Registered Nurse and Student Social Worker) and Yvonne McLauchlan (Social Worker) will run on Thursday 10 June (Week 8) at 9:15am-11:00am and 5:30pm-7:15pm, located in the staffroom.

To express interest please email [Yvonne.mclauchlan@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Yvonne.mclauchlan@ed.act.edu.au) indicating your preferred time. Please also direct any questions or queries to Yvonne on this email address.

### Palmerston Well Being Community Hub

<https://sites.google.com/ed.act.edu.au/palmerston-community-well-bein/home>

### Instantly translate this newsletter to 100+ languages

With our Google Translation integration, you can access your newsletter in ANY language!

OR

Download the skoolbag multi-language App: SKB: Multi-language in the App Store



# Classroom Connections

## P & C/Board News

### Second Hand Uniform Shop

The P&C operates a second hand uniform shop in the school hall foyer.

Please check in using the CBR app or sign the visitors register before making your way to the shop.

Opening times:

Tuesday 2:45pm-3:15pm

Friday 8:45am-9:15am

Donations of uniform items are always welcome and can be left at the front office.

Further enquiries, contact Kate Baron on 0404 675 508

**We are in need of any small children's undies and pants/leggings. Please bring any donations to the front office. If your child has borrowed any clothing from the front office, please wash and return.**

Thank you

### Book Club

Scholastic book club will be online only. There will be no hardcopies available. Please order and pay online through LOOP.

No cash will be accepted at the school.



# Book Club LOOP

## for Parents

**LOOP** is the Scholastic Book Club  
**Linked Online Ordering & Payment** platform for parents.

To order and pay for Scholastic Book Club by credit card visit:

**[www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP](http://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP)**



## Pride Awards



Congratulations to the following students who received a PRIDE Award at assembly.

**PARTICIPATION** – becoming involved, “having a go” and cooperating with others

Thomas - 6JD Tony - 6JD Marijana - 4LC Madison - 5AK  
Umar - 5AK

Sopiato - 5DS Olivia - 5MB Reign - 5MH

**RESPECT** - having respect for self, others and their property

Rohan - 3JL Sienna - 6JD Jordan - 6CT Olivia - 4LC

Brandon - 6RT Anh - 6RT Htat Htat - 5MH

**INTEGRITY** - being honest, fair, responsible and loyal

Joel - 3MR Kunwar - 5DS

**DETERMINATION** - being persistent and resilient

Carter - 3AS Isabel - 4MG Cooper- 4HT Binta - 6CT Ava - 3MR

Snehdeep - 4LC Anne - 4HT Violet - 4LC Olivia - 4LC Lucy 3MC

Kobe - 5MB

**EMPATHY** - understanding and supporting others regardless of our differences

Cianna - 3AS Skyler - 3JL Naeva - 4MG Chase - 3MC



## Dates to Remember

31st May	Public Holiday
4th June	Wiradjuri Echoes Incursion
11th June	Dance Nation
14th June	Public Holiday

# Defence News

## Parent/Carer Information

### Community Connections

**CANBERRA WE ARE HERE FOR YOU**

**FREE telephone counselling sessions Monday to Friday 9am-5pm**

Sessions via Zoom or Skype  
Limited availability for FREE face-to-face counselling sessions

Sadly our groups and evening are temporarily suspended

**Contact us for a FREE confidential chat**

**6287 3833** **parent**

[parentline@parentlineact.org.au](mailto:parentline@parentlineact.org.au)



# Palmerston District Primary School

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Government  

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Education