



Palmerston District Primary School Newsletter Issue 18

Principal



Our final newsletter for 2022! It is always a time to celebrate all the terrific learning that has occurred, the friendships that have been made, and connections that grow across the year between students and staff.

It is also a very sad time to farewell treasured staff as they move on from Palmerston. Some are transferring to another school, some are heading interstate and some are temporarily away to have their baby.

Every staff member below has added incredible strength to the community spirit and vibe of this school. Their dedication, love for teaching, intellect, pastoral care and sense of fun will be greatly, greatly missed. The memories they leave will be cherished by us for a very long time.

We say adieu to the following staff leaving Palmerston this year:

Mr CJ Shaw – Music teacher

Mrs Peta-Gai Faulkner - Kindy

Ms Jess Lago – Yr 4

Ms Bronwyn Singh – EAL/D

Ms Annika Presser-King – Yr 5

Ms Millie Butt – Yr 5

Mrs Faeza Samnakay - Yr3-6

Mrs Laura Wilson – preschool

Ms Jemima Moore – Yr 3 – maternity leave

Ms Georgia Morrison – SGP – maternity leave

Ms Kath Neilson – Yr 6

Ms Kat Stella – maternity leave

Mr Andrew Rice – LSA – SGP

Ms Maree Ooi – LSA – SGP

Mr Will Rice – LSA – preschool

We also acknowledge that Ms Leah Brideson, a Directorate Cultural Inclusion Officer has finished up her year's allocation with us.

We welcome some new staff members as well, and feel excited to have them join our staff..

Ms Kayla Forrest

Ms Veronica Manns

Mr Jacob Downey

Ms Gosia Citowicki

Ms Sophie Pages-Oliver

Mrs Amy Lewis

Mrs Hyi Syim Tee

Ms Courtney Bacon

Ms Mae Keown

STEP UP DAY:

Next week, you will receive information about Step Up Day. You will receive an email stating your child's 2023 teacher and the Pod they will be in. On the morning all students will go to their new Pod (after the roll is marked) and new class lists will be read out and classes will go with their new teacher for the morning. Some brand new teachers will be joining us. We are awaiting a few more teachers to fill all of our classes for 2023. For new teachers who are currently interstate or not able to join us – they will send along a video of introduction to the class and one of our departing teachers will complete the activity on the new teachers behalf.

BOOK PACKS:

As with many things in our world, there is a delay in getting book pack orders to you. As soon as the company gets back to us, an email with a link will be sent to you so that you can proceed to order your child's book pack. We strongly urge you to purchase this pack as teachers have selected carefully what items your child will need. In 2023, we will continue our focus on Wellbeing and also with Reading – we are excited to add into the book pack, a Wellbeing Journey, please see photos, for Yrs 1-5. Inside every page is a reading log that will assist your child's reading goals. Our Yr 6 students will have a Student Diary, to assist them in preparing for High School, with quality wellbeing prompts

and activities as well. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have financial hardships, as there are ways we can help.

THANK YOU

A final but massive thank you to members of our P&C and School Board. To Kate Baron – you are incredible and we thank you for your drive and commitment to the P&C for many years and this year as President. Thank you to Mr Vikram Kulkarni for supporting us as Board Chair – we have some tremendous events to look forward to it 2023 – including School Review in term 1.

To my incredible, resilient, powerful, dedicated, inspiring staff – thank you for everything you do on a daily basis and for all of the passion you give to Palmerston District Primary School.

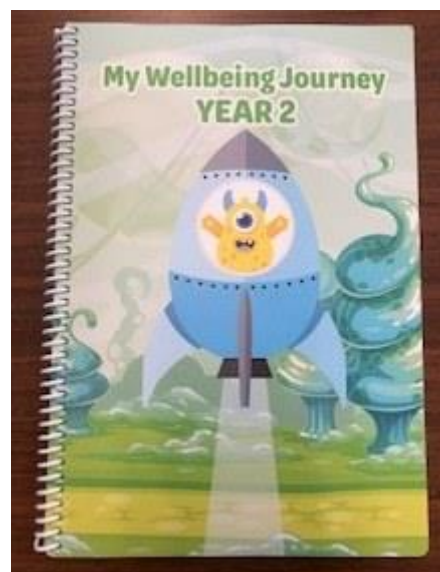
Farewell to our Yr 6 students, and all the very best for High School – you are about to embark on a great next chapter. Farewell to students leaving our school for other reasons, we hope the next chapter of your learning journey is a positive one for all.

I wish for all families a safe holiday, a wonderful Christmas and a healthy start to 2023.

Regards,

Kate Smith

Principal



Pride Awards



PARTICIPATION

Sam - 2B

RESPECT

Akshitha - 2V Ethan - 3V Jaskaranjit - 6Y Ava - 6Y

INTEGRITY

Eli - 1O Alex - 3B Anna - 3B Dev - 4R

DETERMINATION

Sadie - 1B Erica - 1B Damien - 2G Raymon - 2G Caleb - 3G Elaff - 6R Emily - 6R Zoe - 4R

EMPATHY

Evelyn - 1O Leo - 3V Theo - 3B Hunter - 3G Kingston - 2B

End of Year Singing Celebration

'On the 8th of December Palmerston District Primary School will host a Christmas Singing Celebration on the School Oval from 5pm to 6:30 pm.

Families are encouraged to come along with a picnic and a blanket and enjoy performances from every year level. All children P-6 are encouraged to wear Christmas colours.

Students have been practicing their songs for the big event and look forward to seeing you there!'



Key Dates



5th-9th Dec - **Yr 2 Aqua Safe Program**

6th Dec - **Start of the week Preschool Step Up Morning**

7th Dec - **Preschool 2023 Welcome Evening 5.30-6.30pm**

8th Dec - **Preschool end of week step up day / Christmas Concert/End of year celebration 5-6.30pm**

12th Dec - **K-5 Step Up Morning**

13th Dec - **K-5 Awards Ceremony 10-11am - Parents of Award Recipients will be notified by class teachers.**

- **Palmy's Got Talent Finals 1.45-3pm (K-2 followed by 3-6 students) – Parents of performing students welcome to view in the Hall**

13th Dec - **K-5 Awards Ceremony 10-11am / Palmy's Got Talent K-2 (1.45-2.15) 3-6 (2.15-3pm)**

14th Dec - **Yr 6 Fun Day at King Pin**

15th Dec - **Yr 6 Graduation Ceremony 9.15-11am**

16th Dec - **Santa Hat day / Yr 6 Farewell Tunnel / Last Day of Term 4 2022!**

Market Day

To our wonderful Palmerston Community, Many thanks for your support to raise **\$7787** for our school!!! This money will be used for the hire of the buses to get our Year 6s to their FUNDAY in Week 10 and invest in the beautification of our school grounds.

Library News

Overdue Books

In coming days student overdue book notices will be handed out to students. Could you please work with your child/ren to locate overdue books and return them to the library?

If your child receives an overdue notice for a book you believe has been returned, please write a message stating it has been returned on the notice and return the notice to school. Library staff will then check the shelves in the library for the book.

Rebecca Cameron

Teacher-Librarian

P&C/Board News

School Uniform Shop

The P&C will be setting up a table with second hand uniforms at the Xmas carols / end of year singing evening next Thursday 8th Dec. Items will be on sale for a gold coin donation.

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 will cease operation for the year on Friday week 9 (9th Dec)

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 bolognese, salads, muffins, and lots more are available.



Additional Information

Mathletics

Recently you would have received a note for your child to participate in the online Maths program called Mathletics. Students who have returned the note have now been given by their classroom teacher a login and password and are able to begin using this tool to support their learning. Students are able to use this program at home. Ask your child if they know their password or contact your child's teacher for it. Have a look at this video to see the functionality of it from a child's perspective. <https://fast.wistia.net/embed/iframe/kvotn0qidw>

If you haven't returned the note yet it is not too late as we are adding students continually to use the program.

Supporting an anxious child video series for families

In support of Mental Health Month, the Directorate has produced a short video series to help families support their child if they are feeling anxious. The three videos are presented by one of our senior psychologists. They cover understanding and responding to a child's anxiety and tips about supporting a child when they're feeling anxious.

They are available now on the ACT Education website at Wellbeing Support Resources for students and families¹.

RAT TESTS

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_palmdps@ed.act.edu.au² stating:

Child's name

¹<https://www.education.act.gov.au/support-for-our-students/wellbeing-support-resources-for-students-and-families/> nocache

²mailto:info_palmdps@ed.act.edu.au

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.

As we experience new waves of the virus in our community, we need to remember to stay COVID Smart not only in the community but also at school.

For the latest advice, watch the ACT COVID-19 update (November 2022)³ from Chief Health Officer, Kerryn Coleman.

If your child has COVID-19, you must keep them at home and let the school know. Telling us when your child has COVID-19 will also help us track if there is an increase in COVID-19 transmission at school and manage any high-risk exposures for our more vulnerable school community members.

Kindergarten Catch Up appointment

Appointments are held in the City Health Centre, Level 2, 1 Moore Street, Canberra City, and are available from ***Friday 9th December until Friday December 16th.***

Parents can call ***Central Health Intake on 5124 9977*** to make this appointment. When there is a queue, they offer a call back service. Parents may choose this option to retain their spot in the queue and receive a call back in turn.

Defence News



³<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1055248215170927>

Defence activities week 6-8:

All year groups had the opportunity to explore one of the memorial boxes from the Australian War Memorial. I have had great feedback from classroom teachers on the experience. The students had fun exploring and learning about the artefacts in the box. This activity was also run at the beginning of the year in our defence lunch time clubs and as a hit, I was glad to be able to share it with the whole school now.

As the school year is coming to an end very quickly I am planning to host an end of year Christmas party for our lovely defence students. Week 10 is already packed full of celebrations so I will host the party in week 9 during defence club times. We will be enjoying games and Christmas crafts along with some popcorn and juice. If you do not wish for your child to have popcorn or juice please let me know so I do not offer them any.

Senior students 3-6 Thursday 8th 11:30-12pm

Junior students K-2 Friday 9th 11-11:30am

Looking forward to celebrating the end of year with them.

I would like to extend a big THANK YOU to our defence families and especially the students. You all make this a fun and rewarding position for myself at school. It has not been the smoothest 3 years, there always seems to be something we are navigating around. Everyone has shown resilience, flexibility and creativity in the program and I am very grateful to work with such a fantastic bunch.

I wish everyone a very happy and safe holiday season. For those starting in new location, all the best in your new adventures and for those staying at Palmerston I look forward to working with you all next year.

Kristle Cross | Defence School Mentor

Kristle.Cross@ed.act.edu.au⁴

⁴<mailto:Kristle.Cross@ed.act.edu.au>

Community Connections



Catch Palmerston Music Teacher, Mr (CJ) Shaw performing at the prestigious Street Theatre on Saturday December 3rd.

CJ will be performing a special matinee performance of his album 'All Sorts' as well as some of his classroom classics.

Family packages are available.

Tickets are limited so head over to the website

<https://www.thestreet.org.au/shows/cj-shaw-all-sorts>

Further information can be found at **transportnsw.info/travel-info/using-public-transport/school-travel**

Enquiries can be submitted at **transportnsw.info/contact-us/feedback/passes-concessions-feedback**



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HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS™



The next Holiday Happenings edition is now available online.

To see the *Programs, Activities & Events* happening these holidays go to:

www.holidayhappenings.com.au/online-booklet



Chilada

School Uniform Sale Coming soon

When: 1st -31 Dec 2022

Deal: 20% Off

**Shop: Chilada Gungahlin
Chilada Majura**

www.chilada.com.au





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](https://www.education.act.gov.au/)⁵ or the Enrolments Telephone Service (02) 6205 5429. You can also contact us about enrolments directly by emailing PalmerstonPS.Enrolments@ed.act.edu.au⁶

⁵<https://www.education.act.gov.au/>

Preschool

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

Enrolment timeline for 2023 [2023-enrolments-timeline-public.pdf \(act.gov.au\)](#)⁷

Contact Us

You can contact our school using our details below.

Palmerston District Primary School

80 Kosciuszko Ave

Palmerston, ACT

6142 1440

info_palmdps@ed.act.edu.au⁸

Visit us on the web at www.palmdps.act.edu.au⁹



⁶<mailto:PalmerstonPS.Enrolments@ed.act.edu.au>

⁷https://www.education.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/1743489/2023-enrolments-timeline-public.pdf

⁸mailto:info_palmdps@ed.act.edu.au

⁹<https://www.palmdps.act.edu.au/>