



Palmerston District Primary School Newsletter Issue 6 2023

Principal



Hello families,

I declare this year has seriously been the quickest year on record. It is amazing to be at the middle of our year of learning in 2023.

Thank you to everyone for the flexibility shown when teachers have been absent, when LSA"s have been absent, to my amazing staff who are acting in promotion positions while key staff have taken up temporary positions. Thank you to the Kindergarten team and Kindergarten families for adjusting to a new class regime – I greatly appreciate that change can be tricky, however, everything seems to be working out very well.

GRADUATE PROFILE AND SHAPING THE FUTURE

Firstly, I would like to thank the families who jumped in and gave incredible responses to both the Graduate Profile and Shaping our Future – I was thrilled at the quality of responses. I experienced a range of emotions when reading them. The aspirations from families were highly motivational for me in working on our next five year plan. A sincere 'thank you' for being involved.

Where are we up to?

The Graduate Profile is about 75% completed – I have directly used many statements from parental feedback, as I could not add value to the meaning of the statements, the wording and sentiment being absolutely perfect. Synthesising all the information from every class, staff and parents was a mammoth task, but one that left us highly energised.

We will be moving towards getting this information graphically designed – if you have this experience and expertise and willing to help us, please contact me directly and we would love to bring you on board to steer some design – we have ideas, but we would love some direction.

New Values to replace PRIDE?

Overwhelmingly, there has been agreement to update our values and we right in the centre of what that might look like... early next term, we should be able to share our plan.

PARENT FEEDBACK

Thank you to the families who are making time to give feedback regarding playground concerns we have – knowing you value this communication and have a willingness to discuss this in homes, makes me feel highly supported. Thank you.

SEMESTER 2

We look forward to joining in together for the second semester of learning, doing and being at Palmerston. Some of the information gathered in feedback from families through the google doc, is giving the leadership team and myself new ideas for our Planning Days within the upcoming holidays.

Have a safe holiday, enjoy each other, I am travelling up north in the first week to my parents to spoil them and spend valuable time with them. I hope your family also has fun times ahead.

Thanks for your support in Semester One,

Kate Smith

Principal

Deputy Principal



As a child I was never anxious about receiving my report card. My little hands were never nervous to give the piece of paper to my parents. I was a hard worker and I loved all that school had to offer. I was the type of student who would skip to school and wave enthusiastically to mum who sat in the car at drop off. My parents had always instilled in me the importance of education and they valued highly what the teacher had to say. Recently, one lazy Saturday afternoon, I pulled out my Kindergarten report card. My, how things have changed over the past 20 years. This handwritten document from 1983 did not feature specific standards, not even a comment about the effort I was putting in each day. In fact, it really told my parents little about my achievements, my likes, my dislikes or funny things I could have said. However, it did have comments, such as "Marijana is benefiting from ESL classes", which would be great if my parents knew what an ESL (English as a Second Language) was. I felt a little pang of nostalgia thinking about 6 year old me, and my limited English skills. I would tell that little girl that everything was going to be ok. My English would improve and I would develop and sustain a life long love of learning.

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This week you would have received your child's report for semester one, they are just one of many ways we like to communicate with families about their children's learning. The report is a in depth summary of your child's progress over a period of time, and provides information about how your child is progressing against the achievement standards for each learning area, as outlined in the Australian Curriculum. Over the course of the first semester our staff have sat together to look at, and discuss, multiple sources of data including work samples, assessments and observations. This term our staff have also participated in professional learning opportunities regarding the assessment and reporting processes here at Palmerston District Primary School. These sessions have allowed us to collectively ensure that our processes and systems are consistent and accurate. Assessment and reporting has many benefits for our students and their families. They provide families with vital information, it affords families and teachers to work in partnership to support our students as they grow, it enhances the understanding of a child's social and emotional growth and the information assists in bringing clarity about the future direction for their child. Student reports also give an indication of the effort your child makes each day in the classroom. This is a key part of their engagement at school, and allows parents/carers to better understand their child's attitude towards learning.

Our booking system for interviews is now up and running. We would love to see as many parents/carers as possible embracing the opportunity to meet with their child's classroom teacher to share information about the learning behaviours and the progress made by each of our students. It will also provide teachers and staff with knowledge that will assist in best supporting the needs of each individual. Please be mindful that time allocated for each interview is ten minutes. If you require further time with your child's teacher, an additional meeting may need to be organised.

A thank you to the Year One staff who planned a wonderful excursion to Mulligan's Flat. The staff and students were excited about the day away from school and experienced, what could only be described as an outdoor learning extravaganza. This included a walk around the reserves, patting a shingle back lizard and using a camera to spy on possums in a tree hollow. This was part of their Term Two Inquiry unit, which focused on the concept of Diversity and the ever changing landscape of the Ngunnawal land.

Marijana Pasalic

Deputy Principal

Key Dates



23rd June

• P&C Disco / Reports Home

26th-29th June

• Parent/Teacher interviews

29th June

• Junior Assembly 9.15-10.15am

30th June

- 3-6 Senior Assembly 9.15-10.15am
- Last day of term 2

17th July

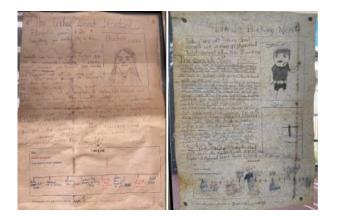
• First day of term 3

21st July

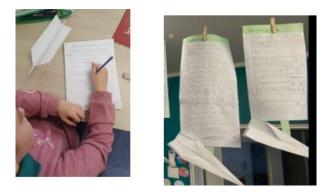
• P & C Trivia night - Gungahlin Lakes Club (tickets on sale soon)

Class Connections - Year 4

This term Year 4 has been focusing on a unit of work called 'Connections'. We have looked at connections between the Traditional Owners of the Land and the Early Convicts. We have researched the convict's lives and created a newspaper item about the convict.



In writing we have been working on narratives and procedures. In procedures we made paper aeroplanes and then wrote the steps to create it.



Our reading focus for week 7 and 8 was Questioning. 4Y practised generating 'thick' and 'thin' questions using a variety of picture books, and they read *The Rabbits* by John Marsden to develop a variety of 'I wonder' statements and questions, realising that the story links to our previous learning on Settlement.



For our inquiry 4 Indigo read The *Rabbits* by John Marsden. We analysed the imagery and vocabulary used in the book to create a tree artwork, where one side was the impact on the environment before colonisation and the other side highlighted the impact after the colonists came.



Sports News & Information

Thank you to ALL the students who got involved with Jump Rope for Heart!

A huge thank you for the effort skipping and fundraising for the Jump Rope for Heart program this term. Together we raised an incredible \$3341.00 and this money will all go towards vital heart research and education programs.

We've loved seeing so many smiling faces skipping on the playground and in sports lessons. Our Jump Off Day was lots of fun for everyone who had a go at showing off your new tricks to your classes.

Here's our school leader board, congratulations to our top fundraisers! Keep up the skipping and thanks again for the hard work!

- 1. Isabelle 2I
- 2. Hazel KB
- 3. Carter 5G
- 4. Archie KY
- 5. Jack 4G



ACT Cross Country

On Friday June 2nd, 51 students represented Palmerston at the North/Gungahlin Region Cross Country Carnival, held at Mt Stromlo. Congratulations to the following students who placed in their respective events and were selected for the North/Gungahlin Regional Team at the State Carnival on Thursday 15th June:

Jamie 6Y

Mohamed 4B

Eoghan 3Y

Netball

Students from Year 3-4 attended the Netball ACT Gala Days on Wednesday 21st June at Southwell Park, Lyneham. Thanks to Ms Hall and Ms Hulm for making this possible, running many training sessions during lunchtime and taking them out for a great day of netball fun.

Inter-House Basketball Competition

For Term 3, the Year 6 Sports Leaders are proud to announce a weekly inter-house basketball competition, taking place in Term 3 each Tuesday and Thursday. Students from Years 5 and 6 will have the opportunity to represent their sporting house in a round robin format competition. They may be out on the court, helping with coaching, assisting with scoring or leading cheer squads for their house colour. More information will come out at the start of next term, but if you are interested in helping out, just ask your friendly Year 6 sports leaders out on the playground when you see them!

Important Dates Ahead Term 3

AFL Auskick – Week 2 Tuesday 25th July (4 Week Program)

Rugby Come and Try – Resuming Week 2 Thursday 27th July (K-6) 3pm-4pm @ School Oval (4 Week Program)

Capital Football Futsal Gala Day Years 5-6 – Week 3 Tuesday 1st August

School Athletics Carnival – Week 4 Friday 11th August

Regional Athletics Carnival – Week 7 Thursday 31st August

Todd Woodbridge Cup Tennis Gala Day Year 3-4 – Week 10 Wednesday 20th September

Rugby- Come and have a go!

Palmerston District Primary School is offering a FREE Rugby come and try program again over the course of the year beginning on Thursday 16 Feb, 2023 (week 3).

The program will run for 4 consecutive weeks at 3:10- 4:00 on Thursdays on the school oval. A Gungahlin Eagles Rugby Club junior coordinator and coach Leigh Hancock will facilitate the learning and fun activities, giving students a great introduction to Rugby.

There will be a teacher present for the program however parental supervision is encouraged to support the smooth running of this great program.

No equipment is required of the students and there is no cost. Please ensure your child is wearing appropriate running shoes, appropriate clothes, and a labelled drink bottle each week.

Term 1: years K-2

Term 2: years 3 and 4 (commencing Thursday 4th May)

Term 3: years 5 and 6

Term 4: years TBA

Please email Natalie.edwards@ed.act.edu.au¹ with their name, and class if you are interested in your child participating.

For information on enrolling in Gungahlin Eagles to play rugby this year please visit http://www.gungahlineagles.com.au/

Thank you for showing interest in Rugby.

¹mailto:Natalie.edwards@ed.act.edu.au



P&C 2023

Save the date Bunnings Gungahlin BBQ - Saturday 12th August. Volunteers needed to cook and people who love a sausage sizzle to buy up! Please email pdpspandc@gmail.com² to sign up to help out!



²mailto:pdpspandc@gmail.com





Canteen



Canteen News

Canteen News

Its lovely to see your students using the School Canteen. We would like to give you a few ideas to make their canteen experience a fun one.

Each week the canteen will have a "lunch special " that will be advertised on Face Book which you can select on the app.

Lunch & Recess orders can be placed via myschoolconnect.com.au Tuesday - Fridays

Recess - Over the counter & online daily.

Please remember to look at the recess & lunch snack and drink menu and ensure your child has enough money for what they wish to purchase over the counter. Prices start from \$1.00 in the Canteen.

We would appreciate it if you could not send large notes to school with your child.

Recess & lunch menus attached.

We would welcome any parent/career who would like to volunteer in the Canteen. You would need to have your WWVP card.

Thank you from the HKA team.

HEALTHY KIDS ASSOCIATION -PALMERSTON DISTRICT PRIMARY

Over the counter sales Tues, Wed, Thurs, Friday lunch & recess

DRINKS:

PLAIN MILK	CO FO
	\$2.50
JUST JUICE	\$2.20
FLAVOURED MILKS-CHOCOLATE/STRAWBERRY	\$3.50
CHILL J	
FROZEN:	
QUELCH STICKS	\$1.00
FROZEN JUICE CUPS	\$2.00
VANILLA ICE CREAM TUB-Light	\$2.00
TWISTED FROZEN YOGHURTS	\$3.00
PADDLE POPS-rainbow/chocolate	\$3.00
SNACK FOOD:	
POPCORN	\$1.00
MILO COOKIE	\$1.50
BANANA BREAD	\$2.00
MUFFIN	\$2.00
JELLY CUP OR CUSTARD CUP	\$2.00
SEASONAL FRUIT	\$2.00
MOUSSE	\$2.50



Healthy Kids Canteen Menu Palmerston District Primary School Order online a+ myschoolconnec+.com.au



\$6.50 \$5.50 \$5.50 \$5.50 \$6.50 \$6.50 \$6.50

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11-201	
Twisted frozen yoghurt \$	2.00 3.00 1.00

SKIP THE CANTEEN LINE WITH





Library News



Rebecca Cameron

Teacher-Librarian

Defence News

My name is Ella Braban and I have just started as the Defence School Mentor for the next few weeks! I work Wednesday and Thursday in the DSM role and as an LSA for the rest of the week. Defence club is on at lunch time Wednesdays and Thursdays.

In Defence club, we have been doing gardening, arts and crafts and different 'icebreaker' activities. The juniors have been focusing on the different branches in the Defence Force and learning a bit more about them. They have created lots of different artworks for the Defence display which is in the library. The students have designed it differently each week for a new branch! The senior Defence students have written and created a 'Defence Kid Survival Guide' for the junior students. The book includes stories from their own lives and advice on how to work through the different things Defence families experience. This book will be distributed through the entire school so Defence students can help educate others who may not know a lot about the topics.

Additional Information

Managing Staff Absences

As the colder weather sets in, we expect to see a higher number of staff away at times due to seasonal illness and COVID-19.

To ensure that we continue to provide all students with quality learning with minimal disruption, we may be implementing temporary changes to our learning programs.

If required, some classes may be combined for short periods of time. We may also deliver student self-directed learning onsite using either online modules such as Google classroom or hard copy resources.

The school may also take the opportunity to temporarily modify timetables or work with external providers to deliver some programs. There may also be a need to postpone excursions and other extra-curricular activities until there is enough staff to support them.

Every school will implement these measures differently and has the flexibility to make choices that best meet the needs of their school community.

If changes are required at our school at any time, we will write to you to let you know. We will also ensure we keep you up to date on how long we expect any changes to be in place.

As always, we remain committed to providing our students with high quality learning experiences in a safe and welcoming school environment.

Thank you for your understanding.

Staying COVID Smart at school

To help minimise the spread of COVID-19 and other illnesses in our school please remember the following:

- Students who are COVID-19 positive or displaying symptoms (including a runny nose, sore throat, cough, fever) should test and **must not attend school while unwell.**
- If your student is COVID-positive let us know.
- Practise good hand and respiratory hygiene.
- Keep up to date with vaccinations.

You can access **free rapid antigen tests** from the front office. Nasal and saliva tests are available.

For the latest COVID-19 advice please visit the ACT's COVID-19 website³.

Safe parking around schools

The start of the school year is a particularly busy time in our school carparks and surrounding streets. It's important that we park safely and legally to support the safety of students.

Parking on a footpath, nature strip or roadside verge can:

· Cause safety risks for pedestrians as they are less visible to oncoming cars

• Increase the risk for vulnerable members of our community like children, people who are visually impaired, and those using a wheelchair or pram

- Restrict the line of sight for other road users
- Restrict access for emergency services vehicles.

³<u>https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/home</u>

Parking on nature strips can also damage trees, footpaths, gutters and underground pipes and cables. Please also remember not to park across driveways or block neighbouring residents' properties.

As students return to school remember to also slow down and stick to the 40km/h limit around our schools between 8am and 4pm.

Parking inspectors regularly patrol school zones to support safe parking and keep students safe.

If you cannot find a car park in our school car parks, we suggest parking a little further away and walking or riding the rest of the way – it's a quick and easy was to get in some exercise too.

Let's all work together to keep our kids and community safe!

More information about travelling safely to school is available on the Transport ACT website⁴.

Well Being Journals

Thank you for your patience in purchasing the "My Wellbeing Journey" book from the school.

The school "My Wellbeing Journey" books are now available to purchase at the front office via EFTPOS.

The prices are as below.

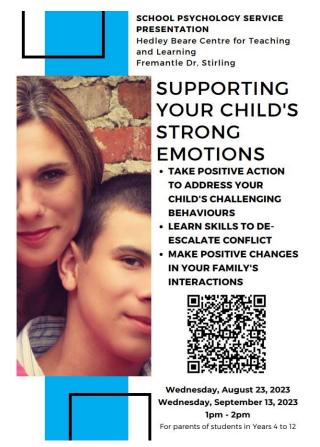
Years 1 – 5 - \$15.

Year 6 - \$10.

Please note, If a school book pack was purchased, there is no need to purchase the additional book.

⁴https://www.transport.act.gov.au/travel-options/schools/travel-safely-to-school

The School Psychology Service



The School Psychology Service Early Intervention team are providing two parent presentations in term 3 that are aimed at supporting parents in responding to their child's strong emotions. During these presentations parents/carers will learn strategies to take positive action to address their child's challenging behaviours, learn skills to de-escalate conflict, and learn how to make positive changes in their family's dynamics. Sessions will be held on Wednesday, August 23 and Wednesday, September 13, 2023 from 1:00pm – 2:00pm at Headley Beare Centre for Teaching and Learning. Parents can sign up to attend directly through the QR code on the flyer, or by registering online through

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx=MqjU8SFsdUSb9IzH6QRKKdp1CpbcIoJBnMoinD xLb2dUMDM4U1JYREVPRjIRODYwSDJTNUFLT0IxVi4u

Community Connections





Phone 1300 347 224 WWW.DISABILITYTRUST.ORG.AU



ART COMPETITION

<u>Calling all</u> <u>budding</u> <u>artists!</u> (

Strathnairn Arts 17th annual people's choice awards, **SQUARES** is calling for entries!

SRegister online and collect your 30 x 30 cm carwas from the Homestead Shop at Strathnairn Arts, then use any media to create a work which will be included in the Squares exhibition at our Woolshed Gallery, 5 August to 27 August (all entries will be exhibited and will be for sale). **Entry fee is \$25**.

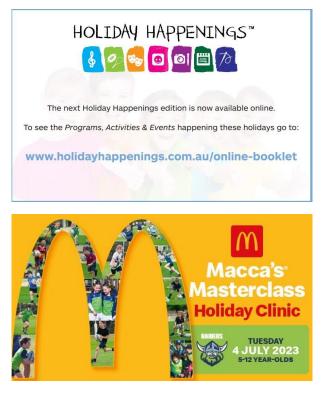


Works delivered July 19 - July 30 <u>Voting opens</u> August 5 <u>Winner announce</u> 2 pm, August 27

Go to www.strathnairn.co

STRATHNAIRN ARTS 90 STOCKDILL DRIVE, HOLT STRATHNAIRNCOMAU INFO@STRATHNAIRNCOMAU GALLERY + SHOP WED-SUN IDAM - 4PM CAFE WED-SUN 830AM - 330PM





The holiday program is our annual Maccas Masterclass Holiday Clinic and includes skill development for all abilities from ages 5-12 years. This year the clinic is being held on the first Tuesday of the holidays, July 4th.

 $https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/maccas-masterclass-holiday-clinic-2023-registration-622176285017?aff=oddtdtcreator^{5}$

Enrol Now

Your local public school has a place for your child to learn, develop and reach their potential. Online enrolment in the ACT can be made for children from Preschool through to Year 12, for ACT residents and NSW residents in the region surrounding the ACT.

Online enrolment for the current school year can be made using the relevant links below. Enrolment applications are assessed throughout the year when submitted.

If you have any questions about enrolment or schooling, such as setting up healthcare supports or inclusion and access adjustments for your child, please contact your local school⁶ as soon as possible to discuss how we can best welcome, support and include your child.

2024 Enrolment Timeline

⁵<u>https://us-east-</u>

2.protection.sophos.com/?d=eventbrite.com.au&u=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZXZlbnRicml0ZS5jb20uYXUvZS9tYWNj YXMtbWFzdGVyY2xhc3MtaG9saWRheS1jbGluaWMtMjAyMy1yZWdpc3RyYXRpb24tNjlyMTc2Mjg1MDE3P2Fm Zj1vZGR0ZHRjcmVhdG9y&i=NjM2YWZhYmE2ODViNjlxMWFhZGUyMjE1&t=c3NaWFBxQ1ljREtwaXkxTFVVc2Nza IZRQjlUdENpSDBrMVVFU2Y3QUNGRT0=&h=76847aae0ab947b192f74acab0bcb341&s=AVNPUEhUT0NFTkNSW VBUSVafTnd2v81rK-JsmpAYW57iDWNjCliFBqNk7KelKnXYyQ

⁶<u>https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/enrolling-in-a-public-school/school-enrolment-email-addresses</u>

- 26 April 2023 (6:00am) 2024 online enrolments open via the ACT Education Directorate website
- 2 June 2023 (11:59pm) Bulk round for Preschool completed. Enrol by this date to receive an offer from 24 July 2023
- Applications made after 2 June 2023 will receive an offer later in the year
- Families can enrol for 2024 at any time during the year after April 26 2023
- September to December 2023 Communication sent to families regarding 2024 school year/orientations
- Monday 29 January 2024 All new ACT school students commence first day of Term 1 2024

https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/enrolling-in-a-public-schoo7l

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



⁷<u>https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/enrolling-in-a-public-school</u>
⁸<u>mailto:info_palmdps@ed.act.edu.au</u>
⁹https://www.palmdps.act.edu.au/