



Palmerston District Primary School Newsletter Issue 11

Principal



Welcome back to term 3!

Half way through the year and still facing frosty mornings, it is really lovely to be back after my leave, and see all the great things that are happening across all classrooms.

Thank you to families for attending the Parent Teacher Interviews this week, either in person or via phone call , we value our partnerships with you.

School satisfaction Surveys coming soon

Every year, around this time we will ask you to help us by filling in the School Satisfaction Climate Surveys. It takes 10 minutes and gives us very valuable data about what we are doing well, where you think we need to work differently to improve. You will receive links via email soonideally, it would mean the world to us to have every family fill this in. We are working to get as many versions as possible in other languages to support our families for whom English is their second language. Please keep an eye out and fill it out for us.

Last year, we had around 170 families complete the survey, wouldn't it be great if we double that this year?

Pupil Free day and Covid

Next Friday, the 5th August is a Pupil free day, a strategy formed by the Directorate to provide teachers with time to enhance their planning and assessments, as already this term, we have had days with low staff numbers, but not low enough to switch to remote learning. Our staff, teachers and Learning Support Assistants (LSA's) keep to the learning schedule with determination. Unfortunately, Covid does hit staff members and at various times we have staff away for a week or more. We have plans and strategies in place to deal with this on a daily basis.

- We move to splitting class and continue the learning
- We move to supervisory activities with teachers ensuring they are working with children in the same cohort, but away from the planned program. A good example of this is when we have 3/6 teachers away and can still manage to keep children onsite, just with other education/social-emotional activities.
- We can move to remote learning short term – with students taking devices home to continue planned learning set by the Directorate and/or own teachers.
- We move to longer term remote learning if there is a significant amount of staff away and we cannot maintain enough staff to supervise in class and supervise duties.

We have had to cancel camps later this term due to the (expected) operational needs of the school being met with staff absent and on camp. We are planning already for Yr 3,4,5 and 6 camps in 2023 and have already locked in dates – fingers crossed our world is a little more settled and camps will be able to proceed. Thank you for your understanding in these matters, we are actively responsively on a daily basis, making the best decisions we can. Sometimes comms out to families is late in the afternoon but also, please understand we are waiting for the Directorate to provide those comms to send out.

New snazzy buildings

As you know, our buildings have arrived however we haven't been given a date of occupancy yet – all in good time we say. We will be looking to our families and local community contacts to get moving with landscaping ideas, gardening, and be approaching you soon for ways you can help. There must be talent within our community to help us along.

Our very own famous Artist!

I would like to congratulate Leah Brideson, our current Cultural Integrity Coordinator, who recently won the NAIDOC ACT Artist of the Year. We are exceptionally proud of this award as Leah is leading our staff with exceptional development with Cultural Integrity focussing on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives. Congratulations from us all Leah.

I'd like to close off with these photos that beautifully demonstrate the genuine caring connections our staff have with our students this week.

Kate Smith

Principal

With her Year
Three teacher





Deputy Principal



Welcome back! Term three is well underway and shaping up to be another busy time here at Palmerston District Primary School. Over the next 8 weeks we have many exciting upcoming events to look forward to, such as Tournament of Minds and Book Week (both in Week 6) and lots to learn,

see and do. This term you will receive information about your child/ren and how they learn, the progress made and the areas of development that may become a focus as we continue on our learning journey. This information may come to you via school academic reports, parent teacher interviews, BASE data (Kindergarten) NAPLAN results (Year 3 and 5), ICAS results (Years 2 to 6) and communication with school staff. Assessments are an integral part of the teaching and learning process that help us to provide parents/carers with the right kind of information. It can tell a teacher or a parent/carer, a lot of information about whether or not educational goals have been met. When assessment is well designed and has purpose it can provide feedback and vital information about what a student knows and what their needs are. Assessment helps educators set standards for learning, and/or behaviour, and assists staff to reflect on practices that are effective and what changes may need to occur regarding content delivery and classroom environments.

As mentioned in previous correspondence to families of students in years 2-6, for the past forty years ICAS assessments have been administered by a team of dedicated educational professionals committed to applying their expertise to help students, teachers and parents. The testing window is as follows;

ICAS Writing Years 3-6 Tuesday 9th Wednesday & 10th of August, 9am - Technology room

ICAS Digital Technologies Years 2-6 Tuesday 9th & Wednesday 10th of August, 10am - Technology room

ICAS English Years 2-6 Tuesday 16th & Wednesday 17th, 9am - Technology room

ICAS Science Years 2-6 Tuesday 23rd & Wednesday the 24th of August, 10am - Technology room

ICAS Spelling Years 2-6 Tuesday 23rd & Wednesday the 24th of August, 9am - Technology room

ICAS Maths Years 2-6 Tuesday 30th & Wednesday the 31st of August 9am – Technology room

ICAS testing is not compulsory. You are still able to register your child (if they are in year 2 – Year 6) to complete one, or more, of these assessments. Registration closes on the 4 August. If require more information regarding how to register and pay for your child, please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Marijana Pasalic

Deputy Principal

Deputy Principal



Dear parents and carers,

I am so impressed with how students have returned to school this term. Classrooms are calm, with students participating, working with determination and showing respect to each other and the playground. The dryer and warmer (slightly!) weather certainly makes the playground more enjoyable for everyone.

We are lucky to have Leah Brideson in our school this year, a cultural integrity worker. She has been working closely with teaching teams and individual teachers to increase cultural awareness across units of inquiry. This term we are working on increasing the visibility of First Nations culture in our school. Leah will work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait students and friends to create some art work for our playground. We are also working towards a whole of school art work out the front of the school as part of NAIDOC week celebrations.

As always, if you have questions about the wellbeing of your child, feel free to email me.

Thank you

Emma Campbell

Deputy Principal

Pride Awards



PARTICIPATION

Sophia - 5G Marijana - 5O Seanna - 5O Lachlan - 5Y Sanuth - 6Y Indianna - 6Y Boston - 3B Alicia - 6O Mackenzie - 5R

Isaac - 1G Lukas - 1G Emma - 1-2GM Pippa - 2R Zoya - 2G Zachary - 2G

RESPECT

Muhammad - 3G Theo - 3B Aryan - 5R Ayan - 1G Zaviyar - 1Y Vivienne - 1Y Taleah - 2B Aarya - KR Oscar - KY Bella - KY

INTEGRITY

DETERMINATION

Cooper - 3V Matthias - 3V Rishva - 5G Vincent - 5Y An - 3R Gurfateh - 3R Kenzie - 6R Christian - 6R Aidan - 3G Chloe - 3B

Ella - 3Y Tilly - 3Y Chase - 1O Thu - 2B Felicity - 2I Imogen - 2I Noor - 1V Jax - 1V Jennifer - KR William - KI David - KI

Maxwell - 2Y Adeline - KV Tion - 2R Zoe - 1R Rylee - 1B

EMPATHY

Hunaid - 6O Ty - 3Y Evelyn - 1O Evelyn - 2Y Manray - KV Paxton - 1R Iyaaz - 1B

Key Dates



2nd August - Whole School Athletics Carnival - Palmerston School Oval

5th August - Staff Planning Day/Pupil Free Day

16th & 18th August - Preschool Athletics Carnival

26th August - Book Week Parade

9th September - Staff Planning/Pupil Free Day

Library News

The Library is now open Monday and Friday lunchtime for student to read and borrow.

Chief Minister's Reading Challenge

The Chief Minister's Reading Challenge finishes soon. Students who took up the challenge were asked to read 30 books between 14th February and 19th August. Those students who meet the challenge are asked to get their completed reading records to Rebecca Cameron (the Librarian) by Tuesday, 23rd August for verification.

Still looking for great reads. Why not look at the work of the CMRC ambassadors: Jack Heath, Stephanie Owen Reader, Tania McCarthy, Irma Hawkins, Tracey Hawkins and Harry Laing.

Chief Minister's Reading Challenge (CMRC) Wall of Fame

Congratulations to the following students for completing the CMRC

- Abdurraheem Salihu
- Maddie Wilkinson
- Kafka Brookes

I am looking forward to receiving more entries in the coming weeks.

Upcoming events: Book Week and Book Fair

This year will see the return of the Book Week Parade. A time to celebrate creativity and the love of books. Students and teachers are asked to come to school dressed as a book character and be ready to showcase their costume in the Book Parade. For beginning of the week Preschool students, the Parade will occur on Tuesday, 23 August. For the end of the week Preschool and the Primary School students the parade will occur on Friday, 26 August. The holidays are a perfect time to start thinking about putting a costume together! You can find some great ideas on the web and in your favourite books.

This year we are also thrilled to be able to re-open the doors of the library to parents and friends for the Book Fair. The Fair will take place over 10 days beginning 30th August and is a fundraiser for the school. It allows us to purchase new resources for both the Library and other curriculum areas. We look forward to seeing you all there!

Rebecca Cameron

Teacher-Librarian



Sports News

Rugby Fun!!!!

Get Into Rugby

Palmerston District Primary School are hosting a Rugby program with our local Rugby club, Gungahlin Eagles and Brumbies Canberra during term 3, after school for students keen to give Rugby a go. The program will run for 4 weeks, 1 day a week for one hour each session at no cost to participating families. We have 20 available positions for children in year 3 and 4. Term 4 will be for years K, 1, and 2. If you are interested, please email Natalie.edwards@ed.act.edu.au¹ for more information.

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>²

Natalie Edwards

HPE Specialist

Natalie.edwards@ed.act.edu.au³



¹<mailto:Natalie.edwards@ed.act.edu.au>

²<https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fevenplayingfield.com.au%2Fproducts%2Fpalmerston-district-primary-house-tshirts&data=05|01||ee8c64dff854e1c2b3e08da2c521489|f1d4a8326c2144759bf48cc7e9044a29|0|0|637871028864576991|Unknown|TWfPbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjojV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D|1000||&sdata=MnK2WT24LOyl4cnVDw1ybqbFumLPFCHOKP2Tu9wSYKg%3D&reserved=0>

³<mailto:Natalie.edwards@ed.act.edu.au>



1 - <https://evenplayingfield.com.au/products/palmerston-district-primary-house-tshirts>⁴

Cultural Integrity at Palmerston



P&C/Board News

Dear Families,

⁴<https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fevenplayingfield.com.au%2Fproducts%2Fpalmerston-district-primary-house-tshirts&data=05|01||ee8c64dff854e1c2b3e08da2c521489|f1d4a8326c2144759bf48cc7e9044a29|0|0|637871028864576991|Unknown|TWfPbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjojV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D|1000||&sdata=MnK2WT24LOyl4cnVDw1yqbqFumLPFCHOKP2Tu9wSYKg%3D&reserved=0>

The P&C is providing some opportunities for you to get together with other Palmerston Primary families. Come along to meet new people and share your ideas with the P&C. Save the dates (below) and keep your eye out for more details.

We will also be offering family portrait sessions with Lasso photography as a fundraiser towards the end of term.

P&C Upcoming events

1st August - *General Meeting*

7pm in the school staffroom

15th Aug - *Cuppa and chat*

9am at the school

9th Sept - *Play date on the Pupil Free Day*

10am @ Palmerston playground beside the shops

12th Sept - *General meeting*

7pm in the school staffroom

18th Sept - *Family portraits* with Lasso Photography

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

2022 School Satisfaction & Climate Survey

Each year, the Directorate surveys all parents and carers, school staff and students in Years 4 to 12 about their experience of public education. The 2022 School Satisfaction & Climate Survey will be available online from 19 August to 9 September. The survey results will help us to continue to make quality informed decisions about how to improve our school. No personal identifying information will be provided to any school or college. For each child in their family who attends an ACT public school, parents and carers will receive:

- An email about the parent survey, including a link to access the survey.; and
- A letter about the student survey outlining the reasons for collection and privacy provision for the data

If you do not receive the survey invitation (from the 19 August), please check your Junk email folder; if it is not there, contact the school and you will be provided a survey link. If you do not have an email listed with the school, please contact the office and an alternate arrangement will be made. The Parents and Carers Survey will be available online in other languages: Arabic, Burmese, Chinese, Hindi, Korean, Urdu, Vietnamese, Punjabi, Bengali, Spanish, Telugu, French and Italian. Respondents can select their preferred language when they start the survey. A shortened paper-version of the Parents and Carers Survey is also available in the following 5 languages: Dari, Dinka, Farsi, Karen and Mon. These surveys will be available at the Front Office. For the results to reflect the opinions of our whole school community, we need as many parents and carers, staff and students as possible to complete the survey. Your feedback is important, and we hope you will take part. For more information, visit: <https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/school-satisfaction-and-climate-survey>

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_palmdps@ed.act.edu.au⁵ 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.

eSafety webinars for ACT public school parents and carers

The Education Directorate's eSafety team will be delivering webinars (repeated each term) for all ACT public school parents and carers to learn more about eSafety and how they can best support their child to develop eSafety knowledge and skills. Topics covered in the webinar include:

- understanding eSafety issues impacting young people
- hard to have conversations with your child
- where to go and how to report when things go wrong
- current trends and updates.

The webinars will be held online from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm for:

- secondary schools on 4 August or 30 August 2022
- primary schools on 1 September 2022.

Please use the attached flyers to advertise the webinars to parents. Parents and carers will be asked to fill out surveys and feedback forms before and after the sessions to ensure we are developing targeted and effective webinars. Please contact the eSafety team if you have questions or would like to discuss the webinars.

Attachments:

- eSafety Parents and Carers Webinar Flyer – Primary (963kb Word)⁶
- eSafety Parents and Carers Webinar Flyer - Secondary (963kb Word)⁷

Contact Ryan Elwell/Sarah Darcy on EDUeSafety@act.gov.au⁸.

⁵mailto:info_palmdps@ed.act.edu.au

⁶[https://actedu.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/Intranet-Education/Shared Documents/20220719 - SB - W1A28 - eSafety Parents and Carers Webinar Flyer - Primary.docx?d=w36ffc3ee0507434f8f6f229a903edf30&csf=1&web=1&e=U06DTn](https://actedu.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/Intranet-Education/Shared%20Documents/20220719%20-%20SB%20-%20W1A28%20-%20eSafety%20Parents%20and%20Carers%20Webinar%20Flyer%20-%20Primary.docx?d=w36ffc3ee0507434f8f6f229a903edf30&csf=1&web=1&e=U06DTn)

⁷[https://actedu.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/Intranet-Education/Shared Documents/20220719 - SB - W1A28 - eSafety Parents and Carers Webinar Flyer - Secondary.docx?d=w4ef4c79b858c47478301e46947b3df67&csf=1&web=1&e=6ULShc](https://actedu.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/Intranet-Education/Shared%20Documents/20220719%20-%20SB%20-%20W1A28%20-%20eSafety%20Parents%20and%20Carers%20Webinar%20Flyer%20-%20Secondary.docx?d=w4ef4c79b858c47478301e46947b3df67&csf=1&web=1&e=6ULShc)

⁸<mailto:EDUeSafety@act.gov.au>

Cyber Security for Kids – new guide for parents from the Australian Cyber Security Centre

The Australian Cyber Security Centre (ACSC) has launched a 'Cyber Security Instruction Manual: Kids Cyber Security Guide'. The guide is for parents, teachers and carers to teach children in primary school about basic cyber security steps and how to stay secure online.

To download the manual and cyber security resources and activities for children, visit Cyber Security for kids | Cyber.gov.au⁹.

Road safety

We are reminding drivers about the dangers associated with parking illegally in school zones. Parking across pedestrian crossings, corners, verges and double parking can block students seeing the road and can be fatal. From Monday 18 July 2022 Access Canberra inspectors will be patrolling school zones to enforce safe and legal parking and ensuring drivers are adhering to the speed zone.



RSVP using the QR Code or Link:

bit.ly/3nIdMIP

A promotional poster for a webinar. The top half has a dark blue background with various social media icons (Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, Twitter, Snapchat) and a smartphone showing a timer at 01:01. The bottom half has a light blue background with a list of topics. The text is white and yellow.

ACT Primary School Parent & Carer eSafety Online Webinar

Time: 6pm – 7pm
Date: 1 September 2022
RSVP: QR Code/Link

Topics:

- Understanding eSafety issues impacting young people
- Hard to have conversations with your child
- Where to go and how to report when things go wrong
- Current Trends and Updates

⁹<https://www.cyber.gov.au/cyber-security-kids>

Defence News



Welcome back to school everyone. Hoping you all have had a lovely break and ready to start term 3.

This term my days have changed to support the Defence students on Thursdays and Fridays.

I will be hosting a morning tea on **Thursday 11th of August 9am to 10am**. Our Defence Education Liaison will be joining us to answer any of your questions. It will be nice to be able to come together and meet everyone face to face again. If you are able to attend please RSVP including any dietary requirements by **4th of August**.

Defence Club will be back up and running again this term.

Year 3-6 students- First half of lunch starting at 11:30 in the year 5 pod

Year K-2 students- Recess time in year 2 pod

Posters have gone up around the school to help remind the students as well as reminders by myself and their classroom teacher.

Looking forward to a great term.

Kristle Cross | Defence School Mentor

DUNTROON

Community Centre

Term 3- 2022

Children and Parents

- Playschool for 3 & 4 yrs-
- Casual Playschool days available for enrolled PS children- bookings open
- Playgroup - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and 1st & 3rd Saturday of the month
- Mums, Bubs & Bumps - Wednesday mornings
- Babysitting available Thursdays mornings

Crafters

- Capital Crafters - Tuesday & Thursday mornings
- The Hub - Thursday evenings
- All Day Craft - Every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month

Readers

- Book Club - 1st Tuesday evening of the month

Upcoming Events

- Relaxation Hypnosis sessions
- Macrame Plant Hanging Workshop
- Father's Day Event, for Dad's
- Spring Fair BBQ Family Afternoon and more....

Fundraising

- Father's Day Raffle
- Entertainment Book
- Jolly Soles Socks

For Hire

- Cake Tins
- Snow Gear
- Trestle tables and chair

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Community Connections

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)¹⁰ or the Enrolments Telephone Service (02) 6205 5429. You can also contact us about enrolments directly by emailing PalmerstonPS.Enrolments@ed.act.edu.au¹¹

Preschool

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

Enrolment timeline for 2023 [2023-enrolments-timeline-public.pdf](https://www.education.act.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0009/1743489/2023-enrolments-timeline-public.pdf) ([act.gov.au](https://www.education.act.gov.au))¹²

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.au¹³

Visit us on the web at www.palmdps.act.edu.au¹⁴



¹⁰<https://www.education.act.gov.au/>

¹¹<mailto:PalmerstonPS.Enrolments@ed.act.edu.au>

¹²https://www.education.act.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0009/1743489/2023-enrolments-timeline-public.pdf

¹³mailto:info_palmdps@ed.act.edu.au

¹⁴<https://www.palmdps.act.edu.au/>