



Palmerston District Primary School Newsletter Issue 11 2023

Principal



Hello families of Palmerston,

Even though we are getting closer to the end of 2023, there are still so many events and special celebrations to come our way.

Remembrance Day Ceremony

Last week, students from years 3,4,5,6 at the Senior Assembly had the privilege of meeting Mr Alistair Bridges, a retired helicopter pilot from the Vietnam War, share some stories of courage, bravery and his determination to save his mates in active duty. A humble, wonderful mate spoke of how his experiences led him to work at the National War Memorial teaching children about our Defence Services. Mrs bridges also attended and shared some wonderful memories and stories about what life was like for her as well, we were honoured to have them with us, and thank them very much for their time.

P&C Thanks

A massive shout out to the P&C for a generous donation of funds for us to order 450 new readers into classrooms for next year. This will make a massive difference to the take home collection. Also, a lovely welcome bag for our new preschoolers in 2024 ready for them at their Stay and Play sessions this week.

Our School Facebook page

Thanks for the uptake recently on our school Facebook page, it is really lovely to see positive comments and sharing our page. We delight in capturing magical moments and posting the photos up on the page.

End of Year Reports

Teachers have been busy writing end of year reports. Aligning with the Directorate's structure around whether to include comments or not in school reports, our staff agreed to write General Comments encompassing English and maths comments within. I embrace this time of year when we get to see the growth that has occurred with all kinds of learning undertaken in classrooms across every sessions, every day. Growth in reading comprehension, agility in recalling maths facts, improved social skills and understanding of difference so opinion, demonstrations of being a friend, writing emotionally charged poems to winning a race and increasing confidence to give things a go – our students are to be celebrated for the way they have navigated their way through the year.

Success of Mystery Readers

A huge thank you to our Mystery Readers, who ventured into classrooms, donating their time to read a favourite story, the joy on so many faces was beautiful to see. So, thank you parents and friends for giving your time to support our reading Priority this year, in this marvellous way.

Great Job Max

Congratulations to Max who recently played in a team called Nordek, a local based water polo team – and together they won the Second Division of the Canberra Cup Championships where they went up against teams from all over Victoria and NSW. It is great to share the variety of sports our students play outside of schools.

2024 Preschool visits

This week our new preschoolers came along to visit their new space and it was fabulous to meet new families and learn a little about our newest youngest members joining us in 2024. I was thrilled to see an ex-Kindergarten student of mine that I taught in Pod 2, back in 1997, now a proud Mum herself bringing her daughter to preschool next year – just so special for me!

It was so lovely for the P&C to have a Welcome Pack ready for each new student with either a beautiful book bag or a school beanie – thanks for your organisation and having these ready.

Info Email

Look out for an email coming today with specific details around the next four weeks.

Enjoy the weekend,

Regards,

Kate Smith

Principal

Deputy Principal



As I sit to write this newsletter I am filled with immense pride and joy after witnessing the most beautiful Preschool and Kindergarten orientation sessions today. There was not a tear to be seen on the face of any student. In fact all I witnessed was laughter, excitement and joy. It was an absolute pleasure to meet, and catch up with, families who will begin their Palmerston District Primary School journey, and those who will continue with us after older siblings have travelled through. The orientation day is a day for students and their families to familiarise themselves with the colourful and bright environments at our school and meet the passionate staff who work here. Taking a big step into Kindergarten or Preschool is kind of a big deal. It's a leap of faith, a burst of courage and a considered risk for all our little people. They put their faith in us. Our families put their faith in us and we take this all very seriously. We want to make the transition to 'big school' as smooth and successful as possible for parents, carers and children. Therefore there will be another session for new preschool students to visit in week nine (Beginning of the week on Tuesday 5 December, end of the week on Thursday 7 December). In week 9 there will also be a 'Step Up' day for students to meet with their 2024 teacher, see their new classroom and be with friends (old and new). Orientation days, such as the one organised today, helps assist families to prepare for the first step in their child's educational journey and offers a glimpse for everyone into the world of school life here at Palmerston District Primary School. To help your child manage the upcoming changes across the new year, there are some simple strategies you may like to consider. These include;

- Talking about feelings
- Practising mindful techniques
- Expression through the arts – e.g. Can you draw a picture of how you feel, and talk to me about it?
- Positive praise after the accomplishment of a new skill or showing bravery
- Have a clear, consistent and predictable routine at home.

We also had our P-2 Colour Run, and thank Mrs Edwards for organising such a wonderful afternoon. Our students have been busy fundraising and were treated to an afternoon of fun and colour last week. Although I managed to swallow half a canister of powder throughout the afternoon, and was covered from head to toe in sprinklings of many different hues, it was well worth

the mess and effort. To see the students laughing and enjoying themselves was reward enough for me! I can't wait to do it all again in a couple of weeks with the end of week preschoolers and the 3-6 cohort.

I would like to extend my thanks and gratitude to Kristle and Ella who assisted last week to make the assembly on Friday a relevant and reflective one in acknowledgement of Remembrance Day. We were mesmerised by the stories and knowledge of Mr Alistair Bridges, and thank Kristle for organising this. Mr Bridges and his wife said they were honoured to be here after our students ALL wrote cards for him to express their thanks for a lifetime of service. Mr Bridges was so impressed by our students and praised their amazing safe, respectful learner behaviours. It was another proud moment for me. There are no further K-2 or 3-6 assemblies booked in for this term. Instead, we look forward to our End of Year Celebration Concert in week 9, the K-5 End of Year Awards ceremony in week ten, and the Year Six graduation, also in week 10.

Regards,

Marijana Pasalic

Deputy Principal

Key Dates



Thursday 30th November

- Colour Explosion- Preschool (end of week groups) and Years 3-6 2pm

Monday 4th December- Thursday 7th December

- Parent Teacher Interviews

Monday 4th December

- Step Up Day- Kindy to Year 5

Thursday 7th December

- End of Year Celebrations

Tuesday 12th December

- K-5 Awards- 9:15-10:30am
- Year 6 Graduation- 11:30-1:00pm

Thursday 14th December

- Year 6 Fun Day

Friday 15th December

- Term 4- ends

Sports News & Information



Dear Parents and Guardians,

You and your family are truly amazing! It is wonderful to share that our Colour Explosion School Fun Run was a huge success.

It is fantastic to see the spirit and enthusiasm that was displayed in supporting our school. Of course, the true highlight is the smiles on the student's faces as they ran their Colour Explosion School Fun Run.

We raised **\$8595** which will go toward our playground upgrades.

More smiles to come! Your incentive prizes have been ordered and are on their way! They will arrive shortly and be distributed to students accordingly.

Again, our most sincere thanks for your support and fundraising efforts. We couldn't have done it without you!

Colour Explosion Fun Run for preschool (end of week groups) and years 3-6 has been postponed due to rain, to **Thursday 30 Nov at 2pm**. Fundraising closed on Friday 10th Nov.

Natalie Edwards

Junior School HPE Specialist



Softball Gala Day

Last Friday, Palmerston entered a Year 5/6 team for the Softball ACT Gala Day which was played at the Hawker International Softball Centre. All of our students participating were familiar with softball as they have been learning the ins and outs of the game during their HPE lessons this term, but this was the first experience for most of them playing in a competitive setting. The students - as both individuals and as a team - showed great skill, enthusiasm, tactical nous and camaraderie throughout the day; pulling off sharp catches, making outs, hitting homers and building in confidence as they progressed in the competition.

Of the six games they played, Palmerston won five and lost one by the slimmest of margins, which put them in third place overall for the day! A commendable effort for which they should be very proud. Many have expressed their interest in exploring softball further outside school, but we'll be sure to return next year for old and new players!

Jacob Downey

Senior School HPE Specialist



Well done Max!

Year 6 student, Max, was part of the Canberra Water Polo Team, 'Nordex' who won Youth Boys Div 2 of the Canberra Cup 2023 championship against teams from NSW and Victoria. We are very proud of you!

@NORDEK.WATERPOLO



14&U BOYS - DIV.2
CBA CUP



@nordek.water polo

CHAMPIONS 

#CANBERRACUP

Library News



As the end of year nears I would like to thank all families for their support of the library. It is always wonderful to see students enthusiastic about borrowing. Sadly, we will need to stop borrowing mid-November to begin our annual stocktake. Your support in the return of library books is greatly appreciated.

Dates to Remember

Friday, 17th November, 2023: Last day of borrowing

Friday, 24th November, 2023: All books to be returned to the library

Monday, 4th December 2023: Library closed for stocktake

Reader's Cup

On Friday, 27th October a group of Year 6 students attended St Monica's Primary School to participate in the Reader's Cup - a competition where teams of 4-5 students answer quiz questions about 5 pre-read books. This year PDPS entered 2 teams. Both teams did the school proud as students worked collaboratively to answer the quiz questions.

Rebecca Cameron

Teacher-Librarian



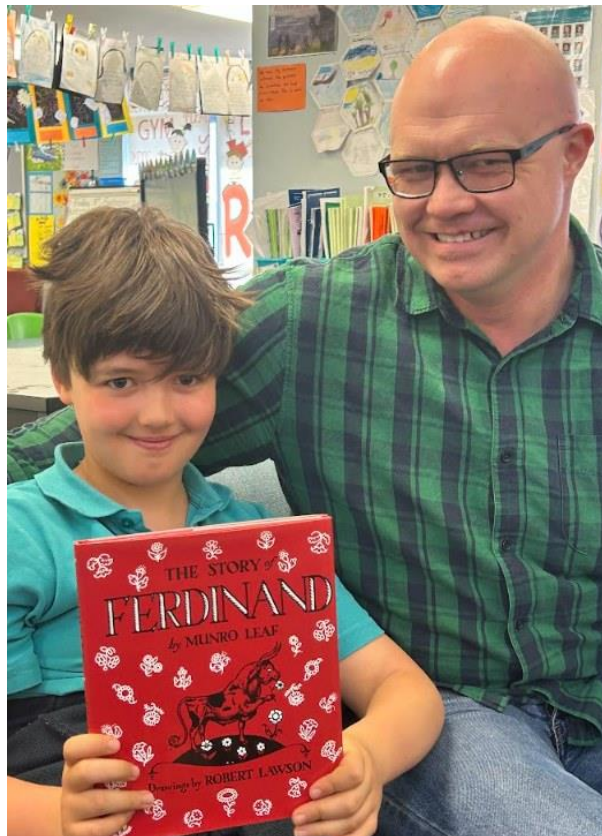
Moving Forward with Mystery Reader in 2024

This year, we introduced Mystery Reader as a strategy to further engage our community into our school life. This initiative also promotes thinking and learning for our students, and engages them in meaningful reading experiences. This is a wonderful opportunity and experience for both families and students that will provide collaboration with families to promote literacy. We are seeking your feedback as we move into 2024.

We would appreciate your feedback through this short survey.¹



¹<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdZVqTD4J-d28JUoS5zCF1sj1s2d2BjT46zny2k6nZvbhvScw/viewform>







2024 Enrolment Applications

2024 PRESCHOOL FAMILIES:

STAY AND PLAY SESSIONS

Thank you to all the families on the 14th and 16th of November for our lot of stay and play sessions. It was so lovely to see so many smiley faces and meet our 2024 preschoolers and their families. Thank you for a very successful morning.

2024 Preschool families have received an email from Kate Smith regarding stay and play sessions. Sessions will be held down in the preschool- dates are as follow:

- Beginning Of the week students with their families can attend 5th of December 9:30-10:30am
- End of week students with their families can attend 7th of December 9.30 and 10.30am.

2024 Preschool students- Get To Know You-This link <https://forms.gle/cdoNUxNLyeB34GL26>

2024 Enrolment Timeline

- **Tuesday 30th January 2024 - All new ACT school students commence first day of Term 1 2024**

- **Wednesday 31st January 2024- All returning ACT school students commence first day of Term 1 2024**

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 school² as soon as possible to discuss how we can best welcome, support and include your child.

<https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/enrolling-in-a-public-school>³



²<https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/enrolling-in-a-public-school/school-enrolment-email-addresses>

³<https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/enrolling-in-a-public-school>





Defence News



This year we were very honoured to have Alistair Bridges, a veteran and local Canberran join us for our Remembrance Day ceremony. Due to wanting to become a pilot, Alastair joined the Royal Australian Air Force when he was 21. In 1967 and 1968, Al flew helicopters in the Vietnam War. He

moved soldiers, including the wounded, in and out of the jungle, and often under heavy fire. Alistair shared stories of his life and spoke very fondly of his mates he met along the way. A truly inspiring man to meet.

Thank you to the families who could join us for the ceremony and a big thank you to the students who were so respectful during the ceremony and who had great questions for Alistair.

Kind regards,

Ella Braban

Defence School Mentor



P&C News 2023



P&C Book club issue 8 is out now!

It's the last issue for 2024. All online orders due in by 29th November!



Preschool families welcome

A huge effort went into over 100 bags welcoming new preschool families to our school. Each will receive either a beanie or Library bag, a delicious cookie by Little Cookie House (A talented local business) & a flyer with lots of P&C info for 2024. Welcome families!

Uniform shop

The shop will shut for the year Wednesday 29th Nov 23 to conduct a stocktake. If you would like to volunteer to help for the stock take from 9-10.30 please reach out!



Lost property items

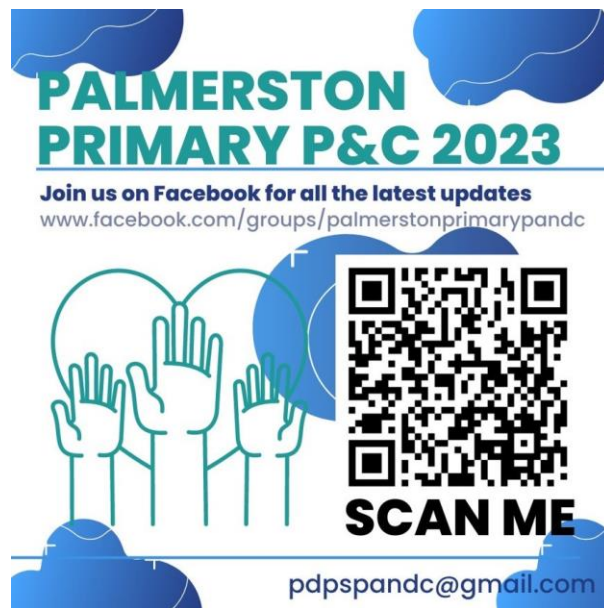
Thank you to those who have picked up their items. We still have lots more to go! Please head to the Library foyer to claim your things! Thank you.

Fete and 2024 P&C events. Our fete planning is underway for the big event on the 23rd March. Discos are down for term 2 & 4, Book Club issues twice a term, ACT election BBQ & bake plus more! 2024 planning is in full swing & the team are excited! We are always keen for more ideas so please complete the survey or reach out!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfM_cLBjMnq6Ha-YVcwOgJbOh43JhNjZs0QXEmaESvyHehSg/viewform⁴

Pizza with the P&C - Friday 1st December. For our last meeting of the year please join us in pod ten at 6pm for Pizza (hot chips for the children) and a short P&C meeting. All welcome!

⁴https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.google.com%2Fforms%2Fd%2Fe%2F1FAIpQLSfM_cLBjMnq6Ha-YVcwOgJbOh43JhNjZs0QXEmaESvyHehSg%2Fviewform&data=05|01||2d4ec64192c64b4dcb5308dbe4fd1cbf|f1d4a8326c2144759bf48cc7e9044a29|0|0|638355548061257465|Unknown|TWfPbGZsb3d8eyJWljoimc4wLjAwMDAiLCJQljoiv2luMzliLCJBTil6lk1haWwiLCJXVCIMn0%3D|3000||&sdata=tzG2FXnTxueD5x0t7fTbahcGuCkgwKd9T31miwhlVWg%3D&reserved=0



Canteen

Canteen News

It's 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 Facebook 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.



Canteen News

HEALTHY KIDS ASSOCIATION -PALMERSTON DISTRICT PRIMARY

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

DRINKS:

PLAIN MILK	\$2.50
JUST JUICE	\$2.20
FLAVOURED MILKS-CHOCOLATE/STRAWBERRY	\$3.50
CHILL J	\$3.50

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 at myschoolconnect.com.au

Term 2
2023

Sandwiches

All served on wholemeal bread unless otherwise requested.

Wraps also available.

Happy Little Vegemite (with margarine) V	\$3.00
Cheese V	\$3.50
Cheese & tomato V	\$4.00
Ham	\$4.00
Ham & cheese	\$4.80
Ham, cheese & tomato	\$4.80
Ham & salad	\$5.00
Ham, lettuce & mayo	\$4.50
Chicken & cheese	\$4.50
Chicken & salad	\$4.80
Chicken, lettuce & mayo	\$5.00
Tuna & cheese	\$4.50
Tuna, lettuce & mayo	\$4.50
Rainbow: Lettuce, carrot, tomato, cucumber, beetroot V	\$5.00
Salad & cheese V	\$4.50
Egg & cheese V	\$4.50
Egg, lettuce & mayo V	\$4.50

Toasted sandwiches (in press)

All served on wholemeal bread unless whole bread is requested.

Happy Little Vegemite (with margarine) V	\$3.50
Cheese V	\$4.00
Cheese & tomato V	\$4.50
Ham & cheese	\$5.00
Chicken & cheese	\$5.00
Tuna & cheese	\$5.00
Egg & cheese V	\$5.00
Ham	\$4.50
Ham, cheese & tomato	\$5.50

Looking to change up your sandwich?

Add ham, chicken, tuna	\$1.50
Add egg or cheese	\$1.00
Add Lettuce, carrot, cucumber, tomato, beetroot	\$0.60
Add Mayo	\$0.60
Change to wrap	\$0.50
Change to club sandwich	\$0.80

Hot meals

Pasta Bolognese	\$6.50
Pasta Napollitana	\$5.50
Sausage roll	\$5.50
Veggie fried rice	\$5.50
Beef lasagna	\$6.50
Veggie lasagna	\$6.50
Butter chicken & rice (vegetarian available)	\$6.50

Weekly specials

Wednesday: Chicken nuggets	\$6.50
Thursday: Crispy chicken burger wrap	\$6.00
Friday: Stone baked pizza	\$6.50

Snacks

Fruit salad	\$4.00
Popcorn	\$1.00
Cheesy garlic bread	\$2.50
Benene bread	\$2.00
Fruit jelly cup	\$2.00
Homemade mini muffins	\$2.00
Corn on the cob	\$1.50
Chocolate mousse	\$2.50
Milo cookie	\$1.50

Drinks

Water: 600ml	\$2.00
Juice (orange/mango, apple, apple/blackcurrant)	\$2.50
Flavoured milk (choc, strawberry): 300ml	\$3.50
Plain milk: 300ml	\$2.00
Chill J	\$3.50
Sipahh straws	\$0.50

Frozen

Frozen juice cup	\$2.00
Twisted frozen yoghurt	\$3.00
Quelch sticks	\$1.00

SKIP THE CANTEEN LINE WITH



1. DOWNLOAD THE MY SCHOOL CONNECT APP



2. SELECT MY SCHOOL TUCKSHOP



3. ORDER YOUR LUNCH



4. SKIP THE QUEUE!



Community Connections

LOWES

3 DAY VIP EVENT

20% OFF EVERYTHING*

NOVEMBER 15TH 16TH & 17TH

INSTORE & ONLINE

*T&C's apply, no rainchecks, savings off original prices.

The advertisement features a green background with a purple banner at the top containing the Lowe's logo. Below the banner, a large pink box displays '20% OFF EVERYTHING*'. To the right of the pink box, a small image shows a 'zero' rewards card and a Lowe's card. Below the pink box, a dark purple banner displays the dates 'NOVEMBER 15TH 16TH & 17TH'. At the bottom, three images are shown: a group of school children, a woman holding a sign that says 'DON'T HAVE A ZERO OR REWARDS CARD? APPLY INSTORE OR ONLINE & START ENJOYING THE BENEFITS.', and a group of children smiling. The text 'INSTORE & ONLINE' is at the bottom, with a small disclaimer below it.

PARENTLINEACT.ORG.AU

TELEPHONE PARENTING COUNSELLING

Counsellors are now just a phone call away!
(02) 6287 3833



parentline

Questacon

Community Celebration

Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 November
9 am to 5 pm

Celebrating 35 years of science inspiration

Free activities, science shows, and roving entertainment

Discounted entry to the Centre

Find out more
www.questacon.edu.au



Australian Government

Questacon
The National Science and Technology Centre

35
1980-2015



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.au⁵

Visit us on the web at www.palmdps.act.edu.au⁶

⁵mailto:info_palmdps@ed.act.edu.au

