



Palmerston Post

Issue 1 - Term 1 2021

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

Principal Message



Hello families,

Two weeks into this nine week term, and we are well and truly into the learning of 2021. What we have

loved is to have parents and family members back onsite – making our community feel whole again. Thank you to those of you who have been on our school grounds for following guidelines and showing social distancing. It is very appreciated.

Next Tuesday evening, we invite you again to come into classrooms, and Meet The Teacher! An opportunity for a ‘speed style chat’. In 5 minutes, we ask you to share information about your child, so that the teacher gets to hear from you first hand, more details to build their understanding. You should have received by now, an email with a schedule to book in a time – we thank you in advance for being punctual.

Early next week, you will receive electronically, your child’s Term Overview. This has the purpose of informing you of the scope of content/skills taught across the term. Explicit details are not included, but the Overview will give you an idea of discussion topics with your child. Please let us know what you think.

It will be at this time too, to let your child’s teacher know if you would like to come and volunteer in the classroom and in what ways. Your child’s teacher will then create a schedule and let you know.

We are looking to expand our P&C this year, please consider joining up, giving us your time and support as the highly dedicated team forge forwards with ways to add value to our beautiful school.

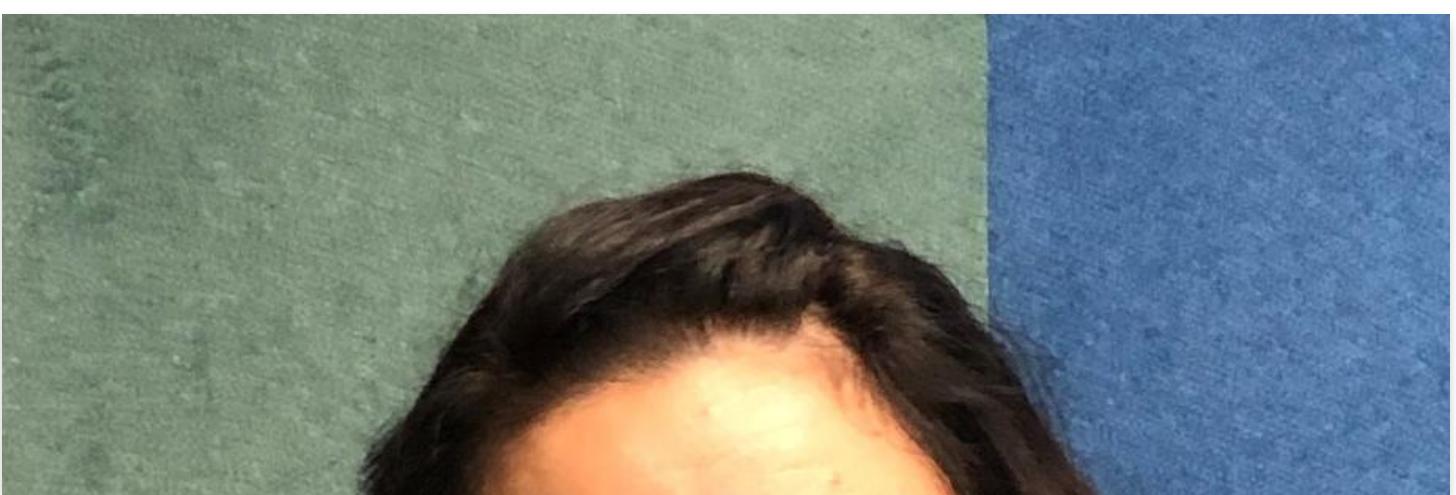
We also have two positions available on the School Board. We have a very diverse and multicultural population at Palmerston, and it would be wonderful to have our wide scope of families represented on the School Board. Please refer to a previous email or if you have questions, please contact Kirsty.brown@ed.act.edu.au.

Communication between home and school is important to us. Please check emails. Please follow us on Facebook and leave messages. Please check SeeSaw – you should expect posts across the week.

Until next time – enjoy the end of Summer and welcome the cooler months in ready for colourful Autumn.

Kate Smith

Deputy Principal Message





Marijana Pasalic - Deputy Principal: Inclusion, Diversity and Wellbeing

Welcome back everyone! It has been so wonderful to see the smiling faces of students as they walk through the school gates, engage in learning experiences and play so beautifully with their friends. 2021 has started off in such a positive way! Part of the professional learning that staff participated in the week before students returned was a whole day dedicated to revisiting and refining our Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) framework. Staff spent the day talking about co-teaching strategies, looking at our PBL systems and planning the steps to make PBL more visible and present in the classroom. We focussed on responding to behaviours, collecting, collating and monitoring data to inform our decision making and discussed all the wonderful ways we can acknowledge students and provide positive feedback to them for a job well done. We spoke about the importance of relationships and what a difference the classroom environment can make to a student. It was a big day! However, all the staff left ready and enthusiastic to begin 2021.

Moving forward, a big part of our PBL journey will be acknowledging our students using Djurra tokens. Djurra is the Ngunnawal word for star, and what little stars our students have been. Shining so brightly. When students receive a Djurra the acknowledgement is recorded on our system. Students then move along our acknowledgement system (15 Djurras = Rainbow Certificate, 3 Rainbows

then move along our acknowledgement system (15 Djurras – Rainbow Certificate, 3 Rainbows Certificates = a Bronze Award, 3 Bronze Awards = a Silver Award and 3 Silver Awards = a Gold Award). These will run alongside our PRIDE awards which are presented at assembly. We may refine this system if needed, and appreciate your feedback. We are also ordering Palmy badges for each of these stages. Hopefully they will arrive late March. As well as this we are introducing whole school celebrations. You may have seen three tubes out on the playground (near the office). Students place their Djurra tokens in these tubes. When the tokens reach a certain level a whole school celebration/event is organised. We are hoping that this will increase self confidence in our students, create an even greater positive school culture and motivate students to follow our whole school expectations (safe, respectful, learner) and be kinder towards each other.

2021 is going to be a great year! I am looking forward to working with our staff, students and families to make every minute matter!

Marijana Pasalic



Helen Cox - Deputy Principal: Achievement and Potential.

Welcome to another exciting school year at Palmerston District Primary School!

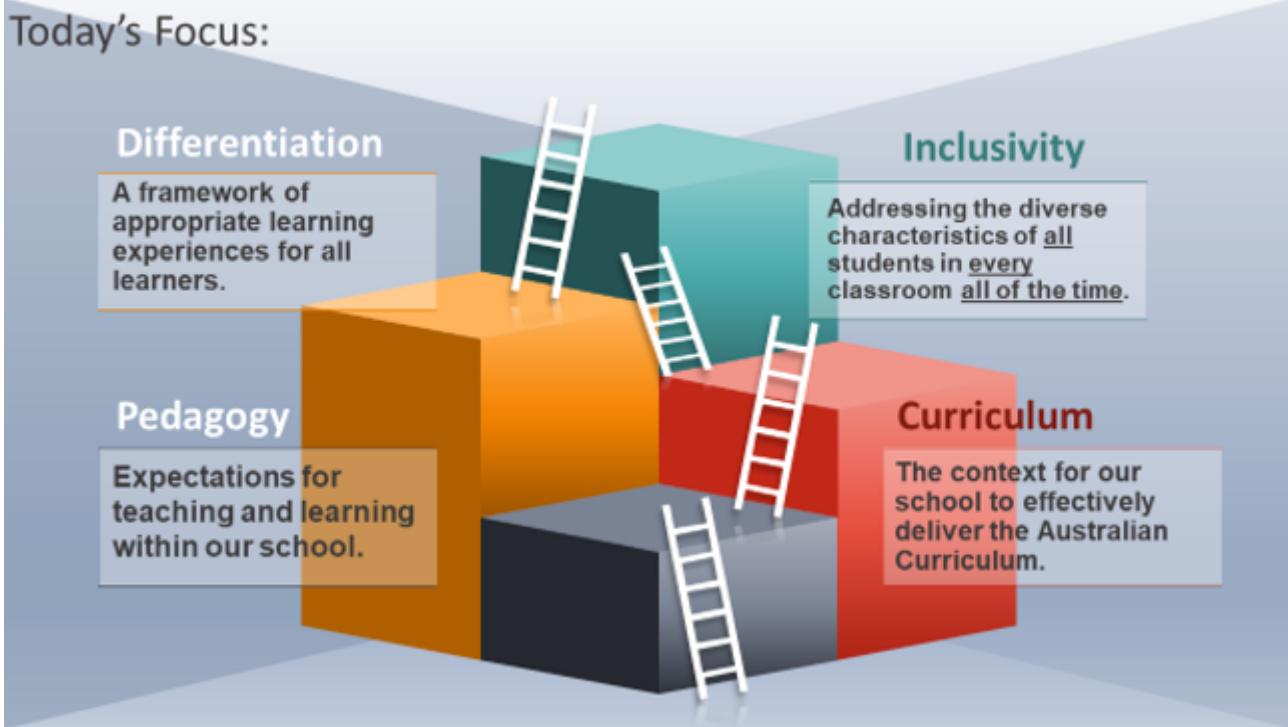
In Week 0, as we prepared for the return of students, staff focused on the following priorities:

- **Pedagogy** – which promotes consistency of practice and supports teachers to know what the teaching and learning looks like within our school.
- **Curriculum** – the coherent, sequenced plan for curriculum delivery, developed by our school, that identifies learning priorities (skills and knowledge) via conceptual frameworks and integrated inquiry programs; they provide a context for our school to effectively deliver the Australian Curriculum.
- **Differentiation** – building capacity in staff to modify the core curriculum for students, as needed, in a number of ways.
- **Inclusivity** - building capacity in staff to provide a framework of appropriate experiences for all learners – experiences which are qualitatively different from just core curriculum material.

More information will be provided over the term.

Helen Cox

Today's Focus:



Felicity McNeice - Preschool Educational leader & Year 3 teacher Disability Education Co-ordinate Officer DECO

As Disability Education Coordinate Officer (DECO) I co-ordinate all the Individual Learning Plans across the school. I have been a DECO at Palmerston since I began working here in 2017 and prior to this I was the DECO at my previous school for 2 years as well. ILP's are for students with additional needs that require substantial adjustments to access the curriculum or to keep them safe and healthy in school. Currently we have 100 students with additional needs on Individual Learning Plans however only a small component of this number is eligible for funding from the Directorate. There is an extensive process in order for someone to be eligible for funding and some diagnoses require a specific level to be eligible. We accommodate all students in a variety of ways no matter if they are funded or not and that they are given the care and adjustments that they require. Only funded students have access to a LSA and this is

given the care and adjustments that they require. Only funded students have access to a LSA and this is only ever for part of the time because we want to build in them independence to manage their additional needs. After all education is about building independence to be functioning citizens for life. This approach is scaffolded so that they are never left to their own devices in their trickiest moments.

Individual Learning plans will look a little different this year as the template has changed however the content is still very much the same. They are written in conjunction with parents. Prior to the meeting with parents teachers have gathered information from a variety of sources including observations, work samples and discussion with the previous teacher as well as myself the DECO who knows most students on ILP's particularly well. I often visit and observe them in various settings, on the playground and in the classroom. ILP meetings will be in week 7 of this term with the classroom teacher given time to organise and plan what goals and strategies are most suitable for the needs of the student.

Another role that I do is co-ordinate the outside agencies at our school. These are the people families have employed to provide Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapists and Physiotherapists for their child but conduct these sessions during school time. However there are some Directorate policies that we need to follow to provide the service. We also have the additional issue that the student remains in the care of the teacher and so the providers must be in sight of the teacher at all times. We are limited in space in our school and so all activities/therapies will be required to be in the classroom with other students working around them.

All outside agencies are required to organise the time they are visiting with me, Felicity McNeice, the DECO before arriving.

Once at school they must provide:

- a letter from the parents saying that they are able to work with the student at our school
- a copy of their insurance documents
- letter with the letterhead for the agency they work for
- a copy of their WWVP card
- they will need to sign in at the front office each time they visit and wear a visitor's sticker.

While we value these professions and we want to work closely with them to support the child's learning we also don't want students to miss out on essential learning that their teachers are providing so if at all possible we ask that you arrange therapies outside of school hours however we recognise that this is also challenging for families.

We also like to link any goals that the therapies have to the child's learning goals in their ILP if they have one. If you could provide any reports or documents we would be most grateful to ensure they get the right support.

We have many students in our school with additional needs but all students show respect, in care and understanding and support of each other. Teachers are encouraged to discuss with their students that everyone is unique and special and that we all learn differently, we may act, think and look different too. Please share these messages with your students at home.

Cooper Hadley's mum has shared the following page about her son. Please share it with your children.

We can only grow to be empathetic to others when we walk in another person's shoes even for just a moment.

Looking forward to working with you again in 2021.

Felicity McNeice

Hi! My name is Cooper!

Hi, my name is Cooper and I will be starting year 1 in 2021. I thought it would be a good idea to tell you a little about myself as it might make it easier to become friends.

I can't wait to meet you and I am sure we are going to have lots of fun together ☺



I LIKE THE SAME THINGS YOU LIKE...

I am totally 'normal' just like you. I am smart, funny and I love to get into mischief! I enjoy swimming, playing my iPad (especially watching YouTube, playing Roblox and Among Us), Xbox, Nintendo, nerf guns, playing board games, riding my bike and scooter and driving my electric Porsche. I love to go and watch my favorite football team, the mighty CANBERRA RAIDERS!!!

My big sister Miley is in year 4 at Palmerston school. She knows me better than anyone. She is my best friend and always looks out for me.



I MIGHT LOOK A LITTLE BIT DIFFERENT...

When I was in my mum's tummy, my bones did not grow properly. I have no skull on the top of my head and my eyes are a bit bigger than yours are. I have a special machine in my head that drains water from my head into my stomach and I have a cool scar on my head from it. I also have a little peg in my belly for food that helps me grow big and strong.

I may not be as fast or strong as you but I do my best to keep up! Sometimes my legs get sore and I tire easily. You might see me in a stroller at school. This is so I can save all my energy to do all the fun stuff.

HI PARENTS

As Cooper looks a little different, sometimes kids stare and make fun. If you could encourage your kids to get to know Cooper they will find a great friend. He is a very personable kid with a great sense of humour.

If you or your child have any questions, please feel free to reach out.

Mel and Dean Hadley - 0413 134 135 (Mel) 0408 971 022 (Dean)

Getting to know you

Welcome to the 2021 school year! We've had a wonderful start getting to know your child and we would love to get to know them a little better. Please complete this form

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1akeRPiASSvD5QPRT7B3mfiEXji7twuEp4lste4IRgEI/edit?usp=sharing>

(preferably) before meeting with your child's classroom teacher on 'Meet the Teacher' night on Tuesday 16th February.

Thank you for your continued support in the education of your child.

Meet the teacher afternoon

For our Meet the Teacher afternoon, we have implemented a booking system. To make a booking to see your child's teacher/s please click on the link below and enter the code **xdygw**

<https://www.schoolinterviews.c...>

If you have any problems please contact the Front Office.

Palmerston Well Being Website

Palmerston Well Being Community Hub

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

Download the SkoolBag App

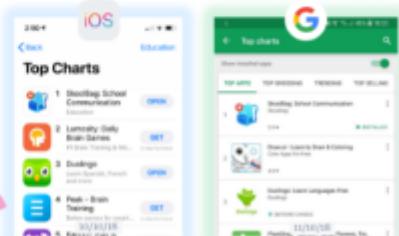
The SkoolBag app is the easiest way keep up with school events, last minute notices, newsletters and all school communications.

5 Easy Steps to Staying Informed


1. Download SkoolBag

Search SkoolBag in the Apple App or Google Play Store, download the FREE app:

SkoolBag: School Communication



2. Create an Account

Follow the prompts to create your account in seconds.

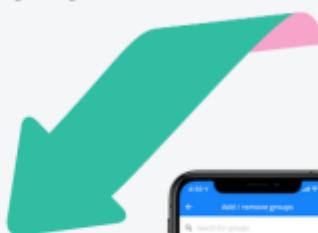
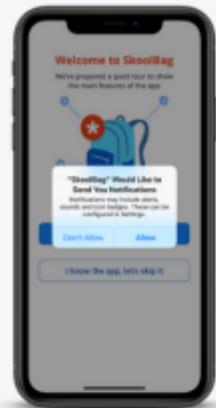
3. Add your School

Type your school's name and press enter. Tap the plus icon to add.



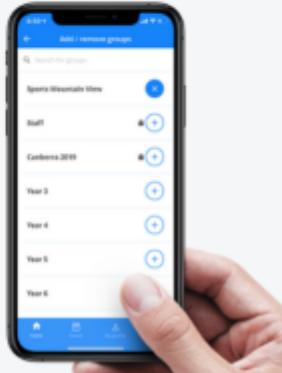
4. Allow Notifications

Ensure you Allow SkoolBag to send you push notifications when prompted.



5. Subscribe to Groups

Select Year Groups / Sports Teams to appear in your feed.





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

Swimming Carnival

On Wednesday 24th February 2021, Palmerston District Primary School will hold our Annual Swimming Carnival at Dickson Aquatic Centre from 9:15am to 2:00pm. Please return all note by Wednesday 17th February 2021.

Students in years 2 to 6, who are turning eight years or over this year (Born 2013), will have the opportunity to participate in competitive events. If you would like your child to enter races, please fill in the 'Competitive Races Entry Form'. Please discuss with your child the races they would like to compete in. Students who are not competing will be involved in structured water activities. No "free swim" will occur on the day.

Due to current COVID 19 restrictions, Parents/ Carers/ Families/ Volunteers who attend the event must sign an attendance sheet.

Thank you

Dean Joy

Health & Physical Education Coordinator

Library News

At the moment the Library is home to two of our lovely Kindy classes while our new classrooms are being finished. As a result classes are not able to come together to the Library for students to do their personal borrowing. The Library is however open every recess and lunch for students wishing to borrow so please encourage your child to visit then.

Library Volunteers

Each year we ask for Parent Volunteers to help us cover books with contact. If you are able to assist we would send home a box of ten books with contact on an occasional basis. If you are able to help with this please email our Library Assistant Kay kay.carr@ed.act.edu.au advising your name and child's class.

Kristina Collins

Executive Teacher/Japanese Teacher/Teacher Librarian

Ukulele Band

Palmerston is excited to be starting up the famous 'Year 4 Uke Heads' Ukulele Band.

Year 4 students have been given a note and if they are interested in joining the Uke Heads they need to return the note, as well as a short paragraph about why they would like to join the Uke Heads to the school by Friday the 19th of Feb.

Happy strumming!

Mr Shaw

P & C/Board News

Palmerston District Primary School P&C

We would love you to come along to our AGM and first meeting of the Year

Monday 15th February

Gungahlin Lakes Club

7PM

We welcome all parents and carers of Palmerston Students to come along, hear about how we have helped the school in the last 12 months and what exciting things are planned to make this year a great one for the school community.

Our P&C is about inclusiveness, collaboration and fun.

All of our committee roles will be back up for nomination;

President

Vice President

Secretary

Assistant Secretary

Treasurer

Assistant Treasurer

Fundraising Co-ordinator

We would love to see you all there.

It is best to leave children at home, but we understand that this may not be possible for all those wanting to attend. It is an idea to bring a book or quiet activity for them to do while the meeting is taking place.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Helen Ritchie helen@evenplayingfield.com.au

**IT'S
HERE!**

OUR BEAUTIFUL
PALMERSTON DISTRICT
PRIMARY SCHOOL
MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITY
COOKBOOK IS FINALLY
COMPLETE

Thank you to all the families, teachers and staff who have contributed to the Cookbook.

There are so many wonderful recipes.

**From biscuits to cupcakes,
curries to pasta,
smoothies to crepes.**

There is even slime and play dough!

ORDER NOW FOR DELIVERY IN WEEK 10

TO ORDER

email form to
palmpandc@hotmail.com

PAYMENT

Direct Deposit
Palmerston Primary P & C
BSB 062913 ACC 1014 5558

STUDENT NAME:

CLASS::

YOUR NAME:

NUMBER OF Printed COPIES x \$25 =

MOBILE:

NUMBER OF Digital COPIES x \$15 =

PAYMENT METHOD:

TOTAL Paid =

Contact Helen Ritchie from the P & C on 0406 328 294 or palmpandc@hotmail.com if you have any questions.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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 2:45-3:15pm

Friday 8:45-9:15am

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

Further enquiries, contact Kate Baron on 0404 675 508

Book Club

The first issue of 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



Pride Awards



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

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

Sophia - KFH Abigail - KJR Tion - 1GS Jonathon - 1BD

Damien - 1MO Jordan - 1TB Max - 1MP Isla - 1S Owen - 2BB

Hunter - 2SZ Hayley - 2RE Ralph - 2TA Jion - 3AS Zohha - 3JL

Jerzy - 3IN Rory - 3IN Adalita - 3MC Dayaaan - 3MC Tyrone - 5MP

Joanna - 5DS Lilly - 6CT Tyler - 6RT Korey - LSUFS

RESPECT - having respect for self, others and their property

Violet - KGM Max - KGM Oliver - KNS Krisha - KNS Iyaaz - KCH

Quinn - KFD Arrow - KFD Tyler - KJR Lincoln - KFE Penny - 1TB

Max - 1PJ Isabelle - 1PJ Safa - 1MP Lazar - 1S Allira - 2BB

Seeta - 2SZ Erica - 2FS George - 2RE Lilijana - 3JL Emma - 3MR

Violet - 4LC Chelsea - 4LC Sonia - 5AK Duaa - 6CT Kobe - 5MB

INTEGRITY – being honest, fair, responsible and loyal

Bella - 1GS Lara - 4HT Adelle - 4MG

DETERMINATION - being persistent and resilient

Brooklyn - KFE Kensey - 1BD Aidan - 2KM Ethan - 2FS Chloe - 3AS

Madeline - 4MG Owen - 5MB Harvey - 6JD Chaela - 6RT

EMPATHY - understanding and supporting others regardless of our differences

Lucas - KFH Amari - KCH Faith - 1MO Madeline - 2KM

Lachlan - 2TA Beza - 3MR Natali - 4HT Anna - 5DS Madeleine - 6JD



Dates to Remember

16th February	Meet & Greet classroom teacher
24th February	Swimming Carnival Yr 2-6 Only
22nd-24th February	School Photos
9th March	March on challenge
1 April	Last day of Term 1

Defence News

Hello families.

I would like to welcome all our families back and extend a warm welcome to our new families joining us this year. My name is Kristle Cross and I am the Defence School Mentor here at Palmerston District Primary School. I will be at the school Tuesdays and Thursdays to help support the defence students and their families between 8:30am and 3:30pm. I have enjoyed walking around the school the past 2 weeks and catching up with the students and introducing myself to the new ones. I've had the pleasure of greeting so many lovely smiles.

Defence Lunchtime club is back up and running. Tuesday's 1:05-1:30pm for students in Kindy to year 2 in Pod10. Thursday's 1:05-1:30 for student's n year 3- year 6 in Pod3. All defence students are welcome and encourage to join in and have some fun in the club.

Kick start the year by attending the up coming events put on by DCO and meet new families and form friendships in the community. The links to this month's events are below:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/an-adf-families-event-coffee-and-conversation-canberra-tickets-139337693793>

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/an-adf-families-event-walk-and-talk-canberra-tickets-139808662473?aff=erelpanelorg>

Organiser Defence Community Organisation - Canberra

Organiser of An ADF families event: Coffee and conversation, Canberra

For Australian Defence Force members and their families

DCO Canberra provides a range of support services to ADF members and their families living in Canberra and the surrounding region. To access these services or find out more, visit the [Defence Community Organisation website](#).

Website: <http://www.defence.gov.au/DCO/Community/Canberra/Default.asp> Email: DCO.Canberra@defence.gov.au Phone: 02 6265 8777

Defence families needing support or advice can email DefenceFamilyHelpline@defence.gov.au or call the all-hours Defence Family Helpline on 1800 624 608.

Kristle Cross

DSTA

Palmerston SUPA Club 2021

SUPA Club is a fortnightly lunchtime club that allows children to explore who Jesus is, in a fun & relaxed way. It is coordinated by Scripture Union and volunteer teachers belong to local churches.

Participation in SUPA Club is voluntary & all children require a signed permission slip.

WHO: Children in Kindy to year 6 who have a signed permission slip.

WHEN: Friday lunch fortnightly (Odd weeks)

WHERE: Music Room

For more information: email kate_baron@outlook.com or contact Scripture Union 6251 3677



Palmerston SUPA Club Permission Slip

Child/ren's name/s:

1. _____

Class: _____ Age: _____

2. _____

Class: _____ Age: _____

Does your child/ren have any **food or other allergies** or special needs? _____

I consent to my child being given gifts with Christian content

Yes No

I consent to my child's photo being taken at SUPA CLUB

Yes No

Phone No. (Home): _____

Phone No. (Mob): _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Signature: _____

This permission note will be valid for the duration of the student's time at Palmerston District Primary School. If a parent or guardian no longer wants their child to attend SUPA Club, please contact the school.

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

(Sorry our groups and training are temporarily suspended)

Contact us for a FREE confidential chat

 **6287 3833** 

 parentline@parentlineact.org.au



 **positive partnerships**
Working together to support school-aged students on the autism spectrum

ONLINE WORKSHOP AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY REGIONS



Join us for our new online workshop for those in the Australian Capital Territory Regions where you will have the opportunity to listen, share and learn with parents and carers who support individuals on the autism spectrum.

This online workshop is for parents, full time carers and grandparents. Join other local families to learn more about autism and ways to strengthen the home-school partnership.

During the online workshops, we will cover three topics:

- the diversity of autism, including sensory processing
- understanding behaviour
- working together with your child's school.

Location:
[AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY REGIONS](#)

Date:
Wednesday, 2 December 2020
Time:
Wed 9:15 AM - 2:30 PM (AEDT)



For more information and what is happening in your state and territory, click here www.positivepartnerships.com.au

 **positive partnerships**
Working together to support school-aged students on the autism spectrum

2 Day Autism Workshop for Parents and Carers



Free to attend

Join other local families to learn more about autism and ways to strengthen the home-school partnership Learn about:

- Autism: characteristics, impacts and strategies
- Understanding behaviour
- Sensory processing
- Working together with your school

Location:

Rydges Canberra
17 Canberra Ave,
Forrest ACT 2603

Morning tea and a light lunch are provided

Canberra, ACT

Wednesday 10th and
Thursday 11th March 2021

9.30am - 2.30pm

 Interpreters available



For more information and to register, visit
www.positivepartnerships.com.au or, contact Rachael Dillon e: rdillon@autismspectrum.org.au



FREE TENNIS OPEN DAY

Saturday 27th February 2021 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Gold Creek School
130 Kellaway Ave, Nicholls (Senior Site)

All new junior students receive a free racquet and gear bag!

TRY THE LATEST TENNIS AUSTRALIA PROGRAMS INCLUDING ANZ HOT SHOTS FOR KIDS AND CARDIO TENNIS FOR ADULTS

ALL NEW JUNIOR STUDENTS WHO ENROL IN TERM 1 2021 WILL RECEIVE A FREE RACQUET & T-SHIRT

To book a free trial session
Email info@csot.com.au
Call 0432 118 204 or 0408 486 191
Tennis Australia Qualified Coaches

"With over 30 years of coaching experience ... Tennis, the game for life"







Palmerston District Primary School

 Kosciuszko Avenue, Palmerston ACT, Australia

 www.palmdps.act.edu.au/

 02 61421440

 Facebook

 info@palmdps.ed.act.edu.au

