

# MACGREGOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

LINKED BY LEARNING... EXPERIENCE, EXPRESSION & EXCELLENCE

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**Volume 44, Issue 13**

**Term 3 Week 6**

**29 August 2019**



## Dates to Remember

<b>Friday 30 August</b> - Year 2 Aquasafe at CISAC	<b>Friday 30 August</b> - Whole School Growth Awards Assembly 2:10 pm hosted by Kindergarten
<b>Friday 30 August</b> - Father's Day stall	<b>Friday 30 August</b> - Limelight Rehearsal and Performance
<b>Tuesday 3 September</b> - ICAS Digital Technologies	<b>Tuesday 3 September</b> - Guginya & Gudamang NGA excursion
<b>Wednesday 4 September</b> - Cuban Embassy Year 6 Presentation Drawing Launch	<b>Thursday 5 September</b> - Buru & Walga NGA excursion

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all our families and amazingly talented teachers for making contributions last week to our Book Week celebrations. The children (and grown ups!) certainly had a lovely five days learning and celebrating books and reading. Our children's artistic talents are also being highlighted this week at the annual public school Arts showcase called 'Step Into The Limelight'. We have children performing with other schools in combined dance and choir performances as well as children singing and dancing a creative presentation to Acknowledge Country on the mainstage, at the commencement of each show. Christine Trull and I are very proud of each child's commitment and contributions...special thanks to Emma Laverty for her leadership. Thank you also to Meagan Gordon, Bec Bull, Ed Bassanelli and Brooke M-J for encouraging, supporting and leading the children performing in the massed choir and massed dance. I have posted photos overleaf of our Macgregor children on stage at their technical rehearsal. 'Chookas' to all our performers!

### 2019 School Satisfaction Surveys

You will have received by email, codes and a link to complete our annual School Satisfaction Survey. This feedback is a valuable source of information for us, contributing to our school research and improvement processes. The survey will remain open until next Tuesday. Although the survey is voluntary, we hope you will want to participate. It won't take much of your time and will help us to continually improve our school.

### Planning for the 2020 school year at Macgregor

To enable Macgregor Primary School to plan for the 2020 school year, it is important that we have a clear picture of prospective student movement. This includes gathering data about known school leaver intentions. If you are aware of prospective changes and your child/children in Kindergarten to Year 6 will not be returning to Macgregor Primary School for schooling in the 2020 school year, please complete the form using the link below;

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe8kBq4QS27BW6Srv39H1TRh5-6yvwz6kNVZ4HjF9MgeuVzKTg/viewform>

In addition, if your child is in preschool this year and is not continuing into Kindergarten at Macgregor Primary School, we simply ask that you advise us, by completing the form using the link below;

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfr-7PjpeiUpw5RrGB6wALqDU2vkoE2fpV4hHKFyYG3bGBSwg/viewform>

## From the Principal continued...

### Learning Journeys

Families of children from Preschool to Year 6 will soon be invited to attend their child's Learning Journey. This valuable shared experience provides an opportunity for children to demonstrate in a structured way, the knowledge, skills and understandings they have achieved across their classroom program in 2019. The children will share learning experiences with their family members. In turn, this experience will inform parents and carers about their child's learning. Families can also gain insight into each child's development (including oral language) and reflections on their learning. In addition, families will glean a more comprehensive understanding of their child's classroom experiences.

We encourage families to attend their child's learning journey during week 9 of this term. The children are very involved with the organisation of their learning journey. They plan, prepare and rehearse as well as consider and decide which outputs (for eg. displays, charts, bookwork, artefacts and equipment) could be included in the Learning Journey. Families will also have an opportunity to provide feedback to their child.

### Music Education Opportunities

The ACT Instrumental Music Program will very soon advertise some excellent opportunities that many Macgregor musicians and vocalists may be interested in;

- ★ Students from year 4 to year 6 in 2020 will soon be invited to audition for the Primary Concert Choir. This choir is an extension opportunity for students in ACT Education and Training Directorate schools
- ★ Students in years 7 to 12 in 2020 will soon be invited to apply to audition for the Instrumental Music Program system bands and ensembles – Senior Concert Band, Junior Concert Band, Percussion Ensemble, Senior Concert Choir and Flute Ensemble. These groups are an extension opportunity for students in ACT Education and Training Directorate schools
- ★ Students in year 5 will soon be invited to audition for the 2020 year 6 Primary Concert Band. This band is an extension opportunity for students in ACT Education and Training Directorate schools.

For further information about these opportunities please go to the IMP website [www.imp.act.edu.au](http://www.imp.act.edu.au) . I will email all families when audition bookings are officially open over the coming weeks.

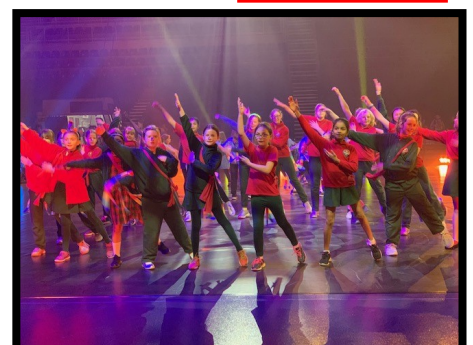
### Staff changes

The children will be receiving PE lesson during their specialist rotations with Laura Horrell, who is a very experienced teacher of PE. Ms Bethany Taylor has transitioned over the last week to a Year 3 classroom teaching position.

I hope all our Macgregor families are able to enjoy some family time this Sunday ... even if it is simply just a 'slow Sunday' for your family under the warm Canberran winter sun before spring arrives on Monday. Thank you to our hard working P&C Team led by Tracey Barker, who have once again provided many children with the opportunity to choose a gift from the Father's Day 'pop up' shop.



Warmest regards,  
Catherine





## Spotlight on Learning Guginya and Walga - Preschool



Guginya and Walga are having an extremely busy term. During a walk on country we found a lot of different birds and this instigated an investigation into birds and eggs. We explored some old nests and the different things birds use to make or line their nests. We found out that lots of different animals come from eggs as well. These animals are classified as Oviparous. We had a wonderful time during Book Week - thanks to all the parents who assisted their child to wear costume items to preschool and joined us at one of the assemblies. We are enjoying the beautiful winter sunshine and spending a lot of time outside, exploring our environment and challenging ourselves on the obstacle course equipment. We continue to focus on our pencil grips, cutting skills, concentration during group time and learning about how to be a good friend. Thanks to Jenny W. (BM) and Eddie (BSO) for organising and making some little doors for two of our children's toilets. Our latest interest in is maps and map making. It will be fun to see where this investigation leads us.



Guginya



Walga







### Volume 11: Broader Strategies to Improve Learning Behaviours and Attendance

Improving learning behaviours and attendance involves a staged response that has a prevention, early intervention and data based focus. This approach includes:

- Involving and supporting **parents and carers**
- Developing **individualised** and flexible learning, behaviour or attendance plans
- Providing **broader** educational programs - for example experiential learning, vocational education, outdoor education, creative arts education.

*The Macgregor Primary School community acknowledges that children are connected to family, community, culture and place. Their learning takes place through these relationships. Macgregor Primary School provides a supportive culture so that all children from birth to 13 experience Belonging, Being and Becoming at our school. (Early Years Learning Framework for Australia, 2009)*

## Macgregor Primary School Staff Snapshot

### A snapshot of ... Damien Trask

**What's your role at Macgregor Primary School?** I've taken over teaching Mr Norval's fantastic group of Year 6 students.

**What's your background before coming to Macgregor?** I taught high school for a few years, dropped out and founded an ed-tech start-up. Raised money, developed an app and then a platform, travelled the world and even made sales (which is actually pretty rare in start-up world). And then... it all crashed and burned. And that's okay - I've come out of it all a better person for the adventure!

**What makes Macgregor a great school?** I've seen a fair number of schools and I'm really enjoying teaching here at Macgregor Primary. There is a great school culture, my fellow teachers are terrific and the students are learning in a really good and supportive environment. There is a lot to be proud of regarding the school and what has been achieved.

**What do you enjoy most about being a member of staff?** I work with two wonderful teachers here in the Year 6 unit. They have gone above and beyond, helping me and the students while we've all been in transition. They're also great fun while being so very professional, I'm learning a lot from them! Many, many thanks to you both, Willa and Tina!



## Spotlight on Library



## BOOK WEEK

Wasn't Book Week fabulous? My first year at Macgregor Primary School during this time was a definite thumbs up. It was so wonderful to see the children and staff so engaged in the celebration of books and reading that the whole school came alive with excitement and learning.

Authors Jack Heath and Alysha King were fantastic with their presentations and workshop, Rosemary Thomas from the Children's Book Council of Australia talked about the 2019 Shortlist and David Conley was an inspiration for many children with his illustrator's workshop in the Library. Did we enjoy Bedtime Storytime on Wednesday night? We certainly did with a huge turnout of families and children in their pyjamas ready for their story and hot chocolate!



Did you notice every classroom door decorated in a book theme? They were incredible. And finally, the closing ceremony costume parade was amazing, as both students and staff became their favourite book character for the day. Thank you to everyone who helped make Book Week the best in 2019.

During Week 9 this term, Library will also be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair starting on the 17 September. Books and stationery will be available to purchase and it will also be run mainly by children. All monies raised will go towards library books chosen by the children. Thanks again, Keep on Reading!

Norma John, Teacher Librarian



## Administration

### Reminders for Parents

#### Health

The most important way to break the chain of infection in a school and stop the spread of diseases are exclusion of ill children, educators and other staff. Your family doctor or the school can provide information regarding recommended exclusion periods for illnesses. Following these guidelines helps prevent contagious illnesses spreading to other children and staff.

### Lost Property

Due to the large amount of lost property we are not able to store it for a long period of time. Please write your child's name on their belongings so they can be returned to them.

Unnamed Items will be placed in the lost property box and stored for a few weeks.

Following this they will be donated to the school uniform shop.

### Notifying the school of your child's absences

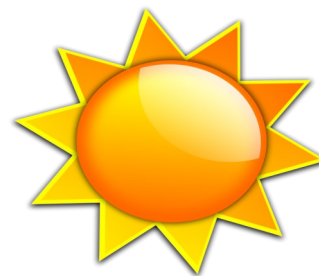
The Macgregor Primary School App is no longer operational.

If your child is going to be absent from school (short term or extended leave), please notify the school front office by sending an email to [info@macgregorps.act.edu.au](mailto:info@macgregorps.act.edu.au) (there is also a link on our school website <http://www.macgregorps.act.edu.au/>). You are also welcome to call the front office on **6142 1600**.

### Sun Protection for Students

In Canberra sun protection is required for part or most of each day between August and May. The beginning of August is 'Hats On Again' for all of us.

Please ensure your child/ren have the required SunSmart hat (e.g.: broad-brimmed, bucket with deep crown or legionnaire hats) that cover the face, ears and neck.



### Notes Sent Home

- ★ Uruguay National Day-choripan tasting Kindergarten to Year 6: opt out Request Note due back 10 September 2019





everyone's family

We are very happy to announce the partnership of Macgregor Primary School and The Smith Family Learning for Life Program and welcome Emma the Smith Family Partnership Coordinator into the school community.

Learning for Life provides families with opportunities to increase their children's success at school with:

✓ **Financial Support**

A scholarship to help pay for school uniforms, shoes, text books, excursions, book packs, etc.

✓ **Education Support**

Access to programs to help improve reading, numeracy, computer and finance skills, as well as mentor programs providing older students with guidance around study options and post-school career paths.

✓ **Other Support**

A local Family Partnerships Coordinator to link families into other learning opportunities in their community.

Emma from The Smith Family will be at Macgregor Primary School Thursday mornings during school terms to meet with any families that are interested in finding out more about the Learning for Life scholarship program. To make an appointment please contact Emma on 0466 941 375 or [emma.dryden@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:emma.dryden@thesmithfamily.com.au). Alternately please talk to James Orr about the referral process for families wishing to join the Learning for Life program.

## What is Learning for Life?

Learning for Life provides families with opportunities to increase their children's success at school.

The Learning for Life program helps each child to reach their potential by supporting their education from primary through to post-school studies.



everyone's family

### Learning for Life provides:



### Am I eligible for Learning for Life?

To be eligible, you must:

- ✓ Have a child/ children in Kindergarten/ Prep/ Reception to Year 6, who attend a school that we work with
- ✓ Have a current Health Care or Pension Concession Card
- ✓ Demonstrate a strong commitment to education through regular school attendance



### What else do I need to know?

Learning for Life is a partnership between your family and The Smith Family.

As a parent/guardian or caregiver, you will be committing to:

- Your children attending school regularly
- Providing a school report yearly for each child
- Returning a yearly progress report for each child
- Maintaining contact with The Smith Family



### How do I apply for Learning for Life?

If you meet all of the above criteria and would like to apply for the Learning for Life program, please complete the referral form provided and return to your school.

For further information, please contact the Family Partnership Coordinator:

Emma  
[Emma.Dryden@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:Emma.Dryden@thesmithfamily.com.au)  
0466 941 375  
6283 7618

## Term 3 Calendar 2019

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Wk 1	22 July ✓NAIDOC Workshops	23 July ✓NAIDOC Workshops ✓Senior School Indigenous Dance Workshop	24 July ✓NAIDOC Workshops	25 July ✓NAIDOC Workshops ✓Senior School Indigenous Dance Workshop	26 July ✓NAIDOC Workshops ✓Junior Assembly 2:10	
Wk 2	29 July ✓NAIDOC Workshops	30 July ✓NAIDOC Workshops ✓Senior School Indigenous Dance Workshop	31 July ✓NAIDOC Workshops	1 August ✓NAIDOC Workshops ✓Senior School Indigenous Dance Workshop	2 August ✓NAIDOC Workshops ✓Senior Assembly 2:10	
Wk 3	5 August	6 August ✓Yr 6 Combined Band @ Macgregor ✓School Board meeting 5pm	7 August	8 August	9 August ✓Whole School Growth Awards Assembly 2:10pm hosted by Yr 5	
Wk 4	12 August ✓Yr 4 Camp @ Borambola	13 August ✓Yr 4 Camp @ Borambola ✓Krispy Kreme orders due	14 August ✓Yr 4 Camp @ Borambola	15 August ✓Limelight dance rehearsal @ Ainslie ✓P&C Meeting 6pm	16 August ✓'Coffee & Chat' with Jennifer 9:15am ✓Kenny Koala @ Kindergarten 12:30-1:30pm ✓Junior Assembly 2:10 ✓OZTAG Gala Day Yr 5 & 6 ✓Author Jack Heath visits yrs 4 - 6, 12:15pm – 1:00pm	
Wk 5	19 August ✓Book Week ✓Belconnen Athletics	20 August ✓Book Week, Read Aloud & preschool book week parade for Gudamang & Guginya only	21 August ✓Book Week	22 August ✓Book Week	23 August ✓Book Week Assembly & parade 9:15am ✓Senior Assembly 2:10	
Wk 6	26 August ✓Yr 2 Aquasafe @ CISAC	27 August ✓Yr 2 Aquasafe @ CISAC ✓Limelight tech rehearsal	28 August ✓Yr 2 Aquasafe @ CISAC ✓Yr 5 Combined Band ✓Lift Off Go Yr 6	29 August ✓Yr 2 Aquasafe @ CISAC ✓Father's Day stalls ✓Limelight performance	30 August ✓Yr 2 Aquasafe @ CISAC ✓Whole School Growth Awards Assembly 2:10pm hosted by Kindergarten ✓Father's Day stalls ✓Limelight rehearsal ✓Limelight performance	
Wk 7	2 September	3 September ✓ICAS Digital Technologies ✓Guginya & Gudamang NGA excursion	4 September ✓Cuban Embassy Year 6 Presentation Drawing Launch	5 September ✓ICAS Science ✓Buru & Walga NGA excursion	6 September ✓Junior Assembly 2:10pm ✓LSG Kingswim lesson	
Wk 8	9 September	10 September ✓ICAS Writing ✓ACT Athletics ✓School Board meeting 5pm	11 September ✓Uruguay National Day celebrations with special assembly 2:10	12 September ✓ICAS Spelling Bee	13 September ✓Senior Assembly 2:10 ✓LSG Kingswim lesson	
Wk 9	16 September ✓Book Fair	17 September ✓Book Fair ✓ICAS English	18 September ✓Book Fair ✓Learning Journeys K-6, Guginya & Gudamang	19 September ✓Book Fair ✓ICAS Maths ✓Learning Journeys Buru & Walga ✓P&C Meeting 6pm	20 September ✓Book Fair ✓'Coffee & Chat' with Jennifer 9:15am ✓Whole School Growth Awards Assembly 2:10pm hosted by Yr 2 ✓P&C Bingo Night ✓LSG Kingswim lesson	22 Sept ✓Portrait Fundraiser
Wk 10	23 September	24 September	25 September	26 September ✓Year 5 Exhibition	27 September ✓Whole School Shout Out Assembly 2:10pm ✓LSG Kingswim lesson	



# P&C NEWS



Macgregor Primary School | Partners in Education

Term 3, Week 6 2019



## UNIFORM SHOP



Our new dresses come in green/red (as pictured) or the reverse red/green and cost \$35 each. They are currently available in sizes 4-14 but will also be available in sizes 2 and 16 closer to summer.

## 5 CENT FUNDRAISER



Keep saving those 5 cent pieces for November!

## SEEKING AN ATSI AND EALD REPRESENTATIVE

The P&C Committee have created two new roles and we encourage parent's/carers to nominate.

The person who nominates will be a voice for other parent's/carers within the community and assist the P&C with cultural awareness issues related to school activities and events.

If you would like to represent the EALD (English and an Additional Language or Dialect) or ATSI (Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander) families at Macgregor please contact the President (Alison Elliott) at [president@macgregorpandc.org](mailto:president@macgregorpandc.org)

## SCHOOL BANKING

**School Banking** is on again, **WEDNESDAY**, 4<sup>th</sup> September outside the library. The new rewards available this term are an Owl fluffy keyring and Scratch art cards. They will be popular.

We always look forward to students coming along and welcome any questions from anyone wanting to commence with school banking. School banking is also open to preschool students and also younger siblings of school students.

We also have a new competition underway, in which if students make 5 deposits or more over this term and up to week 7 of next term, they are in a draw with a chance of winning 1 of 50 QBD book vouchers worth \$10 (1 per individual student). The draw will take place in week 8 of term 4. So keep up the good banking.

Minimum deposit is 5c.

Thanks to **Kirsty and Martin Ross** for volunteering to keep school banking operating this year.

## Next P&C General Meeting 6pm Thursday 19 September 2019

Please remember to sign the attendance book

Any member of the P&C (any parent or carer of a Macgregor Primary School student) can attend & participate in meetings. It's a great way to meet others within the school community and keep in the loop about happenings within the school. You can even bring issues of concern to the meeting.

Meetings are held in the school library and a movie will be shown to keep children entertained.

*All parents, carers and their children are welcome!*



# Canteen News



EXAMPLE

**WINNER**

## LUNCH ORDER LOTTERY

STUDENT

CLASS

Bring this voucher to the Canteen at **lunch time to place an order** for one of the following items **for recess**:

- Packet snacks
- Fresh popped popcorn
- Bunny bag & hummus
- 3 x pizza crunch
- 3 x pikelets
- Corn cob
- Rice crackers & cheese slice
- Milo & milk
- Banana smoothie
- Bottle of water
- Frozen fruit cup

*Thank you for placing your lunch order before 8am*

The Canteen is running a LUNCH ORDER LOTTERY every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. To be in the running, place your lunch and recess orders via Flexischools before 8am. Every order is assigned a number. We will randomly select the winning number from these orders. The winner will receive a voucher (see example) which can be used to order a snack at recess time.

### Past winners:

DATE	STUDENT	CLASS	#	Number of orders
16/08	Charlie S	1GY	11	70
21/8	Grace L	6WM	27	46
22/8	Abby J	5BN	35	45
23/08	Leiha M	6TN	81	104

**FORWARD NOTICE** : In Week 10, the Canteen will hold a Hotdog, Nuggets and Cinnamon Donut day **Wednesday 25 September**. Please place orders via Flexischools. (we will make this available to the Gudamang and Guginya preschool students on Wednesday 18 September)



UNIFORM PRICING COMPARISON			
	ITEM	OUR PRICE	COMPETITOR PRICE
	Bucket Hat	\$15.00	Not logo'd
	Raincoat	\$40.00	\$65.00
	S/S Polo	\$20.00	\$26.00
	L/S Polo	\$22.00	\$30.00
	Hoodie Jumper	\$30.00	\$46.00
	Zip Hoodie	\$34.00	\$51.00
	Polar Fleece jacket	\$30.00	\$36.00
	A-line Skort	\$18.00	\$30.00
	Netball Skirt	\$18.00	\$35.00
	Gaberdine Skort	\$18.00	\$30.00
	Mesh Shorts	\$12.00	\$25.00
	Microfibre Shorts	\$14.00	\$25.00
	D/K Trackpants	\$20.00	\$35.00
	Summer Dress	\$48.00	\$51.00
	Winter Tunic	\$45.00	\$65.00

## UNIFORM INFORMATION

Our uniform shop prides itself on supplying items to families as cheaply as we can.

A current review of our prices against rising production and selling costs means we need to amend a few of our prices.

The price changes will be on a select number of items (and does include a couple of price decreases!) and will come into effect at the commencement of term 3, 2019.

Please see the attached picture that shows the comparison between our prices and the external uniform shops—we hope you agree that our prices are more than competitive.



Tuesday 17 September, 2019

7.00 - 8.30pm

Centre for Teaching and Learning  
51 Fremantle Drive, Stirling

## Transition to school parent forum

**Tips for parents and carers to  
support children who are starting school**

This forum will provide information and resources to support you and your child's successful transition to school. Hear from experienced educators, researchers and parents who will also be happy to answer your questions.

This is a free event.

To register (or request a podcast) email:  
[earlylearning@actparents.org.au](mailto:earlylearning@actparents.org.au)  
or phone: 02 6241 5759



ACT Council of Parents & Citizens Associations





## Ainslie P&C Term 3 General Meeting and Childhood Anxiety Workshop

Thursday 12 September, 2019  
6.30pm, School Hall  
All welcome

Please join us for our Term 3 General Meeting. Come and hear what the P&C has been up to and an update on fete planning.

You are also invited to a workshop on **Dealing With Your Child's Anxiety** by special guest presenter Kieran Vaughan. This workshop will clarify what anxiety is and where it fits in relation to stress and trauma. At the end of the session you will come away with some strategies which could help your loved one/s and yourself.

### Kieran will cover:

- Key things which tend to increase anxiety, and key elements of reducing anxiety.
- Techniques for calming yourself and/or working with your loved one/s to calm.
- Personal resources that can help you and your child.
- Noticing your own needs and strategies.

Kieran has a Master of Counselling and experience with youthwork, parent support, suicide prevention, cancer support and general counselling.

RSVP <https://forms.gle/D1j96pG8ALG652dy6>  
Light refreshments will be provided.



For kids of parents attending there will be a supervised movie night next door in the Yerra.



## SCHOOL TWILIGHT FETE

It's COMING SOON!! Mark your diaries for

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November

Macgregor Primary School  
\$20.00 Family Portrait Fundraiser  
10"x13" Family Portrait + Keyring  
Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September



Please use the web address below to  
Secure your time slot or contact  
Tracey for cash payments  
You shall receive an appointment time  
plus a beautiful gift for your donation!

Low overheads - Great value professional portraits  
Additional poses and digital images also available

\*Limited offer one voucher per person/family  
\*Parent/guardian to view own portraits or p&h applies  
\*No refund for failure to keep appointment

[www.trybooking.com/541601](http://www.trybooking.com/541601)  
Tracey Barker - 0406 085 746

Book early to secure your ideal appointment time



Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September  
7pm start  
In the School Hall

\$10 books

Hamper, voucher, book prizes  
Plus much more!

Games and a wine wall - come  
join the fun!!

18+ event only



This year's Fete will be a twilight  
Fete combined with a student  
colour explosion fun run!

Mark the date for November 16!

If you would like to volunteer or  
be involved with the organising  
of this year's major event please  
contact Tracey:  
[trace1878@hotmail.com](mailto:trace1878@hotmail.com)



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Macgregor Primary P&C.