

MACGREGOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

LINKED BY LEARNING... EXPERIENCE, EXPRESSION & EXCELLENCE

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Dates to Remember

Monday 19 March School photos Stars & Robots	Thursday 22 March Comets & Rockets excursion
Tuesday 20 March Stars & Robots excursion	Friday 23 March Whole school photos
Wednesday 21 March Harmony Day assembly 9:00am-10:00am	Monday 26 March Year 1 excursion

Dear Macgregor Community

Bullying—No Way! National Day of Action

Today at our assembly we talked about the National Day of Action against Bullying. Throughout the students shared their work by participating in class discussions, sharing personal stories and talking about ideas for shutting bullying down and not being a bystander. They made posters, wrote stories, practised kindness, participated in role plays and made new connections. The year six students made a slide show on how to build positive relationships and shared it with the whole school.

Harmony Day

Next Wednesday morning we are celebrating Harmony Day with a special Harmony Day assembly at 9:00am. The children, staff and families are encouraged to wear their cultural dress or the colour orange which indicates harmony. At the assembly both educators and children will talk about their cultures through stories and dance. The theme for Harmony Day is 'Everyone Belongs'. We would love you to join us for this special celebration. Thank you to Ilse Arellano and Christine Trull for coordinating this significant event.

Essential Practices for Literacy

At Macgregor last year the preschool to year two teachers participated in professional learning called the Early Years Literacy Project with renowned literacy expert, Christine Topfer. This year we have commenced phase two which involves all teachers from preschool to year six. We have all been working to develop our skills with the 'Ten Essential Practices for Literacy'. On Tuesday we had fifteen school leaders from Kingsford Smith School, Weetangera Primary, Southern Cross Early Childhood School and Ngunnawal Primary along with Curriculum Leaders from the Education Directorate who joined us to participate in a Learning Walk and Talk through the Macgregor classes. Their documented feedback included:

- All teachers were working on being intentional in their teaching
- All teachers showed they really liked their children
- The children in all classes were motivated and engaged
- All preschool classes were very calm and settled with both purposeful and intentional learning in well organised spaces
- There was a pattern of teachers showing a strong commitment to learning more about teaching reading, writing and oral language effectively
- Quality literature was present across all preschool to year two classrooms

We are all looking forward to further participation in this initiative and the learning that it involves.

Swimming Carnival and Kindergarten Water Fun Day

Both of these events were highly successful and the children experienced either the carnival or water fun environments which exposed them to a lot of fun and team work. Thank you to everyone who worked together to make these events both special and successful.

Macgregor Primary School Communication Strategy

We are currently working on a draft communication strategy and are in the process of organising a writing committee. If you are interested in assisting with this task please email, ring or pop in to see me.

I hope to see many of you at Wednesday's Harmony Day Assembly.

Yours in Education
Jennifer
Principal



3/4 CR Spotlight on Learning

The students have settled in beautifully in term 1. We are having lots of fun exploring a range of topics and I feel very lucky to have a class full of enthusiastic and well mannered children.

In literacy, Year 3/4 have been enthusiastically engaging with persuasive writing activities. Students participated in several classroom debates involving topics such as dog make better pets and children need longer recess times. It has been very rewarding to be involved in the spirited discussion and asking



students to elaborate on their opinions and suggesting what they can use as an example. I am very pleased to say that every member of the class have also demonstrated fantastic listening and communication skills during these times which has made the learning significant and fun. Students have also been practising a variety of reading skills including visualising. As students read narratives, students are given opportunities to draw what they see with their minds eye.

In our inquiry unit, we have been investigating a variety of explorers. Our recent focus on an explorer has been the famous Chinese navigator and warrior, Zheng He. The students have been producing some excellent work on Zheng He, demonstrating some excellent note taking skills. The students notes have helped us to produced a class collaborated information report that they are very proud of. The students have also been producing some incredible artwork of Zheng He's famous treasure ships using mixed media.



In maths students have had opportunities to use MAB blocks to consolidate their place value knowledge. Some students are investigating place value up to millions! Students are also beginning to investigate time to the minute in analogue and digital. Some students are also investigating 24 hour time.



Students have also been participating in a variety of co-operative games including robot wars. It has been great seeing children enjoy themselves while getting to know each member of our fantastic class.

Thanks for stopping by!
Cameron Ryan
Teacher

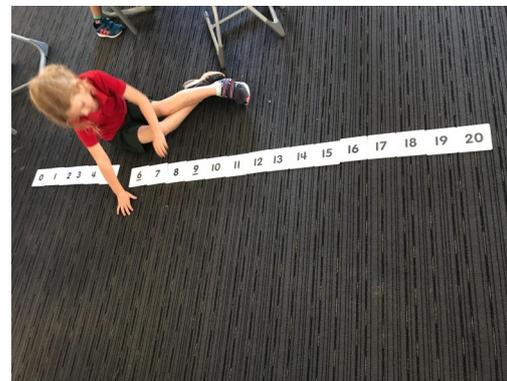
KMG Spotlight on Learning

Our first five weeks of kindergarten have been full of amazing learning! We have spent time getting to know each other and making new friends across the kindergarten unit. We have been exploring and developing our understanding of how each of us are different and how we are unique.

In English, we are focusing on learning the most common sound that each letter of the alphabet makes and how to record the associated letter. We have been identifying where we can hear the sounds in our everyday life. We have been very engaged in reading to someone and demonstrating and practising our new skills. We have learned that there are three ways to read a book—read the pictures, read the story and retell the story.

In mathematics we have been practising how to write and say and order the numbers 0-20. We are counting forwards and backwards and identifying numbers that come before and after a given number. We are now exploring 2D shapes by naming and counting the sides of common shapes.

Drama has been a particular interest for us. We have participated in drama games to build our spatial awareness, cooperation, movement and rhythm. Our favourite game so far has been 'elbow to elbow.' Ask your child to show you how to play some of the games that we have learnt in our drama lessons.



Last week we had a fantastic time at the Water Fun Day. Thank you to all the parents who volunteered and helped us ensure our morning ran smoothly. Your children really enjoyed having the parents join in the fun of the day.

Meagan Gordon
Teacher

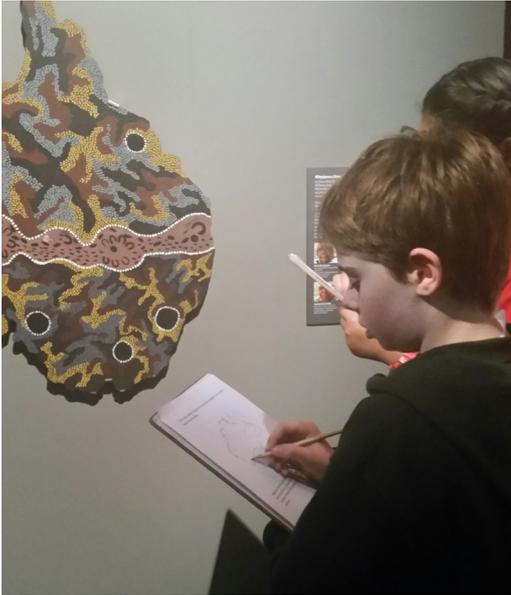
ALLERGY AWARENESS AT MACGREGOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

We aim to be 'allergy friendly' as we have several students and staff who are highly allergic to nuts. You can assist by avoiding nut products in your child's school food.

Family Contact Details

Please ensure the school has your up to date contact details, including your family's email address. You can update them by contacting the front office on 6142 1600 or email info@macgregorps.act.edu.au

YR 6 Art excursion to Seven Sisters at NMA



Year 6 students visited the Seven Sisters exhibition at the NMA to gain inspiration for a indigenous Art project and increase their knowledge about indigenous stories, art and culture.



Community Announcements

Illegal parking behaviours

The school has been advised by the ACT Government that a number of complaints have been received in relation to road safety and driving behaviours around our school. If behaviours don't improve, the Licence Plate Recognition vehicle or parking officers will visit the school over the coming weeks.

While the school can become congested during the peak times, illegal car parking will not be tolerated as it creates an unsafe environment for children. This includes parking on nature strips, footpaths, verges, street corners and across children's crossings.

Some important things to remember:

- Vehicles are not permitted to stop in a "No Stopping" zone for any purpose. No Stopping zones improve visibility and access for children. The infringement for stopping in a No Stopping zone is \$255.
- Parking on or near children's crossings is dangerous; it makes it difficult for passing motorists to see children.
- Drivers should not leave their cars unaccompanied unless they are in a dedicated car park.
- Parking on the footpaths and verges is dangerous; children shouldn't need to pass between cars to cross the road.

Try parking a little further from the school and walking to meet your child, or arrange a meeting point with your child so they can walk to meet you. It's a great way to avoid the congestion and illegal parking and is also one of the most time efficient ways to ensure children receive the recommended 60 minutes of physical activity every day.

More information is available on the [Transport Canberra](#) website, including a range of information sheets to promote safe behaviours around schools. Please help to make our school community safe.

My name is Kate and my son attends Macgregor Primary School. My story is that this time last year I was diagnosed with leukaemia. I am well now and this time its my choice to lose my hair to help raise money for a very worthy cause, The Leukemia Foundation. If you would like to donate towards my head shave please go to my fund raising page at:

<http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/katemoerman>



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Ginninderra, Emu Bank, Belconnen



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21 MARCH
HARMONY DAY



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2018 Harmony Day Celebration Invitation Assembly and Parade

Date: 21 March 2018
Time: 9.00 – 10.00am
Venue: School Hall

*Join us for a celebration of music and dance. Your child may wear their cultural dress or wear orange coloured clothes to signify harmony across the school.
“Everybody Belongs”*

Term 1 Calendar 2018

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Wk 1	5 Feb ✓ Kindergarten and Preschool (Robots & Stars) commence ✓ School Board Nominations open	6 Feb ✓ Years 1-6 commence ✓ Welcome Assembly	7 Feb	8 Feb ✓ Preschool (Comets & Rockets) commence	9 Feb
Wk 2	12 Feb	13 Feb	14 Feb ✓ Yr 6 @ Camp Berry	15 Feb ✓ Yr 6 @ Camp Berry ✓ Whole School Welcome BBQ 5:30-7:30pm	16 Feb ✓ Yr 6 @ Camp Berry
Wk 3	19 Feb ✓ School Board Nominations close 11am	20 Feb	21 Feb ✓ 'Get to Know You' Interviews 3:30-7pm	22 Feb ✓ P&C AGM Meeting 6pm ✓ Yr 6 @ Seven Sisters	23 Feb ✓ Assembly @ 2:20pm
Wk 4	26 Feb ✓ School Board voting commences 11am	27 Feb	28 Feb	1 Mar	2 Mar ✓ Uruguayan Carnival under the COLA
Wk 5	5 Mar ✓ Swimming Carnival years 1-6 ✓ Kindergarten Water Fun Day at Macgregor ✓ School Board voting closes 11am	6 Mar ✓ Cuppa & Yarn 2pm	7 Mar	8 Mar ✓ Belconnen Primary Schools Sports Leadership Workshop (Selected Students)	9 Mar ✓ Coffee and Chat with Jennifer 9:15am
Wk 6	12 Mar Canberra Day Public Holiday	13 Mar	14 Mar	15 Mar	16 Mar ✓ Assembly @ 2:20pm
Wk 7	19 Mar ✓ Preschool Photos ✓ El dia de los libros	20 Mar ✓ Robots and Stars @ CMAG	21 Mar ✓ Harmony Day	22 Mar ✓ Comets and Rockets @ CMAG ✓ P&C Meeting 6pm	23 Mar ✓ School Photos ✓ Preschool Photos
Wk 8	26 Mar ✓ Yr 1 @ National Museum	27 Mar	28 Mar	29 Mar ✓ Christian Education in Schools session	30 Mar Good Friday
Wk 9	2 Apr Easter Monday	3 Apr	4 Apr	5 Apr	6 Apr ✓ Coffee and Chat with Jennifer 9:15am ✓ Assembly @ 2:20pm with In-School Music Concert
Wk 10	9 Apr	10 Apr	11 Apr	12 Apr ✓ Cross Country	13 Apr