

# MACGREGOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

LINKED BY LEARNING... EXPERIENCE, EXPRESSION & EXCELLENCE

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**ACT**  
Government  
Education



## Dates to Remember

<b>Friday 30 March</b> Good Friday public holiday	<b>Friday 6 April</b> Assembly 2:20pm
<b>Monday 2 April</b> Easter Monday public holiday	<b>Thursday 12 April</b> Cross Country at Macgregor Primary
<b>Friday 6 April</b> Coffee and chat with Jennifer 9:15am	<b>Friday 13 April</b> Last day of term 1

### Macgregor Primary School - School Board

We would like to welcome our new school board members. They are Duncan Beard and Erin Kelly as parent representatives and Jo Pearce and Rebecca Bull who represent all staff. The Macgregor school board's role is to work in partnership with the Principal and the leadership team in order to achieve the strategic objectives of the school. These include the school's five year strategic plan and annual action plan, approving and monitoring the school budget and monthly budget reports and developing, monitoring and reviewing school based education and financial policies. We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to Kirsty Ross, our previous Board Chair, Kirstin Brown a parent representative along with Glennis Weatherstone and Justine Byrne who were the 2017 staff representatives on the board, for their dedication to the school and our community. We are all looking forward to continuing to work with Susie Abrahamffy and our newly elected parent and staff representatives in 2018.

### National Quality Framework

On Tuesday our executive teacher Jo Pearce organised a compliance spot check which included the Principal, Deputy Principal and visiting executive teacher, Julia Ison, from Weetangera Primary School. The team congratulated the preschool staff for the exceptional progress they have made this year in relation to the National Quality Framework which assesses preschool in the seven quality areas.

### Semester Report

On Thursday of week ten all students will receive their mid semester report from their teachers. This report gives parents and carers a snapshot of how students are progressing with their learning and if there are any areas of concern. Teachers will have ticked the interview box if they need to talk to you, however, you may request an interview with your child's teacher at any time if you feel the need. Please call the front office or email your child's teacher directly to arrange a suitable time. It is very important to all of us that we work together with you in partnership for the benefit of our children. Next term, you will receive the end of semester report in week nine and then we will hold the interviews in the last week of term. Please feel free to let us know if you have any concerns or queries about the reporting process.

### Communication Strategy

As a staff we have begun the process to develop a whole school communication strategy to provide clear and transparent guidelines for Macgregor Primary School best practice communication. As it is important for us to collate the voice of all stakeholders within the community this will be a three part process, beginning with feedback from parents then staff and then students. We began the process at the P&C meeting last Thursday where parents were invited to contribute their views and expectations to our planning document. We will include the google drive link below to allow any additional parents to include their comments and ideas. In light of respectful information technology practices we ask that any comments made are constructive and respectful and that the comments of others are not changed or altered. In developing ideas to add to this document we ask that you take into consideration the practicality of the suggestion. All students at Macgregor Primary School are issued with a google account if you need assistance in accessing this document.

[Link to communication strategy document](#)

Yours in Education  
Jennifer  
Principal



## Robots and Comets Spotlight on Learning

Wow! We have had a very busy start to the year! Apart from settling beautifully into preschool and making lots of new friends, our Robots and Comets have celebrated Harmony Day and been on a big excursion to Canberra Museum and Gallery! A highlight of our excursion was, of course, the bus! Driven by Bertie the bus driver. Some of our students had never been on a bus before and the experience was extremely exciting! After the bus trip we made fabulous art in the CMAG studio.



Robots—Ready to make art @ CMAG



Comets—Ready to make art @CMAG

We then toured the gallery as 'active viewers' and learnt about some local Indigenous artists and looked at their work. The children have been reflecting on the artwork we explored and this has inspired many of the children to get creative and explore new ideas and art mediums. We want to say thank you to all our lovely preschool families who helped make our excursion possible by volunteering their time to come along on our exciting journey! Thank you!

Samantha Grant  
Teacher



# 5GS Spotlight on Learning

Dear Parents/Carers

I just wanted to take a moment to introduce myself. My name is Georgia Starling and I feel honoured to be teaching as a part of the Year 5 unit this year and with my lovely class 5GS. As this term began we started off looking into 'get to know you' activities to help the cohort settle into their new classes. Within 5GS we have also been looking at responsibility in regards to our classroom space.

*"I have really enjoyed this term how, in 5GS we've been able to learn to have responsibility through class jobs"*

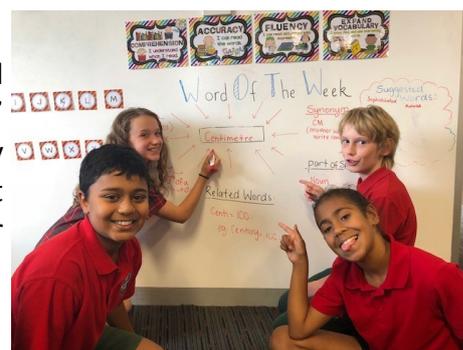
Amy Maka 5GS.

This term in Readers Workshop we have been looking at developing our reading strategies to help us with our reading comprehension. Within the strategies we have had a particular focus on visualisation. As a unit we read a passage from 'The Twits' by Roald Dahl, the students were then asked to use their knowledge of visualisation to draw Mr Twit, this brought about some great drawings with some very funny details!



In literacy, entwined with our spelling unit we have been looking at the meanings of interesting and significant words. One way we are doing this is through Word of the Week, which is displayed on our classroom wall. Our individual classes collect words through read to self activities, grade novels or unit of work discussions. In 5GS the students can add words they find interesting during read to self to be discussed later as a class or chosen for word of the week.

In maths this term year 5 has been looking at improving our mental computation. We have been doing this through 'Mental Mondays' and TopMarks.com a website that provides a fun and interactive way of practising mental computation. Also we have been looking at addition and subtraction strategies to help us work out larger numbers.



In art we explored warm colours in relation to our bushfire unit.  
*"I really liked the bushfire art because it was fun and interesting to learn about warm colours to do with our bushfire work."* - Skye Hunt 5GS

Year 5 Team

## Community Announcements

### PRESCHOOL 2019

If you have a child who turns 4 on or before 30 April 2019, then he/she is eligible to begin Preschool in February 2019.

Enrolments will be accepted from 9:00am 30 April 2018.

To enrol your child, go to [www.det.act.gov.au](http://www.det.act.gov.au), look for the Enrolling/Transferring-ACT Public Schools and complete the online enrolment form.

### Lost Property

Due to the large amount of lost property we are not able to store it for a long period of time. Items lost will come to the front office, unnamed items will be stored at the front office for one week then donated to the school uniform shop. Named items will be returned to the child's class. Be sure to write your child's name on their belongings so they can be returned to your child.

### 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](http://Transport Canberra) website, including a range of information sheets to promote safe behaviours around schools. Please help to make our school community safe.

**POSSUMS**  
playschool

**Vacancies Now Available**

[possumsplayschool.org.au](http://possumsplayschool.org.au)

Ph: 0415 571 972



Early childhood education for 3 and 4 year olds led by a qualified and well-respected team of educators. The program at Possums is varied and child centered, offering both free and directed play experiences. Our aim at Possums is to foster independence, enhance a range of skills, create relationships between peers and families, to learn through play and importantly, have fun!

30 Scattergood Place, Spence  
[possumsenrolments@hotmail.com](mailto:possumsenrolments@hotmail.com)

### ALLERGY AWARENESS AT MACGREGOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

Macgregor Primary School has several students who are highly allergic to nuts. Such an allergic reaction can be life threatening within a few minutes. A reaction can be started as simply as touching a child who has handled a peanut butter sandwich. Children and families at risk have individual strategies in place but the school can also assist. We aim to be **'allergy friendly'**, enabling us to provide a safer environment for all our students.

You can assist by avoiding nut products in your child's school lunches. This is especially important to consider when providing food to share such as for class parties. Peanut butter and Nutella seem to be two common problem products and there are many alternatives in both cases. It is also helpful to stress the importance of hand washing after eating and disposing of rubbish in the correct bin.

If you have any concerns or questions about this, please contact the school. More information is also available on the website – [www.allergyfacts.org.au](http://www.allergyfacts.org.au).

**End of term special lunch – Week 10 - Wednesday 11 April**

*Order on Flexischools by 4pm Monday 9 April*

***Please note: the usual menu will not be available on this day***

## **\$5.00 Meals**

### **Cheese Burger**

*Beef patty with cheese in a burger bun with sauce (your choice of sauce – tomato, mustard, both or none with the option to remove cheese)*

### **Nachos**

*Meat sauce over corn chips with cheese and sour cream*

### **Hot dog**

*Hot dog in a bun with sauce (your choice of sauce – tomato, mustard, both or none with the option to add cheese)*

## **Other treats**

Lolly bag - 50¢

Cinnamon donut - \$1.00

## **Drinks**

\$1.00 - Water

\$1.50 - Plain Milk (300ml Hi lo)

\$1.50 - Fruit Box *Apple & Blackcurrant OR Tropical*

\$2.50 - Moove (300ml) *Chocolate OR Strawberry*

## **Packet Snacks**

\$1.00 *Gingerbread Babies, Pretzels, Potato Curls / Stix*

## **Frozen Reminder -collect from the Canteen window**

\$2.00 - Twisted Frozen Yoghurt

*Chocolate/vanilla      Raspberries/coconut*

*Watermelon/mango      Strawberry/vanilla*

\$1.00 Frozen Fruit Juice Cup

*Apple & Blackcurrant*

*Orange OR Apple*

***NOTE: Zooper Doopers will be available to purchase from the canteen window for \$1.00 at lunch time.***



# P&C NEWS

Macgregor Primary School | Partners in Education

Week 8 Term 1 2018



## Help Wanted

Do you have an interest in helping out but can't commit during work hours? Want to put some new work experience on your resume? The P&C has the following volunteer positions available.

**Treasurer.** Skills and experience are NOT required – most of our treasurers have learnt on the job. The ACT P&C Council will provide free training for Treasurers on Thursday April 12, from 7 to 9:30pm. Support is also available from previous Treasurers and the P&C Executive Committee. Of course, if you already have accounting experience you are also welcome to apply! ☺ Time commitment varies between 3 hours/month and 3 hours/week when handling special events

**P&C Council Representative.** Are you good at talking to people? This one's for you! The Council Rep attends monthly (evening) meetings of the ACT Council of P&C Associations; represents the school's P&C at Council meetings; and reports back to the P&C on items of interest from Council meetings. Time commitment: up to 5 hours/month during term time.



Check out our Facebook page for up to date news from the P&C such as upcoming events, fundraisers and reminders from the uniform shop and canteen! Find us at [www.facebook.com/macgregorprimarypandc/](http://www.facebook.com/macgregorprimarypandc/) or simply search for Macgregor Primary P&C.

## 5-cent fundraiser

### Start saving!

Last year we raised **\$1,175.55** just by collecting our 5 cent pieces!

Whether large or small, every contribution is valuable. This money will be used to benefit the school and its families.

**In 2018 staff are invited to join the fun.** Can Macgregor's staff beat the students? The Juniors beat the Seniors by \$400 last year so it's a big challenge.

**Grab a container and start collecting NOW!**



Some of our families even have money boxes at work for people to toss their 5c pieces into. ☺

## Canteen News

### End of term special lunch Week 10 - Wednesday 11 April

The first term of 2018 is nearly complete and we are celebrating by serving a special 'End of Term' lunch for everyone to enjoy!

Keep a lookout for the menu on Flexischools (there's a sneak peek in this newsletter). You can place your order anytime between now and 4pm Monday April 9. **Ordering only available via Flexischools, the regular menu will not be available on this day.**

### Halal chicken now available

We are really pleased to be able to offer the families in our community who require halal grade food, the opportunity to purchase lunch from the canteen. All of the chicken products now sold in the canteen are either Steggles or Lilydale brand and these are a better quality product than previously sourced chicken meat.

We are excited about the new menu options we have introduced under the title of 'mini meals'. We are sourcing smaller wraps for chicken, lettuce, mayo wraps and have a new 'mini' salad wrap available as well. Also on the mini meals menu we have the option of 3 nuggets with salad veg available for smaller children or children that prefer a smaller size portion.

When ordering frozen products online via Flexischools, please remind your child in the morning that they need to visit the canteen at the first bell for break 1 (lunch) to collect their pre-ordered frozen treat.

Thankyou  
Lauren and Mandy.