

# MACGREGOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

LINKED BY LEARNING... EXPERIENCE, EXPRESSION & EXCELLENCE

**Principal: Jennifer Hall**

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**Volume 44, Issue 1**

**Term 1 Week 2**

**14 February 2019**



## Dates to Remember

**Monday 18 February** School Board Nominations close 11:00am

**Thursday 21 February** P&C Annual General Meeting 6:00pm

**Tuesday 19 February** 'Get To Know You' interviews 3:30pm-7:00pm

**Friday 22 February** Assembly at 2:20pm

Dear Macgregor Community

Happy New Year!

A huge welcome to the 2019 school year! I would also like to extend a warm welcome to our 88 preschoolers and our 36 new children joining classes from K-6. Our school population has now increased to over 600 students for the 2019 school year!

We have had an amazing start to the new school year. The staff were organised and excited and the children quickly settled in following the school expectations. Families, too, were happy and smiling as they watched their children's engagement in their learning.

Welcome Barbeque 2019

Last night we had our traditional 'Welcome Back Barbeque', organised and sponsored by our wonderful P and C. Thank you so much from all of us. We had lots of help on the barbeque and over 400 sausages were cooked and served to our families. Special thanks to Adam Harker as the 'chief chef,' and Lauren Cornish for her superb coordination of the event. Our teachers also did a fantastic job in supporting this event.

Wellbeing@Macgregor (W@M)

At Macgregor we understand that positive rewards are a way we can recognise individuals and the behaviour that we want to see at our school. They are compatible with the theory of Positive Behaviour for Learning when they are used to teach the desired behaviours that we want to see. The W@M token is the agreed upon method of rewarding students who have shown the positive behaviours at Macgregor Primary School and are recorded as part of the W@M points tallies for the week. Each W@M token equates to a W@M point, and when a student reaches 25 points for one of our expectations – Responsible, Respectful, Safe and Learner – they have reached a milestone! When students reach the first milestone they will receive a W@M Bronze Badge for the particular expectation (e.g. Learner Bronze). When they reach the next milestone of 50 points for the expectation they will be awarded a W@M Silver Badge for the particular expectation (e.g. Learner Silver) and when they reach the next milestone they will be awarded a W@M Gold Badge for the particular expectation (e.g. Learner Gold). These badges are iron-on embroidered badges that can be placed on students shirts, hats or schoolbag. These badges will take the place of the W@M bands that we have used in previous years.

Music

We have renewed our focus on music education for the 2019 school year. There is currently a lot of research available regarding the benefits of music education. We will be providing a range of additional opportunities for the children including; children from Kindergarten to Year 2 engaging in weekly vocal lessons as a 'prep choir', all of the children participating in community singing during assemblies, establishing a combined Year 5 and 6 Band for events called the 'Macgregor Big Band' and establishing a student/teacher instrumental ensemble. Oh happy days!

Yours in Education

*Jennifer*



## 2019 Macgregor Primary Staff List

Executive Team	
Jennifer Hall - Principal	Catherine Dillon - Deputy Principal & Preschool
Joanne Pearce - Kindergarten & year 1	James Orr - Year 5 & 6
Peter Usher - Year 2 & LSG	Christine Trull - Specialist, year 3 & 4
Jenny Wynne - Business Manager	
Front Office Team	
Jo Scanes, Tracey Reis, Eileen Muscat & Zoe Allen	
Specialist Team	
Bethany Taylor - Specialist Teacher, PE	Fabio Fabbo - Specialist Teacher, Arts
Paula Charles Specialist Teacher, Spanish	Millie Butt - Specialist Teacher, Garden & ICT
Norma John—Teacher Librarian	
Preschool Team	
Bek Stevenson - Teacher	Heather Watt - Assistant
Glennis Weatherstone - Teacher	Tracey Liddle - Assistant
Kirstin Brown - Teacher	Cecilia Wong - Assistant
Amanda Ferris—Teacher	Brenda Frew - Assistant
Danielle Jackson - Teacher	
Kindergarten Team	Year Five Team
Edward Bassanelli - Teacher KEB	Michelle Sochacki/Simone Xirakis—Teacher SMS
Meagan Gordon - Teacher KMG	Bec Naughton - Teacher 5BN
Lyndsey Orchard - Teacher KLO	Brooke Estreich—Teacher 5BE
Rebecca Bull - Teacher KRB	Year Six Team
Year One Team	Willa McIntyre - Teacher 6WM
Renee Sochacki/Simone Xirakis - Teacher 1RS	Tina Nguyen - Teacher 6TN
Gaye Yates - Teacher 1GY	Deon Norval - Teacher 6DN
Jay Bartholomew - Teacher 1JB	LSG
Charlotte Wood - Teacher 1CW	Peta-Marie Sackl - Teacher LSGPS
Year Two Team	Tracey Webster - Teacher LSGTW
Janet Hagan - Teacher 2JH	School Assistants
Sharee Hodge/Hannah Dwyer - Teacher 2HD	Kate McDonald - year 2 & 3
Evelyn Robertson - Teacher 2ER	Danielle Fenwick - years 5 & 6
Year Three Team	Jen Hartas - LSG & year 3
Melissah Cook - Teacher 3MC	Keiko Phillips - LSG
Laura Horrell - Teacher 3LH	Kim McAuliffe - LSG
Sarah Meagher - Teacher 3SM	Ira Patkar - Library & year 1
	Zoe Allen - front office & year 4
Year Four Team	Manpreet Kaur - LSG
Cameron Ryan - Teacher 4CR	Emmet Rumble - year 3 & 4
Georgia Starling - Teacher 4GS	Brenda Frew - LSG & Preschool
Mark Strutt - Teacher 4MS	Tracey Liddle - Kindergarten
Hope Auth - Teacher 4HA	Jaspreet Kaur - Kindergarten
BSO	School Psychologist
Eddie Signorini	Caroline Gunn

### Lost Property

Due to the large amount of lost property we are not able to store it for a long period of time. 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.

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.

### 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.

## Lift Off Ready

**YEAR 2**  
**Get Ready to take off at**



Lift Off! Ready is happening at our school on Wednesday 6 March from 4-7pm

Each child from Year 2 is invited to attend with one parent / carer.

### **It's a fabulous 3 hour workshop with a focus on Relationship Skills**

You will:

Participate in activities and play games together

Support your child's development

Share stories

Connect with other parents

*"This was the perfect program for our busy family!  
It was fun, and made a real difference to our lives.  
We loved the program." – Parent*

**Look out for the Welcome Letter & Booking Form  
coming home with your child.**

## Spotlight on The Library

Dear Families,

Macgregor Primary School will be hosting Scholastic Book Club again in 2019. When you purchase a book from the catalogue you will also be supporting your school library. You will by now have received your Scholastic book club catalogues this week. A reminder that all orders and payments must to be completed online and that no cash will be accepted at the school.

To order a book you will need to go through this direct link and register:

<https://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/Parent/Register.aspx>

The due date for current online orders is on **Wednesday 20 February 2019**. Orders will be delivered to the school and distributed to students as they arrive. If you do order after the due date, you will be charged \$4.99 for a shipping fee for delivery to your home address.

Happy Reading !!

Regards,

Your Library Team

Ira Patkar and Norma John

## Safe Parking

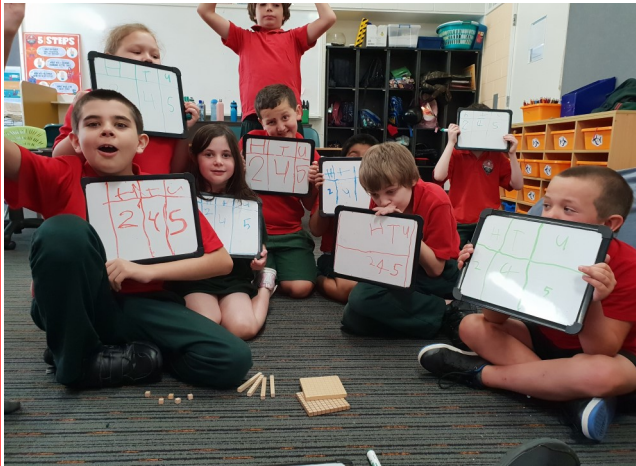
Unsafe driving and parking behaviours increase the potential road safety risk for children around schools. Road safety is a shared responsibility, it is important the road rules are followed near our school to ensure the entire school community feels safe.

Please remember children are more at risk than adults around schools because they are smaller and less visible to drivers. They are also less predictable and less experienced, which makes them more likely to make errors of judgement.

Failing to follow simple road rules like parking on the verge, in no stopping zones, in bus stops, near children's crossings, on footpaths or across driveways increases the risk to children around schools. Please do the right thing to create a safe environment around our school.

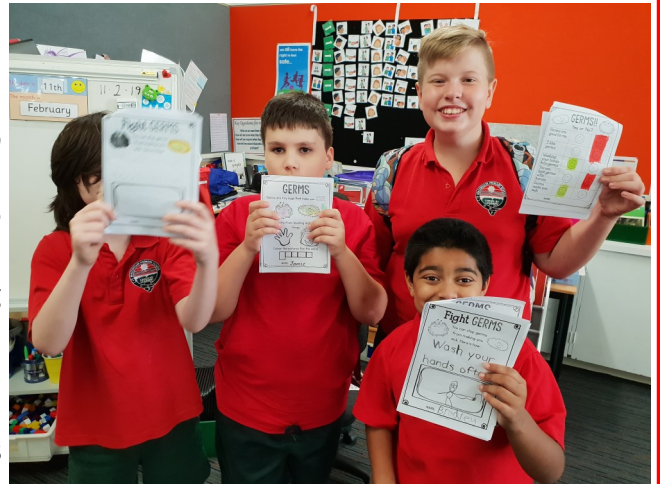


## LSGTW Spotlight on Learning

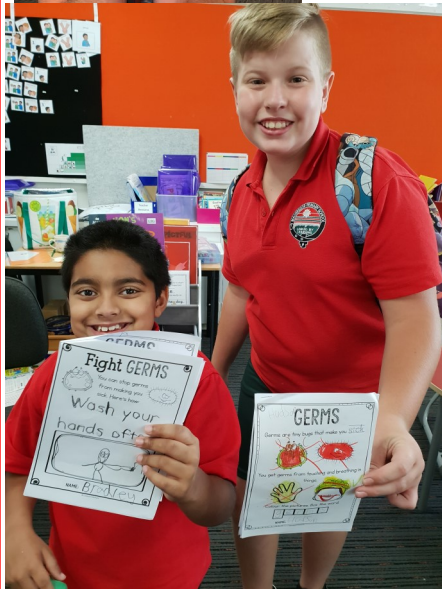


Welcome to another wonderful year at Macgregor Primary School. LSGTW, otherwise known this year as the Super Sharks, have hit the ground running.....or swimming! We are learning what place value is and how changing the columns our numerals are in changes the value of the number. Students are grasping the concepts quickly and are having a great time exploring how numbers work.

With a focus this term on hygiene, what better place to begin than with “GERMS”. The class had a wonderful time today following Mrs Webster’s steps after she played with germs (glitter), then spread them throughout the class through touch. It was amazing watching little bits of glitter suddenly appear on little hands after using a pencil that was touched earlier. An investigation prompted lots of discussion and the class instructed Mrs Webster to ‘go and wash her hands with soap and water’.



During our literacy lessons we are focussing on how to identify and write a sentence. We have learnt a cute chant that you might hear often during the school term. This week we made sentence buddies as a visual reminder of what has to be included in a sentence.



Wow, all of this and it is only week two. We can't wait to see what other wonders we are going to learn in the coming terms.  
Tracey Webster



# P&C NEWS

Macgregor Primary School | Partners in Education

Week 2 Term 1 2019



## P&C Meetings

P&C meetings are an excellent opportunity to meet other parents and make new friends. It is also a great way to hear more about the things going on within the school. Meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month, except for school holiday periods. Please consider coming along!

## P&C AGM – Thursday 21 February 2019 at 6:00pm

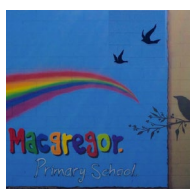
The AGM will be held in the School Library at 6pm on Thursday 21 February. All positions will be declared vacant and filled at the meeting. Positions include President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and convenors for committees such as Fundraising, Uniform shop, Canteen and the before and after school care service. If you would like information about any of the roles please email [macgregorprimarypandcsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:macgregorprimarypandcsecretary@gmail.com)

## School Banking

School banking is available Wednesday mornings at 8:00 - 9:30am in front of the Library. Bring in your child's bank books and start receiving term 1 rewards. If you wish to start school banking, we will happily answer any questions you may have to begin the process. Preschool students can also use this service.

## Seven steps to becoming a lunchbox packing expert

1. Make time to prepare. Have fresh fruit and vegetables, milk and yoghurt, bread and whole grain crackers ready to go.
2. Shop wisely and save money. Buy fresh fruit and vegetables in season to ensure good quality and value for money.
3. Make your own snacks. Check out the Healthy Lunchbox Week website below for recipe ideas.
4. Look after the environment. Put sandwiches and other items in reusable containers. This uses less packaging and creates less rubbish.
5. Choose a variety of foods from the 5 food groups: grain foods (mostly whole grain or high fibre), vegies, fruit, dairy & alternatives, meat & alternatives.
6. Include a bottle of water. There's no need for sweetened drinks such as juice, cordial or soft drink as these contain too much sugar which is not good for teeth. Non-water drinkers usually start drinking water with the example of other children. Freeze a small quantity each night and top up with cold water in the morning for a cool summer drink.
7. Keep food cool. In warm weather freeze a water bottle or put a small ice pack in the lunchbox



Proudly brought to you by Macgregor Primary School P&C

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or search for Macgregor Primary P&C.

## Thank You

The P&C Committee & OSHC Committee would like to extend their thanks to Velocity Conveyancing for their pro bono assistance with regards to the OSHC lease agreement.



BELCONNEN | GUNGAHLIN  
CANBERRA CITY | WODEN  
TUGGERANONG | QUEANBEYAN

**Velocity Conveyancing**  
[velocityconveyancing.com](http://velocityconveyancing.com)

\*Terms and conditions apply. Contact us now to find out

**Click on the link below if you'd like some more information about healthy lunches from ACT Nutrition.**

[ACT Nutrition Support Service website!](#)



# School Banking. Helping kids learn the value of saving.

## What pocket money can teach your child.

Pocket money can help teach kids about the value of money and how to look after it. However, there's no 'one size fits all' approach and it's important to decide what's right for your family. Research of over 1,000 parents of primary school students revealed that 55% give regular pocket money<sup>^</sup> and here's how they manage it:



Over half give less than \$10 per week (\$5 - \$10 is the most common range). There's no right or wrong – the amount should suit your family situation.



Around 4 in 5 parents link pocket money to the completion of a chore or task. This can help children understand that money needs to be earned.



On average, kids save about half of their pocket money each week. Learning to put money aside for a bigger goal is a valuable life skill.

## Join the Dollarmites on a Polar Savers adventure.

The majority of parents think it's important to make learning about money engaging and to reward good saving behaviour<sup>^</sup>. So to help, our Dollarmites characters (Pru, Addy, Spen, Lucas and Pat) are taking School Bankers on a Polar Savers adventure, that's full of exciting rewards.

Students participating in School Banking will receive a silver Dollarmites token each time they make a School Banking deposit at school (maximum one per week). Once they've collected 10 tokens, they can redeem them for a Polar Savers reward.



### Polar Savers Rewards:

- Term 1:** Scented Stackable Highlighter, Snowy Origami Set
- Term 2:** Yeti Fluffy Notebook, Icicle Slapband Ruler
- Term 3:** Arctic Owl Fluffy Keyring, Scratch Art Cards
- Term 4:** Water Skimming Bounce Ball, Polar Pencils & Pencil Toppers

## School Banking Deposit Tracker.

Colour in a number every time you make a deposit at school. For every 10 School Banking deposits you can redeem a reward.



To find out more about the School Banking program and how to get your child involved, ask your School Banking Co-ordinator for a School Banking Parent Pack or visit [commbank.com.au/schoolbanking](http://commbank.com.au/schoolbanking)