

# MACGREGOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

LINKED BY LEARNING... EXPERIENCE, EXPRESSION & EXCELLENCE

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**Volume 43, Issue 20 Term 1 Week 10 13 April 2018**



ACT  
Government  
Education



Dear Macgregor Community

Term 1 2018 has certainly been a busy term but a very rewarding one for all of us. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of our students on how they have applied themselves to their learning. We have all been impressed with the strong commitment of our students with their focus on a Growth Mindset and their belief and determination in achieving the very best in their learning. Thank you to all of the staff at Macgregor for their commitment to creating a positive learning culture and to our families for their support with our important work.

### **Congratulations**

Congratulations to Georgia Starling, Sarah Meagher, Meagan Gordon and Edward Bassanelli on celebrating their graduation from University. We are all very proud of your tremendous achievement.

### **3/4 Classes**

As part of the enquiry unit this term the students in years 3/4 have been investigating early explorers and have been answering the enquiry question, 'In what ways did my chosen explorer change the world?' Parents and carers were invited into the classes last Tuesday and Wednesday to view the exhibit and enable the students to share their learning. I sat with Isaac Laverty who taught me a number of facts about Captain James Cook and shared his exhibit with confidence. All of the students were engaged and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. It was awesome to see the students share their hard work with an authentic audience, and it was very well received by our community.



### **Cross Country**

Today we had perfect weather for our cross country carnival and all of the children demonstrated wonderful house spirit and determination in attempting to achieve their personal best. Thank you to the staff and parents for their high level of participation and as many ran the course with the children modelling the importance of personal fitness. Special thanks to Bethany Taylor and Millicent Butt for their coordination of the event.

### **Anzac Day**

On Wednesday morning we had a special Anzac Day ceremony, as once again Anzac Day falls in the holidays. A number of classes created wreaths which were presented respectfully to the assembly. Our executive teacher, Ms Jo Pearce read 'Hope's Dawn Service' by Angela Moyle which is a story about a joey kangaroo in Canberra who is captivated by the moving ceremony outside the War Memorial. Hope learns about mateship, kindness and what the 'Anzac Spirit' means.

### **School Board**

On Wednesday evening we had our first School Board meeting with our new parent representatives Duncan Beard and Erin Kelly, and our new staff representatives Jo Pearce and Rebecca Bull. Susie Abrahamffy was elected as the School Board Chair and Duncan Beard as the Deputy Board Chair. Congratulations Susie and Duncan and we look forward to working productively with you to achieve our strategic priorities. We presented the Annual Action Plan for 2018 in draft form and members of the Board had some great ideas to add, particularly around surveying parents about workshops and focussing on a dedicated block of social emotional teaching learning on a weekly basis.

### **NAPLAN**

The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual National assessment for all students in year 3,5,7 and 9. NAPLAN tests are one aspect of our school assessment and reporting process; they do not replace the ongoing assessment by teachers reporting on students performance. However, it was very pleasing to receive a congratulatory email from the CEO of ACARA. Macgregor Primary School was identified as having demonstrated substantially above average gain in numeracy achievement. On behalf of ACARA 'I would like to extend my congratulations to you and your school community on this achievement. Improvement in student literacy and/or numeracy of this magnitude, as measured by NAPLAN, is significant and worthy of highlighting and acknowledging'.

I will be taking long service leave in weeks 1 and 2 of term 2. Michael and I were lucky enough to be allocated attendance passes to the commemorative service for the Centenary of the Battle of Villers-Bretonneux on Anzac Day in France. James Malone will be acting Principal and Jo Pearce will be acting Deputy. We will also be welcoming the newest member of our executive team Mr Peter Usher who has won a substantive school leadership position. Peter comes with a wealth of knowledge and experience and we are very much looking forward to working with him.

Wishing you all a happy and safe holiday break and see you in week 3.

Yours in Education

Jennifer  
Principal

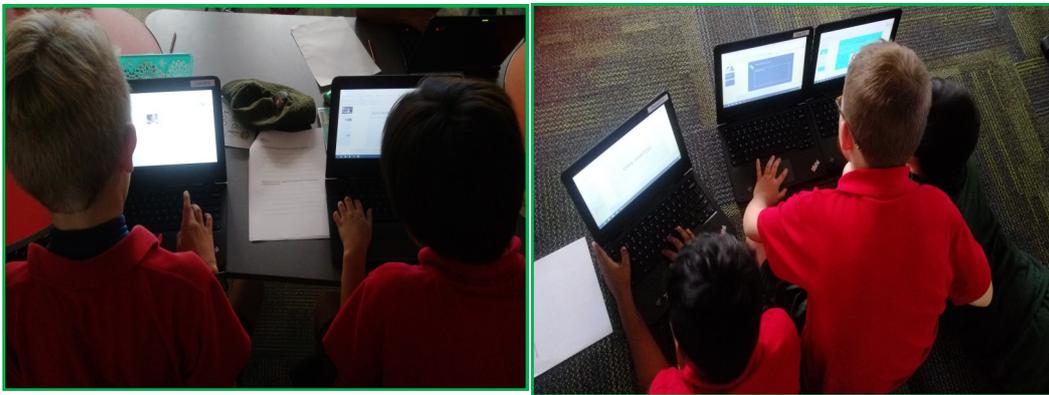


## 3/4 EB Spotlight on Learning

The students of 3/4 EB have had a great start to 2018.

In Literacy, we have been focussing on persuasive texts. Students have been learning how to carefully construct these texts using persuasive devices such as alliteration, exaggeration and rhetorical questions. We have discussed and written texts for 'scooting should be allowed at school', 'summer is better than winter', 'books are better than movies', 'English is a more important topic subject than Maths' and 'children should only get one hour of screen time a day'. The students have loved discussing their points of view with the other students before planning, drafting, writing and publishing these texts.

Inquiry has found us investigating explorers from all over the world such as Zheng He, Christopher Columbus, Dirk Hartog, Captain James Cook, Abel Tasman and Ferdinand Magellan. The class went on a scavenger hunt to learn more about these explorers before choosing an explorer for their research project. Students researched what the explorer did and why they were important and then created a slideshow to present to their peers and family.



In Maths, students have been exploring time. They have all learnt how to tell time to the minute and convert from different time measurements. We have also linked our learning to 24 hour time. In Maths, we have also been learning about place value, playing games and participating in fun activities to be able to read, write and order numbers to five digits and beyond.

Students have begun learning about forces. We have been taking part in activities to understand concepts such as push, pull, momentum, friction, floating and gravity. Students are loving these activities and becoming keen scientists!

Thanks for reading,

Edward Bassanelli  
Teacher



## KNT Spotlight on Learning

KNT have experienced an amazingly fun and busy first term! All students have settled in so well and we are all one happy team as we learn and grow.



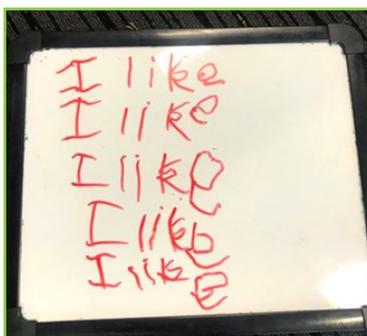
Meet Floppy our class pet. He loves to go home each week with a student and enjoy spending time with family and friends. He is presented at the beginning of each week with drawings and photos of his time away.



In maths, KNT have learned all about adding numbers and making totals. We love to use hoops and to be able to move the blocks around to represent our sums. We are quickly becoming experts at the game "bucket drop" where we must listen to an item drop into a bucket and count forward to get the number. We are so good now Miss Terry is going to have to increase the games difficulty to keep up with us! We have also enjoyed making patterns with Unifix blocks in many different repeating patterns with colours.



In Literacy we are busy reading to our teacher every day and we love to write and explore sentences using our taught sight words. We have learned about and written facts on Tasmanian devils, echidnas, giraffes and beavers. One of our focuses this term has been studying nursery rhymes and identifying the rhyming words in them. Some of them are tricky!



Kind Regards  
Nicole Terry



## Macgregor Public School will Lift Off! in 2018

Macgregor Primary school is excited to announce that we will be working with Uplifting Australia in 2018 to deliver the *Lift Off!* program.

Marlena Bassler from Uplifting Australia will be working with our school to help us deliver activities that work to strengthen the emotional wellbeing and resilience of our children and families.



"We understand that preparing our children emotionally is as important as teaching them to read and write." Garry Thomson, CEO Uplifting Australia

Research shows us that by investing in the development of social and emotional skills in childhood benefits all aspects of children's learning, development, mental health and wellbeing. We prepare them to be healthier, happier and more successful adults.

We know that no-one can do this alone, so *Lift Off!* brings children, parents and teachers together through fun, caring, interactive, empowering and inspiring activities.

Teachers access new ideas to apply in the classroom; parents are introduced to strategies they can use in their families; and children learn to relate better to others, express their feelings and deal with life's challenges

Through *Lift Off!* your whole school community will come together to focus on the wellbeing of your children.

*Lift Off!* programs will include:

- Teacher Training
- *Ready* (stage 1) > *Steady* (stage 2) > *Go* (stage 3) are after school programs for children, parents and teachers that support connection, sharing and fabulous families
- *Family Connect* are meaningful conversation starters that will be used in the classroom and come home to help families to listen, appreciate each other, express feelings and work through differences.
- Friendly parent tips for the newsletter

*"We think the Lift Off! program is valuable to all parents and children, for connection, bonding and fun!  
Thank you for the opportunity to be a part of this positive program"* Parent testimonial

To find out more, go to <https://www.upliftingaustralia.org.au/lift-off-schools/> and watch for more information coming home next term.



## Heroes Corner

Bailey got his first round win at Circuit Mark Webber in the two track challenge. Racing in the Cadet 9s Bailey won his first heat of the day. There was tough competition from Wollongong and Dubbo with Bailey finishing 3rd, 2nd and 2nd in the following 3 heats. Bailey started off pole in the 15 lap final, the lead changed numerous times keeping spectators on the edge of their seats till the final lap. Bailey showed great driving skill to get around lapped traffic, making a pass for the lead with two laps to go to Bailey was able to hold on to first place to win the final.

Great driving Bailey!!!



## 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 open **30 April 2018** and must be submitted online at <https://form.act.gov.au/smartforms/landing.htm?formCode=1087>

All ACT children are guaranteed a place in an ACT Public School, from preschool through to college. Information about the enrolment assessment criteria and priority enrolment areas can be found at [https://www.education.act.gov.au/school\\_education/enrolling\\_in\\_an\\_act\\_public\\_school](https://www.education.act.gov.au/school_education/enrolling_in_an_act_public_school).

If you are applying to enrol in preschool, year 7 or year 11 we ask that you submit your application by 4 June 2018 to support timely processing and school planning. From 30 June 2018, after the application has been processed, parents/carers will commence receiving advice from the school on the enrolment.

### 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.

### 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 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.

### 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).

# P&C NEWS



Macgregor Primary School | Partners in Education

Week 10 Term 1 2018



## We run on PEOPLE POWER!

Have new or fresh ideas or want to get involved in your P&C? It's never too late!

We are always excited to have more parents and carers help us in all events in our P&C ranging from fundraising and helping out in the uniform shop and canteen. We are all volunteers trying to make your child's school a better place!

If you would like to help out in any way, feel free to message us via our [Facebook](#) messenger option and one of our friendly P&C members will contact you.

Thankyou!

## Mother's Day stall



This year the P&C will be holding a Mother's Day Stall on 8, 9 and 10 May. Gifts priced from \$1-\$10 will be available.

All students will be able to come to the stall during Break 1 on those three days. Classes will also have separate times to access the stall to make it easier for everyone. ☺

We would love to hear from any parents and carers willing to volunteer on one or all of the days. Please contact us through the [Facebook](#) page or email [TDRevents@hotmail.com](mailto:TDRevents@hotmail.com)

## Canteen news

### Special lunch menus available in Term 2

Thank you to all the families who took advantage of the End of Term 1 special lunch this week. We hope you enjoyed the special treats!

In Term 2 we have the following special lunches planned:

Friday 18 May            Athletics Carnival

Wednesday 23 May    Autumn Special Lunch

Wednesday 30 May    Autumn Special Lunch

These special lunches will only be available through [Flexischools](#) and orders will close a bit earlier than usual to allow time to prepare these special meals.

Check the next newsletter for all the details. You will see the menus pop up in [Flexischools](#) closer to these special days.



### Apple slinkies

We love our Apple Slinky volunteers! The kids love the Apple Slinky volunteers even more! Please feel free to pop in for about half an hour at 10am on Thursdays and Fridays to help out.

Thankyou from Lauren and Mandy.

## Uniform shop

For all your uniform enquiries drop us a line at [uniform@macgregorpandc.org](mailto:uniform@macgregorpandc.org) Email is checked daily and we will endeavour to get back to you ASAP.

Orders can be placed in person at the Uniform Shop or on Flexischools.

When you order uniform items via Flexischools, you can opt to collect from the Uniform Shop when it's open OR have your order delivered to your child's classroom the following Monday.

Due to volunteer availability, we are usually able to open on Monday mornings and Friday afternoons.

Please contact us by email or [Facebook](#) message if you are interested in volunteering at the Uniform Shop.

# P&C NEWS



Macgregor Primary School | Partners in Education

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## School Banking

It's been a very busy term and the children are loving the redemption days. It makes it really easy for the children to redeem their tokens as they can see what is on offer. This term the number of bankers has grown and last week on the 4th of April we reached a new school banking record of 66 bankers. Well done everyone and keep on banking.

School banking will continue to be run next term on Wednesdays outside the library from about 8:30am until 9:30am. Susan from the Commonwealth Bank will be running school banking for the first 4 weeks of term 2.

Volunteers are desperately needed to continue this growing success. If you are free on Wednesday mornings and would love to help out or get more information about school banking, please come and see us or send a message through the [Facebook](#) page.

Many hands make light work and the children love seeing parents help out with school banking.

Kirsty Ross  
School Banking Coordinator



## Reminder: 5-cent fundraiser

We are excited to see who brings in the most 5 cent pieces this year. Will it be the Juniors again? The Seniors? Or will the Teachers win the day? Only time will tell.

Start saving all the 5 cent pieces you can now if you want to be on the winning team!



Find us on

Facebook

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Macgregor Primary School P&C

[www.facebook.com/macgregorprimarypandc/](http://www.facebook.com/macgregorprimarypandc/)  
or search for Macgregor Primary P&C.

## Help still wanted!

We need parent carer volunteers for the following positions to help our P&C run smoothly.

### Treasurer

Skills and experience are NOT required – most of our treasurers have learnt on the job.

Support is also available from previous Treasurers and the P&C Executive Committee.

Professional number crunchers, students and keen amateurs are all welcome to apply!

Time commitment varies between 3 hours/month and 3 hours/week when handling special events.

### P&C Council Representative

#### Help improve ACT schools

**Would you like to see changes in the way our schools work? Would you like your voice to be heard?**

The network of Council delegates for P&C associations brings the views of parents, through Council, to decision makers.

The Council Rep is our voice at the monthly (evening) meetings of the ACT Council of P&C Associations and reports back to our P&C on items of interest from Council meetings. Time commitment: 3-5 hours/month during term.

*For more information about either of these positions, please contact [secretary@macgregorpandc.org](mailto:secretary@macgregorpandc.org) or send a private message via [Facebook](#).*

**Term 2 Calendar 2018**

	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	
<b>Wk 1</b>	<b>30 April</b> ✓Preschool 2019 Enrolments commence	<b>1 May</b> ✓Robots & Stars on Bus Wash	<b>2 May</b>	<b>3 May</b> ✓Comets & Rockets on Bus Wash	<b>4 May</b>	
<b>Wk 2</b>	<b>7 May</b>	<b>8 May</b> ✓Mother's Day Stalls ✓ICAS Digital Technologies	<b>9 May</b> ✓Mother's Day Stalls ✓Aust Girls Choir Workshop 10-11:15am ✓Parent Reading Workshop 5:30 – 6:15pm	<b>10 May</b> ✓Mother's Day Stalls	<b>11 May</b> ✓Assembly @ 2:20pm hosted by 3/4RN, 3/4EB & 3/4CR	
<b>Wk 3</b>	<b>14 May</b> 3/4 Parent/carers 'Learning Walk and Talk' (TBA – this week)	<b>15 May</b> ✓NAPLAN ✓School Board Meeting 5pm	<b>16 May</b> ✓NAPLAN	<b>17 May</b> ✓NAPLAN ✓P&C Meeting 6pm	<b>18 May</b> ✓NAPLAN ✓Athletics Carnival Yrs2-6 ✓Canteen Special Lunch	
<b>Wk 4</b>	<b>21 May</b>	<b>22 May</b>	<b>23 May</b> ✓Canteen Special Lunch	<b>24 May</b>	<b>25 May</b>	<b>26 May</b> National Sorry Day
<b>Wk 5</b>	<b>28 May</b> Reconciliation Day Public Holiday	<b>29 May</b> ✓Reconciliation Week ✓ICAS Science	<b>30 May</b> ✓Reconciliation Week ✓Futsal Day (Sister School Program) ✓Canteen Special Lunch	<b>31 May</b> ✓Reconciliation Week	<b>1 June</b> ✓Reconciliation Week ✓Coffee and Chat with Jennifer from 9:15-10am & 2:15 – 3pm	<b>3 June</b> Mabo Day
<b>Wk 6</b>	<b>4 June</b>	<b>5 June</b> ✓Cuppa & Yarn with Wynetta 2pm	<b>6 June</b>	<b>7 June</b>	<b>8 June</b> ✓Assembly @ 2:20pm hosted by Yr 5	
<b>Wk 7</b>	<b>11 June</b> Queen's Birthday	<b>12 June</b> ✓El dia de los libros (Day of the Books)	<b>13 June</b> ✓Kindy Health Checks ✓ICAS Spelling	<b>14 June</b> ✓Kindy Health Checks ✓ICAS Writing	<b>15 June</b> ✓Kindy Health Checks	
<b>Wk 8</b>	<b>18 June</b>	<b>19 June</b>	<b>20 June</b>	<b>21 June</b> ✓P&C Meeting 6pm	<b>22 June</b>	
<b>Wk 9</b>	<b>25 June</b>	<b>26 June</b> ✓Reports and Portfolios go home ✓SOBS open for interview bookings	<b>27 June</b>	<b>28 June</b>	<b>29 June</b> ✓Coffee and Chat with Jennifer from 9:15-10am. ✓Assembly @ 2:20pm hosted by Yr 2	
<b>Wk 10</b>	<b>2 July</b>	<b>3 July</b>	<b>4 July</b> ✓Parent/Teacher Interviews 3:30-7pm	<b>5 July</b>	<b>6 July</b>	