Dear Macgregor Community,

Student Leadership:
Student leadership and student voice are high on the agenda at Macgregor at all times. Last Friday our student leadership team attended the Minister’s Student Forum, along with 180 student leaders from across ACT public schools. Together, they learned about the power of collaboration, working together to achieve a common goal. This year, the focus of the forum was the upcoming ‘National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence’ Our team have come away inspired by their peers and have put together an action plan, to address how our school will unite against bullying, next Friday, 20 March. It is going to be amazing!!! If you are keen to see something special, put 20 March, 10.30 am in your diary, and pop into the school.

Upcoming whole school events:
In addition to the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence, we have some other special assemblies and community events coming up and I’d like to see as many parents on board as possible. Please keep 27 March @ 2pm free for the Harmony Day assembly and afternoon tea, then Friday 10 April, 9.15am for our ANZAC Day assembly.

School Dress Standard and Uniform Policy:
The Education and Training Directorate now expects that all public schools will have a formal policy around school dress standards and uniforms. Macgregor has always had a clearly articulated expectations, published in our school handbooks, but we now must formalise this in a policy. The School Board met last week to draft a policy that reflects the high standards which we have come to expect across the school; this draft is now ready for public viewing and community consultation. I must reiterate that there is no radical difference between the drafted policy and current expectations around uniform, however, feedback from our community is important prior to the school board approving the policy. Therefore, the policy is available in hard copy at the front office, or electronically through the school website. It is also attached to this email, for those who receive the newsletter electronically. All feedback is welcomed and would be appreciated. Please send it in writing to the front office, or submit via the school email: info@macgregorps.act.edu.au

Congratulations to last month’s winners of the GROWTH awards. We can’t wait to announce this month’s winners at tomorrow’s assembly. Hope to see you there.

Yours in Education
Lana Read
Principal

Year 6 Leadership Development Day at The Raiders Club in Kippax

Our Macgregor Primary School Vision:
’Linked by Learning ... Experience, Expression and Excellence’, students striving to develop to their full potential, learn respect for self, for others and the environment, whilst striving in harmony to prepare for a challenging future.
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 by 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.

News from the Rockets

We love coming to preschool. We have made lots of new friends. We get to play with everyone and go outside too.

Our favourite things to do at preschool…

“Playing outside.” Isobel

“Playing with Christian.” Sonny

“My favourite thing is playing with friends.” Samantha

“Writing my letters.” Indhi

“I like drinking water.” Alistair

“I like doing work.” Zack

“Dinosaurs.” Tristan

“The fairy wand.” Rachel

“My favourite idea is making letters.” Sophie

“My favourite thing is playing.” Gaby

“Play with dinosaurs.” Ellie

“Playing in the cubby house.” Sienna E

“My favourite thing is drawing and playing in the cubby house.” Isabella

“Making friends.” Sienna W

“My favourite thing is doing the blocks.” Harriet

“Playing outside.” Isla

“I like to draw and I paint pictures.” Catherine

“I build things.” Kofi

“I cook in the kitchen.” Erin

“I go to library. I get books. I got princess book.” Claire

“We do Spanish and I play with Sonny and build big towers!” Zachariah

Written by The Rockets, Sarah and Tracey

*Can you help us?!*

Our Preschool Wish List

If you no longer need any of the items below we would love your donations…

*Pots and pans  *Stones  *Boulders  *Dinosaurs  *Doll prams  *Dolls  *Children’s dress ups  *Fake flowers  *Terracotta pots  *Jars  *Baskets  *Crates  * Buckets  *Bed sheets  *Watering cans  *Soil/potting mix  *Wood

News from 5DL

Welcome to all the families of Year 5. It has been wonderful for Ms Lamond and myself to get to meet you over the last couple of weeks at our ‘get to know you interviews’ and hearing your insight into your children’s learning has been very helpful. We had a great start to the term with our school camp and are now settled into our beautiful learning environments.

We have had a couple of busy weeks in 5DL with students learning about persuasive texts. The students have decided what proficiency looks like for a year 5 piece of writing and are able to use hook sentences to hook their reader when writing to persuade. The students have also learned the importance of figurative language in their writing and how this can make their writing better. This week the students are learning to use the PEEL process to help expand their ideas, to ensure their writing flows before they get into the ‘nitty gritty’ or writing their own piece of persuasive writing.

In Mathematics students have focused on rounding numbers and using estimation to help check our answers to problems. We are beginning to focus on strategies we can use to help solve addition and subtraction facts and are developing our understandings of 6 digit numbers. Linking with our geography unit we are focussing on mapping and making sure we understand how to read a map correctly.

In PE we have been focussing on our fitness and will graph our improvements at the end of the term. So far there are many students able to use their core muscles to hold a plank position for 1 minute – stay tuned to find out how long they can hold it in week 10.

We had a fantastic time at our swimming carnival last week and it was great to see the participation of all the students in the pool events. Congratulations to Burnett House who were the overall winners. What an awesome effort.

Donna Lin and Allison Lamond
Dear Parents and Carers,

I’m excited to introduce our new “Cosy corner” with our beautiful new couch and cushions for all to enjoy. Your children are already loving this new space :)

I would like to invite parents that would like to come and read with their children on Mondays, Tuesdays and/or Wednesday mornings from 8.30 till 9.00. Parent supervision is essential. I will be here to welcome you and your children and hope this will be an opportunity for parents and children to spend some quality time together enjoying a love of books (non attending siblings welcome with supervision).

Parents also be sure to browse and borrow from our parent library. We will be continually adding new resources for you to utilise.

I am also introducing a book swap in week 7. Details will be included on a flyer in this week’s newsletter. If you have any questions please don’t hesitate to call the school. I am looking forward to seeing if the children enjoy this as much as I hope they will, if so we may make it a regular event.

The winners of the library awards this week are:
- Junior: Eli L
- Senior: Shona B.

Congratulations to all who continue to take pride in our library.

Happy reading

Lisa Kunkel

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**Excursion/Camp Notes & Money Procedures**

Notes and money for excursions/camps should be put in an envelope with your child’s name and class on it and sent into the class teacher before or on the due date.

Please try **not to** hand in the note over the counter at the front office, as the teachers have the excursion note bags they go in. You are welcome to pay using EFTPOS at the front office, just write on the note that payment has been made via EFTPOS and send it in to their teacher.

The correct money is needed as we do not carry change. Cheques can be made payable to Macgregor Primary School.

You can also pay at the front office via EFTPOS or you are welcome to direct deposit into our school account:

- **Account name:** Macgregor Primary School Management
- **BSB number:** 032777
- **Account number:** 001578

Please be sure to put your child’s name and what the payment is for as a reference.

*Permission notes must be sent in to the class teacher by the due date to allow time to finalise numbers for the booking. No late notes can be accepted.*

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**Lost Property**

Please check the lost property box for any lost items. At the end of the term it will be cleaned out and unclaimed items will be given to charity or the Uniform Shop.

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**News from 2SC**

What a year we are having! In the first five weeks of school Year Two have been very busy bees! This year the three Year Two classes are working collaboratively in a number of different units. Students are demonstrating their ability to work cooperatively with others and let their curiosity guide their interests in Investigations. Investigations take place three mornings a week with a number of stations spread over all three classes that are dedicated to the learning intentions for this term. The current stations include activities exploring physical movement, mixtures, addition, historical landmarks, artistic expression, and spelling.

In English students are exploring narrative and writing to entertain. As part of this unit students have been examining what makes a good story and how narratives are used to entertain others. Students are developing a better understanding of the structure of narratives and are using this knowledge to create longer and more involved stories.

In science students have been investigating mixtures (combinations of two or more elements). They have been exploring what makes something a mixture, what types of mixtures exist, where mixtures exist, and what happens when certain materials are mixed together.

So far students have experimented with soft drink and mentos, cornflour and water, hydrogen peroxide and yeast, and oil and water. They have discovered that some materials mix together well whilst others have a strong reaction to each other.

In mathematics students have been exploring different addition strategies in order to make informed decisions about what strategy is the most effective for them. This topic is now being explored further in WIN groups.

Last week Year Two, along with the majority of the school, took part in the school swimming carnival. The students had a great day doing a variety of activities on land and in the water.

This term students have been exploring the BRICK principles and how they can be implemented in their daily lives. Since week 2 we have been holding a grade level assembly every Tuesday in order to celebrate those students that we have seen demonstrating BRICK values. Congratulations to the year two students that have received BRICK awards this year, look for pictures and names on the back of the newsletter.

We have had a great start to the year and look forward to what is to come.

Kind Regards

Sabrah Clarke

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**The Library Buzz! Term 1 Week 6**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I’m excited to introduce our new “Cosy corner” with our beautiful new couch and cushions for all to enjoy. Your children are already loving this new space :)

I would like to invite parents that would like to come and read with their children on Mondays, Tuesdays and/or Wednesday mornings from 8.30 till 9.00. Parent supervision is essential. I will be here to welcome you and your children and hope this will be an opportunity for parents and children to spend some quality time together enjoying a love of books (non attending siblings welcome with supervision).

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I am also introducing a book swap in week 7. Details will be included on a flyer in this week’s newsletter. If you have any questions please don’t hesitate to call the school. I am looking forward to seeing if the children enjoy this as much as I hope they will, if so we may make it a regular event.

The winners of the library awards this week are:
- Junior: Eli L
- Senior: Shona B.

Congratulations to all who continue to take pride in our library.

Happy reading

Lisa Kunkel
Year 2 BRICK Awards

Jack A
Phoebe C
Eli C
Sanaah D
Lachlan G
Masooma H
Elijah L
Leiha M
Bethany S
Jaspreet S
Zabrina P
Hunter S
Madalyn R
Ferris B
Aaron V

Makaila S
Julia S
Ryan T
Vineth H
Avni G
Kirill M
Liam M
Indigo B
Charlie L
Emily M
Ariel M
Logan M
Jasper S
Jen R
Zack V

Our awesome Meninga Cup, Daley Shield & Oz tag teams.
National Ride to School Day – THIS FRIDAY
This Friday 13th March is National Ride to School day – a day when students and their families across Australia are encouraged to ride to school. As a Ride or Walk to School school, we participate in this national initiative each year as a warm-up activity to our local Avanti Ride or Walk Safely to School day held later in the year, where we have many competitions, give aways and fun activities. It is always great to see the bike cage overflowing with bikes, scooters and skateboards on these special days. This year students who ride a bike or scooter to school this Friday will receive stickers and be invited to participate in bike activities and challenges on the basketball court at lunch with Mr Ridley. So get those bikes out of the shed, pump up the tyres and pedal your way to school on Friday to help fill our bike cage!

Swimming Carnival and Fun Day Wrap-up
Congratulations to our awesome school community on another successful swimming carnival and water fun day last week. Our aim of maximum fun and participation for all was well and truly achieved, including many of our teachers getting wet and having a great time with the students. Students in years 1 - 6 enjoyed a fun day at Big Splash, participating in many novelty events, competitive races and water rotations expertly led by our good friends from Hawker College Sports Admin class. Our kindergarten students had the school to themselves for the day and participated in a number of fun water play activities organised by the fantastic kindergarten team. A big thank you to all the parents, carers, family and friends who were able to come along and cheer on our little champions at the pool and/or back at school.

One component of the day at the pool was the competitive races and once again the participation rate in the 50m events was outstanding. Congratulations to all those kids who jumped in the pool and had a go at these events! Special congratulations must go to those students who were selected in our school swimming team to compete at the Belconnen Region Swimming Carnival on 27 March at the AIS and to the following students who received age champion certificates at the presentation assembly: 8 yrs - Brooke K and Liam M; 9 yrs – Claudia L and Declan S; 10 yrs – Chelsea M and Joshua P; 11 yrs – Amanda-Jayne U and Brennan K; and 12 yrs – Hayley L and Stephen W. AND,....the winner of the house participation trophy for 2015 was Burnett!

Cross Country Carnival—8 April
With our swimming carnival and fun day over for another year, it is time to begin to turn our attention to the upcoming cross country. This year our school cross country carnival will be held between 9 am and 11 am on Wednesday 8 April (last week of term) on and around the school grounds, with the focus being on fun and participation. Classes will be busy training over the next few weeks, familiarising themselves with the courses and distances that the students will run. Distances the students will be running are as follows: K/1 – 500m; 8 yrs & Year 2 – 1km, 9 years – 1.5km; 10 years – 2km; 11 years – 3km; and 12 years – 3km. We will once again have our good friends from Hawker College helping us run the carnival. Further information will be provided in the coming weeks but in the meantime, let’s get running!

Raiders Legends Rugby League Gala Day
Congratulations to our three footy teams who participated in the Raiders Legends Rugby League Gala Day yesterday in Kambah. Our year 3/4 Meninga Cup team went through undefeated all day, only having one try scored against them all day. Our year 3/4 Oz Tag team played well together as a team, winning four out of five games, encouraging and supporting each other and always congratulating the opposition. Our year 5 Daley Shield team showed great determination and team spirit throughout all of their games, often up against much bigger opponents. The team finished their day off with an impressive win against Duffy Primary. A massive thanks to ASBA Nick, Rob Terrill (Max’s dad) and Paul Reid (Bailey, Jaxon and Mitchell’s dad) for assisting with training and coaching the teams. Thanks also to all the parents and grandparents who were able to come along and cheer on the teams and to Chloe’s Nan for taking the jerseys home to wash – you rock Nan!

And finally, good luck to our year 3/4 Meninga Cup team who will be playing in the finals at Raiders Kippax next Wednesday 18 March.

Magpies School Golf Program
Today we had a golf pro from Magpies Golf Club, Holt, visit NRG to conduct a 45 minute clinic with the boys. The session was funded by Magpies through the grant we secured last year and the boys enjoyed the putting and chipping challenges that were offered to them. At the end of the term we will also have the opportunity to take up to 30 year 5/6 students to the Holt golf course to receive a one hour clinic with the club pros and play some holes on the golf course.

Interschool Sports Afternoon 10 April 2015
On the last day of term we will again be participating in the very popular interschool sports afternoon at Latham Playing Fields. The afternoons are held for students in years 3-6 and aim to build positive relationships between neighbouring schools in a fun, non-competitive, safe and supportive environment. This term the focus sport is soccer. Notes detailing the excursion, including the ride to and from Latham by bike, will be sent home with interested students next week.

If you have any questions regarding any of the above information please contact me at school to discuss.
Have an awesome weekend....
Glen Ridley
PE Teacher

HEROES CORNER

Congrats to Brayden C whose team the Great White Sharks, finished the comp on top of the ladder in their division in the U10 Boys Oztag Footy summer competition. After a successful finals campaign, Brayden and the boys qualified for the Grand Final at Kaleen on Wednesday night 25th February 2015 and won 8-1.

Brayden was nominated by referees as Most Valuable Player for his fantastic leadership skills and great sportsmanship. Awesome work Brayden!
**President’s Update**

NAPLAN results have again been released in local newspapers. The ACT P&C Association strongly opposes this practice as it is misleading and potentially demoralising for some schools. A NAPLAN score only shows where students are now, not how far they have come, so a school's good work with disadvantaged students is hidden.

The ACT P&C Association is urging parents to inform themselves of the problems associated with the NAPLAN league tables and why they are invalid. Info available at the ACT P&C website: http://www.actparents.org.au/

Amanda Bichard
P&C President
pandcmacgregorprimaryschool@gmail.com
Our school was saddened to learn this week of the death of one of our most valued members, Someone Else.

Someone’s passing creates a vacancy that will be difficult to fill. Else has been with us for many years and for every one of those years, Someone did far more than a normal person’s share of the work.

Thank you to all the Someone Else’s, who do so much for so many.

Whenever there was a job to do, a class to teach, or a meeting to attend, one name was on everyone’s list, “Let Someone Else do it.”

Whenever leadership was mentioned, this wonderful person was looked to for inspiration as well as results; “Someone Else can work with that group.” It was common knowledge that Someone Else was among the most liberal givers in our school. Whenever there was a financial need, everyone just assumed Someone Else would make up the difference.

Someone Else was a wonderful person; sometimes appearing superhuman. Where the truth known, everybody expected too much of Someone Else. Now Someone Else is gone! We wonder what we are going to do. Someone Else left a wonderful example to follow, but who is going to follow it? Who is going to do the things Someone Else did?

When you are asked to help this year, remember - we can’t depend on Someone Else anymore.

-Author Unknown

Join the Apple Slinky Army

We need your help! We are encouraging students to bring their apple to canteen to be slinkied but sometimes we get over 100 students and need extra hands to make all of the slinkies! Your help would be very much appreciated.

Till next time, see you at the canteen window!

Sheryl, Jayne and the Canteen Committee.

Canteen open on Mon, Tue, Thurs and Fri.
**MACGREGOR PRIMARY’S BUSINESS SCHOOL PARTNERS**

**MACGREGOR PRIMARY’S PLATINUM BUSINESS SCHOOL PARTNER**

**Spot Available**

**MACGREGOR PRIMARY’S PLATINUM BUSINESS SCHOOL PARTNER**

*IGA HOLT*

Holt Place, Holt
62544694

**MACGREGOR PRIMARY’S PLATINUM BUSINESS SCHOOL PARTNER**

**Spot Available**

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**PLEASE SUPPORT THE BUSINESSES THAT SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL**

**Jessica Meyer Elders Real Estate Gungahlin**

jessica.meyer@eldersrealestate.com.au
62622777

**Canberra Carpentry & Roofing**

Jamin Everson: 0422 272 034
Andrew Niewenhouze: 0404 074 248
Canberracarpentry.roofing@gmail.com

**Dynamic Events Presents**

**CANBERRA’S GET ACTIVE EXPO**

Jessica Read: 0421 250 040
info@getactiveexpo.com

**Premium Plus Automotive**

103 Osburn Drive, Macgregor,
62543412

Email premiumplus@ppcanberramechanic.com
www.premiumplusautomotive.com

**Elite Meats Kippax**

Butchers – Retail- Holt
Shop 12/ Hardwicke Cres, Holt
62549338

**Tommy and Me**

3/12 Chalmers Place, Macgregor
61661533
Email: info@tommyandme.com.au

**HAIR BY KELSEY JANE**

SHOP 7, KIPPAX FAIR
HARDWICKE CRES, HOLT
62548605

**EverLoch Electrical**

Lachlan Marris
0423 309 833
0401 816 530
Email: lachlan@everloch.com.au

**Jayson Hinder & Associates Solicitors**

Wills, Conveyancing and Business Law
5 Kippax Pl
Holt ACT 2615
(02) 6247 6655
Email: jrh@actlaw.com.au

**Kippax Dental Group**

Kippax Health Centre
Kippax Place Holt, ACT 2615
62551544

**Hyperactive Entertainment**

We specialise in kids party entertainment and school discos!
hyperactiveentertainment@outlook.com
0421 596 578

**The Uniform Shop/That Party Place**

Luke Street
Holt ACT 2615
Phone: 6255-3876

Email: info@theuniformshop-canberra.com.au

**Onya Bike Belconnen**

61 Lathlain St, Belconnen
62532149 / 62514260
Email: belco@onyabikecanberra.com.au