

MACGREGOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

LINKED BY LEARNING... EXPERIENCE, EXPRESSION & EXCELLENCE

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Term 2 Week 4

23 May 2019



ACT
Government
Education



Dates to Remember

Friday 24 May - Athletics Carnival, years 2-6	Thursday 30 May Futsal Day (Sister School Program)
Monday 27 May - Reconciliation Day Public Holiday	Friday 31 May Year 2 National Zoo & Aquarium and Hats Off Day
Tuesday 28 May - National Reconciliation Week, assembly 9:15am	Monday 3 June Year 5 combined band practice
Thursday 30 May Belconnen Zone Cross Country	Wednesday 5 June - Year 4 Lift Off Steady

Dear families

Our school values all our volunteers who contribute in so many ways – School Board membership, P&C committee members, coaches, fundraisers, club leaders, library assistants, canteen volunteers, clothing Shop volunteers, guest speakers, family who love to read with children, experts, team managers or supporters of our social activities. Our school values the commitment, skills, time and energy of all our volunteers and we can't imagine what we would do without them.

The weather was sunny for the team of volunteers who prepared our democracy sausage BBQ and cake stall at 6.30am last Saturday. Many thanks to the families and friends who supported our P&C's fundraising and community building efforts. Special thanks to Tracey Barker (with Lilly by her side and Baby Archie in her arms) who led this event. This week, we acknowledge *National Volunteer Week* in Australia. Whenever you get a chance, I encourage you to just say "Thanks" to our Macgregor Primary volunteers, because they are making a world of difference.

Our school community contains a bountiful amount of expertise and support. If you have any skills or passions that could contribute to our school, please do make email contact with me or drop by for a chat. Thank you also to the members of our school community who are 'liking' our Facebook posts we now have over 950 page likes. Let's share our Macgregor Primary events and activities for everyone to see #schoolpride.

Public Education Week

You may have noticed some decorative changes to our school's front foyer and front entrance. We are continually appraising and improving our learning spaces. This reflects the first and fourth goals of the ACT Education Directorate's strategic plan... *'school is a place where students love to learn'* and *'learning culture'*. In this 2019 ACT Public Education Week, our school leaders have been appraising, straightening, sorting and displaying to ensure we are creating spaces designed to welcome and engage our children in their learning and promoting the development of quality relationships with our families. This week, we have also met with members of our school community to consult about the ways we are developing our school's positive culture. Saturday's Federal Election brought locals and visitors to Macgregor Primary's hall and front entrance area...we overheard many conversations between voters making comment on our beautiful front foyer facilities and many conversations thanking our P&C team for their hospitality.

NAPLAN

Over the last two weeks, our students in years 3 and 5 participated in NAPLAN. Students were assessed in reading, writing, language conventions and numeracy. NAPLAN is just one set of data we collect and monitor, to inform us about student progress at Macgregor Primary School. We analyse and use a range of data sets to triangulate and understand each child's learning story and this information assists us to identify the next episodes of learning. We are very proud of each student that attends our school and believe strongly in valuing a growth mindset for students and staff... 'learn hard and get smart', 'learning is not an option at Macgregor Primary School' as well as the importance of 'yet', were strong elements of my address to the children at last Friday's assembly.

From the Deputy Principal Continued

Semester 1 Student Reports

Teachers are currently preparing school reports for students in Kindergarten to Year 6 using our new online administration system. The new reports are being trialled in just some schools this semester across the ACT Education Directorate. You would have noticed from the information provided in last fortnight's newsletter, that the actual report format looks different to our previous Macgregor Primary reports. The new format reflects the way in which teachers have been planning, delivering learning programs and assessing using the Achievement Standards from the Australian Curriculum. Reports and student portfolios will be distributed on Tuesday 25 June with parent teacher interviews planned for the afternoon/evening of Wednesday 3 July. If you have a child in years 1 through to 6, and you do not want to receive the A to E Report component of our new student report, please contact Tracey Reis on 61421600 or tracey.reis@ed.act.edu.au.

Reconciliation Week

This coming Monday (27 May), Canberra's community will acknowledge Reconciliation Day through a public holiday. Our school community will also host a special 'Reconciliation Week' assembly on Tuesday morning at 9.15am and the children will be completing special activities throughout the week to learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. Parents and friends are warmly invited to attend this special assembly.

Sporting Ribbons - award assemblies

We have further assemblies planned this term to acknowledge children who received a place in our Cross Country Carnival (2.10pm on Friday 14 June) and Track and Field Carnival (2.10pm on Friday 5 July). Family and friends are also warmly invited to attend these assemblies.

Car parking

I really appreciate all the drivers within our Macgregor Primary School community who are keeping our children safe before and after school by driving at 40km/h and parking safely (and legally) around our school. Parking across corners, verges and double parking reduces pedestrian visibility, and blocks the ability for kids to see the road clearly. A driver may also be fined for parking in no stopping zones, in a bus zone or in front of a driveway. Working together we can keep our kids safe.

Staffing Update

Jennifer remains unwell and we send her our very best wishes. One of our Executive Teachers, Peter Usher, has also been appointed as the newest staff member to Black Mountain School. We thank Peter for the contributions he has made to our school. Recently he has led numeracy teaching, streamlined processes around some operational matters and facilitated Individual Learning Plan meetings. We wish Peter well as he starts his new position next week.

See you at the disco tonight, Catherine



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. Please can you assist by avoiding nut products in your child's school food.

Lost Property

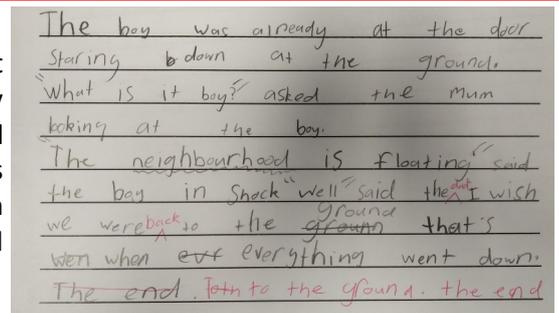
Due to the large amount of lost property we are not able to store it for a long period of time. Please write your child's name on their belongings so they can be returned to them.

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.

Spotlight on Learning 2HD

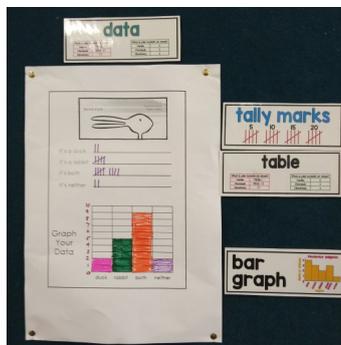
WRITING

We have been working hard writing sentences, making sure that they make sense, are interesting for our readers and are correctly punctuated. After each writing lesson, we self-check our work, and then read it to a partner. We use our red pens to make any changes and we don't rub out any of our writing. It is important to just put a neat line through any mistakes because we know it is what good writers do and it helps us and our teachers to see our thinking.



MATHS

In maths this term, we have been working on time and statistics, as well as keeping up with strategies for addition and subtraction. A lot of our maths is hands on using various items to help us understand how numbers can be split and combined. We can then use that understanding to help us solve addition and subtraction problems using mental computation.



We are really enjoying collecting information to answer questions such as:

What is 2HD's favourite breakfast? (Pancakes)

What is the most common number of syllables in 2HD names? (2)

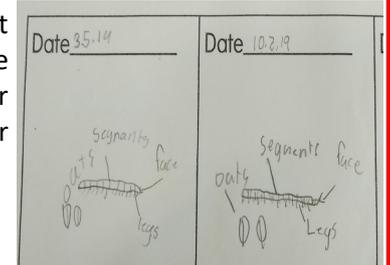
What is 2HD's favourite season? (Summer)

We are starting to come up with our own questions, collecting the data and creating graphs in our maths books using a ruler. We have all found that ruling a straight line with a ruler takes some practice!



SCIENCE

Our science unit is all about living things and how they change and grow. We are learning about how we have changed since we were babies. Everyone is conducting an investigation into what happens to the growth of plants when we change the amount of light they receive. We have also started observing the growth of meal worms and have been excited to see how they have changed. A mealworm is the larval stage of an insect, that hatches from an egg, but we don't know yet what type of insect it is, or what it will look like in its adult stage. We made some predictions and are waiting patiently to see what will happen. So far they have shed their exoskeletons and become a little bigger. We record our observations each week using labelled drawings to show any changes.



ICT

We love Friday afternoon coding sessions in 2HD. We are developing our understanding of programming concepts including sequencing, loops, events and investigating different problem solving techniques. We are beginning to understand that a computer will only do what we ask it to do, nothing more, nothing less. So if it isn't doing what we want, it means there is something wrong in our program. It takes persistence and resilience!

Ms Hodge, Mrs Dwyer and 2HD

Spotlight on Library



THE CHILDREN'S
BOOK COUNCIL
OF AUSTRALIA

SINCE 1945 — YOUR CONNECTION TO STORY



This term, as well as working on the Chief Minister's Reading Challenge, Library is introducing classes to the Children's Book Council of Australia's (CBCA) 2019 Book Awards and Shortlisted books. This is in preparation for next term when children will become Junior Judges and use collaboration skills to decide upon our own Macgregor book winners. To find the list of this year's Shortlist, please [click here](#) or go to <https://cbca.org.au/shortlist-2019>.

On Wednesday of this week, Macgregor Primary School participated in the National Simultaneous Storytime for 2019. It's an annual event where schools and libraries all around Australia read the same story at the same time. This year's book is: *Alpacas with Maracas* by Matt Cosgrove. It was a lot of fun as I streamed a live reading across the school to the classrooms where teachers followed up with a book-related activity.

And finally, every now and then we take the time to consider the many benefits of reading aloud to children at school and at home. Increased comprehension, improved listening skills, broadening of vocabulary and increased achievement in every subject area to name a few. Parents can help by regularly reading aloud to their children at home. Of course, there is a skill to reading aloud and here are a few inside tips; have fun and show them your love for reading, use character voices (be loud, be quiet, be sad, be gruff), set the atmosphere such as dimming the lights, get under the blankets or make it spooky, let children hold puppets of characters in the story and talk about what you want to know or already know about the book, the author and any details about how you used to read this book when you were a child. As long as it happens and is enjoyable, the results will speak for themselves. Keep on reading,

Norma John & Ira Patkar
Teacher Librarian/Technician

Health Information

Gastroenteritis

There has been several cases of Gastroenteritis across the school. Information about gastroenteritis is provided to us from ACT Health and all families/staff are required to follow their guidelines. If your child has vomiting and diarrhoea, it is recommended that they stay away from school until at least 48 hours after the symptoms have stopped.

The most effective way of preventing spread of Gastroenteritis is to stay away from unnecessary contact with others and practise good hand washing. This is achieved by washing hands thoroughly using soap and running water for at least 10 seconds, followed by drying hands.

Health

Children should not attend school when unwell. The most important way to break the chain of infection and stop spread of diseases are exclusion of ill children, educators and other staff. Your family doctor or the school can provide information regarding recommended exclusion periods for illnesses. Following these guidelines helps prevent contagious illnesses spreading to other children and staff.



Stay connected.
Search for Macgregor
Primary School and click on
Like
We have 950 likes



Congratulations to our schools P&C association who raised \$1753.40 at the Federal Election Democracy Sausage sizzle bbq.





Volume 5: Positive Recognition Systems: Rewards

What is a positive reward and how does it fit within Wellbeing @ Macgregor and the philosophy of Positive Behaviours for Learning?

Positive rewards are ways we can recognise individuals and the behaviour that we want to see in our classes. They are compatible with the theory of Positive Behaviour for Learning when they are used to teach the desired behaviour that we want to see.

What do we know?

Tangible rewards are effective when used:

- to build new skills or sustain desired skills,
- with contingent delivery of rewards for specific behaviour,
- and gradually faded over time.

Tokens, W@M bands and certificates.

The token is the agreed upon method of rewarding students who have shown the positive behaviours at Macgregor Primary School and should be recorded as part of the W@M points tallies for the week. Most students will respond to these systems and that is what the school leadership team and teaching team encourage.

What rewards can we use outside the token system at Macgregor Primary?

We know that all students are individuals and that sometimes backgrounds, trauma and other special circumstances require a more individualised approach. To make it easier for teaching staff, the guidelines for any individual rewards were discussed at a recent staff meeting and the following are designed to help craft a reward that will promote positive behaviours in class:

- A W@M token is the best way of rewarding the values that we want to see in classes and on the playground
- Any reward (including tokens) should be explicitly linked to the W@M values or BRICK values or the learning that has taken place.
- The student should know exactly why they are being positively reinforced.
- All rewards should take place in the classroom or under supervision.
- Our shared *duty of care* for the student is our overriding responsibility.
- Rewards should exist only to build a positive relationship between the teacher and the student
- Rewards should focus on the student being rewarded and not their friends
- Learning time should be protected and any rewards that require time should take place in the student's time as much as possible.
- Depth and extension of student's passion work is preferable to time away from classwork.
- Rewards should have a structure that is easy to understand and can be followed by relief teachers or new teachers taking over the class with little disruption.



Coming up in Volume 6: Restorative Practices

Community Announcements

PRESCHOOL 2020

If you have a child who turns 4 on or before 30 April 2020, then he/she is eligible to begin Preschool in February 2020.

Round 1 preschool enrolments opened online on Monday 29 April 2019 at 6:00 am. Round 1 enrolments will **close on Friday 7 June** at 5:00pm. Round 2 enrolment applications commence at 5:01pm on Friday 7 June 2019.

To enrol your child, go to [online application form](#) and complete the online enrolment form.

2019 pre-schoolers who live in area (Macgregor) or have siblings who attend Macgregor Primary School, will automatically continue their enrolment into Kindergarten for 2020 at Macgregor Primary School. Families do **NOT** need to complete an online enrolment form.

Hats Off Day - The end of May

Sun Protection for Students

- In Canberra sun protection is required for part or most of each day between August and May. The end of May is 'Hats Off Day' whilst the beginning of August is 'Hats On Again' for all of us.
- Due to low (under 3) daily UV levels experienced in Canberra from June to July, ACT schools will not be required to enforce sun UV protection in this period. However sensible sun UV protection may still be warranted if spending extended period outdoors during these months i.e. at all day outdoor sporting events and excursions.
- Between August and May students and workers are required to wear SunSmart hats (e.g.: broad-brimmed, bucket with deep crown or legionnaire hats) that cover the face, ears and neck.
- Students with no hat will be required to play in a well shaded area. This is informally known as 'No Hat Play in the Shade'.
- Sunhat cords can become caught and a risk to children playing on fixed playground equipment. Schools must request that parents either purchase sun hats with safety cords designed to break under minimal strain, or remove cords from sunhats altogether.
- Schools are required to make sunscreen accessible to all students and workers for daily applications throughout the day. Schools have sunscreen in most, if not all classrooms. Students are encouraged to apply sunscreen themselves. Staff will exercise judgment as to whether some students, for example, younger children, should be supervised or assisted when applying sunscreen.
- Parents/carers should inform the school if they do not wish workers to apply sunscreen to their children. If a child is allergic to sunscreen, parents/carers must notify the school about this on the medical form completed at the beginning of each school year. Parents/carers have the option of providing a hypoallergenic sunscreen for their children.

Notes Sent Home

- ★ Stationery, Arts, ICT Levies 2019, \$75.00
- ★ Year 5 camp Note
- ★ Athletics Carnival, Years 2—6
- ★ National Zoo and Aquarium excursion, Year 2
- ★ Year 5 combined band rehearsal at Giralang

Term 2 Calendar 2019

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Wk 1	29 April ✓ Preschool 2020 Enrolments commence	30 April ✓ Dental Hygienist visits Yr 2	1 May	2 May	3 May ✓ ANZAC Day Assembly 9.15 am	
Wk 2	6 May ✓ ACT Swimming Carnival	7 May ✓ Mother's Day Stalls ✓ UC Kaleen open night 6-8pm	8 May ✓ Mother's Day Stalls ✓ Menslink-Boys Wellbeing Yrs 5 & 6 boys	9 May ✓ Mother's Day Stalls ✓ Kindergarten Excursion – National Arboretum	10 May ✓ DO IT FOR KINDNESS DAY – Gold Coin donation- Dress in Blue	
Wk 3	13 May	14 May ✓ NAPLAN ✓ School Board Meeting 5.00pm	15 May ✓ NAPLAN	16 May ✓ NAPLAN ✓ P&C Meeting 6pm	17 May ✓ NAPLAN ✓ First Aid ✓ Assembly @ 2:10pm hosted by Yr 4	18 May ✓ Election Day BBQ
Wk 4	20 May ✓ NAPLAN ✓ First Aid ✓ Yr 6 combined band @ Fraser ✓ KSS open night 6-8pm	21 May ✓ NAPLAN ✓ First Aid ✓ Melba Copland open night 6-8pm ✓ Community Consultation on Positive Culture 7pm	22 May ✓ NAPLAN ✓ First Aid ✓ Repeat session: Community Consultation on Positive Culture 5:30pm	23 May ✓ NAPLAN ✓ First Aid ✓ Disco jnr P-2, 4:30-5:45 snr yrs 3-6, 6-7:30pm ✓ Canberra High open night 6-8pm	24 May ✓ NAPLAN ✓ Athletics Carnival, years 2-6	26 May National Sorry Day
Wk 5	27 May Reconciliation Day Public Holiday	28 May ✓ National Reconciliation Week ✓ National Reconciliation Week Assembly 9.15am ✓ Belconnen High open night 6-8pm	29 May ✓ National Reconciliation Week	30 May ✓ National Reconciliation Week ✓ Belconnen Cross Country ✓ Futsal Day (Sister School Program)	31 May ✓ National Reconciliation Week ✓ Coffee and Chat with Jennifer from 9:15-10am ✓ Yr 2 @ National Zoo & Aquarium ✓ Hats off Day	
Wk 6	3 June ✓ Mabo Day ✓ Yr 5 combined band at Giralang	4 June	5 June ✓ Lift-Off Steady Yr 4	6 June	7 June ✓ Assembly @ 2:10pm hosted by Yr 6	
Wk 7	10 June Queen's Birthday Public Holiday	11 June ✓ Kindergarten Health Checks	12 June ✓ Kindergarten Health Checks ✓ ACT Cross Country	13 June ✓ Kindergarten Health Checks	14 June ✓ Cross Country Ribbon Assembly 2:10pm	
Wk 8	17 June ✓ 8.30 am Online Bookings open for Parent Teacher interviews on SOBS	18 June ✓ School Board Meeting 5pm	19 June ✓ Yr 5 @ Camp Burrendong	20 June ✓ Yr 5 @ Camp Burrendong ✓ P&C Meeting 6pm	21 June ✓ Yr 5 @ Camp Burrendong	
Wk 9	24 June	25 June ✓ Reports & Portfolios go home	26 June	27 June	28 June ✓ Coffee and Chat with Jennifer from 9:15-10am. ✓ Assembly @ 2:10pm hosted by Yr 1	
Wk 10	1 July	2 July ✓ El dia de los libros (Day of the Books)	3 July ✓ Parent/Teacher Interviews 3:30-7pm	4 July	5 July ✓ Athletics Ribbon Assembly 2:10pm	



P&C NEWS

Macgregor Primary School | Partners in Education

Term 2, Week 4 2019



FUNDRAISING

Thankyou to all of our hardworking volunteers on election day who helped make the BBQ and cake stall such a success! Thank you also to everyone who baked and donated goods for the cake stall and Bronwyn and family for the pumpkin soup. We had an amazing day and sold out much earlier than expected. In saying that, we were able to raise \$1,753.40 for our P&C to continue supporting the school!

These events are only possible with the help and support of our much valued and loved volunteers.



Keep an eye out for these fundraisers:

- Entertainment Books
- Personalised tote bags.

Thank you

A BIG thank you to all our amazing volunteers!

NVW
NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK
Making a world of difference
20-26 May 2019



Our Do it For Kindness –
Do it for Dolly day

Macgregor raised a total of \$490.30 which has been donated to the Do It for Dolly campaign – say no to bullying!!



SCHOOL BANKING

School Banking next week is on **WEDNESDAY**, 29th May outside the library. This term's rewards are taking us on a polar adventure. This term's rewards are a fluffy notepad and a slap band ruler. They will be popular.

We always look forward to students coming along and welcome any questions from anyone wanting to commence with school banking. School banking is also open to preschool students and also younger siblings of school students.

We also have a competition. If you have banked at least 5 deposits this term, you will go into a draw to win a book. There is a seniors' book and a juniors' book. So be in it to win it. The winners will be revealed at the end of the term.

Thanks to **Kirsty and Martin Ross** for volunteering to keep school banking operating this year.

MPS OSHC

Please remember to sign your children in and out as you drop them off and collect them each day.

5 CENT FUNDRAISER

Reminder to keep saving those 5 cent pieces!!



NEXT P&C MEETING

Thursday 20th June at 6pm in the school library.

Children are also welcome and a movie is played for their entertainment.



Proudly brought to you by Macgregor Primary School P&C

www.facebook.com/macgregorprimarypandc/
or search for Macgregor Primary P&C.



SCHOOL FETE

It's on again this year!! Mark your diaries for Saturday 16th November

Macgregor Primary School Music Scheme

Would your child like to undertake private music lessons in 2019?

The P&C runs a music scheme to give students the opportunity to learn **piano, drums or guitar at school during school hours with a private tutor**. No running around after school to get your child to and from music lessons!

These half hour weekly lessons with specialist tutors from **Canberra Music Tuition** provide students with individual attention and students can be enrolled on a term by term basis. All levels and skills are catered for.

Cost: \$37 per half hour lesson (Canberra Music Tuition)
 \$10 per student P&C administration fee

For more information or to enrol your child please email Lyndall at lyn_dall@yahoo.co.uk.

Lyndall Visagie
P&C Music Scheme Coordinator

