

# MACGREGOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

LINKED BY LEARNING... EXPERIENCE, EXPRESSION & EXCELLENCE

**Principal: Jennifer Hall**

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Volume 44, Issue 6

Term 2 Week 2

9 May 2019



**ACT**  
Government  
Education



## Dates to Remember

**DO IT FOR KINDNESS DAY**—Dress in Blue Day – tomorrow 10 May 2019. Please bring a gold coin donation

**NAPLAN**—14 to 24 May 2019

**JUNIOR and SENIOR DISCOS**— Thursday 23 May 2019

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**—5.00pm— Tuesday 14 May 2019

**P&C MEETING**—6.00pm Thursday 16 May 2019

**ASSEMBLY hosted by Year 4**— 2.10 pm 17 May 2019

**TRACK and FIELD CARNIVAL**—Friday 24 May 2019

Welcome back to term 2 to all our Macgregor families!

We welcome Eddie Signorini back to his BSO role and thank Eddie and Milad for the maintenance work they completed on the school buildings and grounds over the school holiday period. We also welcome to our school support team Alex John, Adam Gallagher, Matt Woolnough and Nathalie Cerritelli. Jennifer Hall is currently away on leave unwell, and we look forward to her returning in a few weeks.

We have another great term ahead with a few key events for our learning community coming up with the Athletics Track and Field Carnival (Friday 24 May), Years 3 and 5 completing NAPLAN assessments (Monday Week 3 through to Friday Week 4), Chief Minister's Reading Challenge, Year 5 Camp and Reconciliation Week. We are also very pleased to be able to support eight Learning Support Assistants and Administrative Assistants from our School Support Team to complete further study in School Support, Business Administration and Vocational Education Training.

Thank you to James Orr, one of our Executive Teachers, who is hosting an afternoon/early evening network workshop meeting today for other teachers and school leaders across Canberra implementing Positive Behaviour for Learning frameworks across their own school communities. James will be outlining Macgregor's W@M vision and journey so far. This opportunity showcases Macgregor's work in this area over the last three years and assists other teachers and leaders with the implementation and maintenance of PBL in their schools.

Much appreciation to Norma John and the school's student leaders (Amy, Thomas, Sanaah, Vineth, Masooma and Jasper) for leading last Friday's ANZAC assembly. We also thank Toto from Year 5 who read 'The Ode' with reverence, as well as Sienna, Kitana and Isaac for reading the dedication. It was an important opportunity to support our students to foster deep learning about such a significant part of our history. You may have heard from your child, that we also took the opportunity last week to 'reteach' our assembly W@M expectations to support the children in their growing understandings and confidence about the way we value and manage school community gatherings.

The Macgregor P&C Association's leadership, every day administration and management of the school's Music Tutor Program, Uniform Shop, Macgregor Out of Hours School Care and the delicious school Canteen, certainly enables the delivery of these highly valued services and also provides opportunities for family connection and contributions to our school. Following on from the very successful Easter Bun fundraiser drive and Easter Raffle (you may have seen last week on the school's Face Book page a photo of the new library resources that were purchased with the proceeds of the raffle), the P&C Association is currently hosting a Mother's Day 'pop up' shop, managing a cookie dough fundraiser drive, ensuring that

## From the Deputy Principal Continued

'democracy sausages' will be available at Macgregor Primary School's Federal Election Polling Booth as well as providing additional hours for parents to purchase from the uniform shop. Phew! That's a long and impressive list and it is only May! We thank the energetic members of our P&C Association for their ongoing contributions which complement the continued growth of our strong school culture, school pride and school spirit.

Next week we also welcome a new School Board membership consisting of Jennifer Hall (Principal), Darren Beard, Michael Sek and Lauren Allen (parent members), Jo Pearce and Mel Cook (staff members). Many thanks to our outgoing Board members, Bec Bull, Susie Abrahamffy and Erin Kelly. Your contribution and dedication to our school is valued.

We are also looking forward to the children wearing a 'sea of blue' tomorrow for our 'Do It For Kindness Day' (gold coin donations will be gifted to a national mental health awareness foundation). The children will also be learning about the value of acts of kindness within a community.

Our next community workshop will be hosted in a couple of weeks. These collaborative workshops have been providing the school leadership team with valuable feedback and strengthened understandings within our community. We will advertise this event separately as soon as the details are finalised.

This week families will receive a Term Letter from classroom teachers. This communication provides an overview of the knowledge, skills and understandings that will be the focus of our students' learning. Term letters complement the more detailed description of the Content Descriptors, General Capabilities and Achievement Standards outlined within the Australian Curriculum. This semester, the Education Directorate is introducing a common report format, for students in Kindergarten to Year 10, through the new Student Administration System (SAS). Our school is currently piloting the new report format. Please find attached to this newsletter further information. Arrangements for preschool reporting will remain unchanged.

Warm regards, Catherine Dillon

Deputy Principal



### 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.

### 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.

Find us on Facebook

Stay connected.

Search for Macgregor Primary School and click on Like

We have 950 likes

Like

Have you got our App on your phone? You can download it on your phone's App store.

Get The Macgregor App Available On All Phones

Search for Macgregor in your favourite app store

What Can You Do With It?

- Newsletters
- Events Dates
- Notes Due
- Venue Maps
- Sick Notes
- Change of Details
- Pop-Up Alerts
- Contact Us

FREE

active SCHOOL APPS

Great for Schools ... Even Better For Parents

## 4CR Spotlight on Learning

Hello Parents and Carers!

We have had an amazing first term and 4CR have been enthusiastic with their learning and demonstrating a growth mindset during tasks.

In English students have been presenting narratives to the class as part of our quick write activities. Student have shown tremendous pride in their work and its been wonderful to see children develop enthusiasm towards using improving their work and using 'wow' words to impress their peers when presenting.



In maths we have explored multiplication and division using a variety of different skills and strategies. We have also been measuring different objects and distances around the school using different tools to measure. We have had several class discussions about units of measurement and 4CR is beginning to understand the need to measure accurately and the need for this application outside of school.



As part of our English sustainability focus, year 4 went on an exciting excursion to the Mugga Lane Recycling Hub. The children learned about the importance of waste management and recycling for our community. While the hands on activities in the hub were a highlight, the 'stinkbomb' demonstration outside by the presenters was a highlight for some students :)

It has been fantastic working with the students of 4CR and I look forward to sharing more of their learning discoveries with you in the future!

Regards, Mr Ryan



# 3LH Spotlight on Learning

The past Term in 3LH has been very busy! Students have been working hard to develop a variety of essential skills in literacy and numeracy. Students have enjoyed building their skills through small group activities, games and reflecting on their knowledge as a class to consolidate understanding through mini workshops.

In maths, the students have been exploring the fundamental components of place value and developing knowledge of addition and subtraction to solve problems. Students have also investigated key concepts of telling time with both analogue and digital clocks to the nearest minute. Students enjoyed making their own sand timers to try and accurately measure a minute. It was very interesting to see how they adjusted their timers based on the times that their team had clocked!

In literacy, students have been consolidating ideas around spelling, grammar, reading and writing during literacy rotations. They have also enjoyed writing a variety of persuasive and narrative texts. Students have also been developing their ability to critically summarise digital literacy texts during our daily BTN sessions. There has been some friendly competition about identifying the most interesting fact every day!

The favourite thing that students have identified in 3LH this term is the learning in our Inquiry units. We have been working on two Inquiry units—one Geography and one Science. During Science, students have been exploring the difference between the Earth’s rotation and revolution around the Sun as well as how day and night is caused. Later this term, we will be creating our very own sundials to track how the Sun moves across the sky. In Geography, students have been boarding our very own ‘Macgregor PAN AM’ flight to visit neighbouring countries to Australia. They used Chromebooks as well as their knowledge that they gained from visiting their destination, to create a variety of mind maps to help create their own travel brochure.

The rest of the year looks very busy—we are excited for what the remainder of the year holds. Regards, Laura



## Spotlight on ParentLink



### ParentLink

ParentLink provides parenting education to the community, from birth to teenage years. It is available for parents, carers, kin, teachers, and the broader community, providing information and links to local resources and services.

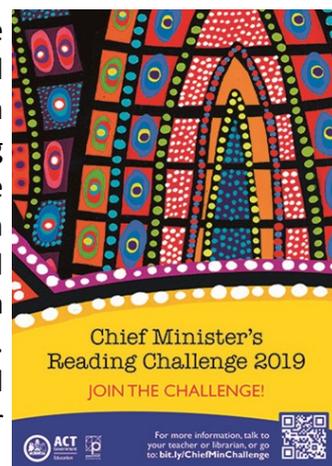
The ParentLink website provides links to all ParentLink guides including a variety of topics - *Starting School, More than Reading and Writing, Optimism and Cyber Safety*. The ParentLink suite of resources includes guides specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families, and access to resources for diverse cultural groups.

ParentLink guides are available to view and order via the website at, <https://www.parentlink.act.gov.au/>

## Spotlight on Library

### Chief Minister's Reading Challenge 2019

Our students have risen enthusiastically to the challenge set this year by the ACT's Chief Minister to read 30 books by the end of Term 2. Many families will notice that the number of books required has doubled this year. This is not a problem for Macgregor students. We are a reading school and a reading community, and we have every confidence that our students are up to the Challenge. Of course, Macgregor students can choose any books they wish with additional challenges set by our Library. Please include both fiction and non-fiction books, if you speak another language at home, you can include a book or two in that language and both an e book and an audio book. Remember that reading with and to your child counts. The Macgregor School Library is well worth a visit and families are welcome to drop by before or after school to borrow books.



Norma John  
Teacher Librarian

### Scholastic

Families will by now have received your Scholastic book club catalogues for term 2. 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 Saturday 18 May 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 !!

Your Library Team, Norma John and Ira Patkar.





### Volume 4: Positive Recognition Systems: Feedback

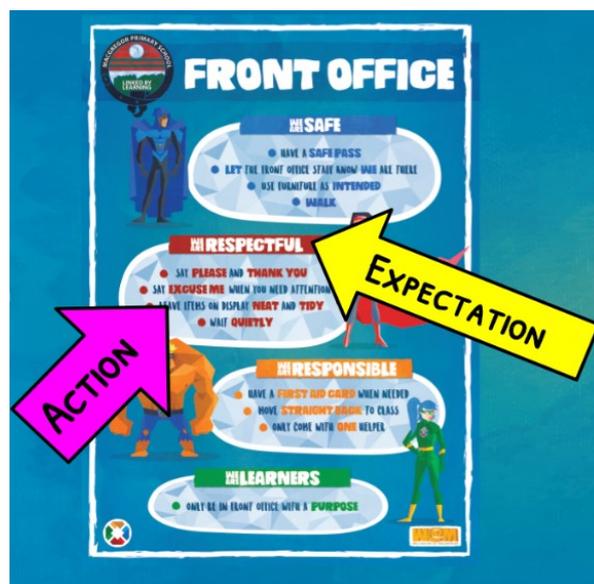
#### At Macgregor, we know that:

- positive behaviour that is acknowledged is more likely to occur again
  - no 'good' behaviour should be taken for granted, or it may decline, regardless of the student's age.
  - positive feedback will increase the likelihood of desired behaviours being repeated
  - positive feedback will decrease inappropriate behaviour
- positive feedback will enhance self-esteem.

#### To achieve effective positive feedback at Macgregor, staff identify and reinforce students when the W@M expectation is met by:

- giving verbal feedback referring to the specific behaviours displayed
- using the language of the school expectations.
- For example:
  - *"I saw you were being respectful by waiting quietly for your turn in the canteen line"*
  - *"You were being safe when you carefully walked back to your table group"*
  - *"Thank you for being responsible by showing a kindy kid how to line up"*

*"You were demonstrating being a learner by showing me that you're ready to listen"*



Coming up in Volume 5: Positive Recognition Systems: Rewards.

## 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.

Enrolments opened online on Monday 29 April 2019 at 6:00 am. Enrolments will close on Friday 7 June at 5:00pm.

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

Preschool spots are limited, submit your child's enrolment from Monday 29 April 2019.

## Proposed Dates For Camps 2019

The proposed dates for camps in 2019 are:

- Year 3 - Birrigai (via Tidbinbilla), Thursday 5, Friday 6 December
- Year 4 - Borrambola (via Wagga Wagga) Wednesday 28, Thursday 29 and Friday 30 August
- Year 5 - Burrendong (between Dubbo and Orange) Wednesday 19, Thursday 20 and Friday 21 June
- Year 6—Cooba (via Cooma) Monday 4, Tuesday 5 and Wednesday 6 November

**Year 5 Camp is now confirmed. Other dates are yet to be confirmed.**

### REMINDERS FOR PARENTS

#### **Late to School**

Students who arrive after 9:05am must report to the front office with their parent or carer to be signed in by a staff member. A student who signs in late without a parent/carer is recorded as an unexplained partial absence. If a note is provided the lateness is recorded as explained and approved.

#### **Early Leavers**

Parents/carers who need to collect their child earlier than 3:00pm are required to report to the front office and request for their child to be signed out.

#### **Family Contact Details**

It is important that the school maintain an accurate and up to date record of family/carers email, home addresses and telephone numbers for all children. Please notify the school immediately if there are changes to your contact details. To inform the school of any changes please send an email to [info@macgregorps.act.edu.au](mailto:info@macgregorps.act.edu.au), phone the front office on 61421600 or use the Macgregor Primary School App to inform the school of these changes.

#### **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.

## 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 6 Kingsford Smith School transition program

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION RELATING TO STUDENT SEMESTER 1 REPORTS

## Reporting Student Achievement in ACT Public Schools

The ACT public school system has a tradition of excellence in education and is a national leader in the implementation of the Australian Curriculum. The introduction of the Australian Curriculum and the use of common Achievement Standards to measure children's learning has improved the already high levels of parent confidence in our schools. Reporting using the Achievement Standards will build on the ACT's strong tradition of providing families with detailed information on the progress of their children.

Under ACT and Commonwealth legislation and regulations all schools are required to provide written reports of student achievement twice a year to parents of students in Preschool to Year 12. In the past there have been school-based formats for students in preschool – Year 10. All Year 1-12 students are required to receive grades using an A-E scale.

In 2019 the Education Directorate are introducing a common report format, for students in Kindergarten to Year 10, through the new Student Administration System (SAS). This change will occur via a staged implementation process, with Macgregor Primary School piloting the new report format in Semester 1, 2019.

### What is the same?

All reports to students from Kindergarten to Year 6 have always included and will continue to include the following information:

- academic achievement in relation to the prescribed ACT curriculum and associated achievement standards for each subject studied
  - for students in Kindergarten, a five-point scale is used to indicate academic achievement
  - for students in Years 1 to 6, a five-point A-E scale is used to indicate academic achievement
- for students in Years 1 -6, student effort in each learning area
- personal and social capabilities

Preschool reports will continue to be provided using a school-based report format.

### What is different?

Previously school-based reports have allowed schools to make decisions regarding the detail included against a learning area. Macgregor Primary School reported against English using the different strands e.g. writing, reading, viewing, listening and speaking.

The new system report format uses information directly from the subject area Achievement Standards outlined in the Australian Curriculum. Achievement Standards set the goal for what all students should learn as they progress through their school life. From the first year of schooling to Year 10, students develop knowledge and skills in eight learning areas:

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| ➤ English                             | ➤ The Arts                              |
| ➤ Mathematics                         | ➤ Technologies                          |
| ➤ Science                             | ➤ Languages                             |
| ➤ Health and Physical Education (HPE) | ➤ Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS) |
|                                       | ➤                                       |

Each learning areas contains content descriptions accompanied by **Achievement Standards** that describe what students will know and will be able to do as a result of teaching and learning in the classroom. Schools will select when they report against different sentences in the **Achievement Standard**. The new SAS generated report format will help ACT public schools to provide greater consistency when reporting student achievement to families.

The Australian Curriculum is accessible to all students and there is parent friendly information available via the following link <https://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/parent-information/>

In the ACT, student work at standard is considered a 'C' grade which indicates the student is on track and demonstrating achievement at the standard. A 'C' grade is to be celebrated.

Families will be provided with an opportunity to provide feedback to the Education Directorate in early term 3.

This is the template for the explanation page that appears at the beginning of all school reports. The contents and overall layout are part of the Directorate template which schools must use. Most of the wording is set in the template, except the areas indicated.

**This section provides specific information about reports.**

**These sections are provided by the Directorate and detail how to read and understand different parts of the report.**

**This section provides information about the child's attendance and is filled based on school attendance records.**

**This section is information specific to the learning area.**

**EXAMPLE REPORT**

This report is designed to give a clear picture of your child's development and achievement in relation to play-based learning and the Australian Curriculum. Every student is unique, with different needs and interests. Teachers use the curriculum to plan in ways that respond to those needs and interests. The Australian Curriculum is flexible, allowing schools and teachers to personalise student learning.

**Scale Overview**

Your child's achievement for each subject is reported against the Australian Achievement Standards using the following five point scale:

A - Outstanding:	Demonstrating outstanding achievement of the standard
B - High:	Demonstrating a high achievement of the standard
C - At Standard:	Demonstrating achievement at the standard
D - Partial:	Demonstrating partial achievement of the standard
E - Limited:	Demonstrating limited achievement of the standard
S - Status:	Indicates that circumstances have prevented the student from being assessed against the individual achievement standard sentence, or there is insufficient evidence to award an overall grade

**Comparison of student achievement in subject/key learning areas**

The school's front office can provide you with a separate report containing A-E comparative data. This report will show the number of students in each of the achievement levels from A-E. This report will only be provided for cohort groups of greater than 10 students.

**Plan (P) reference**

A 'P' indicates that the student has been assessed against an adjusted curriculum based on their learning needs. Their learning sits outside the learning described in their equivalent year level achievement standards.

**Personal and Social Capabilities and Habits**

Your child's capabilities for social awareness and social management, self awareness and self management as well as work habits are reported using the following 4 point scale:

C - Consistently:	Consistently demonstrates the habit/capability
U - Usually:	Usually demonstrates the habit/capability
S - Sometimes:	Sometimes demonstrates the habit/capability
R - Rarely:	Rarely demonstrates the habit/capability

**Attendance for 04/02/2019 - 05/07/2019**

Whole Days Absent	0	Partial Days Absent	0
Explained Whole Days Absent	0	Explained Partial Days Absent	0
Unexplained Whole Days Absent	0	Unexplained Partial Days Absent	0

**Mathematics** **Grade: B**

Schools can choose to include a short description of the course or work covered in the learning area. This is optional.

Amelia...

	Status	Limited	Partial	At Standard	High	Outstanding
Solves problems involving the comparison, addition and subtraction of integers				✓		
Makes the connections between whole numbers and index notation and the relationship between perfect squares and square roots					✓	
Solves problems involving percentages and all four operations with fractions and decimals				✓		
Compares the cost of items to make financial decisions						✓

**Effort in Learning Area**

Rarely	Sometimes	Usually	<b>Consistently</b>
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**Teacher Comment**

Lorem Ipsum is simply dummy text of the printing and typesetting industry. Lorem Ipsum has been the industry's standard dummy text ever since the 1500s, when an unknown printer took a galley of type and scrambled it to make a type specimen book. It has survived not only five centuries, but also the leap into electronic typesetting, remaining essentially unchanged. It was popularised in the 1960s with the release of Letraset sheets containing Lorem Ipsum passages and more recently with desktop publishing software like Aldus PageMaker including versions of Lorem Ipsum.

Teacher: William Sheppard

This is the template for a learning area page. The overall layout is set in a Directorate template and includes a grade, description of the course or work covered, performance, an indication of student effort and teacher comment.

**These descriptions of learning, Achievement Standards, come from the Australian Curriculum and must be reported against.**

**Effort in learning area is indicated for each subject.**

**Teachers provide details on student achievement in the comment.**

**The final page of the report will have a final comment and details on Personal and Social Capability which is drawn from the General Capabilities in the Australian Curriculum.**

**Term 2 Calendar 2019**

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

## WHY TALK ABOUT BOOKS BEFORE READING THEM?

Introducing a book is necessary for children of all ages. As adults, we do our own introductions when we're selecting what to read. We read the blurb, look at the number of pages, the size of the font, the author's name (familiar and comfortable, or new and intriguing), and glance at the photos, illustrations, diagrams and so on. Children need to be introduced to this process as well. It's much easier to read a book if you already know something about it.

If your child has already read the book, then your discussion about it may be short. You may just like to ask your child what you can expect to hear him or her to be reading about.

A new book may need a longer conversation. You can do this in a range of ways:

- Talk about the title, author, pictures and blurb (you may like to read the book dedication and wonder who the person/people might be and why it was dedicated to them). Who would your child dedicate a book to?
- If your child has read another book about the same topic or by the same author, discuss what seems to be the same or different about this book.
- Discuss how to pronounce the names of characters and places in the book.
- Ask your child to predict what the book might be about, using the information from your earlier conversation.



## WHAT SHOULD I DO IF MY CHILD CAN'T WORK OUT A WORD?

When listening to your child read, it's tempting to correct the mistakes he or she makes. While this may seem helpful, your child doesn't need to be reminded about how much you know. Being interrupted can also cause your child to lose his or her place or to become distracted. You need to give your child time to work out an unfamiliar word or, if the attempt is unsuccessful, for you to share strategies that can be used.

If your child pauses while reading, wait for five seconds to allow time for them to work out the word. Then give a helpful prompt, for example:

- *What do you know that could help you work it out?*
- *What do you already know about this word?*
- *Does the word look like any other words you already know?*
- *Look for a part of the word that you know.*
- *Try breaking the word into syllables.*
- *Look at the first letter. Look at the last letter. Look at the letters in between. What do you think the word might be?*
- *Say the first sound in the word and then read to the end of the sentence. What do you think the word might be?*
- *Try slowly sounding it out.*
- *I'll say the first part of the word so you can work out the rest of it.*
- *It rhymes with... What do you think it could be?*
- *Read to the end of the sentence. Any idea what the word might be?*
- *You said... but it doesn't sound right in the sentence. Have another look at it.*
- *Look at the word again because what you said doesn't match what is on the page.*

- *If the word was... what letter would it start with? What letter does this word start with?*
- *Try the word... Does that sound right?*

Choose carefully! Not all strategies will work for all words.

If your child hasn't worked out the word after two prompts, name the word. Then ask your child to say the word again, start the sentence from the beginning and continue reading.

When the book has been finished (or your child has had enough), always talk about what was read so you can be sure he or she understood what the author was saying.





Friday 10 May is

‘Do It For Kindness Day’.

Wear something blue and  
bring a gold coin donation.

Money raised will go to a  
mental health awareness

foundation.



CHOOSE

Kindness

# 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](mailto:lyn_dall@yahoo.co.uk).

**Lyndall Visagie**  
**P&C Music Scheme Coordinator**

