



'A great place to grow up'

NEWSLETTER

Executive News

Dear families,

I am delighted to work at your beautiful school this week whilst Tracey Stewart is away. Although our ACT public schools have many things in common, each school has its own personality and I am enjoying getting to know all about Theodore Primary School. Coming from Ainslie School, which has very traditional Art Deco architecture and is the second oldest school in Canberra (turning a proud 90 years old in 2017!), I am appreciating the modern architectural facade and contemporary classroom structures at Theodore Primary School.

Yesterday morning I met all the Preschool to Year 6 children, support staff and teachers. It was lovely to be made to feel so welcome by receiving warm waves, seeing smiling faces, listening to holiday stories, observing a Kindergarten maths activity, celebrating writing in Year 1/2, briefly interrupting a science lesson in Year 5/6 to lead a fun maths trick, supporting children in the pizza shop or camping ground in preschool and leading some short activities about 'brain warm ups' in Year 3/4! I am even acting as a 'postie' today to deliver some correspondence from Gus in Year 3/4 to Seb in Year 3 at Ainslie School. Gus and Seb have a friendship that started at another local public school in Canberra.

Apart from all the children being engaged with their learning, I have also observed teachers and students interacting warmly, which demonstrates an investment across the school in developing quality relationships. Congratulations also to Theodore Primary School's staff for building a warm learning culture in each classroom representing an understanding about, and commitment to, latest neuroscience research.

Thank you students, teachers and support staff at Theodore Primary School for being so welcoming!

Warm regards, Catherine Dillon

Dear Families,

We would like to welcome everyone back after the two week break. In addition we welcome Ms Catherine Dillon to our school for week 1 in the absence of Mrs Stewart who is currently on leave. Ms Dillon has come to us from Ainslie Primary School and is looking forward to working with the staff, students and community here at Theodore.

Hopefully you and your family were able to spend some time together enjoying the 'crisp' days. 'Crisp' must be a uniquely Canberra term because the official words my Victorian friends used included freezing, sub zero, and Antarctic like! Considering we have had such cold mornings it's a good time to make sure the students are armed with warm clothing to put on when they are playing outside.

On Thursday and Friday of last week a number of the teachers were engaged in two days of professional learning titled 'Neu-Ed (Neurological Education) in schools'. In short, this looked extensively at how the different sections of our brain are enabled to assist with learning, emotional regulation and general functioning. The information gathered was truly inspiring and much of it links very closely with our Social and Emotional Wellbeing program. The two days were led by Dr Pieter Rossouw who works at the Central Queensland University researching brain based education.

We have yet another busy term ahead of us and in the following weeks you will receive the school calendar for Term 3 and term overviews from each classroom teacher. Please read these and if you have any questions approach the classroom teacher or one of the executive teachers. Jodie White is the executive in the senior school (Yr 3-6) and I am the Junior Executive (K-2).

Corinne Follett (Acting Deputy Principal)





Dates to Remember

19 Jul	100 days of Kindergarten
28 Jul	Year 3/4 Assembly
1 Aug	ICAS English Competition
8 Aug	Year 3/4 Geoscience 9.30-11.00am
9 Aug	Parent Cyber Safety Evening, 7.00pm-9.30pm
9 Aug	Year 3/4 Geoscience 9.30-11.00am
11 Aug	Kindy Assembly
12-20 Aug	National Science Week
15 Aug	ICAS Mathematics Competition
15 Aug	Pre School Science Morning
16 Aug	Writing Competition entries due
17 Aug	Pre School Science Morning
19-26 Aug	Book Week
22 Aug	PJ Hot Choc & Book Reading Night
24 Aug	Book Week Rotations & Parade
25 Aug	Science Fair Projects dropped off 3pm to 5.30pm
26 Aug	Science Fair Projects dropped off 10am to 12pm
27 Aug	Science Fair Judging
29 Aug	Science Fair Project Viewing, 5.30pm
29 Aug	Preschool - Father's Day Morning Tea
31 Aug	Preschool - Father's Day Morning Tea
1 Sep	Science Fair Project Collection
1 Sep	Year 5/6 Assembly
8 Sep	Pre School Spring Fair 3pm to 5pm
7-10 Sep	Book Fair

Notes sent out with week 1 newsletter

17 Jul	100 days of Kindergarten
18 Jul	Pre School Tie Dye Information
18 Jul Yr 3/4	Geoscience Australia Excursion

School News

Spare Clothes

With winter and wet weather here we are short on spare clothing for students who need to change due to the wet weather. If you have any spare clothes, especially track suit pants we would greatly appreciate donations.

100 Days in Kindergarten

Wow! It's hard to believe, but true, tomorrow the Kindy Children will celebrate their 100th day at big school.

Writing Competition

Coming soon to your classroom.

Theodore Primary School's Writing Competition – Escape to Everywhere.

Watch out for further details.

P&C News

As some of you would be aware we are lucky enough to have a very active P&C here at Theodore, and whilst we have all our positions currently filled we would love to have more of you come along and be involved. One of our current members that holds the Treasurer's position finishes up this year and as this is a vital role within the P&C we would love to share some of the knowledge that comes with holding the position for a number of consecutive years. If you are interested in being on the P&C please come along to our next meeting (Week 3 Term 3). If you are interested in being the next Treasurer or would like to know what is involved in holding a position within the P&C please leave your contact information at the front office or alternatively email the P&C at theodorepandc@yahoo.com.au



SOME IMPORTANT REMINDERS

School phone number: 6142 3100 Fax: 6142 3121

School email address: info@theops.act.edu.au

Before and After School Care - Communities @ Work operate an After School Care Program for Pre-schoolers to Yr 6 students from 3:00pm to 6:00pm at the school. Please contact the Communities @ Work coordinator on 62936500.

Bikes are to be walked through the school and left locked at the bike racks. The school does not accept responsibility for lost or stolen bikes. By law, a helmet must be worn while riding.

Car Park - Please drive slowly and safely in our car park. If using the drop-off zone in front of the school please keep in the left lane. The Right lane gives access to parking and/or leaving the school.

Children leaving school before 3:00pm - If for any reason you need to take your child from the school before 3:00pm parents must come to the front office and sign their child in or out using the new electronic VPASS system. This is for safety and security reasons so we know exactly who is in the grounds.

Classes - begin at 9:00am. Please send your children as close to 9:00am as possible. The school day ends at 3:00pm.

Complaint or Concerns - Many concerns are resolved quickly and easily by discussing the matter directly with the school. Firstly speak directly to your child's teacher or talk to a member of the executive team. If you continue to be concerned please make an appointment to see your principal.

If you are not satisfied you may lodge a written complaint. The Complaints Policy and Complaints Form are available from the policy section of the Directorate website: www.det.act.gov.au

You have the right to approach the ACT Human Rights Commission. Details are available from the Commission website: www.hrc.zact.gov.au/humanrights.

If you need assistance, or you would like to compliment us, contact the ACT Education and Training Directorate's Liaison Unit on 6205 5429 or visit www.det.act.gov.au/contact_us

Containers for food - Tins (especially lids) and glass containers are dangerous to have in lunch boxes. We encourage you to use plastic containers at all times please.

Current Contact Numbers - It is very important that we have your current contact number and at least one other emergency contact number. If your child is sick or has had an accident we need to be able to contact you immediately.

Dogs - ACT Dog laws prohibit dogs, even on a leash, from being on the premises (including the grounds) of primary schools at any time. For the safety of our students, dogs should not be on the school grounds. There are obvious problems when the dogs use the playing areas as a toilet. We also have some students who are very frightened by dogs.

Hats - Children are reminded that they need to wear sun smart hats whilst outside at school. The Department of Education has asked us to recommend that parents remove the cords of school sunhats. This follows reported near-miss strangulation in an ACT school involving sunhat cords and playground equipment. We have also been advised that children are not permitted to play on fixed playground equipment if sunhat cords have not been removed. This took effect from 20 October 2005.

Liability for the loss, damage or theft of students' personal property at school. Advice from the ACT Government Solicitor indicates that notwithstanding the merits of each particular incident, schools generally cannot be held responsible for the Intervening acts of third parties relating to the loss, damage or theft of students' personal property. Parents and students are advised that schools do not provide private insurance cover to automatically compensate for the loss, damage or theft of bicycles or other personal property and nor will they be legally liable for the loss.

Medication - Departmental policy requires schools to ensure that: Any request for administering medications must be in writing. The medication must be accompanied by clear written instructions on the method of administration, timing and dosage, and signed by a Dr Forms provided by the school

We would be grateful if such letters regarding medication could be sent as soon as possible.

Mobile Phones - All mobile phones brought to school must be left at the front office in the morning. Phones can be collected at 3:00pm. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Notes - Please remember all notes that go home for an event have a definite closing date, which is usually two days before the event. Your assistance with returning all notes, along with your permission is crucial to informing us as to whether the event can proceed or not. There is a section in the newsletter advising when notes are sent home and a list of upcoming events.

No Smoking - Smoking on all grounds of ACT schools is not permitted. This includes the oval and carpark.

Playground - The school playground equipment should only be used by students during school hours under the supervision of staff. In the interests of the safety of all children, parents should ensure that their children do not use this equipment before or after school or when a staff member is not supervising.

Student Absences - Class rolls are marked both morning and afternoon by the class teacher. All student absences are recorded. The teacher records an **S** when written advice has been received that the child has been sick or an **L** when written advice states that the child has been on leave for that particular day. If the class teacher does not receive any information in regard to the student's absence then an **A** is recorded for the specific day. All student absences are totalled at the end of each term and recorded on student records. Staff will send home letters requesting an explanation for all unexplained absences. Our aim is to see all children attending school as regularly as possible.

Unauthorised Access to School Rooves - Parents are reminded of the dangers inherent when children climb onto the school roof. Your support in reminding children of these dangers is requested. Signs have been erected at the school warning of dangers of accessing the school roof.



Pre School News

Hi Preschool Families welcome back to school. The P&C have so much happening this term and we would love your support. We have some special ideas that will be discussed at the P&C meeting in week 2.

The spring fair is only 8 weeks away eeeeek how exciting. If you have skills you can offer in helping with the organisational side of things we would love your help :)

Spring Fair

- Do you have a small business that you would like to display at the spring fair to be held on Friday the 8th of September 3-5pm? Stalls are available for \$15 plus a donation of a raffle prize. Your own public liability and a current statement are required on booking. Payment and raffle prize are required at time of booking. please contact Jemima 0422064597 and email theodorepandc@yahoo.com.au or jemima40livingstone@gmail.com
- Do you own or work for a business that would like to sponsor the spring Fair in some way? in return for your sponsorship you will receive a mention (logo if you have one) weekly for term 3 in the schools newsletter and on social media as well as promotional posters that you supply for the day of the fair. Sponsorship can be in many forms, a donation of goods, services or cash.
- Pre-Schoolers will be tie dyeing shirts for display at the fair on Wednesday week 3 for all classes. A note will be sent home this week for more information and asking for helpers on the day. If you would like to purchase your child's item, it can be prepaid for \$12 or purchased on the day of the fair \$15.
- Volunteers will be able to shortly sign up to help at the stalls via the signup app.
- We are still looking for donated toys and kids' books for the second hand stall and jars for the Tombola stall, these can be left at the preschool.
- Do you have any pantyhose or stockings laying around no longer needed? We need lots for our grass heads stall and would love to take them off your hands :) they can be dropped off at the preschool.

Thank you to our wonderful sponsors and stall holders of The Theodore Preschool Spring Fair, with your support we can reach for the stars.

- *Bears Photography
- *Woolworths Calwell
- *National Dinosaur Museum
- *Dominos pizza Conder
- *Laura Henry - Independent Kaszazz consultant
- *Georgina and Sharon's handmade kids clothing & jewellery
- *Capital Chemist Calwell
- *Hogs Breath Cafe Woden
- *Bibbidy Bobbidy Kids
- *Connie's Quality Cushions

P&C Calendar of Events

- Week 1** Notes home for tie dye activity
- Week 2** Next P&C meeting Wednesday week 2 11.50. Tea, coffee, hot chocolate, cake and biscuits. We would love to see more faces we need you
- Week 3** Tie dyeing Wednesday (koalas/possums 9.30-11.30 and Bilbies 12.40- 2.40) approx times
- Week 3/4** we are hoping to send raffle tickets home during week 3/4 the raffle will be drawn in week 8 at the end of the fair.
- Week 6** will see the Pre-Schoolers celebrate their love of books during book week, this will include a dress up as your favourite book character for a donation of item/s for our lucky dip stall at the fair. A note will be sent out closer to the date.
- Week 7/8** notes home for spring fair cake stall.
- Week 8** SPRING FAIR

Entertainment Books

Support our fundraising by buying the NEW 2017/2018 Entertainment Book Membership. Entertainment Memberships are filled with hundreds of valuable offers for everything you love to do, and you'll be helping our fundraising at the same time!

Both digital and book memberships are available and you can even order interstate memberships as well, perfect present for family or friends that live afar.

Sample Books are now available to view at the preschool and within the front office.

ORDER HERE

<https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/2t4019>

Thank you for your support

Theodore Preschool P&C
Sub-Committee



Thank You Ben Lopez for organising our wonderful car park sign through Paper Monkey

<http://www.papermonkey.com.au/>. The use of the sign has helped ease the congestion during peak drop off and pick up periods.