



'A great place to grow up'
NEWSLETTER

Executive News

Congratulations

A huge congratulations to our elected Parliament members: Ethan Y and Arijana M are our Prime Ministers; Hayley E is our Treasurer and Jade G our Secretary. At last Friday's assembly we celebrated the elected parliament members as well as our house captains and vice captains. We are very proud of all of you and look forward to seeing you grow as the leaders in our school.



Year 5/6 Camp

As I write this newsletter the rain is pouring down outside and the world looks leafy and green. It is lovely to see the rain refresh our city after the bushfires. But whilst the rain is very welcome, we are thinking of our Year 5/6 campers who are in Jindabyne this week, hoping to get outside and enjoy some of the great activities on offer. We wish them all a fun and exciting time together and look forward to hearing all about their adventures on Friday afternoon. Camping parents please check our Facebook page for updates.

Parent/Teacher/Student Goal Setting Interviews

This week you should receive information about making an online appointment to see your child/ren's teacher/s on Tuesday 17 March. Teachers will all be available on this evening to meet with parents for a 15-minute interview between 3.30pm-7pm. (the last booking will be at 6.45pm). Please make sure you book in early following the directions on your sheet. Students are encouraged to attend the interview so that together you can talk about goals for the year. The interviews will take place in the hall this year. All teachers will have a table with a name tag so you will know where to go. We are trying to use this time as productively as possible and encourage as many parents to make an appointment on Tuesday evening. If these times do not suit, please see your child's teacher or contact the front office so we can organise another time. Please be aware that teachers will only have limited availability at other times.



Lunch time Clubs

Next week we will begin our lunch time clubs. There are a variety of activities on offer including lego, technology, story time and games in the library as well as soccer, environment centre, art, dance/disco and Indigenous club. Timetables will go up around the school next week and the clubs will also be advertised through Facebook on Monday mornings in 'The Week Ahead' post and the Monday morning welcome assembly. Thank you to all our teachers who make themselves available to run these great clubs.

Debbie Martens

Principal



Dates to Remember

4 to 6 Mar Year 5/6 Camp Jindabyne
9 Mar Canberra Day Public Holiday
13 Mar Ride & Walk to school breakfast
8:30am to 9:30am
13 Mar Year 1/2 Assembly @ 2pm in the Hall
3 Apr Christian Education in Schools – 1st Session

Notes sent home

27 Feb Be You_Family & Community News
27 Feb Reading Eggs & Mathletics
5 Mar Pirate Pete Preschool
5 Mar Parent Teacher Interviews

Notes due back

| | | |
|---------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| 6 Mar | Kulture Break | Note & Money |
| 6 Mar | Swimming Carnival | Note & Money |
| 13 Mar | Reading Eggs & Mathletics | Note & Money |
| 10 Mar | Year 6 T-Shirt | Note & Money |
| 25 Mar | Pirate Pete | Note & Money |

Please return your SeeSaw note as soon as possible

Koori Preschool Program

The Koori Preschool Program consists of five Koori Preschools located at the following ACT schools:

- Kingsford Smith School
- Narrabundah Early Childhood School
- Ngunnawal Primary School
- Wanniassa School
- Richardson Primary School.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 3-5 years can participate in a culturally safe play-based program for 15 hours per week to enhance and strengthen cultural connections, identity, and transitions. Applications to enrol are made online through the ACT Education website www.education.act.gov.au For further information phone ACT Education on 6207 1106.

School News



Please contact the Front Office on info@theops.act.edu.au and theodoreps@ed.act.edu.au to ensure all office staff receive your message.

You can contact the front office on 6142 3100 or respond to the absence SMS to notify of student absence for the day.

Excursion Payments

Visions with sustainability. Multiple collection of plastic bags is collected when parents are making excursion payments.

It would be great for payments to be forwarded to the school in an envelope or brown paper bag.



Second-hand Uniforms

Please contact the Front Office for details regarding Theodore Primary School second hand uniform stall or email theodorerepandc@yahoo.com.au. If you have any spare uniform items you would like to donate please drop them off to the Office.





Preschool News

We have had a wonderful start at the Preschool with the children settling into the routine of being at Preschool very quickly. We are working on our manners, showing respect, taking turns, following instructions, personal responsibility, sharing, listening when someone else is talking as well as trying to do our best work. Every session we have a community circle where we take turns at talking while holding an object like a teddy. This gives everyone a chance to have something to say. An example might be, 'How are you feeling today?' or 'What is something that makes you happy?'. In a community circle everyone also has a right to pass and we encourage no put downs.

The students are thoroughly enjoying being 'Koala or Possum of the Day', and 'Pat the Possum' and 'Kim the Koala' have started coming home to spend some time with the students. We love to hear about all the adventures and seeing the photos. The 'Mystery Box' has also started coming home as well. Please don't stress everything comes with instructions or, if you are still unsure, just ask Susie or Jayne. Please reassure the children that they will all get a turn of all the different activities, but it does take a little time to get through all the children.

We have begun working on our basic shapes and we will be soon looking at the students' sandwich shapes to keep a tally of which sandwich shape is most popular. Shapes, colours, counting, patterns, letter sounds, syllables, jumping, catching a ball etc will all be used as part of our transition to the next activity depending on what we are focussing on at the time. We are also beginning to work on recognising names. We would love the children to begin practising using scissors at home as we will be working also on that skill at Preschool. If you are helping your child write their name at home, it is important for the students to learn lower case letters except for the initial capital letter at the beginning of their name. We are more than happy to demonstrate the best way to teach them. Please come and see us.

Due to the ongoing construction in the Preschool yard and the lack of outside playing area, we have decided to retain our change to the Wednesday program. The Possums will continue going to the 'Bilbies Preschool room' with Tori (Mrs B.) and Janene, and the Koalas will keep attending the other Preschool room with Susie (Mrs Tebb) and Jayne.

Thank you to our new P & C Fundraising Committee. Please feel free to come and attend the informal meetings. The more the merrier. I'm sure the Committee would love some help and are open to any ideas you might have. A big thank you to our outgoing 2020 Committee, especially Cassie Bell and Silvana Mondello.

Thank you also to all those families who have brought in their child's book packs. All these items are a huge help to the running of the Preschool. If you haven't brought in your book pack could you please supply your child with a 20 pocket A4 portfolio display folder that has a display cover which is clear at the front. We need these folders for the children to add their artwork over the year. A big thank you also to the lovely parents who have brought in some box construction materials and food for 'April and Autumn' the Guinea pigs. We really appreciate your help.

April and Autumn (our lovely Guinea Pigs) have begun going home with our families on the weekend. If you would like to have a turn, please put your name down on the roster sheet or come and talk to Susie or Jayne. They are very easy to look after and we do have a travel cage for them to go home in.

Just a couple of reminders:

- Please ensure that the children are bringing a named water bottle, **healthy** snacks and lunch. For example, fruit, yoghurt, cheese, vegetables, crackers, sandwiches, boiled egg, pasta etc. Please remember – no chocolate, chips, lollies or nuts please. Healthy bodies, healthy minds.
- Please ensure children's things are named and easily seen.
- Ensure your child has a hat every day (no caps) please. If your child keeps losing their hat, we are happy if you would like to leave a named hat in their home pocket to stay at school. We don't have many spare hats so please check there is a hat in your child's bag.
- Please remember an extra piece of fruit or vegetable for 'fruito' – it is very popular. A variety of fruit is great (if possible). We also ask for families to have a piece of fruit or vegetables in their child's snack please.



Lastly, in Week 9 on Wednesday 1 April, Pirate Pete is coming for a visit. He is a highly entertaining pirate who entertains children with music, stories and games. The children participate by singing and dancing. For the Pirate performance we encourage the students to dress up in pirate outfits. These can be as simple as a striped t-shirt, a bandana, a drawn-on scar.

Before each event you will receive a note giving more detailed information. This year, at this stage, we have planned:

Term 1

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|----------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Monday 1 April | Possums & Koalas | Pirate Pete Incursion |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------------|

Term 2

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|-------------------|------------------|---|
| Tuesday 5 May | Possums | An open morning to celebrate Mother's Day |
| Thursday 7 May | Koalas | |
| Wednesday 17 June | Possums & Koalas | Declan the Music Man will visit the Preschool. Declan will be entertaining and sharing his knowledge of instruments with the children |
| Date TBC | Possums & Koalas | Walkathon |

Term 3

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------|---|
| Wednesday 19 August | Possums & Koalas | Open Science Morning for Science Week |
| Tuesday 1 September | Possums | An open morning to celebrate Father's Day |
| Thursday 3 September | Koalas | |
| Dates TBC | Possums & Koalas | Arboretum or Botanical Gardens |

Term 4

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------|---|
| Tuesday 20 October | Possums | Reptiles Inc Zoo (TBC) |
| Thursday 22 October | Koalas | |
| Wednesday 21 October | Possums & Koalas | Art Show - where the children's artwork will be displayed |

Thank you everyone for your assistance. I hope you all enjoy your preschool year.

Susie, Tori, Jayne and Janene



Preschool Photos



Preschool P&C News

Please welcome the Preschool P&C main office holders for 2020.

President/fundraising convenor in a shared role.

Alysha Barnes and Lisa Davis

Treasurer

Amy Blyton is the

Secretary

Melissa Llewellyn



Kindergarten News

This term we are learning to be Safe, Respectful Learners, following Theodore's Positive Behaviours for Learning. Students have been involved in games and discussions about how we play safely inside and outside and what we can do when we feel unsafe at school. We are understanding that to be a good learner we need to be listeners, ask questions and try new things and that it is okay to make mistakes, as mistakes show us we are learning.

This term for science we are learning about the differences between living and non-living things. As a part of this unit we were lucky enough to have a visit from Reptile man, we had a blast meeting turtles, iguanas, lizards and many other interesting reptiles.

We are super excited for our very first swimming carnival on the 20th of March (Friday week 7) all parents are welcome. Children will need to wear swimmers to school under their school uniform. In your child's school bag, please ensure they have a drink bottle, normal packed lunch, a hat, a towel, dry clothing including underwear and a plastic bag for their wet clothes.

Students love practising their beginning sounds and identifying all the letters of the alphabet and the star words in books. We encourage parents to continue working with your child at home to revise the star words and letters learnt inside the classroom.

Theodore is a Sun Smart school, students are required to wear a broad brimmed, legionnaires or bucket hat outside during playtimes, unfortunately we do not have spare hats for students to use. If they do not have a hat, they will spend break times in a shaded area or in the library.

Home Readers are returned to school on Tuesday mornings and sent back out Wednesdays, we hope you all enjoyed reading with each other. A few quick reminders about our home reading program and other important days:

- Rich Text books (calico bags with fun activities) - sent home and collected every TUESDAY. If your child misses bringing their bag to school, the book will not be exchanged until the following Tuesday.
- Take Home Readers (zip lock plastic pocket with 2-3 small books for reading practice) – returned to school TUESDAY and sent home from school every Wednesday.
- Library Books – (a book that your child self-selects for enjoyment) any children who wish to borrow a book from the school library will need to bring a library bag to school on FRIDAYS!

We would LOVE morning helpers on either Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. If you have a current Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP) card, we would love for you to assist us in reading with children or helping restock book bags with Kirril.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to come and see the kindy team.

**Thanks,
Annette Schubert, Kirsten O'Neill, and Cate Whelband**



Kindergarten Reptile Inc. Incursion





Family & Community News



On Thursday March 19, Theodore Primary will be participating in the National Day against Bullying and Violence, on this day the whole school will take a stand together to stop bullying.

The students will participate in a series of activities in class which will look at what bullying is and ways to prevent and stop bullying. Students will also create a wall of hands; on these handprints' students will write ways to help stop and prevent bullying, positive behaviours and ways to be kind. These handprints will be displayed in the front office area and will represent all of the positive behaviours that are shown at Theodore Primary.

In the afternoon 2-3 students from each class will share what they have written on their hands at a special Thursday assembly at 2.15pm, we would love parents to attend. We will also put some information in the newsletter for parents, keep an eye out for this.



DON'T FORGET NEXT FRIDAY IS NATIONAL RIDE2SCHOOL DAY!

If you have some spare time to help cook the bacon and eggs please email me – aimee.shires@ed.act.edu.au.



Be You

Don't forget to complete your Be You survey and enter the draw to win a **\$50 BISTRO VOUCHER FOR EASTLAKE CALWELL FOOTBALL CLUB.**

Please follow this link to complete the survey, it will only take about 10-15 minutes:

<https://secure.peoplepulse.com.au/survey.php?mid=uNo38ypjA1yd2cg3n16fskyI98qq1>

Once you have completed the survey email me your name and contact number to go into the draw to win a **\$50 bistro voucher** for the Eastlake Calwell Football Club. A **HUGE THANKYOU** to the Club for this generous donation.



Playgroup

Next week Friday March 13, Playgroup will start at 9.30 instead of 9 am as I am helping with the breakfast for National Ride2School Day. Parents are welcome to come across and have breakfast before playgroup or can meet me at 9.30 at the preschool.



Aimee Shires
Family & Community Coordinator

Attention Kindergarten Parents!



Kindergarten Health Checks are happening this year!

All kindergarten students in the ACT are eligible to receive a
FREE health check



VISION CHECK



HEARING CHECK



**HEIGHT, WEIGHT AND
BODY MASS INDEX (BMI)**



If you have not returned your child's Kindergarten Health Check Consent and Questionnaire



FIND — Information packs will be sent home early in Term 1



SIGN — Complete the Kindergarten Health Check Consent and Questionnaire



RETURN — To your school by 25 February 2020

Your school can provide you with the date of the health check.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL COMING UP?

WE CAN HELP!

**FREE LESSON
WITH TUGGERANONG
VIKINGS SWIM CLUB**

**SUNDAY 1 MARCH
2:00-3:30PM
LAKESIDE LEISURE CENTRE**



Find out more at

www.facebook.com/tuggeranongvikingsswimclub





Brindabella Blues Football Club: Girls Only, Bring a Friend and Come and Try Evening

Registrations are now open for the 2020 football season. Brindabella have vacancies in our popular all-girl miniroo program for girls aged 5 to 8, as well as positions in our all-girl junior teams from u10s to u18s.

In association with Capital Football's Female Football Week, Brindabella will host a free, Girls Only, Bring a Friend and Come and Try Evening for girls aged 6 to 18 who want to try football on Wednesday, 11th March, 5.30 to 7pm at Calwell Playing Fields, Were St, Calwell.

Come and find out why Football is the largest junior sport in Australia. The evening will include football games everyone can be involved in and enjoy. Just wear boots or joggers and bring a water bottle and a have a go attitude.

For further information about all of Brindabella's all-girl teams contact Michael on juniors@bbfc.org.au or 0423 824 192.

FREE KIDS BUSH DANCE at YARRALUMLA WOOLSHED

Saturday 28 March 2020

Hi Folks,

I am contacting you in the hope that you may be able to include the following item in your next school newsletter which would be of interest to parents.

The Monaro Folk Society is celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year of bringing bush dances and music to the Canberra community.

Our annual Shearers Ball will be held in the evening at the Yarralumla Woolshed on Saturday 28 March. To mark the anniversary, we are holding a range of free activities during the afternoon to showcase what we do: notably, performances by musicians as well as join-in Irish Set Dance and Contradance.

We kick off with a free Kids Bush Dance from 12.30 to 2.00pm. This is aimed more at primary aged children; however, parents are encouraged to join in with littlies if they wish. The dances will be taught and called, accompanied by one of the MFS bands, the Tin Mugs. Refreshments will be available. All are welcome, so please tell your friends and bring your children for a fun afternoon. Information is available on our website: www.monarofolk.org.au/kids-bush-dances/

In case you only have a very limited space available, here is an option for copying and pasting.

FREE KIDS BUSH DANCE on SATURDAY 28 MARCH

The Monaro Folk Society is celebrating its 50th Anniversary of musical events in Canberra. We are hosting a special free day at the Yarralumla Woolshed showcasing our activities. This includes a Kids Bush Dance between 12.30 and 2.00pm.

For information see: www.monarofolk.org.au/kids-bush-dances/

Cheers

Anne

0407 940 917

Promotions Group MFS



Knit and Chat for Women from Non-English-Speaking Backgrounds

**Tuggeranong Library Community Room
Fridays 10 – 12, beginning on 6 March**

This is an informal group where you can learn to knit or crochet and chat with others in English. We provide the materials and all the items we make are given away to charities.

We have been meeting for 2 years and are now looking for new members. It doesn't matter if your English is not good – we will help you to improve it.

This is a free program. You are most welcome to just come along or if you would like more information, please contact me on 043 559 0674.

Ella Beer

