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Deputy Principal: Karen Wilson



Board Chair: Mark Harriott

P&C President: Katherine Stock

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## TERM 1, WEEK 10, THURSDAY 9 April 2015

### Dates to Remember – Please mark your Calendar

**Fri 10 Apr** Years 5/6 ANZAC Day Service at MCSS  
9:00am- 12:00pm  
Belconnen Interschool sports afternoon for years 3-6 – 12:30pm to 2:30pm  
**Last day of Term 1**

### IMPORTANT

**Please be advised that due to ANZAC Day (25 April) falling on Saturday, Term 2 will commence for all ACT Public Schools on Tuesday 28 April.**

### Term 2

**Tues 28 April** First day of Term 2  
2016 Enrolments Open

**Tues 5 May** Kindergarten excursion to the Farmyard Nursery

**Thurs 7 May** School Disco

**12 May to 14 May** NAPLAN

### ASSEMBLIES FOR TERM 2 WILL BE ON WEDNESDAYS ON EVEN WEEKS AT 1:45PM

**Week 1 29 April** ANZAC Day Ceremony 1/2LA & 1/2MD

**Week 2 6 May** 5/6MM

**Week 4 20 May** 1/2SF & 1/2KR

**Week 6 3 June** Preschool Yellow

**Week 8 17 June** 5/6MV & MT

**Week 10 1 July** Band 2 Performance  
DIJ KIDS/ NAIDOC WK

### NAPLAN 2015

NAPLAN tests for year 3 and 5 will be held during week 3 of term 2

A brochure with more information about NAPLAN will be sent home in week 1, term 2

If you do not wish for your child to participate in NAPLAN testing, please contact the school as soon as possible

For more information, go to:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support/parent-carer-support.html>

We acknowledge the Ngannawal people – traditional custodians of the land on which our school stands.

Dear parents and carers,

Well here we are at the end of Term 1 already. It never ceases to amaze me how quickly time flies by. As always it's been busy and productive here at school and I am particularly impressed by how focussed on learning the students are. When children share their great work with me, they are always able to tell me what they have achieved or what they are proud of, and what they need to work on next – it's a great way to frame a conversation with kids about their work.

I hope you all managed to have a relaxing Easter and found some time to do something for yourselves. Last Thursday Brett Maron and his able team put together yet another successful Cross Country event for Latham. The weather was particularly kind and it was fabulous to see so many of you here to cheer on your children. It seems the Brindabella have some awesome runners amongst them, taking out both the Running Club and Cross Country honours this year. Congratulations to them and to everyone for doing their best.

Thank you to those parents who nominated to join the 2015/2016 School Board, and to those of you who voted. We welcome to the group for the first time Laura Mukherjee and the return of Mark Harriott for another two year term. They will join Karen Goddard and staff members Ian Shaw and Lyndal Andrew who are in their second year. We also welcome Karen Green and Jodie Taylor who are joining the Board as Appointed Members. Our first Board meeting will be early in Term 2.

Over this holiday period, our school will be re-carpeted. This has been a two year project in the making and I'm really grateful for the support of the Directorate's Infrastructure and Capital Works department to see that this long overdue job will be done properly. Teachers are busy packing up their classrooms to make it easier for the carpet layers so expect to see many boxes lying around the school this week. If you have some time to offer teachers to help, please let them know. The jobs should be done in plenty of time for our wonderful cleaners to come in and get the school ready for the start of term 2 so please pop in when you can to see the new facelift!

Have you read the 2015 Annual Operating Plan yet? It outlines the major goals we are aiming to meet this year and it's a great way for parents to keep informed about what we are doing at school. You can find it on the school website (follow the Our Community tab – School Board and then School Plans). You will see in our plan for this

year that teachers are focussing on improving our reading and writing practices to best support our students. Next Monday the teachers will be attending a 'Reading Institute' – a whole day's professional learning opportunity run by international and national literacy experts. We are very excited, even if it is in the first day of our 'holiday'! Truth be told; even though the children have a two week break from school, teachers don't!

While I'm on the subject of the school website, do you know that there's a 'School Notes' section? It can be found under the 'Our School' tab and it's the first place parents should check to make sure they have received everything they should. It was disappointing this morning to see that so many year 5/6 students hadn't returned their excursion note for the Parliament House visit, and that as a result teachers had to spend valuable learning time making phone calls to chase these up. Teachers select excursions to add value or provide another input into the class learning and children's participation is not an opt out option. All students are expected to attend. If money is ever a barrier for you, please send me an email, pop in and see me or give me a ring to ask the school to pay – we set aside some money exactly for this purpose. I would hate to see that any child ever misses out on a learning opportunity because money is short at home.

How are you going remembering the school's 5 values? I've been asking parents at P&C and Board meetings and so far I have not had a 100% success rate! To remind you again here they are:

**Respect**  
**Resilience**  
**Collaboration**  
**Motivation**  
**Positivity**

Until next term,

Liz



## MERIT AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students for receiving a Merit Award at the assembly on Wednesday 11 March.

*Leighton L, Fe'ao M, Emma M, Jacob P, Toby G, Heidi W, Saffron P, Lizzie H, Tom B, Jasmine L, Tyler B, Lachlan W, Kyle R, Katie A, Marcus A, Xander P, Ella B, Joe H, Samuel G, Abby F, Jesse J, Nicholas P, Ahri C, Keira F, Lily S, Keely K-R and Sladjana J.*

## NEWS FROM 1/2 OCTOPUSES

This term has been a very busy one for the students in the 1/2 Octopuses (1/2LA and 1/2MD). At the beginning of the term the students were introduced to a new way of learning, inquiry learning. The difference between this type of learning and integrated learning is that the students take more responsibility for the direction of the learning based on a big question that they are trying to answer. The focus of this term was on the question 'How have the materials and design of toys changed over time?' The students have been exploring a range of toys from the past and present and analysing similarities and differences between the design and materials used. They have also been learning skills which could be useful to make a toy of their own. These include cutting and sewing to make a finger puppet and designing, drilling and painting for their door sign. Earlier in the term the students had the opportunity to participate in some mixing activities to see how they can make their own toy from household items. The students made bubbles and a blower, slime, playdoh, sand bottles and snow globes. Overall it has been a very busy and exciting term and we look forward to coming back in Term 2 and seeing what the students create for their toy fair.



Daniel, Helen and Lyndal

## LIBRARY NEWS

Hi everyone!

Thanks for a great term; have a safe and relaxing break.

**OVERDUE BOOKS:** Keep returning any overdue books and don't forget the local public libraries if you want to keep reading over the holiday.

### COMING NEXT TERM:

*National Simultaneous Storytime – 27 May*

*Scholastic Book Fair – 9-12 June*



### QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

**"Be awesome – be a book nut!"**  
**-Dr Seuss**

Cheers. Heather Govender



**Public Consultation - draft *Reporting Student Achievement (Preschool to Year 12) Policy* and draft common report templates**

**Opening Date:** Monday 23 March 2015

**Closing Date:** Friday 15 May 2015

The ACT Education and Training Directorate is seeking public comment on the draft *Reporting Student Achievement (Preschool to Year 12) Policy* and draft common report templates for ACT public primary and high schools.

The draft Policy and draft common templates are designed to ensure parents receive consistent information about their child's achievement regardless of which ACT public school their child attends.

School communities can provide feedback through the ACT Education and Training Directorate website at [www.det.act.gov.au](http://www.det.act.gov.au) and the ACT Government's Community Engagement 'Time to Talk' website at <http://timetotalk.act.gov.au/>.

**Changes to ACTION school services from Monday 18 May 2015**

On Monday 18 May ACTION will be introducing a range of timetable adjustments and service improvements to the normal weekday network, as well as changes to some dedicated school services. These changes were announced Thursday 2 April. Full details are available on the [ACTION website](#).



Other school services may have slight timing changes or no changes. We encourage parents to view the changes to the normal weekday network also taking effect on Monday 18 May, as connection times with dedicated school services may have changed.

For more information please visit [action.act.gov.au](http://action.act.gov.au) or call 13 17 10.



**2015 Raiders Masterclass School Holiday Clinic**

Sign your child up today for the 2015 Raiders Masterclass School Holiday Clinic, held on Thursday 16 April at [Raiders HQ](#). For only \$50 participants will have the opportunity to learn Rugby League skills from our NRL Development Officers, interact with Canberra Raiders NRL players and receive a Holiday Clinic goodie bag.

**2015 Junior Clinic Pack includes:**

- Raiders Football
- Raiders Magazine
- Fully Signed Team Poster
- Coca-Cola Yo-Yo
- \$10 Raiders Shop Gift Voucher
- Plus PlayNRL information

**All parents/guardians are to complete a [Participant Legal Liability Form](#) for their child/ren to participate in the Raiders Masterclass School Holiday Clinic. Completed forms must be handed to Raiders staff at time of registration on the day.**

**Supplementary Notes**

1. Raiders HQ will be open for registrations at 9.00am, please ensure you allow yourself enough time to register your child/ren prior to 9.50am.
2. Parents welcome to stay at Raiders HQ during clinic with coffee van in attendance
3. Parents/Guardians to complete Legal Liability Form before their son/daughter can take part in clinic. These forms will be made available on the day at the registrations table, are downloaded off the website or can be sent out via email pre-event by contacting Raiders HQ on 02 6253 3515.
4. Trained first aid personnel will be in attendance on the day
5. Masterclass School Holiday clinic: Low-risk activity based program that promotes physical activity and well-being messages.
6. During your online enrolment process, special dietary requirements and medical conditions to be flagged in seating and preferences section

An advertisement for YMCA Holiday Care. The top text says 'When school's out, the Y is in!' in a playful font. Below that, it says 'ACT Public Service ANZAC Day Holiday, Monday 27 April 2015'. The main heading is 'Holiday Care' in large, bold letters. Underneath, it says 'Bookings NOW Open!'. There are two photos of children: one of a girl in a plaid dress and another of a boy holding a YMCA sign. At the bottom, it lists locations: 'Weetangera • Kaleen • Gowrie • North Ainslie' and provides the website 'visit: canberra.ymca.org.au'. A circular logo on the right says 'SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN' and 'We're CCB &amp; CCR approved!'. The bottom text says 'Loads of FUN in a safe &amp; engaging environment'.

