Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope your children thoroughly enjoyed their first week back at school this year. I have been impressed with how quickly our new and experienced students settled into their new class groupings. We had an unusual week, with an evacuation on Tuesday due to a fire alarm and no water for a number of hours on Thursday due to the preschool builders cutting through the water pipes. All our emergency planning kicked into operation smoothly and even our brand new kindergarten students managed leaving their classrooms quickly and calmly. The school has contingency plans for when the unexpected occurs and we liaise closely with the Education and Training Directorate in all cases.

I would like to introduce another new staff member this week. Belinda Denmead joins us from Giralang Primary School. She will be teaching EALD students this year, focusing on those students who are in years 3 to 6. We are very pleased to have Belinda join our team.

There have been a number of changes this year at Ngunnawal both in the physical location of year levels and the structure of our day. Firstly our community has grown so much that we needed to add two more classes this year. To support all the year five and year six students working collaboratively together we have located all five classes in Wiradjuri. The students have adjusted to this change and the whole unit has been busy with learning. We have also grown a kindergarten class which necessitated moving kindergarten to Gundaroo this year.

Another change this year is the way we organise our day. We have reorganised the sessions so that we are able to group our day into hour long blocks. This helps provide 60 uninterrupted minutes of Indonesian to students and also gives us a long middle session enabling students to get their teeth stuck into learning! School starts each day at 9:00am and our first session of the morning runs until 10:40am followed by recess until 11:20am. We have relocated ‘fruit break’ to half way through the middle session to help tummies make it through to lunch which starts at 1:20pm. The students have a break until 2:00pm and we finish the school day at 3:00pm. With these changes we have been able to incorporate supervised eating time for 10 minutes before both recess and lunch, to support the students eating adequate amounts during the day. We have also restructured some of the play time activities, so that the oval and library are open both at recess and lunch, a new innovation!

If you have any questions about these changes please get in touch with me for clarification. I look forward to seeing you tonight at our parent / teacher information evening and next week when getting to know you interviews take place.

Cheers

Danielle
Deputy Principal

NOTIFICATION OF STUDENT ABSENCES
If your child is absent from school, please call and advise the front office staff on 6205 8182 by 9.30am.
This week the year 5/6 students have begun an exciting Science unit entitled Marvellous Micro-organisms which provides opportunities for students to develop an understanding of the role of micro-organisms in food and medicine. Students investigate the conditions micro-organisms need to grow, learn about yeast and the bread-making process, and research the development of penicillin.

In this introductory lesson students were presented with different types of bread and asked to compare and contrast these using their five (5) senses. Students worked as part of a cooperative learning team to write a summary of their findings.

In Mathematics we have begun with a focus on whole number and place value. Students have each made a set of number cards which they have been using to complete a range of maths games and activities.

This has assisted the senior students to settle into their new classes and learning environments quickly and get to know each other. We have spent time as a group discussing both student and teacher expectations and responsibilities, as well as some of the exciting opportunities in which senior students participate throughout the year.

In art, classes have been using a variety of materials to create self-portraits. From paper bark to sequins, paint to fine liner, students have been showing flair and imagination in their artworks.

Laura, Stacey, Laurie, Andrew, Kristy, Nicole, Janelle and James
CHAPELLN S CORNER
I am looking forward to continuing my role as chaplain this year, providing support to the school community which I have been doing since the start of 2008. My office is now located in the Redwood unit.

The National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program is an initiative of the Federal Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR). Funding is provided to employ a chaplain whose role is to enhance the wellbeing of the students, parents and staff who together create the school community. Chaplains in the ACT are employed through School Chaplaincy ACT.

Ngunnawal Primary School is a caring environment and the chaplaincy program extends the care that is offered by the wonderful staff of the school. Students may at times go through difficult periods, for example grief and loss, friendship difficulties and low self-esteem. I am available to students to listen to them, to be present for them and to help them to be fully aware that they are truly cared for at Ngunnawal Primary School.

Over the years I have been at the school I have provided small group workshops and individual support for students. Programs have focused on student wellbeing, self-esteem, resilience building, anger management and social interactions.

Participation in services provided by the chaplain are voluntary. Parents may contact the school if they wish to access the service or will be contacted by executive staff for students who may benefit from the program.

I am at the school on Wednesdays and Thursdays and can be contacted by phone via the front office or by email (bronwyn.jennings@ed.act.edu.au).

Bronwyn Jennings

NGUNNAWAL ANGELS
- meet on Wednesdays, 9:40am to 10:40am, straight after assembly (drop in when you can)
- open to all parents/carers
- chat and contact
- help your children’s teachers
- children are welcome (there are toys to play with!)
- stay as long as you can, whenever you can
Hope to see you there!

Bronwyn, Chaplain
**NGUNNAWAL PRIMARY HAS A SCIENCE TEACHER!**

Hi I’m Karon Campbell, Ngunnawal’s new Science Teacher. I have been teaching at Ngunnawal since 2010. Many of you already know me and I am looking forward to meeting students and parents who are new to Ngunnawal Primary this year. I’ll be teaching your child sometime over the course of the year.

This semester I will be teaching the following classes: all of the Kindy classes; 1K; 1CT; all of year 2; 3KW; 5/6K; 5/6A; and 5/6L. All other classes will be taught next semester.

I will be following the Australian Curriculum and facilitating a program that will focus on the skills and knowledge required for scientific investigations. Students will also be learning group co-operation skills.

Science updates and quiz questions (and answers) will be included in the newsletter each week.

**Week 2 Quiz – (sourced from CSIRO Science by email)**

Quiz questions:

1. Which part of the eye is coloured and surrounds the pupil?
2. What is the largest type of black hole?
3. What is the largest living structure on the Earth?
4. True or false – most of the dust in your home is made up of human skin particles?
5. What is the smallest bone in the body and where is it located?

(Answers can be found at bottom of page.)

**Calling all parents who have Science specialist skills or knowledge** and are willing to share those with the students of Ngunnawal in some way, big or small. Here’s your chance to register your area of knowledge or skill and contact number so that you can be an extra reference point to enrich your child’s education in the area of Science!

Karon Campbell  (karon.campbell@ed.act.edu.au)

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**PIANO TUTORS**

Our current piano teacher, John Bice will not be taking any new students in 2014. John will continue teaching his current students and can be contacted on 6254 7238 if you have any queries.

This year a new piano teacher, Ms Kerrie Yard, will accept students wanting to start learning to play piano. Kerrie can be contacted on 6254 8141.

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**Science Quiz answers:**

1. The coloured part of the eye which surrounds the pupil is known as the iris.
2. A super massive black hole is the largest type of black hole.
3. The Great Barrier Reef is the largest living structure on the Earth.
4. True – most of the dust in your home is made up of human skin particles.
5. The smallest bone in the body is called the stirrup, and it is found in the ear.
P&C News

A big P&C welcome to all children, including those students who are new to Ngunnawal Primary School this year.

Our first P & C meeting for the year is on Monday 17 February 2014 at 6.00pm in the administration building. This will be our Annual General Meeting and the time where we try and set up the year's events as well as determining the make-up of the P&C executive members. If you would like to be part of the P&C, please come along and show your support. All parents and carers are welcome and there are always toys and books should you want to bring your children along too. Don’t forget, the P&C covers both the Primary and Preschool, so everyone is welcome.

The P&C discusses student welfare, new policies and procedures for the school, fundraising, canteen and much, much more. 2014 is shaping up to be a big year so support your children, support the P&C.

Until then, you can always drop me a line at ngunnawalpandccommittee@gmail.com, leave a note in the suggestion box at the front office or give me a call should you have any ideas or questions.

I look forward to catching up with you soon.

Adam Smith
President, Ngunnawal P&C Committee

Harrison School Canteen Assistant Vacancy

Due to the increase in student numbers at Harrison School, we have a canteen assistant position that has come up. 10.30 – 2pm, Mon – Fri. If you would like to apply, please send your resume to hscacanteen@hotmail.com, by COB this Friday, 14 February.

NGUNNAWAL PRIMARY SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION 2014

Membership of the School Board is a wonderful opportunity for parents to participate in the ongoing management of the school and to contribute to the determination of the school's future directions.

There are two (2) vacancies for parent representatives on the Ngunnawal Primary School Board for the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2016. Election of the parent representatives will be undertaken in the first few weeks of the 2014 school year as set out below.

Nomination period:
- Opens – 11:00am on Monday 3 February 2014
- Closes - 11:00am on Monday 17 February 2014.

Voting period (if election is required):
- Opens - 11:00am on Monday 24 February 2014
- Closes - 11:00am on Monday 3 March 2014.

The successful candidates will be announced by Monday, 31 March 2014.

If you are interested in being a member of the Ngunnawal Primary School Board for 2014-2016 and would like more information about the roles and responsibilities of School Board members, please contact the Principal, Kristine Stewart on 6205 8182. A copy of the School Board Manual is also available for perusal at the front office.

Nomination forms are available from the front office.

Jennifer Lewis,
Assistant Returning Officer

PLAY HOCKEY - AN OLYMPIC SPORT!

with

CENTRAL HOCKEY CLUB

All ages& Skill Levels! Come & Try, Bring a Friend, Coaching, Mentoring, Assistance for New Players with Playing Gear.

See our Website www.centralhockey.org

“COME & TRY”,
LYNEHAM HOCKEY CENTRE
Carter Field
Saturday 1 March 2014, 10.00 am – 11.00am
Contact Richard Black 0405 223973

Ngunnawal Primary School BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE UPDATED THE SCHOOL’S BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS ON YOUR INTERNET BANKING SYSTEM AS THE COMMONWEALTH BANK ACCOUNT HAS BEEN CLOSED.

Bank account details for direct deposits are:
- Bank: Westpac Bank
- BSB: 032777
- Account No.: 001738

PLEASE ENSURE YOU INCLUDE YOUR CHILD’S NAME AND REASON FOR DEPOSIT IN THE REFERENCE SECTION.

RECEIVE A COPY OF THE NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL!

Please fill in the following details and return to the front office. Your name will be added to the Newsletter Email List.

Family Name:

__________________________________________

Email Address:

__________________________________________
Commonwealth Bank School Banking for 2014

Welcome to School Banking for 2014

All Kindergarten children should have received a School Banking pack with today’s newsletter. For all other children who do not have a Youthsaver account and wish to open one please see the front office for a School Banking pack. These packs will provide details for parents on how accounts can be opened.

Welcome back to all existing school banking students. This year the School Banking Rewards Program has launched some fantastic new reward items for you to collect. The redemption tokens for the rewards will be in the packs you will receive when you send in a deposit in the coming weeks. If parents could please ensure their child’s new class is on their deposit book and the deposit slip is completed when your child is making a deposit for the week.

Should there be any questions I can be contacted on the email address below.

School Banking day is Thursday

Julie Tokley
School Banking Co-ordinator:
(email: tokleyfamily@bigpond.com)

STAY COOL AT SCHOOL THIS SUMMER

Win a CommBank Marquee for your school and $50 for a student just by depositing to your CommBank School Banking account in Term 1.

The school with the highest percentage of active students at the end of Term 1 will win a marquee. There are 4 marquees to be won in the ACT area. Every student who completes a minimum of 3 school banking deposits in Term 1 will also be in the running to win one of two $50 credits to their School Banking account. Competition opens 28 January and closes 11 April 2014. For full terms and conditions please visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking.

Banking day at Ngunnawal is every Thursday.

Discover the fun of Physie & Dance with Gungahlin Physie & Dance Club

* Learn up to 5 different dance styles in the one class all to great music.
* Physie & Dance build fitness, flexibility, strength, gross motor skills, posture, music & beat recognition & balance & control.
* Classes available for girls from 3 years to ladies of all ages.
* No expensive costumes or shoes required & no saving for Mum!
* Performance & competition opportunities for all members.
* Classes starting in mid February in Franklin, Gungahlin.

E: info@gungahlinphysie.com.au W: gungahlinphysie.com.au
SUPA Club stands for Scripture Union Primary Age. It’s a fortnightly lunchtime club that allows children to explore who Jesus is in a fun & relaxed way. Coming to SUPA Club is voluntary & children can only participate if they have a signed permission slip.

**PLEASE NOTE:** All children who attend SUPA Club MUST now fill in a new registration form each year.

**WHO:** Children in kindy to year 6 who have a signed permission slip.

**WHEN:** Fortnightly during term, starting week 3, 20 February 2014.

**WHERE:** Redwood Unit.

This term we’ll be starting the year encouraging and helping the kids think about living as God’s kids.

For more information: there are brochures at the front office or call Russell Smidt, Ngunnawal SUPA Club Coordinator, on 6241 3750 or email russell@nlpc.org.au

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**WALSH MARTIAL ARTS**

Martial arts are a safe, supervised and non-violent activity.

Improve concentration, coordination, flexibility and strength. Learn skills that bully-proof you for life!

**KIDS FREE WITH PARENT**

We really want families training together. So, if mum or dad train, all kids in your family train free.

**ONE ACTIVITY - MANY OUTCOMES**

Kids train with friends in an environment that rewards discipline, persistence and good manners. We teach defence not fighting and a ‘life approach’ to fitness and respect.

Parents de-stress from a busy week with other parents, get fit with your kids and learn valuable self-defence skills.

No experience or fitness level assumed.

**When:** Mondays 6.30pm – 7.30pm, and Thursdays 6.30pm - 7.30pm

**Where:** Ngunnawal Primary school gym and Franklin Early Childhood Centre

**Cost:** $95 registration (free uniform + 1st month training)

**Instructors:** Kieran Doery (1st Dan Black Belt) or Jodie Vaile (2nd Dan Black Belt)

**Info:** kierand290@gmail.com /0431 688 765 jodievaile@iinet.net.au /0424 886 529

**Website:** www.walshmartialarts.com.au

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**Play Netball with South Gungahlin Raiders Netball Club**

**REGISTRATION DAY**

Saturday, 15 February 2014
10 am – 3.00 pm
The Salvation Army
The Valley Avenue, Gungahlin

Saturday winter competition March to September for girls and women aged 8years and over and for boys 8-12 years.

New players welcome. Coaches and umpires are needed for all divisions.

**Find out more:**
E southgungahlinnetball@gmail.com

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**DISCLAIMER**

The school, its staff and the Territory are not aware of, and make no representation as to the truth or accuracy of the information provided in advertisements appearing in this newsletter. Readers should make their own enquiries in relation to the information.