

NGUNNAWAL PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Education and Training

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P&C President: Adam Smith 0438 672 494



Ngunnawal Primary School acknowledges and respects the traditional custodians of the land we are on, the Ngunnawal people.

Newsletter No. 37 – 25 November 2014



DATES TO REMEMBER:

Wed, 26 November
Whole School
Assembly, 9:15am
(3NV & 3KW)

Monday, 1 Dec
Board Meeting,
5:30pm

Tuesday, 2 Dec
Little Big Gig, 6pm

Wed, 3 December
Junior School
Assembly, 9:15am
(2F & 2W)

Wed, 3 Dec
Christian Education

Wed, 3 Dec
Big Gig, 6pm

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers

The school was certainly abuzz with excitement today for Market Day! The 5/6 students have worked hard to make and collect goods for the stalls. My personal favourite is the Cake Stall. It was very hard to choose what to buy. This is a great tradition for Ngunnawal Primary and it is something the students look forward to each year. I would like to congratulate the leadership and maturity the senior students displayed in organising this whole school event. Thank you also to the 5/6 teachers and support staff for your work in making Market Day a success.

I would like to welcome Marika Vreiling to Ngunnawal Primary School. Marika is the school's new Literacy and Numeracy Field Officer and will be at the school for the remainder of this year and in 2015. Marika brings with her a wealth of knowledge about best practice literacy and numeracy learning and is looking forward to working with both staff and students at Ngunnawal Primary.

Last Thursday kindergarten and their year 3 buddies went on an excursion that included some time at the new Boundless Playground near the Carillon at Lake Burley Griffin. They had a very good time and were excellent ambassadors for the school. So much so, that I received an email from another ACT Public School principal letting me know how well behaved and considerate the students were! What great recognition for our amazing students and teachers.

Over the last eighteen months the literacy and numeracy team at the school have been involved in the PALLs (Principals as Literacy Leaders) program that has been run in the ACT. Teachers at the school have had the opportunity to attend a range of reading and writing workshops that showcase and demonstrate evidence based strategies that have an impact on improving the reading and writing outcomes for students. As a culmination

Ngunnawal Primary was able to showcase the work of our teachers at the PALLs Learning Fair last week. Thank you to Natalie Otten, Kate North, Tracey Blackmore, Monica Dray and Belinda Denmead for their leadership and organisation of the Learning Fair presentation.

At this time of the year school is a busy place with end of year activities and celebrations, so it is wonderful to see the learning that the students are still engaged in. Last week I had several kindergarten students share their independent writing with me. Riley, Amelia and Romeo shared some very good sentences with me. They were able to tell me that they knew their writing was good because it made sense when they re-read it and Ethan, Runi and Alek from KHR were able to tell me they know their writing was good because they used finger spaces and that they wrote their letters correctly. I think the kindergarten students are very ready for year one!

We have had a lot of calls regarding the end of term four date. This year the school term ends on **Wednesday 17 December**. This date is not an error as some people have thought. End of year reports will go home on Friday 12 December with portfolios going home on the last day of term.

Please let the front office know if your child is not returning in 2015. We are in the middle of creating the classes for next year and this information is very important as student numbers determine the level of staffing required for the school.

As always please contact myself or any member of the executive team if you have any questions or concerns you would like clarified.

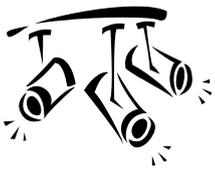
Have a great week.

Regards

Kristine

Kristine Stewart,
Principal





Spotlight on Learning!

Brindabella

This week's focus ...



This term we have been focusing on writing to instruct. We have learnt that instructions, directions and recipes are some of the methods people use to tell others how to do things. We have been looking at the purpose of instructions and what features a set of instructions should have. We then used this information to explain how to make a grass head and how to make a jam sandwich.



Our grass heads look very cute and are just starting to sprout hair.



We are always busy reading and have been practising our fluency. We like reading out loud, to a partner and even to our toys. This helps us to hear how smoothly we are reading and if we are using expression.

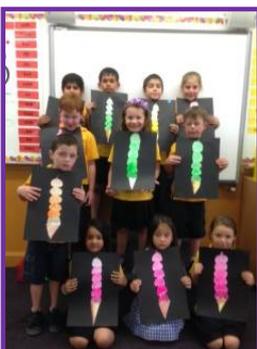


Students measured how far they could throw a bean bag using their feet.

In maths, we have been exploring place value and looking at the language used in number problems. We have been measuring using a range of objects such as paper clips, cubes and our own feet. We have also been using the language of chance when predicting the possibility of events occurring.



We have loved spending time with our buddies doing heaps of fabulous activities.



1J created this fabulous ice cream artwork by mixing one main colour with either a small amount of black or an increasing amount of white. They discovered that adding white lightened the shade of colour on their ice cream stack.

In Geography, we have continued learning about natural, constructed and managed features within our school environment and around Australia. We have learnt that these areas can change depending on people or the weather.

We enjoy dancing and have been busy preparing for the end of year concert. We can't wait to perform on stage and show everyone our fabulous dance skills.

Cathryn, Chloe, Jill, Kate and Sarah



Merit Award Recipients,

Senior Assembly, 19 November 2014

SCIENCE @ NGUNNAWAL

Quiz Questions:

1. RFID is a tracking system used in library and pet microchips. What does it stand for?
2. Which microorganism helps bread to rise?
3. Are quolls carnivores or herbivores?
4. Which chemical element has the symbol Na?
5. Which of these is a type of plate boundary found on Earth? Is it a) translate, b) transform, or c) transistor?



Science Quiz Answers:

1. RFID stands for radio-frequency identification.
2. Yeast helps bread to rise.
3. Quolls are carnivores.
4. Sodium has the symbol Na.
5. b) Transform plate boundaries are found on Earth, it is when two tectonic plates move side-by-side.

PARENTS AND CARERS SURVEY – ACT PUBLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS

The ACT Education and Training Directorate is conducting an online survey of primary school and early childhood parents and carers as part of a wider research process on communicating the benefits of the public school system in Canberra.

As a parent or carer of a student in an ACT public primary or early childhood school, your views and feedback are very important.

The survey takes about 10-15 minutes to complete. Data collected goes directly back to Piazza Research (an independent Canberra-based research firm contracted by the Directorate to conduct this survey). The survey can also be accessed on mobile devices and tablets.

Your information is protected

This survey is completely anonymous and individual answers will not be tracked or attributed to an individual.

Who to contact

If you require help with completing this survey, please email admin@piazzaresearch.com.au as an initial contact point, providing a phone contact with an email address. Piazza Research will contact you from there.

You can access the survey at

<https://secure.piazzaresearch.com.au/ls2/index.php/523766/lang-en>

The survey will be open until Friday 28 November.

I encourage you to complete the survey to help the ACT Education and Training Directorate in its research and thank you in advance for your participation.

Kristine Stewart, Principal

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Combined Gungahlin Churches will deliver Christian Education at Ngunnawal Primary School on Wednesday, 3 December for kindergarten to year 6 students.

This term we will teach the children that when it was the right time God sent His Son to us at Christmas (Galatians 4:4). We will be using songs, stories and a game or quiz to teach the children from the Bible. We may ask for student volunteers from the school to participate in these activities.

If you have any questions regarding Christian Education, please call New Life Presbyterian Church on 02 6241 3750.

If you wish your child to attend the Christian Education sessions in 2014 and have not previously done so, please complete the permission slip below and return to the school by 1 December 2014.



PERMISSION NOTE - CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

I give permission for my child/ren to attend Christian Education sessions in 2014.

Child's Name: _____ Class: _____

Child's Name: _____ Class: _____

Child's Name: _____ Class: _____

Parent/Carer Signature: _____

Parent/Carer Name: (please print):

_____ Date: ___ / ___ / ___



Senior Assembly Redwood

19 November 2014



Understanding the Gifted Learners in our Classrooms

Recognising and understanding gifted learners is challenging for educators and parents alike. The characteristics and needs of students who are gifted are personal and unique, and recognising them involves understanding that these specific characteristics may be demonstrated through a variety of different behaviours often presenting differently in school compared to at home.

The ACT Education and Training Directorate Gifted and Talented Students Policy is based on the Francois Gagné Differentiated Model of Giftedness and Talent (2008). This model highlights the impact of environmental and intrapersonal catalysts on the development of giftedness towards talent or competency. Although intellectual or academic giftedness is only one of the domains in Gagné's model, it is the domain which often requires the most differentiated response in the classroom.

Gifted students have characteristics and needs which are different from those of their same age peers. As a group, intellectually gifted learners comprehend complex ideas quickly, learn more rapidly and in greater depth, and may exhibit interests that differ from those of their age peers. They need time for in-depth exploration, to manipulate ideas and draw generalisations about seemingly unconnected concepts, and to ask provocative questions. Gifted learners find excitement and pleasure from intellectual challenge and show initiative and originality in work, particularly in areas of high interest and passion. At times gifted learners will show extraordinary degrees of motivation and a single-minded pursuit of goals, which their peers may find hard to understand. However, these students may also be self-critical in evaluating and correcting their own efforts, exhibiting perfectionist behaviours, which lead to task avoidance and the tendency to take criticism from others very much to heart.

Gifted students often demonstrate an ability to handle abstract ideas and flexibility in thinking, which allows them to consider problems from a

number of viewpoints and show high levels of empathy for the feelings and circumstances of other people.

Gifted students possess a need for like-minded friends and longer-term relationships than their same aged peers and this often results in a preference for older friends or friendships with much younger, but equally gifted students. When like-minded connections are not available to them, they may experience feelings of isolation and rejection and subsequent accusations of social maladjustment from those around them.

It is important to recognise that gifted learners are not a homogenous group and that students may exhibit differing levels of giftedness across one or more of the domains outlined in the Gagné model. Equally, it is important to acknowledge that giftedness does not always translate to talent and thus underachievement may need to be addressed in the case of some gifted learners. Ultimately, gifted learners require support in order to achieve their full potential. To this extent, they are no different to any other students whose learning needs differ from the norm.

References

- Gagné, F. (1985). Giftedness and talent: Reexamining a reexamination of the definitions. *Gifted Child Quarterly*, 29, 103-112.
- Gagné, F. (2008). *Building gifts into talents: Overview of the DMGT*. Université du Québec à Montréal (Canada)
- Rogers, K.B. (2007). Lessons learned about educating the gifted and talented: A synthesis of the research on educational practice. *Gifted Child Quarterly*. 51 (4) 382-396.
- VanTassel-Baska, J. (2007). Leadership for the future in gifted education: Presidential address. *Gifted Child Quarterly* 2007 51: 5 DOI: 10.1177/0016986206297087
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Monday 12th January until Friday 30th January

Swish Education is a Canberra-based school holiday education provider. All workshops are taught by qualified and experienced teaching professionals in age discreet year levels from Kindergarten to Year Three. Workshops are creative and fun with a sound educational pedagogy.

\$98.00 per workshop - get 50% back as a Government Rebate
CCB Also Available

For all Swish Education workshop outlines and bookings, please visit:
www.swisheducation.edu.au

Workshops for Kindergarten, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3

Monday 12th January, 2015 Fadulous...DJ Rock	Monday 19th January 2015 Fadulous... How to Catch a Monster	Tuesday 27th January, 2015 Get into Gear, You're an Engineer... Build an Ant Farm
Tuesday 13th January, 2015 Phenomenal Physics... Aerodynamics	Tuesday 20th January, 2015 Amazing Architects...My Classroom	Wednesday 28th January, 2015 A Day in the Life of...Cartoonist
Wednesday 14th January, 2015 Chemical Chaos... Atmospheric	Wednesday 21st January, 2015 Chemical Chaos... Cold, Cold, Cold	Thursday 29th January, 2015 Phenomenal Physics... It is Rocket Science, You Know!
Thursday 15th January, 2015 Digging Archaeology... Jurassic Park	Thursday 22nd January, 2015 CSI – Crime Swish Investigation... The Antique Dish	Friday 30th January, 2015 Dr. B. Ologist... Boils, Pus, Scabs and Sores
Friday 16th January 2015 The Time Machine... A Day with Pirates	Friday 23rd January, 2015 I'm an Anthropologist... A Day in Italy	

Campbell Primary School. Chauvel Street, Campbell ACT

Community Christmas Party

Sunday 14 December * 11am-3pm * free event
In the carpark at the front of the Club - Matilda Street, Woden

Join the Free Christmas Fun Rides on:

- * Supa Cha * Dodgem Cars * Jumping Castle
- * Cup & Saucer * Giant Slide
- * Laser Skirmish Maze



Plus Entertainment

- * Kenny Koala * Face Painting
- * Canberra Pipes & Drums
- * Reptile Petting Zoo

Plus a special visit from Santa



HELLENIC CLUB
Where Canberra Meets

CLUB OF THE YEAR 2014
MATILDA STREET WODEN
TEL 02 6281 0899
www.hellenicclub.com.au
Information for members & guests

Questacon Smart Skills Initiative

HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS

MAKER PROJECT

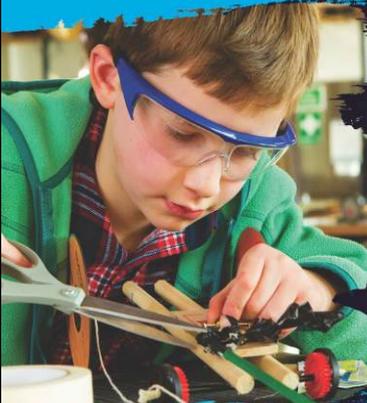
Does your child have a bright idea?

Sign the kids up to a Questacon Maker Project workshop during these school holidays at The Ian Potter Foundation Technology Learning Centre in Deakin.

Full or half-day workshops are designed for young people between 10-15 years to unleash their inner inventor, designer or maker.

TOPICS COVERED INCLUDE:

- THINK** GENERATING IDEAS / PROBLEM SOLVING / CREATIVITY AND DESIGN
- MAKE** BUILDING / CONSTRUCTING / RECYCLING AND PROTOTYPING
- TRY** TESTING / OBSERVATION AND ATTEMPTING
- REFINE** REFLECTING / IMPROVING / PRESENTATION AND MARKETING



Workshops will provide participants with a great opportunity to meet other like-minded people, make some cool stuff, get great advice on their projects, and find out how to further develop their ideas while having heaps of fun along the way!

THE WORKSHOPS

FULL DAY WORKSHOPS

Date 12 and 13 January (Monday-Tuesday)
Time 9 am – 3 pm
Where The Ian Potter Foundation Technology Learning Centre, 60 Denison Street, Deakin
Age 10-15 years old
Cost Q Club members \$88.00 per workshop per participant (incl. GST)
Non Q Club members \$110.00 per workshop per participant (incl. GST)

Each workshop runs for a single day from 9 am-3 pm. Children are welcome to attend more than one workshop.

3D DESIGN
Monday 12 January
Can you design and print your own object in three dimensions?

ROCKETS
Tuesday 13 January
Ready...set...blastoff! Use simple materials to build and launch your very own rocket!

HALF-DAY WORKSHOPS

Date 14-16 January (Wednesday-Friday)
Time 9 am – 12 pm
Where The Ian Potter Foundation Technology Learning Centre, 60 Denison Street, Deakin
Age 10-15 years old
Cost Q Club members \$44.00 per workshop per participant (incl. GST)
Non Q Club members \$55.00 per workshop per participant (incl. GST)

Each workshop runs for only half a day. Children are welcome to attend more than one workshop.

ENGINEUTY
Wednesday 14 January
Engineer a wacky and exaggerated domino-effect.

BUILDING ROBOTS
Thursday 15 January
Create hybrid contraptions from salvaged robots and other materials.

MOUSETRAP RACERS
Friday 16 January
What can you construct with power stored in a little spring?

Participants will need to arrange their own transport and provide their own morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea (we can arrange for small items to be refrigerated).

REGISTRATION AND MORE INFORMATION

phone 1800 889 995
email bookings@questacon.edu.au
www.questacon.edu.au





NOBLE STYLE

Corner Ernest Cavanagh & Hinder Streets, Gungahlin

School Uniform Suppliers

Get your orders in early to be ready for the start of the 2015 school year!

To ensure items can be supplied by the beginning of the 2015 school year, please place your orders with Noble Style before the last day of Term 4 which is

Wednesday 17 December 2014.

Don't forget – you can trade in old uniform items:

Polo Shirts \$2 each

Vests & Jackets \$3 each

SIDS & KIDS CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The world record SIDs and Kids Christmas Lights display will open in Petrie Plaza, Civic on

Friday 28 November until Christmas Day.

Gold coin donation.

English@Gungahlin
Thursdays 1.00 – 2.30pm

English Conversation for Life in Australia

Speaking - Listening - Reading

1.00 pm Greetings; questions and answers; fun group activities

1.30 pm Conversation / discussion - issues of life and faith in Australia, and

Eating and talking with classmates from around the world

Salvation Army Church Hall
The Valley Ave, Gungahlin

STARTS Thursday 27TH November
Just come **or** phone Leonie on 0419017552
Cost – gold coin donation.
(Sponsored by combined churches in Gungahlin)

The Bite-sized
Littlest Show on Earth!

CIRCUS

Woden / Chifley
Under the big-top! Beside Chifley shops.
Sat 29th - 2pm & 7pm, Sun 30th Nov - 2pm

Belconnen @UC - Kaleen High School
Tuesday 18th November - 6:30pm ONE SHOW ONLY

City / Watson
Majura Primary oval, Knox St, Watson
Fri 5th Dec - 7pm
Sat 6th Dec - 2pm & 7pm, Sun 7th - 2pm

0414 823 417
Find us on Facebook
www.bitesizedcircus.com

Tickets - limited seats
Standard: kids \$13, Adults \$18
Ringside: Kids \$15, Adults \$21

Featuring emerging artists from Warehouse Circus

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.

