Dear Parents and Carers

I farewelled some very excited kindergarten students this morning as they left on their excursion to the National Zoo and Aquarium. The students have been exploring living and non-living things and this excursion will provide students with the opportunity to further explore this through a variety of hands on and interactive activities. Thank you to our parent volunteers who have accompanied students so that they are able to fully participate in all activities.

Over the last eighteen months teachers from public schools across Gungahlin have been collaborating on a project to support teachers to incorporate the Australian Curriculum Cross Curriculum Priority: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures into their learning programs. The project group has consulted widely with all stakeholders and created a website that will support the building of cultural capacity of teachers and provide them with resources that support classroom learning. This project has been led by Anna McGown and will be launched tomorrow evening at the school. We are very proud of the outcome and are looking forward to sharing the finished product with our colleagues and community members.

A highlight of the past week was our Learning Journeys. I was delighted to walk around classes and see so many excited children sharing and celebrating their achievements with parents, grandparents and special visitors. I am sure you will agree with me in saying that our students are so very fortunate to have such welcoming learning environments that are supportive of their learning.

The warmer weather has been just glorious. I have enjoyed being out and about on the playground during the breaks over the last couple of weeks. During this time I have noticed many students without hats. Students will not be permitted to play on the oval, courtyard or any other unshaded part of the playground without a hat. Not having a hat also has ramifications for the PE/Sport learning area, as students cannot participate fully when part or the entire lesson is conducted in the above mentioned areas. Please make sure that your child has a broad brimmed or bucket hat with them every day and that the hat is clearly marked with their name, so if by chance it is lost we can reunite it with the owner.

As always please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss an area of concern or you need clarification.

Enjoy your week.

Regards

Kristine

Kristine Stewart, Principal

---

NEWSLETTER NO. 29 – 15 SEPTEMBER 2015

---

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Tuesday, 15 Sept
ACT Athletics Carnival

Wed, 16 Sept
Junior School Assembly, 9:15am
(1CT & 1WL)

Wed, 16 Sept
GAATSIE Launch, 5:30pm

Friday, 18 Sept
National Museum Excursion, Yr 6

Wed, 23 Sept
Whole School Assembly, 9:15am

Friday, 25 Sept
Last day of term 3.

Mon, 12 October
First day of term 4.
In Kindergarten we are learning about living and non-living things in Science. We have been discussing the properties of objects so we can sort them according to whether they are living or non-living.

Today we went on an excursion to the National Zoo and Aquarium to explore different animals/mini-beasts; focusing on their external features, where they live and how their needs are met.

After the school holidays we will be designing and creating our own animal habitats to consolidate our learning.

During our Writer’s Festival we read the poem ‘Snowball’ by Sheldon Silverstein. We broke down each line of the poem and illustrated it. These can be seen in our classrooms and on display in the front foyer.

Carmel, Mary, Chris, Stephney, Cecilia and Monica
**PRESCHOOL**

It has been very busy at preschool this term! As well as all of our regular preschool learning and investigations we have had lots of special events where we have gathered together as a whole group to celebrate. For example for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's day where we shared a special barbeque, and some of us even had a taste of kangaroo sausages!

Last week all classes visited the National Arboretum as part of our exploration of the natural environment. We are developing an increased understanding of the interdependence between land, people, plants and animals. Some of the things we learnt were that there is a spider that is camouflaged to look and smell like bird poo to ward off predators, but at night it changes its scent to attract its prey, moths!

We have been participating in the Kids at Play – Active Play program, helping us to learn and develop some fundamental movement skills such as kicking, jumping, hopping and catching.

**PLEASE READ**

**COMMONWEALTH BANK SCHOOL BANKING UPDATE**

Following the decision last month to recall the Cosmic Light Beam Torch due to a potential safety issue, a decision has been made to also withdraw the upcoming Lunar Light Band reward from the School Banking Rewards Program.

To avoid disappointment there is a new reward item available for redemption in Term 4 while stocks last. Students can now test their skills with a game of frisbee with the new Galaxy Glider!

Once students have collected 10 tokens, they can simply include a note, along with their 10 tokens in their deposit wallet on banking day to advise that they would like to redeem their tokens for the Galaxy Glider reward item.

Don’t forget the Outer Space Savers Money Box is also available in Term 4.

*Emma, Janice, Sharon, Belinda, Stacey*
Spring School Holiday Program

Tuesday 29 September – Friday 2 October

Belconnen Arts Centre welcomes back some regular tutors and some new tutors to offer a wide range of arts activities from Tuesday 29 September – Friday 2 October, for young artists 5 to 12 years.

Check out the awesome School Holiday Program with workshops to engage, extend and enchant young and emerging artists. Activities include spring crafts, weaving, puppetry and print making with artists Leigh Walker, Vikky Parsley, Marianne Mettes and Jo Hollier.

It's strongly recommended to book in early to avoid disappointment – many of the workshops book out well in advance.

Ages: 5–12 years (plus accompanying adult for under 7’s)

Please wear old clothes in preparation for some serious splattering!

Cost: $15 per workshop plus booking fee, includes materials, accompanying adults free!

Enrolments: www.belconnenartscentre.com.au

Enrolments essential

Classes supported by Ray White Belconnen

Larissa Dann

PARENT EFFECTIVENESS TRAINING (P.E.T)

Supported by Parentline ACT

Communication skills for peaceful parenting and resilient children (without the use of punishment or reward). Helps develop emotional intelligence, and grow confident, considerate children. Powerful, proven and practical. Yell less, enjoy your children more. Build relationships that last a lifetime.


The course consists of three-hour sessions, once per week, for eight weeks. Booking is essential.

$320 pp for the course

(investment includes a workbook and textbook).

Course begins: Thursday, 15th October, 2015;

Time: 6.30 pm to 9.45 pm; Place: Weston, ACT.

Enjoy P.E.T. with Larissa, Canberra’s most experienced P.E.T instructor.

0413 451 607; www.parentskills.com.au info@parentskills.com.au

NGUNNAWAL ANGELS

- meet on Wednesdays, 9:10am to 10:40am in the Library, 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!

Nicole Butterworth, Co-ordinator
GUNGAHLIN LITTLE ATHLETICS
Come and join in the fun at Gungahlin Little Athletics Centre. Fun and friendly athletics in a safe and enjoyable environment. There’s something for everyone: running, jumping, throws, hurdles, walks.

Who: 4½ to 17 years; for the 2015/16 season we welcome athletes born between 1 Oct 1998 and 31 March 2011

Season Dates:
The 2015/16 season commences on **Saturday 17 October 2015** (season runs across Term 4 and Term 1 of school). Weekly meets are held at Amaroo Oval, Horsepark Drive (behind Amaroo and Good Shepherd schools) on Saturday mornings from 8.55am to 11.30am.

Registration Details:
Registration and Come & Try days will be held at Amaroo Oval on Saturday 10 October 2015 and Sunday 11 October 10.00am - 12.00pm. On-line registration is available through the ACT Little Athletics website - [www.actlaa.org.au](http://www.actlaa.org.au) (registration tab). Bring a copy of your on-line payment receipt along to a Registration / Come & Try Day to collect your registration pack.


It’s easy to register so come and have some fun with us.

For more information please go to our website at [www.gunlac.org.au](http://www.gunlac.org.au), visit our Facebook page or email enquiries@gunlac.org.au

---

**Holiday Action Canberra - Fun School Holiday Activities**
is both an iOS and Android app listing all the great school holiday activities happening in Canberra. It has a list of all the:
- Holiday Programs
- Fun Activities
- Tourist Attractions; and
- Holiday Sports for school aged children

For more information about us or the app please check out our website [www.thynkapps.com.au](http://www.thynkapps.com.au). Or to download the app, just click on the links below.

---

**CANBERRA ACADEMY OF CHESS**
We are running a chess tournament on:
**Friday 2 October 2015**
at
**Melba Copland Secondary School**.
We are also running a** Masterclass Holiday Workshop**
on
**Tuesday 6 October 2015**.

For more information about this chess tournament and workshop, please visit:
Tel: 0452 452 247

---

**DOROTHY in Wonderland**
By Brian D. Taylor
Music and lyrics by
Bill Francoeur and
Scott Deturk

**Show Times**
Fri 2 Oct 7pm
Sat 3 Oct - Thurs 8 Oct
11am and 3pm
Fri 9 Oct 3pm

Canberra College
Performing Arts Centre,
Launceston Street, Woden

**Tickets**
$18 each
$65 family of four
$16 each groups of 10+

**Tickets available from**

---

**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.