FROM THE DEPUTY’S DESK
Dear Parents and Carers,
I can’t believe it is only the second week of the term. The holidays feel such a long time ago, already. The students have settled straight back into the term 2 routines and are actively engaged in their learning. Our year 6 students had a very successful transition visit to Gold Creek School last Friday, where they had a taste of high school, experiencing Woodwork, Science, French or Indonesian among other things. All the students were very positive about the experience.
We have another busy term in store, having had school photos and a whole school assembly last week. Mother’s Day stalls are happening this week with all classes having opportunities to do some shopping for mum before Mother’s Day on Sunday.
Next week year 3 and year 5 students will sit NAPLAN over three days, starting on Tuesday. I would like to remind those families involved to support your children to do their best during these assessments by being relaxed about them. Making sure children have early nights and start the days with a healthy breakfast is a great way to prepare them for these tests.
If you have a child who is eligible to start preschool in 2015, I would like to remind you to complete the online enrolment form before the 28 May, when enrolments close. If you would like to see how preschool and kindergarten work and have a tour of the school please come to our open morning on Tuesday 20 May at 10am.
Kind regards
Danielle

A Message from the Minister
Getting Involved in Your Child’s School is a Key to Education Success

The ACT’s national leadership in education is founded on the quality of our schools, our teachers, and our focus on putting parents and children at the centre of everything we do.
I recently announced the Progressing Parental Engagement in the ACT project, an Australia-first to help parents and families get more involved with their children’s schools and education.
Simply by reading this newsletter, you are showing your interest in being involved with the education of your children. We know children do better at school when parents and families are actively engaged. After all, you are your child’s first teachers and I encourage you to stay connected throughout their schooling. There are many ways of doing this and, as part of the project, your school will be invited to develop innovative ideas to help you to be an active part of your school community. We will keep you updated on how the project will support you in doing this.
With your help we can ensure that your child will get the very best education, tailored for them – and that the ACT will continue to lead the nation in educating our children.
Joy Burch MLA
Minister for Education and Training
Last Friday our year 6 students visited Gold Creek and got a taste of highschool. They had a fantastic time participating in activities such as Science, Art, Woodwork, PE and Languages.

‘I enjoyed putting the vinegar and bicarb soda in and mixing it with red cabbage and soda water in Science. It was interesting seeing what would happen.’ – Daniel

‘I really liked how we got to sand a key ring for woodwork. I would like to do it again. PE was also a lot of fun.’ – Josh

While year 6 was enjoying their high school visit, year 5 had the Wiradjuri unit to themselves. They spent the day doing mental computation activities, reading and writing. They read a book called *My Teacher’s Secret Life* and wrote their thoughts about their own teacher’s secret lives. There were many fun ideas including ninjas, secret agents, superheroes and even Spongebob.

We are learning about healthy eating and hygiene as a part of our Health unit this term. Throughout the unit students will be studying the ‘food plate’, heading towards creating a mock lunch menu for a week, as well as a hygiene checklist. As a part of exploring healthy food choices, students made some bread with and without yeast and investigated the differences. We are looking forward to continuing to explore good food choices and maintaining personal hygiene.

Students will be participating in Touch Football clinics this term. It will be run every Friday beginning in week 4 by ACT Touch. These clinics focus on developing fundamental motor skills, teamwork and the rules of the game.

We have begun our Technology unit for the term called *Geronimo*. Students need to design, make and appraise a product that will ensure the safe delivery of a paratrooper from a plane in flight to the ground. Last week students brainstormed what they could make, how to make it and questions they would need answered before they could begin their design.

*Nicole, Andrew, Kristy Laurie, Stacey, Janelle, James*
SCIENCE UPDATE:
Crazy Science Show!

On Thursday in week 10 of term 1, Ngunnawal Primary was treated to a highly engaging and spectacular science show. Thank you to Anna (SLC) for organising the fun.

Wow! Talk about crazy Science! Here’s what the students said:

Awesome! I loved it!
Enjoyable.
It was really interesting.
People’s heads will never look the same.
(Ask your child about this one.)
I loved the bubbles, it was a really cool show.
The elephant’s toothpaste was the best.

Quiz Questions:
1. What is the closest star to our Sun?
2. Are cold sores caused by bacteria, viruses or protozoa?
3. What colour is liquid oxygen?
4. What is biomimicry?
5. Which Australian bird is the largest member of the kingfisher family?

Quiz Answers:
1. Proxima Centauri is the closest star to our Sun.
2. Cold sores are caused by a virus, the herpes simplex virus.
3. Liquid oxygen has a pale blue colour, and forms below -183 degrees Celsius.
4. Biomimicry is the study and imitation of designs found in nature.
5. The laughing kookaburra is the largest member of the kingfisher family.

P&C News

Welcome back to term 2 from the P&C.

This term, our fundraising focus is on the silver shrapnel drive. Just like the 5c drive but with more oomph. This time, we seek to ease the burden of overstuffed purses and wallets with those pesky silver coins to assist us in buying more resources for the school. Simply throw your silver each week into a zip lock bag with your child’s name and class on it and send to the canteen. Each week, we’ll publish an ongoing tally of the top shrapnel collectors with the winning class announced after the close of the drive at the end of Week 9. The winning class will win a prize and your kind assistance will enable us to purchase some cool new equipment.

Don’t forget also that the Mother’s Day stall is on Tuesday 6 May for juniors and preschool and on Thursday 8 May for seniors and preschool. For a mere $4, you can purchase that special person in your life a fantastic gift. Should you be able to help out on either of these days, please drop me a line or give me a call.

The P&C is also pleased to welcome Chantel Earle to the Canteen. Chantel will be working with Lynne to bring a variety of healthy and fun snacks and food to hungry tummies and we’re excited to have her on board.

Our P&C meeting was held last night, however if you weren’t able to make it, you can always call or send an email (ngunnawalpandccommittee@gmail.com) with any comments or questions. There’s also the suggestion box at the front office to make it easy for you to send us your feedback or suggestions as well.

Adam Smith
President, Ngunnawal P&C Committee
5/6A, 5/6N & 5/6L ANZAC ASSEMBLY
5/6 S & 5/6 K ASSEMBLY 1/5/2014
Dear Parents and Carers,

The Gungahlin Cluster of schools is dedicated to providing the best in public education. As part of this commitment, we have listened to those of you who have asked for more information on the programs and pathways available to Gifted and Talented students in Gungahlin.

To meet this request we have produced a brochure which provides an overview of the programs and opportunities existing at:

- Amaroo School
- Gold Creek School
- Gungahlin College
- Franklin Early Childhood School
- Harrison School
- Ngunnawal Primary
- Palmerston District Primary School

We would like to invite all interested families to attend the launch of the brochure at the Gungahlin College Theatre on Wednesday, 21 May at 5.30pm. It will be followed by an opportunity to meet with representatives from the schools involved where you will be able to ask questions and speak to teachers and students about their experiences.

Light refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP to Anna.Mcgown@ed.act.edu.au by 9am on Thursday, 15 May. Please include “RSVP - G and T” in the subject line of your email and indicate the number of people attending.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Anna

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JUMP ROPE FOR HEART - FUNDRAISER

This term our school is participating in the Heart Foundation’s Jump Rope for Heart program.

Jump Rope for Heart is Australia’s most popular physical activity and fundraising program for schools. For over 30 years, kids all over Australia have been learning new skipping tricks while raising valuable funds to help the Heart Foundation fight heart disease, our single biggest killer.

All students will receive a sponsorship form today or alternatively can choose to fundraise online.

On Friday 13 June, we will hold our ‘Jump Off Day’ to celebrate our school’s commitment to being active and raising awareness of heart health.

Lisa Buchanan and Kate North

Thank You

to Ngunnawal Primary
Students for their participation
in the 2013 Wattle Day
Citizenship Ceremony.
SAFETY REMINDER – BICYCLES, SCOOTERS, SKATEBOARDS AND IN-LINE SKATES

• Students who ride bicycles or scooters to school must wear a helmet while riding.
• Bicycles and scooters skates are not to be ridden within the school grounds at any time.
• Skateboards and in-line skates are not considered a safe means of transport to and from school for primary school aged children and are not to be ridden or brought to school.

Thank you for your co-operation and assistance in this matter.

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

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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.