

NGUNNAWAL PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



ACT
Government
Education

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

Newsletter No. 08 – 21 March 2017



DATES TO REMEMBER:

Monday 20 March
*Indigenous Performance
Preschool*

Wednesday 22 March
*Senior School
Assembly, 9:15am
5/6GH & 5/6LK*

Thursday 23 March
*Indigenous Performance,
K-6 and Preschool*

Monday 27 March
*Kenny Koala visits
Preschool*

**Monday 27 March to
Friday 7 April**
*AquaSafe Program,
Year 2 students.*

Wednesday 29 March
*Junior School
Assembly, 9:15am
(KMA & KST)*

Friday 31 March
*Kenny Koala visits
Preschool*

**Monday 3 April –
Friday, 7 April**
*Kindergarten Health
Checks*

**Monday 3 April –
Wednesday, 5 April**
Yr 5 Camp (Borambola)

**Monday 3 April –
Wednesday, 5 April**
Year 6 Camp (Cooba)

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to a very wet week eight. The rain has certainly been refreshing and great for our gardens. During rain periods the oval will often be closed and students will only be allowed to play on hard surfaces at the school. If it is raining during break times students will remain in their classrooms and engage in appropriate indoor activities.

Last week at the whole school assembly we acknowledged Harmony Day. The theme for this year's celebration was *Everyone Belongs* and it was lovely to see students dressed in their national dress or orange. Here at Ngunnawal Primary we have a very diverse community and we truly value the richness that this diversity brings. Thank you to Belinda Denmead for organising such a wonderful whole school celebration for Harmony Day.

I have been having discussions with the canteen about how we can make the service during break times easier for canteen staff and students. Many students are sharing food that they buy at the canteen. Teachers do discuss the school protocol of not sharing food due to allergies that children may have and we ask that parents please also discuss this at home with the children. We have also been informed that students are not waiting their turn to be served and while the teachers on duty do patrol the lines this is still occurring. If canteen staff notice that children are pushing in front of others they will refuse service to that student. The best way for your child to avoid the canteen line is to place orders online through Flexischools. Information about this can be found

later in this newsletter. I would also like to inform families that students will not be able to access free fruit for Fruit Break from the canteen from week nine this term. This service has become problematic with students discarding their perfectly good fruit from home to get fruit from the canteen and the increase in the number of students accessing fruit has become unsustainable.

At the end of this term and after well over 40 years of teaching, Ngunnawal Primary will farewell Estelle Stanton-Yeaman as she has made the very difficult decision to retire. Estelle is in her 12th year at Ngunnawal Primary and during that time has taught across many year levels and approximately 250 students. She has made an enormous contribution to the school and we will be farewelling her at the week 10 assembly followed by a morning tea. If you would like to attend Estelle's Farewell Morning Tea please complete the RVSP later in the newsletter and return it the front office by Friday 31 March.

Parents of children in years three and five will today receive information about the NAPLAN assessments that will take place during weeks three and four next term. Please read through this information carefully and if you have any questions please come along to the NAPLAN Information session to be held in the Library at Ngunnawal Primary at 5.30pm on Wednesday 29 March. Our NAPLAN Coordinators Anna McGown and Jo Pearce will be in attendance to present information about the tests and answer any questions you may have.

(Continued on Page 3.....)

Please see
NOTES HOME & REMINDERS page 3.



Spotlight on Learning!

Kosciuszko

We are having a great term 2!
Year 3/4 students in Kosciuszko are very engaged
in their learning and completing lots of fun tasks.

Maths

2D shapes and 3D objects is our current focus in our non-number maths time. We started off by looking at what we already knew and are now inquiring as to what questions we have about 2D shapes and 3D objects.

We are continuing our Maths Groups with Redwood and developing our understanding of Odd and Even Numbers and Place Value. We have also begun working on maths problems using the Split Strategy.

History

We are continuing our focus on the First Fleet. Students have begun using the chrome books to frame their own inquiry into this unit of work and answering some 'I wonder' questions.

We are loving the Chrome books!

Writing

We have begun looking at the structure and language features of Narratives this week. We are focusing on making our writing interesting to read.

We have also been focusing on editing our work and students have begun to build their Writer's Toolkit with such things as editing fans and Oxford Word List booklets.



Reading

We talk a lot about strategies that help us with reading during our Literacy time. We have been focusing on checking we understand what we read and why that is important.

Over the next few weeks we will be looking into summarising the text and connecting with a text.

Say No to Bullying

Last Friday was the National Day of Action against bullying. We spent time discussing what bullying was and that it is repeated behaviour. We spoke about the importance of not only telling the teacher on duty but our classroom teacher so that they could help. We watched a video on how bullying affects people and discussed what we could do if we saw someone being bullied.

(...Continued from Page 1)

Last Friday was the National Day Against Bullying and Violence and I wrote to families about the steps you can take to support your child if the report that they are being bullied. Last night the School Board endorsed Ngunnawal Primary School's Anti-Bullying Guidelines and they are attached to this newsletter. We have developed these guidelines in consultation with students, and parents through the P & C and Board and are pleased to be able to share them with our community today. It is important we work together to ensure that Ngunnawal Primary is a bully free zone, where students and staff alike work in a safe and harmonious environment.

As always please do not hesitate to contact myself or any member of the executive to discuss and question or concern you may have. Appointments can be made by phoning the Front Office on 62058182.

Have a great week.

Kristine

Kristine Stewart,
Principal

NAPLAN 2017

The National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for students in year three and year five occurs this year on **9, 10, 11 and 12 May**. All students will be assessed in reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy.

You may withdraw your child from this assessment process by completing a withdrawal form. Please contact the school if this is what you wish to do.

Free workshop for parents & carers of young people on the autism spectrum!

Canberra - 2 May

Register your place:

positivepartnerships.com.au

 positive partnerships

SWIMMING CARNIVAL – PRESENTATION OF RIBBONS

A reminder that ribbons for our school swimming carnival which was held on Tuesday 28 February will be handed out at tomorrow's senior assembly (Wednesday 22 March 2017). Year two students who attended the carnival will also attend this assembly.

Laurie Imhoff

NOTES HOME & REMINDERS

Reminders

- **General Medical Consent Form** (bright yellow card) – please return these as soon as possible as this information is needed for excursions during the year.
- **IMP Year 5 and Year 6 Bands** – Notes due back ASAP.

Notes Home:

- **2017 ICAS Competitions** – PLEASE NOTE: Notes and payments to be returned no later than Friday 24 March.
- **Year 5 Camp (Borambola), 3 - 5 April 2017** – Packing list and medical form sent home today. Medical form to be returned by Friday 24 March.
- **Year 6 Camp (Cooba), 3 - 5 April 2017** – Packing list and medical form sent home today. Medical form to be returned by Friday 24 March.

2017 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS & ASSESSMENT FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS) - Years 3 to 6

For over 20 years, Educational Assessment Australia (EAA) has been conducting the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools. The following competitions will be held at Ngunnawal Primary School this year.

Digital Technologies	Tuesday	23 May	\$9.00
Science	Tuesday	30 May	\$9.00
Writing	Tuesday	13 June	\$18.00
Spelling	Wednesday	14 June	\$12.00
English	Tuesday	1 August	\$9.00
Mathematics	Tuesday	15 August	\$9.00

Permission notes were sent home with students in years 3 to 6 early last week. If your child wishes to participate in any of these competitions, please complete the permission form and return to school with payment of applicable entry fees.

Payment is due by Friday 24 March 2017. Please note that notes and payments will not be accepted after this date.

ESTELLE IS RETIRING! FAREWELL MORNING TEA Wednesday, 5 April 2017

Please join us in the Library
after the assembly

To assist with catering, please
RSVP to the front office (6205 8182)
by 3 April if you will be attending.

RETHINK SUGARY DRINKS!

You wouldn't eat 16 teaspoons of sugar in one hit, so why would you drink them all in one go? There are about **16 teaspoons of sugar** in a 600ml bottle of regular soft drink.

Consumption of sugar sweetened beverages, which include soft drinks, energy drinks, fruit drinks, sports drinks and sweetened water adds extra energy to your diet with no nutritional benefit, and can result in tooth decay.

If you don't burn them off, that extra energy can result in weight gain and obesity which are known risk factors for serious health issues.

Instead of grabbing a sugar sweetened drink, why not try water or milk instead?



Sourced from Rethink sugary drinks

ANZAC ASSEMBLY

Ngunnawal Primary School's ANZAC assembly is being held at 9am on Wednesday 26 April 2017.

If you are working in Defence and are happy volunteer your time to be part of our ANZAC commemorations, we would love to hear from you.

Please contact the co-ordinator Andrew Waghchoure (Year 3/4 classroom teacher) on andrew.waghchoure@ed.act.edu.au as soon as possible.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Combined Gungahlin Churches will present the Term 1 Christian Education program (Kinder to Year 6) at Ngunnawal Primary School on Wednesday 22 March 2017 at 9:15am (K-2) and 9:50am (3-6).

"We will teach the children about Lazarus, a friend of Jesus, whom he raises from the dead in the book of John in the Bible. We will teach using songs, story, and a game. We may ask for student volunteers from the school to participate in these activities."

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

✂-----✂-----✂

PERMISSION NOTE - CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

I give permission for my child/ren to attend Christian Education sessions at Ngunnawal Primary School.

Child's Name: _____ Class: _____

Child's Name: _____ Class: _____

Child's Name: _____ Class: _____

Parent/Carer Signature: _____

Parent/Carer Name: (please print): _____

Date: _____

CEREBRAL PALSY ALLIANCE ACT

IGNITE WALK CANBERRA – 28 APRIL 2017

At Cerebral Palsy Alliance ACT we are launching our brand new challenge event - Ignite Walk Canberra on Friday 28 April 2017.

About Ignite Walk

Parents round up the kiddies and get ready to glow for a night like no other as you Ignite Canberra

Together you can glow under light tunnels and radiate through the fully accessible (7km, 14km, or 21km) track seeing Lake Burley Griffin and Lennox Gardens illuminate with live entertainment, light installations, neon face painting and music as you sparkle in the dark.

Head to the website for more information:
www.ignitewalk.com.au

NOTIFICATION OF STUDENT ABSENCES

If your child is absent from school, please call and advise the front office staff on 6205 8182 by 9:15am.

Ngunnawal Primary School P&C Association

SPECIAL LUNCH ORDER - \$5

Wednesday, 29 March 2017

- Choose one:** Hotdog (Halal available)
OR Vegetable & Ricotta Roll (Gluten Free/Vegetarian)
OR Spinach & Ricotta Roll (Vegetarian)

Plus Drink: Lite Oak flavoured milk
Chocolate OR Strawberry OR Banana

Orders due by Friday 24 March 2017.

Order forms available from Canteen.

Please return orders and payments to the Canteen.



P & C News

The Ngunnawal Primary School Parents and Citizens (P & C) Association plays an important part in supporting our wonderful school. We run the school canteen and a second-hand uniform shop, as well as organise events such as school discos and the Mother's Day and Father's Day stalls during the year.

To find out more about how you can get involved in the P&C, come along to a meeting (details below), send an email to nqunnawalps_pandc@outlook.com or like us on Facebook.

We meet at 6pm in the school staff room at the front office. Our meeting dates for 2017 are:

27 March	11 September
15 May	30 October
19 June	4 December

Joining the P&C is a great way to keep informed, to contribute to the quality education of your children and to make new friends. Your contribution can be as large or small as you can manage, but your ongoing support of the P&C Association is invaluable.

Online ordering now available at the School Canteen!

The Ngunnawal Primary School Canteen now offers **online ordering and payment** through Flexischools! Available from your mobile or computer, you can place canteen orders and pay securely online anytime, anywhere! Just go to flexischools.com.au and click 'register'. More information is available from the Canteen.



The Ngunnawal Primary School P&C Association runs a **second-hand uniform shop** once a month during school term. We have a range of items and sizes. Jackets, jumpers and dresses are **\$2** and hats, tops, shorts and pants are only **\$1** each.

To be notified of the dates and times, 'like' us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Ngunnawal-Primary-PC-Association-221250924740393>

Donations of clean items in good, wearable condition are very much appreciated. Just drop them off at the canteen!

Personalised name labels for school

Stuck on You have labels for everything your child owns. Their personalised labels stick to just about everything from lunchboxes and drink bottles to clothing, books, school supplies and sports equipment. Dishwasher safe, microwave safe and scratch-resistant, the labels are definitely up to the rough and tumble of the playground and beyond.

Never lose a hat or drink bottle again!! They're a must for every parent!

To order go to: www.stuckonyou.com.au/fundraising/npsPCA and 20% of all sales will go to the Ngunnawal P & C Association to buy books, equipment and other supplies for students.

Developing independence in primary school

By Michael Grose

Practical ideas for parents to encourage real independence in children.

Your goal as a parent should be for your child to be completely self-managing by the end of primary school. That is, he/she can get themselves and others up each morning; make his own breakfast; prepare his own schoolbag; collect his own school uniform; put any notes under your nose to be signed and returned to school; and so it goes on. Now, that doesn't mean that kids will do all this all the time, because other factors come into play such as busy schedules and early starts; children will need some assistance at times. However, it's good to keep in mind that children, when left to their own devices, generally do remarkably well at organising their daily tasks. Sometimes they just need the opportunity. Here are four practical ways to develop real independence in primary school-aged children:

1. Involve them in mealtimes

Mealtimes are the fulcrum around which healthy families operate. Mealtimes also offer plenty of opportunities for children to help including running errands, preparing the meal, setting the table, clearing the table, packing the dishwasher and other jobs. There's something for everyone!

2. Use pocket money to develop independence

A regular allowance is a fabulous way to promote real independence in children. Start in lower primary school and gradually increase their allowance the older they become. Importantly, you need to increase the areas that their allowance covers. Pocket money used well is a fantastic way to develop independence in kids.

3. Look after pets

It's a quirk of life that most children want a pet, but they just don't want to look after it in the long term. Many kids discover that following the initial flush of enthusiasm looking after a pet can be a grind – walking the family pooch, cleaning out the guinea-pig cage, or feeding the family feline. But pet care offers priceless lessons in the development of grit, responsibility and nurturance – all necessary attributes for independent success.

4. Walk, ride or take public transport to school

The opportunity to go to school on your own devices was a luxury that previous generations enjoyed. While it may have seemed at the time like something to be endured rather than enjoyed, most people I discuss this matter and look back with fondness and nostalgia. For most people it meant freedom, friendship and fun. For a short time each day kids experienced a delicious type of freedom away from both teachers and parents – a time to muck around, dawdle and mess around with mates. It also gave kids some familiarity with their neighbourhood.

It's well established that currently more children are driven to school than ride or walk, which denies children the same opportunity for friendship, fun and freedom. Busy schedules, less child-friendly neighbourhood layouts and working parents are just some of the reasons that prevent kids walking to school. If possible, look for ways to allow your child to get to school on their own. It's fantastic for their independence and wellbeing. If children are too young, walk or ride with them some of the way until they are old enough and skilled enough to make the trip without you.

The age of opportunity

Children in this stage have an outward orientation and are exploring their place in the world. This is an age and stage for greater neighbourhood exploration, for taking on real responsibility and for developing personal confidence and efficacy before adolescence starts.

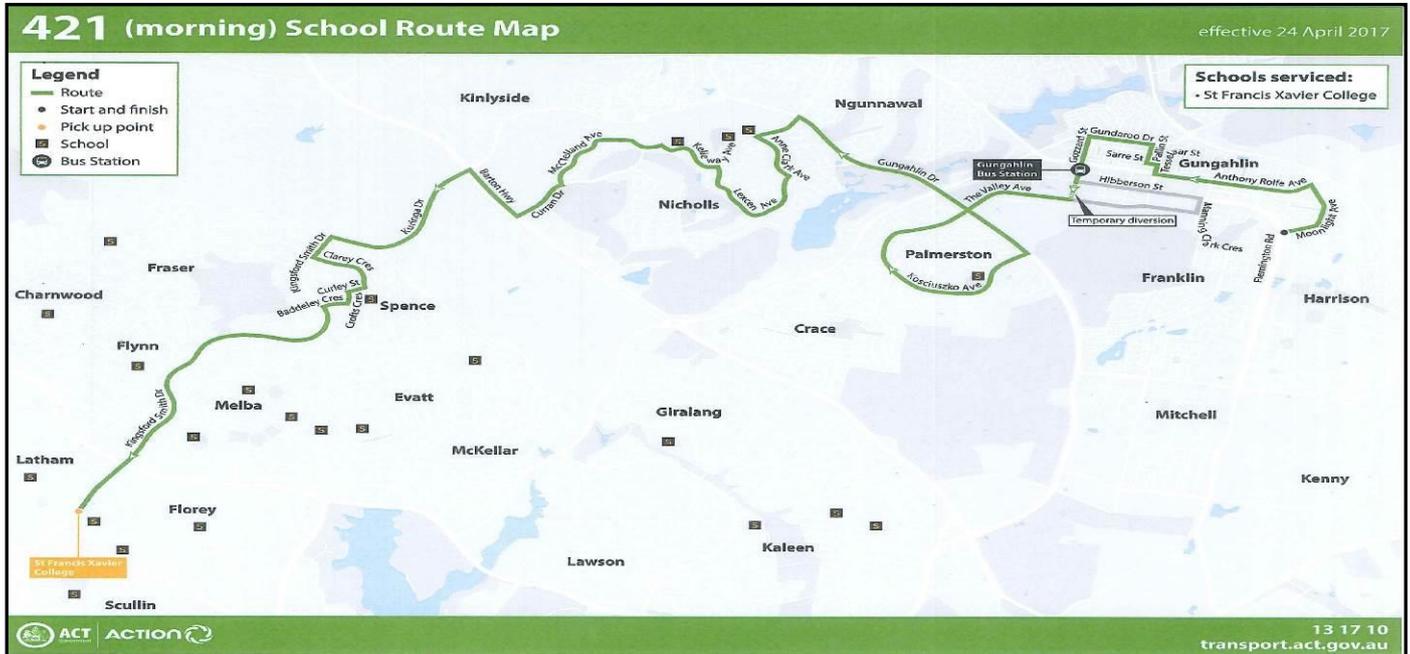
ACTION BUSES – CHANGES TO SCHOOL SERVICE 421

School Service **421** will see a diversion at Gungahlin Marketplace.

Commencing: Monday 24 April 2017 until further notice.

Change to route: Due to the closure of Hibberson Street Gungahlin Bus Stops 7002 and 6135 will no longer be serviced. This service will now pick up at Stop ID 5056, Gozzard Street –Woolworths car park.

We encourage you to view this information now available on the [Transport Canberra Website](http://transport.canberra.gov.au). We would further appreciate your assistance in circulating this information using your existing communications channels, such as school emails, newsletters or notices so students and parents can start planning their travel during this time. We further advise that parents and students are able to use our [NXTBUS](http://nxtbus.transport.act.gov.au) system to view live bus information for selected stops or stations.



ACTION BUSES – CHANGES TO SCHOOL SERVICE 469

School Service **469** will see a diversion at Gungahlin Marketplace.

Commencing: Monday 24 April 2017 until further notice.

Change to route: Due to the closure of Hibberson Street Gungahlin Bus Stops 7002 and 6135 will no longer be serviced. This service will now pick up at Stop ID 6003 – Raiders Club, Gozzard Street.

We encourage you to view this information now available on the [Transport Canberra Website](http://transport.canberra.gov.au). We would further appreciate your assistance in circulating this information using your existing communications channels, such as school emails, newsletters or notices so students and parents can start planning their travel during this time.

We further advise that parents and students are able to use our [NXTBUS](http://nxtbus.transport.act.gov.au) system to view live bus information for selected stops or stations.

Communities@Work

Amaroo - Autumn 2017

School Holiday Program



Monday 10

The Boss Baby

Today we are off to Hoyts Belconnen to watch *The Boss Baby*. The story of a 7 year old boy who is jealous of his new baby brother.

9:15am - 12:30pm, excursion, movie

Tuesday 11

Science or Magic?

At Neville Bonner School, children will be introduced to a series of scientific concepts including properties of gases, forces, air pressure, gravity and the relationship between properties of materials and temperature.

10:00am - 12:00pm, excursion

Wednesday 12

Monster Skate Park

The Monster Skate crew cater to all ability levels and create a safe and fun environment for children to develop their skills on skateboards and scooters.

1:30pm - 3:30pm, incursion

Thursday 13

Theme Day: The Wild West

Anything is possible as cowgirls and cowboys take on the sheriff and deputies, relax inside the barn cooking and crafting, or play outside with the coyotes and campfires!

Friday 14

**Closed for Good Friday
public holiday**

Daily Cost: \$72

Please bring: a packed lunch and morning tea

Monday 17

**Closed for Easter Monday
public holiday**

Tuesday 18

Kiddie Kartz

All budding race car drivers can muck around in go-karts within an inflatable track. Fully trained staff supervise children and ensure their safety as they enjoy the ride!

1:30pm - 3:30pm, incursion

Wednesday 19

Smurfs: The Lost Village

Today we are off to Hoyts Belconnen to watch *Smurfs: The Lost Village*. A mysterious map sets Smurfette and her best friends on an exciting and thrilling race through the Forbidden Forest filled with magical creatures.

9:15am - 12:30pm, excursion, movie

Thursday 20

Muttley Crew

Farmer Dave will teach children how to act safely and behave around dogs, communicate effectively and develop a relationship based on trust and respect. The children might even be lucky enough to meet Alice the white Dingo!

10:00am - 12:00pm, incursion

Friday 21

Inflatable World

The children will jump, climb and challenge themselves on all that Inflatable World has to offer. Bouncing is the key word, which means high energy fun will be had by all. Socks are compulsory.

9:15pm - 12:30pm, excursion

Monday 24

Open for Service

Call: 1300 212 273

Email: enrolments@commsatwork.org

Families wanting to know more information about the holiday programs please follow the link below:

<https://www.commsatwork.org/services/children/>



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!



PIANO LESSONS

Do you have a child interested in learning to play the piano?

Piano teacher, John Bice, currently has some vacancies in his schedule.

If you would like more information regarding piano lessons with John, please contact him on 6254 7238.

Cash back on the school run School Drive Subsidy



If you live a long way from public transport and need to drive a student to a public transport pick up point or to school, you may be able to get financial assistance.

The School Drive Subsidy provides eligible parents and guardians twice-yearly payments to help cover some of the expenses of getting children to school.

To find out if you're eligible, and to apply online, visit transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive

Can't get online?

Ask about the School Drive Subsidy at your school, or call **131 500**.



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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.

WARNING – DEATH CAP MUSHROOMS DO NOT TOUCH, PICK OR EAT ANY WILD MUSHROOMS!

Death Cap mushrooms are one of the world's deadliest mushrooms and can be found across the Canberra region, usually in late summer and autumn. There have been four deaths and many poisonings in the ACT in the past 15 years due to Death Cap mushrooms.

In Canberra, Death Cap mushrooms often grow near established oak trees in mild, moist weather. Death Cap mushrooms have been found growing on school grounds in the ACT.

Parents and teachers are asked to remind children **not to touch, pick or eat any wild mushrooms**.

As the Death Cap mushroom can easily be confused with edible varieties, adults are also strongly advised not to touch, pick or eat any wild mushrooms. It is difficult, even for experienced collectors, to tell the difference between the Death Cap mushroom and edible wild mushrooms.

All parts of the Death Cap mushroom are poisonous and eating even a small amount of the mushroom can be fatal. Cooking the Death Cap mushroom does not make it safe.

If you suspect that you or one of your family members might have eaten Death Cap mushrooms, you should seek urgent medical attention at a hospital emergency department.

If you believe you have spotted a Death Cap mushroom, do not touch the mushroom with your bare skin. If it is in your own yard, the best option is to leave it be and make sure others stay away from the area. The mushroom will die in a few days.

If you believe you have spotted a Death Cap mushroom growing in a public area, please contact Access Canberra on 13 22 81.

For further information on Death Cap mushrooms, download the fact sheet online from ACT Health:

[http://www.health.act.gov.au/datapublications/fact-sheets/environmental-health#Death Cap Mushrooms](http://www.health.act.gov.au/datapublications/fact-sheets/environmental-health#Death%20Cap%20Mushrooms)



Ngunnawal Primary School P&C Association

COOKIES!

Your school P&C is running a fundraising drive, selling gourmet cookie dough to bake at home.

With 8 flavours, including **triple choc** and **caramel chunk**, you won't be able to resist!

The dough is rated **AMBER** (a 'sometimes' food), made with quality ingredients and can be kept in the fridge or freezer, so you only bake what you need.

Order forms will be sent home week 7, with orders due in week 8. Orders can be collected from the school canteen at the end of week 10, just in time for school holidays and **Easter!**

Check out the P&C Facebook page for more information:

www.facebook.com/Ngunnawal-Primary-PC-Association-221250924740393



ACT
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Ngunnawal Primary School Anti-Bullying Guidelines



In establishing these guidelines Ngunnawal Primary School has adhered to the Education Directorate's Safe and Supportive Schools policy and has consulted with students, staff and parents.

http://www.education.act.gov.au/school_education/safe_supportive_schools

Some facts

- Approximately one in four Year 4 to Year 9 Australian students (27%) report being bullied every few weeks or more often (considered to be frequent) during the (students') last term at school. Frequent school bullying was highest among year 5 (32%) and Year 8 (29%) students
- 83% of students who bully others online, also bully others offline
- 84% of students who were bullied online were also bullied offline
- peers are present as onlookers in 87% of bullying interactions, and play a central role in the bullying process
- hurtful teasing was the most prevalent of all bullying behaviours experienced by students, followed by having hurtful lies told about them
- cyber bullying appears to be related to age (or access to technology), with older students more likely to engage in cyber bullying than younger students

(Source: Cross, D., Shaw, T., Hearn, L., Epstein, M., Monks, H., Lester, L., & Thomas, L. 2009. Australian Covert Bullying Prevalence Study (ACBPS). Child Health Promotion Research Centre, Edith Cowan University, Perth).

<http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au/teachers/facts/did-you-know.html>

<https://bullyingnoway.gov.au/UnderstandingBullying/BullyingResearch/Pages/Research-for-schools.aspx> (research snapshots literature reviews)

<https://bullyingnoway.gov.au/UnderstandingBullying/BullyingResearch/Pages/Research-news.aspx> (recent research publications)

<https://bullyingnoway.gov.au/UnderstandingBullying/BullyingResearch/Pages/Australian-researchers.aspx> (Australian researchers, evidence based practices & National Centre Against Bullying)

Definitions

Bullying: an ongoing misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that causes physical and/or psychological harm. It can involve an individual or a group misusing their power over one or more persons. Bullying can happen in person or online, and it can be obvious (overt) or hidden (covert).

Bullying of any form or for any reason can have long-term effects on those involved including bystanders

- **Single incidents and conflict or fights between equals, whether in person or online, are not defined as bullying**
- **Cyber bullying:** Bullying that occurs through social media and/or telecommunications platforms.
- **Diversity:** is about recognising the value of individual differences to school culture. Diversity can include: sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, language, ethnicity, cultural background, age, religious belief, family makeup and family responsibilities. Diversity also refers to other ways in which people are different, such as educational level, life experience, work experience, socio-economic background, personality, marital status and abilities/disabilities.

Diversity is more than merely accepting people from diverse backgrounds – it is about active support and celebration of difference.

At Ngunnawal Primary School we will:

- Openly talk about bullying: what it is, how it affects us and what we can do about it
- Teach students the skills which will empower them to take responsibility for themselves through Friendly Schools Plus (Social Emotional Learning Curriculum)
- Follow the following procedures and directorate policies (Safe and Supportive Schools Policy)

If bullying occurs:

- Students may feel frightened, unsafe, embarrassed, angry, sad, or unable to sleep or concentrate on our work
- Students notice a change in their relationships with their friends or family and may feel confused about what to do
- Speak to an adult
- Adults at Ngunnawal Primary School will listen and take action that will support students

Prevention of Bullying requires a team approach and associated responsibilities:

Staff at Ngunnawal Primary School:

- Model appropriate behaviour at all times
- Arrive at class on time and ensure that students are supervised
- Ensure that our classroom management practices are respectful of students
- Actively patrol during allocated playground duty
- Teach social emotional literacy through Friendly Schools Plus curriculum. This includes positive social skills, recognising bullying and the important role of bystanders
- Respectfully respond to all reported and/or observed incidents of bullying and use the Restorative Practice principles are used with victims and bullies. Restorative practice refers to structured processes designed to repair the harm and teach and encourage more socially responsible behaviours after incidents such as bullying. Restorative practice examples include the formal apology, the method of shared concern, restitution and community conferencing
- Report/check in with students and parents once the incident is being investigated
- Will maintain confidentiality in all matters unless the safety of self or others is disclosed

Students at Ngunnawal Primary School:

- Report if they are being bullied
- Display positive behaviours and demonstrate our school S .H .A. R .E. values at all times
- Be positive bystanders by, if safe to do so, telling the bully to stop or reporting incidents to a teacher

Parents or Carers of students at Ngunnawal Primary School:

- Speak to staff (classroom teacher first) at Ngunnawal Primary School if they think their or any child is being bullied
- Watch for signs that their child may be involved in bullying e.g. unwillingness to attend school, requests for extra money
- Encourage their child to report bullying and support their child in this process
- Be familiar with the definition of Bullying as outlined in the definitions section of this policy
- Encourage their child to respect the differences in others

Reporting of Bullying:

- Students and their parents/carers can report incidents of bullying to any teacher or executive staff member

Investigations:

- Once a report has been made students are counselled
- All students will be given the opportunity to speak and be heard

Procedures for reported incidence of bullying:

- incidents of bullying reported
- details of the incident/s will be given to the relevant team leader
- the team leader in the first instance will interview the alleged perpetrator, victim and bystanders to establish facts

When Bullying verified:

- Appropriate person counsels the perpetrator so they are aware of the effect on the victim
- Appropriate person ensures and supports the perpetrator to act responsibly in future and to make amends, this may include an apology
- Appropriate person will implement a consequence and inform their parents/carers
- Incident is filed on the school's MAZE database
- Appropriate person to counsel victim and be in contact with family

If further incidence of the bullying cycle occurs:

- Appropriate person, in collaboration with the principal, to interview student and their parents or carers
- Principal to make clear consequences of repeat occurrence
- Further action (internal/external suspension) is at the discretion of the principal
- Appropriate person to counsel victim and be in contact with family

Endorsed by the Ngunnawal School Board on 20 March 2017