

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. 21 – 18 July 2017



DATES TO REMEMBER:

Wednesday 19 July
Whole School
Assembly, 9:15am

Thursday 20 July
Preschool Bus Wash
Excursions – Guginya,
Gula & Mundawari

Friday 21 July
Kenny Koala visit to
Kindergarten.

Wednesday 26 July
Senior School
Assembly, 9:15am
(5/6AP & 5/6KA)

14 – 18 August
Book Week
(Week 5)

Wed 23 August
Limelight Technical
Rehearsal

Thursday 24 August
Limelight Dress
Rehearsal &
Performance

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to term three! I hope all of our families enjoyed the holidays and had the opportunity to take time out from the regular routines of a school term. This term we are looking forward to continuing our focus on strengthening our reading program at the school with the aim of students becoming competent and capable readers. We will be holding a *Coffee and Chat* morning later in the term to discuss and share strategies that can be used at home to support students acquiring the necessary skills required to become successful readers. I encourage your attendance at this session.

At the end of term we farewelled Jo Pearce and are currently working on filling the temporary vacancy in the school leadership team. We will announce the successful applicant as soon as the recruitment process has been completed. We welcomed Keren Briggs to the leadership team at the beginning of term three to backfill for William Powell who is on extended leave. Keren is a highly experienced school leader who has worked across many settings within the Education Directorate. Keren will be leading the Year 1/2 team in William's absence.

We have also permanently filled the classroom teacher position for 5/6AB. Alexandra Patterson will begin teaching this class from Monday 24 July. Alexandra is a highly experienced classroom teacher and is joining us from Harrison School where she has been leader of literacy and curriculum development. Alex will visit Ngunnawal PS and meet her class this Friday prior to commencing the following Monday. We will be in touch with families in 5/6AB next week to arrange parent and teacher interviews.

In a previous newsletter I have mentioned The ACT Government's commitment to developing a strategy for the Future of Education in the ACT. In developing the next strategic directions for ACT Public Education,

all stakeholders have been invited to contribute ideas about the best education system for the ACT. As mentioned previously your ideas will contribute to shaping a system where every child receives a great education and meets expectations of our community. Today you will be receiving a postcard where we encourage you to write down your ideas and return it to the school for us to send in to the Directorate. You are welcome to make submissions directly to the section managing the conversation about the Future of Education by emailing

futureofeducation@act.gov.au.

Every five years ACT Public Schools undergo an external review process to demonstrate their effectiveness to the public of the planning and management of school resourcing to improve student outcomes. Ngunnawal Primary School will be reviewed in week 4, 7 to 11 August. We are very much looking forward to the review and believe that we will have much to celebrate as a result. The reviewers will look at the school's performance by using the *National School Improvement Tool* and will make informed and evidenced based decisions to rank us on the continuum. A large component of the review will be the progress the school has made in achieving the goals as stated in the Strategic Plan, and subsequent operational or action plans covering the years from 2013 -2017. I look forward to sharing the commendations and recommendations that will result from the review.

As always please make an appointment to speak with myself or any member of the leadership team to discuss and concerns or questions you may have.

Have a great week

Kristine

Kristine Stewart,
Principal

Please see
NOTES HOME & REMINDERS page 3.

Don't yell, move closer

By Michael Grose

As a busy parent it's easy to give your voice a work out when you don't get the cooperation you want from your children.

You know how it goes.

You want your son or daughter to give you some help and they don't respond.

Perhaps, you want a child to stop annoying his or her sibling.

Or you simply want your kids to QUIETEN DOWN inside.

When your request for cooperation is ignored. So you do what over 90% of parents do. That is, you repeat yourself. Then if that's still ignored you RAISE the volume.

'I'll yell at them. That should work!'

Hmm, I'm not so sure.

Usually yelling only succeeds in producing parent-deaf kids.

If yelling, shouting or raising your voice is a habit you've developed to get cooperation then here's a great strategy to use instead.

Next time your kids ignore a reasonable request move **close to them** and **quietly** repeat your request once.

No aggression, just expectation.

It means you may need to stop what you are doing. So be it.

Proximity is a powerful influencer. Great teachers know this. That's why they move around in class so much: to teach and also to manage.

So save your voice for conversation, encouragement and affection.

Use your **body effectively** to manage kids.

The key, of course, is to do it.

My challenge for you is to bite your tongue when you want to yell. Take a deep breath (as the **Mood Meter** teaches you) and move into your child's proximity. Don't stare him down. Just be close to him or her.

Keep doing it and the cooperation levels you get from your kids will increase astronomically over time.

But you've got to do it.

In future don't yell, move closer.



PARENT TIP SHEETS



Lunch Box Blitz Keep eating fruit

The Australian dietary guidelines recommend that school aged children eat at least 1 ½ serves of fruit each day. A serve of fruit is the size of 1 medium apple or 2 small apricots or 1 cup of tinned fruit or a small handful of dried fruit.

- Include all types of fruit including fresh, frozen, tinned and dried
- Fruit is a great dessert choice
- Buy fruit when it is in season as it is usually yummiest and cheaper!
- Make fruit more interesting by cutting into shapes with cookie cutters
- Kids love eating anything off sticks – thread their favourite fruit onto a skewer and serve as is, or freeze for an icy treat at home

Try some of the following suggestions for fitting more fruit into your child's day!

- Porridge/muesli topped with banana, grated apple, tinned fruit, sultana's or dried apricots
- Fruit toast + banana
- Crumpets + berries
- Pikelets with fruit and yoghurt
- Toast with low fat cottage cheese and strawberries
- Fruit smoothie (great way to use up fruit)
- Diced fruit in natural juices (tinned or tubs)
- Rice cakes with mashed banana + ricotta/peanut butter
- Small container of dried fruit
- Banana and butter/cottage cheese/ricotta roll
- Piece of fresh fruit
- Fruit kebab and yoghurt
- Fruit smoothie
- Fruit toast
- English fruit muffin
- Fruit platter
- Small wholemeal fruit muffin
- Meringue nest with fruit salad
- Fruit crumbles
- Fruit filo's
- Creamed rice and fruit

Fruity swaps

Chocolate coated muesli bar → Fruit kebab and low fat yoghurt

Chocolate Sunday → Low fat ice-cream/custard and tinned fresh fruit/frozen berries

Piece of cake → Slice of fruit toast/fruit bun

Pavlova → Meringue nest and fruit salad



NOTES HOME & REMINDERS

Notes Home:

- Note and magnet with reminder about school's new contact details sent home with youngest child today.

Reminders:

- **Preschool Bus Wash-** Thursday 20 July – Guginya, Gula and Mundawari Groups.

NGUNNAWAL PRIMARY FACEBOOK PAGE

Did you know we have a Facebook page? Please take a couple of seconds to check it out. We often post information about what is happening at school, provide updates and amendments when we have to.

Please like it and share it with our community.



OUR CONTACT DETAILS HAVE CHANGED!

Put this magnet on your fridge to remind you of our new contact details.

Don't forget to call or email us if your child is absent.



Do you get a copy of the newsletter?

Please provide your email address to receive the link each week.

Did you know that we have a 'Notes Home' section in our newsletter each week? This is a helpful communication tool, especially for those notes that may get lost along the way. If you need a copy of a note they are available on our website for you to download.



Phone (02) 6142 1500

Website: ngunnawalps.act.edu.au

Email: info@ngunnawalps.act.edu.au

Absences: Call or email
ngunnawalps.absences@ed.act.edu.au

Other helpful contacts

School Canteen: 6142 1520

order online at www.flexischools.com.au

Out of School Hours Care: 0451 680 223



SIBLING PHOTOS

If you have more than one child attending Ngunnawal Primary school, a sibling photo was taken when the photographer was here for school photographs.

If you would like to view your family's sibling photo please come to the front office. Should you wish to purchase the photo, the cost is \$10.

Ngunnawal Primary School PAYMENT DETAILS

Payments can be made via Quickweb at:

www.ngunnawalps.act.edu.au/payment

OR

By direct deposit into the School's bank account.

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.



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 ngunnawalps_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:

- 11 September
- 30 October
- 4 December



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!

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.

OUR CANTEEN RULES!!!!

We LOVE that our canteen is so popular with our students but that means it can get pretty crowded during recess and lunch time. To make sure everyone gets their turn and stays safe, we ask that parents and carers to remind their children about the following things:

- please do not share your money or canteen food with other children
- wait in line patiently without pushing in
- use the proper line - there are separate lines for Juniors and Seniors
- over-the-counter service finishes at the lunch time half-bell

Thank you for supporting our canteen and making it great for everyone!



Now anyone can help local schools earn amazing equipment. Just shop at Woolworths to earn one sticker for every \$10 spent from 26 July 2017, while stocks last.

Incredibly, last time over 16,000 schools and early learning centres participated in Earn & Learn, and earned nearly 450,000 pieces individual items. This is your chance to help!

You can help Ngunnawal Primary School by collecting stickers from Woolworths, completing a sticker sheet which can be collected from the front office and place them into the deposit bin which will also be located at the front office.

If you are unable to complete a whole sticker sheet or have left over stickers, please leave them with the front office staff.

Ngunnawal Primary School appreciates your support.

NOTIFICATION OF STUDENT ABSENCES

If your child is absent from school, please call and advise the front office staff on

6142 1500 (please note new number)

NgunnawalPS.Absences@ed.act.edu.au

by 9:15am.

2018 Australian of the Year Awards- Be Great and Nominate

Give our nation's best the recognition they deserve. Play your part in recognising Canberrans doing remarkable work, helping others and making a difference. Nominate an Australian of the Year, Senior Australian of the Year (65 years and over), Young Australian of the Year (16 to 30 years) or Australia's Local Hero. Nominations can be made online at australianoftheyear.org.au and close on 6 August 2017.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

MEDICAL INFORMATION

All requests for staff to administer medication and/or medical treatment must be in writing, setting out exact procedures. Students are not to bring medication without written advice.

Each request will then be assessed in relation to the Directorate's First Aid Policy and the school's ability to follow through. All medication is to be kept at the front office to ensure safety for all concerned. Your cooperation ensures a safe environment. If you have any queries please contact the school. If your child has any of the following conditions an Emergency Treatment Plan must be completed and returned ASAP:

- Anaphylaxis
- Asthma
- Any other medical condition for which your Doctor has recommended the school needs an Emergency Treatment Plan.
- Diabetes
- Epilepsy

These forms can be collected from the Front Office.

SIGN IN / OUT BOOK

Parents who are bringing their children to school after 9:30am or taking them out of the school for any reason during school hours, must sign the student Sign In / Out book which is located on the counter at the office. This needs to be signed, both when leaving and when returning to school.

PARENTING AGREEMENTS – CUSTODY ORDERS – PROTECTION ORDERS

If your child/ren is/are subject to a custody order, parenting agreement or protection order, the school needs to know. Copies of these documents are kept in a confidential file and teachers are informed on a "need to know" basis. Please see the Principal or Deputy Principal.

BRIMMED HATS

In line with the ACT Education Directorate's Sun Protection Policy, students at Ngunnawal Primary School must wear a broad brimmed or bucket hat when outside at all times except for June and July. It has been brought to our attention that some students are wearing baseball caps which offer no protection to the ears and back of the neck. These caps need to be left at home to avoid student frustration. The correct hats are available for purchase from the front office.

The safety and well-being of your children is very important to us. To assist us in providing a safe play environment for your child we need to ensure all hats have their cords removed to prevent choking accidents. There are brimmed hats available with special safety release cords. If your child has one of these there is no need to remove the cord.

BIKES & OTHER WHEELED ITEMS

If students ride bicycles or scooters to school they must wear a helmet. Bicycles and scooters must be placed in the locked bicycle compound. The compound is locked during school hours but bike compounds are not theft proof. We do recommend that students bring a lock and secure their bike or scooter within the compound.

For the safety of all students no wheeled devices (including shoes, skateboards, in-line skates and scooters) are to be ridden in the school playground at any time. Skateboards and in-line skates are not considered to be safe transport to and from school for primary-aged children and are not to be brought to school.



The school will not accept responsibility for the care of any wheeled device or associated equipment.

Students must dismount bikes and other wheeled devices before using school crossings.



ASSEMBLIES

School assemblies are held **each Wednesday morning at 9:15am**. We invite parents to join us to share in the achievements and presentations that celebrate student success and achievement at Ngunnawal Primary School.

A whole school assembly is generally held every three (3) weeks, with Junior (preschool to year 2) and Senior (years 3 to 6) assemblies occurring on a rotating roster.

ABSENTEEISM

Please call the school to notify us if your child will be absent. If students have not arrived in class by 9:15am, the front office will contact parents by phone to verify student absences. If a student is absent from school, a written note must be sent to the class teacher stating the date and acknowledging that the student had permission to be absent.

STUDENT SUPERVISION BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL

Parents are reminded that there is no direct supervision of children in the playground between 8.30am and 9.00am. The Library opens each morning at 8.30am for student borrowing. It is desirable that students be dropped off at school as close as possible to 9.00am. If children need assistance before school they should contact the front office for assistance.

Before 9am students are required to stay within the courtyard of the school. **Playing on equipment is not permitted.**

School concludes at 3.00pm and children should go directly home unless they are attending After School Care. Please ensure that your children know the correct procedures for going home each day.

PRECIOUS ARTICLES / VALUABLES / MOBILE PHONES

Parents are asked to ensure that students do not bring precious articles or toys to school. It is extremely distressing for students if valuables are lost or broken. They can also cause a disruption to lessons. Please make prior arrangements with teachers before any "treasures" are brought to school for news. **Mobile phones and iPods** are not permitted at school unless prior arrangements have been made with the Principal or Deputy Principal. These items must be handed in at the front office prior to 9am each day and will be stored at the front office until 3pm when they can be collected by students.





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.

DEFENCE TRANSITION MENTOR HARRISON SCHOOL

A Defence Transition Mentor (DTM) provides assistance and support to the children of Australian Defence Force members as they move from school to school and during times of parental absence.

The DTM would develop and implement a range of resources and activities to assist these children and their families to integrate into the school community and to increase their ability to cope with the military lifestyle.

This is a contract position starting ASAP until 15 December 2017 and is for approximately 18:45 hours per week. The continuation of the position beyond this date is dependent on funding from the Australian Department of Defence.

The DTM is an employee of Harrison School and is responsible to the School Principal or nominee for everyday activities.

Interested applicants may obtain a copy of the DTM role description and selection criteria from the school office.

Applications due by the Close of Business on 26 July 2017

Applications are to be submitted to Harrison School - Attention Debbie Carne

For information relating to this position please contact Debbie Carne on 6142 2200

Christmas in July

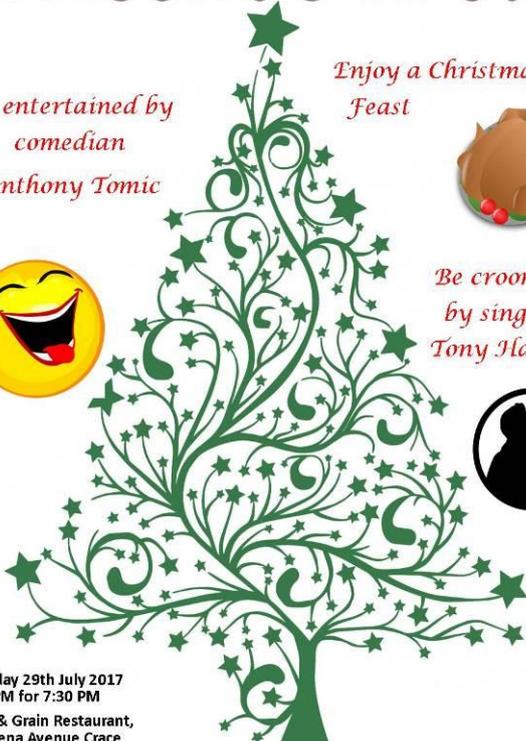
Be entertained by comedian Anthony Tomic



Enjoy a Christmas Feast



Be crooned by singer Tony Halsey



Saturday 29th July 2017
7:00 PM for 7:30 PM

Bean & Grain Restaurant,
53 Abena Avenue Grace

Dress: Smart Casual with Christmas Theme

Cost: \$65.00 with Cash Bar Available

Tickets: www.rotaryd9710.org.au/store/christmas-in-july.html

Facebook: www.facebook.com/RotaryGungahlin/

Community Event By:



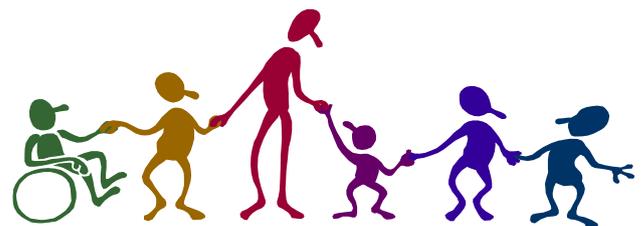
All profits to go to community projects.

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 English and Mathematics competitions will be held at Ngunnawal Primary School on the dates below:

English	Tuesday	1 August
Mathematics	Tuesday	15 August

For further information, please contact Vernetta Rolls.



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.