Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back. I hope you all had a wonderful break and that you had the time to relax and recharge your batteries. I am looking forward to another wonderful year of learning and the sharing of our students’ achievements with you through the newsletter.

You will have noticed that part of our top car park has been blocked off with temporary fencing. The site is being prepared for a demountable classroom in the preschool. Our school is growing at a rapid rate and we will need the extra classroom to accommodate the expected increase in enrolments for preschool during 2014 and beyond. With parking spaces being reduced I ask that you carefully consider walking your children to and from school. If you need to drive your child to school please park in designated parking bays and not in the drop off and pick up zone at the front of the admin building. We will have staff out the front of the school at pick up times to help with the traffic flow and student safety at the end of the school day.

The beginning of the school year is a very busy time. Teachers and support staff were all back at school last week. We have all been busy with attending whole day workshops relating to student learning with a particular focus on spelling and grammar and first aid renewals. In between all this learning teachers have been busy setting up supportive learning environments for their students. There is a real buzz of excitement around the school as teachers meet their students and begin getting to know each other.

We welcome new staff members to Ngunnawal team this year. They are:

- Belinda Day  Koori Pre
- Cecilia Gordon Kindergarten
- Hannah Ross Kindergarten
- Cathryn Matto Year 1
- Sharee Hodges Year 2
- Wendy Lee Year 2
- Kaili Witherdin Year 3
- Eloise Eldridge Year 4
- Laurie Imhoff Year 5/6

We also welcome back from maternity leave: Lisa Buchanan, year 2 and Stacey Francis, year 5/6. Stephanie Norman will not be returning to Ngunnawal Primary this year. During the holidays she was offered a position in Sydney, where she will be closer to her family. We will miss Stephanie’s enthusiasm for teaching and wish her all the best in her new position. There is a full class and teacher list in this newsletter.

Communication is very important at Ngunnawal Primary and we value the information that you share with us about your children. Your first point of call should be your child’s classroom teacher and if you require further clarification please do not hesitate to contact the team leader for your child’s year level.

Preschool and Kindergarten: Michelle Northe
Year One and Year Two: Kate North
Year Three and Year Four: Anna McGown
Year Five and Year Six: Danielle Porter

(Continued on Page 2….)
I am also available to meet with parents and carers, please contact the front office to make an appointment.

Another very important part of the communication process is the Information Evening. This will be held next Tuesday, 11 February followed by ‘Getting to Know You Interviews’ the following Tuesday (week 3). Please look out for more information regarding these very important school events. We look forward to seeing you during these times.

Until next week, keep smiling.

Kristine
Kristine Stewart, Principal

P&C News
A big P&C welcome to all children, including those students who are new to Ngunnawal Primary School this year.

Our first P & C meeting for the year is on Monday 17 February 2014 at 6.00pm in the administration building. This will be our Annual General Meeting and the time where we elect the P&C Executive Committee and set up the year’s events. If you would like to be part of the P&C, please come along and show your support. All parents and carers are welcome and there are always toys and books should you want to bring your children along too. Don’t forget, the P&C covers both the Primary and Preschool, so everyone is welcome.

The P&C discusses student welfare, new policies and procedures for the school, fundraising, canteen and much, much more. 2014 is shaping up to be a big year so support your children, support the P&C.

Until then, you can always drop me a line at ngunnawalpandccommittee@gmail.com, leave a note in the suggestion box at the front office or give me a call should you have any ideas or questions.

I look forward to catching up with you soon.

Adam Smith
President, Ngunnawal P&C Committee

NOTIFICATION OF STUDENT ABSENCES
If your child is absent from school, please call and advise the front office staff on 6205 8182.

PIANO TUTORS
Our current piano teacher, John Bice will not be taking any new students in 2014.

John will continue teaching his current students and can be contacted on 6254 7238 if you have any queries.

This year a new piano teacher, Ms Kerrie Yard, will accept students wanting to start learning to play piano. Kerrie can be contacted on 6254 8141.

Ngunnawal Primary School
BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS
PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE UPDATED THE SCHOOL’S BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS ON YOUR INTERNET BANKING SYSTEM AS THE COMMONWEALTH BANK ACCOUNT HAS BEEN CLOSED.

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.

RECEIVE A COPY OF THE NGUNNAWAL PRIMARY NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL!
Please fill in the following details and return to the front office. Your name will be added to the Newsletter Email List.

Family Name: ____________________________

Email Address: ____________________________

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB
orders due
Friday, 21 February
OUR TEAM FOR 2014

Executive Team
Principal
Deputy Principal
School Leader C
School Leader C
School Leader C

Gundaroo (Kindergarten)
KCB
KCC
KCD
KCG
KHR

Brindabella
1CT
1JS
1KN
1CM

Namadgi
2FE
2WL

Budawang
2ES
2SL

Yerrabi
3KW
3NV
3KS
3PL

Redwood
4EE
4MC
4CB

Wiradjuri
5/6AG
5/6KW
5/6LI
5/6NK
5/6SF

Preschool
Teacher
Teacher
Teacher
Teacher
Koori Preschool Teacher
Preschool Assistant
Preschool Assistant
Preschool Assistant
Preschool Assistant (Koori)

Specialist Programs
Year 5 Band
Year 6 Band
ICT
Indonesian

Science
School Psychologist
Chaplain
Learning Support Centre
EALD

Administration Staff
Business Manager
School Secretary
School Assistant
Building Service Officer

Learning Support Assistants (LSAs)
Preschool and Year 2
Kindergarten
Year 1
Year 2
Years 3 and 4
Years 5 and 6

Library Technician
Indigenous Education Officer

NGUNNAWAL PRIMARY SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION 2014

Membership of the School Board is a wonderful opportunity for parents to participate in the ongoing management of the school and to contribute to the determination of the school’s future directions.

There are two (2) vacancies for parent representatives on the Ngunnawal Primary School Board for the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2016. Election of the parent representatives will be undertaken in the first few weeks of the 2014 school year as set out below.

Nomination period:
Opens – 11:00am on Monday 3 February 2014
Closes - 11:00am on Monday 17 February 2014.

Voting period (if election is required):
Opens - 11:00am on Monday 24 February 2014
Closes - 11:00am on Monday 3 March 2014.

The successful candidates will be announced by Monday, 31 March 2014.

If you are interested in being a member of the Ngunnawal Primary School Board for 2014-2016 and would like more information about the roles and responsibilities of School Board members, please contact the Principal, Kristine Stewart on 6205 8182. A copy of the School Board Manual is also available for perusal at the front office.

Nomination forms are available from the front office.

Jennifer Lewis,
Assistant Returning Officer
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
- Diabetes
- Asthma
- Epilepsy
- Any other medical condition for which your Doctor has recommended the school needs an Emergency Treatment Plan.

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 Department of Education’s Sun Protection Policy, students at Ngunnawal Primary School must wear a broad brimmed or bucket hat when outside during terms 1 and 4. 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. The correct hats are available from the front office: bucket hat $8.

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 DEVICES
If students ride bicycles or scooters to school they must wear a helmet. Bicycles and scooters must be placed in the locked bicycle compound which is out-of-bounds during the day. 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 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.

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 each second week, with Junior and Senior assemblies occurring on a rotating roster in the alternate weeks.

ABSENTEEISM
Please call the school to notify 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.

TRANSPORT
Where private or hire vehicles are used for excursion activities, the owner and/or driver must ensure that they carry the required licence and that the vehicle is registered and roadworthy. Owner/drivers need to ensure the insurance cover is valid and appropriate for the excursion and that loading does not exceed the seat belt provision of the vehicle. A copy of the driver’s licence and insurance must be sighted and copied prior to students travelling in a private or hire vehicle. A volunteer’s form must also be completed prior to transporting students.

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.
Life skills, leadership, fun and adventure!

Scouting is a worldwide movement that has shaped the development of youth and adults for over 100 years. The aim of Scouting is to encourage the physical, intellectual, emotional, social, and spiritual development of young people so they may play a constructive role in society as responsible citizens and as members of their local and international communities. This aim is achieved through a strong and active program that inspires young people to do their best and to always be prepared. Scouts ACT would like to invite you to a free 3 week trial of scouting. For more information,

Call 1800 SCOUTS or visit our website, www.scoutsact.com.au

New to Canberra? Update Your Address with Medicare for a Chance to Win $10,000!

If you've recently moved to Canberra, welcome to the neighbourhood! Now that you've settled in and the school term has begun, you should update your address with Medicare for a chance to win $10,000, thanks to SERVICE ONE Members Banking.

Not only could you win the $10,000 cash, but by updating your address you will be supporting the local community you live in.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) uses Medicare data to calculate population figures, and this information is then used by the Commonwealth Government to allocate GST funding to each state and territory.

For every year that an ACT resident is not counted in the data, the ACT Government forgoes over $2,500 in GST funding.

So updating your address with Medicare will ensure we receive our fair share of funding to enable the ACT Government to provide new and improved services for the local community.

From 25 January to 2 March 2014, anyone who updates their address after moving to Canberra from interstate will be eligible to enter the competition to win $10,000!

To update your address visit: www.humanservices.gov.au/medicare and then enter the competition at www.updateyouraddress.com.au

Ngunnawal SUPA Club Term 1, 2014

SUPA Club stands for Scripture Union Primary Age. It's a fortnightly lunchtime club that allows children to explore who Jesus is in a fun & relaxed way.

Coming to SUPA Club is voluntary & children can only participate if they have a signed permission slip.

PLEASE NOTE: All children who attend SUPA Club MUST now fill in a new registration form each year.

WHO: Children in kindy to year 6 who have a signed permission slip.

WHEN: Fortnightly during term, starting week 3, 20 February 2014.

WHERE: Redwood Unit.

This term we'll be starting the year encouraging and helping the kids think about living as God's kids.

For more information: there are brochures at the front office or call Russell Smidt, Ngunnawal SUPA Club Coordinator, on 6241 3750 or email russell@nlpc.org.au

Ngunnawal SUPA Club Permission Slip

Child/ren’s name/s:

1. __________________________________________
   Class:__________ Age:_________

2. __________________________________________
   Class:__________ Age:_________

3. __________________________________________
   Class:__________ Age:_________

Does your child/ren have any food allergies or special needs?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

I consent to my child’s photo being taken at SUPA CLUB.

Yes / No

Phone No. (Home): ___________________

Phone No. (Work): ___________________

Parent/Guardian Name: ________________________

Signature: ________________________________

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.