Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to Getting to Know You interview week. Teachers at the school truly value meeting with you to discuss your child and these meetings allow teachers to tailor learning programs that best suit your children’s needs. If you are unable to meet during this week please contact your child’s teacher to make arrangements for a meeting at a mutually convenient time. We have made use of an online booking program for this year’s interviews and although we experienced a few hiccups both teacher and parent feedback has been very positive. In light of this we will continue to use this program for mid-year interviews.

It is very important that we have up to date information about your child. Please ensure that contact details are correct and medical plans are current. We will always act in the best interests of our students. When family or medical circumstances change and the school is unaware, this can cause undue stress to students. All information provided to the school is treated as confidential. If you have any questions please make a time to come and speak to me.

Last Friday I had the pleasure of teaching 5/6EE for a short period. What a delightful and hard working class they are! They have been learning about their individual strengths and part of this work involved writing positive affirmations about each other. Students have used these strength comments to create eye-catching artwork. I look forward to visiting the class and seeing the finished product.

Today we held a very successful swimming carnival. Students participated in a variety of land and water-based activities. There was a strong sense of rivalry between the sport houses of Bradman, Coombs, Freeman and Jackson. Students in each house were encouraged by house chants and enthusiastic cheering. The points will be tallied and the winning house will be announced at an upcoming whole school assembly. I must acknowledge the hard work of the carnival coordinator, Nicole Kent. Nicole has ably led the swimming carnival team so that Ngunnawal’s first carnival this year has been such a success.

I look forward to seeing you all at the P and C Meet and Greet BBQ on Wednesday evening. Make sure you stop by and say hello.

Until next week, take care.

Kristine

Kristine Stewart
Principal
Spotlight on Learning!

Year 4

Maths

We have begun the year with a focus on whole number and place value. Many of us have already demonstrated growth in this area and are successfully writing and reading numbers into the tens of thousands and beyond. One of the activities we have enjoyed is a place value game called ‘Bull, Cow, Moo’ which required us to figure out the value of the digits in a mystery number. 4LS also have been exploring their favourite numbers and coming up with different ways to represent them.

PE - Balance

Balance is one of the 12 fundamental movement skills which are essential for allowing us to participate successfully in lifelong physical activity and sport. Here are some of the creative partner balances that students in 4CC and 4KW came up with.

Plants in Action

Our Science unit this semester is called ‘Plants in Action’. During our first lesson we examined different plant specimens. We recorded what we think we know about plant parts, plant growth and the life cycle of flowering plants.

Kristy, Carmel, Larry
NGUNNAWAL PRIMARY’S NEWSLETTER HAS MOVED INTO THE ELECTRONIC AGE!

The newsletter can be accessed each week via the Ngunnawal Primary School Facebook page or the school website at: www.ngunnawalps.act.edu.au

The newsletter link will be emailed to families who request this option.

Paper copies of the newsletter will be provided to families who do not have access to the internet.

Please complete the form below indicating your preferred option for accessing the school newsletter each week and return to the school as soon as possible.

REQUEST FOR EMAIL REMINDER OR PAPER COPY OF SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Family Name: ____________________________________
Student Name: ____________________________________
Class: ____________________________ (youngest attending Ngunnawal Primary)
Parent/Carer Signature: ______________________________________

[ ] Please send an email reminder with the newsletter link to our family each week. Our email address is: ____________________________

OR

[ ] Please provide our family with a paper copy of the school newsletter.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Combined Gungahlin Churches will present the Term 1 Christian Education program (Kinder to Year 6) at Ngunnawal Primary School on Wednesday 23 March 2016 (week 8).

If you wish your child to attend the Christian Education sessions in 2016 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 in 2016.

Child’s Name: __________________________ Class: ______
Child’s Name: __________________________ Class: ______
Child’s Name: __________________________ Class: ______
Parent/Carer Signature: __________________________
Parent/Carer Name: (please print): __________________________
Date: _________________

P & C NEWS

P & C MEET AND GREET BBQ

The P & C would like to invite all families of Ngunnawal Primary School to come and meet the current members of the P&C.

We will have some information on what the P&C does for those parents who would like to nominate for a role, or just volunteer when available.

We know that everyone is busy, but without a P&C committee we would not have a canteen which is open 5 days per week and offers a great selection of healthy food.

We also would not have a Mother’s Day and Father’s Day stall every year for the kids to buy gifts for their parents, something they love to do!

Details of our meet and greet (which is on the same evening as parent/teacher interviews) are:-

School Courtyard
24 February 2016 4.30pm to 7.30pm
BBQ sausage sizzle will be up and running for the evening!

Look forward to seeing you there!

AGM P & C MEETING

Monday 29 February 2016
6pm main staffroom

At the AGM each year all P & C committee positions are declared vacant and election of all new Committee members will take place. All members of the school community are invited to nominate for any of the positions available. They are encouraged to attend the meetings, participate in the voting and become involved in the running of the school canteen, community events, and fundraising.

Ngunnawal Primary School P & C
Annual General Meeting – Monday 29 February 2016
Nomination for Committee Members for 2016

Name: ______________________________________
Contact Number: ____________________________

I wish to nominate for the following position

P & C EXECUTIVE

[ ] President  [ ] Vice President

[ ] Treasurer  [ ] General Volunteer

[ ] Secretary  [ ] Fundraiser Co-ordinator (Optional)

Please complete this form and return in an envelope to the canteen or the front office to: Mel Horrocks, President – Committee Position Nomination Form

Please note that ALL nominees need to attend the P & C AGM.
NATIONAL RIDE TO SCHOOL DAY – FRIDAY 4 MARCH

National Ride2School Day is back on Friday March 4! Ngunnawal Primary School is one of more than 2,000 schools registered across Australia, with more than 350,000 students expected to ride, walk, scoot and skate to school.

We are encouraging you to ride, walk, scoot or skate to school on Friday March 4. If you are not able to do the whole journey, perhaps you could try a part-way trip where you get a parent to drive you some of the way. Remember to wear a helmet if you are riding, and look at a street map first with your parents to work out a safe route.

Most of all have fun being active!

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

SCHOOL BOARD

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.

Nominations have been received to fill the staff representative vacancy and one of the parent representative vacancies on the Ngunnawal Primary School Board for the period 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2018. An Election Return for the appointment of these nominees will be submitted to the Returning Officer.

A new election process will be undertaken to fill the remaining parent representative vacancy.

Nomination period:

Opens – 11:00am on Thursday 18 February 2016
Closes - 11:00am on Thursday 25 February 2016.

Voting period (if election is required):

Opens - 11:00am on Thursday 3 March 2016
Closes - 11:00am on Thursday 10 March 2016.

Successful candidates for all vacancies should be announced by Monday, 28 March 2016.

If you 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 for the new election are available from the school front office from Thursday, 18 February 2016.

Jennifer Lewis, Assistant Returning Officer

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

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.

NGUNNAWAL 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.
Refresh your travel routine

Your school is part of the Ride or Walk to School program, encouraging and supporting students to use active travel. Riding and walking to school is not only a great way to increase daily levels of physical activity but to reduce traffic congestion around your school. Getting kids more active as part of their daily routine can also improve educational outcomes.

A new school year presents a great opportunity to try something different and perhaps establish a new routine for getting to and from school. In a busy household it can be hard to make changes that suit everyone so start small – you don’t need to walk or ride every day. You might like to try committing to riding or walking just once a week initially to see how it works for you and your family.

Another idea is to find a Part Way point where you can park the car and walk the rest of the way – it’s also a great way to avoid the traffic congestion around school.

Hints and tips to prepare for active travel

Plan the best route with your child – this term your school will receive a personalised walking and riding map that will show a variety of safe routes and part way drop off points. Alternatively you could use Google maps to customise a map from your home to school, utilising crossings and underpasses where possible. Take some time to walk or ride the route options together and decide on the best one. Make sure your child knows the route well if they plan to travel independently.

If your child is travelling independently help them to prepare – talk about safety and road rules, work out a plan for what to do in an emergency, make sure their bike is in good working order and they have a helmet.

Talk to other parents in your school community to see if your children can travel together or if you have younger children you can work out a schedule for your children to travel with an adult.
Canberra City Band is hosting a free, public Open Day on Saturday 27 February from 10:00am to 4:00pm at our band hall at 49 Phillip Avenue, Watson. With open rehearsals, information about our great range of ensembles, and a sausage sizzle we invite students and parents to come along and learn about the musical opportunities available in Canberra.

Students are invited to bring their instruments and participate at an open rehearsal (arrive at 10:00 for a 10:30 start) of the Canberra City Juniors, a group of young musicians who have been playing for 1-4 years. If you’d like to join the band, Juniors rehearse on Thursday afternoons from 5:30-6:30 with MD Cameron Smith and are welcoming new members.

For parents and teachers keen to dust off those instruments and get back into music, bring them along and check out the John Agnew Band, our development and leisure band which is rehearsing at 12:30, and the Canberra City Band, Canberra’s only A-grade concert band, rehearsing at 1:45. Both ensembles will welcome members of the public to sit in and play along.

Come see our flagship ensembles perform at 3:00! After the rehearsals, Canberra City Band and Spectrum Big Band will perform live in a free concert.

If you have any questions about the day, or about our ensembles generally, please contact committee@canberracityband.com.

There are over 40 million Scouts in the world today and in the ACT there are Scout Groups in more than 35 local communities. Scouting helps creates friendships, confidence, life skills and much more. Boys and girls aged 6-25 are encouraged to try come and try our 3 week FREE offer.

Simply contact your local Scout Group, go to our website www.scoutsact.com.au or give us a call on 1800 SCOUTS

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.