Monash School Newsletter

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www.monashps.act.edu.au

NEWSLETTER NO: 5 – 11 APRIL 2014

Dates to Remember

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<td>Monday, 28 April</td>
<td>Term 2 commences</td>
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<td>Preschool online enrolments begin (see newsletter for information)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 29 April</td>
<td>Parent information session SHFPACT 6.30 – 8.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 30 April</td>
<td>Oz Tag Clinics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, 2 May</td>
<td>Monash Cross Country</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 6 May</td>
<td>School Photos – Kinder to Yr 6, Joeys and Possums</td>
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<td>Open Night for parents – Preschool to Year 6 6.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 7 May</td>
<td>Oz Tag Clinics</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Board Meeting 5.15 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, 8 May</td>
<td>Photos – Koalas and Echidnas</td>
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<td>Friday, 9 May</td>
<td>Community Hub Launch</td>
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<td>Mother’s Day Stall</td>
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<td>Winyu B and Winyu N Multi Sports Day</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 13 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN Year 3 and Year 5 students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 14 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN Year 3 and Year 5 students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, 15 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN Year 3 and Year 5 students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, 16 May</td>
<td>Assembly Year 3 and 4 9.15 am</td>
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Notes Going Home This Week

- Puberty and Personal Development Parent Information Night – Year 3 to Year 6
- Winyu B and Winyu N excursion note
- Year 6 – 2015 High School Preference
- Year 3 – NAPLAN information for parents
- Holiday Happenings
- AMF Bowling information

Principal’s Message

Dear Parents and Carers

As we reach the end of term 1, I believe that it is important to celebrate the many wonderful achievements that we have enjoyed as a school so far this year. Congratulations to our students on the positive way that they have embraced the new school year and to our wonderful staff who have worked so hard on the relationships which are at the core of all good teaching and learning. Thanks also to the many parents/carers who are consistently demonstrating their support for the school and their willingness to be partners in their children’s learning.

In week one of next term, we will be conducting our annual school cross country carnival. Last Friday, all students in Kinder to Year 6 received sponsorship forms explaining the fundraising component of this year’s event. This year’s focus is to raise money which will go towards the construction of our new outdoor learning area/sensory garden. I encourage all families to support this very important project if at all possible. This week staff have begun discussing with children some of the prizes which can be won as part of the fundraising process.
In staffing news, I would like to inform parents/carers that Mrs Farrell will be taking long service leave in Term 2. She will be replaced in 3/4 F by Ms Carney. In Term 3, Ms Carney will assume responsibility for 5/6 R replacing Mrs Russell who will be on maternity leave. Also next term, Mrs Gannon will be absent on maternity leave from week 7 onwards. I am hoping to inform parents/carers of students in 5/6G early next term who the replacement teacher for Mrs Gannon will be. The leadership team will ensure that all teachers are provided with time for adequate transition of student information.

Please note that Sexual Health and Family Planning ACT (SHFPACT) will be presenting puberty and personal development sessions for students in Years 3 to 6 in week 2 of next term. Parents/carers will be provided with the opportunity to decide whether or not their child attends these sessions. In an effort to afford parents/carers the opportunity to make an informed decision there will be a parent information night in the school hall on Tuesday, 29 April from 6.30 pm to 8.00 pm (week 1). I encourage all parents/carers to attend.

Another very important event for our school will occur on Tuesday, 6 May (week 2) in the form of the Monash School Open Night commencing at 6.30 pm. This evening is targeted at families considering enrolling their children at Monash School in the near future. I would like to extend a special invitation to all preschool parents/carers who may be in the process of determining which school that their child will attend in 2015. I would also like to request that parents/carers spread the word within the Monash community that this session will be occurring and that all who are interested in learning about our school are welcome to attend.

Please note that Preschool enrolments for 2015 commence on Monday, 28 April and close on Friday, 30 May 2014. Commencing this year, all enrolments will be completed online. Please see the following link for the enrolment form - http://www.det.act.gov.au/school_education/enrolling_in_an_act_public_school. If you require more information regarding this process, please see Sue in the front office.

On Friday, 9 May we will be officially launching our Monash Community Hub. This event will occur at 9.30 am and all parents/carers are invited to come along to share in some morning tea whilst at the same time, inspecting our renovated community hub. This centre will be an integral part of our KidsMatters programme and will provide us with an ideal location to host the many events and activities which fall underneath the KidsMatters banner.

Finally, I would like to wish all families a very safe and happy holiday and I look forward to see the children back at school on Monday, 28 April.

Have a happy weekend.

Shane Carpenter
Principal

Enrolling in an ACT Public School

New arrangements for 2014 and 2015

The ACT Education and Training Directorate has updated the enrolment and transfer arrangements for all ACT public schools.

All new student enrolment applications for 2015 open from 28 April 2014 (day 1 term 2). If you are enrolling your child to start school in 2014 or if your child is transferring to an ACT public school at any stage you will need to use the same online form.

To make this process easier for those wishing to enrol or transfer, please use the online enrolment/transfer form and Parent/carer guide to enrolment/transfer for ACT public schools located on the ‘Enrolling in an ACT Public School’ section of the Education and Training Directorate website www.det.act.gov.au

Preschool applications for 2015 close on 30 May 2014.
ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS AT MONASH SCHOOL

If you would like to volunteer your time at Monash School please be aware that you will need to obtain a Working With Vulnerable People Card. Information and application form can be picked up from the Front Office. The completed form can then be lodged at the Government Shopfront with the cost of the card being free for parent/carer volunteers. We encourage all our volunteers to sign up for a card.

Preschool Unit News

Possums and Echidnas
The Possums and Echidnas have had a marvellous term at Preschool. They are blossoming together as groups, showing each other respect and thoughtfulness towards their learning and play. The last two weeks have been ablaze with children’s investigations and play-based learning. We have seen the Café come to life with most children appreciating the beautiful wooden materials and aesthetically pleasing area. They have been able to express their creativity through making their own patchwork ‘Elmer’s’ and the children are relishing in being able to write/draw in their special writing books. We will be continuing on threading next term. Our colours will be white and black. Thank you to all who have brought in threading materials or anything else for our room, we appreciate it so much.
Happy Holidays from Amelia and Soon Lien and we will see you next term.
Term 2 Week 1- Possums M T and Echidnas W T F both groups 9am- 3pm.

Here is a little acrostic poem for the mums, dads and carers out there doing it tough during the holidays…
Happy days trying to find things for the children to do
Outside in the fresh air… even if it is 13 degrees
Laughing at the children fighting over Easter eggs
Imagining what quite would look like
Dreaming about being on holidays forever (teachers maybe… parents maybe not)
Assuming you’ll get a lot done… but you don’t!
Yummy chocolate that you hide from the children in your secret stash
Suspecting you’ll be fit, well and organised after the holidays but you’ve probably put on a few and darn you forgot to buy lunch box stuff!

Joeys and Koalas
What a busy last two weeks the Joeys and Koalas have been having! We have been exploring with imitation play with fire equipment outside with children dressing up in emergency services uniforms, and engaging in role play games carrying wooden ladders to rescue cats and dogs stuck up high in the trees.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed taking on character roles in dramatic play of the “Princess Story” acting out the storyline as they listen to it on tape. They have become great actors/actresses and a few children have learnt how to act out multiple character roles while engaging in the play.
Some of the children have been talking about the Easter Bunny which led to his arrival with our adventurous Egg Hunt! We made baskets out of egg cartons and painted them bright colours to collect and count our four chocolate eggs in. We had such fun on the egg hunt!

We have loved measuring with containers counting how many cups of rice it takes to fill up different containers.

The box construction area has been very popular with incredible, well thought out and detailed construction happening. To create something through construction and then decorating what they have made, to then discussing what they made is a great way for them to continue developing their reasoning and explanatory skills while further developing their logic and problem solving abilities.

The children have demonstrated a big interest in writing so we have been showing them the process in how to make cards to give to people for occasions such as Easter. This provided an avenue for the children to continue to recognise their own names, how to form letters and words when writing and to recognise their friends names when they made cards to give to each other.
Constable Kenny Koala and Stuart came to visit to talk to us about Road Safety so we can be OK while we are driving in the car and when we are near any road. Constable Kenny helped us practice “Click, Click, Clack” with our seatbelts which was really fun!

Stuart helped us to practice how to cross a road safely with an adult. We are experts now so you can ask us all about how we can do it!

Stuart showed us his police car, and turned the lights on flashing red and blue and the sirens wailing really loudly. It was very exciting and we loved it!

Monash Preschool P&C will be holding their annual Mother’s Day Stall in week 2 of term 2. Funds raised will go towards buying new resources for the preschool.

Joeys, Possums & Wombats – Tuesday 6 May @ 11.00 am  
Koalas, Echidnas & Magpies – Friday 9 May @ 11.00 am

A range of carefully selected gifts will be available for your child to purchase at the stall. Gifts will be $5 each. Notes will go home in week 1.

Thank you 😊

Monash Preschool Treasurer

**Bimbi Unit News (Kinder)**

Kindergarten have had an exciting but exhausting two weeks! Last week in our Maths groups we learnt about counting on from a number by locking away the biggest number in our head. This week we have been doing a tremendous job at finding, drawing, and colouring things that are symmetrical. Our favourite activity was colouring a pair of cowboy boots!

Now that we have learnt all of our initial sounds, we have started Literacy groups where we practise using the sounds that we know. We have been reading every day and our teachers can see a big improvement! We have been practising our Magic 100 Words in class and a lot of students have moved on to their red words. They should be congratulated for practising at school and at home!

Last week we went with our Year 5 buddies for a Teddy Bears Picnic at Tidbinbilla. Our buddies had some games prepared for us, we ate fairy bread and played on the adventure playground with our teddies! It was a wonderful day. The Year 5’s did a great job playing with their buddies, and have been continuing their friendships in the playground.

We are finishing our Science unit on weather, and have learnt a lot about what clothes we should wear for certain temperatures, and what the weather looks like in each season. To show what we have learnt, we have been making a weather wall. Be sure to come down to Bimbi unit and take a look!

AFL clinics have concluded and we have had so much fun learning about scooping, hand-balling and kicking. We look forward to the netball clinics starting in Term 2.

We have started practising for our Assembly that is in Week 4 of Term 2. We have two special performances and have been working really hard to make sure we are keeping in time with the music. We have been showing confidence in our performance and resilience when we don’t quite get it right.

Hope you all have a fun and safe holiday break and can’t wait to start learning again in Term 2!
**Yerra Unit News (1 / 2)**

Term one has definitely been a busy one for us all. The children have participated in many different learning experiences and have grown in confidence and improved their skills in many areas. The teachers would like to thank the students for all their great work and for trying very hard all term.

We would also like to thank Mr D for organising the AFL clinics this term which we all enjoyed and we look forward to netball next term.

A reminder that the Monash Cross Country day is May 2 which is the first Friday back next term. The students have been building up their stamina and it would be good if this continued over the holidays.

Lost property is growing and although the teachers try to find owners for the lost clothing we find that some items are not clearly labelled. Please label all clothing especially as the colder months approach and students are constantly adapting to different temperatures around the school.

If you are interested in helping the teachers out with changing readers for the 1/2 classes next term please approach your child’s home room teacher so we can discuss days that best suit you. Thank you to those parents who have provided us with assistance this term and we hope you are available again in term two.

Over the holidays please save your empty boxes and cartons for our box construction area and bring the items into our wet area early next term.

On Monday Kenny Koala visited the 1/2 classes to talk to the students about road safety. The students were a great audience and asked some very interesting questions which consolidated their knowledge of questioning techniques from this term’s focus of writing to inquire.

**Dulma Unit News (Year 3 / 4)**

What has been happening in Year 3/4?

Students in year 3/4 have continued to discover and explore Australia’s history and geography through our inquiry question “What does it mean to be Australian?” We recently went on an excursion to the National Museum where students were able to view the Old Masters exhibition as well as take part in a range of interactive activities. Students are now in the process of completing their IRP (individual research project) about a significant Australian. They have been very busy researching and note taking in order to produce a poster.

You can follow us on our twitter feed - @MonashDulmaUnit and find out what we get up to.

Finally, we would like to wish you all a very happy and safe holiday.
Bural Unit News (Year 5 / 6)

It has been a busy term in the 5/6 unit. We have now covered all of the four reader roles (Code Breaker, Investigator, Illustrator/Radio Reader and Discussion Manager) in cooperative reading ready to implement these roles more independently next term. Students have enjoyed the challenges they have faced during reading time and have become more aware of their own time management skills in the process.

This week we have finished our work on the narrative style of writing. Students have written and published their own narrative over the past couple of weeks. Next term we will begin writing groups with a focus on persuasive writing.

In maths groups, the Year 5 students have focused on 3D shapes and their nets and 2D shapes and translations, rotations and reflections. Year 6 students have been looking at positive and negative integers and 2D and 3D shape. This past week has been a busy week of assessment in maths and we look forward to sharing these results with parents during the reporting process in Term 2.

We have also finalised our first IRP unit this week. Classes worked together to focus on the research skills and the process to follow when completing an IRP. These skills included
- Accessing information using information books and the Internet
- Checking the reliability of information found on the Internet
- Note taking including how to summarise information

Students have had time to then independently research and write an information report based on earthquakes. Students are proud of their reports and should be congratulated on their achievements. Next term our IRP’s will have an Australian History focus. In particular students will investigate how Australia has changed over time. Students will particularly focus on the British settlement of Australia through to Federation. We encourage students to begin to think about their IRP that they would like to complete. This IRP will be based on the concept of the History of Australia.

We have also started our second rotation in the Arts. Students spent 5 weeks focusing on dance, drama, music, visual arts or media. We encourage you to ask your child which Arts activity they completed and what they did during this time. Students will have the opportunity to participate in all five areas over the year. We will continue with our current Art rotations in Term 2.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and happy holidays. We look forward to all the hard work and continued learning during Term 2.

Winyu Unit News

Welcome to the last week of Term 1. Winyu N students have been busy exploring their Forces Unit and have been doing lots of interesting hands-on investigations. The class was full of excited students trying to get their balloons to race along their pieces of string. They were so successful they decided to lengthen their string to see if they could get their balloons to go further and then to race their balloons against each other! The students also designed and created their own marble runs to discover the effects of gravity on the marble. As they worked they corrected their designs to get the marble to the bottom of the run before it fell out.

Winyu N students also discussed Easter traditions from around the World and they learned that the Easter Bunny probably originated in Germany. They have been making some lovely Easter crafts and they went on an Easter hunt up at the playground. They had a wonderful time collecting their eggs.
Winyu B students have been exploring the human body. The students have been labelling the human body and have been enjoying learning about their bodies and body parts. Winyu B students have completed their shape unit where they explored 2D shapes and their properties. All the students could identify some or all of the shapes by the end of the unit. Winyu B students will be doing a money unit in numeracy in Term 2.

The sensory room equipment has been ordered and it will be delivered the first week of Term 2. The staff in Winyu have been busily cleaning out the end room to prepare for the sensory room. We are very excited to have this new resource for our students in Winyu Unit.

Next term we have an excursion to MPowerdome. Please remember to send in the permission slips. This is a fun and sporty excursion and all of the students have enjoyed attending in previous years.

We hope you all have a safe and happy holiday.

**Dirt to Dish Kitchen News**

As we come to the end of Term one, I am so proud of what we have achieved in the kitchen and garden at Monash School. The garden looks tremendous (thank you Annie!) and also thank you to all the children, parents/carers and staff for the positive feedback you have provided over the last ten weeks.

The children have been amazing at embracing their roles in the kitchen and have worked very hard to create wonderful, colourful, healthy and delicious food.

They have bravely tasted, touched and smelled many new flavours and should be congratulated for their eagerness to do so.

As many children end their turn in the kitchen for the year I would like to say Thank You to all of you who have been with me in term 1. I look forward to seeing you in the garden and back in the kitchen soon. I hope you have spread the word on the playground that cooking classes at Monash School are the BEST!! I wanted to end the term with a chocolate treat (as many of the children have been requesting chocolate since day 1!). However, it wouldn’t be a Monash School recipe if I didn’t sneak a strange ingredient in for fun!

So please find attached the recipe for Red Velvet Chocolate & Beetroot Cake. I hope you will give it a try so you can see what the humble beetroot can do when given a bit of love!

And remember…there is no such thing as too much chocolate.

Happy cooking and happy holidays everyone 😊

**Nut Allergies**

As you may be aware Monash School has a number of students who are allergic to nut products and if they were to come in to contact with these products, they could have a life threatening reaction. We are asking our school community to avoid sending in products that contain nuts.

**School Grounds**

Please note that bicycles and scooters are not to be ridden within the school grounds or school corridors. Thank you.

**School Rule**

“At Monash Primary School we all try to keep ourselves and others safe and happy”
P & C NEWS

Hot X Bun Fundraiser

Thank you to all of the parents who participated in the Hot X Bun Fundraiser. With your support we have raised over $500. Thank you also to the school office staff who helped with making and distributing the notes.

Disco Save the Date

Monash School discos are back! The Monash School P&C are organising a school disco for Monash students. Junior Disco (Preschool to Year 2) will be from 5.00 - 6:30 pm and Senior (Year 3 to Year 6) will be from 7.00 - 8:30 pm. Make a note in your calendar for Friday 16 May and keep an eye out for notes in week one of term 2. Get ready for fun!

School Uniforms

School uniforms are available from Savvy School & Formal Wear, Shop 32, Homeworld, Soward Way, Tuggeranong. For any enquiries, please phone Savvy on 6293 4342. All Monash parents receive 10% off uniform purchases. Bomber jackets are unavailable at the moment – notification will be given when they become available.

SCHOOL BANKING

Why not join in the fun at your school!! School Banking has begun and will operate each Friday, except the last day of term. Please bring completed bank books to the Front Office

COMMUNITY NOTICES

National Arboretum an outdoor classroom these school holidays

The National Arboretum Canberra will continue the learning experience these school holidays with children’s activities that offer a fun and educational experience.

Learn about fungi, ferns and feathers as you explore the Himalayan cedar forest. The tall Himalayan cedars are very impressive, but what a lot of people don’t realise is that there is a fascinating understorey beneath the forest canopy to discover. After the excursion the children will be able to recreate their forest experience with an art and craft activity.

The exploration of the forest activity is for children between the ages of four and seven and costs $7 per child.

Learn how to snip, sculpt and shape a bonsai at a hands-on workshop. Our bonsai experts will share the knowledge and experience they’ve gained over the years working with bonsai and penjing plants and will show you the best way to pot and style a bonsai tree.

Children aged five and up can take part in the workshop and at the end of the session they will be able to take their bonsai home. The cost of this activity is $25 per child.
The exploration of the Himalayan cedar forest will take place from 10 am to 11 am each morning from **Monday 14 to Thursday 17 April 2014** and the bonsai workshop will also be held on each of these four days between 1.30 pm and 2.30 pm.

Places are limited for these activities and bookings are essential. For more information visit [www.nationalarboretum.act.gov.au](http://www.nationalarboretum.act.gov.au)

**Authorised by Stephen Alegria, Executive Manager, National Arboretum Canberra, Territory and Municipal Services Directorate**

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**Kidsoccer Holiday Clinics and winter programs**

Registrations are now open for Kidsoccer’s April holiday programs. We run skills based, age appropriate programs for 3 to 12 year olds. Our emphasis is on **fun**, participation, **fun**, development, and did we mention - **fun**!

Visit our web page - [kidsfc.com.au](http://kidsfc.com.au) – and click on the program link for all the details.

Whilst you are looking at our website, check out our winter program – special early bird discounts also apply if you register before 18th April. Our program caters for the very beginner through to the more experienced player, and we take kids as young as 3! It is a great way to keep your kids fit and active and improve their skills. Kidsoccer – it’s just more Fun.

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**Water Polo**

Junior winter water polo competition will be returning in school term 2!

It will start on **Friday May 2nd at the Australian Institute of Sport pool**. The Canberra Water Polo Academy will be running the competition throughout the winter and we welcome all participants regardless of their playing experience.

The competition will be focused on development, participation and making water polo enjoyable for all involved.

We will be holding come’n’try and registration days in week 1 (May 2) and week 2 (May 9).

**Important information**

- **Location**: Australian Institute of Sport main pool
- **Times**: U12’s Flipper ball and U14’s mixed 6.30pm to 8.00pm  
  U14’s A, U16’s and U18’s 8.00pm to 9.30pm
- **Cost**: $100 per athlete per winter term (plus pool entry)

**Competition dates:***

**Term 2 Junior winter Comp**

- May 2, 9, (not 16), 23, 30,
- June 6, 13, 20, 27
- July 4

**Term 3 Junior winter Comp**

- July 25,
- August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
- September 5, 12,19 (not 26)

Regards,

Matthew Turnbull
Head Coach
Canberra Water Polo Academy
m: 0401 134 844
e: matthew.turnbull@canberrawaterpoloacademy.com

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