



Monash School

Monash School Newsletter



ACT
Government
Education and Training

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NEWSLETTER NO: 5 – 10 APRIL 2015

Dates to Remember

Monday, 27 April	ANZAC Day Holiday
Tuesday, 28 April	First Day of Term 2
Wednesday, 29 April	P & C Special Meeting 3.15pm Board Meeting 3.30 pm
Thursday, 30 April	Bus Wash Preschool
Tuesday, 5 May	School Photos (K to Year 6, Possums and Joeys) Information Evening 6.30 pm – 7.15 pm
Wednesday, 6 May	Monash Cross Country
Thursday, 7 May	P & C General Meeting 3.15 pm
Friday, 8 May	Assembly – Kinder (Value is Confidence) School Photos (Echidnas) Lord Taverner Multisports Day – Winyu Unit

Notes Going Home This Week

Cross Country Sponsorship forms
Chief Minister's Reading Challenge
Winyu Unit excursion note

Principal's Message

Enjoy your holidays!

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been a fantastic first term at Monash, with many exciting learning opportunities and events that have taken place across the term. It has also been pleasing to see all students engage in their units of inquiry this term, with learning clearly evident across all grade levels.

I'd especially like to congratulate the year 5/6 students for leading the ANZAC assembly today. This important culminating event brought together students' understanding, knowledge and skill gained through their recent unit of inquiry.

This week, teachers also had the opportunity to work together to plan learning experiences and opportunities for next term. I am confident that this collaborative planning will facilitate a smooth coherent start to Term 2.

Yesterday students in Years 3 to 6 participated in sessions facilitated by SHFPACT (Sexual Health Family Planning ACT). These sessions conducted by professional facilitators provided our children with important information about personal development and wellbeing. I encourage all parents/carers of children in Years 3 to 6 to discuss the content of these sessions with their children taking advantage of the opportunity to discuss personal development and wellbeing issues.

This week information was sent home alerting parents/carers to an upcoming information session on Tuesday, 5 May. I encourage all parents/carers who are able to attend to come along to this session which is aimed specifically at providing explicit information about teaching and learning at Monash.

It has been great to observe the positive energy and enthusiasm that is beginning to emerge in our 2015 P & C. I would like to direct parents/carers to a targeted Monash P & C Facebook site which provides all parents/carers with important communication from our P & C.

As you and your family prepare for a holiday break, it's important to remember that while school holidays provide children with a great opportunity to rest, relax and recuperate, they also provide many opportunities for great family-led learning. I encourage families and children to enjoy their time together over the holiday break by simply spending some time together. This could include cooking or sharing a meal, sharing a favourite story, visiting a local park or some of the sites around Canberra together or playing games. Whatever your family chooses to do over the holiday break, I wish you all a very safe and enjoyable holiday.

Finally a reminder that school resumes on Tuesday, 29 April 2015.

Have a great holiday everyone.

Shane Carpenter
Principal

Enrolling in an ACT Public School

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

All prospective student enrolment applications **for 2016** open from **Tuesday 28 April 2015** (day 2 term 2) and close on Friday, 5 June 2015. If you are enrolling your child to start school in **2016** 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 enrolment applications (online only) for 2016 open on Tuesday, 28 April 2015 and close on 5 June 2015. Please visit the website www.det.act.gov.au.

PRESCHOOL

Joeys

The Joeys have been enjoying a fortnight of discussion and inquiry about 'Oviparous Animals' (egg layers). We read stories and looked at pictures of the many different animals that lay eggs. Some children used eye-droppers to colour blotting-paper oviparous animal shapes. We decorated egg boxes for our Easter Egg Hunt and painted patterns onto egg shapes at the easel. We continued with our investigations into 'patterns' by experimenting with potato prints.

Students have also engaged in a range of other experiences based on their interest. These have included constructing intricate 'marble run' structures, exploring colour and shape dominoes as we consolidate some basic concepts, participating in shared play experiences through the imaginative play area where students pretend to be mermaids.

Additionally, children have had an opportunity to explore the 'mud pit' and have enjoyed noticing the change of the environment outside as leaves begin to change colour and the weather is getting colder!

We would like to wish all families a safe and happy holiday break and looking forward to seeing you back in Term two.

Possums and Echidnas

The Possums and Echidnas have had a busy two weeks and we are all ready for a restful and relaxing holiday break. The Possums and Joeys went on the bus wash this week. We played the game 'Spotto' looking for certain things in our community. The children 'spotted' Tuggeranong College students who even waved back at them!

On Tuesday we had Caleb's mum, Elaine read a story in Maltese. Caleb helped her read the parts he knew and the children will now be saying *aħsel idejk* which means 'wash hands' in Maltese. Samuel is also teaching us the song 'Buenos Dias' which means good morning in Spanish.

After all the rain, the children have delighted in getting dirty in the mud pit! We are running low on gum boots, so would really appreciate any donations. This has not bothered the children as they have been taking off their shoes and feeling the mud with bare feet!



As part of our Inquiry Unit we are now talking about how to make friends and be a good friend. What to say when you want to join in play and how to include others in play. We watched an episode of Peppa Pig where she and Susie sheep do not include baby George in their play. We spoke about how he may be feeling, his facial expressions and what you would feel like if it happened to you at preschool. We have almost finished our **This Is Me** posters which will be displayed in the inquiry portfolios.

We hope all our families have a safe and happy holiday break and we will see possums on Tuesday 28 May and Echidnas on Wednesday 29 May.

Bimbi Unit News (Kinder)

Kindergarten students have continued to work enthusiastically even though it is the end of term.

In Literacy we have been exploring the letters j, v, y, w and x through a range of big books. The students are getting more and more confident with writing words independently. Students have also been playing a range of games to practise sounding out simple consonant, vowel and consonant (cvc) words. In Guided Reading students have been working on using the strategy of predicting to decode text.

Last week in Numeracy we explored length. We made direct comparisons of longer and shorter using a range of different objects. We learnt how to read length words and used informal units such as unifix cubes to measure different things in our classrooms. We also learnt specific language to describe objects such as 'longer', 'shorter', 'wider', 'thinner' and 'thicker'.

This week we have continued to explore addition and looked at 'counting on' as a more efficient strategy to add two groups together and started to look at number combinations that make ten which we refer to as "friends of ten".

We have concluded our Inquiry Unit "Family Matters" this week. Thank you to those students who brought in family artefacts to share with the class.

Children have been running the cross country course in readiness for the carnival on 6 May 2015.

Next term kindergarten will be running the assembly on Friday of Week 2 at 9:15am.

We would like to wish all students and families a safe and happy holiday break and look forward to seeing you all 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 their best all term.

During term one your child has been focusing on explanation writing in their writing groups and in Inquiry they have learned about sound and how sound travels through the ear. They have been assessed on these areas and we will be starting new topics next term.

We would like to thank Mr D for his efforts in providing equipment for the students to use during their lunch times and for organising the netball and active sports leaders' clinics this term which we all enjoyed.

A reminder that Monash Cross Country day is on 6 May 2015 which is the second Wednesday back next term. The students have been building up their running 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. Lastly, we would all like to wish you a very happy, safe and relaxing holiday. The 1/2 team are looking forward to all the wonderful learning that will take place in Term two.

Dulma Unit News (Year 3 / 4)

We hope everyone had a great Easter break.



3/4 visited the Botanic Gardens and CSIRO as part of their Inquiry Unit. Students were able to search for different types of trees and plants and discuss the different animals/insects that pollinate them. The students thoroughly enjoyed the excursion. A big thank you to all of the parents who came along to help out on the day!



Students are finishing off narrative writing this week by completing a story of their own incorporating the different aspects and elements learnt this term. We look forward to hearing and sharing these stories throughout the unit.

In maths, both Year 3 and Year 4 have been focusing on multiplication strategies. Year 3 students have been learning about different Middle Years Mental Computation Strategies such as doubling and Year 4 students have been consolidating these by completing 2-step word problems.

Dulma Unit would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday and looking forward to the students returning on Tuesday 28 April.

Bural Unit News (Year 5 / 6)

Students in the 5/6 unit have worked incredibly hard this term. We have reached the end of our Inquiry study, War and Conflict, and teachers have been so impressed with the students' engagement and enthusiasm during this unit. This culminated in the Year 5s and 6s hosting the Week 10 ANZAC assembly which clearly demonstrated their knowledge and understanding. Thank you to those parents who were able to attend and support the children.

We are excited to announce that our Inquiry Unit next term is *To Infinity... and Beyond!* This will involve an exploration of 'our place in space' and should certainly spark many wonderings about this universe of ours!

In Maths, the Year 5s have studied 2D shapes and 3D objects in the last two weeks, whilst the Year 6's worked with prime, composite and square numbers. A variety of new mathematical concepts will be covered in Term 2.

In Literacy, both Year 5s and 6s continued looking at narrative writing. Students now have a good understanding of the structure and language features and have been busy planning and drafting their own narratives. We ask that families continue to encourage a love of reading at home as this, in turn, supports their writing skills.

The teachers wish all of our 5/6 students a wonderful and safe holiday break - we are really looking forward to next term!

Winyu Unit News

Winyu students have been finalising their 'wonderings' and learning about space. They have been working hard to complete our Inquiry Portfolio summative assessment pieces for the space inquiry. The children learned about the rotation of Earth and the orbit of the Earth and moon around the sun as well as the cause of night and day. The children demonstrated their learning using balls and torches to simulate the Earth's orbit.

Zac demonstrating his learning of night and day on Earth with Ms Burgess.

This week the children had a wonderful time at our Dream Cricket morning. The children participated in bowling, catching and batting activities. We would like to thank Bruce Harvey and the Dream Cricket team, who are supported by Rotary, for providing the children with the opportunity to participate in Cricket rotations. We also would like to thank the volunteers, including students from Radford College for assisting with our cricket morning.

We would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday. We look forward to lots of fun and learning next term.

Reminders:

- MPowerdome excursion note is being sent home today.
- Please ensure your child's jumper is clearly labelled with their name.

Japanese News

こんにちは！ Konnichiwa! (Hello!)

Konnichiwa! It is the end of the term, so all units have been wrapping up over the last two weeks. Across the school, students have been learning how to operate in a Japanese classroom, in a unit called 'My Japanese Classroom'. It is great to be able to give classroom instructions in Japanese without the need to translate, and it is even more exciting to hear students using Japanese to communicate with each other, particularly when it is spontaneous. As most students will be studying Japanese throughout the year from next term, including all students from years three through to six, I would like to give parents and students some suggestions for what they can do during the holidays to boost their Japanese learning. The suggestions are as follows:

Junior School (Years Kindergarten to Two):

For these years I suggest learning through song and body actions. For parents, it's great to watch and learn the song with actions you know, are from the video, or you have made up, with your child to begin with. After that your child could have fun with it by themselves, with the video, or performing to family or guests:

Twinkle little star

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0yB7qKHIp3M>

Numbers song

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zqNotzty3kE>

Counting people in Japanese

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YqxyFULA5iM>

Head shoulders knees and toes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=98rDSRw7sv0>

Senior School (Years Three to Six)

Students from the senior school could also have fun with the above songs! They could make it their challenge to learn the song(s) of their choice off by heart and perform to the class in Term 2. Below are videos I have either used during class to introduce language, or videos I suggest for learning. Students could watch these again to review, or if they didn't study Japanese in Term 1 it would be a great help for them. I also recommend for students who are old enough to research by themselves, to look up things which interest them in Japan or Japanese. For example, on *youtube* they could search to see if their favourite nursery rhymes are available in Japanese. They could also research sites for 'learning how to write in Japanese,' or 'Japanese fashion,' 'Japanese samurai,' and so on, for information of interest.

Self-Introductions

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bsrg9N1muBQ>

Introducing the Writing System

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MI4LjyA00XA>

A song for how to ask for, give and receive something (useful for when students need to ask each other for a pencil etc)

<http://nihongoatstfrannies.weebly.com/our-class-picnic.html>(Scroll down for 'Banana Please')

A site which has a lot of material on it, developed by a Japanese language teacher

<http://nihongoatstfrannies.weebly.com/>

Dirt to Dish Kitchen News

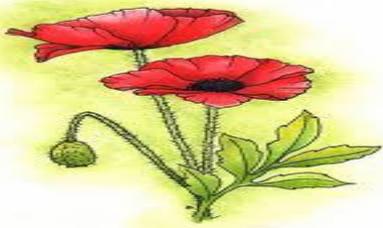
The weather has finally turned; leaves are dropping and temperatures with them, which signals the change in season for our school garden. Summer crops are coming to an end and the remaining eggplants, tomatoes and beans are being harvested and preserved. As we look to Autumn and Winter planting, we think of carrots, broad beans, beetroot, rhubarb, spinach, broccoli and cauliflower. Our potatoes, planted at the tail end of 2014 are nearing harvest and autumn fruits like apples and pears also influence our menu in Term 2. So many recipes, so little time!

In the kitchen this week we have been making Anzac biscuits – not only as a sweet treat to end the term, but also as a way of discussing the rich history of the humble Anzac biscuit and all that it represents.

Anzac biscuits weren't originally sweet, known as "hardtack" biscuits, they were used in place of bread in a soldiers ration tin during WWI. As the recipe evolved, it became a way to send a little bit of home over to our soldiers in the trenches. They contain ingredients that were readily available at home during the War and would not spoil on the long voyage over.

If you would like to read more about the history of the Anzac Biscuits or the Anzac story – I recommend the following website:

<http://unibicanzacbiscuits.com/about-anzac-biscuits.html>



Have a great holiday everyone and happy cooking!

"Hub Happenings"

Regular activities:

Breakfast Club Mondays and Tuesdays 8.15 am to 8.55 am - to provide a healthy start to the day.

Parents/carers Morning Tea 9.30 am to 10.30 am is an opportunity to connect with others in the school environment and have a chat.

Playgroup: Tuesdays 9.30 am to 11.30am. A relaxing atmosphere for parents/carers and great fun for children. Please bring a gold coin donation and a piece of fruit to share.

Upcoming Events:

The Hub Block Party

The Block party has been postponed until Friday, 23 October 2015. More details to come.

Hub Coordinator

P & C NEWS



I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new President of the Monash Primary School P&C. I am a mum of two beautiful children, one being a new student in Year 3 at Monash and a 3 year old who is yet to inflict his special kind of crazy on the Monash school community. As a stay at home mum who is studying, you'll often see me around the school so feel free to introduce yourself and share your ideas on ways we can build on what is already an awesome school. With a background in Social Welfare and Community Development and my current study as a Teaching Assistant, I'm excited to be using my skills for the betterment of our school. Together with my fellow P&C committee members, I am looking forward to working together in a way that promotes and develops the educational and social needs of our students and community.

Hi there, my name is Haley Websdane and I am the new Vice President of the Monash P&C. I have three awesome kids - sons in Year 1 and Year 3 and a 3 year old daughter who will be starting Preschool at Monash next year. I took on this role in the P&C to get to know the school community a little better, as we are newbies who moved across from Isabella Plains Early Learning School this year. I am really looking forward to working with you all to help our children's education experience be the best it possibly can be. With a background in education, I am passionate about engaging children in learning and providing them with a safe and conducive environment to thrive in. Like Michelle, I can be seen around the school quite a bit and hope that you take the opportunity to come and say "hi" and introduce yourself.



SCHOLASTIC BOOKCLUB

Orders placed for bookclub this term will be handed out early next term due to the NSW school holidays.

SCHOOL BANKING

School Banking day is Friday – so please remember to hand your completed bank books in to the front office before school.

If your children are not currently involved in the school banking program and you would like to know more, please ask for a 2015 school banking program information pack from the front office.

Student Banking Coordinator

Wanniassa School Senior Campus (Years 7-10)

**HIGH SCHOOL OPEN NIGHT is on
MONDAY 18 MAY 2015 5.30pm-7pm**

WANNIASSA SCHOOL is a Preschool to year 10 public school located in Wanniassa. The Tuggeranong suburbs with priority enrolment for prospective year 7 students are Wanniassa, Oxley, Monash and Greenway.

ACADEMIC AND VOCATIONAL STRENGTHS

- **Our NAPLAN results** comparative to similar schools
- **Enrichment programs** in Mathematics, Science and English
- **Big Picture Academy** for students in years 9 & 10
- **Trades Training in Hospitality and Furniture Construction**
- **Personalised programs for Learning Support students**

BREAKING NEWS

Wanniassa School has been selected to participate in **Space Camp in Huntsville Alabama** in July 2015. Two HS students and the deputy principal, a science teacher, have full sponsorship to attend.

SPORTING AND CULTURAL STRENGTHS

- **Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country Carnivals**
- **School, Zone, ACT and National representation for individuals and sport teams**
- **Performance Arts – Dance, Music, Drama and Visual Art programs**

PASTORAL CARE STRENGTHS and STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

- **Nationally accredited MindMatters school** (also Early Childhood KidsMatter & KidsMatter Primary)
- **Values-based, peer support, relational school**
- **Student leadership, volunteering and community service learning**

- **Year Camps, Interstate Excursions and Overseas Trips (World Challenges 2013 & 2015, Japan 2014, US Space Camp 2015)**

Web: www.wans.act.edu.au

Facebook: Wanniasa P-10 School

Parent Workshop (free)

Richardson Primary School are hosting a free parent workshop by Dr Justin Coulson (PhD) entitled 'What Your Child Needs From You'. Dr Coulson is a well-respected researcher and parenting expert who appears regularly on the Today Show. The workshop will be held at Erindale College on Thursday April 30 from 6:00pm – 7:30pm. There are 10 free tickets available to parents/carers at Monash. If you are interested in attending please contact the front office staff. Tickets will be available from the front office at Monash.

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.

Please remember to carry your Working With Vulnerable People Card with you if you are volunteering in the school.

Nut Allergies

Monash School has a number of students who are allergic to nut products. 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 UNIFORMS

School uniforms are available from Savvy School & Formal Wear, Shop 32, Home world, Soward Way, Tuggeranong. For any enquiries, please phone Savvy on 6293 4342. All Monash parents receive 10% off uniform purchases.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

SERVICE UPDATE



Changes to your Dedicated School Services from 18 May 2015

On Monday 18 May 2015, ACTION will be introducing a revised timetable for all normal weekday route services and some dedicated school services. This is part of our commitment to continually revising and improving our current timetable.

Since September 2014, we have been monitoring the network using performance data and identifying areas for improvement. We have been able to address issues such as on time

running and service reliability.

Your current dedicated school services have been reviewed and improvements have been made. Affected routes include:

- Route/s 650, 858, 536.

A detailed list of these changes will be available on the ACTION website from tomorrow, Thursday 2 April.

Students that use regular route services will need to check timetable information as many services in the regular weekday network have undergone timing adjustments. These will be available on the ACTION website tomorrow.

ACTION would appreciate your assistance in circulating this information to students and parents using your existing communications channels, such as school emails, newsletters or notices to start planning travel from Monday 18 May.

Should you have any queries regarding your school service please call 13 17 10.



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/community notices appearing in this publication. Readers should make their own enquiries in relation to the information.

