



POSSUM PRESS

NEWS FROM JEN

As our term nears its end, I would like to extend my thanks to the amazing educators at Maribyrnong. In term 3 we have seen great development in preschool social skills, incredible growth in kindergarten reading levels, improved maths results in year 1/2, great development in year 3/4 writing and a very motivated senior school who have been thoroughly engaged with learning about cultures around the world. Each day our educators aim to provide students with new opportunities, more complex learning experiences, and leadership possibilities. I do hope to see you at our Learning Journey and Grandfriends Day on Monday to celebrate these, and many more, successes.



Learning Journey and Grandfriends' Day

Our annual Learning Journey and Grandfriends Day will be held on Monday 21 September. This is an opportunity for the students to show their family what they have learned during the term. It is fantastic for the students to explain to parents what they have been learning, explain why they have been learning it and show the work that they have produced. Our Learning Journey is also a chance for us to share with and celebrate our 'Grandfriends'- those special people in our lives who support and love us. Our assembly will commence in the hall at 9.15 am, followed by the opportunity to visit the classrooms and share students' learning with them. Grandfriends can then take the opportunity to be pampered with a morning tea provided by our wonderful P&C in the hall.

With so many families attending it is imperative that we adhere to the road rules and parking regulations. As a school who values all members of our community it is of paramount importance that carefully considered choices are made by us all. Parking options include utilising the shop car park, the overflow car park, parking legally along Shannon Circuit, walking to the event, riding your bike there and carpooling with others. By working together we can enjoy this event and celebrate our wonderful learning community. We look forward to seeing you on what promises to be a fun morning.

SEA*ACT Science Fair

The SEA*ACT Science Fair awards night was held last Friday night. We once again have had an amazing presence in the fair showing our strong commitment to science education. A huge congratulations to the many Maribyrnong students who won individual and group awards on the night. Congratulations also to our junior school, through their efforts we once again won the Early Childhood Shield for the fifth year in a row. This year we also won the Special Education Shield due to the efforts of our students with additional needs. Both of these achievements are to be celebrated! Thank you to all of our families and teachers who supported students in undertaking their science projects. Thank you also to our P&C for supporting this initiative through paying for each Maribyrnong student to enter this next level of competition. It would be remiss of me not to make special mention of Leslie Carr who has challenged, guided and supported our students in completing their projects. Thank you Leslie for your hard work and passion for science education at Maribyrnong Primary School and beyond



Thursday 17 September, Term 3 Week 9



ACT
Government

Education and Training

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Primary School-Kaleen



Board Chair

Lauren Newman

laurennewman_13@yahoo.com.au

P&C President

Noel Florian

maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com

Possum Pantry Canteen

Wednesday to Friday Ph: 6241 5974

<http://www.flexischools.com.au>

Communities@Work ph:0405124312

Breakfast Club and After School Care

Westpac School Bank Account

BSB 032 777 Account 001615

EFTPOS is available with a \$10 minimum

DATES TO REMEMBER:

SEPTEMBER

- 21 Grandfriends Day and Learning Journey. Assembly at 9.15 am
- 23 P&C Disco
- 25 NO ASSEMBLY
LAST day of term3.



OCTOBER

- 12 FIRST day of term 4.



Focus On Ability

Last Wednesday and Thursday Anna Thorpe, Jon Holden and I travelled to Sydney for the International Focus On Ability Award ceremony following the entry of the film 'Farewell Davide' made at Maribyrnong. This ceremony celebrated individuals and groups of people with additional needs and the abilities they have to contribute to society. Over 160 individual films were entered from across the world. I am incredibly excited to announce that Maribyrnong won 'runner up' in the 'Judges Choice Primary Documentary' category, with a very generous prize of \$4000 worth of SMEG appliances. This was a great opportunity to celebrate inclusion, one of the many wonderful aspects of our school. Congratulations to our students and to Mr Holden and Mrs Thorpe for their efforts.

Picasso Makeover Cow Team

Kowdinsky, our large fibreglass cow has now had a full makeover! Congratulations and a huge thank you to Anna Thorpe, Nicola Toms and our 'cow team' who have taken time to come and paint and share their ideas for her design. Kowdinsky has been entered into the Dairy Australia national program with the finalists announced in October and the national champion announced in November. We look forward to sharing the outcome of this with you! Make sure you stop by the main corridor to take a look at the creative talents within our community.

Twilight Fair

Our annual Twilight Fair is just around the corner, with Friday 13 November fast approaching. Our P&C welcomes donations for the book stall, craft stall and white elephant stall. Donations can be left outside the P&C store room (near Kowdinsky) or head to the front office. There are still a number of vacancies on the volunteer roster if you can spare an hour or two; please see Clare Whittingham for more information. Our P&C are working on advertising through a number of online noticeboards. If you have a noticeboard in your workplace and would like to share this event with colleagues, please contact Sharon Houston for a flyer or a copy of the advertisement which we are using. Sharon can be contacted via email on Sharon.houston@education.gov.au We are looking forward to this great community event!

Joining or Leaving Maribyrnong?

If you are joining or leaving us at Maribyrnong please let us know as soon as possible. Planning for next year is underway and knowing correct numbers is essential to this process. Thank you!

Thank you all for another wonderful term and I hope that you have a safe and happy break. I look forward to seeing you back on Monday 12 October.

Thank you for your ongoing support!
Jenny.

NUMERACY MYTHBUSTER

Myth # 10 Assessment in mathematics is irrelevant in early childhood classrooms!

There can be a very narrow image of mathematics assessment in society with many considering the paper-and-pencil test as being the only way to ascertain a child's understanding. In all learning areas teachers use three different forms of assessment; observation, conversation and products (tests or written tasks). Each form is just as important as the other.

It is essential for teachers to "support children's learning by thoughtfully and continually assessing all children's mathematical knowledge, skills, and strategies" (NAEYC and NCTM, 2002, p. 4). Recognising this teachers ensure that assessment drives instruction and curriculum. Young children come to school with intuitive ways of thinking and reasoning in mathematics, although their ways may not always be the same as those of adults. Continuous assessment allows teachers to see how a child is thinking.

Observation is used most commonly for understanding children, as it is non-threatening and can be done unobtrusively. Checklists are used to record observations but observations on their own are not enough. For example, a child says that 'four oranges and two oranges altogether, are seven oranges'. This incorrect response is clearly important and needs to be corrected. But it is even more important to understand the thought process beneath the response in order to target teaching and learning experiences. The child may have got it through faulty memory ('I just knew it'), faulty calculation (the child miscounts the objects in front of him) or faulty reasoning ('I know that four and two is more than five, and six is two more than four'). Depending on the reason, the teaching solution may differ. To reach below the surface and learn about children's conceptual understanding and the strategies behind their answers, teachers need to have conversations with their students.

Conversations and observations allow great insight into a child's thinking and it is the product that shows how children have translated their thinking. Teachers design and implement rich tasks that allow students to do just this. What might look like a counting game is actually a rich assessment task. Don't be fooled, assessment in the early childhood classroom is always happening!

So.....this myth is **BUSTED!**

Assessment is ongoing in the early childhood classroom and is central to the teaching and learning cycle.



Looking for more information to support your child's literacy or numeracy development? Please contact Jantiena Batt through the Front Office or by email jantiena.batt@ed.act.edu.au

AROUND THE GROUNDS - WELCOME JACKIE!

Hello Everyone!

My name is Jackie Sampson and I am the Defence School Transition Aide (DSTA) for Maribyrnong Primary School. This is a new position created at Maribyrnong designed to support the growing number of defence families who are a part of our school community. We recognize that many of these families benefit from additional support due to service postings or a family member being deployed.



The role of the DSTA can be:

- ✓ Welcoming new families and students to the school and helping them to settle into the school community and classes
- ✓ Support defence students to make friends
- ✓ Support defence students in class
- ✓ Create links to Defence Community Organisation (DCO) support
- ✓ Provide information to defence families through newsletters and direct contact
- ✓ Support defence students at times of deployment
- ✓ Farewell defence families and students from the school and support them in their transition to a new school

I will be available at school on Tuesdays from 9.00 am – 3.00 pm and Fridays from 9.00 am – 12.00 pm.

A letter will be coming out soon to all Defence Families. If you don't receive a letter from me, please notify the front office as we may not have you listed as a defence family to access this service.

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LEARNING JOURNEY

and

GRANDFRIENDS DAY!



Please join us in the hall at 9.15 am on Monday 21 September for our special assembly to celebrate our Learning Journey and Grandfriends Day. Following this, head to the classroom to experience the students work.

P&C NEWS

Craft:

The **Twilight Fair** is coming up on Friday 13 November and the craft stall is shaping up to be a big one! Assistance is required with:

- Material donations
- Craft supply donations
- Sewing expertise
- Hands on assistance to make the craft.

Please mark your donations **CRAFT STALL** and leave them in the donation area in the hall down from the front office. We will be having a craft session soon – more details to come. Please contact Lauren on laurennewman_13@yahoo.com.au

NOTES SENT HOME

- ✓ Year 2 Aqua Safe Program
- ✓ P&C Disco note Wednesday 23 September
- ✓ 5/6 Camp **2016** expressions of interest and deposit. Due: asap
- ✓ P&C Preschool Tea Towel Fundraiser
- ✓ Chess Classes term 4

GLIMMERS, DAZZLERS, SPARKLERS (PRESCHOOL)



It has been a wonderfully productive term for the children at preschool. We have enjoyed many art and craft, literacy and indoor and outdoor experiences relating to *Springtime*. The children have learned about Maggie safety and also sun safety. They are now confidently writing their names, counting, and are learning more about interacting in a friendly manner among their peers. The children have shown their independence and leadership skills whilst participating in a hammering activity and also taking themselves on an outdoor adventure.

Next term will be busy with transition visits to the primary school, a preschool disco, the bus wash and an end of year concert. We are all very much looking forward to these exciting events. We wish you a safe and well earned break.

The preschool team ☺

AURORAS (K and K/1)

It is hard to believe term three is almost over. It has been a fun term following storyline and creating Auroraville.

Over the last two weeks the children have been preparing for the Auroraville open day for Learning Journey. They have chosen and created as teams their buildings and services. The children can't wait to share this with you at Grandfriends and Learning Journey Day next Monday.

In literacy, the children have been learning about the parts of a narrative. They have created characters and settings and are now beginning to look at their problems and solutions for their stories.

In maths, the children have been investigating measurement. They have learnt about volume and mass. Next we will be looking at telling the time.

We look forward to seeing you all on Monday to celebrate Grandfriends and Learning Journey Day.

Thank you

Sarah, Jess, Naomi,
Leeanne and Kathleen.



NEONS (1/2)

We cannot believe it is almost the end of term already! The Neon unit are super excited as the Time Machine is finished and are looking forward to Learning Journey when they can share their construction with you. It can be set to rescue memories of past communication, games, transport and entertainment for those who enter it. We look forward to seeing you there after the assembly Monday morning at 9.15 am.

The students had a marvellous time exploring the museums on our excursion on Wednesday. They were able to see an old steam train leaving the station as well as seeing the biggest steam loco motor in Australia. They walked through the carriages as well as old communication devices. They were even the first school to ever get to eat lunch in the carriages! At the National Museum the children went through Circa to see how technology has changed in Australia over time. We also found many old means of communication and modes of transport. Make sure you ask your child about what they found. Thank you also to those parents who came along to support the learning of our students. We really appreciate the help.

We have also had the talent quest this term. The Neon unit had Lucy K and Riley represent us at the event and Lucy won an award for age group. Well done Lucy. We would also like to thank all those students who tried out for the talent quest and shared what they can do with other students in the unit. Also a reminder that notes need to come back for year two students doing the swimming program.

We hope you have a great rest of term!
Stacey, Lucy Camille, Stacey, Keilly, Sally,
Aaron, Nicola and Alex.



BEAMERS (3/4)

This is our last newsletter item for term three, this year is flying by!

You're Invited!

A quick reminder that Learning Journey and Grandfriends Day is on Monday 21 September. All the students are so excited to share their Storyline learning with you. You will be so impressed with their amazing achievements! The Learning Journey will start in the hall at 9:15 am. An invitation should have come home to you this week. Please see your child's teacher if you have not received one.

Every day the students are given a fruit break time. This normally happens around 10.00 am. We just wanted to remind you that this time is for students to eat fresh fruit or vegetables. It would be great if all students were able to bring some fruit or vegetables to enjoy at this time.

If your child is in year 4, please return the expression of interest for camp next year.

We have **SO MANY UNLABELLED JUMPERS** in our pit. Please come and see if any of these jumpers belong to your child.

We hope you have a lovely break and we look forward to seeing you next term!

Kylie, Symone, Lyndall and Justine.

FIREFLIES (LSU)

Hi everyone,

We have had a wonderful couple of weeks of learning in the LSU and have been enjoying all the beautiful weather we have been having.

Thanks so much for all the bottles you have bought in. We now have enough to plant our seeds and give them all mini greenhouses to protect them from any sneaky frosts that still happen. Our mini garden has been replenished with plenty of nutrients and we are looking forward to growing a variety of different things. Hopefully we will even have some things to use in our cooking lessons next term!

We have also been enjoying using the bikes at school practising our riding around a circuit. Thanks to Davide for his generous donation as many of our students are really enjoying using the learning bike at this time.



Have a great weekend!
Lee, Amy, Michelle and Leanne.



SUPERNOVAS (5/6)

With the weather deciding to play nice again the 5/6 students have been participating in the Bike Program on a weekly basis. Monday last week, 5/6 had the opportunity to participate in a riding workshop operated by FACT BMX. The day was a complete success and was greatly enjoyed by all students. Students were shown how to corner, brake as well as other important bike control skills.

Emma McMillian was the first recipient of the B.O.B. award which is awarded by the teachers to a student who demonstrates safe riding and exceptional awareness of surroundings and bike control.



Congratulations to all the 5/6 students who auditioned for the talent quest and to those who progressed to the school final. Your teachers are in awe of your courage and talents.

A reminder to year 5 students about the expression of interest and deposit for 5/6 camp next year. Given the cost and the timing we are trying to provide as much time and notice as possible.

Emma, Shane, Elissa, Sarah and Justine.

GLOW WORMS (LSUA)

The Glow Worms are continuing to enjoy the spring weather. We have been undertaking some lovely spring art activities, which will be on display at our Learning Journey next Monday.



Congratulations

A huge congratulations to all the LSUA students for participating in this year's ACT Science Fair. An even huger congratulations to Toby for taking out a first place, Patrick who won second place in his category and Jasmin and Shahbaz for achieving Highly Commended. Our school was also presented with the ACT Science Fair Special Needs Shield. This is the first time that we have received this shield. A great partnership between the LSUA and our specialist Science program. Fantastic work!

Virginia, Sally and Kathleen.



ATHLETICS UPDATE

The Maribyrnong Athletics team competed at the Zone Carnival a few weeks ago at the Australian Institute of Sport. We were very proud of our team for putting in an amazing effort and having so many huge improvements from last years times and distances as well as personal bests. A huge congratulations to Mikayla, Cara, Mitchell, Ben M, Mackinley and Cody S who came in the top 5 out of all the Belconnen Schools for some of their events. They represented the Belconnen Region at the ACT carnival this week. What a fantastic achievement. Congratulations to the rest of our team as well for displaying such a great level of confidence and sportsmanship on the day.

Lee and Keilly.



POSSUM PANTRY ROSTER

Week 10 Term 3	Wednesday 23 September	Thursday 24 September	Friday 25 September
9.00 am - 2.30 pm			
9.00 am - 12.00 pm	Kim Rebekah	Wendy (1 hour)	
12.00 pm - 3.00 pm			
Week 1 Term 4	Wednesday 14 October	Thursday 15 October	Friday 16 October
9.00 am - 2.30 pm			
9.00 am - 12.00 pm	Kim Robyn	Wendy (1 hour)	
12.00 pm - 3.00 pm			

The canteen has been getting busier and we would love to get some more volunteers. If you are available to help in the canteen, especially on a Thursday or Friday, or if you would like to be included on future canteen rosters please see Rouvaye or Kerry in the canteen or call on 62415974. Any help would be greatly appreciated, either for a whole shift or any time you can spare. Volunteers who help out for a shift will be issued with a voucher for 1 Meal Deal.

We look forward to seeing you in the canteen. Thank you.

PRESCHOOL FUNDRAISER

The limited edition tea towel is **ONLY \$12.50, 2 for \$24.00** or **SAVE** by ordering **5 for \$60.00**. Tea towels can be ordered by using the order form (available at the office) and returning to the school in an envelope clearly marked 'TEA TOWEL ORDER'. Payments can be made by cash or through Flexischools <http://www.flexischools.com.au>

Final orders and payment are due before **FRIDAY 25 September 2015**. If you have any queries please call Venee Fabbo 0478811530 or by email at svenee1@outlook.com



COMMUNITY NEWS



16, 17, 18 OCTOBER 2015
CRANLEIGH SCHOOL, STARKE STREET, HOLT

Featuring works by Honours students from the ANU School of Art, plus quality artworks for sale by our amazing students and local artists to raise money for Cranleigh School.

OPENING NIGHT
Friday 16 October, 7-9pm

Official Opening by Dr Gerard Vaughan
Director of the National Gallery of Australia

Live music, wine and canapés • Tickets \$15 at the door

Weekend Opening Times: Saturday 17 October 10am-4pm
Sunday 18 October 10am-12.30pm • Entry by donation

Artwork raffle drawn, silent auction and People's Choice Award winners announced 12 noon, Sunday 18 October

For more information: www.cranleighps.act.edu.au



Get Active Sports

Tennis for Juniors

Kaleen Primary school

Tem 4 indoor tennis lessons for boys and girls aged 3-8 years.

For more information:

Email - rego@getactivesports.com.au

Phone - 1300 772 106

Website - www.getactivesports.com.au



Giant Community Garage Sale

Saturday 24 October

9.00 am till 2.00 pm

North Belconnen Baptist Church
Chomley Court Evatt (Just off Copland Drive). Over 60 stallholders, live music, a jumping castle and face painting for the kids, sausage sizzle and café.

Stalls are only \$20 and booking out fast, visit our website book yours:

<http://www.northbelconnenbaptist.org.au/event-items/giant-community-garage-sale/>

Mark your calendars - it's just too good to miss!

PARENT EFFECTIVENESS TRAINING (P.E.T)

Supported by Parentline ACT



<http://www.gordontraining.com/free-parenting-articles/evidence-today-supports-wisdom-yesterday/>

The course consists of three-hour sessions, once per week, for eight weeks. Booking is essential.

\$320 pp for the course (includes a workbook and textbook).

Course begins: Thursday, 15th October, 2015; Time: 6.30 pm to 9.45 pm; **Place:** Weston, ACT.

Enjoy P.E.T. with **Larissa**, Canberra's most experienced P.E.T. instructor

0413 451 607 www.parentskills.com.au info@parentskills.com.au

Giralang Community Centre Open Day

Come and join in the fun from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm

Saturday 31 October 2015 (Halloween)

1 Hirst Place, Giralang.

Indulge in a home baked treat or a sausage sandwich and take home a seedling or two for your garden.

There will be Halloween craft activities for the kids and much, much more...Meet others from your neighbourhood and find out what the Giralang Community Centre can offer you and your family.

