



# POSSUM PRESS

## NEWS FROM ANNA

What a great end we had to last week with a pancake breakfast hosted by our P&C. It was so lovely to share this time with our school family and recognise the mums, grandmothers, aunties and female family members who support our community. I hope you all received a rest-filled and recognised Mother's Day.



### Staffing Changes

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Rachelle Wilkinson to year 1 BJ for term two on Thursday and Friday. Rachelle has recently moved to Canberra from New South Wales and is an experienced educator. Rachelle worked at Maribyrnong over the last few weeks of term one, and has already spent time getting to know our students, staff and school policies.

Year 3 EJ are also enjoying working with Emma Jelbart this term as she moves across from her year 1 teaching position. Emma is looking forward to meeting the year 3 parents during interview week this term.

In term three, we will welcome back Mrs Tegan Arnold from maternity leave. Tegan will teach year 1 BJ on Thursday and Friday for both term three and four. Tegan has been part of the Maribyrnong community for almost four years, teaching in kindergarten, year 1 and year 2 and is looking forward to returning later in the year.

### NAPLAN

NAPLAN, which is a part of the National Assessment Program (NAP), is how governments, education authorities and schools can determine whether young Australians are reaching important educational goals. Our year 3 and 5 students commenced their assessment this week. The results will be provided to the school in the coming months, we look forward to sharing these with you.

### System Changes to Reporting this term

In 2019 the Education Directorate are introducing a common report format, for students in kindergarten to year 10, through the new Student Administration System (SAS). This change will occur via a staged implementation process, with some schools piloting the new report format in Semester 1, including Maribyrnong. For a full update of the changes from our previous reporting format, please refer to the fact sheet being sent home with this newsletter.

### Rostrum

The Rostrum Primary Schools competition has been running for nearly 50 years for schools in the ACT and surrounding NSW. Each school is invited to enter one competitor into the competition after running a selection process in their own school. Students are provided with six topics to choose from, and they are required to prepare a two to three minute speech. This year, our year 4, 5 and 6 students have been busy preparing, writing and practicing their speeches. The school executive have the privilege of being part of the Maribyrnong judging panel next week. We look forward to sharing some wonderful highlights with you. If you are looking for some useful links to assist your own public speaking skills, make sure you take a look at the Rostrum website:

<https://www.rostrum.com.au/speaking-tips>



THURSDAY 16 MAY : T2 W3



**ACT**  
Government  
Education

## CONTACTS

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Ph: 6142 0570

[www.maribyrnongps.act.edu.au](http://www.maribyrnongps.act.edu.au)

**FACEBOOK:** Maribyrnong  
Primary School-Kaleen



**Board Chair** TBA

**P&C President** Christopher Watkins  
[maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com](mailto:maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com)

### Possum Pantry Canteen

Wednesday to Friday Ph: 6241 5974

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

### Communities@Work

ph: 0405 124 312

Before and After School Care

### Westpac School Bank Account

BSB 032 777 Account 001615

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### MAY

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 16 | School Board<br>P&C 7.00 pm Library                         |
| 17 | <b>Whole</b> School Assembly @2.00 pm                       |
| 21 | P&C Walkathon for Preschool M-W                             |
| 24 | P&C Walkathon Day<br><b>Junior</b> School Assembly @2.00 pm |
| 27 | Reconciliation Day Public Holiday                           |
| 31 | <b>Senior</b> School Assembly @2.00 pm                      |
- ### JUNE
- |     |                                       |
|-----|---------------------------------------|
| 3   | <b>Hats Off</b> for winter!           |
| 3-5 | Kindergarten Heath Checks             |
| 6-7 | Year 4 Camp Warrambui                 |
| 7   | <b>Whole</b> School Assembly @2.00 pm |

More dates are under EVENTS on the Skoolbag App or for the full calendar visit:

[http://www.maribyrnongps.act.edu.au/our\\_community/calendar](http://www.maribyrnongps.act.edu.au/our_community/calendar)

## SRC

A Student Representative Council (SRC) is a group of students elected by their fellow students to represent all students in the school. SRCs work democratically to represent the student body in school decision-making and organise ways for students to participate in school life.

Our SRC meets fortnightly (even weeks) with Emma Wild. During their meeting they discuss areas of school life which they would like to change, be part of or take responsibility for. For each agenda item put forward, this year our SRC representatives will be asked to consider which of the school values they will be promoting. For example, changes to playground areas might be seen to be assisting inclusion. Our SRC will be providing regular updates to our wider community through a small section in the newsletter. This section will capture some current hot topics and what our students are saying about them!

## Kindy Connect

We strongly value positive and consistent transition experiences for children starting school. With this in mind, the preschool and kindergarten teachers have worked closely together to create the 'Kindy Connect' program.

Each week, commencing in term two, children in preschool will have an opportunity to play, learn and experience an oral language and gross motor program alongside the current kindergarten children and the teachers. Each term there will be a different focus as the children's interests and needs change. Sessions will take place in our preschool setting and in our current kindergarten unit each Monday and Friday for approximately 20-30 minutes.

Please feel free to contact any member of the preschool or kindergarten team should you need any further information about our Kindy Connect program.

## Walkathon

Our Annual School Walkathon is only a fortnight away! Our P&C have scheduled Friday 24 May between 9.00 am and 11.00 am for the Walkathon. Our M-W preschool groups will walk on Tuesday 21 May. We are once again hoping this event will assist in promoting healthier lifestyle awareness within our school community.

Students are encouraged to seek sponsorship as one-off donations for participating in the Walkathon. Sponsorship monies can be collected and handed in to the office prior to the Walkathon Day and for a week following. Students will receive a certificate of participation at the conclusion of the Walkathon to be kept in their portfolio as recognition of their achievement. For our Walkathon to run smoothly and safely on the day, we are seeking assistance from parents and carers to walk with class groups (especially the younger students). If you are able to assist on the day, please get in touch.

## Polling Day

On Saturday 18 May, our school will be used as a polling location for the upcoming election. Many thanks to the staff who have volunteered their time to run a cake stall, and the P&C who will be upholding our voters' rights to partake in a democratic sausage sizzle! We look forward to seeing you there.

As always, I wish all our community a safe and happy fortnight.

*Anna*



### Protective Behaviours Tips For Parents

An information session for parents will be held on

**“How to teach children about personal safety skills”**

**When: Tuesday 28 May from 9.15am to 10.45am at Maribyrnong Primary**

- During this session learn how to teach children about their early warning signs.
- Find out what safe behaviours are.
- Learn how to practise personal safety skills in your family.
- How to find safe adults to ask for help.
- Teach children about being safe without making them scared.
- What are important safety rules about touch?
- How to teach children to be the boss of their bodies.
- What is stranger safety?
- How to have a family safety plan.

This session will be run by our school psychologist. Stay and have a cuppa after and a chat.

### Benefits of Volunteering at School

Volunteering at school could be one of the best decisions you will ever make. We all have busy schedules and maintaining a work-life balance can be tricky with so many things vying for our attention. Giving an hour to the canteen, covering books for the library, assisting in the classroom, helping at whole school event days such as carnivals, and the Walkathon can make such a difference. Every little bit helps and more than ever, parent volunteers are vital to school life. Volunteering can help develop new skills, provide opportunities to meet people and create new friendships. Some of the benefits of volunteering at school could be

#### Meet school staff informally and in different settings.

Working alongside staff on a school project or helping to set up or pack up an event can help you to get to know more people in your school community. We are all invested in our school and want to see us all achieve success together. Getting to know staff gives you the opportunity to talk about other things, even if it's sport or the weather. There's a lot of relationship-building value in small talk and taking the time to be involved.

#### Get to know the people in your school community

Knowing the students and their parents is an investment in positive school relations. These are the people that you are possibly going to see each week, at school events and social activities including weekend sports and celebrations. Knowing the people who will be out and about in the classroom and at school can make the difference between simply turning up or looking forward to catching up with friends.

#### Get to know the school administrative staff

It is important to have a working relationship with all staff at school from teachers to administrative to assistants and executive. Getting to know the office staff and the person in the library is as important as getting to know class teachers. All staff at Maribyrnong are willing to go above and beyond for our school because they feel valued by our school community. These positive working relationships make Maribyrnong a great place to be.

#### Meet other parents

Sometimes it's easier to meet people if you can work alongside them on an activity or shared interest. Chatting with other parents while you are making resources for a classroom, hanging up displays or handing out information about an upcoming school event can make breaking the ice in a new environment that much easier.

#### Valuing education

Children watch what we do, just as much if not more than they listen to what we say. When they see us reading a book, or reading a book to them, they learn that books are important. If we take the time to volunteer at their school, even if it's Guest Reader for the day once or twice during the year, our children know we value education and their school. They know what we value by how we spend our time.

#### Value adding

Parents can add value to our school by volunteering. A lot of the great stuff that happens in a school is because of people who volunteer. Think of all the whole school activities that happen over a school year and how much we gain from holding these activities. Most of these memorable and fun events are possible because families volunteer. The things that our community talk about and remember are generally the events where there was an investment by our community to bring people together and are supported by volunteers.



Jackie Sampson – Defence School Mentor

Information from - <https://www.energizeinc.com/art/value-volunteering>

### Foil ball challenge

We were overwhelmed by the 3.575kg of foil collected by our students and had a *ball* constructing it into a "spherical-like" shape. Despite the enormous shiny haul, our attempt to win the ACT school competition was *foiled* by Margaret Hendry School who collected more foil per student. The winning year level for the Maribyrnong foil challenge is under *wraps* until Friday's whole school assembly.



### 10c container deposit scheme

Next week you will see new bins on the school grounds to collect the 10c refund recyclables used at school, to be taken to the 10c container deposit scheme. Funds raised by the container used at school will go towards items decided by the staff and students through the SRC. The first goal is to raise money for new equipment for the sand pit. Please do not bring containers into the school from home. Families can give credits to Maribyrnong School Account via the deposit sites in the ACT.



Nicole.

**Communities@Work**  
**BEFORE & AFTER**  
**SCHOOL CARE**  
**Ph: 0405 124 312**



Please notify Before and After Hours Care if your child is not attending their booking.



# Lights on Learning!

## Focusing on Kindergarten

Can you believe that we are now in term two? Kindergarten have already celebrated more than 50 days of school. We are very excited to be getting closer to our 100 day celebration!

The students have settled back into school after returning from holidays and have made a very enthusiastic start to their learning.

Hooray! Our Home Reading Program is now up and running and by now your child will have brought home their hand-picked readers to enjoy with you. Students are also using these decodable books in our literacy rotations, reading with the teacher to develop useful reading strategies and to increase their confidence. If you have any questions regarding reading with your child at home, please do not hesitate to speak with the Kindergarten teachers.

This term, kindergarten are focusing on recount writing. After sharing all their holiday adventures, students were able to use this information to draw and write about their holidays. They have been including information such as Where? Who? When? Why? and How?

We will continue to use their experiences as inspiration for our writing.



Kindergarten are enjoying spending lots of time with their year 5/6 buddies. Our buddies are wonderful role models who consistently demonstrate Maribyrnong Values. They are kind, supportive and provide a friendly face on the playground. They even helped us to participate in and relish our first ever Cross Country!

We always look forward to our regular Friday picnic lunches!



In maths, students have been learning our numbers to 10. This includes reading, writing, ordering and grouping these numbers.

We have been participating in many hands-on activities to help develop our Measurement and Geometry understandings. In the picture above, students are using the sand in the school sand pit to explore capacity.

Is your cup half full? Or Half empty?

### **Practical Tips:**

- Fruit Break is around 10.00 am each day. Students have a short break from their learning to enjoy a quality picture book and are encouraged to eat a fruit or vegetable snack.
- Library is on Tuesday, please bring a library bag.
- Please label all belongings clearly. Students are responsible for their own belongings on the playground and classroom.
- Please ensure you notify the school in writing if your child is absent. You can email their teacher directly or notify through the SkoolBag App or to the front office.
- Readers are changed Monday and Thursday mornings.

***Kacey, Jacinta, Alison and Tanya.***

# Lights on Learning!

## *Focusing on the LSUA*

Hello again everyone! The students and staff in the LSUA have had a wonderful start to term two.

The year 5 have been focusing on emotional, mental and physical preparation for NAPLAN. Our junior students have been working hard on developing regular work habits while showing respect for staff and their peers. All the students have once again produced some wonderful art works during their therapeutic art sessions with Mel Rees.

During our literacy sessions we have been focusing on persuasive writing. We have explored the reasons why persuasive writing/thinking is important and how it may affect us through advertising and politics.

In physical education the students have been working on their cardio fitness through a daily regime of stretching and jogging around the school. We are now timing out runs and every student has shown a marked improvement in their lap times.

In our numeracy sessions we have been focusing on decimals and fractions. We have been using our excellent hands-on maths resources to help the students understand that fractions and decimals are a part of a number.



During our therapeutic art sessions Mel has aided the students in the creation of totem poles designed to reflect the mood of the artist. What a wonderful result! For Mother's Day Mel guided the students in the creation of Monet inspired Water Lilies on a river. The texture and colours represented in these painting are a sight to behold!

**Chris, Sal, Mel and Jack.**

## STAFF EMAILS

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## FRONT OFFICE NEWS

### 2019 PAYMENTS

Book Packs for 2019 remain at \$50.00 per child from preschool to year six (the school matches your contribution dollar for dollar). Payments can be made by cash, Eftpos, internet banking (BSB 032 777 Account 001615) and via our website using Quickweb <http://www.maribyrnongps.act.edu.au/payment> Fee Code VCBP19

### BOOK PACK AND VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Number of Children at School	BOOK PACK	School Based Consumables	Library Trust Fund (Tax Deductible)	Total Contribution
1	\$50.00	\$67.00	\$83.00	\$200.00
2	\$100.00	\$83.00	\$117.00	\$300.00
3	\$150.00	\$100.00	\$150.00	\$400.00
4	\$200.00	\$117.00	\$183.00	\$500.00

Leanne, Ros and Emily.

## NOTES & EMAILS

- ☒ Year 4 Camp at Warrambui. Notes and payment required. Return by Friday 17 May 2019.
- ☒ P&C Walkathon information and Sponsorship forms.



Notes are emailed, available on paper from the office and where possible available on the Skoolbag App under eForms.

## SCHOOL ABSENCES

All absent days from school must be explained in writing to the school as soon as possible. This can be done in advance where known or when returning after an illness. It can be explained by a paper note, email to the teacher or through the convenient eForm on the Skoolbag App.





The **P&C meeting** is on tonight,  
Thursday 16 May in the School  
Library at 7.00 pm  
(we aim to finish around 8.30 pm).

*The Agenda this week includes:*

- The Principals' Report
- Treasurer & Music Scheme reports
- Fundraising – updates and future planning
- The P&C Constitution
- Canteen progress

**All welcome!**



If you can't attend meetings but would like to receive emails from the P&C, including meeting agendas and reports, please email your details to the Maribyrnong P&C email address below:

[maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com](mailto:maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com)



Have you made up your mind for the  
upcoming Election Day?



**Come to Maribyrnong Primary School  
and get your democracy sausage!**



## Election Day BBQ

**Maribyrnong Primary School**

**Saturday 18 May 2019**

**8am – 6pm**

Supported by



There is just a few spots left to help on the **Election Day BBQ**.  
Please sign up today!

<https://signup.com/go/uUpafeG>



The **Annual P&C Walkathon** is scheduled for Friday 24 May (and Tuesday 21 May for M-W preschool groups). This is a fantastic active fundraiser! Sponsorship forms and requests for volunteers on the day have been sent home. Money and forms can be returned to the office until Friday 31 May.  
Thank you!

## POSSUM CAFÉ

[maribyrnongprimarycanteen@gmail.com](mailto:maribyrnongprimarycanteen@gmail.com)



No prior experience is necessary to help in the Possum Pantry Canteen! Rouvaye and Andrew will be very happy to provide some friendly direction. You could expect to be doing some simple tasks such as:

1. Sticking stickers to bags
2. Writing numbers on bags
3. Popping popcorn
4. Making toasties
5. Salad prep
6. Washing dishes
7. Freezing milk
8. Bagging up Cheerios and popcorn
9. Pouring custard into cups
10. Scooping Ice cream



As a parent, carer or grandparent of a child or children at Maribyrnong Primary School, if you have a few hours spare of a Wednesday to Friday at any time during the term, then volunteering at the canteen is a quick and easy way to make a positive contribution to your school community. If you can volunteer, please write your name down on the day(s) you can help out on the noticeboard outside the canteen or talk to the team.

**Keep the canteen viable and volunteer this term!**

## Class Carer Program!

The role of the Class Carer is to connect parents/carers with their child's classroom. Each class will have a volunteer parent to act as the Class Carer who will send occasional emails to the class parents/carers with relevant information about things that are happening in their child's classroom.

## Have you signed up yet?

Email Hayley [Hayleyprimrose@gmail.com](mailto:Hayleyprimrose@gmail.com) or complete the eForm on the Skoolbag App.



The Preloved uniform shop is open every **FRIDAY** morning from 8.30 am until 9.15 am.

Hats can be purchased through the canteen  
Wednesday to Friday.



## WEDNESDAY IS SCHOOL BANKING DAY!!



Meet Megan on Wednesday mornings in the canteen from 8.30 am to 9.00 am.

To explore more about School Banking, visit  
[www.commbank.com.au/schoolbanking](http://www.commbank.com.au/schoolbanking)

## Need new Maribyrnong 'logo' school uniforms?

They can be purchased at...



2 Luke Street, Holt ACT 2615  
Open 8.30 am to 5.00 pm Monday-Friday  
and 9.00 am to 4.00 pm Saturday.  
<http://workingearschools.com.au/uniforms/>

## Thank you

to Mark and his team for the delicious Mother's Day Breakfast last Friday.



To contact the P&C, email [maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com](mailto:maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com) (please note this email is checked weekly).

Chris Watkins- President

Ros Riddle- Vice President

Zoe Mansfield- Secretary



**Possum Play @ Maribyrnong**  
 a 'stay and play' playgroup for our community  
**Every Friday**  
**9.30-10.30am**  
**for 3 year olds**  
**and their siblings**



**Curiosity Creativity Community Connections**

**Your journey starts here...**  
**Enrolling Now.**



visit: <https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/enrolling-in-a-public-school> for details.

### Purchase the 2019-2020 Entertainment Book through Maribyrnong!



Are you looking for amazing savings and would like to support our school?

<https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/27692k>



Welcome to the SRC Feedback spot! Our SRC meets every fortnight with Ms Wild to discuss important issues arising from our students. They also give feedback on school initiatives and to problem solve issues as a group.

In week two our hot topic was **The Playground.**

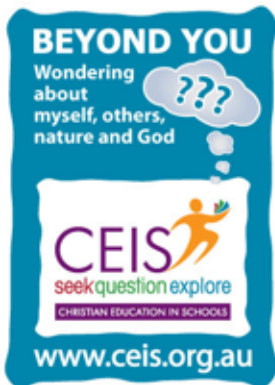
Students in the SRC were asked to give feedback and canvas classroom opinion on our new playground structure. We have recently opened more of the school environment for children to use during break times. There are extra educators on duty and more grassed areas to roam! Here's what some of the students said about our changes:

- ✓ *There is so much more space to play...*
- ✓ *I can run A LOT*
- ✓ *We love playing tips again. With more space we can make it a more exciting game and we don't worry about knocking other students over.*
- ✓ *There are less disagreements in soccer because we have more soccer field to play on.*
- ✓ *There is more flexibility for us to play. We are playing different games now.*
- ✓ *There are more shaded and quiet areas to sit.*

Our SRC will be asking their classmates to contribute to other ideas and issues and we look forward to sharing these with you soon.

*Ms Wild and the SRC*

(What a great band name!)



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

Term 2 – Beyond You  
Friday 14 June

Using an interactive game which takes a journey through the Bible, students this term will discover more about God (as Father, Son and Holy Spirit)

**Student attendance is with parent request only.**

Christian Education In Schools (CEIS) occurs because parents request it for their children, under ACT legislation. Sessions are coordinated by the CEIS project, using approved resources and volunteers. If you would like to add your child to the existing attendance list, please contact the school front office or go to [www.ceis.org.au/yes](http://www.ceis.org.au/yes)



## Could \$500 help you with school costs?

Join Saver Plus and we'll match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for school costs.

- laptops & tablets
- lessons & activities
- uniforms & shoes
- books & supplies
- sports fees & gear
- camps & excursions

To join Saver Plus, you must be at least 18 years or over, have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself, have regular income from paid employment (you or your partner), have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card and be in receipt of an eligible Commonwealth social security benefit, allowance or payment\*



**Contact**  
your local Saver Plus Coordinator  
**Phone or SMS**  
your name and postcode to 1300 610 355  
**Email**  
CanberraSP@thesmithfamily.com.au  
**Online**  
saverplus.org.au  
Find us on Facebook



\* many Centrelink payments are eligible, please contact your local Coordinator for more information.  
Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to [www.dss.gov.au](http://www.dss.gov.au) for more information.



**Congratulations to our  
ACT Swimming Representatives  
Siddharth, Darcy and Kendra.  
Well done!**



**Let's stick together with  
Earn & Learn**

**1 May to 25 June 2019**

The collection boxes are at the front office and the preschool.