

POSSUM PRESS



NEWS FROM JEN

Welcome to the 2018 school year. It has been an absolute pleasure to touch base with so many families over the past week. I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our families who have recently joined the Maribyrnong community and look forward to getting to know you and your children. I would also like to extend a very warm welcome to all of our educators and students; I have already enjoyed hearing of the many adventures our students and families have had over the past six weeks.

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the Welcome Barbecue on Wednesday night! I hope that you were able to connect with new families and new teachers to the school. I would like to extend my thanks to the staff for their efforts on the night, we always enjoy the opportunity to touch base with families. My thanks also to the P&C for once more supporting this event by providing the food and drinks, my thanks to Longpark Meat Co for supplying the sausages at a considerably reduced rate and also to Supa Express Kaleen for sponsoring the event by providing the bread for families to enjoy. I do hope you enjoyed the event and made some new friends.

Staffing Update

Over the break each family was sent a letter outlining the school staffing structure for the year; this information is also located on the school website under 'Principal's Message'. Further to this information I would like to welcome Krystle Burnett who is teaching on a Thursday for Mrs Riepon; this arrangement will continue for the first few weeks of term.

I also wanted to let you know that our amazing science teacher, Leslie Carr, will be taking leave from week 9 in term one, Leslie will then retire at the end of the year. We will organise a farewell later this term where we acknowledge the incredible career and contribution Leslie has made to our community.

Finally I would like to offer congratulations to Tegan Arnold and her husband Tim, they are expected their first baby in July 2018.

I am currently working with recruitment to ensure that we have the highest quality educators to take over from Leslie and Tegan and look forward to sharing this information with you throughout the year.

Keeping Up To Date

We understand how important and complex it can be for families to keep up to date with school events throughout the year. To assist you to stay informed, we have a number of key channels that you can access:

- the calendar on the school website which you can sync with your calendar on your mobile devices
- the Skoolbag App which has a calendar that you can also sync with your mobile devices. Some forms are also available through the eForm section of the App, including submitting an absent record or change of details form for the school to process. The App also allows the school to send reminders for events or key information relating to school operations. This App is available for free download
- the school newsletter which is published fortnightly provides a wealth of information about shorter term events and updates which are noteworthy for the fortnight ahead.

We look forward to continuing to support families to remain informed and involved in our students' lives.

THURSDAY 8 FEBRUARY: Term 1 Week 1



ACT
Government
Education

CONTACTS

Maribyrnong School

Ph: 6142 0570

www.maribyrnongps.act.edu.au

FACEBOOK: Maribyrnong
Primary School-Kaleen



Board Chair Lauren Newman
laurennewman_13@yahoo.com.au

P&C President Meg Holesgrove
maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com

Possum Pantry Canteen

Wednesday to Friday Ph: 6241 5974
<http://www.flexischools.com.au>

Communities@Work ph:0405 124 312
Breakfast Club and After School Care

Westpac School Bank Account
BSB 032 777 Account 001615

DATES TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY

- | | |
|-------|--|
| 9 | Assembly year K-2
@ 2.15 pm |
| 12 | Information Night 6.00-
8.00 pm year4-6, LSU, LSUA |
| 13 | Information Night
6.00-8.00 pm year K-3 |
| 16 | Assembly year 3-6
@2.15 pm |
| 21-23 | 5/6 camp at Borambola
Assembly -whole school
@2.15 pm |
| 27 | Swimming Carnival |

Allergies and Nut Aware

Maribyrnong is a Nut Aware School. This means that we ask that no nuts are brought to school, including in sandwich spreads, as a raw snack or within muesli bars etc. We know that families go to great lengths to check ingredients lists to avoid sending products with nuts to school, we greatly appreciate these efforts. We do have a number of children across the school with increased sensitivity to the smell of nuts and contact (rather than ingestion) with any nut based products. As such we ask that if your child has had a nut based spread or product before coming to school, that they wash their hands and face prior to leaving home. These actions significantly reduce the possibility of cross contamination. We do have a number of children with other allergies across the school also, class teachers will be in touch regarding any other foods to be aware of in your child's class. We take allergies very seriously, ensuring all staff are trained in the use of auto injectors. We ensure that all action plans and necessary medications move with the relevant child as they move through the school. For example the supplies are taken to science when the children have their science lessons, and are in the yellow jacket playground bag while children are playing. If you have a child with an allergy, please ensure all action plans are up to date, your contact details are accurate, and all medicines required are on site.



Parent/Carer Information Night

Our Parent/Carer Information Night will be held across two nights next week. This is a great time to come along and meet your child's teacher as well as learn about the way in which each teaching unit will work for the year. All sessions will be held in the classrooms and will last for 30 minutes. We look forward to seeing you all here on the night.

On Monday 12 February at the following times:

- year 4 6.00 pm to 6.30 pm
- year 5/6 6.30 pm to 7.00 pm
- LSU 7.00 pm to 7.30 pm
- LSUA 7.30 pm to 8.00 pm.



On Tuesday 13 February at the following times:

- kindergarten at 6.00 pm to 6.30 pm
- year 1 6.30 pm to 7.00 pm
- year 2 7.00 pm to 7.30 pm
- year 3 at 7.30 pm to 8.00 pm.

Before School Supervision

Before school supervision commences at 8.45 am when a school staff member commences playground duty; generally you can expect to see me or another executive on duty. We encourage students to have a calm and quiet start to the morning and therefore do not permit running games or ball games before school. When students arrive they should wait in the area where their class lines up each morning to ensure they are in the supervised playground areas. Students riding to school each day should lock their bikes up and move to their designated class area. If you need to leave your child at school earlier than this, we ask that you enrol them in the Communities@Work morning program where they are given breakfast and supervised until 8.45 am. Enrolment forms for the Communities@Work are available from the website <https://commsatwork.org/services/children/out-of-school-hours-care/>

Sign In/Out Book

Each year we revisit procedures to ensure we are following the appropriate guidelines. If a child arrives late, (more than 5 minutes after the bell) or needs to leave early during the school day, parents and carers are requested to go to the front office first. A member of staff will then assist you to sign the Student Sign In / Out Book which is located on the counter at the office. A member of staff will then collect your child from the classroom. If you are returning your child to school after an appointment, please accompany your child to the front office and sign them in via the Student Sign In / Out Book. This process ensures that the school is aware of any adults who are on the premises at any given time. Students who arrive late to school will no longer receive a late slip for their teacher. We have a new online reporting system which the front office staff will enter the late arrival into, which mitigates the need for a late slip. We thank you for your cooperation in these matters.

Student Attendance

As part of the ACT Education Act it is our responsibility to ensure students attend school on a regular basis. If your child is absent from school please ensure that you inform the school as soon as possible. There are a number of options available including completing the absence form on the school App, a phone call to the front office, an email to either your child's teacher or by sending a letter with your child when they return.

Student Injury - Insurance and Ambulance Transport

The ACT Education and Training Directorate does not provide any insurance cover for injury, disease or illness to students resulting from school activities or school-organised excursions. Claims for compensation are met where there is a legal liability to do so. Liability is not automatic and depends on the circumstances in which any injury, disease or illness was sustained. As there is no automatic insurance cover for personal injury if your child is injured at school or during a school organised activity/excursion, you should therefore consider whether taking out personal insurance cover for your child is warranted. This insurance might cover contingencies including medical/hospital expenses, ambulance transport outside the ACT, and cancellation of transport/accommodation or loss of/damage to luggage. The ACT Ambulance Service provides free ambulance transport for students who are injured or suddenly become ill at school or during an approved school organised activity within the ACT.

Working with Vulnerable People – Volunteers in Schools

We will continue to implement a volunteers and visitors sign in process at the front office. When you visit or volunteer at school, please make sure that you check carefully that you are signing into the correct folder. For those who hold a Working with Vulnerable People Card (WWVP), please make sure you have this card on you and that your number is recorded next to your signature. For volunteers and visitors without this card, you will need to sign into the non-registered folder. If you are a regular volunteer, that is volunteering more than 7 hours in a semester, you must have a WWVP card. If you exceed these hours you are in breach of the Working with Vulnerable People (Background Checking) Act 2011 which commenced on 8 November 2012. This also puts the school at risk of breaching the act and being fined. We certainly appreciate all of our volunteers and your support in this matter is appreciated to ensure we are keeping all of our students safe. If you have any questions around the registration process, you can call the Office of Regulatory Services on 6207 3000 or go online to <http://www.ors.act.gov.au> For more information: http://www.ors.act.gov.au/community/working_with_vulnerable_people_wwvp

Parking

A general reminder about parking and safety within our community. We understand that car parks are at a premium around 9.00 am and 3.00 pm daily. It is crucial that we continue to work together for the safety of our children. The bus zone is accessed each morning and afternoon by three buses, two of which are mini buses for special needs transport bus and the other which is a coach sized bus transporting children to Hall. It is crucial that the bus zone remains free of cars so that our children are able to safely access these buses. There is ample parking down Shannon Circuit and the gate from the playground to Shannon Circuit is open morning and afternoon for your convenience. There is also parking at Gwydir Square and towards the Scout Hall. While these options require a short walk and a little more time out of the day, they are crucial to keep our community safe. Student safety is a priority for us all and I appreciate your cooperation with keeping our kids safe.

A reminder also that the Children's Crossing is in effect now that school has returned. The crossing is a part-time crossings which operates just before and just after school hours, as well as other times such as school excursions and lunch times. They are highlighted by red flags with the words 'children crossing' on them. When the flags are displayed you must slow down and stop before the stop line if a pedestrian or cyclist (adult or child) is on or entering the crossing. You must not proceed until all pedestrians have left the crossing. You must not stop on or within 20 metres before or 10 metres after a children's crossing. Pedestrians are not to wave cars through, this opens up risks for all parties involved.

We have installed new bike racks at the southern end of the senior building (the building end facing Shannon Cct). Many of our students from year three to six and also kindergarten students may like to use these bike racks given the proximity to their classrooms.

We have been working closely with Transport Canberra and can now let you know that a new footpath is being installed along Alberga Street making it easier and safer for children accessing the school from Bruce. Further consultation will take place to consider extending the school zone along Alberga Street.

Assembly

There has been a change to our assembly schedule this year due to the growth in enrolments. We will now hold assembly each week. Generally speaking, there will be a three week rotation. The first week is junior assembly where our preschool to year two students will attend, the second week our year three to year six students will attend, and the third week of the rotation will be a whole school assembly. They will continue to run each Friday between 2.15 pm and 2.45 pm. Across the year, each unit will host an assembly and our year 6 students will host the whole school assemblies. To keep up to date with when each assembly is scheduled, ensure you check the school website or App.

Once more this year we will be updating our school Facebook page regularly with reminders about upcoming school events. To stay up to date remember to 'Like' our page Maribyrnong Primary School – Kaleen and remember to download the Maribyrnong Primary Skoolbag App.

Thank you for your ongoing support!
Jen.

DSTA NEWS FROM JACKIE

Hello Everyone!

My name is Jackie Sampson and I am the Defence School Transition Aide (DSTA) for Maribyrnong Primary School. I provide support to the defence families who are a part of our school community. Maribyrnong recognises that many defence families benefit from additional support due to service postings or a family member being deployed.



What can a DSTA do?

- Welcoming new families and students to our school
- Support defence students to create friendships
- Support defence students in class
- Create links to Defence Community Organisation (DCO) for additional support
- Provide information to defence families through newsletters and direct contact
- Support defence students at times of deployment / postings
- Farewell defence families when they leave our school and support them in their transition to a new school

I can be contacted via email or through the front office here at 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.

First Friday Coffee Club

Come along and join us on the first Friday of each month (excluding public and school holidays) for a cuppa and a chat starting at 9.15am at U & Co Café at Gwydir Square Kaleen (The shops near the school's front gates). **This Friday 9 February will be our first one for this year!** All welcome!

Possum Partners

Meet each Friday at 9.15 am (Unless it is First Friday Coffee Club) to assist the school with things like covering books, laminating, making class sets of materials for the students and assisting to put up displays. All welcome!

Jackie Sampson – DSTA.

KEEP CONNECTED

Keep connected to news with:

- Download the **Skoolbag-Maribyrnong Primary App** to keep up to date with news, alerts, complete absence or excursion notes.



- Like us on **FACEBOOK** for updates: Maribyrnong Primary School-Kaleen



- The Maribyrnong website <http://www.maribyrnongps.act.edu.au/home>



2018 SCHOOL BOARD NOMINATIONS

If you're keen to contribute to the governance of Maribyrnong Primary School, you should consider nominating for a position on the school board in 2018. No prior experience is necessary.

The following positions will be vacant from the 1/4/2018.

- 1 staff member position
- 2 parent and citizen member positions

Nominations will open at 11:00 am on Monday 5 February 2018.

Nomination forms will be available from that date at the front office (9.00 am to 3.00 pm, Monday to Friday), or you can request one be emailed to you.

Nominations must be submitted to the front office between **11.00 am, Monday 5 February 2018** and **11.00 am, Monday 19 February 2018**.

You can submit your nomination by:

- hand delivery to the front office
- email leanne.rankine@ed.act.edu.au
- mail to ARO, c/- Maribyrnong Primary School

For more information, contact the Assistant Returning Officer, Leanne Rankine on 6142 0570 or via email address above.

NOTES SENT OR EMAILED HOME

- P&C Class Carer nomination and sign up note
- 5/6 Borambola Camp Notes – to be completed asap.
- 5/6 Polo shirt notes DUE Thursday 22 February (Please note this is due while the students are at camp).
- LSU + LSUA Digital Portfolio Seesaw note



Lights on Learning!

Focusing on Preschool

What a start we have had to preschool! We have some very focussed, enthusiastic and friendly children ready for learning through play! It has been wonderful getting to know the children and learning about their interests over the past few weeks.

Big Books & Art

Big Books play an important role in our preschool program as there are so many benefits. Big Books introduce children to new vocabulary, they increase exposure to new and different situations, and help build relationships by spending time together. Big Books also provide an opportunity to improve children's attention spans while improving upon their imaginations. Big Books enrich oral language development through modelled reading, through risk-free participation by the children in subsequent circle time activities and discussions, and through the meaningful teaching of literacy skills within context — creating positive and powerful learning experiences.

Each week the children will participate in a shared reading experience with a big book. Enriched discussions about the book will subsequently follow, inviting children to use their prior experience and knowledge to participate in conversations. The children will follow up the discussions by engaging in art activities that relate directly to themes that have been discussed. This helps children to not only connect the story with discussions, but also provides an opportunity to continue developing fine motor skills, creativity and imagination.



A few reminders

- Please label all clothes, drink bottles and containers.
- Children need to bring a piece of fruit for sharing, their lunch and a snack in a separate container.
- Children can start borrowing from the school library from week four. Children must bring a bag in to borrow a book. No bag, no borrowing!
- Please remember our preschool start and finish times.



Music and Movement

Movement causes the brain to produce endorphins, chemicals that increase both the child's energy levels and their ability to learn. Movement also sends oxygen to the brain, which aids in the thought process. Music and movement activities that include cross lateral movement are especially important to brain development. Cross lateral movement includes any movement in which the arms or legs cross the midsection of the body. This can be achieved by dancing with scarves or swaying like a tree, both common in music and movement activities. Cross lateral movement enables both sides of the brain to work together, which is important in strengthening brain connections.

Throughout the early years, children are learning to do new things with their bodies. Young children are also learning that movement can communicate messages and represent actions. There are many skills that music and movement can also help develop including social skills, awareness of body positions, creativity and imagination, exploring cause and effect, developing large motor skills, improving balance, coordination and rhythm, and improving fine motor skills through finger plays and playing musical instruments.



WASTE FREE WEDNESDAYS

Maribyrnong Primary aims to make food bought to school for Wednesday B1 and B2 “waste free”. Food and drink can be sent in reusable or recyclable containers or wrapping. We particularly try to avoid using cling wrap as it cannot be recycled. Food scraps will be composted or put in the worm farm.

Thank you for your support for this initiative.



What's in your waste-free lunchbox?

Try these waste-free lunch tips:

- Choose a compartment lunch box or small reusable containers
- Wrap your sandwich in washable beeswax wrap, fabric or a paper bag
- Pack a reusable drink bottle, flask or ice pack
- Choose vegetable and fruit snacks 'wrapped' in natural skin e.g. baby cucumbers, snow peas, bananas and mandarins
- Bring a reusable fork or spoon from home
- Buy snack foods in bulk (e.g. yoghurt or crackers) to pack into small reusable containers
- Avoid plastic packaging e.g. cling wrap
- Steel or aluminium cans, juice boxes and yoghurt containers can be recycled

Virtually every piece of plastic ever made still exists in some shape or form!




actsmart schools
recycling energy water biodiversity consultants

www.actsmart.act.gov.au

FRONT OFFICE NEWS

2018 BOOK PACK AND VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION PAYMENTS

Number of Children at School	BOOK PACK	School Based Consumables	Library Trust Fund (Tax Deductible)	Total Contribution (Fee Code VCBP18)
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

Book Packs for 2018 are \$50.00 per child from preschool to year 6 (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>

UNIFORM SHOP

WORKIN' GEAR SCHOOLS

OPEN 6 DAYS A WEEK

www.WorkinGear.com.au Phone 02 6255 1029

Schools

Local and regional school uniforms, kids hats, jackets and more!

Workwear

Boots & Jackets
Safety Gear
and more!

PLUS
Balloons!



2 LUKE ST HOLT

P&C NEWS

PRELOVED THE JOY OF SECOND HAND

The Preloved uniform shop is open every Wednesday morning from 8.30 am until 9.15 am. We are in need of more 2nd hand uniforms to sell and are accepting all preloved, washed, re-sellable uniforms.

Hats can be purchased through the canteen Wednesday to Friday.



New and existing school bankers are very welcome in 2018!
School Banking is in the Canteen every Wednesday from 8.45 am to 9.00 am.



Come join us at the first P&C meeting for 2018 on Thursday 1 March at 7.00 pm.

5/6 POLO SHIRT ORDERS ARE DUE ON THURSDAY 22 FEBRUARY.



STAFF EMAILS

School Executive

jennifer.howard@ed.act.edu.au
jantiena.batt@ed.act.edu.au
anna.thorpe@ed.act.edu.au

School Psychologist

judy.marriott@ed.act.edu.au

Front Office

leanne.rankine@ed.act.edu.au
roslyn.riddle@ed.act.edu.au

DSTA

jacqueline.sampson@ed.act.edu.au

5/6

emma.wild@ed.act.edu.au
mia.grant@ed.act.edu.au
emily.vangalen@ed.act.edu.au
jasmine.paunovic@ed.act.edu.au
jane.carr@ed.act.edu.au
justine.minchin@ed.act.edu.au

Year 4

henry.warre@ed.act.edu.au
michelle.ashworth@ed.act.edu.au
amy.craven@ed.act.edu.au
elissa.penfold@ed.act.edu.au

Year 3

kylie.apps@ed.act.edu.au
fiona.mcewan@ed.act.edu.au
megan.durham@ed.act.edu.au
rebec.kirpson-colley@ed.act.edu.au
natalie.walker@ed.act.edu.au

Year 2

symone.chipreo@ed.act.edu.au
tanya.maybury@ed.act.edu.au
lisa.riepon@ed.act.edu.au
alison.nilon@ed.act.edu.au
sophie.dash@ed.act.edu.au
leeanne.walls@ed.act.edu.au

Year 1

jane.baillie@ed.act.edu.au
emma.jelbart@ed.act.edu.au
sarah.baird@ed.act.edu.au
peter.knights@ed.act.edu.au
alexandra.avis@ed.act.edu.au

Kindergarten

camille.wise@ed.act.edu.au
tegan.arnold@ed.act.edu.au
karina.harris@ed.act.edu.au
kacey.tait@ed.act.edu.au

LSU

stacey.howard@ed.act.edu.au
jacque.mengel@ed.act.edu.au
nicholas.neeson@ed.act.edu.au

LSUA

christopher.moon@ed.act.edu.au
sally.longworth@ed.act.edu.au

Preschool

merrin.walsh@ed.act.edu.au
taryn.cameron@ed.act.edu.au
stacey.hodgson@ed.act.edu.au
niomi.ceely@ed.act.edu.au
kelly.perrett@ed.act.edu.au
nicola.toms@ed.act.edu.au
merrilyn.pepper@ed.act.edu.au

Specialist Teachers

sarah.dorrough@ed.act.edu.au
elissa.penfold@ed.act.edu.au
keilly.pownall@ed.act.edu.au
lynette.lisacek@ed.act.edu.au
leslie.carr@ed.act.edu.au
rowena.king@ed.act.edu.au

COMMUNITY NEWS

**Stressed about back to school costs?
Make next year different.**



Saver Plus will match your savings for school costs, dollar for dollar, up to \$500.

To join Saver Plus, you must have a Centlink Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, be at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner), and have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself.

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

Contact
Kathleen Watson
your local Saver Plus
Coordinator

Phone
0448 730 305
02 6283 7606

Email
kathleen.watson@
thesmithfamily.com.au

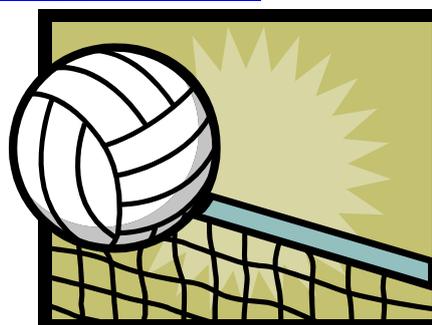
Web
www.saverplus.org.au



Volleyball lunch time program at Maribyrnong.

Places are available for students in years 4-6 who would like to join the Maribyrnong Volleyball Team and be coached by Olympian Rachel Uren.

If you are interested please email Rachel directly on racheluren@grapevine.com.au



LOCAL NEWS



Play Rugby - Southwell Park, Lyneham
U7s to U18s - Boys / Girls
Registrations online

Join us and come and try at
Southwell Park, Lyneham
10 Feb 9.30 – 11.30 am.

Purchase uniforms, meet the committee, get
assistance with registration & give some drills a go,
finishing up with a free Sausage sizzle.

For more information and to register
www.owlsrugbyjuniors.com.au
or



Uni-Norths Juniors Rugby Union Club

Any queries please email
info@owlsrugbyjuniors.com.au



Come play AFL with the Belconnen Cats in 2018
Registration now open

Develop skills, coordination, teamwork, and have fun with your mates.
For age groups 5 to 16 yrs

Information and contact details at
www.belconnencatsafl.com.au



www.nationaltaekwondo.com.au
All Enquiries
Phone 0414 898 888

Our Children's program will help your child to
develop:

Coordination	Fitness
Concentration	Balance
Confidence	Self-Control

Maribyrnong Primary TUESDAYS and THURSDAYS.



14 Purdue Street Belconnen

JUNIOR AND CADETS JUDO

AGES - 5 years to 10 years - ALL LEVELS
Monday to Friday = 4pm - 5pm

SENIOR BOYS AND GIRLS

AGES - 10 years to 16 years - ALL LEVELS
Monday to Thursday = 5pm - 6pm

TERM PRICE 1 CLASS/WEEK UNLIMITED

1st Child	= \$140	= \$200
2nd Child	= \$120	= \$380

TERM 1

Term 1 begins on Monday 5th February.
First class is free for new starters. Classes
are taught by State and National representatives.

Call Chloe Hill on 0422 201 378 to arrange your child's free trial session.

