

POSSUM PRESS



NEWS FROM JEN

We have had the most amazing start to term one. In the last five weeks teachers have been busy creating safe and supportive learning environments with their students. Classes have been focussing on getting to know their peers and building positive relationships to learn and support one another. We have also welcomed a new P&C President, Ralph Schwarz, and we will welcome a new school board representative in the coming weeks.

Our new bike racks installed near the year 4/5/6 building are proving effective and our senior students thoroughly enjoyed their camp experience last week. I would like to extend a huge thank you to our senior educators for their coordination and support of this experience. Our students thrived with many trying something new for the first time, including archery, kayaking, BMX riding and rock climbing. We look forward to sharing many more learning successes with you in the coming weeks.



Strategic Priorities

This year we will launch our new five year strategic plan. After our school review in 2017, and deep reflection on student progress, the following will be our focus between 2018 and 2022:

1. To improve differentiated practices to meet the needs of high potential learners. This priority focuses on program and practice in order to ensure that high potential learners make substantial progress in their learning.
2. To align student performance in writing and numeracy to 'like schools', trending upwards. This priority focuses on increasing the percentage of students making expected or above expected progress in their learning, with a particular focus on writing and numeracy.
3. Students articulate and demonstrate the general capabilities through their inquiry learning. This priority focuses on building student capacity to understand and articulate where they are performing on the general capabilities continuum. The focus will also be to support students to use the general capabilities to reflect on progress and set goals for future learning.

Our School Board have been instrumental with ensuring our priorities reflect the needs of our students; I extend my thanks for their support. In the coming days we will be developing our annual action plan for 2018 which will break these priorities down further into achievable actions for the year. I look forward to sharing this with you.

A reminder to park safely and legally around schools

Every day across Canberra, parents are parking illegally in school zones and putting all kids in the area at risk. With school parking patrols increasing in 2018, if you keep doing it, you will get caught and you will be fined.

Please click on this link to watch – [Parking safely around schools](#)

THURSDAY 8 MARCH: Term 1 Week 5



ACT
Government
Education

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Primary School-Kaleen



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P&C President Ralph Schwarz
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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

MARCH

- 9 **Assembly year 3-6 @ 2.00 pm**
- 12 Canberra Day Long Weekend
- 13-19 AQUASAFE year 2
- 15-23 Scholastic Book Fair
- 16 **Assembly -whole school @2.00 pm**
- 19 P&C Self Defence Class 6.00 pm
- 23 CEIS – opt in program
- Assembly year K-2 @ 2.00 pm**
- 29 **Assembly Easter Celebration @ 2.00 pm**
- 30 Good Friday Public Holiday

APRIL

- 2 Easter Monday Public Holiday
- 5 Board 6.00 pm/ P&C 7.00 pm

P&C Positions

Congratulations to our newly elected P&C! We appreciate your commitment to supporting Maribyrnong.

The following committee roles were filled at the AGM:

- President – Ralph Schwarz
- Vice President – Clare Whittingham
- Treasurer – Katie Cirjak
- Assistant Treasurer – Ilona Kuss
- Secretary – Mark Gilbert
- Assistant Secretary – Meg Holesgrove
- Public Officer – Kate Boyd
- Fundraising Coordination – VACANT

The following non-committee roles were also filled:

- Music Scheme Coordinator – Kristy Gould
- Canteen Coordinator – VACANT
- Book Club Coordinator – Ana Stokic
- Pre loved Uniforms – Liz Moyle
- School Banking – Ilona Kuss
- Twilight Fair Coordinator – VACANT
- P&C Council Representative – Kate Boyd

If you are yet to be involved, there are always many opportunities to participate whether it is through attending a meeting, helping out with a fundraising activity, or giving an hour of power.

There are a number of roles which remain vacant, the most immediate being the fundraising coordinator and the canteen coordinator. A letter was emailed to all families asking for nominations for these roles. Please touch base with the P&C if you are able to assist. maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com

Easter Raffle

Our annual Easter Raffle is less than four weeks away! Our fabulous P&C are looking for donations of small gifts such as a colouring books, carrot seeds, soft toys, Easter eggs, chocolate rabbits, a board game, textas or coloured pencils etc. A connection with the Easter theme would be great but not essential. Donations of baskets (large and small) or cellophane, for making up the prizes would also be appreciated. Any donations can be dropped in at the front office. If you are available to assist with wrapping the prizes, there will be a working bee on Friday 23 March in the Lilli Pilli room at 9.15 am.



Coin Drive

Thank you to all our families who participated in the coin drive this year! An amazing \$1050.85 was raised. This money goes towards set up costs for the Twilight Fair in November. A big thank you to our SRC for coordinating this event.

Clean Up Australia Day

A big thank you to all families who supported Clean Up Australia Day! The children enjoyed getting involved in cleaning up the community, recycling items and reducing waste. I am incredibly proud to say that there was very little rubbish to collect which reflects the community commitment to sustainable practices! My thank you to Leslie Carr and Peter Knights for their coordination of this event.

Congratulations to Mr Moon!

I would like to congratulate Chris and his wife Tessa on the arrival of their little baby Leo. Leo was born on 5 March at 12.51am weighing 6pd 7 ounces and 42cm in length. The family are at home and are all doing well.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Jen.



A key focus of the KidsMatter framework is the implementation of an evidenced based social and emotional learning program. Over the last 18 months our educators from preschool to year six have been explicitly teaching from the Bounce Back program.

Why is social and emotional learning (SEL) part of KidsMatter?

Social and emotional learning is about learning how to manage feelings, manage friendships and solve problems. These are essential life skills that support wellbeing and positive mental health. Social and emotional skills promote children's ability to cope with difficulties and help to prevent mental health problems. Children who have developed social and emotional skills find it easier to manage themselves, relate to others, resolve conflict, and feel positive about themselves and the world around them.

KidsMatter emphasises teaching social and emotional learning as a way of promoting children's mental health. Social and emotional learning provides practical skills that all children can learn and apply to everyday situations. Learning skills such as self-awareness, effective communication and conflict resolution can also help to prevent the development of mental health difficulties in children who might otherwise be vulnerable. In this way teaching children social and emotional skills helps to promote resilience – the capacity to cope and stay healthy in spite of the negative things that can happen through life.

What does social and emotional learning have to do with learning?

Research has shown that children's learning is influenced by a range of social and emotional factors. How well children do at school is affected by things such as:

- how confident children feel about their abilities
- how effectively they are able to manage their own behaviour
- how well they can concentrate and organise themselves
- how effectively they can solve problems
- how positively they are able to get on with teaching staff and with peers
- how effectively they take into account others' needs
- how well they can understand and accept responsibilities.

If you are looking for more information on the many facets of social and emotional learning, visit

<https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/mental-health-matters/social-and-emotional-learning> and find the image below. Each petal contains information on the different elements.



What would you like to know about KidsMatter? Send your questions to Jantiena.batt@ed.act.edu.au and it will be answered in the next KidsMatter Update.

Myth # 2 Children should sound out all unknown words when reading.

Teachers encourage children to use a variety of strategies to 'decode' words in their reading. 'Sounding out' actually has very limited value because many of the words in the English language cannot be worked out this way. Have a look at the words love, the or school; sounding out the individual letters in these words does not help at all. Sounding out is an effective strategy for beginning readers for many words but not all. As adults we know that we cannot sound out words when trying to read unknown words for the first time (think of macabre or pneumonia)...this strategy simply doesn't work for all the words in the English language.

Looking at the first letter of a word and using this to get your mouth ready to say that word is a strategy we use with early readers. This allows them to use their letter knowledge while maintaining the meaning of the text when reading.

Sounding out is a strategy we can use for some words but when it is the major strategy a reader uses it is ineffective. This is because it can take so much time that the reader has forgotten the meaning of what came before the unknown word. Comprehension (meaning) as well as fluency (the flow of the reading) is affected.

Tips for Supporting your Child's Reading

- Make reading fun, read outside on a picnic rug or under the dining room table for a change.
- Read every day by reading signs when you are out and about, reading the shopping list, reading food labels, or reading street signs on the way to school. This highlights why it is important for everyone to read.
- Go to a public library and borrow books together. You can also borrow CDs of authors reading their books (we have some in our school library). These are great to listen to at home and while driving home from the shops. The best part of this experience is reading along with the book.



So.....this myth is BUSTED! Children should NOT rely on sounding out as the only strategy when reading unknown words.

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

DSTA NEWS FROM JACKIE

Many of our students here at Maribyrnong are involved in sporting activities in the afternoon and on the weekend. Sporting clubs and associations are a great way to get connected to your community.

As we move into the winter season for sport here in Canberra you will begin to notice all the signs popping up along the roads advertising registration days as well as opportunities to come along and try new sports. Many clubs are also running trials for teams over the next few weeks, so now is the perfect time to take a look at the sports available to you in our local area.

So why get involved in sport? Here are just a few reasons why.

- Sports boost self-esteem.
- Playing sports helps develop teamwork and leadership skills.
- It's a natural stress reliever.
- Kids develop lifelong healthy lifestyle habits.
- It's fun!

If you are a family who has been through the process of moving a number of times, finding a way of continuing with sport, be it as part of a team or individually can be quite difficult. This is particularly tricky if your child has been participating at a high level.

The School Sport ACT (SSACT) website contains loads of useful information regarding sport in the ACT. SSACT actively promotes school sport for all ACT students through the support of regional, state and national representative opportunities and pathways. You can find them at <https://www.schoolsportact.asn.au/>

Jackie Sampson – Defence School Transition Aide.

MISSING ITEMS

Missing from the Year 2 unit

Two important pieces of learning equipment have gone missing from the year 2 unit. If you have seen either the watch (in red rather than blue) or the hearing ear piece pictured, please let a member of the year 2 team, or Executive, know.



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>



NOTES SENT OR EMAILED HOME

- P&C Class Carer nomination and sign up note
- 5/6 Lunch time bike program note
- P&C Self Defence class on Monday 19 March at 6.00 pm
- Christian Education in Schools (CEIS) opt in for k to 6.

It's about you. Always!
Communities@Work



Ph: 0405 124 312

Please notify After Hours care if your child is not attending their booking.

Lights on Learning!

Focusing on year 1

The year one children have returned to school settled and ready to learn. This year, we are starting our mornings by meeting in the pit for roll call, messages and a song. The pit has been decorated as the 'Jingle Jangle Jungle'. This setting comes from the series of books by Nick Bland about the very cranky bear. The children have been engaging in art activities about these books and produced some amazing artworks to decorate the jungle. We have completed some jungle leaves and some portraits of Boris the Buffalo. We are looking forward to adding more characters to our learning space!

Each morning, we participate in a variety of literacy experiences. This includes going to our literacy groups for spelling and reading lessons then returning to our home group to learn about writing.

We have been learning about writing to recount personal experiences and including the correct punctuation in our written work. We are beginning to learn about writing to instruct. This will include lists, recipes and simple instructions. Next week, we will begin sending home a class book. When the book comes to your house, we ask you to share a favourite family recipe. We are hoping to create a class recipe book.

This also links in with this term's unit of inquiry. We are learning all about how to make healthy choices and how we can promote a healthy, safe lifestyle.



Over the last few weeks, we have been practising STEM. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. One of our activities was to create a bridge using a limited variety of materials. Once we created our bridge, it needed to support a cup half filled with marbles.



During social and emotional learning we have been discussing our school values. For our school value of responsibility, we created our very own pet rocks to care for and look after. We discussed each of our pet rocks and what they need us to do to help care for them.

We have also looked at the value of excellence and always trying to achieve our best. We created rosettes which have been displayed in the classroom.



Reminders

*Please make sure your children bring a clearly labelled hat to school. Students are responsible for their own belongings on the playground and classroom.

*If you are late to school please take your child to the front office to be signed in before coming to the classroom.

*We welcome volunteers in the classroom. Please let us know if you would like to help in our classrooms.

Thank you for your support.
Alex, Jane, Emma, Sarah and Peter.

Lights on Learning!

Focusing on the Narnia Unit (year 4)

It has been a terrific start to the year for the Narnia Crew. Students have participated in Cricket Clinics, the Swimming Carnival and a Qwestacon workshop.



We have started differentiated groups for maths, reading and spelling. These groups are designed to target students learning needs.

In Literacy, students have been focusing on how to write a persuasive text. We have been studying the structure and language features of a range of text media. If your children are using persuasive devices at home, such as rhetorical questions or emotive language – then they are practising the skills we have been developing.

In number, students have been learning about the properties of odd and even numbers, including solving problems across the four operations. In shape, space and measurement, students have been investigating length and converting between units of



Our inquiry unit this term is focused on Health and Wellbeing. We have been exploring the different healthy food groups, their source and function in the body. Students will be investigating healthy food choices to construct a well-balanced meal. We will be continuing our fitness activities targeting strength, balance and endurance.

Michelle, Peter, Henry, Elissa and Amy.

Important Days

4AC (Miss Craven)

- Monday- Library
- Wednesday- French, Science

4WP (Mr Warre & Mrs Penfold)

- Monday- Science, Library odd weeks
- Wednesday- French

4AK (Ms Ashworth & Mr Knights)

- Monday- Science, Library even weeks
- Thursday- French

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 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>

POSSUM CANTEN NEWS



Week 6 Term 1	Wednesday 14 March	Thursday 15 March	Friday 16 March
9.00 am - 1.30 pm			
9.00 am - 12 pm			
11.00 am - 1.30 pm			Emma
Week 7 Term 1	Wednesday 21 March	Thursday 22 March	Friday 23 March
9.00 am - 1.30 pm			
9.00 am - 12 pm			Jane
11.00 am - 1.30 pm			

If you are available to help in the canteen, or if you would like to be included on future canteen rosters please see Rouvaye or Andrew 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.

LIBRARY NEWS

Meet Geronimo Stilton!



This year Ashton Scholastic is trialling a new program called 'Star Reader'. We are one of their pilot schools. Each term two of our students will be awarded the 'Star Reader' Award, one senior student and one junior student. The awards will be presented during whole school assemblies once a term. The first awards will be presented at the whole school assembly next Friday. To help launch the awards, we will be holding a Bookfair in the library from Thursday 15 March to Friday 23 March. The Bookfair will be open from 8.30 am -8.55 am and 3.00 pm-3.30 pm. Come along and purchase some great books. From every purchase a percentage goes back into books for the library, so as well as purchasing some great books for home, you will be supporting the school library. As a very special event, at our Bookfair from Monday 19 to Wednesday 21 March in the library BEFORE school, Geronimo Stilton will be signing autographs and having photos taken.

WORKIN' GEAR SCHOOLS

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Schools

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

Workwear

Boots & Jackets
Safety Gear
and more!

PLUS
Balloons!



2 LUKE ST HOLT



SAVE THE DATE!

swap not shop
clothes swap night

Maribyrnong
Primary School Hall

Monday May 21

Stay tuned
for
more details!

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COMMUNITY NEWS



Canberra City Gymnastics Club

10% off the first full term of fees
when you mention having a child at
Maribyrnong Primary School

- New enrolments only
- Valid for siblings and students of Maribyrnong
- Registration and insurance fees will not be discounted

Two great, convenient locations:
-196 Mouat Street, Lyneham
-85 Chandler Street, Belconnen
To enrol or for more information,
please call 6251 1131 or email
office@canberracity.org.au

Come along to the



at St Simon's Anglican Church

Georgina Cres Kaleen

(behind the shops)

Saturday 17 March

10am – 2pm

With BBQ and a cake stall.

To book a \$20 car spot or table by Fri 9th March
go to www.stsimons.org.au

MARIBYRNONG PRIMARY EASTER CELEBRATION

To celebrate Easter, the P&C will be holding a 'lucky door prize' in the whole school assembly on 29 March 2018.

Each Maribyrnong family will receive an entry into the draw. Names will be drawn randomly to win one of several Easter prizes.

Rather than sell raffle tickets, please help by donating a small gift such as a book, colouring book, Easter egg, chocolate rabbit, carrot seeds, soft toy etc.

We would also appreciate donations of baskets, large and small, suitable for making up the prizes.

Please bring donated goods to the front office during school hours until Tuesday 27 March.

If you would like to meet some P&C members and help out with wrapping the prizes, please email maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com



School Banking is in the Canteen every Wednesday from 8.45 am to 9.00 am.



To explore more about School Banking visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking

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.