Celebrating Public Education Week

Public Education Week provides us with an opportunity to reflect on and celebrate the achievements of ACT public schools, educators, staff, students and community members. We all recognise it is a privilege to work in a school where every person is valued for who they are and their contributions to our school’s learning community. Last year each school was asked to nominate a hero of their school to be included in a publication as a tribute to our public education system in Canberra’s centenary year. At Maribyrnong we nominated Ken, our BSO, and Anna skilfully crafted a poem to accompany his nomination. The publication, 100 Stories: Celebrating Public Education in Canberra will not be officially launched until June, but we can all access an electronic version on the directorate’s website at www.det.gov.au/100-stories. Have a look – it is a great read!

Assessment and Reporting

Our teachers are currently busy preparing to write reports for Semester 1. This is a thorough process which involves ongoing assessment of learning, moderation discussions and the writing of reports. Assessment has changed from the experience many of us had in our school years. At Maribyrnong we have a detailed Assessment Schedule and have selected assessment tools that assess the transfer of learning, not just the mastery of skills. The purpose of any assessment is to know what the learner knows, is demonstrating at that point in time and what they need to know next to take them to higher levels of progression and learning. Our assessment tools utilise individual assessment tasks, 1:1 interviews or tasks and group learning experiences. We use conversations, observations and products to ensure we have a clear picture of our students’ achievements. While this assessment is captured in a semester one report this term, our educators are constantly considering the next steps in the teaching and learning cycle.

National Simultaneous Storytime

Our students from kindergarten to year six participated in this nationwide event on Wednesday 21 May. All across Australia, children were read Too Many Elephants in this House by Ursula Dubosarsky and Andrew Joyner. The event aims to promote the value of reading and to celebrate Australian authors and illustrators. Ms Pownall reminded us all about the joy we experience when a favourite story is read to us. Perhaps you could choose a favourite childhood book and read it to your children tonight. For our beginning readers we know that readers are born in the laps of their parents and for our older readers it is an opportunity to hear about why some stories take a special place in our heart and memories.

Gifted and Talented Fact Sheets

The ACT Gifted and Talented Students Policy 2014 aims to ensure gifted and talented students are supported and have education programs tailored to meet their needs. At Maribyrnong this policy is enacted in a variety of ways, ranging from targeted interventions that group similar needs to our inquiry programs that differentiate learning experiences using core, structured and extended questions. Earlier this month, Minister for Education and Training, Ms Joy Burch MLA, released a set of Fact Sheets to assist parents and carers of gifted and talented students. These cover a range of topics including Frequently Asked Questions, Giftedness and Talent, Social-Emotional Needs and Programs and Provisions. These Fact Sheets are available on the ACT Education and Training Website at http://www.det.act.gov.au.
Enrolments
Thank you to those families who have completed the online enrolment process for preschool in 2015. We have very healthy numbers but it is important for all families to complete the enrolment process before Friday 30 May. After this date the school processes the applications and makes offers of placement. Once the groups are full we may not be able to accommodate enrolments but will support families in accessing other preschool programs. It is also important that students transferring into our school complete this process so that we have an accurate picture of student numbers across the school for next year. Do you have a child who is not at our preschool, perhaps in childcare, who will be attending kindergarten at Maribyrnong next year? Don’t forget to go online and complete an enrolment form for them!

Chief Minister’s Reading Challenge
Keep up the great reading for the Chief Minister’s Reading Challenge. It is wonderful to see so many students delving deeper into many great books. Lots of new books have been added to the list. Check out the website for more information. http://www.det.act.gov.au/teaching_and_learning/chief_ministers_reading_cha llenge/book_lists_and_forms

31 May – Hats Away
As we are a Sunsmart school, we follow the Cancer Council’s recommendations for sun exposure. In Canberra, we have already started to witness daily UV levels take a nose dive to, what is considered, “low” levels (under 3). Cancer Council ACT does not recommend sun protection behaviour when UV levels are under 3 due to the low risk of potential UV skin damage. In Canberra UV levels drop and remain under 3, all day, around the June and July period and so the End of May is Hats Off Day!

Helmets, Bikes and Scooters
It is wonderful to see many of our students riding their bikes or scooters to school each day however it is important that they wear an appropriately fitted helmet. The ACT Helmet Law came into effect in 1992 and applies to riders of all ages. The law requires all riders and their passengers to wear a helmet when travelling on a public street or in a public place. Wearing a helmet a legal requirement as it will protect riders in the event of a mishap. Helmets must be fastened correctly and be the right size for the rider. Please have a chat to your children about this important safety measure. We wouldn’t drive a car without a seatbelt on; neither should we ride a bike or a scooter without a helmet.

Parking
We would also like to remind all parents and carers who pick up students in the main car park to please travel through the car park slowly and be very mindful of other people in the car park. Please do not park on nature strips or anywhere that could obscure the vision of other drivers, or limit a driver’s ability to see children in the car park. There are many places to park including the Gwydir Square shops, the overflow car park at the shops, along Shannon Crescent and at the Scout Hall car park.

Walkathon
What an amazing day for our Walkathon! Huge thanks to all the helpers on the day and those who spent many hours contributing to the organisation of the event. We have a fabulous community spirit at Maribyrnong Primary School. This P&C event raised more than $4000! Have a wonderful weekend! Jantiena

READING MYTHBUSTER

Myth # 6   Children should be told words they cannot read as soon as they make an error.
The purpose of reading is to make meaning from the text. Effective readers actively monitor their understanding as they read, correcting themselves if what they read does not make sense, sound right or look like the word in the text. Parents and teachers can support children in becoming effective readers by using the three Ps (Pause, Prompt and Praise):

Pause
If a mistake occurs, pause and wait to give your child a chance to solve the problem. Allow a few moments for thinking time before expecting an answer.

Prompt
Give a hint to encourage a response:
• if your child stops at an unknown word and cannot continue, ask them to read on to the end of the sentence or reread from the beginning of the sentence and to try again
• if your child makes a substitution that does not make sense, prompt with clues about the meaning of the content or story, e.g. ask a question “does that makes sense?”
• if your child makes a substitution that does not look right, prompt with clues about the way the word looks, e.g. ask about one part of the word that looks wrong
• if your child makes a substitution that does not sound grammatically correct, prompt by drawing attention to the way it sounds
• if the word is not correct after two prompts say, “the word is.”

Praise
At all times it is important that your child is praised and encouraged for their efforts. Use a variety of encouraging words and phrases to support students with their attempts. Your praise will greatly assist your child’s literacy development:
• praise when your child reads a sentence correctly: ‘I like the way you......”
• praise when your child corrects himself or herself after a mistake: “I liked the way you worked that out”
• praise when your child gets a word correct after your prompt: “you worked that out well”.

So.....this myth is BUSTED! Allowing your child time to problem solve supports their reading development.

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
A collection of reptiles came to visit our School last week. Peter, who looks after them, taught us all about the reptiles. We learnt that snakes have venom and many types of lizards such as bearded dragons live in Canberra. We heard the cry of a baby crocodile and saw a large and a small turtle. We touched each animal, some were soft, some were hard and others were spikey. We look forward to learning more about reptiles!

As the colder weather is fast approaching we ask that you pack additional long pants, jumpers and even socks in your child’s school bag. Some of our learning and investigations call for us to get ‘messy’ resulting in our clothes being wet and/or dirty. It is useful if children have some spare clothes that they could change into if required.

Please contact the Preschool on 6205 5922 if you are going to be late to pick up your child. If you are not on time, it can be distressing for a child, with some children feeling upset because they cannot see their parents and with the educators unable to explain why. Children are always happy at the end of the day to see their loved ones waiting for them to hear about their day!

Elsa, Sally, Kelly, Ni and Gaby.

Last Friday we were so proud of the Emerald City and how they performed at the assembly. Thank you to all the parents and carers who came to support our unit, it was lovely to see you all there.

In our inquiry unit, children have been learning about the water cycle. They made a model and presented what they knew about the water cycle. We were amazed by how passionately they spoke about the cycle. Ask your child to tell you about the parts of the water cycle and how they work together.

We are looking forward to our excursion to the Cotter Dam next week. Please ensure all notes have been returned by Monday 2 June at the latest. Warm clothes are a must for this excursion as it is outside and getting colder as winter quickly approaches.

Don’t forget it is school photo day Monday 2 June. Please ensure your child has returned their order form if they would like photos. If you would like sibling photos the order form is available from the front office.

We are looking forward to the rest of the term, Naomi, Amanda, Lucy and Leeanne.

RUBIES & SAPPHIRES (PRESCHOOL)

OPALS (K)

We have had an exciting and productive fortnight in kindergarten. We have enjoyed learning about Australia and its interesting and unique animals. We know about monotremes and what they need to survive and thrive in Australia. We have been learning all about non-fiction text and the features of an information text. We are also learning about how to draw and label a diagram and we are beginning to write information reports on some of the animals we are learning about.

In maths, we have been focusing on connecting numerals and number names and counting collections. We have also been measuring the volume of containers using unifix cubes and we have been investigating two dimensional shapes and their attributes.

This week we are beginning to prepare our assembly item which we will present in week ten. We are hoping to present a singing and dancing routine to impress you all.

For the next fortnight we will continue to have student teachers completing their Professional Experience in our unit. Sian and Jessica will be assisting with small group lessons and planning and implementing whole group tasks. It is wonderful to have them with us.

Thankyou for your ongoing support,
Symone, Keilly, Sarah, Jessica and Sian.

EMERALD CITY (1/2)

DIAMONDS (3/4)

A big reminder that next week is the year 3/4 camp!! We are all getting super excited 😊

Please see your child’s teacher if you need a new ‘Recommended Packing List’.

All students have been busy completing mid year assessment - Miss Apps and Miss Wise are very impressed with how students have managed the changes to our normal routine.

We have a few jumpers in the unit that are missing their owners. Please make sure that all belongings are clearly labelled (especially jumpers and jackets), so it is easier to return them to students.

This term we have started learning about ‘Writing to Socialise’. Students have started writing lots of different types of letters and cards. Both classes have written letters to themselves from their favourite coloured crayon. They are very entertaining!

Kylie and Camille.
**GARNETS (LSU)**

Well here we are already half way through term 2! We welcomed Jacque back from Samoa this week and congratulate her on the wonderful results in her paddling race.

Well done to everyone for doing an excellent job in the walkathon. We were so proud to have everyone in the LSU cross the finish line!

We’ve been cooking up a storm here in the LSU with fried noodles and sticky chicken wings. This week we are going to make our own mini pizzas so look out staff room here we come again to use your oven again!

With lots of different mainstream experiences and excursions coming up please make sure to check your child’s bag for any notes that are coming home.

Teaching points / discussions for home:
* When spelling a new word “stretch it out like chewing gum”
* “I” and “am” are the sight words for our letter learners this week.
* $1.00 is the same as 100c

Have an excellent weekend!
Lee and Jacque.

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**MOONSTONES (LSUA)**

The Moonstones have been developing our understandings of food groups and nutrition over the past few weeks. We have completed some cooking activities which have required us to apply our hands on maths measuring skills. So far we have made and decorated cupcakes. We will be making fruit salad and also some healthy biscuits.

The Moonstones have been visiting the preschool playground every day. We have been accessing age appropriate equipment to meet sensory, social and motor development needs. It has been truly amazing watching the students interact and communicate with each other in this environment. Our outdoor learning environment should be completed by the start of next term.

Virginia and Nicola.

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**THE THUNDER EGGS (4/5 and 5/6)**

What a busy two weeks the Thunder eggs have had! Between NAPLAN and school based assessments, the students have had their fair share of testing for now. The school based assessments will now be used to provide crucial information to contribute to your child’s report. The teachers are well underway writing reports. They will be sent home in week eight ready for interviews in week 9.

The Thunder eggs are performing at the next assembly on Friday 6 June starting at 2.15 pm. We would love to see some parents/friends in the audience.

We would like to acknowledge some sporting champions from the Thunder eggs. This term five boys from the unit have represented or trialled for their chosen sport at the ACT level. Kolya competed in the ACT swimming carnival, Rhys S and Chris have recently trialled for the rugby league team, Mackinley is trying out for the hockey team and Charlie has been a part of the trials for AFL, cricket and hockey. To reach the ACT level of sport is a tremendous achievement. We are so proud of the boys and wish them luck in their chosen sport/s.

Shane, Jane, Keilly, Elissa, Sarah and Justine.

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**FRONT OFFICE NEWS**

Voluntary Contributions for 2014 are at 29%
Let’s watch the star fill!

To contribute:
Maribyrnong Primary School Management Account.
BSB 032 777 Account 001615

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<th>Number of Children at the school</th>
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**Book Packs** for 2014 are $40 per child from preschool to year 6.
DANCE NEWS

The hall is full of energy and laughs each Thursday B1 when Dance is on. The focus of our sessions is learning the basics through fun. We play games that help us isolate our movements, count out different rhythms through body movements and try different combinations to express ourselves...but most of all we laugh lots and have fun!

Some of the games we have played this term include Musical Bops, Make a Number, Be a Character and Musical Statues and Colour Call Out. We have also danced to modern, folk and classical music. Learning through play is a highly effective strategy for developing as dancers who are creative and expressive. We have made our own music through body percussion and have discovered we have some up and coming rappers in the group!

We also work on our ability to interpret music and respond with appropriate movements. Using different forms of music we dance like a pirate, a teacher, a dolphin, a prince and even like a giraffe. We have danced as though we are aliens, shooting stars and even tried to walk like robots! We have been frozen in time as trees and even tried to become birds flying high above the school!

Jantiena.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

A – E opt-out for reports
3/4 camp forms and request for payment- overdue!
1/2 Cotter Dam excursion
Scholastic Books-due 10.06.14
Australian School Climate Measurement Tool Survey-information for parents and opt-out for year 5/6 only (complete at school).
Collect from the front office:
Christian Educationin Schools (CEIS) opt-in request (1 hour lesson Monday 16 June)
SCHOOL PHOTOS - every child was issued a named school photo day envelope- if you require a 2nd form, a replacement or an envelope for sibling photos please see the office.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK

Available as a traditional Entertainment™ Book OR the new Entertainment™ Digital Membership for your Apple or Android device, your Membership gives you over $20,000 worth of valuable offers valid through to 1 June 2015! Please remember to reference Maribyrnong Primary School when registering your 2014/2015 Entertainment™ Membership.

For more information contact:
Leanne Rankine
Phone: 0262055933
Email: Leanne.rankine@ed.act.edu.au

Click Here to Order Now

Don’t spend another minute without your

STAFF EMAIL

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- ken.warland@ed.act.edu.au
- judy.marriott@ed.act.edu.au

NOTES SENT HOME

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### WALKATHON
Thank you to all those volunteers who came to walk, stamp, organise the food and drinks on the day, Ian and Sharon for their help and the school staff and students for their support of this great event.

We are pleased to announce the total to date is $4277.30. Great job everyone!
Robyn & Ros.

### TRIVIA NIGHT
Save the Date: Trivia Night Friday 1 August. More details will follow soon.

### PIANO LESSONS
Note from the Music Program Coordinator:
We still have Jan as our lovely piano teacher, just a change in the coordinator role. Please see below for my contact details. Thanks to Penny for handing over the role in such an organised state. If your child is interested in piano lessons, there are a couple of timeslots open on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. Please see the front office for or get in touch with me directly.
Owen Livermore  owenlivermore@gmail.com

### SCHOOL BANKING NEWS - DOLLARMITES’ TERM 2 COMPETITION
Students simply need to make three or more School Banking deposits during term 2, regardless of the value, and they will automatically be entered into the competition to win some fantastic prizes including the major student prize of five nights accommodation at the Sea World Resort & Water Park on the Gold Coast and theme park fun. School banking takes place in the Library on Monday mornings at 8:45 am – 9.00 am. If I am not able to be there, I will let the office know and you can leave your bank books with the friendly front office ladies for me to collect.

For more details contact Jeanette at jeanettekrah@yahoo.com.au or call 0434862410.


### POSSUM PANTRY-CANTEEN ROSTER

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.00noon-3.00pm</td>
<td>Laura</td>
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If you are available to volunteer in the canteen on any of the shifts not yet covered, or if you would like to be included on future canteen rosters please see Bec in the canteen or call her 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.