

POSSUM PRESS



NEWS FROM JANTIENA

THURSDAY 25 May : Term 2 Week 5

It is hard to believe that we are almost halfway through this term. So many exciting learning experiences are planned. The next five weeks promise to be action-packed!

Walkathon

What an amazing day for our Walkathon last Friday! Huge thanks to Anna Thorpe and Jackie Sampson who coordinated the event. Many thanks to all the helpers on the day who walked with our classes and noted the school values being demonstrated by our students. Our students also enjoyed the selfie check-in stations that were a new feature this year. Continue to send the sponsorship money in, we look forward to announcing the total amount raised in our next newsletter. We have a fabulous community spirit at Maribyrnong Primary, thank you for your support!



The Future of Education – Community Consultation

Recently the ACT Education Directorate launched The Future of Education, a consultation process looking to capture stakeholders perception and wishes for our education system. Students and education leadership staff have already contributed to the conversation with a wider view now being sought with classroom teachers, administrative staff, support staff, parents, carers and community partners being offered a chance to engage with the conversation. For those of you who have the Maribyrnong Primary Skoolbag App you will have received notification of a form that we are encouraging all families to complete so we can gather feedback for the Education Directorate. There are three questions in the survey:

- What should education be offering to the community?
- What does success look like?
- How do we make sure more vulnerable children and young people have high quality education and care?

If you do not have the Skoolbag App you are welcome to drop them into the front office. All responses will be de-identified before we collate them. You can also go online at <https://www.yoursay.act.gov.au/futureofeducation> or email your responses in directly to futureofeducation@act.gov.au We are looking forward to hearing your thoughts as we shape future decisions for our education system together.

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!**



ACT
Government
Education

CONTACTS

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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

MAY

- 29 HATS OFF for winter!**
31 Warrambui year 4 depart for overnight stay

JUNE

- 1 Warrambui year 3 depart for overnight stay and year 4 return**
2 Warrambui year 3 return Assembly at 2.15pm
7 Music Scheme Concert 6.00 pm
9 Christian Education in Schools
12 Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
15 7.00pm P&C meeting in the Library
16 Assembly at 2.15 pm.

Earth Hour Awards

Congratulations to all of our students and staff for participating in the 2017 Earth Hour. At the ACT Government’s Sustainable School Program Awards Ceremony on Thursday 18 May, Minister Shane Rattenbury MLA awarded our school first place for our participation in Earth Hour. Bella, Kaleb and Lena-Maria attended the ceremony and were delighted to accept our prize that included Bunnings and Bookclub vouchers. Mrs Carr has already put these to good use!



Active Schools Challenge

Maribyrnong Primary launched the Active Schools Challenge on Tuesday. For many years we have engaged with the Active Kids Challenge with a focus on increasing activity in a fun way. This year we have decided to be involved in the school challenge where we set a target and raise funds to support the implementation of our project. This will become an area of focus in Active August. We will share more details with you once our SRC have contributed their ideas. You may have seen some of our students and Ms Howard on the news talking about this. We are all very excited by this opportunity.

Preschool and kindergarten to year 6 enrolments for 2018

Enrolments for new students to our school opened on Wednesday 26 April. The process is the same as last year, in that all enrolments need to be completed online. To enrol families can head to the homepage of our school website or use the link below: http://www.det.act.gov.au/school_education/enrolling_in_an_act_public_school

In 2018 our preschool groups will once again be capped at 22 children as we are guided by the National Quality Framework and Standards. For 2018 this means that we are able to offer a maximum of 88 enrolment places. Last year we had over 100 applications! Within the first hour of enrolments opening on Wednesday we received many applications, so get in fast! Should any families need assistance to complete the enrolment application or need access to a computer please visit the front office or call us on 6205 5933.

Speech Pathology and Physiotherapy Drop-in Clinics

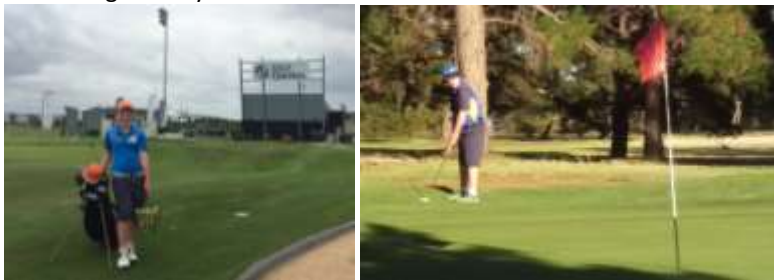
We are very fortunate in the ACT to have access to Speech Pathology and Physiotherapy Drop-in Clinics for children 0-6 years who have a residential address in the ACT and are not eligible for the National Disability Insurance Scheme. Attendance at a Speech Pathology or Physiotherapy Drop-In Clinic provides parents with an opportunity to discuss issues about their child's communication skills with a speech pathologist or discuss issues and seek information and advice about their child's gross motor development and posture, movement and walking with a Physiotherapist. Drop-In Clinics take the form of an informal discussion and screening of skills and is not a formal assessment. The dates of the drop-in clinics have been sent out with the newsletter. Families are welcome to attend a Drop-In Clinic if they have concerns about their children in any of the following areas:

Physiotherapy	Speech Pathology
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foot position e.g. in-toeing, out-toeing, flat feet • Clumsiness • Delays in reaching milestones e.g. sitting, standing, walking • Delays in gross motor development e.g. jumping, hopping, climbing • Difficulties with catching, throwing, kicking balls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speech (sounds) • Language (understanding and speaking) • Fluency (stuttering)
Services <u>NOT</u> Covered at the Drop-in Clinics	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sporting injuries, back conditions and painful joints (refer to your doctor or musculoskeletal physiotherapist) • Voice disorders • Fine Motor Problems, e.g. handwriting, cutting • Feeding and Swallowing Issues • Speech Pathology and Physiotherapy concerns regarding children who are above 0-6 years of age, adolescents or adults. • Speech Pathology and Physiotherapy concerns where the child has already been assessed as eligible for the NDIS. 	

NEWS FROM JANTIENA (Continued...)

Congratulations Nathan!

Nathan White in 5/6SD is representing the ACT in the U12 Golf at the 10th Pacific School Games in Adelaide in December. This demonstrates his persistence and commitment to his passion. Well done Nathan, we are all very proud of your achievements and look forward to hearing about your continued success.



Years 3 and 4 Camp

You can feel the excitement of our years three and four students as they prepare for camp next week. There are many benefits to camp including the development of social skills, fostering independence, practising decision-making in an authentic context, increased environmental awareness and learning new skills. While we know your children will return from camp exhausted and in need of a good shower, they will have tried new experiences and displayed our belief that learning happens when children are both supported and challenged. Thank you in advance to our teachers who give up their personal and family time to attend (no they do not get paid overtime for attending camp). There will be a few minor staffing changes while camp is on including Ms Brown teaching Ms Wise's class on Thursday and Friday while Ms Wise attends camp. We look forward to hearing about their adventures on their return.

Keep smiling!

Jantiena

DSTA NEWS FROM JACKIE

Each Friday from 9.15 am – 10.15 am we join together for Possum Partners. Our school emblem is a Possum...hence the Possum and we work in partnership with all families at Maribyrnong to provide the best environment possible for our children to learn and grow...we are partners in this experience...**POSSUM PARTNERS!**

Each Friday we meet and assist the school with varying tasks. We cover books, do some laminating, make class sets of resources, help make displays, participate in whole school events such as walk-a-thon and cross country and generally provide assistance where ever necessary as volunteers in our school community. If you are interested in Possum Partners please make an inquiry at the front office and they will happily assist you to get things going.

Once a month we also hold the **First Friday Coffee Club**. This is held on the First Friday of each month (except on public and school holidays) at U & Co Café, Gwydir Square, starting at 9.15am. Our next Coffee Club date is Friday 2 June. Anyone is welcome to come along! This is a great opportunity to meet people, make connections and ask questions about your local community.



It is really important to be a part of your school and to be connected to the wider community. Possum Partners and First Friday Coffee Club are an easy way to meet people and be involved.

Have a great week!

Jackie Sampson - Defence School Transition Aide.

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Myth # 8 Vocabulary - just words children learn easily

Vocabulary is defined as the body of words used in a particular language. Some children learn new words quickly and effortlessly, soaking up words like a sponge. We might be forgiven for thinking that vocabulary learning is natural and easy. Looking closely, we discover that vocabulary is an extremely complex 'building block' of language. We cannot take its growth for granted and we must both extend the able word users, as well as supporting those who struggle with word use and new word learning.

Vocabulary is important in both spoken and written language. Consider these points:

- one word can conjure up a myriad of thoughts, ideas, concepts and feelings. Take the word holiday for example. It can make us think about a location, memories, favourite activities, people we enjoy spending time with future plans. Depending on what experience we have of holidays, the word activates a whole connection of meaning not just a single idea.
- vocabulary is crucial to comprehension. If a child does not understand the key words in an instruction for example those indicating time, or position, then they will be unable to follow and might appear not to be paying attention or behaving. Consider how crucial the underlined words are to understanding the following:
 - Bring your money to school the day after tomorrow.
 - Go and stand in between Sally and Mark.
- understanding of cause and effect or how one event leads to another, is also dependent on knowing the meaning of key words. Often such meanings have to be inferred from subtle language use. Again note the role of the underlined words:
 - All of his luck seemed to have run out so he packed his bag and left home.
 - Mandy had been ill all week however she was still able to cook her meals.
- vocabulary knowledge supports many learning areas. For example, in maths and science specific words refer to concepts and processes, the meanings of which are non-negotiable. E.g. multiply, square root, transpiration, conduction.
- a rich vocabulary leads to an appreciation of language through the understanding of jokes, puns, idioms, word plays, poetry etc.



So.....this myth is BUSTED!

Children engage in complex learning to build their vocabulary. It happens through planned experiences and not by chance.

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

Supporting children's confidence

For most children, starting school means spending more time on learning and less on play. It also means more expectations of them – from parents, carers, school staff and also from themselves. Primary school children typically start out with high expectations. When they see how well they do things compared to others, their view of their own abilities often changes. They learn that they are good at some things and not so good at others. They also see how other children and school staff respond to what they do. These things influence children's confidence in their abilities. They also influence how willing they are to have a go in situations where they feel unsure.

How can parents and carers can help?

Confidence improves through building on small successes.

Parents and carers (and educators) help by:

- explaining to children that skills develop with practice
- encouraging children to persist when they don't succeed straight away
- praising effort, persistence and improvement
- making sure that goals are achievable by breaking down large tasks or responsibilities into small steps
- being ready to help when necessary, without taking over.

Encouraging children to have a go and valuing individual improvement support children's confidence. Self-esteem is an important part of confidence. Having good self-esteem means accepting and feeling positive about yourself. Confidence is not just feeling good but also knowing you are good at something. Particular ways of thinking are very important for building confidence. Helpful ways of thinking include:

- believing that, if you try, you can succeed
- finding positive ways to cope with failure that encourage having another go
- enjoying learning for its own sake by competing with your own performance rather than that of others.

Having said that, everybody fails to achieve their goals sometimes. Parents and carers (and educators) can help by:

- responding sympathetically and with encouragement ("That was disappointing, but at least you had a go")
- helping children focus on what they can change to make things better, rather than thinking that the situation is unchangeable or that there is something wrong with them ("What can you try that might make that work better next time?")
- challenging 'I can't' thinking by showing and saying you believe in them and reminding them of what they have achieved.

Optimistic thinking recognises what has been achieved more than what is lacking. It looks at the glass as half-full rather than half-empty.

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.

Lights on Learning!

Focusing on the Daintree Unit

Hello families! We hope you have been enjoying the season of Autumn as the days have continued to be refreshingly warm. With the cooler mornings now upon us, we have a large collection of jumpers in the lost property bucket which is located in the pit. Please come and have a look through the collection and reclaim any lost property you may be missing. Teachers return all lost property on a regular basis if it is labelled, so please ensure your child's belongings are clearly labelled.

Our Inquiry focus this term is around families. Students have created family portraits and family trees which are displayed in the unit. We are learning about similarities and differences between family life in the past compared to today. Ask your child about the kind of chores children did in the past.

Teachers have been busy assessing students and collecting data to provide feedback on your child's progress thus far. Parent/carer interviews will be held in week 9 (19-23 June). The interviews are a wonderful opportunity to touch base with your child's teacher and for us to provide you with feedback on how your child is going in all aspects of school. Keep an eye out for information regarding bookings.

We would like to welcome Peter Knights to the year one team. Peter will teach Lisa Riepon's class whilst she recovers from surgery. Peter is a familiar face to Maribyrnong and the children all know him well. We would also like to extend our thanks to Emma Jelbart. Emma has been teaching 1LR for the past four weeks and completes her final university placement this week. Emma has been an asset to the team and we wish her all the very best on the upcoming birth of her child.



We would like to extend our thanks to the parents who pop in and out of the unit helping wherever they can. Whether it be cutting out laminated activities, changing readers or listening to children read, we appreciate the support you provide.

Look forward to touching base at interviews,

Symone, Henry, Elissa, Sarah, Alison, Jane, Michelle, Peter, Leanne.



Lights on Learning!

Focusing on Bindarri LSU

What a fabulous term 2 we are having! It has been a busy one getting ourselves back into the swing of things, enjoying our work tasks just as much as our break times on the playground.



Concrete materials, manipulatives and MAB blocks are our focuses this term. We are using these wonderful resources to help us with our counting, place value, addition and subtraction skills.



We have been doing lots of work on our reading and writing in the LSU. Each week we have been completing a journal of our weekend activities. News time gives us the opportunity to share these wonderful experiences before writing them down. We love hearing about each child's weekend adventures. It would be great if the children could bring in some photos of their adventures to add to their writing and drawings.

We have also been focusing on sight words for many students this term. We play lots of fun and engaging games to help us retain them. Being able to read these words in the context is the next goal that many of us are beginning to achieve. It is great to see everyone progressing.



Coming back to school in the middle of autumn has been wonderful. The students have had many great experiences outside within the leaves looking at their colours and textures as well as just having some fun with them! We even created our own autumn trees with real leaves!

Stacey, Jacque, Nick and Rebecca.

SCIENCE UPDATE

The School Greenhouse purchased with the prize money from the **CARBON CHALLENGE** is now completed!



Thank you for assistance from BUNNINGS in its construction.
Thank you to GREENING AUSTRALIA for donating native plants for the adjacent Sensory Garden.
Thank you to CORKHILL BROTHERS for donating the soil.

NOTES SENT OR EMAILED HOME

- 5/6 Old Parliament House \$8.00
 - K-6 School Athletics Carnival \$6.50
 - Preschool Bus Wash Excursion- free!
 - Australian Maths Competition
- NOTES DUE 26/5/17 \$6.50



2017/2018 ENTERTAINMENT BOOK

Support Maribyrnong by purchasing your 2017/2018 Entertainment Book for loads of entertainment ideas and discounts:
<https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/order/books/27692k>

20% of every membership sold contributes to our School. Help us achieve our goal by sharing this link with your Friends and Family. Thanks for your support!

See what's inside



P&C Give an Hour of Power



With the end of Term 2 fast approaching there is a great deal of activity going on around the school in preparation for mid-year reports. Teachers are busily collecting information about each student and working towards not only providing each child with a written report but each family the opportunity to come along for an individual interview about their child.

During interview week staff have many late evenings at school. One simple way that you can provide support is by giving an hour to prepare a meal to be placed in the staffroom for staff to ensure that they have dinner on the nights that they are staying late for interviews.

A pot of soup, a casserole, a quiche, a pasta bake or a slice. If you are a whizz in the kitchen then this is your chance to make a difference and give an hour!

If you think this could be your hour of power please contact the school so we can line up the best night for you to provide your delicious dish and support your school.

Give an Hour – An hour of Power!

MINI MIRACLES

Mini Miracles Early Learning Centre caters for 28 children and is located on 62 Thynne Street Bruce. We offer, Long day care, Casual care and permanent part time care along with After school Care and Weekend care.

Centre link benefits apply for all weekdays, weekends and After school care. Our fees is very competitive.

We pick up children from After school care as well.

Long Day care--\$100 per day including meals, nappies and linen.

Occasional care and permanent part time care--\$15.00 per hour.

For further information please ring--0412772974



Maribyrnong Primary School does not necessarily endorse the products or services advertised.

POSSUM CAFE NEWS

Week 6 Term 2	Wednesday 31 May	Thursday 1 June	Friday 2 June
9.00 am - 1.30 pm			
9.00 am – 12 pm	Kim	Shirley	Wendy
11.00 am – 1.30 pm		Nicole	Jaymee
Week 7 Term 2	Wednesday 7 June	Thursday 8 June	Friday 9 June
9.00 am - 1.30 pm		Shirley	Jane
9.00 am – 12 pm	Kim	Maryanne	
11.00 am – 1.30 pm			Jaymee



Canteen Announcement: The canteen is looking for volunteers for the Athletics Carnival on June 23, If you would like to help out the canteen on the day please email: Maribyrnongprimarycanteen@gmail.com or drop in to see Rouvaye or Zoe between 9.00 am and 1.30 pm Wednesday to Friday.

If you are available to help in the canteen at any other time, or if you would like to be included on future canteen rosters please see Rouvaye or Zoe in the canteen, or email: Maribyrnongprimarycanteen@gmail.com

Canteen Wish list: The canteen is setting up a wish list for donations of non-perishable food items – It's another way you can help your school canteen.

This week the wish list Items come from ALDI:

- 2 Litre Tomato Sauce
- 350ml Bottles of Water
- Jar of Minced Garlic
- 2 Litre Westcliff 99% Juice in Apple Blackcurrant
- 6 pack of Westcliff 99% Juice Boxes in Apple, Apple and Blackcurrant, or Orange
- 1kg Self Raising Flour

Your donations can be dropped off between 8.45 am and 9.00 am to the School Canteen, Monday to Friday. Thank you for your continued support of the school canteen.

Rouvaye and Zoe.



KEEP CONNECTED

- 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 and full calendar:
<http://www.maribyrnongps.act.edu.au/our-community/calendar>

UNIFORM SHOP



We are looking for a volunteer to help coordinate the school's Uniform Shop. In this position you would be responsible for running the Uniform Shop at the school for half an hour each week / fortnight / or term depending on what suits you.

Our current and experienced coordinator will continue to coordinate the ordering of uniform stock and over time will train you in all aspects of the role. This is an exciting opportunity to contribute to our wonderful school community. If you are interested please touch base with P&C President Meg Holesgrove.

maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com

Navy Dry & Cosy Jackets



These Jackets will be available at a cost of \$45.00 each. Orders together with payments must be back at the school by **Thursday 1 June** (week 6). Please contact Clare Whittingham on 0408 252 736 or madden_clare@hotmail.com if you have any queries.

GUITAR CLUB

Tuesdays during B1 (30 min) in the 5/6 unit with Mr Deane. No cost but bring your guitar if you have one. Students from all grades (K to 6) are welcome with any level of experience.



WASTE FREE WEDNESDAYS!



As part of our sustainability awareness program we encourage all students who bring food to school on Wednesdays to use REUSABLE or RECYCLABLE packaging. Plastic lunch boxes, foil or paper wrappings are fine. We particularly try to avoid cling wrap and chip packets.