



# POSSUM PRESS

## NEWS FROM JANTIENA

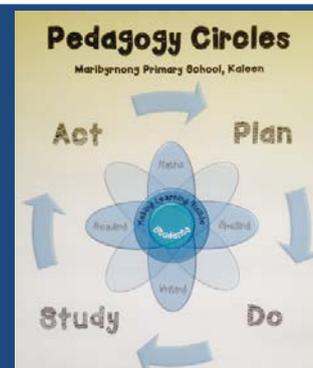
Welcome back to term three. We hope that the school holidays brought you some relaxed days and lots of laughter. Term three promises to bring many exciting events and opportunities – we look forward to sharing these with you over the coming term.

### **AATE ALEA National Conference – ‘Capitalising on Curiosity: ninggi warrguu – look and ask why’**

We were very lucky to have so many educators attend this conference in Canberra. We had 17 teachers attend for three days, six teachers attend for one day and three educators attend an additional half day post conference institute session. This demonstrates the outstanding commitment of our educators. It also highlights the long term strategic planning that allowed all that wanted to attend this conference to do so. This conference moves around Australia so will not return to the ACT until 2023. The program was jam packed with many international and national keynote speakers including:

- Douglas Fisher – Unstoppable learning
- Lisa Kervin – Children writing with new technologies
- John Bell – A Conversation
- Peter O’Connor – Asking better questions: The power of wondering
- Peter Freebody – Ignorance killed the cat: What’s left out of literacy research and policy, and the implications for teacher’s knowledge and practice
- Kath Murdoch – The sky is inside us: Cultivating curiosity in the classroom
- Gary Crew – The teenage castaway; Nurturing contemporary teenage curiosity in the anxieties of an extraordinary 19<sup>th</sup> century literacy fascination
- Eeqbal Hassim – Intercultural curiosity and storytelling
- Jessica Mantei – Responding creatively: Considerations for supporting children as authors of digital multimodal literary texts
- Bill Cope and Mary Kalantzis – New media and new learning
- Diane Barone - How curious are you about illustrations?
- Anita Heiss – Nurturing creativity while embedding Indigenous Studies into the National Curriculum
- Misty Adoniou – What do teachers of literacy do? The importance of speaking up, speaking out and speaking loudly
- Joan Moser and Gail Boushey – Daily 5: Establish active, curious behaviours as the foundation for your classroom structure to improve student learning
- Julie Coiro – Deepening comprehension through digital inquiry, collaboration and participation
- David Malouf – Launching Reading Australia
- Joan Moser and Gail Boushey – CAFÉ: Empower students to take an active role in setting goals for literacy improvement
- Robyn Ewing – On dragonflies, curiosity, imagination and creativity: The role of the Arts in Creative English and literacy education.

In addition to this, there were more than 100 workshops, research papers, publisher sessions and poster presentations. Maribyrnong was selected to present our school improvement journey through the use of Pedagogy Circles. This session was very well received with many teachers and school leaders from across Australia curious about our approach and successes. Our staff will be reflecting on all of the sessions they attended and making recommendations for future actions.



Thursday 23 July, Term 3 Week 1



**ACT**  
Government  
Education and Training

### **CONTACTS:**

#### **Maribyrnong School**

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

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**Board Chair** Lauren Newman  
[laurennewman\\_13@yahoo.com.au](mailto:laurennewman_13@yahoo.com.au)

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

#### **Possum Pantry Canteen**

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

**Communities@Work** ph:0405124312  
Breakfast Club and After School Care

#### **Westpac School Bank Account**

BSB 032 777 Account 001615  
EFTPOS is available with a \$10 minimum

### **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

#### **JULY**

- 24 Athletics Carnival Dickson K-6
- 30 Australian Maths Competition
- 31 Assembly 2.15 pm  
P&C Trivia Night

#### **AUGUST**

- 3 **HATS ON!**
- 6 6.00pm Board & 7.00pm P&C
- 10-14 Book Week
- 14 Assembly 9.15 am- Special time  
for Book Week Parade.  
Sciences Fair entries due.
- 17-21 Science Week.

## Staffing News

As mentioned in our last Possum Press, the process for selecting a teacher to act in our School Leader C position was underway. Keilly Pownall was successful in securing this position for the three weeks Jen is working on the validation panels. Stacey Howard will be covering Keilly's teaching load during this time. We welcome Mia Grant to our team who will start in week two. Mia will be supporting our 3/4 students in their targeted groups for reading, spelling and numeracy.

## Learning Journey and Grandfriends Day

This term we will be celebrating our Learning Journey and Grandfriends Day on Monday 21 September. This is a rich opportunity for our students to showcase and articulate their learning with their loved ones. All classes are using a Storyline approach with their inquiry unit this term so it promises to be a very interactive experience for all. In the coming newsletters we will discuss the role of feedback in supporting learning and why we show the how **and** explain the why.

## Mrs Carr and Bush Blitz

You may have noticed that Mrs Carr has not been at school this week. This is because she has been selected to participate in the Bush Blitz Programme. This was a rigorous selection process and speaks to Leslie's skills and passion for Science. As I write this newsletter Leslie is working on the Biodiversity Survey in Cape York along with a team of world class scientists. The survey is intended to show students science in action. Leslie has been communicating back to school via a daily blog. During the survey the teachers and scientists typically find several new plants and animals unknown to science previously which makes it quite exciting. This is the third time the Bush Blitz Teach Live programme has operated. You can access the Bush Blitz Teach Live site at

<http://www.bushblitz.org.au/>

## Enrolment at Maribyrnong for 2016

Letters of offer for our 2016 preschool children were all emailed out last term. Families who are joining our learning community in 2016 and have completed the enrolment process have also been emailed their letters of acceptance. It is important that we have a clear picture of our enrolments as we begin the staffing process this term. If you know of a family who is hoping for their children to attend our school please encourage them to complete the online enrolment process now. With homes popping up in both Bruce and Lawson we are anticipating many new enrolments.

## Earn and Learn is back!

The Woolworths Earn and Learn Program is on again this year, starting on July 15. This program enables our school to earn points towards valuable educational resources. When anyone from our school community shops at Woolworths from July 15 they can earn one sticker for every \$10 spent. Sticker cards are available from Woolworths or from the front office. Once sticker cards are complete they can be placed in the special box at the front office. We thank you for your support and look forward to working together to earn these resources for our school. If you have any questions regarding this program please contact Leanne and Ros at the front office, otherwise happy collecting.

## Athletics Carnival

As I write this newsletter we are hoping for sunshine and no winds for the Athletics Carnival tomorrow. Thank you to our organising team and parent volunteers. We are looking forward to a great day.

Don't forget to organise your table for the **Trivia Night on Friday 31 July**. It promises to be a wonderful night!

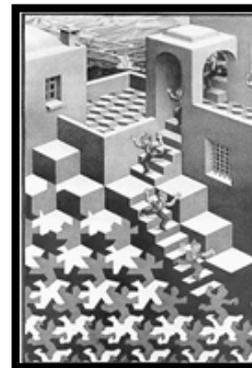
Jantiena

## NUMERACY MYTHBUSTER

### Myth # 6 Creativity is NOT found within Maths!

Creativity is at the centre of mathematics. Learning areas that are seen as creative, such as art and music, have mathematical concepts embedded within them. Across the visual arts we see the role of geometry and space in artwork. Some artists have even focused their entire body of work on using and challenging mathematical concepts.

MC Escher created artworks that embraced tessellations (shapes that could fit together without any gaps between them) and designed optical illusions that made the viewer feel like they were seeing a three dimension scene in two dimensional artwork.



Music also utilises mathematical concepts and is considered to be a very creative field of study. Musical notions such as octaves, chords, scales, and keys can all be demystified and understood logically using simple mathematics.

Astronomy is another area that uses both mathematical concepts and creativity. This scientific area of study uses mathematical equations to describe the universe or to predict various aspects of the universe. Mathematics is and always has been of central importance to astronomy.

### Why is creativity important in Maths?

By connecting different learning areas through mathematics, students are more likely to make **their own connections!**

We can support our learners to do this by:

- engaging in problem solving and problem posing
- mathematising (identifying the mathematics in everyday situations across learning areas)
- valuing individuality and multiple outcomes
- valuing creative representation of findings.



**So.....this myth is BUSTED!**

**Mathematics is a creative field of inquiry and when this is embraced, greater connections can occur!**

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](mailto:jantiena.batt@ed.act.edu.au)

## AROUND THE GROUNDS – INQUIRY UNITS

Inquiry is a systematic investigation or study into a worthy question, issue, problem or idea. The best topics are built around big ideas and engage students in learning about significant, robust and transferable ideas. Whilst inquiry learning can happen effectively within the scope of one key learning area, the best units are those where students connect learning across the curriculum

Each inquiry unit at Maribyrnong Primary School develops student capacities to:

- manage themselves as people and as learners in a changing world
- understand the history, the now and the possible future of the world in which they live
- be confident, critical and creative thinkers who seek solutions to problems and answer questions
- develop holistically with opportunities to connect through their expressive, creative and communicating self in both a local and global way.

To enable students to achieve these broad purposes, the following overarching organisers are used:

- Me and Myself
- Me in My Community
- Me in my Global Community
- Me in Place and Time

The scope and sequence of inquiry units for Kindergarten to Year 6 are mapped using released learning areas from the Australian Curriculum. Hence the mapping of these units is continually 'in draft' as new learning areas are released. The inquiry units use foundational abstract concepts to ensure that the units of work are responsive to student needs and interests while applying knowledge, skills and understandings to a range of learning areas.

The outlined scope and sequence includes:

- foundational abstract concepts
- big understandings
- key questions to prompt and define inquiries

Cross Curriculum Priorities and Throughlines:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures
- Asia and Australia's engagement with Asia
- Sustainability

For more information see:

<http://kathmurdoch.com.au>

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## NOTES SENT HOME

- Canteen Menu term 3
- Scholastic Book Club.



Remember to keep checking here for notes sent home through the term. Extra copies can be obtained through the front office.

## ENTERTAINMENT BOOK

We are fundraising with the Entertainment™ Book And Entertainment™ Digital Membership.

For enquiries, Leanne Rankine on 02 6205 5933 or [leanne.rankine@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:leanne.rankine@ed.act.edu.au)



Follow this link to [ORDER YOURS NOW](https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/27692k)  
<https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/27692k>

## GLIMMERS, DAZZLERS, SPARKLERS (PRESCHOOL)

Wow, we are in semester 2 already! We hope you had a restful and fun break. We are looking forward to another exciting term filled with many wonderful learning opportunities.

During the break we have been busy attending professional learning, gathering new resources and planning some new play-based experiences for the weeks ahead. We have booked in the bus wash excursion and the reptile man will be visiting preschool too!



Just a reminder that the weather is still cold! We encourage the children to wear jumpers and coats when they play outside. Please make sure all clothing is labelled as many children 'strip off' when they get inside. This will help us locate any missing clothing.

Hope you are all keeping warm at this time of year!  
Elsa, Sally, Kellie, Georgia, Ni, Gaby and Merrie.

## NEONS (1/2)

Welcome back to term three in the Neon unit. Can you believe we are already half way through the year?

We are excited to be back for another term of teaching and learning. This term we are sad to say good bye to Mrs Peake but excited to welcome Miss Howard who is replacing Mrs Peake for the remainder of the year. We will still have Ms Pownall working with 1/2HP as well as all classes for library.

This term in writing we are looking at writing to recount and writing to entertain (poetry). Keep an eye out for a special news item that fits in with our recount program that will be part of homework. Homework will start in week two.

Our inquiry unit this term is a Storyline Unit called 'Memory Rescuers'. This technology based unit will see students have the opportunity to go back in time to learn about technologies and how they have changed the way we live our lives.

The start of August is just around the corner. That means that it is hats on! So from August 3 please make sure your child is coming to school with a labelled hat.

The Neon Unit,  
Amanda, Camille, Keilly, Lucy, Nicola, Stacey Hodgson and Stacey Howard.



## AURORAS (K and K/1)

Welcome back! We hope you had a relaxing holiday!

This term our inquiry focus will be looking at the needs and wants of communities. The children will be creating their own community as a unit. We are looking forward to being able to share this with you during our learning journey towards the end of the term. **Could you please send in any shoe boxes for 3D construction of our community.**

In literacy we will be continuing daily 5 and learning our new sight words each week. In writing we will be focusing on being able to orally tell a story.

In maths this week we will be learning about describing what position an object is in and how to give directions. In number we have been looking at subitising.

This is where the children are able to quickly identify a number of dots. We have been doing this by playing lots of different games using dice.



We are looking forward to the athletics carnival on Friday. The children will be participating in different rotations and have an opportunity to participate in running races. Please ensure your child has a drink bottle and that all your child's belongings are labelled.

Thank you,  
Sarah, Jess, Naomi, Leeanne and Kathleen.

## BEAMERS (3/4)

Hi Everyone!

Welcome back Beamers for term three! We hope you all had a restful and fun holiday. We would like to remind everyone to please bring back portfolios as soon as possible. Remember that there's a prize for the first class to bring them all back!

We are looking forward to the Athletics Carnival on Friday. Please remember to bring a jumper, drink bottle and hat.



## The First Fleet

This term in 3/4 we will be learning about Indigenous Australia and the First Fleet. This unit will culminate in our learning journey in week ten of this term.

In maths we are continuing time and beginning our learning about data collection. We look forward to having a wonderful term three.

Symone, Kylie, Lyndall and Justine.

## FIREFLIES (LSU)

Hi everyone,

Welcome back to term 3! We are excited to be together again and are looking forward to a wonderful term of learning. We enjoyed hearing everybody's fantastic holiday stories this week.

We have the Athletics Carnival this Friday out at Dickson Oval. It will be very cold so please make sure that jumpers, jackets and strong shoes are worn. If your child hasn't returned their permission note please ensure this is returned ASAP.

We will be cooking again this term and have lots of great new recipes to try. If you would like your child to wear an apron during our cooking sessions please send them into school and we will ensure they are used.

We missed our parent teachers interviews last term. If you wish to have an interview with Lee about your child's progress at school please email, phone or drop in and see Lee to organise an appropriate time.

Homework and readers are going to start again in week 2. Please bring it in on Mondays and new homework will be sent home.

Have a great weekend!  
Lee and Jacque.



## GLOW WORMS (LSUA)

Welcome to term 3! It has been wonderful listening to what the students did over the holiday break. It sounds as if everyone has been busy. Some activities our students did during the break include snow tobogganing, attending Disney on Ice, shopping, movies, catching trains and more!



This term we will be continue working on our individual learning plans, as well as learning about healthy food choices and nutrition. We are looking forward to inviting families in for learning journey towards the end of the term.

Kind Regards,  
Virginia, Sally, Kathleen and Michelle.

## HATS ON!

Monday 3 August  
Is Hats ON Again  
for ACT schools!



## SUPERNOVAS (5/6)

Welcome back to Term 3. We hope you all had a restful break and are ready to start school for another term.

The Athletics Carnival will be held this Friday at Dickson oval. Please ensure your child is wearing sensible footwear, a jumper and brings a water bottle. Hopefully it won't be too cold!!

Our inquiry unit this term will focus on Asia and will be using the Scottish Storyline method. This will lead into an exciting Learning Journey in week ten. More information to follow ...

Homework this term will be back in paper form. Homework will be given out on Monday of even weeks, and due back the Thursday of odd weeks.

We understand people have busy lives and sometimes it is difficult to complete homework. If for any reason your child is unable to complete the homework, that is not a problem, however we would still encourage them to read every night and practise their times tables.

Many thanks,  
Emma, Shane, Elissa, Sarah and Justine.

## LIBRARY NEWS

# Book Week!

"Books Light Up Our World" is the theme for the 2015 Book Week. Once again we will be holding our Book Week assembly on Friday of week 4, 14 August at 9.15am. Students (and parents) are invited to dress up as their favourite book character for the day.

We are also holding two competitions this year: make a diorama of a scene from your favourite book; and make your favourite book character from Lego. The winners of these competitions will receive a gift voucher to spend at the Book Fair. All entries need to be received by Friday of week 3, 7 August.

Our annual Book Fair will also be held in week 4, from Tuesday morning to Friday morning. The library will be open from 8.30 am (Tuesday-Friday) and 3.00 -4.00 pm (Tuesday – Thursday) for purchasing of books.

In library lessons we have been reading some of the books which have been nominated for Children's Book Council Book of the Year Awards. At the moment the favourite seems to be "Pig the Pug" by Aaron Blabey.

I look forward to seeing all the fabulous costumes.  
Keep reading,  
Keilly.



## 'STORYLINE' AT MARIBYRNONG- TERM 3

This term all units at Maribyrnong Primary School are taking a creative approach to our inquiry unit learning. Students in all classes K-6, will be learning through the 'Storyline' method. The principles of this learning are many yet simple; that learning is presented through the elements of a story. You will see all our learners being presented with a setting in which they create characters to learn through different events created by an educator. The scenario will be different for different year groups; from an embassy in a fictional city of 'Supernova', to time travelling Memory Rescuers!

Why are we taking this approach? Primarily we acknowledge that one of the most important resources available to classroom teachers is the knowledge already contained in the heads of their students. Children's own ideas and prior experience provide the starting point for any learning. By creating a 'world' in which the students work, we are giving their learning meaning.

The 'Storyline' method also prompts students to think deeply, pose questions, and pursue 'big ideas' from many perspectives. It will allow students to show their understanding of essential Australian Curriculum concepts in their own ways.

We look forward to sharing the students' learning with you at our Learning Journey at the end of term. If you have any questions around the Storyline Method, please feel free to email me at [anna.thorpe@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:anna.thorpe@ed.act.edu.au) or go to [www.storyline-scotland.com](http://www.storyline-scotland.com)

## P&C TRIVIA NIGHT

Maribyrnong Primary and UC High School Kaleen proudly present  
**"THE GREAT OUTDOORS"**  
**Trivia & Auction Evening**  
**Friday 31 July 2015**

6:30 pm for 7:00 pm start at the Canberra Labor Club,  
 Fred Daly Room, Chandler Street Belconnen.  
 MC & Quizmasters: John and Chantal Fleming

This is a fantastic community night so book your place asap by email to  
[jeanettekrah@yahoo.com.au](mailto:jeanettekrah@yahoo.com.au)



## POSSUM PANTRY ROSTER

Week 2 Term 3	Wednesday 29 July	Thursday 30 July	Friday 31 July
9.00 am - 2.30 pm	Robyn		Kerry
9.00 am - 12 noon	Kim	Wendy Kerry	
12.00pm - 3.00 pm		Emma	
Week 7 Term 2	Wednesday 5 August	Thursday 6 August	Friday 7 August
9.00 am - 2.30 pm	Rebekah		Kerry
9.00 am - 12 noon	Kim	Kerry	
12.00 pm- 3.00 pm		Emma	

The canteen has been getting busier and we would love more volunteers. If you are available to help 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 or Rouvaye in the canteen or call them 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.

## NDIS WORKSHOPS

The NDIA are running regular workshops for participants, families and carers to assist with understanding NDIS processes.

In these sessions the NDIA will:

- Explain how the NDIS works
- Provide tools to help you identify your goals and aspirations
- Explain and assist you to prepare for the planning conversation

Please RSVP by emailing

[communityact@ndis.gov.au](mailto:communityact@ndis.gov.au) or call  
**(02) 6146 8200**

Please advise the names of those attending, contact phone number and any support requirements. Friends, family members and carers are welcome.

Location	Date	Time
Gungahlin Library	27th July 2015	10:00am - 11:00am
NDIA Braddon Office	27th July 2015	4:00pm - 5:00 pm
Tuggeranong Library	3rd August 2015	10:00am - 11:00am
NDIA Braddon Office	3rd August 2015	4:00pm - 5:00 pm
Gungahlin Library	10th August 2015	10:00am - 11:00am
NDIA Braddon Office	10th August 2015	4:00pm - 5:00 pm
Gungahlin Library	17th August 2015	10:00am - 11:00am
NDIA Braddon Office	17th August 2015	4:00pm - 5:00 pm

If you have any enquiries about preparing for your planning conversation please call the ACT Trial Site on 6146 8200.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**Mainly Music** is a fun, interactive music session for young children which meets on Thursdays, 10.00 am to 11.00 am at St Simon's Anglican Church, Kaleen. The cost is \$5 per family per week.

For further information contact 6241 2034 or visit [www.stsimons.org.au](http://www.stsimons.org.au)