



# POSSUM PRESS

## NEWS FROM JEN

Congratulations to all of our swimmers who competed so well last Thursday at the Belconnen District Swimming. Thank you to Mr Warre for supporting our students on the day. I have seen the plethora of ribbons our students won and have heard the stories about personal best times being achieved! It was great to see such resilience and grit displayed by our competitors in every race and what I was very proud of was the fun and excitement all participants demonstrated. The way that Maribyrnong students showed sustained interest and effort towards their goals is evidence of their focus and determination to achieve their personal best. A huge congratulations to all of our competitors, we look forward to hearing and sharing more success at the ACT swimming in a few weeks.



## Enrolments 2020

Enrolments for 2020 (preschool, year 7, year 11) will open on Monday 29 April at 9.00am. The process to apply for enrolment is to complete the online enrolment application located on our Directorate's website. Once you submit your application, a copy will be automatically emailed to your nominated email address (that you include on the form) and to the school. The enrolment timeline is yet to be released, however families are expected to be emailed offers of enrolment in mid 2019. For families wanting more information, each high school holds an information night throughout May which you are welcome to attend to develop further insights into the approach to learning in place. Our in area high schools open nights are:

- UC High School Kaleen (families living in Kaleen, Lawson, NSW) 7 May 6pm-8pm
- Canberra High School (families living in Bruce) 23 May 6pm-8pm
- Melba Copland Senior Secondary School (families living in NSW) 21 May 6pm-8pm

Further information, including the enrolment portal, calculator to check your child's grade level and open night dates, please see the following link:

<https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/enrolling-in-a-public-school>

## Farewell Mark

I would like to offer my well wishes to Mark Ferris, our OOSHC Director. Mark has led the Before and After School Care program at Maribyrnong for almost three years now. Over this time Mark has worked hard to establish positive and sustainable relationships with many students and staff at Maribyrnong. This has meant that the transition between school and care has been well supported and seamless. I would like to thank Mark for his contribution to Maribyrnong and wish him well in his role within the disability sector. Emily Egan will continue in her role as Director and will be supported by the same great team.



THURSDAY 4 APRIL : T1 W9



**ACT**  
Government  
Education

## CONTACTS

### Maribyrnong School

Ph: 6142 0570

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

**FACEBOOK:** Maribyrnong  
Primary School-Kaleen



**Board Chair** TBA

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

### Possum Pantry Canteen

Wednesday to Friday Ph: 6241 5974

<http://www.flexischools.com.au>

### Communities@Work

ph:0405 124 312

Before and After School Care

### Westpac School Bank Account

BSB 032 777 Account 001615

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### APRIL

- 5 Cross Country Carnival K-6  
Canteen Special Lunch  
**Whole School Assembly @2.00 pm**
- 9 Angelo's Great Shave 2.30 pm
- 10 P&C Disco
- 12 **Whole School Assembly @2.00 pm**  
with Special Easter Celebration  
Last day of term 1

## ENJOY THE HOLIDAYS!

- 29 1<sup>st</sup> Day of term 2

More dates are under EVENTS on the Skoolbag App or for the full calendar visit:  
[http://www.maribyrnongps.act.edu.au/our\\_community/calendar](http://www.maribyrnongps.act.edu.au/our_community/calendar)

### Easter Raffle

Our annual Easter Raffle is fast approaching, with assembly celebrations scheduled for Friday 12 April at 2.00pm. Once again all families will be provided with a ticket into the draw. Names will be selected at the assembly and prizes given out at this time. A huge thank you to the families who have already sent in donations for our P&C to wrap and use as prizes. Donations are still welcome to be dropped into the front office until Wednesday 10 April. I would like to thank Deb Livermore for coordinating this event.



### Congratulations to Madame Lisacek and year 5/6

Congratulations to our French teacher Madame Lisacek and our amazing year 5/6 students. Our wonderful school came first in the year 5/6 Francophonie 2019 competition! The Ambassador for Argentina presented our prizes on Friday 22 March. A huge congratulations to our students and Madame Lisacek for this outstanding achievement.

### Supporting your Child's Education

There has been much discussion in the press recently about school fees, government funding and voluntary contributions. We aim to provide the best possible education for every child enrolled at Maribyrnong Primary. In order to meet the needs of every child, class teachers continually participate in professional learning and discussions, assess and group students and of course plan, teach and review lessons. To support this focus on quality practice, all voluntary contributions go directly towards providing resources for students. As stated the contribution is voluntary and payment details are confidential. No child misses out because their family is unable to make the contribution. You can make a contribution towards your child's education even if you cannot pay the full amount. You may also choose to set up a payment schedule with regular payments made over the year or term. Please see Leanne to discuss how to set this arrangement up. If you would like to pay a larger amount it will most certainly be gratefully received.

### Earth Hour

Maribyrnong Primary once again participate in Earth Hour last Friday. Earth Hour is when we reduce our energy consumption by engaging in activities which do not require any form of electricity. Many families also participated in Earth Hour last weekend. If you were unable to but would still like to, you can choose any day or night and enjoy a number of activities that don't need electricity. Our students enjoyed art experiences, team building activities, board games and sports activities. Please take this opportunity to speak with your children about the small things we can do together that can make a big difference to the whole world!

Have a safe and happy break, I look forward to seeing you all back at school on Monday 29 April for term two.

Thank you for your ongoing support,  
Jen.

## Cross Country

The Annual Cross Country Carnival will be held tomorrow. Please ensure that students wear appropriate clothes (layers which can be removed for the race) and shoes for running and that jackets, jumpers and hats are labelled. Students will also need their water bottle.

Thank you to all those people who volunteered to assist with the carnival. We need your continued support to enable us to run such events. If you have volunteered, after signing in at the front office, please meet me near the basketball courts just after 9.00am, when I will give you your role for the day.

Keilly





Defence Community Organisation (DCO) provides a range of support services, practical assistance and products to support Defence families. Time apart from families due to deployments, training or other service requirements is an integral feature of defence life. DCO can provide a range of services to help families prepare emotionally and practically for the Australian Defence Force (ADF) member's time away, and to support families in the member's absence, including special assistance for children. Contact the all-hours Defence Family Helpline on 1800 624 608.

ADF members may be called upon at short notice to deploy anywhere in Australia or around the world. This can be a challenge for families, but preparation can help to make the experience more manageable. The DCO website at [www.defence.gov.au/dco](http://www.defence.gov.au/dco) has information to help families with what they might expect from each stage of deployment. Knowing what to expect can make time apart much easier to manage. DCO resources can give you practical guidance for each stage, outlining administration/planning you could carry out pre-deployment, ways of communicating with the deployed member and hints and tips to readjust as a family when the member returns. You can receive contact from DCO personnel during your family member's deployment. Simply register your details with the Defence Family Helpline. This contact enables you to ask questions, express concerns, find out about local activities/groups/events and other support services or community resources you may need. There is professional support available. Short-term confidential casework and support from a social worker to help you through difficulties can be arranged. Contact Defence Family Helpline day or night, for assessment, advice or referrals. The Helpline is staffed by qualified professionals (social workers/psychologists).

The Deployment Support Booklet is a comprehensive resource, containing information about preparing for deployment, what to expect before, during and after a deployment, and how to access additional support if needed. It is available on the DCO website. DCO also runs programs called FamilySMART (partners), TeenSMART (teens) and KidSMART (primary aged), which target challenging aspects of Defence life such as deployment. The SMART sessions help Defence families build on their strengths, learn techniques to cope with stressful situations, and become more resilient, positive and self-reliant. Call the Defence Family Helpline on 1800 624 608 for more information.

Your own community is a rich bank of support to draw on, with resources and structures in place which can help you through times of deployment. DCO has a directory of local Defence and community run initiatives and can help you to connect with the organisations, groups or events that best suit your needs. DCO holds a variety of local events to support the families of deployed members, including farewell/welcome events, workshops and family activities. Community groups may run programs which build on your life skills, keep you active and engaged in the community, or help you network with other defence families to share experiences and support each other.

There are DVDs and resources available for parents with tips and information about guiding very young children to teenagers through deployments. There are children's books which are designed to help children and teens understand more about the military lifestyle and develop coping strategies for parental absence. Defence School Mentors also provide on-the-ground support to Defence students during deployments.

Information from

<http://www.defence.gov.au/DCO/Master/documents/Handouts/Deployment-and-time-apart.pdf>

Jackie Sampson – Defence School Mentor



**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR SUPPORT**





# Lights on Learning!

## Focusing on Dyara - year 3

This term has been extremely fun and busy. We have been very active and go for a “run around Australia” each morning (weather permitting). We have added up all the kilometres we have run between the 72 students and have already made it past Port Lincoln via Bateman’s Bay and Melbourne. We are hoping to make it to Esperance on the south coast of Western Australia by the end of term.

After our daily run and marking the roll, we have been doing lots of work on our literacy skills. We started our writing lessons with a major focus on the narrative text type, particularly the language and structure required. The children have enjoyed listening to Jo reading *Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone* while eating their lunch.

Last week, we participated in a trial NAPLAN test to check that software is running properly as well as to provide a valuable practice experience for year 3’s first ever NAPLAN experience.

Our inquiry unit has focussed on celebrations and commemorations, with our main focus being ANZAC related events, particularly World War One.

Here are some great images from Harmony Day:



### Reminders:

- ✓ Please return permission notes for our movie day to watch *Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone*.
- ✓ If your child is late, please send them to the front office to be signed in.
- ✓ The cold weather is starting to set in, so please ensure your child has adequate warm clothing.
- ✓ Hats are still required while playing outdoors in the sun.
- ✓ Drink bottles are always important - and everything needs a label!

Peter, Jo, Leanne and Emma.

# Lights on Learning!

## *Focusing on Burrai - LSU*

We have had a very busy start to the year with several new children in our unit as well as a new teacher! We are busily building new routines and learning through our days. This term, we have started reading groups in the LSU and you will have noticed books coming home for the children (who do not integrate into their mainstream class during reading time) to keep each week. We have been enjoying practising our reading every day.

During writing we have been working on expanding our oral and written language skills. We have also been publishing many class books! These are a firm favourite during quiet reading times.

Each Monday morning, we embark on journal writing where we discuss our weekends and write about them. Feel free to send any notes or photographs in via the message book as these help to prompt our discussions.



We are enjoying practising our counting skills during number time. We've been taking turns and encouraging each other throughout our "Pink Cat" game each day and then consolidating our understandings further using hands on games and activities with an educator. We are getting very good at simple addition and subtraction and the games are teaching us to be good sports and to take turns nicely.



We've had some lovely special events this term. We had Constable Kenny Koala come for a visit and he taught us how to be safe in our community. We even got to see the police car lights and sirens! Very exciting! Last week we got to meet a real guide dog puppy named "Storm". We found out how to care for a guide dog puppy and we even got to have a pat.

As the weather gets colder, please remember to send in labelled jumpers and jackets so we can continue to be comfortable on the playground.





## STAFF EMAILS

### School Executive

jennifer.howard@ed.act.edu.au  
anna.thorpe@ed.act.edu.au  
keilly.pownall@ed.act.edu.au  
niomi.ceely@ed.act.edu.au

### School Psychologist

suzanne.wright@ed.act.edu.au

### Front Office

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

### DSM

jacqueline.sampson@ed.act.edu.au

### French

lynette.lisacek@ed.act.edu.au

### Library

ingrid.schryver@ed.act.edu.au

### Music

rowena.king@ed.act.edu.au

### Literacy

lisa.riepon@ed.act.edu.au

### Science

nicole.mcalester@ed.act.edu.au

### Gross Motor

jodi.lieschke@ed.act.edu.au

### Year 5/6

mia.grant@ed.act.edu.au  
henry.warre@ed.act.edu.au  
jasmine.paunovic@ed.act.edu.au  
rebecca.kirpson-colley@ed.act.edu.au  
sarah.dorrough@ed.act.edu.au  
emily.vangalen@ed.act.edu.au  
nicoleEsmith@ed.act.edu.au  
justine.minchin@ed.act.edu.au

### Year 4

emma.wild@ed.act.edu.au  
sarah.nockels@ed.act.edu.au  
natalie.walker@ed.act.edu.au

### Year 3

amy.craven@ed.act.edu.au  
peter.knights@ed.act.edu.au  
joanne.francis@ed.act.edu.au  
leeanne.walls@ed.act.edu.au

### Year 2

michelle.ashworth@ed.act.edu.au  
lynette.lisacek@ed.act.edu.au  
stacey.howard@ed.act.edu.au  
katalin.hajdu@ed.act.edu.au

### Year 1

jane.baillie@ed.act.edu.au  
emma.jelbart@ed.act.edu.au  
michaela.hale@ed.act.edu.au  
alexandra.avis@ed.act.edu.au  
fiona.mcewan@ed.act.edu.au

### Kindergarten

tanya.maybury@ed.act.edu.au  
alison.nilon@ed.act.edu.au  
kacey.tait@ed.act.edu.au  
jacinta.bill@ed.act.edu.au

### LSU

symone.chipreo@ed.act.edu.au  
jacque.mengel@ed.act.edu.au  
nicholas.neeson@ed.act.edu.au

### LSUA

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

### Preschool

merrin.walsh@ed.act.edu.au  
taryn.cameron@ed.act.edu.au  
stacey.hodgson@ed.act.edu.au  
kelly.perrett@ed.act.edu.au  
nicola.toms@ed.act.edu.au  
karina.harris@ed.act.edu.au

## FRONT OFFICE NEWS

### 2019 PAYMENTS

Book Packs for 2019 remain at \$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> Fee Code VCBP19

### BOOK PACK AND VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

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

Leanne, Ros and Emily.

## SCHOOL ABSENCES

All absent days from school must be explained in writing to the school as soon as possible. This can be done in advance where known or when returning after an illness. It can be explained by a paper note, email to the teacher or through the convenient eForm on the Skoolbag App.

## NOTES & EMAILS

- ☒ Week 10 P&C Disco
- ☒ Preschool ELSA permission

Notes are emailed, available on paper from the office and where possible available on the Skoolbag App under eForms.



## SCHOOL BOARD UPDATE

### 2019 School Board Election

The election for the 2019 School Board P&C members position closed on the 19 March and I would like to congratulate Ms Alice Campbell, newly elected P&C member of the school board.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Megan White for her outstanding commitment and dedication to the school board and more recently as the school board chair.

I would also like to thank the Maribyrnong Community for actively participating in the election this year.

Leanne Rankine, Assitant Returning Officer

## EGG NEWS



### Easter Egg 'foil ball' challenge

This year Maribyrnong will enter the ACTSmart Easter foil ball challenge where we will attempt to make the heaviest ball made from Easter egg wrappers. With this challenge we promote the responsible recycling of aluminium foil, which should be scrunched into a ball at least the size of a credit card before recycling. Wrappers can be collected up until the first day of term two. The winning school will be determined by the weight of the foil ball divided by the number of students.

[nicole.mcalester@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:nicole.mcalester@ed.act.edu.au)

## IMPORTANT MESSAGE

**ACT Parents and Citizens and the Education Directorate working together for safer schools.**

*Building Strong and Safe Communities for Learning* is a partnership project between the ACT Education Directorate and the ACT Council of Parents and Citizens Associations (P&C). It focuses on all of us - parents, students, principals and teachers- working together to reduce violence and bullying in schools. An initial workshop discussed the key issues, what is working well or not working well, and who contributes to these. A second workshop with representatives of the P&C Council and the Education Directorate considered the outcomes of the first workshop to help prepare for further conversations with our school community.

We want to make it easy for anyone who wants to have a say to be given the opportunity to be involved. There are two remaining workshops you may wish to attend:

- On 9 May 2019, 8:30am – 4:30pm the workshop will explore the key question “*How might we reduce and respond to violence in schools and co-create strong and safe communities for learning?*”.
- In June 2019 a 2 – 3 hour showcase will highlight what we have learned. It will enable participants to attend at different times during the day.

If you require any further information, or if you wish to attend the 9 May or June workshops, please contact Ms Leanne Ballard on [Leanne.ballard@act.gov.au](mailto:Leanne.ballard@act.gov.au) or 6205 2912 by 12 April, last day of Term 1.

## MARIBYRNONG PRIMARY EASTER CELEBRATION

To celebrate Easter, the P&C will be holding a 'lucky door prize' in the whole school assembly on Friday 12 April at 2.00 pm.

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 9 April.

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

We acknowledge that we are a diverse society and that not all families celebrate Easter. If your family does not wish to participate in the 'lucky door prize', please email [maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com](mailto:maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com) before Tuesday 9 April.

If you would like to help with wrapping the prizes, please email [maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com](mailto:maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com).

We look forward to seeing you at the whole of school assembly

The Maribyrnong P&C.





## POSSUM CAFÉ CANTEEN

**Cross Country Special Lunch  
HELP FEED THE HUNGRY  
RUNNERS TOMORROW  
Friday 5 April**

**THE CANTEEN WILL NOT BE  
OPEN FOR REGULAR ORDERS  
ON THIS DAY**



Any time you can give is appreciated.

We would love to hear from you!

For more information on how you can help,  
talk to Rouvaye and Andrew or email  
[maribyrnongprimarycanteen@gmail.com](mailto:maribyrnongprimarycanteen@gmail.com)

## Class Carer Program!

The role of the Class Carer is to connect parents/carers with their child's classroom. Each class will have a volunteer parent to act as the Class Carer who will send occasional emails to the class parents/carers with relevant information about things that are happening in their child's classroom.

### Sign up now...

By emailing Hayley Primrose

[Hayleyprimrose@gmail.com](mailto:Hayleyprimrose@gmail.com)

or by completing the eForm on the Skoolbag App.

## Introducing...

### Our new President is Christopher Watkins

*Good Afternoon Maribyrnong Primary School Community!*

*My name is Chris Watkins and recently I was fortunate enough to be elected as the President of the P&C Committee.*

*I have three children who all attend Maribyrnong, Chloe (Year 5), Aleira (Year 3) and Ethan (Kindergarten) and have enjoyed living in Kaleen for over 25 years.*

*I am embarrassed to say that although I have had children attend the school for the last six years, I have had very little involvement with the school when it comes to volunteering my time.*

*Like all parents, I always want the best for my children however with work and other out of school activities consuming my time, I have found it difficult to find the time in the past.*

*This year however is different, after becoming aware of the challenges the P&C Committee were having with filling certain positions, I made the decision that it was about time I rolled up my sleeves and put my name forward to help out.*

*The success of any committee is the contributions each and every member makes. Some have more capacity than others however every bit of help has a direct impact on the success of the committee.*

*So looking forward to the year ahead, I would like to encourage you to consider how you can help Maribyrnong Primary be the best school for our children.*

*If you would like to discuss how you can become more involved, please contact me at [maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com](mailto:maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com).*

*Also, to keep in touch with upcoming events, I would encourage you to join the Maribyrnong Primary School Facebook page and download the SkoolBag app.*

*Regards*

*Chris.*

To contact the P&C, email [maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com](mailto:maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com) (please note this email is checked weekly).





**THANK YOU** for your donations of clean unwanted school uniforms! It's been a great start to the year!

The Preloved uniform shop is open every FRIDAY morning from 8.30 am until 9.15 am.

Hats can be purchased through the canteen Wednesday to Friday.

## WEDNESDAY IS SCHOOL BANKING DAY!!



Meet Megan on Wednesday mornings in the canteen from 8.30 am to 9.00 am.

To explore more about School Banking, visit [www.commbank.com.au/schoolbanking](http://www.commbank.com.au/schoolbanking)

**Need new Maribyrnong 'logo' school uniforms?**

**They can be purchased at...**



2 Luke Street, Holt ACT 2615

Open 8.30 am to 5.00 pm

Monday-Friday and

9.00 am to 4.00 pm Saturday.

<http://workingearschools.com.au/uniforms/>

## Canteen Volunteers Needed

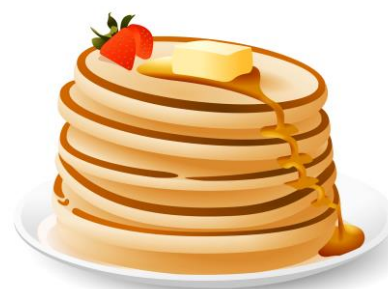
As a parent, carer or grandparent of a child or children at Maribyrnong Primary School, if you have a few hours spare of a Wednesday -Friday at any time during the term, then volunteering at the canteen is a quick and easy way to make a positive contribution to your School community. No prior experience is necessary as the trained professionals, Rouvaye and Andrew, will be very happy to provide some friendly direction. You could expect to be doing some simple tasks such as:

1. Sticking stickers to bags
2. Writing numbers on bags
3. Popping popcorn
4. Making toasties
5. Salad prep
6. Washing dishes
7. Freezing milk
8. Bagging up Cheerios and popcorn
9. Pouring custard into cups
10. Scooping Ice cream



There is a term calendar on the noticeboard outside the canteen, if you are able to spare an hour or two between now and the end of term, it would be great if you could write your name down on the day(s) you can help out, anytime between 9am and noon would be helpful. A calendar for Term 2 will go up on Friday.

The canteen is providing a great service at present, to ensure we can keep it as a viable proposition the Parents and Citizens (P&C) Association is seeking your help to invest some of your time in your Children's school.



## Dad's needed for Pancake Breakfast!

The Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast will be on at school in the second week of next term, on the morning of Friday 10 May.

Volunteers are needed (especially Dad's) to cook and mix and otherwise help out.

If you're available, or know a Dad who is, please email [maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com](mailto:maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com) and sign up to volunteer at the pancake breakfast.

It'll be easy, and fun, and there should be plenty of parking available!

More details to come...

Mark Gilbert.



**Communities@Work  
BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE**

Please notify Before and After Hours Care if your child is not attending their booking.

**Ph: 0405 124 312**



**Purchase the 2019-2020 Entertainment Book  
through Maribyrnong!**



Are you looking for amazing savings and would like to support our school?

Purchase online or at the school before 27/3/19 for Early Bird offers.  
(Purchase online and receive bonus online vouchers).

<https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/27692k>

The ACT Education Directorate does not provide any insurance cover for injury, disease or illness to students resulting from school activities or school-organised excursions. Claims for compensation are met where there is a legal liability to do so. Liability is not automatic and depends on the circumstances in which any injury, disease or illness was sustained.

As there is no automatic insurance cover for personal injury if your child is injured at school or during a school organised activity/excursion you should therefore consider whether taking out personal insurance cover for your child is warranted.

This insurance might cover contingencies including medical/hospital expenses, ambulance transport outside the ACT, and cancellation of transport/accommodation or loss of/damage to luggage.

The ACT Ambulance Service provides free ambulance transport for students who are injured or suddenly become ill at school or during an approved school organised activity **within the ACT**.