



# POSSUM PRESS

## NEWS FROM ANNA

We have had a busy and energetic start to term one. In the last five weeks teachers have been working hard creating safe and supportive learning environments with their students. Classes have been focussing on getting to know their peers and building positive relationships to learn and support one another.

Over the past week our teachers have begun planning more differentiated learning experiences for our students across the curriculum. What is differentiation? Put simply differentiated instruction is defined as "a teacher's proactive response to students' needs as defined by their abilities, learning styles, and interests" (Edison). Our teachers work very hard to ensure their programs meet the diverse social, emotional and academic needs of all the students in their care. You will see this reflected in our Action Plan for 2019.

### Annual Action Plan

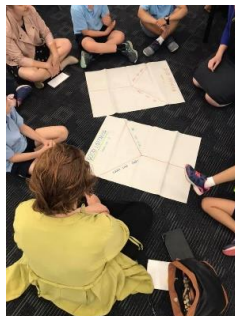
This year, in line with our strategic priorities, we are working on the following goals:

- ✓ To improve differentiated practices to meet the needs of high potential learners
- ✓ To align student performance to 'like schools', trending upwards

We will continue our work to support all learners across the curriculum, with a focus on maths and English. The opportunity to strengthen our research and practice through our affiliation with the University of Canberra is also being maximised to ensure our practice is well grounded in research.

### Affiliated Schools Program

Parents in year 3 will not doubt be aware that Thursdays in the unit have suddenly become both popular and busy. 27 students from the University of Canberra are working with our students as part of their PCK (Pedagogy Context Knowledge) module of learning. We also welcome their tutor, Amber, who runs tutorials prior and post their time with our students. This term's learning is focussing on oral comprehension and we are finding this time both engaging and beneficial for students big and small!



### A reminder to park safely and legally around schools

Every day across Canberra, parents are parking illegally in school zones and putting all kids in the area at risk. With school parking patrols increasing, if you keep doing it, you will get caught and you will be fined. Please click on this link to watch – [Parking safely around schools](#)

### 5C Friday

Thank you to all our families who participated in the coin drive this year! An amazing \$703 was raised at the last count. This money goes towards set up costs for the Twilight Fair in November. A big thank you to our P&C for coordinating this event.

### Clean Up Australia Day

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



THURSDAY 7 MARCH : T1 W5



**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

Megan White

### P&C President TBA

[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

### MARCH

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| 8     | CEIS (Christian Education) Opt In students only<br><b>Assembly year 3-6 @2.00 pm</b> |
| 11    | Canberra Day Public Holiday  |
| 15-21 | Scholastic Book Fair- Library  |
| 15    | <b>Assembly Whole School @2.00pm</b>   |
| 18-22 | Year 2 AQUASAFE  |
| 21    | School Board<br>P&C meeting 7.00 pm Library  |
| 22    | <b>Assembly year K-2 @2.00 pm</b>  |

More dates are under EVENTS on the Skoolbag App or for the full calendar, please visit:  
<http://www.maribyrnongps.act.edu.au/our-community/calendar>

## P&C Positions

Last Thursday saw our P&C AGM. We thanked our outgoing P&C executive for their work in 2018 and began the process of seeking our new 2019 executive.

To date, the following positions have been filled:

- President – **VACANT**
- Vice President – Ros Riddle
- Treasurer – Ilona Kuss
- Assistant Treasurer – Li Li
- Secretary – Zoe Mansfield
- Assistant Secretary – Meg Holesgrove
- Public Officer – Kate Boyd
- Fundraising Coordination – **VACANT**

The following non-committee roles were also filled:

- Music Scheme Coordinator – Kristy Gould
- Canteen Coordinator – Chris Leece
- Book Club Coordinator – Ana Stokic
- Pre loved Uniforms – Liz Moyle
- School Banking – Megan White
- Twilight Fair Coordinator – **VACANT**
- P&C Council Representative – Liz Hughes-Brown

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

A call out has been made to all families asking for nominations for vacant roles. Please touch base with the P&C if you are able to assist. [maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com](mailto:maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com)

## Easter Raffle

Our annual Easter Raffle is approaching at the end of term. Our fabulous P&C are looking for donations of small gifts such as a colouring book, carrot seeds, soft toys, Easter eggs, chocolate rabbits, a board game, textas or coloured pencils etc. A connection with the Easter theme would be great but not essential. Donations of baskets (large and small) or cellophane, for making up the prizes would also be appreciated. Any donations can be dropped in at the front office.

## Allergy Aware School



### Nut Aware School

Maribyrnong is a Nut Aware School. This means that we ask that no nuts are brought to school, including in sandwich spreads such as Nutella, as a raw snack or within muesli bars etc. We know that families go to great lengths to check ingredients lists to avoid sending products with nuts to school, we greatly appreciate these efforts. Please continue to be vigilant in packing your child's lunch box.

## Harmony Day

2019 marks the 20th anniversary of Harmony Day. This year the event will be renamed Harmony Week to recognise diversity and inclusion activities that take place during the entire week. Harmony Week will include **21 March**, which is the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.



Since 1999, more than 77,000 Harmony Week events have been held in childcare centres, schools, community groups, churches, businesses and federal, state and local government agencies across Australia. Maribyrnong is planning to join and celebrate Harmony day on the 21 March with some whole school and classroom celebrations of the diverse language and cultural background of our community. If you would like to know how you can get involved, please contact [niomi.ceely@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:niomi.ceely@ed.act.edu.au)

## Parent Reading Workshop

It was wonderful to see some engaged and enthusiastic parents attending our first parent reading workshop for 2019. During this sessions, I shared some great clips about how school utilise synthetic phonics approach and the Pause, Prompt, Praise technique. For those who would like to know more, these links may prove useful <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/advice-for-parents/phonics-videos/#egm> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qppv1849Pes>

Have a happy fortnight and enjoy the long weekend!

*Anna.*

Thank you to the staff, students and families of Maribyrnong Primary School for making me feel so welcome over the past two weeks while I have been in Ms Howard's Principal role. Maribyrnong is a fabulous place to learn and play and it was a pleasure working with you all. It was fabulous to see teachers and students working hard to achieve their goals.

Looking forward to seeing you again sometime soon.

Kind regards, **Linda Francis**

## DSM NEWS

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

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

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

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



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

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

Jackie Sampson – Defence School Mentor.

### **Australian Government Department of Defence – ForceNet for families**

ForceNet is a defence communication platform that lets families connect in a secure online environment from their mobile, tablet or computer.

Families registered on ForceNet can keep up to date with defence news, events and information relevant to them.

ADF members can sponsor up to three family members to join ForceNet.

Register by visiting

<https://www.forcenet.gov.au/>

## LIBRARY NEWS



# Meet Clifford!

We will be holding a Bookfair in the library from Friday 15 March to Thursday 21 March. The Bookfair will be open from 8.30-8.55am and 3.00-3.30pm. Come along and purchase some great books. From every purchase a percentage goes back into books for the library, so as well as purchasing some great books for home, you will be supporting the school library. As a very special event, at our Bookfair from Monday 18-Wednesday 20 March in the library BEFORE school, Clifford the Big Red Dog will be signing autographs and having photos taken.

# Lights on Learning!

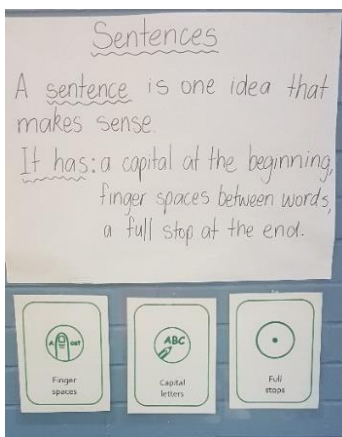
## *Focusing on Binit Binit – year 1*

Learning in year one is in full swing! Students are becoming familiar with the routines and learning programs which are well underway. This year the year one students are starting our mornings by meeting in the pit for roll call, messages and a song.

Each morning, we participate in a literacy block. Students participate in an explicit spelling lesson, followed by guided reading groups. We then finish the literacy block with a writing lesson.

We have been learning about writing to inform through recounting personal experiences. Teaching and learning is focussing on students using the correct structure when writing a recount, while also including the correct punctuation in our written work.

We will also learn about writing biographies. Students will write an autobiography recounting their life until now. This also links with this term's unit of inquiry. We are learning all about families from the past and present.



It is wonderful to see the students working so well on their learning. We are looking forward to seeing where the rest of the term takes us.

Alex, Fiona, Michaela, Jane, Emma and Karolyn.



In maths students have been developing their number sense. They are learning to sequence numbers, count forwards and backwards and understand the place value of numbers to 100.

Students have been learning about 2D and 3D shapes. They are learning to recognise, name and classify these shapes. Over the last few weeks, we have built 3d shapes using a variety of resources. This has helped us to build our knowledge of edges, faces and corners.



### Reminders

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

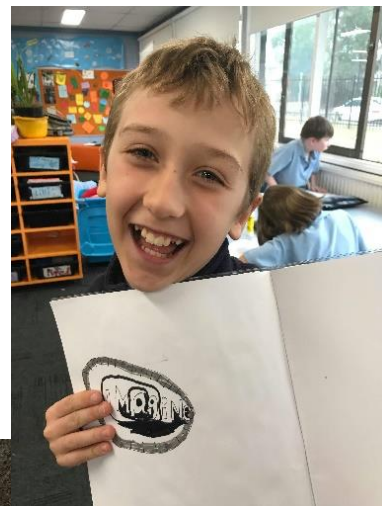
\*If you are late to school please take your child to the front office to be signed in before coming to the classroom.



# Lights on Learning!

## *Focusing on Mulanggang - year 4*

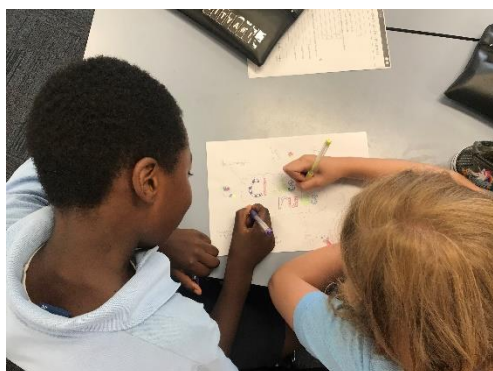
It has been a terrific start to the year for the Mulanggangs. Students have participated in the Swimming Carnival, a Cyber safety workshop and volleyball workshop.



In Literacy, students have been focusing on how to write a persuasive text. We have been studying the structure and language features of a range of text media. If your child is using persuasive devices at home, such as rhetorical questions or emotive language – then you can thank us!

In Reading, students have written their own SMART goal as to how they would like to improve their reading this term. The SMART stands for specific, measurable, action, realistic and timely. These goals will be reassessed each term. Ask your child what their SMART goal is.

In Mathematics, students have been learning about the properties of odd and even numbers, place value to tens of thousands and rounding to the nearest 100. We have been learning through a range of fun games and activities.



Our inquiry unit this term is focused on roles, rights and responsibilities. We have been exploring the difference between rules and laws and why we need rules and laws. Students will also be investigating why democratic decision making is seen as the preferred way.

In Bounce Back, we have been discussing what it means to be kind and have been designing kindness rocks. Watch this space!

On Thursday 6 June to Friday 7 June the Year 4 students will have the opportunity to attend a school camp at Camp Warrambui. The camp program has been designed to challenge Year 4 students through involvement in a number of outdoor activities in a very safe and pleasing environment. Students will gain confidence through activities which have been selected to promote teamwork, leadership qualities and safety. We will send out more information in the coming weeks.

Sarah, Emma and Nat.



## STAFF EMAILS

### School Executive

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## 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.

## Communities@Work

**BEFORE & AFTER  
SCHOOL CARE  
Ph: 0405 124 312**



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

## NOTES SENT / EMAILED HOME

- ☒ Gardening Club
- ☒ Cross Country Volunteer Request
- ☒ 5/6 Bike Riding Note
- ☒ AQUASAFE program- year 2 information emailed 5/3/19
- ☒ School Board voting/ballot documents.





## POSSUM CAFÉ CANTEEN



HAVE YOU GOT A SPARE HOUR?  
COULD YOU HELP FORTNIGHTLY  
OR MONTHLY?

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.

Please sign up to the program through the sign-up sheets outside your child's classroom, by emailing the Class Carer Coordinator, Hayley Primrose:  
[Hayleyprimrose@gmail.com](mailto:Hayleyprimrose@gmail.com) or by completing the eForm on the Skoolbag App.



# WANTED P&C PRESIDENT



## The Maribyrnong P&C needs a President for 2019

No experience necessary,  
willingness to learn and lead,  
attend and facilitate two meetings a term,  
support from a great committee provided.

Contact the P&C for more information  
**NEXT MEETING: Thursday 21 March**

PosteMyWall.com

## THANK YOU!



Our 5c Coins Days last  
week were a huge hit!  
We banked over \$700 😊  
WELL DONE!

## PRELOVED THE JOY OF SECOND HAND

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.



# YMCA Learn to Swim

**FREE\***  
April Swim  
Intensives

When you enrol for the rest of this term!

Valued at **\$105!**

Intensives: 15-18 April + 23, 24, 26 April



\*Conditions apply

Gungahlin Leisure Centre  
71 The Valley Avenue, Gungahlin  
6241 1132 | [gungahlinleisurecentre.com.au](http://gungahlinleisurecentre.com.au)

**YMCA NSW EMPOWERMENT / HEALTHY LIVING / SOCIAL IMPACT**



### Possum Partners

Come along and join us each Friday starting at 9.15 am at the Lilli Pilli Room (near the front office) for conversation, company and a cuppa.

If you have any questions please contact Jackie Sampson (Defence School Mentor) at Maribyrnong on [jacqueline.sampson@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:jacqueline.sampson@ed.act.edu.au) or leave a message at the front office.

**Everyone is welcome.**

## Possum Play @ Maribyrnong

a 'stay and play' playgroup for our community

**Every Friday from week 3**  
**9.30-10.30am**  
**for 3 year olds**



**Curiosity Creativity Community Connections**

Learn to dance in a fun, safe & supportive environment with Gungahlin Physie & Dance



- ◆ Learn ballet, jazz, lyrical & contemporary all in the one class
- ◆ Improve posture, strength, flexibility & fitness
- ◆ Girls & ladies from 3 years to over 60 years can join, no experience required
- ◆ No costumes or dance shoes required
- ◆ Performance & competition opportunities available
- ◆ Modern, age appropriate music & routines to develop skills across multiple genres of dance
- ◆ Cost effective & family friendly





Visit our website for enrolment information & timetable. Term 1 starts 19 February at our studio in Mitchell.

E: [info@gungahlinphysie.com.au](mailto:info@gungahlinphysie.com.au)  
W: [www.gungahlinphysie.com.au](http://www.gungahlinphysie.com.au)



## 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...**

## WORKIN' GEAR SCHOOLS

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/>