

POSSUM PRESS



NEWS FROM JANTIENA

THURSDAY 22 MARCH: Term 1 Week 7

What a busy fortnight we have had. All classes are now in full swing with their differentiated groups across a range of learning areas. It is wonderful to hear our students talking about their learning, identifying the learning intentions of their lessons and self-assessing their own capability and confidence level. This is powerful learning and ensures that learning is visible to all!

NAPLAN

The 2017 NAPLAN results have now been released throughout the media. Schools received these results last year and at Maribyrnong, we used them to continue to build our understanding of student progress, strength and need. Using school based data, system data and national data, we have a clear understanding of the progress our students make. In NAPLAN testing last year, the progress our students made was within the top 6 schools in every testing area across the ACT. We continue to address priorities identified in school-based and system data with a focus on the progress and growth of each student. It is our belief that NAPLAN isn't *everything* but it is *something*. For more information please see the following link: <http://www.canberratimes.com.au/act-news/my-school-2017-canberra-naplan-results-australias-best-but-still-lag-similarly-advantaged-schools-20180307-h0x6ip.html>

Harmony Day

We had an exciting celebration of the many cultures in our community for Harmony Day. Some students wore traditional clothing representing many cultural groups while others wore orange to represent harmony. Harmony Day is about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. Students were asked what it means to belong, these are some of their responses:

- "When they understand my culture, they understand me."
- "It is important to listen and then we learn more about each other."
- "I belong here, at home, and in my neighbourhood."
- "Belonging is about being a good friend even if we are different."
- "Harmony Day is about knowing that it is OK to be different. That is what makes life interesting!"

What insightful students we have at Maribyrnong.

Book Fair

It has been wonderful to see so many families come to the Book Fair over the past six days. The excitement as books are explored, wish lists created and collections are added to certainly is wonderful to watch. We have also had a special guest visit three mornings this week. The one and only Geronimo Stilton was there to take photos with excited students and sign autographs. The Book Fair is open tomorrow morning for one last session. Make sure you drop by to avoid disappointment. Huge thanks to Ms Pownall for her coordination of the Book Fair.



ACT
Government
Education

CONTACTS

Maribyrnong School

Ph: 6142 0570

www.maribyrnongps.act.edu.au

FACEBOOK: Maribyrnong Primary School-Kaleen



Board Chair Lauren Newman
laurennewman_13@yahoo.com.au

P&C President Ralph Schwarz
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

MARCH

- 23 CEIS – opt in program
Book Fair concludes
Assembly year K-2 @ 2.00 pm
- 27 PSSA Belconnen Swimming
- 29 **Assembly Easter Celebration**
@ 2.00 pm
- 30 Good Friday Public Holiday

APRIL

- 2 Easter Monday Public Holiday
- 5 Board 6.00 pm/ P&C 7.00 pm
- 6 School Cross Country K-6 and
Canteen Special Lunch
Assembly year 3-6 @ 2.00 pm
- 13 **ANZAC Assembly @ 9.15 am***
*special time
Last day of term!

Communication

We appreciate working in partnership with you to support your children to achieve excellent outcomes. We do however ask that when you need to discuss your child that you make an appointment with their teacher. Staff have set meeting days and it is important that they attend these meetings and professional learning sessions. If there is a topic you would like to discuss you can drop them an email or leave a message at the front office so a time can be negotiated. Please remember that teachers may not get to their emails prior to the start of school or throughout the school day so if it is a pertinent message it would be best to call or drop by the front office. Your support in this matter is greatly appreciated.

National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence

On Friday 16 March 2018, Maribyrnong joined Australian schools to stand united in their communities to celebrate the eighth National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence (NDA). The National Day of Action is Australia's key anti-bullying event for schools and in 2018, schools were called to imagine a world free from bullying. We recognised this day by engaging in a shared lunch that fostered connections and conversations. There were many conversations about whether there is a difference between being mean and bullying? The answer is yes! I think we could all agree that bullying is *mean* but being mean doesn't necessarily mean *bullying*. We all can probably think of someone who has been mean to us. We can probably even think of someone that we've been mean to, but that doesn't make them or us a bully. Does it? Dealing with mean, rude, or unkind people is a part of life that we all have to learn how to deal with. Bullying, on the other hand is a different matter and it needs to be addressed immediately. Most experts on bullying define it as the use of force or intimidation of others. In order to be considered bullying, the behavior must be aggressive and include:

- an intentional act to hurt or harm someone
- an imbalance of power
- repetition

On this day and every day we stand together, Bullying - No Way!

Dogs at School

While we all love our four legged family members, dogs are not able to actually come to school. By leaving our treasured friends at home we ensure they are safe and that other people are safe including those children who are scared of dogs, particularly an unknown dog. The Territory and Municipal Services website states that dogs are not to be taken into the grounds of a childcare centre, preschool, primary or high school during school hours or any after school sports training events. Bringing your dog onto school premises can result in an infringement notice. In public places a dog must not be taken within 10 metres of a designated playspace. This includes the equipment near the shops near our school. For further information please visit http://www.tams.act.gov.au/city-services/pets/keeping_dogs_in_the_act/where_can_i_take_my_dog We appreciate your support in this matter.

Girls Self-Defense Class

Thank you to our P&C who coordinated this initiative. There were many girls and parents in attendance with all participants learning something new. There will be a Boys Self-Defense class next term so keep an eye out for details. What a wonderful service to our community.

Keep smiling!
Jantiena

FRONT OFFICE NEWS

2018 BOOK PACK AND VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION PAYMENTS

Number of Children at School	BOOK PACK	School Based Consumables	Library Trust Fund (Tax Deductible)	Total Contribution (Fee Code VCBP18)
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

Book Packs for 2018 are \$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>

Helping children with Separation Anxiety

We have had many parents ask how they can support their child if they are experiencing separation anxiety.

Separation anxiety is normal during early childhood. It usually starts at about six to eight months of age and lasts until about two and a half to four years of age. Sometimes it can last longer if the child has had any painful separations in the early years. Separation anxiety reflects the child's attempts to hold on to what is safe in a very scary world, and it will settle down as the child grows older and more confident (Women's and Children's Health Network).

Here are some tips for you to consider:

- tell your child when you are leaving and when you will be back. Be reliable and always come back when you say you will
- develop a routine or ritual for saying goodbye and make it brief. Don't drag it out. Always say goodbye and go. Don't stall
- keep calm during separation. Keep a relaxed and happy look on your face when you're leaving
- talk to their teacher so you can support the child together and be consistent
- practice separations from your child to give them positive experiences of separation and reunion
- avoid criticising or being negative about your child's difficulty
- prepare your child before the separation occurs by reassuring them that you will return.
- treat the anxiety seriously and react with understanding, patience, and confidence: "I know you don't want me to go away right now, but I will be back after school"
- do not tease: "You're so silly to cry about it." Do not sound annoyed: "You make me feel so mad when you cry like that!" read books or make up stories for your child about separation fears
- use positive descriptive praise for your child's efforts
- breathing together with your child will slow down their racing heart and help them to stay calm– breath in through your nose (smell the roses) and out through your mouth (blow out the candles)
- help your child to come up with a phrase they can say when they are in an anxious situation. For example, 'Mummy will come back'.
- being a role model, children learn how to cope with difficult situations by watching other people (their role models) and listening to what those people say. So think about how you act and what you say in situations that you find stressful.

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.



Myth # 3 Children need to learn 'sight words' before they can read effectively.

There are many words that occur repeatedly in texts. These are called high frequency words or sight words and include words such as *a, the, is, about, and look*. Being able to read these words automatically is beneficial to readers as it is the sight words that hold sentences together. The quicker they are learned, the quicker your child will be able to read complete sentences that make sense to their ears.....but these words must be learned in context.

Children learn these words by reading them over and over again while gaining 'reading mileage' (reading many books, many times). Practising sight words can be helpful as long as they are related back to a text so the child can see why they need to learn them. Using this approach allows their brain to **fire together** and **wire together**.

Think of the word 'love'. The first time a child reads the word 'love', they may struggle and have some difficulty. Gradually the child becomes more and more familiar with the word, and eventually is able to read the word without hesitation or conscious thought. At the end of this evolution, the word becomes one of that child's sight words.

Tips for Supporting your Child's Reading

- Encourage children's curiosity about language and their experimentation with it. Look at patterns in the book and then ask your child to think of all the words that rhyme with a word in the book or that start with the same letter as their name. Make it fun!
- Don't worry if your child has a favourite book that they like to read every day.....enjoy reading this with them. Each reading of the book allows them to delve deeper into the story.
- Read different materials. The cereal box can be great to read in the morning! You can discuss the different fonts and the choice of words on the packaging.
- Help your child start a home library; paperback books are fine. Encourage your child to swap books with friends. Check used book stores. Give books as gifts.



So.....this myth is BUSTED! While knowing 'sight words' will support your child in their reading, it must be applied through reading. Isolated practice won't allow connections to be made in their learning.

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

Defence families are strongest when they are connected with their local communities. Defence Community Organisation provides a number of support and information services to help Defence families connect with and contribute to their local community, and to engage the wider community in support of Defence families. Relocation due to posting is an integral feature of Defence life, which means you may periodically be required to move away from your established support networks and familiar resources.

Getting out into your new community can help you to:

- access existing support mechanisms in place in the community
- create new support networks for yourself
- be informed about local resources, services
- get orientated more quickly and smoothly
- have a richer experience in your new home
- build on your skills and develop strategies for managing challenges
- find people with like interests or experiences
- have fun
- make a difference

Community groups

There are a wide variety of community groups and organisations which may benefit Defence families, including toy libraries, playgroups, Defence partner support groups, craft groups, sporting clubs and many more. Key national support organisations, such as the Defence Special Needs Support Group, also operate on a local level, holding meetings and activities for families.

Defence maintains community centres and neighbourhood houses around Australia, where community group meetings or family orientated activities can be held. Joining local community groups can help you to make friends and create new support networks, and provides a forum for Defence families to share their experiences, skills and strategies.

Community events

Attending events run by these community organisations or by local authorities is a great way to expand your social network and get out into the community. DCO also holds a variety of local events, such as welcome events at the start of the new posting cycle, workshops, information sessions and social and family activities.

How to connect

Our specialist team members - Family Liaison Officers (FLOs) and Community Development Officers (CDOs) - have extensive knowledge of the local community and region and can provide you with advice and information, before or during your posting. FLOs and CDOs can also refer you to appropriate community agencies or resources you may need. Call the all-hours Defence Family Helpline on 1800 624 608 to get personalised advice from your local FLO or CDO.

Education Liaison Officers (EDLOs) are specialists available to provide you with information and advice about the local education system and schools. For more information call the all-hours Defence Family Helpline on 1800 624 608 to get personalised advice from your local FLO, CDO or EDLO.

Contributing to your community

Communities are enriched by the skills, experiences and ideas Defence families bring to them. You might choose to contribute to the community by volunteering in a local organisation or school, participating in a community group or starting your own. Having an active presence in your community will also help to raise awareness of the Defence lifestyle and thus support in the wider community.

This information has been taken from the Defence Community Organisation web page. <http://www.defence.gov.au/DCO/Community/default.asp>

Jackie Sampson – Defence School Transition Aide.

Keep connected to news with:

- 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 <http://www.maribyrnongps.act.edu.au/home>



NOTES SENT OR EMAILED HOME

- P&C Class Carer nomination and sign up note
- 5/6 Lunch time bike program note
- 5/6 Australian War Memorial Soundscapes Project
- Cross Country Volunteers Request
- Canteen Special Lunch Cross Country

it's about you. Always!
Communities@Work



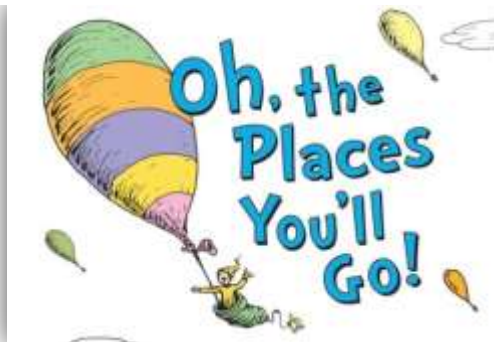
Ph: 0405 124 312

Please notify After Hours care if your child is not attending their booking.

Lights on Learning!

Focusing on LSU

The LSU students have returned to school settled and ready to learn. They continue to follow all school routines well and with a smile on their faces! We have spent time getting to know their new year group teachers and classes. Many children now feel comfortable learning in these spaces and spend time each week engaging successfully. Everyone has engaged in different school events over the past seven weeks including camp, school photos, Questacon science show, Clean Up Australia Day, cricket clinics, book fair, Aqua safe swimming and Harmony Day.



This year we have become Whoville, based on the fictional Dr Seuss land. Our classroom has been decorated with our wonderful artworks based on different Dr Seuss books. We have all enjoyed these books and the art work that follows.



Now that it is week seven, student ILP goals have been set and students are busy working towards improving and achieving different learning goals through programs within the LSU and the wider school environment. Many students are working on their reading, writing, addition, subtraction, multiplication, counting, social interactions and self-help/independence skills throughout each day.

Everyone has been enjoying the updates via our new digital portfolio platform, Seesaw. It is wonderful to be able to share your child's achievements with you throughout the term. If you have any questions or if you haven't been able to join your child's digital portfolio yet, please contact me and I will be able to send home instructions once more or step you through the process after school.

Stacey, Jacque and Nick!



Lights on Learning!

Focusing on the 5/6 unit

Well 5/6 Terabithia have had a busy and exciting start to the year! We have so many stories to share from camp which we wrote about as 'Remember Camp' recounts in class. We used the five senses to ignite our memories. We are certain that you will enjoy reading these later in our Portfolios.

During camp at Borambola the students participated in a range of individual and team building activities including Initiatives and the mud run, rock climbing, archery and kayaking. The teachers were impressed with the way the children worked together or overcame individual challenges to endure some of the activities.

On Tuesday, week six we started our Break 1 bike riding program. Students from year 6 who have already sat their learners test riding have had the privilege of being the first to participate. Please remind children to bring along their own bike and helmet if possible, when it is their week to ride.

We have been having an excellent time working with our new Kindergarten buddies. We have shared many lunch times together. 5/6 Terabithia are really stepping up and taking their role as a big buddy very seriously.

As part of our Social and Emotional Learning at Maribyrnong, year 5/6 have been setting up playtime mats for all students to interact and participate in imaginative play during breaks.

Cricket clinics have been running every Thursday, for the past four weeks. The children have been learning skills in the areas of bowling, batting and fielding.

Thank you for your continuing support throughout this term.

5/6 Team: Emma, Mia, Jasmine, Emily, Jane & Justine.



POSSUM CANTEEN NEWS



Week 8 Term 1	Wednesday 28 March	Thursday 29 March	Friday 30 March
9.00 am - 1.30 pm			Closed for Easter
9.00 am - 12 pm			
11.00 am - 1.30 pm			
Week 9 Term 1	Wednesday 4 April	Thursday 5 April	Friday 6 April
9.00 am - 1.30 pm			* Helpers Needed*
9.00 am - 12 pm			Special Lunch
11.00 am - 1.30 pm			Jane

If you are available to help in the canteen, or if you would like to be included on future canteen rosters please see Rouvay or Andrew in the canteen or call 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.

P&C NEWS

WORKIN' GEAR SCHOOLS

OPEN 6 DAYS A WEEK

www.WorkinGear.com.au Phone 02 6255 1029

Schools

Local and regional school uniforms, kids hats, jackets and more!

Workwear

Boots & Jackets
Safety Gear
and more!

PLUS
Balloons!

NOW OPEN!

2 LUKE ST HOLT

PRELOVED

THE JOY OF SECOND HAND

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

We are in need of more 2nd hand uniforms to sell and are accepting all preloved, washed, re-sellable uniforms.

Hats can be purchased through the canteen Wednesday to Friday.

School Banking is in the Canteen every Wednesday from 8.45 am to 9.00 am.



To explore more about School Banking visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking



MARIBYRNONG PRIMARY EASTER CELEBRATION

To celebrate Easter, the P&C will be holding a 'lucky door prize' in the whole school assembly on 29 March 2018.

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

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 27 March.

If you would like to meet some P&C members and help out with wrapping the prizes, please email maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com



Canberra City Gymnastics Club

10% off the first full term of fees when you mention having a child at Maribyrnong Primary School

- New enrolments only
- Valid for siblings and students of Maribyrnong
- Registration and insurance fees will not be discounted

Two great, convenient locations:
 -196 Mouat Street, Lyneham
 -85 Chandler Street, Belconnen
 To enrol or for more information, please call 6251 1131 or email office@canberracity.org.au

Larissa Dann



PARENT EFFECTIVENESS TRAINING (P.E.T)

Supported by Parentline ACT

Learn respectful communication skills for a peaceful, gentle approach to parenting, without the use of punishment or reward. For more information: www.parentskills.com.au read [P.E.T. on a Page](#); and join the [Parent Skills Facebook](#) community.

Contact: info@parentskills.com.au

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

STAFF EMAILS

School Executive

jennifer.howard@ed.act.edu.au
jantiena.batt@ed.act.edu.au
anna.thorpe@ed.act.edu.au

School Psychologist

judy.marriott@ed.act.edu.au

Front Office

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

DSTA

jacqueline.sampson@ed.act.edu.au

5/6

emma.wild@ed.act.edu.au
mia.grant@ed.act.edu.au
emily.vangalen@ed.act.edu.au
jasmine.paunovic@ed.act.edu.au
jane.carr@ed.act.edu.au
justine.minchin@ed.act.edu.au

Year 4

henry.warre@ed.act.edu.au
michelle.ashworth@ed.act.edu.au
amy.craven@ed.act.edu.au
elissa.penfold@ed.act.edu.au

Year 3

kylie.apps@ed.act.edu.au
fiona.mcewan@ed.act.edu.au
megan.durham@ed.act.edu.au
rebec.kirpson-colley@ed.act.edu.au
natalie.walker@ed.act.edu.au

Year 2

symone.chipreo@ed.act.edu.au
tanya.maybury@ed.act.edu.au
lisa.riepon@ed.act.edu.au
alison.nilon@ed.act.edu.au
sophie.dash@ed.act.edu.au
leeanne.walls@ed.act.edu.au

Year 1

jane.baillie@ed.act.edu.au
emma.jelbart@ed.act.edu.au
sarah.baird@ed.act.edu.au
peter.knights@ed.act.edu.au
alexandra.avis@ed.act.edu.au

Kindergarten

camille.wise@ed.act.edu.au
tegan.arnold@ed.act.edu.au
karina.harris@ed.act.edu.au
kacey.tait@ed.act.edu.au

LSU

stacey.howard@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
niomi.ceely@ed.act.edu.au
kelly.perrett@ed.act.edu.au
nicola.toms@ed.act.edu.au
merrilyn.pepper@ed.act.edu.au

Specialist Teachers

sarah.dorrough@ed.act.edu.au
elissa.penfold@ed.act.edu.au
keilly.pownall@ed.act.edu.au
lynette.lisacek@ed.act.edu.au
leslie.carr@ed.act.edu.au
rowena.king@ed.act.edu.au

COMMUNITY NEWS

Possum Play @ Maribyrnong

a 'stay and play' playgroup

Weekly from Friday 9 March

9.30-10.30am

for 3 year olds
and their siblings



Curiosity

Creativity

Community Connections