



Harrison School Newsletter 31 January 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our new students, families and staff. Yesterday we welcomed 66 Preschoolers and 294 new students from Kindergarten to Year 10 (245 left at the end of last year so we have net growth of 115 students, taking our enrolment to a little over 1830). You may have noticed some new teacher faces in our classrooms too, as we also welcomed 24 staff to the school. They are:

Preschool	Natasha Taylor	5/6	Ashley Howse	7-10	Jennifer McInnes
K	Rhianna Byrne	5/6	Sarah Hughes	7-10	Matt Pappalardo
1/2	Tanya de Gier	5/6	David Jess	7-10	Dylan Smedley
1/2	Jolene Hazle	5/6	Kieryn Sands	Team Leaders	
1/2	Ombre Perrin	5/6	Cara Slattery	5/6	Arianna Cansdell
3/4	David Finch	7-10	Hakan Cosan	9/10	Andraya Stapp-Gaunt
3/4	Cara Minary	7-10	Sarah Fell	Deputy Principal	
3/4	Jamie Smith	7-10	Heather Ferguson	P-2	Nada Zarac
Music	Janine De Simone	7-10	Karen Longmuir		

PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS are scheduled for this week and next. Please see the information below.

Assemblies

Our whole school assemblies are in the Gym in Weeks 5 and 10 on the Wednesday at 9:15. For Semester One, we will hold Years 5-10 assemblies on odd weeks at 9:15am in the Gym starting in Week 1, 1 February. Preschool to Year 4 assemblies will be held in even weeks starting in week 2, 8 February in the Gym. Class teachers will contact parents if their child is receiving a school certificate or participating in the assembly. School certificates are awarded for recognising excellence in achievement, citizenship or endeavour or for showing the school values.

Diary

Term 1 Week 1

Wednesday 1 February

Yr. 5 - 10 Assembly 9:15am - Gym
 Kindergarten Information Session
 5:00pm – Hall

Term 1 Week 2

Monday 6

Kindergarten – Yr. 6 AFL Clinics

Tuesday 7 February

Kindergarten – Yr. 6 AFL Clinics
 P & C Community Morning Tea
 Yr. 1/2 Information Session 5:45pm - Gym
 Yr. 3/4 Information Session 6:30pm - Gym

Yr. 3/4 Camp Information Session

Wednesday 8

Pre– Yr.4 Assembly 9:15am – Gym

Thursday 9

Kindergarten – Yr. 6 AFL Clinics
 Yr. 5/6 Information Session 5:30pm – Senior PATS Bldg.
 Yrs. 7 - 10 Information Session 6:30pm - Senior PATS Bldg.

Term 1 Week 3

Kindergarten PIPS

Monday 13

Harrison School Swimming Trials - Ages 8 – 16 – Gungahlin Leisure Centre

REMINDER: For **ALL** events in the Gym please wear flat-soled shoes **ONLY**

[2017 Calendar](#)



More information about the Harrison School award system can be found at [Harrison School Award System](#). Parents, friends and family are welcome to every assembly.

Inspire – Personalise - Learn

Last week I spoke to staff about the Harrison Vision and how realising this would be a focus for us this year. At assemblies in the next two weeks I will talk to all students about focusing on the personal goals they want to work towards this year, being inspired to learn and striving for their goals. I will encourage them to set the bar high and challenge themselves.

I will also remind students of the Harrison School Values of Teamwork, Respect, Integrity, Inclusion, Endeavour and Resilience. These are fundamental to how we operate at our school and I will share my expectation that all community members, whether student, staff, parent or volunteer, 'live' the School Values through their words and actions.

Communication

We attempt to communicate with our community members in a number of ways including this newsletter, our Community News publication, the Harrison School Daily News blog (<https://harrisonschoolnews.com/>) the school calendar (<https://harrisonschoolnews.com/harrison-school-calendar/>), the Harrison School P&C Facebook page, email, telephone and face to face conversations. I encourage you to take time to drop in and meet your child's/children's teacher(s) - the information sessions outlined above might be a great time to do this - or at least drop them an email to introduce yourself. Teacher email addresses are in the format firstname.lastname@ed.act.edu.au. If you have any queries or concerns, please contact the class teacher in the first instance.

Harrison School Board

Nominations, which opened yesterday, are sought for one parent representative and two student representatives. Terms for Board membership are generally two years. Nominations close on Monday 13 February. For more information or to nominate,

please contact the front office.

Correction to Information

I must apologise to parents of students in preschool for the error in the information regarding start times. Preschool classes commence at 9:00am, not 8:55am as listed in the Start Year letter sent out last week. Preschool classes end at 3:00pm.

Outside School Hours Care (OSHC)

It's been brought to my attention that there is a considerable waiting list for OSHC at Harrison. I am looking at possible solutions and spaces that could be offered for OSHC use that don't impact on student learning and will discuss this with our provider as a matter of priority. I will send out further information as it comes to hand.

Construction

You may have noticed the construction that has started over the break at the back of the Woodlands Building. This is a new building to accommodate the growth in our student population. I will provide more information on the building in the next week or so.

Car Park

Our P&C have collaborated with a traffic engineering company to come up with some changes to support the safety of our students and provide better traffic flow in the main car park. You should have received via email information about trial measures that have been put in place and if you missed this the information is available on the P&C Facebook page and the Harrison School Daily News blog. P&C members and I will be in the car park during mornings and afternoons this week to help with the implementation of the changes for the trial and to answer questions you might have. Your feedback will be sought later in the term and I ask that you support the trial and remember to be kinder than necessary if you are approached and asked to move your vehicle. Finally, with school starting back I will take this opportunity to remind you all about the importance of keeping to the 40 km/h speed limit

around the school and the 10 km/h limit in the car parks, paying extra attention as you drive around these areas and parking only in the designated spots.

Jason Holmes

DATES FOR TERM 1 2017

INFORMATION SESSIONS

Wednesday 1 February

Kindergarten 2017 Information Session: 5:00 – 5:45pm – Green Building

Tuesday 7 February

Yr.1/2 & 3/4 combined Information Session 5:45 – 6:30pm - Gym

Yr. 3/4 Camp Information Session 6:30-7pm - Gym

Thursday 9 February

Yr. 5/6 Information Session 5:30 – 6:30pm - Senior PATS Building

Yr. 7 - 10 Information Session 6:30 – 7:30pm - Senior PATS Building

Year 3/4 2017 Camp Information Session

The Year 3/4 2017 Camp Information Session will be held on Tuesday 7 February at 6:30pm following the Yr. 3/4 Information Session in the Gym.

2017 Aquatic Carnivals - Dates

Carnivals are always early in the beginning of the year; put these in your diary!!!

- **Harrison Swimming Carnival** – Monday 13 February, Gungahlin Pool

For 8 -16 yr old competent 50m swimmers.

Events include all strokes, 50m & 100m

- **Aqua Fun Day** – Monday 20 February, Big Splash Macquarie. All classes Yr 5 -10, aquatic activities all day
- **Please complete permission slips and medical notes and return to the school.**

HARRISON SCHOOL BOARD

We have one parent and two student positions that will be vacant on the Harrison School Board from April 2017. Nominations for the Harrison School Board open at 11:00am on **Monday 30 January** and close at 11:00am on **Monday 13**

February. If you wish to nominate for the school board and would like to know what the position entails please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Holmes.

The contact email address for parent representatives on the school board.

hsbparentrep@outlook.com

HOW TO HELP THE FRONT OFFICE SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

FRONT OFFICE HOURS

Harrison School Front Office hours are:

Monday – Friday

8:30am – 3:30pm

For all enquiries and calls

Student Absences

If your child/ren are absent for any reason from school could you please call the school on 61422200, or email the school at

Harrison.Absences@ed.act.edu.au

Please include the students name and class.

Money

Money for excursions and events collected throughout the year is handed to teachers in the classrooms and is then forwarded to the front office for processing. We request your co-operation with the following:

1. Please enclose correct money.
2. Place money and permission note in an envelope clearly marked with the child's name, teacher's name and purpose.
3. Please ensure coins are not able to slip out of the envelope by folding over the opening edge of the envelope. **PLEASE DO NOT WRAP MONEY IN CLING WRAP OR STICKY TAPE.**
4. Individual contributions are preferred, but if it is necessary to send money to cover more than one child, please be sure to enclose each child's permission note. It is preferred that money be sent to the class teacher, not the front office.

5. Students from Years 7-10 need to hand money directly into the Senior Office by 9:30am.

EXCURSION/CAMP PAYMENTS

Please ensure when depositing into the Harrison School bank account for direct deposit that you include: Students Name and Excursion details.

Emergency Medical Plans

Any student requiring an Emergency Medical Plan medical **MUST** have their plan updated yearly as required by the Education Directorate. If your child requires an Emergency Medical Plan please see the Front Office for the appropriate form required.

Medication

If children require medication during school hours, please collect the required forms which are available from the front office. Due to education directorate policy, school staff are unable to administer medication without this authority. If the medication is prescribed by a doctor, it is also preferable to have the doctor sign the form. All medication to be administered must be in the medication container/box from the chemist with dosage and time of administration and handed to the front office staff.

Clothing

Please mark all clothing clearly with your child's **full name**. Lost property can then be returned promptly to the owner.

Contact Details

For the well-being of your child please keep us informed of up-to-date contact phone numbers, addresses and essential details. We would also appreciate being informed of any changes in domestic arrangements in your child's family.

If you require further information on general procedures within the school please do not hesitate to contact us on 6142 2200

Thank you for your assistance.

Debbie Carne – Business Manager

on the school board.

hsbparentrep@outlook.com

DEFENCE TRANSITION MENTOR HARRISON SCHOOL

A Defence Transition Mentor (DTM) provides assistance and support to the children of Australian Defence Force members as they move from school to school and during times of parental absence.

The DTM would develop and implement a range of resources and activities to assist these children and their families to integrate into the school community and to increase their ability to cope with the military lifestyle.

This is a contract position starting ASAP to 30 June 2017. The continuation of the position beyond this date is dependent on funding from the Australian Department of Defence.

The DTM is an employee of Harrison School and is responsible to the School Principal or nominee for everyday activities.

Interested applicants may obtain a copy of the DTM role description and selection criteria from the school office.

For information relating to this position please contact Debbie Carne on 61422200

Application close on 14 February 2017



DEFENCE NEWS

Welcome back for 2017 to all our continuing families. To all of our new Defence families arriving this year, welcome to Harrison School and to Canberra! I hope that your move has gone smoothly and that you settle into our community very quickly. At the moment we are in the process of advertising for a new DTM. I have Jake Provan assisting me for the next few weeks so that we may endeavour to see as many children as we can and start our activity groups next week. Please watch this space each week, for Defence information and details about activity groups that

we will be offering for both students and parents throughout the year.

DSTA: available Mon – Wed and Friday during school hours.

DTM: available Mon – Thurs, school hours

I look forward to meeting you,

Sarah

sarah.mcgavin@ed.act.edu.au

STUDENT INJURY INSURANCE AND AMBULANCE TRANSPORT

The 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.**

P & C NEWS

The Harrison School P & C Association will be holding their Annual General Meeting on **Tuesday 15 February at 7:00pm** in the Library. **ALL** parents welcome.

HARRISON SCHOOL FAIR



Saturday 1 April 2017 3:00 – 7:00pm

Harrison School P and C welcomes students, staff and parents, returning and new. There are a few things on this month so please put the following dates in your diary:

February 1 - Wednesday at 7:00pm. Fair Planning Meeting. If you are able to help out with our upcoming Fair, please consider attending this meeting. If you are unable to attend and still wish to help please contact our Fair Co-ordinators at HarrisonFair@hotmail.com

February 15 - Wednesday at 7:00pm. P and C Annual General Meeting. Come along and find out what your P and C does, and be a part of deciding where the next year will take us in supporting Harrison Students.

February 22 - Wednesday at 7:00pm. Fair Planning Meeting.

In addition, we need donations of second hand books, toys and household items for the Trash 'n' Treasure stall as well as new items for our Lucky Hamper Raffle. Please drop off items to the room to the left of the front office.

Remember to like the P and C Facebook Page to keep up to date with events.

Please see the attached flier.

CANTEEN NEWS

The friendly canteen staff are always looking for volunteers, if you have a spare hour or two your help would be greatly appreciated, just drop into the canteen and say hello.

Please see the link below for the 2016 Canteen Menu.

[2017 CANTEEN MENU](#)

[FLEXI -SCHOOLS ONLINE ORDERING](#)

[NEW FLEXI SCHOOLS LINK IN STUDENT ID CARD YR. 7 – 10](#)

VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL DONATIONS

Thank you to everyone who kindly donated to the Vinnies Christmas Appeal Giving Tree last year. Your donations were greatly appreciated.

SCHOOL BANKING



Welcome back to school for another exciting school year, we hope you all had a great holiday and are ready to keep saving your money. School Banking will recommence **this Wednesday**, so don't forget to bring your yellow School Banking wallets and give them to your teacher. We will have a new theme and some really exciting new rewards. We are waiting on Parent Information Packs to arrive and we will send them out as soon as we have them.

In the meantime, if you would like to be part of the School Banking program you just need to open a Youthsaver Account at any Commonwealth Bank branch.

We look forward to some great savings this term.

Maria Sanchez-Worsnop and Linda Barrack
School Banking Coordinators