



Harrison School Newsletter 07 April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a term! When you consider what the year started like with bushfires and air quality monitoring and now with the impact of Coronavirus, we are certainly having our capacity to adapt and be resilient tested. I've been extremely grateful of how you, our parent community, have responded. You have been calm and considered with your questions and decision making, thinking about the well-being of our community and your own family. Our staff continue to be appreciative of your support as their profession has been turned on its head. They have been busy learning new skills, planning in different ways and preparing a range of learning options for their students - it's been very impressive to watch.

We are still awaiting advice about what Term 2 will look like in relation to student attendance at school. We will communicate this information to families as soon as we know.

This week we are trialling the new online learning platforms across the school. While the experience will be quite different, I hope you enjoy engaging in it and helping your children with their learning. If you have questions or get stuck, please remember to email the classroom teacher. I sent home some [expectations and guidelines](#) last week and I hope you find these helpful as we all navigate the new learning landscape together.

Some points worth revisiting:

- remember to be kind to ourselves and each other - this is all new and we are learning together
- learning is 'messy' - we will make mistakes, have failures and successes - all of these things are OK
- parents/carers - we don't expect you to be the experts in the learning
- observe and help your children in the Google Meets but please don't join in or disrupt lessons - email teachers after the lesson if you have questions

Term 1 Week 10 2020

Thursday 09 April

- Last Day of Term 1

Friday 10 April

- GOOD FRIDAY

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Friday 10 April – Monday 27 April

Term 2 Week 1 2020

Tuesday 28 April

- First Day of Term 2

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

FRONT OFFICE HOURS

Harrison School Front Office hours are:

**Monday – Friday
8:30am – 3:30pm**



- set some routine for your children but don't try to replicate a school day at home - this will be exhausting for all involved
- remember that when your child is in a Meet with their camera and microphone on, everyone in that Meet has a 'window' into your house - think about what's going on in the background

I've asked teachers to give me access to their classrooms and I'm looking forward to joining in 😊. I managed to get into 3/4RP and 7/8JP today and it was great to see student faces. If you're looking for additional learning activities for your children please remember to check out the [Home Learning Resource page](#). Alan Harding, our 7-10 Art teacher has also shared this [link](#).

As I've mentioned before in my newsletter articles, the school has a membership with Parenting Ideas. This provides our community with access to information through their blog, webinars, articles, and courses, which you can access [here](#). Some have a cost, and many are free. Below are three webinar recordings and their voucher codes so you can access them for free. Topics are:

- Teaching young people about healthy relationships (Voucher code: HEALTHY)
- Sibling Fighting (Voucher code: HARMONY)
- Future proofing your child (Voucher code: FUTURE)

One of our school psychologists, Rhonda, has also provided links to some resources that might be useful in helping children if they are experiencing anxiety around COVID 19.

<https://www.heysigmund.com/help-kids-feel-calm/>
<https://childmind.org/coping-during-covid-19-resources-for-parents/>

Attached to the newsletter email you'll find a flyer for the new OSHClub [April Holiday program](#). OSHClub are definitely open for business, have put additional social distancing and cleaning protocols in place and would love to work with your children during the April school holidays.

I hope you all stay safe these holidays.

Jason Holmes

ASSEMBLY CERTIFICATES

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Congratulations to our Principals Award Recipients:

Andy V	Shuhe L	Annalise S
Cooper T	Summer B	Anya J
Elena N	Benjamin B	Zia C

Please note the LJ Hooker Awards for Term 1 have been postponed.

GOOD NEWS STORY

Amongst the craziness of 2020, I thought I would share a good news story with you all. Sam J in 3/4LM was awarded the Mon Pearson Trophy by Softball ACT for the best and fairest Teeball player in the ACT region. Softball ACT mentioned that his sportsmanship award is based on his "efforts as a player, and a good human... and was voted by the opposition coaches over the most recent season!" This is a great example of one of our students displaying the Harrison School Values outside of the school grounds. Congratulations Sam!

BASE REPORTS

'BASE Reports' (previously known as PIPS reports) were due to be issued this week, however due to the global issues caused by COVID-19, the Education Directorate (ED) is yet to receive the dataset needed to produce these reports. As soon as it is received, the ED will endeavour to quality assure the data and provide feedback to schools for distribution.

As is the case with any aspect of your child's education, should you have any concerns, please contact your child's Homeroom teacher as they are best placed to provide quality feedback.

READ AND WRITE FOR GOOGLE

Read and Write for Google (RW4G) is an assistive technology tool that supports students when undertaking reading, writing and research. It can be used by students both at school and in the home. It can be installed as a Google Chrome Extension from the Chrome Web Store. The ED is offering workshops for parents to develop their understanding of the tool to enable them to support their child/ren's use of the tool within the home.

The first workshop will be held on 7 May 2020 and the workshop will run again on 25 August 2020.

Read and Write for Google training for teachers will be offered in term 2, 2020. More information can be found [here](#).

COVID-19 TRANSLATED RESOURCES



It's important for everyone to be able to understand the most up to date information and advice relating to COVID-19.

If you have a friend, family, neighbour or someone you know that doesn't speak English as their first language, let them know there are translated resources available on COVID-19 at <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/translated>

If they require translating or interpreting services, they can call the national Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450.

ALUMINIUM COMPOSITE PANELS (ACP)

In 2017, the ACT Government commenced an audit of Government owned buildings for cladding materials consisting of either Aluminium Composite Panels (ACP) or Expanded Polystyrene (EPS).

Both of these cladding types are potentially combustible and, in the case of a fire, can increase the likelihood of a fire spreading more quickly.

The audit was conducted by a team from Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (EPSDD) who undertook visual assessments of government owned buildings and found that some buildings may have potentially combustible ACP or EPS, including a number of ACT public schools.

Experts from the Environment, Planning, Sustainable Development Directorate (EPSDD) have assessed that all of these buildings are safe to occupy.

Some of our school buildings have been found to contain some Aluminium Composite Panels (ACP).

It is important to note that the presence of ACP cladding does not necessarily mean that there is an increased fire risk to your school community.

There are four types of ACP and a more comprehensive assessment is required to determine which type your school has. This work will soon be undertaken by qualified Fire Engineers to assess the fire risk these materials may pose.

As the comprehensive assessment is undertaken, we will be advised of the type and location of the potentially combustible cladding and we will work with the assessment team on plans to mitigate any risk through management strategies or removal of the material.

The safety of our students and staff is paramount and this work is being prioritised. General information about cladding in schools is available on the ED website [here](#).

SCHOOL PHOTOS



We are expecting to receive school photos in Term 2. We are currently working out the best way to give families their photo orders and once this process has been decided we will communicate this to families.

NAPLAN



On March 20, 2020 the Education Council announced that NAPLAN testing will not proceed in 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Not proceeding will greatly assist our schools and our teachers to focus wholly on educating our students in this challenging time. The measures in place to combat the spread of COVID-19 would have impacted on participation rates, the delivery of tests, and the validity of NAPLAN data.

PUBLIC HOLIDAY DATE 2020

Monday 27 April 2020 is declared a public holiday.

This year, ANZAC day falls on Saturday 25 April 2020 and consequently, Monday 27 April 2020 has been declared a public holiday. This is in addition to the ANZAC Day public holiday on Saturday 25 April 2020.

The Term 2, 2020 dates information on the ED website and the Public Holiday information on ACT Government website has been updated to reflect the public holiday. Term 2, 2020 starts on Tuesday 28 April.

LIBRARY NEWS

Sending a big hello from the library to everyone at home. We hope you are all well and staying happy and safe inside.

Here are some reminders about online resources available to help with home learning:

On the school **Backpack** you can find our **Harrison School library page** and you can access the following :www.backpack.ed.act.edu.au

-  **Oliver** for borrowing eBooks and audio books
- **WorldBook** online.
▶ [ClickView](#)
- **ClickView** - an online video collection of educational clips and movies and documentaries.

Chief Minister's Reading Challenge (30 books)

Please remind your child to read every day and record the title of the book on the record sheet that I have

included in the library Google Classroom. Please save a copy to their classroom. I will be asking students to submit the forms at the end of July.

Scholastic Book Fair



Book Fairs

The Book Fair that was scheduled for Term 2 has been postponed. Scholastic will advise us about a new date later this year.

Book Week 2020

Book Week celebrations have been postponed until Term 4. The Children's Book Council of Australia will provide further information on this soon.

SORA

Students can access eBooks using the SORA app. Instructions are on the library google classroom.

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1HdFcjmJsOSXkfGdQkvRgRal6GCBSG1pl&authuser=0>

Happy reading!

Happy Easter!



DEFENCE NEWS

Well it certainly has been a time of many changes for everyone. If your children or you are struggling or require extra support, please don't hesitate to contact us and we will do our best to support you.

Alternatively, please remember that you also have access to the following services:

Open Arms - 1800 011 046

Kookaburra Kids - www.kookaburrakids.org.au

At the moment, Kookaburra Kids have suspended all activities/programs for the next 3 months but are in the process of exploring online options and are still taking online registrations.

DCO Support for ADF Families:

DCO have recently sent out the latest copy of the DCO-Canberra E-news. This newsletter is packed full of information relevant to Defence families and happenings in Canberra. If you wish to subscribe to the newsletter, please email: dco.canberra@defence.gov.au

Coming Up: ANZAC Day Driveway Service – Saturday April 25 @ 6:00am

**ANZAC DAY
SATURDAY 25 APRIL 2020**

Driveway at Dawn Parade

To all Australians,
let's stand as one from
6am Saturday 25 April 2020
at the end of your
driveways, balconies, porches
and front yards
for a minute's silence to
honour our veterans and active
service people

#drivewayatdawnparade

Sarah and Zoe

sarah.mcgavin@ed.act.edu.au

zoe.rossiter@ed.act.edu.au



DEFENCE KIDS

Please remind your children that we have Defence Google Classrooms with some ANZAC inspired activities and well-being material. The codes to access these were sent to you last week. If you didn't receive the email, please let us know.

CANTEEN NEWS

The canteen is closed until further notice.

SECOND-HAND UNIFORM SHOP

The second-hand uniform shop is closed until further notice.

SCHOOL BANKING



School Banking has been postponed until further notice.



OSHClub

April School Holiday Schedule

OSHClub Before & After School Care
Building Brighter Futures Together

Harrison School
Monday, 13th April to Friday, 24th April 2020

NOTICE - ALLERGY - Please ensure all food is nut-free

Monday 13 April
PUBLIC HOLIDAY
SERVICE CLOSED

Monday 20 April
INCREDIBLE INDIA
IN-SERVICE
Today we'll journey to the mystical world of India to explore one of the world's most exciting, vibrant and colourful cultures!

Tuesday 14 April
GREEN MACHINE
IN-SERVICE
It's a great day to go green today! Dress, eat and think green all day.

Tuesday 21 April
AMAZON RAINFOREST
IN-SERVICE
Head to South America to discover the people and animals of the Amazon rainforest.

Wednesday 15 April
TALENT SHOW!
IN-SERVICE
Do you have a special or unique talent? You will have your chance to perform in front of a crowd or maybe you will learn something new!

Wednesday 22 April
WINTER OLYMPIC DAY
IN-SERVICE
Go for gold in a day of fun Olympic challenges. There are lots of medals on offer, how many will you take home?

Thursday 16 April
CHALLENGE THE EDUCATORS
IN-SERVICE
Today it's your turn to be the educator! Put your educators through their paces with various challenges. Let's get creative!

Thursday 23 April
WHEELIE GOOD FUN
IN-SERVICE
Get active and bring your wheels along for a day of riding fun and games. Helmets and safety gear must be worn, no equipment can be shared.

Friday 17 April
WHEELS DAY
IN-SERVICE
Enjoy your bikes, scooters, skates, blades or skateboards for a day of riding fun. Helmets and safety gear must be worn, no equipment can be shared.

Friday 24 April
PIJAMA PARTY
IN-SERVICE
Come dressed in your Onesie or Pajamas today as we jump around and play party games!

Mon - Fri 7:00am - 6:00pm
Harrison School - 0418 223 198
20 Womersley Street Harrison ACT 2914

Daily price: \$66.50 | Excursions and incursions are an additional cost to the daily fee and are charged for each child that attends whether they choose to participate or not.

Book now at oshclub.com.au | be quick as places are limited

Customer Service 1300 395 735

More information available [here](#).

P&C NEWS

Facebook Pages

A reminder that the Harrison School P&C has a Facebook page you can follow to keep up to date with all school news -

<https://www.facebook.com/HarrisonSchoolPandC/>

In addition, the P&C host year level Facebook pages you can follow to keep up to date with information specific to each year level:

- [Preschool](#)
- [Kindergarten](#)
- [Years 1/2](#)
- [Years 3/4](#)
- [Years 5/6](#)
- [Years 7/8](#)
- [Years 9/10](#)

Please send a request to join each relevant year level Facebook group. You will be asked to complete a couple of questions to verify your eligibility to join.