



Harrison School Newsletter 28 May 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to week 5. The year seems to be flying by and our calendar is as full as ever with events happening across the school that enrich the learning for our students. It's worth checking the calendar regularly or subscribing to it, which you can do from the [Harrison School home page](#)

Annual Action Plan

In my last article, I shared some of our academic growth success and mentioned our Strategic Plan. Our Strategic Plan is a five-year plan of school improvement and each year we develop an Annual Action Plan (AAP) where we prioritise our improvement efforts and document our areas of focus for the year. You can access the 2019 AAP [here](#) on our website.

One of our whole school priorities for this year's AAP involves reviewing our Universal Practices. Our Universal Practices essentially outline good teaching practices and strategies to ensure high quality learning is happening in every classroom. Inquiry learning, integrating curriculum (linking different areas), differentiating instruction, collaborative learning, seeking student voice and, using formative assessment (sorry about the "teacher speak" - I'm happy to flesh these out in a subsequent article) are all part of what we consider to be good practice that benefits all students. Our work this year in reviewing the Universal Practices is to explore current best practice for teaching and learning ensure relevant, research-based, high-quality learning continues to occur in every classroom.

Book Fair & National Simultaneous Storytime Day

Thank you to the parents who visited our Book Fair and invested in promoting a love of reading through buying some good quality books. I managed to staff the fair one afternoon and thoroughly enjoyed the excitement of the kids as they shared their selections with me. If you weren't able to get to the Book Fair, never fear - there is a great selection of books available for students to borrow from the library as

Term 2 Week 5 2019

Wednesday 29

- Primary Nth/Gungahlin Cross Country 8:30am

Thursday 30

- Secondary North Region Cross Country Yr.7-10
- Reconciliation Day Assembly 9:15 - 10:15am

Friday 31

- 10 – 12 Years Athletics Carnival

Term 2 Week 6 2019

Tuesday 4 June

- Yr. 9-10 Student Fringe Festival

Wednesday 5

- Yr. 7-10 Assembly

Friday 7

- 8 – 9 Years Athletics Carnival

Term 2 Week 7 2019

Wednesday 12

- P – 6 Assembly
- ACT 12 & U – 13 & O Combined Cross Country

Thursday 13

- 7 – 10 Yr. Boys Rugby League 9's
- Harrison Hoppers School Demonstration

Friday 14

- 8 – 9 Yr. old Athletics Carnival

2019 Calendar

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



well. Coinciding with our Book Fair, last Wednesday was National Simultaneous Storytime day and I was fortunate enough to get to read Alpacas with Maracas over the school PA system to our students. I've received a bit of feedback from students and apparently my reading and maraca playing wasn't too bad :).

It was part of a great day that highlighted the joy and diversity of a principal's role - read a story to students, attend a year 9/10 Hospitality Canape party where I got to sample some very impressive student-made culinary delights, spend some time in open areas of learning communities to observe and connect with students and staff, then take my position on a system wide policy advisory group..... it's certainly never dull!

Car park and Tram

I'll put another call out to parents about the use of the car park in the afternoons, in particular. A number of parents are parking in the Pick Up/Drop Off zones rather than slowly circulating the car park and only pulling in when their children are there. I have seen our car park when people have done this, and it does work well and safely. Please reconsider before pulling into and parking in one of these zones.

I also wanted to remind parents that the school car park isn't part of the Transport Canberra network and so shouldn't be used as a Park & Ride car park. Please don't leave your car parked at the school while you hop on the light rail to travel to and from work.

Quick Read

Harrison School has a membership with Parenting Ideas that allows parents to access a number of resources for free. Attached to the email this newsletter came in is an article titled, *Helping Teenagers Manage Friendship Issues*. At the end of the article there are also details about an upcoming Parenting Ideas webinar titled, *Teaching girls to build each other up* that you can access for free.

Jason.

STUDENTS ARRIVING LATE TO SCHOOL

ALL students arriving late to school **MUST** sign in at either the main Front office or the Senior office.

FRONT OFFICE HOURS

Harrison School Front Office hours are:

Monday – Friday

8:30am – 3:30pm

For all enquiries and calls

PAYMENTS TO THE SCHOOL

When sending in any payment to the school, please ensure that you complete the envelope provided with the student's name and the completed and signed permission note is placed inside the envelope. This will ensure that you receive the correct receipt from the school.

DIRECT DEPOSIT PAYMENTS:

Please ensure when depositing into the Harrison School bank account for direct deposit that you include your child's name and the excursion details. Thank you for your assistance.

DROP BOX

We have installed a secure Letter Box in the left-hand end of the counter in the main front office. The purpose of this letterbox is to enable parents, carers and students to drop off payments, notes, documents and any paperwork that you do **NOT** need to discuss with a staff member.

IMPORTANT - 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 your child's **FIRST AND LAST NAME** and **CLASS**.

REMINDER

ALL students **MUST** be signed in and out of the school by a parent or carer. If you need to add a parent/guardian to your child's contact details, please come to the front office to fill in the appropriate form.

Preschool – Yr. 6 students **MUST** be signed out from the main administration office before they are collected from class.

Years 7 – 10 students **MUST** be signed in and out by a parent or carer from the senior office.

SCHOOL CAR PARKING

School car parking and explanation of the various coloured zones/areas.

BLUE coloured zones are for **DROP** and **GO** and **COLLECT** and **GO ONLY - NOT PARKING** (cars not to be left unattended by driver).

WHITE coloured zones are for parking

YELLOW coloured zones are for Disabled parking

RED coloured zones are **NO PARKING AREAS**

Thank you for your support in following the car park zones.

If parents are concerned about car parking issues, please email: parking.operations@act.gov.au with a photo to report a car illegally parked around the school. Please include the date, time and any other relevant information such as parked in a no parking area.

PARKING AROUND SCHOOLS

Don't take shortcuts when it comes to *parking* safety around our *schools*. Access Canberra will be actively monitoring all *school* areas using Licence Plate Recognition vans, targeting illegal and unsafe *parking*:

- at signposted 'no stopping' or 'no parking' zones
- in bus zones
- on zebra crossings
- in disabled bays
- on nature strips and across footpaths
- in bus or bike lanes

- where the driver has blocked off nearby residents' driveways

Penalties for doing the wrong thing range from \$114 upwards to \$600. If you're doing the wrong thing - you will get caught - and fined.

Remember!

It's okay to *park* a little further away and walk the rest of the way. While at the time it might feel inconvenient, every time you do the wrong thing, you put a life at risk.

Consider!

Having a pre-determined meeting spot agreed on with your kids. That way if you are late, they know where to wait - and you don't have to rush.

More options

If you are looking for alternatives to get the kids to and from *school*, why not consider:

Public Transport

Transport Canberra provides a range of options for *school* kids via either a dedicated *school* service or a regular route service.

Active Streets for Schools

Riding, walking, scooting or skating are simple ways to incorporate physical activity into everyday lives and daily journeys.

Active Streets for Schools makes it easier and safer for children to ride or walk to *school*. Not only will this get kids active, it will give parents peace of mind that the route to *school* is safe and easy to follow.

It is also a fun way to get to and from *school* and helps alleviate some of the traffic congestion created by parents dropping kids off at the *school* gate.

PRESCHOOL ENROLMENT APPLICATIONS FOR 2020

Preschool enrolment applications for 2020 opened on Monday 29 April 2019. Please go to the Education Directorate website or follow the link below for enrolment applications:

[Enrolling in an ACT Public School](#)



NCCD FACT SHEET

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability is an annual collection that counts the number of school students receiving an adjustment due to disability and the level of adjustment they are receiving to access education on the same basis as other students.

The national data collection is conducted in August each year. To read further about the NCCD, follow this link: [NCCD Fact sheet for Parents, guardians and carers](#)

Or visit the NCCD Portal <https://www.nccd.edu.au/>

LIBRARY NEWS

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK

A reminder that we are taking orders for the Entertainment Book 2019. You can purchase it from the school or online by following the link below. Thank you for your support.

<https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/2d6190>



OVERDUE NOTICES

Overdue notices will be issued this week. Please remind your children to return their overdue books as soon as possible. Thank you for your support.

BOOK FAIR

The Book Fair was a wonderful success. It was nice to see the students getting excited about books. Thank you to all the families that supported us by purchasing books for their children.

A big THANK YOU to the lovely staff who volunteered their time to help us, it was really appreciated.



ACT UP! STUDENT FRINGE FESTIVAL

Tickets are now available for families who would like to watch their child perform in the Fringe Festival, which is being held on 4 June 2019. Tickets are \$20 plus \$5.95 booking fee per transaction.

To purchase tickets, follow the link below:

<https://canberratheatrecentre.com.au/show/act-up-student-fringe-festival/>

Students are currently rehearsing for the Festival. Permission notes will be distributed shortly.

HARRISON SENIOR TOILETS

Due to ongoing and significant damage to senior toilets over the course of Term 1, toilet facilities are now going to be locked during class time. Students will be able to access the toilet facilities in the Mulligans building by getting a key from the Senior Front Office. The toilets in the VAST building will be open and free for students to use during both break times. This measure will help ensure that all toilet facilities remain clean and safe for all Harrison School students to use.

GUNG AHLIN COLLEGE ENROLMENT

Gungahlin College has now been deemed a Category A School by the ACT Education Directorate. This means students enrolling must reside within the Priority Enrolment Area (PEA) including suburbs of Amaroo, Bonner, Casey, Crace, Forde, Franklin, Gungahlin, Hall, Harrison, Jacka, Mitchell, Moncrieff, Ngunnawal, Nicholls, Palmerston, Taylor and Throsby. This rule applies to all programs offered by Gungahlin College.

Students should enrol early within the enrolment period to ensure placement within preferred course areas.



DEFENCE NEWS

MWDU: If you have decided to stay in Canberra whilst a member of your family has been posted to a new locality could you please let us know, as this is something that we can keep track of and report to DCO & DFA with regards to housing and education assistance and the DSM roles in Canberra.

It is also beneficial to your children if you can inform us of these changes so that we can provide extra support.

COMING UP:

- Defence Family Dinner (Gungahlin Lakes) Tues 18 June (more info to follow via email.)
- Defence Family Morning Tea - Monday 1 July
- RMC Band Visit to Whole School - Thursday 4 July.

DCO Support for ADF Families:

defencefamilyhelpline@defence.gov.au

or 1800 624 608.

Sarah and Zoe

sarah.mcgavin@ed.act.edu.au

or

zoe.rossiter@ed.act.edu.au



DEFENCE KIDS

Please remind your children that K-2 Activity Group is Monday lunchtimes and 3-4 Activity Group is Tuesday lunchtimes. The Chill-Out sessions have also recommenced 5/6 are Wednesday lunchtime and **7/10 are now Thursday** lunchtime. All groups are held in the Defence Room in the library!



HARRISON HEARTS

If you would like to join us, come to the Multipurpose room near the junior hall on Monday mornings between 9:00am and 11:00am. We would love to see you for a cuppa, a chat and to create some resources for the classrooms. Younger siblings welcome. Please remember to sign in as a volunteer at the front office.

CANTEEN NEWS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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 attached document or the link below for the 2019 Canteen Menu.

[2019 CANTEEN MENU](#)

[FLEXI -SCHOOLS ONLINE ORDERING](#)

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

The Second-Hand Uniform Shop will be open on Fridays from 8:30am – 9:30am.

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:

- 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 June workshops, please contact Ms Leanne Ballard on Leanne.ballard@act.gov.au or 6205 2912.



WOOLWORTHS EARN AND LEARN IS BACK!

Through this program, the school can get new educational resources. Stickers will be available from all Woolworth stores until 25 June.

They can be dropped off in the box in the front office or Franklin and Gungahlin Shopping Centres.

If you would like to know more visit:

woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn