



Harrison School Newsletter 21 August 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Here we are mid-way through Term 3. I've unfortunately been a little caught up in the admin side of being a principal of late and a walk around the playground during lunch last week was a great reminder of how much interacting with students makes my job great and how much I've missed it of late. I will look to remedy this throughout the rest of the term and I'm planning on visiting lots of classrooms to get first hand feedback about how learning is going for students. This is critical as we plan for 2019 and it is really important for you to have your say too. One way you can do this is via the School Satisfaction Survey, which opened last week. Parents and carers, school staff and students (in years 5 to 12) are invited to provide feedback through the survey, and although the survey is voluntary, we hope you will want to participate as it makes a difference. It won't take much of your time and will help us improve our school for your child, future students and our community in general. Emails with information about how to access the surveys were sent last week. If you haven't received this it might be worth checking your junk and spam folders in case and/or sending us a message at info@harrison.act.edu.au requesting that we resend the information.

School Board Elections

Due to one of the elected parent representatives on the Board leaving, we are holding another election. Nominations have been received and voting information will be distributed soon. The Board is the governing body of the school and is comprised of parent, student and staff representatives who help shape the strategic direction of the school. Please take time to read the nominee statements and take an active part in our school governance by voting.

10 Year Celebration

As you know, Harrison School is 10 years old this year. A group of staff, students and parents have organised a terrific celebration of our

Diary

Term 3 Week 5 BOOK WEEK

Tuesday 21

- Yr. 7/8 Northside Soccer Competition

Wednesday 22

- Whole School Assembly 9:15am- Gym
- Musical @Lake G – Senior Band and Yr.9/10 Music students

Thursday 23

- Harrison Hoppers ACT Tour
- Yr. 5/6 Northside Basketball Boys & Girls

Friday 24

- Book Week Parade 9:15am
- Grandparents Day
- Yr. 5 Combined Band Practice
- Yrs. 5 – 10 Games Club 3:00 – 5:00pm

Term 3 Week 6

Monday 27

- Meerkats Book Week Musical Yrs. 3 – 6

Tuesday 28

- **Father's Day Stall**

Wednesday 29

- Preschool – Yr.4 Assembly 9:15am- Gym
- Say 'NO' to Family Violence Yr. 9 Male Students
- DCO Kidsmart Program

Thursday 30

- **Father's Day Stall**
- Yr. 9/10 Northside Soccer Competition
- 12&U North Gungahlin Athletics Carnival
- Uke Project Limelight Performance

[2018 Calendar](#)



milestone for Tuesday 25 September. Celebrations will begin with an assembly and special recognition of foundation staff and students who are still with us. We'll also take a bit of a 'walk down memory lane' before unveiling a special art installation and taking a whole school photo on the oval using our drone. Teams and Learning Communities will continue the celebration throughout the day with a variety of activities. It would be great if you could join us for the celebration.

Principal Advertisement

For those of you who didn't see the P&C Facebook post or were unable to make it to the P&C meeting, Harrison School will be trialling a new leadership structure. For the last 18 months the ACT Education Directorate has been reviewing the executive leadership models for large schools (over 1500 students). As a result, ourselves and Amaroo School are trialling a leadership model with one Executive Principal and two Principals: a junior and senior principal. While Harrison and Amaroo perform well as learning organisations, the positions are being created in recognition of the scope and scale of the leadership of large and complex schools. Amaroo's two new principals started this term and I've advertised for ours. I'll keep you posted!

Book Week

This week is Book Week and while there is a huge focus on books throughout the week, the culminating event for us is our Book Week Parade on Friday morning in the gym. The enthusiasm that students, staff and parents bring to the parade and the effort that goes into costumes is something I've never experienced at another school. I've got my costume ready to go and I hope to see you there too!

Adding to the Learning Experience

In my message to staff this week, I talked about the fact that there have been quite a few excursions across the school as last term wrapped up and in the first five weeks of this term. My reflections were that I am always impressed by the thought and effort that goes into providing real life experience for our students to strengthen the great learning

that goes on in classrooms. The activities that went along with Science Week are yet another great example of this. Providing challenges and giving students opportunities to apply their learning to practical situations and problems brings an authenticity to learning that helps it 'stick' for students. The other terrific thing about these enrichment type activities is that they also provide great opportunities for students to practise our values in context and with guidance.

Wakakirri

On Wednesday August 8 we had over 40 very talented students perform in front of a full house at the Canberra Theatre as part of the national dance competition; Wakakirri. Their adaptation of Graeme Base's picture book Uno's Garden was absolutely spectacular as it focused our own garden and how the Harrison Community has changed since the school opened in 2008. If you weren't one of the lucky ones in the audience that night, don't worry, as they will be performing their item at our whole school assembly tomorrow. A huge thank you to Lauren Scott, Erin Res, Kate Riordan and Amy McLeod for the months of work they invested in organising, supporting and preparing our students for such an amazing experience.



I also wanted to share a [quick read](#) with you that I shared with staff last week that has a focus of making a difference - your children are our 'starfish' - I hope you enjoy it.

Jason.

ASSEMBLY CERTIFICATES

Congratulations to our Special Principals Award

Recipient:

Lucy P

Congratulations to our Principals Award

Recipients:

Charlotte V Yoany T Paarasdeep S

Saranya C Charlie L Ellie O

Ruben G Cooper L Lily W

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

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.

Preschool – Yr. 4 students **MUST** be signed out from the main administration office before they are collected from class.

Years 5 – 10 students **MUST** be signed in and out by a parent or carer from the senior office.

NEW 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.

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.

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). Cars staying in these zones are causing some parents to double park to let children out of cars. This is a dangerous activity we want to prevent.

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.

REMINDER

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

Parent Representative

Nominations to fill the vacant parent representative position are now closed. Nominations have been received and an election will now be held with voting **opening at 11:00am on Monday 20 August and closing at 11:00am on Monday 27 August**.

Forms will be available from the front office from **11:00am Monday 20 August**.

HARRISON SCHOOL SATISFACTION SURVEY

Parents and carers, school staff and students (in years 5 to 12) will be asked to participate in these important surveys. The survey results will contribute to school research and improvement processes.

Although the survey is voluntary, we hope you will want to participate. It won't take much of your time and will help us improve our school for your child and future students. A letter or email about the parent and carer survey will be sent to you in August. The key ACT results from the 2017 School Satisfaction Surveys have been published on the Education Directorate website (www.education.act.gov.au) and a summary of our school results is provided in our 2017 School Board Report.

LIBRARY NEWS

Book Week



Happy Book Week everyone!

Find Your Treasure in our school library! We have turned our library into a 'treasure island', complete with a treasure map. Our library has thousands of treasured possessions, and we have visiting pirates who are not stealing the treasure, but trying to give it away! We want all our Harrison students to read as much as they can this week, and have relaxed our guidelines regarding borrowing limits and overdue books.

We have organised mystery readers to come in every morning and lunchtime to read a story to the students, and we have some craft activities at lunchtime.

Years 5-10 are participating in lots of book week

activities during home room and lunchtime, and will even be having a game of Muggle Quidditch on Friday!

Our book week incursion for Years 3-6 is next Monday, August 27. The Meerkat performers will be focussing on the 2018 Book Week titles. Please ensure you return the permission note by tomorrow.

FRIDAY is the famous book character dress up parade! We can't wait to see which book characters will be coming to school.

ATTENTION GRANDPARENTS! We would love to invite all grandparents (or other special grownups) to take part in this exciting day. Please come to watch your grandchildren take part in the parade at 9.15 and then accompany them to the classroom to share a story. Maybe you have a favourite book you would like to bring...

Sallywag Gaukroger and Landlubber Zorzi

BBQ FUNDRAISER

The students, parents and teachers going on the Japan Trip would be most grateful if you could support one more BBQ fund raiser this term.

🇺🇸 Tuesday of Week 7.

Sausage sandwiches @ \$2 each

Fruit box popper drinks @ \$1 each

We look forward to your support and that of the students in Years 3 – 10. The Fund raiser will be running at LUNCH time outside the Technology Building in the Senior School.

UKULELE PROJECT PERFORMANCE

HARRISON SCHOOL



Please come and join us for an hour of amazing music together

Who: Harrison Ukulele Project members plus

friends and family

Where: PATS building Harrison School

When: Tue 11 September

Sausage sizzle 5:30pm

Concert 6:00 -7:00pm

Bring: own ukulele if you have one (otherwise borrow from the school)

Please RSVP how many attending and number of sausages by Mon 3 September:
laura.aksila@ed.act.edu.au

MUSIC AT HARRISON SCHOOL

The Year 5 Combined Band Practice on Friday 24 August will now be held at Palmerston District Primary School.



DEFENCE NEWS

DCO's Doin' Dinner Is a monthly dinner for Defence partners at different restaurants in the Canberra region. It is on the last government payday Thursday of the month (except in January, April & December.) It's a child free night with the cost of the meal/drinks your responsibility. This is a great opportunity to try new restaurants and enjoy some adult conversation. For Further details please refer to:<http://www.defence.gov.au/DCO/Community/Canberra/Default.asp>

Postings: As posting orders are starting to come out could you please advise us of new movement for the future so that we may be able to help with the transition. Please remember if your situation changes, (e.g. MWDU/Deployments) please let us know, as it is important we have accurate information.

DCO Support for ADF Families:

defencefamilyhelpline@defence.gov.au or 1800 624 608.

- **Coming Up:**
- ADFA Open Day Saturday 25 August (9:00am – 4:00pm)
- DCO Kidsmart Program - Wed 29 August

- Battle for Australia Commemoration (AWM) – Wed 5 September

DSTA: available Mon – Wed and Friday during school hours. 8:50 – 2:30

DTM: available Mon – Thurs, during school hours 8:50 – 2:30

Sarah and Emma

sarah.mcgavin@ed.act.edu.au or

emma.marrinan@ed.act.edu.au



DEFENCE KIDS

ALL DEFENCE GROUPS ARE NOW OPERATING OUT OF THE DEFENCE ROOM IN THE SCHOOL LIBRARY! Please remind your children that the K-2 Activity Group is Monday lunch times and the 3-4 Activity Group is Tuesday lunch times. For students in 5/6, the Defence Hang out is NOW Wednesday lunch times. Students in Years 7 to 10 remain Thursday lunch times.



HARRISON HEARTS

If you would like to join us, come to the Defence Room in the School Library 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.

P & C NEWS



Father's Day is coming up on 2 September, and Harrison School P&C Association is proud to sponsor our pop-up Father's Day Stall.

Every Student in the school will have an opportunity to purchase a low cost, high quality gift for the special person in their life with prices ranging from \$2 - \$5.

Students in Preschool – Year 6 will have the opportunity to come to the stall with their class in Week 6. Individual class times for visiting the stall can be found on the attachment or on the school website: [Father's Day Stall Class Timetable](#)
Please ensure your child brings cash up to the value of \$5 to purchase a gift.

Students in Years 7 – 10 can purchase gifts at Recess on days the stall is open, in the Junior Canteen Area.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

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

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 attached document or the link below for the 2018 Canteen Menu.

[2018 CANTEEN MENU](#)

[FLEXI -SCHOOLS ONLINE ORDERING](#)