



Harrison School Newsletter 18 December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a lovely place to be - lovely, not only because of the upcoming holidays and opportunity they will hopefully provide to spend some quality time with loved ones, but more because as we take time to reflect, we have achieved a great deal in 2018. There has been terrific learning occurring in classrooms throughout the year and with our focus on improving the literacy skills of students, we have seen significant progress in our reading, writing, spelling and grammar for different year levels across the school. We've seen some great growth in students through NAPLAN results, Progressive Achievement Test (<https://www.acer.org/au/pat>) data, ongoing class assessments and semester reports. Students have also had opportunities for social, emotional and academic growth through structured play activities, carnivals and excursions to a range of interesting places. We've also grown in population a little as the year has progressed and we predict starting 2019 with over 1900 students!

Term 4 itself has been both frenetic and terrific. Last week we celebrated two major events in the form of our Year 10 Graduation and Formal and our ACE Awards Evening. The Year 10 students looked spectacular in their formal wear and I was filled with pride to see the smiles on the faces of students and parents as the Year 10 Portfolios were awarded. We tried something a little different with our ACE Awards this year, splitting the ceremony into two, which seemed to work very well. In all, we presented approximately 475 awards to students as recognition of their achievements and efforts. Again, it was delightful to see the smiles and pride on the faces of students and parents as awards were presented. In addition to this, when these sorts of events occur I am genuinely amazed at how well our student leaders step up to the occasion - we have invested time into the development of our student leadership program and we are seeing the benefits. I am filled with excitement about the potential in our 2019 student leaders

Diary

Term 4 Week 10

Wednesday 19

- Kindergarten Fun Day
- Alan Tongue Aspire Program Excursion
- Preschool Graduation Th/ F Groups 2:30 – 3:30pm

Friday 21

- **Last Day of Term 4**

Term 1 Week 1 2019

Monday 4 Feb

- First day for ALL new students to Harrison School, M/T Preschool groups & All Kindergarten Students

Tuesday 5

- All students return to School

Wednesday 6

- Preschool – Yr. 6 Assembly 9:15am - Gym
- Kindergarten Information Session 5:15pm

Thursday 7

- First Day Preschool Th/ F Groups

[2018 & 2019 Calendar](#)

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



and the possibilities this group will have. While I know our 2019 student leaders have been announced, I thought it was worth introducing them again as they will be pivotal in helping to improve our school:

Captains	
Ella P	Tom C
Vice Captains	
Elizabeth E	Aiden A
Leadership Committee	
Arav S	Naethan Alec S
Mia A	Advaith R
Ainsley S	Phoebe Y
Rakshanda A	Adrian J
Pavel A	
Year 8 Mentors	
Ria B	Georgia S
Dassha S	Mitchell C
Sidharth V	Mastura R
Year 6 Prefects	
Ella J	Hannah K
Hannah P	Neha K
Year 4 Prefects	
Zara M	Isabella P
Riley R	Marco T

Welcomes and Farewells

We welcome 13 new staff to the school in 2019 and I am excited by the range of experience and skills these staff will bring. I will introduce our new staff in the first newsletter of 2019. There are a number of our current teachers leaving at the end of the year. I am extremely grateful of their contributions to Harrison and the impact they've had not only on the

culture of the school, but on the individual students they have taught. Please join me in thanking:

John Dickson	Alexandra Patterson
Lisa Oreo	Neridah McMinn
Tianna Park	Lisa Gorell
Rosemary Radford	Jayde Condon
Chelsea Watson	Josephine Corrigan
Sandra Newbery	Yara Jerious
Mariam Hijazi	Pamela Gaukroger
Juliet Moody	Laura Weckert
Amy Lambert	Laura Simsen
Jane McNally	

2019 School Year

The 2019 school year starts with new students, including all preschool and kindergarten students, on Monday 4 February. Continuing students return on Tuesday 5 February. In continuing our practice, class lists will be posted at various locations around the school at the start of next year.

In signing off, I thank you, our amazing community of parents and carers, for your contributions to and support of the very successful year we've had. I'm excited by the potential possibilities our new senior leadership structure may provide and know many of you have developed strong relationships with Dan and Jacqui in their capacity as principals. I hope you all have a lovely, safe and enjoyable break and I look forward to seeing you again in the new year.

Regards,
Jason.

ACE AWARDS PHOTO INFORMATION

If your child received an award at our ACE Awards Ceremony last Thursday and you would like to receive a copy of the photo taken please complete the form on the following link.

[Harrison School ACE Awards Photos.](#)

The photos will be emailed to you in 2019.

STUDENTS NOT RETURNING TO HARRISON SCHOOL IN 2019

If your child is not returning to Harrison School in 2019 could you please complete the form on this link; [Students Leaving Harrison School Permanently](#), and return it to the front office to assist us in organising classes for 2019.

STUDENTS ON HOLIDAY LEAVE

If your family is on an extended holiday and will not be back at school before the beginning of Term 1 (Tuesday 5 February 2019) could you please complete the form on this link; [Holiday Leave Form](#), and return it to the front office ASAP.

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

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.

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. 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.

LOST PROPERTY IN THE MAIN FRONT OFFICE

We have multiple pairs of prescription sunglasses

- Tommy Hilfiger, blue case, black framed glasses
- Specsavers, green frames (no case)
- Rayban prescription sunglasses (brown, with case)
- Very small pair of aqua and black glasses (no brand or case)
- Black/steel framed glasses
- Marvel character armed, very small, black rimmed

We also have watches, wallets, purses, sunglasses, 2 mobile phones, a bike lock, a charger and a fuchsia-pink banded fit-bit (or equivalent).

If you think that these items may belong to you or your family, please come and see us in the main front office.

HARRISON SCHOOL 2019 STATIONERY LISTS

The Stationery lists for 2019 are now available online from OfficeMax. The stationery lists and access codes for each year group can be found on the school website: [Stationery Lists 2019](#).

For information on how to order please see the attached document.

Please **DO NOT** send your 2019 Stationery packs to the school until next year.

LIBRARY NEWS



PLEASE RETURN ALL LIBRARY BOOKS

We are asking for ALL library books and loans to be returned so we can continue our annual stocktake in Week 10. Please ensure your child returns all books immediately. If you have any queries or concerns please call the library on 614 22244.

Lost Property

We will endeavour to return all lost property that is named, but please keep checking in our lost property box in the library if your child is missing something, especially lunchbox containers, drink bottles, unnamed uniforms and non-uniform items. These will be donated to the uniform shop or clothing bins at the end of term.

Pamela Gaukroger and Nola Zorzi

DATES FOR TERM 1 2019

Monday 4 February 2019

First Day for **NEW** students to Harrison School including Preschool Mon/Tues Groups and Kindergarten 2019.

Tuesday 5 February 2019.

ALL students return to school.

INFORMATION SESSIONS

Wednesday 6 February

Kindergarten 2017 Information Session will be held from 5:15 – 6:00pm.

Tuesday 12 February

Yr.1/2 Information Session 5:30 – 6:00pm

Yr. 3 - 6 Information Session 6:00 – 7:30pm

Thursday 14 February

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

2018 Aquatic Carnivals - Save the date

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

- **Aqua Fun Day** – Monday 25 February, Big Splash Macquarie

All classes Yr. 5 -10, aquatic activities all day

- **Harrison Swimming Trials**– Tuesday 5 March, at AIS Pool

For 8 -16 yr old competent 50m swimmers.

Events include all strokes, 50m & 100m

HARRISON SCHOOL BOARD

We have one parent, and one student position that will be vacant on the Harrison School Board from April 2019. Nominations for the Harrison School Board open at 11:00am on **Monday 4 February** and close at 11:00am on **Monday 18 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



DEFENCE NEWS

At this time, we congratulate our Yr 6 and Yr 10 Defence Students on their Graduations and wish them all the very best for bright and happy futures. Also, we would like to wish our Defence Families a Happy and safe Christmas and holiday season. For those that are travelling please stay safe. We look forward to seeing many of you again next year and to those that are leaving us, we wish you all the best at your new locations.

Postings: If you are posting out anytime in the next few weeks could you please let us know and also ensure that you have completed a school leaver's form for your child/ren. These are available from the main office. Please remember if your situation changes, (eg.MWDU/Deployments) could you 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.

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

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

Sarah and Emma

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



DEFENCE KIDS

All activity groups and hang outs have now finished for the year. We look forward to having you back in 2019, hopefully with some more exciting ideas/opportunities!

YEAR 6 CELEBRATION

Congratulations to all Year 6 students who received their certificates at last Friday's presentation. We wish you all well as you move on to high school and best wishes for those students moving on to other high schools.

Special thanks to Woolworths Gungahlin for donating the beverages for the celebration. Thank you to the parents for their generous donations for morning tea and also to those who assisted setting up the morning tea.

Thank you also to Ms O'Brien, Mr Breen, Ms Carne and Ms Coghlan for making the celebration possible and also to Mr McGibbon for the fabulous slide show.

Thank you

Maria Sanchez-Worsnop




HARRISON HEARTS

Has finished for 2018, we hope to see you again from Week 2 of school in 2019.

BACK TO SCHOOL ASTHMA CHECKLIST FOR PARENTS

Talk About Asthma.

Every year there is a sharp rise in the number of asthma attacks for children when they return to school after the summer break. This results in a significant increase in Emergency Department visits, hospitalisations and days off school. Not only is this unsettling for children as they start a new year at school, but often it impacts on time off work for the parents/carers also.

- [Back to school Asthma Checklist for Parents](#)  (161kb)

Please see the attachment for further information

A MESSAGE FROM ACCESS CANBERRA

Is your teen seeking to get their L's or P's around Christmas/New Year?

Access Canberra Service and Specialised Centres will be closed between Christmas and New Year, with most locations closed between 25 December 2018 and 1 January 2019 inclusive.

We apologise in advance if you have a teen with a birthday during that period and are eagerly awaiting their licence. We look forward to supporting them to get licenced in the New Year.

Also parents, if you need to pay a bill, renew your licence or rego over this time – don't wait until we re-open! Save time and go online at www.act.gov.au/accessCBR

Wishing you and your family a safe and enjoyable festive season from Access Canberra

A NOTE FROM THE SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS

The school psychologists have had a very busy year at Harrison School, and are now unable to take any new referrals until Term 1 2019. If you have concerns about your child's learning, or social or emotional wellbeing, their class teacher or the team leaders for your child's year group are often the best place to start a conversation about these concerns.

Alternatively, you may wish to access community agencies for support such as:

- Gungahlin Child and Family Centre
Phone: (02) 6207 0120
Website: <http://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/ocyfs/children/childandfamilycentres>
- Marymead
Phone: (02) 6162 5800
Website: <http://www.marymead.org.au/>
- Belconnen Community Service
Phone: (02) 6264 0200
Website: <https://www.bcsact.com.au/>

If you have concerns about your child's mental health that cannot wait until next year, we

recommend the following services:

- Your family GP who may refer to a private psychologist
- Headspace Canberra (for young people over the age of 12)
Phone: (02) 6201 5343
Website: <https://headspace.org.au/headspace-centres/headspace-canberra/>
- Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)
Phone: (02) 6205 1050
Website: <http://www.findahealthservice.act.gov.au/c/fahs?a=sp&pid=1316133581&site=51105&servicecategory=23>

Jorja Zollinger and Ashleigh Kinlyside
School Psychologists

SCHOOL BANKING

The last reward orders for the year have been processed and they will be sent out as soon as they arrive at school, I hope they arrive this week.

Our School Banking program has been very successful over the years with many students receiving fantastic rewards. In order for the program to continue, we are urgently looking for volunteer parents who can assist with the program, it will only take a couple hours, one day each week. If you are able to assist with this, can you please contact Maria on 6241-2008.

The School Banking will be processed next week.

Happy savings
Maria Sanchez-Worsnop
School Banking Coordinator

P & C NEWS

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

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

The Second-Hand Uniform Shop will be open on Friday 1 February 2019 from 8:30am – 9:30am.

CANTEEN NEWS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The Canteen will be **CLOSED** on Friday 21 December. There will be NO lunch orders available.

The Canteen will re-open on **Tuesday 5 February 2019**.

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](#)



Late Food Order Service Changes starting Term 1, 2019

As of Term 1, 2019, Flexischools' Customer Service Team will no longer be taking late orders over the phone from parents.

Cut off time for Harrison School is 9:00am.

CHANGES TO TRANSPORT CANBERRA BUS SERVICES WEDNESDAY 19 DEC

Transport Workers Union all-driver meeting to take place on Wednesday 19 December 2018

On Wednesday 19 December, all Transport Canberra bus services will cease between 10am and 2pm to allow for all bus drivers to attend an important meeting to be conducted by the Transport Workers Union. The meeting, which is authorised by the ACT Government, is a necessary step towards finalising a new Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA).

Limited services will be available between 9.30am - 10am and between 2pm - 2.30pm, as all drivers transition from their on-road shifts to attend the meeting. All services will then return to commence as

normal before the peak period from 2.30pm.

This meeting has been scheduled outside of peak travel times to minimise inconvenience to customers. **No school services will be affected.**

All [Special Needs Transport](#) and the [Flexible Bus Service](#) will operate as per usual during this time.

Transport Canberra thanks the Canberra community for their cooperation and understanding and acknowledge the disruption to services this has to allow for this to occur.

Customers are advised to plan ahead to avoid inconvenience and we will continue to ensure the community is kept informed in regard to this disruption.

For more information, please visit our [website](#).