



HARRISON NEWS



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Harrison School Newsletter 7 February 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Week 2!

I am sure you will agree that it has been an amazing start to the Harrison School year! Day one for new and continuing students was a hive of excitement as 1830 students from preschool to year six discovered their new teaching and learning space and met with their teachers for the upcoming school year.

As the new Deputy Principal in the P-2 area I was very impressed with the existing systems and efficient processes that enabled all children to locate their classrooms quickly. Staff across the school had made a significant effort to ensure that learning areas were warm, inviting and engaging for children and families.

Thanks to our P&C for facilitating the welcome morning tea on both Monday (for new families) and Tuesday (for continuing families) as well as to the parents who gave time generously to offer additional hours in the Uniform Shop.

I extend congratulations to teaching staff in P-10 for their preparation and delivery of recent and upcoming Information Evenings. These occasions allow families to receive information related to events, procedures, and a summary of the intended learning program through the distribution of term overviews.

K-6 AFL clinics will commence in Week 2 and the Canberra Raiders will visit K-4 on Monday 20 February as part of the NRL community Carnival. The theme for this year's Community Carnival visit is **Respect**. The program aims to provide an interactive learning experience that empowers young people to learn about the values that make successful teams, groups, or communities. The interactive workshop lends itself well to the Harrison School values; **particularly Inclusion, Teamwork and Respect**.

Diary

Term 1 Week 2

Tuesday 7 February

Kindergarten – Yr. 6 AFL Clinics
Yr. 1/2 & 3/4 Information Session
5:45pm – Hall

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

Wednesday 8

Pre–Yr.4 Assembly 9:15am – Gym
Advanced Uke Project 1:15 – 1:50pm

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 – Yr. 4 Getting to Know
You Interviews

Kindergarten PIPS

Monday 13

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

Tuesday 14

GWS Community Day 1:00 – 1:50pm

Wednesday 15

Uke Project 8:15 – 8:50am

Yr.5 - 10 Assembly 9:15am – Gym
P & C AGM – 7:00pm - Library

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

[2017 Calendar](#)



Information regarding student participation in the Harrison swimming trials has been distributed. Students need to be able to swim 50metres and be born in 2009 to enter the trials that will occur on 13 February 2017.

Getting -to-know-you interviews will be facilitated (K-6) from Week 3 until Week 5 in term 1. These occasions provide opportunity for collaborative goal setting and allow information exchange between families and classroom teachers to ensure a smooth start to the school year.

Our P-4 assembly will take place tomorrow Wednesday (8 February). I am looking forward to attending my first of these as a proud member of the Harrison School staff.

Staff at Harrison School had the pleasure of working with Educational Consultant, Kath Murdoch during the Orientation Week of the school year to develop their independent and collective knowledge of the inquiry approach to teaching and learning. The Australian Curriculum has been scoped and designed to support the implementation of this pedagogical practice. Kath believes that learning should engage children in a process of wonderings which enable them to reflect on aspects of what they know and what they still want to find out. The classroom space is one in which a child might ask: 'Will I belong here?' 'Will I have a voice?' 'Will I feel connected and safe?' Hence the relationships and authentic connections are integral to learning success.

Kath advocates that learning should be personalized and evoke curiosity in students to question i.e:

- How can we build a great community in this classroom?
- What do we need we find out about each other? How could we go about this?
- What do we need to know about each other in order to start to build a great community?
- How might we design this learning space to help us do the best learning possible?
- What do you need/want to know about me as your teacher?

- What would you love to learn about/learn to do this year? How might we make that happen?
- What should I (as your teacher) learn about you?
- What are you wondering about yourself as a learner this year?
- What are you most curious about when you think about the year ahead?

Kath will return to work further with staff later in the year to continue professional learning in this area. Teachers will be working collaboratively to apply the principles of inquiry to progress this school wide initiative.

As an incoming member of the Harrison School executive I look forward to supporting staff, students and parents in our collaborative and shared role of educating our children for a bright and prosperous future.

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DATES FOR TERM 1 2017

INFORMATION SESSIONS

Tuesday 7 February

Please note the change of location

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

Yr. 3/4 Camp Information Session 6:30-7:00pm – **Hall**

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

Harrison Ukulele Project

Starts next Wednesday (15 Feb). More information in next week's newsletter.

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.**

LIBRARY NEWS

Reminder that Book Club is due **Friday 17 February.**

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**. Nomination forms are available from the front office. 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

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.

EXCURSION/CAMP PAYMENTS

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

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

WORKING WITH VULNERABLE PEOPLE REGISTRATION RENEWAL

REMINDER

Time for volunteers and visitors to renew their WWVP registration.

Parents and other adults who volunteer, or work in some capacity, at school are required under the Working With Vulnerable People Act to be registered with Access Canberra.

Those who registered in 2013 will need to apply to renew their registration. If your card is over three years old it has probably expired and you cannot lawfully have contact with children as a volunteer or visitor in a school-related activity.

If you are uncertain, you should contact Access Canberra on 13 2281 or accesscanberra.act.gov.au, or in person at an ACT Government shopfront. You can also download the application forms from Access Canberra. If you think you may be exempt under the Act, you should contact the school.

To assist schools in providing a safe environment and a positive educational climate, volunteers and visitors are asked to comply with the *Code of Conduct for Volunteers and Visitors*. This code of conduct has been formulated to clarify the type of conduct that is expected of volunteers and visitors participating in programs and activities supporting students in ACT public schools.

Please sign in at the front office and up-date WWVP details.



DEFENCE NEWS

DCO have lots of fantastic events and programs coming up, including Welcome to Canberra functions and Coffee Mornings. (Fliers for these events are in the Defence noticeboard opposite the front office) For more information, please visit DCO's website <http://www.defence.gov.au/dco/> or to receive their monthly email please email dco.canberra@defence.gov.au

Jake and I have been visiting classrooms and introducing ourselves to new students, hearing all about the wonderful locations they have ventured from and welcoming back our existing Defence community. If you have any questions or concerns, please give us a call or send us an email.

Coming Up: Wed 15 Feb Defence Morning Tea at Recess for new students in Years 7-10.

Sarah McGavin and Jake Provan
Sarah.mcgavin@ed.act.edu.au or
jake.provan@ed.act.edu.au

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

DTM: available Mon – Thurs, school hours



DEFENCE KIDS

Activity groups began this week with outdoor games enjoyed by all. Kinder – Year2 (Mon lunch); Years 3 and 4 (Tues lunch).



HARRISON HEARTS

Harrison Hearts will begin again this Week. Held in the Multi-Purpose room (Junior Hall), every **Wednesday** between 1:30 and 2:30, this volunteer group is open to all community members. We would love to have you join us for a cuppa, a chat and to create some resources for the classrooms. Please remember to sign in as a volunteer at the front office.

P & C NEWS

Senior Canteen - Important.

Unfortunately due to some technical issues out of our control, the Senior School canteen will no longer be accepting Student ID Cards as a form of payment. Students are still able to order online through Flexischools Online Ordering or with cash. We apologize for any inconvenience caused.

Car Park Trial

We thank everyone for their continued co-operation and patience during the Car Park Trial for this term. We have received lots of feedback, positive and negative. We are looking to collate this information and feedback at the end of term and will keep everyone updated on future changes arising from this trial.

AGM

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on **15 February 2017, 7:00pm in the Library.**

All parents and carers of children at Harrison School are considered members of the P&C Association. There are no membership fees and no expectations however, we cannot function without volunteers; whether it be on a committee or just to give an hour or two of your time at one of our many events.

Harrison P and C run many exciting community events throughout the year including discos, an amazing Twilight Fair, as well as a second hand uniform shop amongst others. P and C is also responsible for running the school canteen. Money raised by the P and C goes straight back into the school to benefit all students.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on **15 February 2017, 7:00pm** in the Library, at which time we will elect the P&C office-bearers and other committee positions for this calendar year. All positions will be available for self-nomination, and these include:

Office-bearers:

President
Vice-President & Public Officer
Treasurer
Secretary
Minutes Secretary

Sub-Committee Conveners:

Fundraising
Twilight Fair
Art Show

Other Roles:

Canteen Treasurer
Uniform Shop Coordinator
Parent Café Coordinator
Senior School P&C Council Representative
Junior School P&C Council Representative
Preschool P&C Council Representative

The Office Bearers for 2016 have agreed to continue in their current function however, if you wish to self-nominate for a position you may do so. If two or more people self-nominate a vote will be taken. In addition we have a number of other roles needing to be filled including Uniform Shop Co-ordinator and Twilight Fair for 2018, amongst others. If you wish to find out more regarding any of the positions, please contact

harrisonpandc_pres@outlook.com or
harrisonpandc_comms@outlook.com



Saturday 1 April 2017 3:00 – 7:00pm

Harrison Fair is fast approaching. We need your help by volunteering an hour or so on the day or in the run up, and by bringing in second hand goods for the Trash 'n' Treasure Stall, and new goods for our raffle. Some examples of items to fill hampers we will raffle are Art and Craft materials, Sporting Goods, Board Games and Puzzles, Toys, Books, and more. If you could bring donations to the room to the left of the office.

Harrison's Twilight Fair attracts over 3000 members of the local community and is a great marketing opportunity for a local business or organization to promote their brand. Please consider becoming a Fair Sponsor. Information in the attached flyer.

If you wish to help please contact our Fair Co-ordinators at HarrisonFair@hotmail.com

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 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.

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

<https://www.facebook.com/HarrisonSchoolPandC/>
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 2017 Canteen Menu.

[2017 CANTEEN MENU](#)

[FLEXI -SCHOOLS ONLINE ORDERING](#)

[NEW FLEXI SCHOOLS LINK IN STUDENT ID CARD](#)

[YR. 7 – 10](#)

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

The second –hand Uniform shop opens every Wednesday from 8:30 – 9:30am.

P & C COMMUNITY MORNING TEA

The P & C Community Morning Tea is held every Tuesday from 9:00- 10:00am