



## Harrison School Newsletter 11 December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Concerts

I had the great pleasure to attend the concert Thursday night and I have it on great authority from Jason Holmes that Wednesday night was just as fabulous.

The Europe Trip students were committed, dedicated and efficient in running the BBQ before both concerts. They were a sight to behold and the team work was great to see. I actually just stood and watched them for a few minutes. Andrea Kemp, Dylan Smedley and Clare Warwick have done a great job with these students already creating a strong team atmosphere and a great commitment to the trip. It's great to see students working so hard to assist their families to deliver the trip of a lifetime. The student buy-in and responsibility was evident.

The concert audience were treated to some amazing performances and the hard work and effort that had gone into them was clear for all to see. The students performing were having a great time and all looked so proud of themselves!

It was great to see so many staff on stage joining in (even if some of them were difficult to recognise ;-))

The second stage was an absolute credit to Laura Aksila and Sarah Wicken. The UKULELE group, choir, senior music students and the band all sounded fantastic.

As I sat and listened, I couldn't help but reflect on how the culmination of years of work of the music teachers have got that program to where it is now.

My congratulations go to all the student performers and staff who worked so hard to facilitate this experience for their students. I'm in awe of the concert committee for the flawless technical aspects, organisation and getting all of those acts on and off the stage so seamlessly. A huge undertaking that was so well done!!

I sincerely thank parents for their attendance, costume construction and participation. Well done everyone! Community at its best.

## Diary

### Term 4 Week 9

#### **Tuesday 11**

- Yr. 10 Graduation and Formal

#### **Wednesday 12**

- CANCELLED Yr. 5 – 10 Assembly
- Special Yr. 3 – 6 Assembly

#### **Thursday 13**

- Preschool Fun Day End of the Year Celebration Th/ F groups
- Harrison School ACE Awards

#### **Friday 14**

- Yr. 6 Celebration 9:30 – 11:30am
- Yrs. 5 – 10 Games Club – CANCELLED

### Term 4 Week 10

#### **Monday 17**

- Kindergarten End of Year Celebration 9:30am- 1:30pm

#### **Tuesday 18**

- Yr. 1/2 Fun Day End of Year Celebration
- Yr. 3/4 Aqua Fun Day
- Preschool Graduation M/T Groups 2:30 – 3:30pm

#### **Wednesday 19**

- Whole School Assembly
- Kindergarten Fun Day
- Preschool Graduation Th/ F Groups 2:30 – 3:30pm

#### **Friday 20**

- **Last Day of Term 4**

#### [2018 Calendar](#)

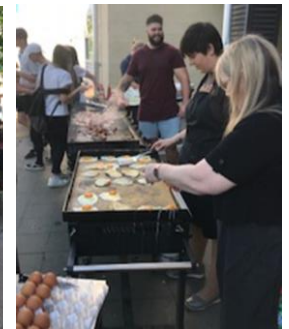
**REMINDER:** For **ALL** events in the Gym please wear flat-soled shoes **ONLY**



## Year 10's last day at Harrison

The 2018 Year 10 cohort began their final day with a breakfast event put on by staff, followed by a special whole school farewell assembly and culminating in a day spent at John Knight Memorial Park.

The atmosphere at the year 10 breakfast was a highlight for me!!!! It was such a moment to see so many exhausted staff at school so early and working so hard to send off our Year 10s and acknowledge their achievements and time at Harrison in this way. The smiles on the students' faces and the casual discussions between staff and students was such a great feel. And SO many parents attended it had an amazing community feel to see students, staff and parents milling around, enjoying breakfast and attending an event that allowed them to take stock of the enormity that students were not only completing high school but saying goodbye to a school that had been such a big part of their lives for so long. Events like these do not occur without, time, effort, planning, preparation and staff commitment. I sincerely thank and recognise the staff that contributed to the organisation, the staff that contributed to the execution and the staff and families that took the time to attend and assist to create an atmosphere that was such a joy to be a part of.



The Year 10 Farewell assembly was another special moment. I was standing with a long serving Learning Support Assistant and just listening to her comment, "I was with that student in Yr1/2, I worked in their classroom in Yr3/4" really brought home to me the connection of the students to the school, the staff to the students and the long standing impact the

school has on our students at Harrison. Watching the photos, the student reactions, the dancing, the speeches and the wider school community engage was great. The guard of honour is always a special moment and the student photos, tears, parent hugs afterwards is always my favourite bit. It reminds me why we do what we do in the way that we do it 😊. Thank you to the students and their families and friends for their attendance and participation. Thank you to all staff who contributed to the event and created the time and space for our students to reflect and be in the moment. And for them and their families it was such an important moment.

This week sees two more important Harrison School Community Events.

The first is the Year 10 Graduation and Formal. We as a school are exceptionally proud of this cohort of Year 10 students. These events bring back memories of their school journey but also imaginings about where they will be in 10 years time.

This year we will be recognising our year 10 cohorts' achievements at The Abbey Function Centre (Gold Creek):

5-5:30	Arrivals
5:30-6:30	Graduation
6:30-7:30	Canapes in the garden
7:30-10:30	Formal.

The second event is the Harrison School ACE awards (Presentation Evening) on Thursday. The ceremony recognises the achievements, commitment, community participation and efforts and endeavour of students throughout the school year.

P-4 ACE Awards	5:30-6:30pm
5-10 ACE Awards	6:30-7:30pm

I look forward to seeing parents, friends and community members at both events.

### 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.

### TERM 4 CALENDAR DATES

- Yr. 10 Graduation and Formal: Tues 11 Dec
- Harrison School ACE Awards: Thurs 13 Dec
- Yr. 6 Celebration: Fri 14 Dec 9:30 – 11:00am

For more detailed information please see the school calendar on the website: [2018 Calendar](#)

## 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<sup>th</sup> February 2019) could you please complete the form on this link; [Holiday Leave Form](#), and return it to the front office ASAP.

## 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](mailto: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.

## 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.

## HARRISON SCHOOL ACE AWARDS CEREMONY

The Achievement, Citizenship and Endeavour (ACE) Awards ceremony will occur on Thursday 13 December 2018 in the school gymnasium.

The junior ceremony (Years P-4) will occur from 5:30pm until approx. 6:15pm.

The senior ceremony (Years 5-10) will commence at 6:30pm and extend until approximately 7:30pm.

We ask that children involved in the junior ceremony arrive at 5:15pm and assemble in the blue building adjacent to the school gymnasium.

Senior students are asked to assemble in the junior school hall at 6:15pm.

At the end of each ceremony, children may be collected from these respective areas. We are requesting that families stay for the duration of each awards ceremony.

ACE recognises Achievement, Citizenship and Endeavour, and are awarded by teachers and support staff to students in recognition of their commitment to learning.

Special award categories exist to recognise sporting excellence, community contribution, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander contribution to academic and community projects, and commitment to the performing arts.

We look forward to presenting awards and

congratulating students on their collective achievements at both ceremonies next Thursday 13 December in the school gymnasium. Full school uniform is essential.

## LIBRARY NEWS



### **PLEASE RETURN ALL LIBRARY BOOKS**

We still have around 650 library books that have not been returned. We are asking for ALL loans to be returned so we can get ready for our annual stocktake in Weeks 9 & 10. Please ensure your child returns all books by **Friday, December 14** at the latest. 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

## **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](mailto:hsbparentrep@outlook.com)



## **DEFENCE NEWS**

Did you know that VVCS (Veterans and Veteran's Families Counselling Service) has recently rebranded and is now Open Arms? Open Arms offers counselling and support services to anyone who has served at least one day of continuous full-time service in the ADF and their families. To learn more about Open Arms' free, confidential 24-hour counselling service, including your eligibility, call 1800 011 046.

**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) to let us know, as it is important we have accurate information.

**DCO Support for ADF Families:**  
[defencefamilyhelpline@defence.gov.au](mailto:defencefamilyhelpline@defence.gov.au) or 1800 624 608.

**DDTA:** 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](mailto:sarah.mcgavin@ed.act.edu.au) or

[emma.marrinan@ed.act.edu.au](mailto: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!



## **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.


## **YEAR 6 CELEBRATION**

A reminder to parents that the Year 6 Celebration is on Friday 14 December (Week 9), at 9:30am in the school hall. All students in Years 5 and 6 will be asked to contribute to the morning tea and notes will be sent out later in the week. To ensure that it is a great event for the students, we urgently need some parents to assist with setting up the morning tea. If you are able to help out can you please contact Maria Worsnop on 6241-2008.

## **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](http://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/ocvys/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>

[u/c/fahs?a=sp&pid=1316133581&site=51105&servicecategory=23](http://u/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

### **CANTEEN NEWS**

**Please Note:** The Canteen will **NOT** be open on  
Friday 21 December

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.