



Harrison School Newsletter 15 August 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Week five of term three is upon us already! Last week was a bit of a quieter week in relation to extra curricula activities, although we did have students out representing the school at netball, an equine assisted learning program, a Bell Shakespeare performance in Sydney and a Years 7-10 Combined Band rehearsal at Caroline Chisholm School. It is a testament to our students and community that I always receive positive feedback about our students when they're out and about. A great deal of this positive image is related to how our students present themselves, both in the behaviours they demonstrate and the image they present. A major factor of the image is how great our students look in their uniforms. I have received concerns from some parents recently regarding the difficulties they sometimes face in getting their children to wear the uniform. I've thanked these parents for their efforts and I must admit, I too have concerns about the number of students not in uniform. I have asked staff to follow up on every student not in school uniform and I am asking you, all parents, to ensure your children are wearing the Harrison School uniform every day. It is only through collective effort that the benefits of having a uniform will be realised and our very high physical image will be maintained. I thank you in advance for your work on this.

Evacuations and Lockdowns

It is rare that the school has a legitimate evacuation or lockdown. To ensure everyone is aware of their roles and what to do in the case an emergency, we practise these events a couple of times per semester. Please don't be alarmed if you hear the evacuation or lockdown tones during the school day and rest assured that if there is a real event that there is a Directorate level communication strategy that will ensure you are informed of events in a timely fashion.

School Review

As Jacqui mentioned in her article last week, we are being reviewed by an

Diary

Term 3 Week 5 National Science Week

Wednesday 16

- Uke Project 8:15am
- Whole School Assembly 9:15am Gym
- Advanced Uke Project 1:15pm
- Yrs. 5 – 10 Equine Assisted Learning Program
- P&C Meeting 7:00pm Library

Thursday 17

- Yr. 5/6 Touch Football Community Day

Friday 18

- Yr. 9/10 AIME Program
- Yr. 6 Drumming
- Yrs. 5 – 10 Games Club

Term 3 Week 5 Book Week

Monday 21

- North ACT Yr. 7/8 Football
- Yr. 5 Combined Band Practice

Tuesday 22

- Limelight Rehearsal – Choir
- Limelight Steele Drum Rehearsal

Wednesday 23

- Uke Project 8:15am
- Whole School Assembly 9:15am Gym
- Advanced Uke Project 1:15pm
- Yrs. 5 – 10 Equine Assisted Learning Program
- Questacon Incursion Yr. 3/4DF, JC,DW,DB and JS
- ACT 13 yrs. & O Netball Finals

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

[2017 Calendar](#)



external panel this week. It's an exciting (and a little bit nerve wracking) time as our efforts and actions over the last five years are assessed. Apart from clarifying the achievements we've made, the panel will also make recommendations on our areas of focus over the next five years. I will be sure to let you know the highlights of the review process later this term. Jacqui also mentioned the school satisfaction surveys. These opened last week and details for accessing them were emailed to parents. Please contact the front office if you didn't receive these details. It is very important that we get a high number of parents providing feedback to us about the school and this is an opportunity for you to highlight great things that are happening and areas for improvement. I would really appreciate it if you could find the time to complete the survey and help shape the future direction of our school.

Feedback

I received some feedback at the last P&C meeting about there not being comments as part of the 3/4 reports for semester one. The plan was to highlight student learning and achievement through the ratings in the reports and the Exhibitions of Learning. On reflection, we have plans to refine the process and will reinstate report comments for Semester Two until we're happier with the process. If you haven't already, make sure you have a look at our Year 3/4 Semester 2 Overviews emailed out to parents last week. As always, if you would like additional information about your child's learning and achievement I encourage you to contact their class teacher to arrange a meeting. [Yr. 3 – 6 Semester 2 Overviews](#)

Future of Education

The opportunity to have input to the Future of Education conversation is wrapping up so the Education Directorate can start to analyse the information that's been received. It is unbelievably rare for parents to be asked to contribute in this way and I encourage you to share your feedback/ideas via the [Future of Education website](#).

Duke of Edinburgh Awards

I thought I'd wrap up with some very exciting news. Harrison School has been approved to deliver the Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) awards to selected students 14 years of age or above. Our Youth Support Worker, Shaun Hodson, will facilitate the course and associated projects at the school. If you'd like to know more about the DofE awards you can find information on their [website](#).

Jason.

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.

FRONT OFFICE HOURS

Harrison School Front Office hours are:

Monday – Friday
8:30am – 3:30pm

EXCURSION/CAMP PAYMENTS

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

2017 SCHOOL SATISFACTION SURVEYS

The 2017 School Satisfaction and Climate Surveys will be conducted from 8 – 28 August 2017.

2017 School Satisfaction Surveys have been sent home via email to all families. If you did not receive a School Satisfaction Survey please contact the front office. You will receive one survey per child with a specific access code for each child. The survey is also available in different languages.

The survey results will contribute to the school improvement process, which aims to achieve high standards in student learning, innovation and best practice in Canberra public schools.

Although the survey is voluntary, we hope you

will want to participate. It won't take much of your time and it will help us understand areas where we are doing well and areas for further development.

The key ACT results from the 2016 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 2016 School Board Report.



Woolworths Earn & Learn 2017

This year we will be participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Through this program we will be able to get new educational resources for our school/early learning centre – and all we need you to do is shop for your groceries at Woolworths.

From **Wednesday 26 July to Tuesday 19 September** or while stock lasts, we are collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers. You will get one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every \$10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards). Place the Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet and when it's complete, the sticker sheet can be dropped into the collection box here at the school or at your local Woolworths-Gungahlin and Franklin stores.

At the end of the promotion, we'll be able to get some great new equipment. The range is extensive and offers lots of items that are ideal for our students – including resources for Maths, English, Science and some fantastic fun supplies for Arts & Craft, Sport and our library.

If you'd like to know more visit woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn

LIBRARY NEWS

Book Week Celebrations - Escape to Everywhere
Children's Book Week is next week, from August

21 - 25! The theme is Escape to Everywhere, and all over Australia libraries will be celebrating Australian books, authors and illustrators. As part of our celebrations we will be holding our annual Book Character Parade. All students are encouraged to think of a favourite book character they can dress up as, so we can finish our week of celebrating with some fun and frivolity. The parade will be held in our school gym at 9.15 of Friday, August 25. If you attend please remember to wear flat shoes.

Jack Heath Author Visit

Our Year 6-8 students were extremely fortunate yesterday to meet author Jack Heath. This was a fantastic way to kick off our Book Week celebrations; not only did Jack inspire students to read more books but he also had some funny stories about he has become an author and how anyone can give it a go. Some of his advice included RICE - Read, Imagine, Challenge and Edit. Many of Jack's books are available for borrowing in our library.



Super Duper Performance

Our next event to celebrate Book Week is a performance on August 28, booked for our Kindergarten classes and Monday/Tuesday preschool classes. It is a drama production based on some of the shortlisted books, the book week theme and will also fit in beautifully with our school values. If you have misplaced the permission note please see your class teacher.

Pamela Gaukroger
Teacher Librarian



Fathers, Grandfathers, Uncles & special people in our lives are invited to join us in celebrating Father's Day at Harrison School on Friday 1 September from 8:00am. There will be a selection of fruit, bacon & egg rolls and tea & coffee available for a small cost.

ARTS SPEAKS JAPANESE COMES ALIVE! 2017 STUDENT ART CONTEST

The Japan Foundation is running their annual Japanese Art Competition for School aged students. If you would like to enter please visit the following website for more information and ideas on how to be creative and make your own Japanese artwork. Junior school students will also be able to come to Japan Club on Thursdays and Fridays for the next two weeks for help with their artwork. The Japan Club will be run in the art room of the Blue Building (West End) (Thursdays and Fridays). Please contact White Sensei for more information or listen at morning line up for more announcements.

Entries Close 30 August 2017

<https://jpf.org.au/language/for-learners/contests/art-speaks-japanese/>



DEFENCE NEWS

Tomorrow we have Anna Stewart from Defence Community Organisation visiting us to present the Tyler the Turtle program to some of our kinder students. The Tyler the Turtle program is a 60 to 90 minute session (dependant on numbers of students) where we go through a book about Tyler and how he copes with worries. Last term we ran this program with some of our Year 1's. Talking to them after the program they really enjoyed it and now use some strategies learnt. It is my hope that this will be just as beneficial for our Kindy's.

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 etc.) could you please let us know, as it is important we have accurate information.

Coming Up:

- Tyler the Turtle (Kinder) Wednesday 16 Aug
- ADFA Open Day Saturday 26 August
- Battle for Australia Commemoration (AWM) Wednesday 6 September
- Defence Families Dinner at Thai Herb Thursday 7 September

Sarah McGavin (DSTA) available school hours Mon – Wed and Fri. Sarah.mcgavin@ed.act.edu.au



DEFENCE KIDS

This week in activity groups for K – 4 we have put the beads away for a few weeks and have been playing games and doing puzzles. Please remind your children of the days that their year level has activity groups and that they can bring with them as many of their friends as they like. Kinder – Year2 (Mon lunch); Years 3 and 4 (Tues lunch). The Senior Chill out session for Yrs. 5 -10 is Thursday lunchtime in Room H4/G26 (Mulligans Building).

Operation Laundry Bag is also still running this term if any students from Years 5 to 10 are interested and can sew. Please meet Mrs Brown in the Textiles room Wednesday Lunchtimes. Our aim is to get 8 laundry bags completed which can then be sent to Defence force members on operational deployments.



HARRISON HEARTS

Is held in the Multi-Purpose room (Junior Hall), every **Wednesday** between 1:30 and 2:30pm, this volunteer group is open to all community members and new faces are always welcome. 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.

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. All you need to do is drop into the canteen and say hello. Please find attached an updated Canteen Menu. Please see the link below for the 2017 Canteen Menu.

[2017 CANTEEN MENU](#)

[FLEXI -SCHOOLS ONLINE ORDERING](#)

P & C NEWS

P & C MEETING

Harrison School P&C will hold their general monthly meeting on 16 August 2017 at 7:00pm in the school library. Items on the Agenda include Car Park update, information on Term 3 Disco, Fundraising as well as an update from Mr Holmes.

Father's Day is fast approaching and Harrison P&C will again be holding a Father's Day stall on 31 August and 1 September. Students will be offered the chance to purchase a small gift at \$5 or under.

If you would like to help out for an hour or two at the stall, please email

Yvonne@harrisonschoolpandc.org.au

HARRISON FAIR 2018

This year's fair was well attended and highlighted the amazing community not only at Harrison School, but the wider community in general. As well as a day that had our children praised for their behaviour and manners; it was also a day that made people laugh, smile, enjoy great rides, food, and time with friends. Harrison School also raised in excess of \$21,000. Every cent raised goes straight back to Harrison School to benefit the students.

Harrison School P&C would like to start planning next year's Fair. In order for the Fair to go ahead, we need a team of people to start preparations now. The Fair Coordinators need volunteers to

head up specific tasks. Volunteers will be guided through what is needed based on the success and challenges in managing this year's Fair. Volunteers need to be able to work independently, whilst feeding back to the Fair coordinators. Support will always be on hand. Some roles requiring cover are:

Volunteer Recruitment and Ticketing

Marketing and Promotions

Sponsorship Coordinator

Monster Raffle Coordinator

Market Stall Coordinator

Food Stall Coordinator (x2)

Music/Performances

White Elephant and Book Stall

Plant Stall

Cake Stall

The Fair will not go ahead next year without parents/carers volunteering a little time and support. If you feel you can offer time and support please contact

Fair@harrisonschoolpandc.org.au

Step in to the Limelight: A reminder that we have a number of students performing at *Limelight-ACT Public Schools showcase events for The Arts*. Notes for participating students have been sent home. Tickets for the evening event on **Friday 25 August 2017** are available through: <http://premier.ticketek.com.au/shows/show.aspx?sh=LIMELIGH17> . Groups performing are:

- Harrison Ukulele Project (as pre-show entertainment from 6-7pm in the foyer, no need to get a ticket if you don't intend to stay for the show)
- Years 3-6 Aspire Choir (as part of the combined schools choir during the showcase starting at 7pm)
- Yrs. 7-10 Steel drums (as part of a music and dance number- they are not dancing just playing!)