



## Harrison School Newsletter 29 May 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Learning

I've been excited to watch the progress of initiatives targeted at improving literacy outcomes for students. Our staff across the school have been involved in professional learning to further their knowledge in literacy education and their engagement has been impressive to say the least. The work they are doing is helping to refine their practice, enhancing the already great teaching that is happening. In visiting classrooms, the enthusiasm and focus are terrific, as is the engagement of students. As a snapshot, our:

- P-2 are focussing on the Essential Literacy Practices
- 3-6 area are focussing on their Writing Project
- 7-10 area are focussing on developing literacy across the curriculum (Australian Curriculum General Capability)

### Reconciliation Week

While it was lovely to have a public holiday, I hope you were able to find time on Monday to think about the reason for the holiday and what reconciliation means. In an effort to broaden my understanding, I visited the [Reconciliation Australia](http://Reconciliation Australia) web site as a starting point. In looking through the site I found the 5 Dimensions quite thought provoking and the concept of Unity ("An Australian society that values and recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and heritage as a proud part of a shared identity.") as powerful, especially in the context of Historical Acceptance. My morning read helped me reflect on where we are as a nation and it turned out to be quite beneficial in other ways, as it helped me have a couple of great conversations during the day.

### Uniform

Winter is certainly finding its way to Canberra! Mornings are getting quite chilly and the temperature will only continue to drop. While we've had a few recent upgrades to our heating system that will help to keep learning

## Diary

### Term 2 Week 5

#### Wednesday 30

- Whole School Assembly 9:15am - Gym
- Yr. 5/6 Parliament House Excursion 5/6 KC, JC, SM & JL
- Nth Gungahlin Regional Cross Country Yr. 1 – 6

#### Thursday 31

- Kindergarten & Yr. 3/4 Tennis Clinics
- 13 & O North side Cross Country

#### Friday 1 June

- Kindergarten & Yr. 3/4 Tennis Clinics
- 10 -12 Yrs. Athletics Carnival
- Yrs. 5 – 10 Games Club 3:00 – 5:00pm

### Term 2 Week 6

#### Monday 4

- Wiradjuri Echoes Preschool Incursion M/T Groups

#### Tuesday 5

- Kindergarten & Yr. 3/4 Tennis Clinics

#### Wednesday 6

- Whole School Reconciliation Assembly 9:15am- Gym

#### Thursday 7

- Kindergarten & Yr. 3/4 Tennis Clinics
- Wiradjuri Echoes Preschool Incursion TH/F Groups

#### Friday 8

- Kindergarten & Yr. 3/4 Tennis Clinics
- 8 & 9 Yrs. Athletics Carnival

### 2018 Calendar

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



areas warm, the playground can be cold. Our winter uniform includes long navy blue pants (fleece lined tracksuit pants are OK), our polar fleece jumpers, navy blue parkers and a navy beanie. For our years 7 - 10 students in particular, an option of wearing the school skirt with navy blue tights is also an option. Our student leaders are currently working on a review of the school uniform with particular interest being given to Minister Berry's request for ACT public schools to having non-gender specific uniform guidelines. We will also be seeking parental input and I know the student leaders will keep you abreast of their thoughts and ideas.

### Outside School Hours Care (OSHC)

As some of you will know, recently the school undertook a tender process for the provision of outside school hours care. It is not good enough that the first you heard of this was from the current providers, Communities@Work. In hindsight, the school's decision to go to tender, along with the outcome, was something our community should have been informed of by me and I apologise for getting this wrong. Unfortunately we had to postpone the initial parent information sessions with our new providers OSHClub and I will send out additional information for parents who use the OSHC later this week.

### Car Park

For a long time now I have been reminding parents and carers of the importance of keeping our car park safe. This has been emphasised by our P&C who have been the driving force behind the changes to our car park, and for a time, monitors of the implementation. The P&C don't have the people power to maintain car park supervision and for me to assign additional staff to this task, I would need to close playground areas at recess and/or lunch. My question is, "Why does it need supervision?"

I know the safety of students is of the utmost importance to all parents and carers, yet I consistently see people parking in the drop off & pick up zones, double parking and speeding. I acknowledge that at peak times our car park can

become a complicated place, but the stakes are high. It's time we all 'stepped up' and showed the Harrison School Value of **Integrity** - doing the right thing, even when nobody's watching.

Jason.

### STUDENTS ARRIVING LATE TO SCHOOL

**ALL** students arriving late at school **MUST** sign in at either the main Front office or the Senior office.

### 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.

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.

### 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.

## SAVE THE DATE

### Year 7 – 10 EXHIBITIONS OF LEARNING

Date: Wednesday 27 June

Time: 2:00 – 6:00pm

## 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.

## 2019 PRESCHOOL ENROLMENTS

Just a reminder that Preschool enrolments for 2019 are now open. Due to the high demand within the school priority enrolment area we advise that you complete the online application as soon as possible. [Online Application](#)

## GUNGAHLIN COLLEGE 2019 YR. 11

### ENROLMENTS

Enrolment for Year 11 2019 at Gungahlin College is now open and the initial enrolment period closes at 9.00am on Monday 11 June. To secure a place at the College next year please ensure that your [online enrolment form](#) is completed. ACT residents who live outside of the [Priority Enrolment Area \(PEA\)](#) will need to provide a reason that meets the enrolment criteria outlined in the [Gungahlin College School Enrolment Management Plan](#).

For more information see the [Gungahlin College](#) or [Education Directorate](#) websites.

## PLAYGROUND SUPPORT CREW

An opportunity exists for all students in Years 2 - 4 to identify a group of peers (no more than 5) to facilitate games for students in the junior playground during outdoor play periods i.e. recess and lunch. Applications to join the **Playground Support Crew** will be distributed via black bags to

students in these year levels later this week.

### Description of the Initiative:

- To facilitate additional positive, safe play experiences for K-2 children in the junior playground
- To work co-operatively with chosen team mates to support others through games and play during rostered play periods
- To support peers to feel more of a connection and an increased sense of safety in the Harrison School playground environment

Students from years 2 - 4 who are interested in contributing to and leading this playground initiative will need to forward their **group application** to Ms Zarac (Year2) or Ms Hill (Yrs3-4) by Friday 8 June 2018.

## SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos have been delivered to the school and distributed to the students. If you have any concerns in regard to school photos please contact MSP Photography directly.

### Special Group Photos

Order forms for Special group photos listed below are available from the front office. The photos can be viewed at the main front office. All orders for special group photos are to be sent to MSP Photography by **Friday 8 June**.

### Groups

Captains and Vice Captains	Student Leaders	Leadership Committee
Year 8 Prefects	Year 6 Prefects	Year 4 Prefects
House Captains and Vice Captains	Senior Band	Year 6 Band
House Captains and Vice Captains Katoomba, Mapleton, Nullarbor & Wimmera	Senior Choir	Harrison Hoppers

## HARRISON SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

The next Harrison School Board meeting will be held on Tuesday 29 May 2018. The contact email address for parent representatives on the school board. [hsbparentrep@outlook.com](mailto:hsbparentrep@outlook.com)

## 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).

**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](mailto: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.



## DEFENCE NEWS

Defence Families Australia (DFA) are seeking feedback from Defence families in the Canberra region. They want to know if anyone has any information to share with them with regards to issues affecting defence families. (eg. Housing, schooling etc.) They would also appreciate positive feedback with regards to support already provided to families from the Defence Community Organisation, DSTA/DTM program, Childcare etc. If you would like to share your experiences please contact Emma Steil [act.sthns@dfa.org.au](mailto:act.sthns@dfa.org.au)

**Coming Up:** RMC Band Visit to Whole School Thursday 5 July.

**DCO Support for ADF Families:**  
[defencefamilyhelpline@defence.gov.au](mailto: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](mailto:sarah.mcgavin@ed.act.edu.au) or  
[emma.marrinan@ed.act.edu.au](mailto: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 lunchtimes and the Y3-4 Activity Group is Tuesday lunchtimes. For students in Y5/6 the Defence Hang out is NOW Wednesday lunchtimes and 7 – 10 Thursday lunchtimes.



## HARRISON HEARTS

If you would like to join us, come to the Defence Room in the School Library on Monday mornings between 9:00 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

### 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](#)

## SCHOOL BANKING



Congratulations to all our Super Savers that have ordered their rewards – what a great savings effort. The rewards have been ordered and they

will be sent to you once they arrive. Please remember that they may take up to two weeks to be delivered to the school. If you have not returned your order, I encourage you to please order your reward before they run out of the rewards stock, please note **the Secret Scratch Notepad is now not available.**

Don't forget that our Super Savers Grand Prize competition finishes at the end of Term 3 2018! Students will need to have made 15 or more School Banking deposits before the end of Term 3. So, you can still start this week for your chance to win an unforgettable family trip to Hawaii. Remember School Banking is processed every **Wednesday**, you just need to keep banking every week to be eligible to enter the competition and to collect your tokens to be eligible for the rewards – it doesn't really matter how much money you bank, you just need to bank every week.

If you would like to be part of the Commonwealth Bank's School Banking program you just need to open a Youthsaver Account at any Commonwealth Bank or visit

[www.commbank.com.au/schoolbanking](http://www.commbank.com.au/schoolbanking)

Maria Sanchez-Worsnop  
School Banking Coordinator