



Harrison School Newsletter 4 August 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you're travelling well as we enter the last month of winter - the chilly weather seems to have 'upped the ante' recently but I'm grateful to see the hours of daylight growing. Despite the cold, this is the time of year where the UV index begins to rise in Canberra so it's time for students to start wearing hats when out on the playground.

COVID Safety

While on the topic of personal well-being, it's a good time for a reminder about how we can all play our part in keeping our school and community safe in these uncertain times. Staff are practising social distancing and regular sanitising, along with helping students to practise good hygiene regularly. We shared the Chief Health Officer (CHO) Roadmap advice for schools with you recently to give insight into what events can and can't resume and procedures schools need to continue. The increased cleaning throughout the day has continued and we are grateful to you, our parent community, for your support through not entering classroom buildings, maintaining social distance when waiting for your children, keeping your children home if they are showing any cold or flu like signs or symptoms and quarantining family units if a member has undergone a COVID test. We are also grateful to those of you who continue to use the marked entry and exit gates around the school appropriately as this reduces confusion and aids in social distancing.

End of Year Events

In line with the CHO's Roadmap, we made some difficult decisions recently related to end of year events. Unfortunately, the end of year concert won't go ahead this year and while we are holding out hope, I don't think we are going to be able to hold a Year 10 Formal either. If circumstances remain as they are (or improve), we do intend to hold the Year 10 Graduation (live streamed to parents/carers rather than you being physically in attendance) and present students with ACE Awards (in classes rather than our regular

Term 3 Week 3

A reminder that all assemblies, excursions and camps have been cancelled for Term 3.

Tuesday 11 August

- Harrison School Board Meeting 5:30pm

FRONT OFFICE HOURS

Harrison School Front Office hours are:

**Monday – Friday
8:30am – 3:30pm**

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



ACE Ceremony. These were disappointing decisions to make and certainly not what any of us envisaged at the start of the year.

Current Happenings

On a brighter note, congratulations are warranted for Kanchana I, one of our Learning Support Assistants, for winning a scholarship to support studies to complete a Certificate IV in Education Support. As a place of learning, we are continuing our partnership with the University of Canberra through hosting pre-service teachers (in much reduced numbers) as part of their journey to becoming qualified teachers. And in another step towards a sense of 'normality', we have students participating in the Australian Geography Competition this week.

Diversity is Our Strength

As part of an annual process of review of support for students, teachers recently completed the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data, which focuses on adjustments teachers make to support successful learning for all students. In a school our size this is a significant, but worthwhile event, as we take time to moderate and review supports and adjustments we make along with resources available to achieve these. It's also a great opportunity for teachers to reflect on and share great teaching practice as we strive to meet the needs of all learners and I thank them for their enthusiastic participation.

Rail Safety Week

Next week is Rail Safety Week and this year we are again working closely with Transport Canberra to provide important safety information for students in relation to travelling on and moving around the light rail. It's a good opportunity for us all to revisit the need to be alert and pay attention when in and around light rail vehicles and to consider the role modelling, we can do for kids.

As I've mentioned before in my newsletter articles, the school has a membership with Parenting Ideas. This provides our community with access to information through their blog, webinars, articles, and courses, which you can access [here](#). Some cost and many are free. I have included a copy of an article about

developing young people's emotional smarts for you this week.

Family Statements

Family Statements for Semester 2 will be sent home later this week. Family statements outline Years 7-10 elective course costs and we are asking you to make a voluntary contribution to the school. Your contributions are greatly appreciated as they assist the school in providing high quality learning opportunities and projects for your children. Voluntary contributions are used to purchase a range of resources across the school to support the provision of challenging, interesting and personalised learning. Subject contributions received from families are used to purchase resources and consumables that allow students to go beyond basic project work to produce materials that are high quality, allow personalisation and often provide additional challenge. If you have any questions about the family statements, please contact me on the school's general number.

Jason Holmes

ASSEMBLY CERTIFICATES

Congratulations to our Principals Award Recipients:

Henry Z	Lin D	Edward L
Ella G	Archie N	Deeksh V x2
Asher C	Abdul K	Isobel F
Harlow M	Anthea K x2	Maddison D
Stella P V	Ava H	Payton M
Vyass N	Lachlan M	Sofia S

UPDATING CONTACT DETAILS

As we move into Semester 2, we would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and carers to ensure that the school has your correct and up to date contact details, this ensures that the school has the correct information should we need to contact you.

If you have changed your contact details, phone number or email address, please contact the school via email to Info.harrison@ed.act.edu.au or complete a [Change of Contact Details Form](#) which can be found on the school website.

Thank you for your assistance.

STUDENTS LEAVING HARRISON SCHOOL PERMANENTLY

If your child/ren are leaving Harrison School permanently, you are required to complete [this form](#) and hand it to the Front Office before their last day of school.

SCHOOL SATISFACTION SURVEY

<https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/school-satisfaction-and-climate-survey>

As part of our continuous effort to improve ACT schools, each year the Education Directorate invites all parents, school staff and students in Years 4 to 12 to give feedback through the School Satisfaction & Climate Survey.

The 2020 survey will be available online from 10 to 31 August. This is your opportunity to have a say about your satisfaction with public education. Learn more about the survey on the Education [website](#).

Your responses will help Harrison School to identify what it does well and how it can improve. The data will also be used to underpin school improvement practices and inform government priorities, as well as in research projects and longitudinal studies aimed at improving the quality of education services in the ACT.

HARRISON SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

The next Harrison School Board meeting will be held on Tuesday 11 August 2020.

COVID-19 TRANSLATED RESOURCES AND SUPPORT SERVICES



Reaching people who speak a language other than English with vital public health information is essential to protecting our school communities as the COVID-19 pandemic continues. The ACT Government has partnered with SBS Australia to deliver essential

information about COVID-19 in Canberra, available on the COVID-19 [website](#).

SBS also have a Coronavirus Information Portal. This includes [videos in 59 languages](#) explaining essential health information, and a growing suite of [infographics and posters](#) in more than 60 languages, clearly communicating and breaking down key COVID-19 messages. The site provides up to date information as well as links to news and reporting from across the world including radio and podcasts. The SBS Coronavirus Information Portal is available at the SBS [website](#). Visit the Connect in Canberra [webpage](#) to find a list of services and programs currently available to support the ACT multicultural community and please support the community by widely sharing information about the availability of these resources.

Mental Health Support Contacts and Wellbeing Apps

Please see the link below for a list of Harrison School Mental Health Support Contacts and Wellbeing Apps. [Harrison School Mental Health Support Contacts and Wellbeing Apps](#).

SPARE CLOTHES LOANED TO STUDENTS

If your child has been given a change of clothing by the school, please wash and return them to the Front Office as soon as possible, as we are running extremely low. Thank you for your cooperation.

LIBRARY NEWS

BOOK WEEK – NEW DATES



Recognising the exceptional circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Children's Book Council of Australia (CBCA) has announced new dates for the 2020 Book Week. **The dates are 17-23 October 2020.**

Scholastic Book Fair 2020



We are very excited to be holding a Scholastic Book Fair this term!

It will run from Tuesday 8 September - Friday 18 September. The students will have the opportunity to browse the great selection of books that will be available, write a wish list and purchase a book. We are being respectful of social distancing so we will open the Book Fair at staggered times with limited numbers of parents after school. More information will be sent out soon. We hope you can come and support our school.

Chief Minister's Reading Challenge 2020

Thank you to all the students who have participated in the Chief Minister's Reading Challenge this year. The students will be awarded a certificate for their efforts in achieving their target.

Thank you to the families and teachers who promoted the challenge and the love of reading with the children.



Entertainment Book 2020

A reminder that we are taking online orders for the 2020 Entertainment Book. You can follow the link to make a purchase. There are many great offers and savings to enjoy.

Thank you for your support!

<https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/2d6190>

Library Trust Fund

Our school has a Library fund that enables families to donate a small gift towards purchasing resources for the library.

Donations to the Library Fund can be made online via the link below.

[Payment](#)

2020 REVIEW - DISABILITY STANDARDS FOR EDUCATION 2005

The [Disability Standards for Education 2005](#) (the Standards) help make sure students with disability in Australia can access and participate in education on the same basis as students without disability. The Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment, on behalf of the Minister for Education, is undertaking a review of the Standards through an extensive community consultation process. The Standards are reviewed every five years to test if they are effective in achieving their objectives and whether any improvements could be made.

Current, former and prospective students with disability, their families and carers, advocates, educators and other members of the public are invited to share their experiences, views and ideas to inform the Review of the Standards. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, engagement activities will mostly be held online via a dedicated 2020 Review [Consultation Hub](#). To register to be involved or to make a submission visit the [Consultation Hub](#). The consultations are open until 11.59pm AEST on Friday, 25 September 2020.



<https://disabilitystandardsreview.education.gov.au/>



DEFENCE NEWS

Well it's that time of year again when POSTING orders have come or are coming out. If you are moving onto a new adventure, please let us know so that we can help prepare your child/ren for a smooth transition and ensure that they are farewelled. Also, if there are any changes to your current situation i.e. MWDU, Courses, Deployments, please let us know so we can provide your child/ren with extra support if required.

DCO Support for ADF Families:

defencefamilyhelpline@defence.gov.au or 1800 624 608.

Sarah and Zoe

sarah.mcgvain@ed.act.edu.au

zoe.rossiter@ed.act.edu.au



DEFENCE KIDS

Please remind your children that the K-2 Activity Group is Monday lunchtimes and 3-4 Activity Group is Tuesday lunchtimes. For students in 5/6, the Defence Hang out is NOW Wednesday lunchtimes. Students in Years 7 to 10 remain Thursday lunchtimes.

YOUNG CARER BURSARY PROGRAM 2021

Young Carer Bursary Program 2021 applications are now open. If you care for a family member or friend with an illness, disability or mental health issues, you could be eligible for one of the 1 000 bursaries available to young people juggling study and care. Applications for 2021 open from 28 July to 8 September 2020. To be eligible you must be a young carer who is:

- Aged between 12 – 25
- Studying or completing an apprenticeship
- An Australian citizen or permanent resident
- Not receiving another scholarship

For more information and to apply:

YoungCarersNetwork.com.au

CANTEEN NEWS

The Junior and Senior Canteens are fully operational. The P&C strongly suggest that wherever possible lunch orders are processed online through Flexischools <https://flexischools.com.au>.

SECOND-HAND UNIFORM SHOP

The second-hand uniform shop is closed until further notice.

LOWES SCHOOLWEAR SALE



Don't forget 20% off Zero Day – 6 & 7 August Shop Online & In-store

Lowes 20% OFF School Wear and Everything else. Thursday 6 and Friday 7 August, for Zero and Reward Card Holders.