



# HARRISON NEWS



Wimmera St, Harrison ACT 2914 Ph: 02 6142 2200 Fax: 02 6142 2299  
School website: [www.harrison.act.edu.au](http://www.harrison.act.edu.au) ABN: 92990043183  
Harrison School P&C Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/pages/Harrison-School-P&C](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Harrison-School-P&C)  
[Harrison.Absences@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Harrison.Absences@ed.act.edu.au)

## Harrison School Newsletter 15 December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope the year is wrapping up well for you and the sense of 'somewhat normality' that we're experiencing at school is flowing over to your everyday interactions as well. As we've mentioned numerous times over the last few weeks, it has been a very challenging year! I sometimes tweet with #veryproudprincipal and the last few weeks have given me numerous reasons to be filled with pride, from watching the joy on the faces of students who have been recognised for their achievements, endeavour and citizenship through to the great experience of watching staff pull together to help each other out in lots of different ways.

### Recent Happenings

The last couple of weeks have been terrific as we've recognised and celebrated our students. We farewelled our Yr 10 students at an excellent Graduation followed by an amazing Formal. For me, the night was a great reminder of the terrific young people we have (and develop) at Harrison – it was an absolutely delightful reminder 😊 and I look forward to hearing of and seeing the successes of these Harrison Graduates as they continue to grow in their 'post Harrison School' lives.. We also celebrated our Yr 6 students completing their primary school journey and I expect that despite our 'one school' thinking and great transition work that's been happening, there will be a number of those students who are very nervous about next year. We will reassure them (and ask that parents/carers do too) that there will be lots of support for them as they move into Year 7.

Our ACE Awards Assemblies also happened over weeks eight and nine and, the smaller, more intimate ceremonies were great – whether we decide to go this way again next year is definitely worth consideration. Our Pre-schoolers had their Fun Days last week too and there were some very excited Yrs 3-6 students who thoroughly enjoyed the Yr 5/6 Market Day.

### Term 4 Week 10

#### **Tuesday 15 December**

- Yr. 3/4 Aqua Fun Day – Big Splash
- Yr. 5/6 Burton Building Zoo Fun Day
- M/T Preschool Singing and Mini Graduation

#### **Wednesday 16 December**

- Year 8 Dendy Movie Fun Day
- Yr. 1/2 Hoyts Movie Fun Day
- Kindergarten Inflatable World Excursion

#### **Thursday 17 December**

- Year 7 Dendy Movie Fun Day
- Year 8 Zone Bowling Fun Day

#### **Friday 18 December**

- T/F Preschool Singing and Mini Graduation
- Last Day of Term 4 2020

### Term 1 Week 0 2021

#### **Friday 29 January 2021**

- Front Office will re-open from 1:00pm-3:30pm

### Term 1 Week 1 2021

#### **Monday 1 February 2021**

- First Day of Term 1 for M/T Preschool, Kindergarten, and all NEW students to Harrison School

#### **Tuesday 2 February 2021**

- First Day of Term 1 for all continuing students

#### **Thursday 4 February 2021**

- First Day of Term 1 for T/F Preschool

With so many great events happening, it's easy to lose sight of the tremendous effort that goes into each and every event. I won't try to name everyone involved in the organisation of the events (it would take a couple of pages!), instead I pass on my heartfelt thanks to all the staff who pitched in to provide something special for our students.

It's also been lovely to invite parents and carers to these events with the easing of COVID restrictions and I hope you've enjoyed the opportunity to be back in the school. As I said in all of my ACE Ceremony closing addresses, the school is very grateful for your support during the period of restrictions and we acknowledge the role you've played in helping to keep Harrison School safe - you're an awesome community group.

Throughout Term 4, we've celebrated the culmination of student learning in particular areas in a number of ways. Some of the recent ones have been market days (Yrs 9/10 Business Studies and all Yrs 5/6 classes), where students have developed a product or activity, considered the business case for it, developed a marketing campaign and 'sold their wares' on a given day. These have been highly engaging and successful days. We've also had LearnRite students engaging in a similar process, with the focus of their work being about giving back. A stellar example of the success and impact of the students was through a donation of over \$5000 to the World Wildlife Fund Bushfire Appeal and approximately \$2000 to Helping Hoops. Amazing work!

### Staff Movements

Congratulations are warranted for our staff who have been successful in gaining transfer for 2021 or those who have been offered permanency at Harrison. The staff transferring at the end of this year are:

### Permanent staff transferring:

Teachers Leaving:	
Allan Lansdowne	Sarah King
Amy McLeod	Tim Kirsopp
Caitlin Lee	Dave McGibbon
Emma Leahy	Andraya Stapp-Gaunt
Helen Duncan	Julia Cunningham
Justine Church	Ruth Conley-Watson
Kylie GW	Karl Luedtke
Lauren Scott	Kirrily Burnett
Nick O'Brien	Kate Riordan

### Staff joining Harrison School:

Area of School	Full Name	Coming From
K-6	Jayne Bleckendorf	Gold Creek School
K-6	Tanya Sheppard	Mawson Primary School
3-6 (SLC)	Julie Pickering	Gold Creek School
7-10	Coreen Sauriol	Alfred Deakin High School
7-10	Rod Lynes	Dickson College
7-10	Samira Saani-Adam	Belconnen High School
7-10	Ro Lafferty	Alfred Deakin High School
Whole School	Anita Sutherland	Wanniassa School

Permanent positions have been offered to Alanna Jones (K-6 Teacher), David Hicks (K-6 Teacher), Marnie Lotts (7-10 Food Tech assistant) and Lauren Seamon (Admin) - congratulations! We also have a few staff returning from leave and it will be great to have them back at Harrison. Please also join me in congratulating Marcus Berryman, who has won the HDA (40%) 7/8 Student Connection and Engagement Officer for Semester 1 2021.

Through the new administration system, we started a staged sending of reports home last week. End of

semester reports are a summative 'snapshot' of where your child is at in relation to the Early Years Learning Framework (Preschool) or the Australian Curriculum Achievement Standards (Kinder to Year 10). Along with comments from teachers, reports for K-10 students include an A-E grade for each learning area. I encourage you to read the comments and strategies for progressing learning with your children rather than focussing on the grade. Please be sure to make contact with your child's class teacher if you have questions about the comment, strategies or grade.

### **A Very Big Thank You**

On behalf of the school I thank New Life Presbyterian Church for their ongoing generosity and support for Harrison families. Each year Russell Smidt, the Pastor of the Church, contacts me and offers a number of Christmas Hampers for the school to distribute to families who may need a little extra help and this year has been no different.

We'll send out information in the New Year regarding when class lists will be made available and the arrangement for the first two days of school in 2021. Term 1 – New students start school on **Monday 1 February 2021**. Continuing students return to school on **Tuesday 2 February 2021**.

In wrapping up, if you're interested in doing some reading over the break I'll take this chance to remind you of our school's membership with Parenting Ideas, which gives you access to different resources and learning opportunities on some very relevant topics. You can access Parenting Ideas [here](#).

Wishing you all a very safe holiday period,

Jason Holmes

### **GRATITUDE PROJECT – 9/10RL**

Students in 9/10RL have been working on a gratitude project by giving back to their community. We have named the project '6 days of giving'. Throughout the past 6 weeks 9/10RL students have been focusing on giving back to their school, surrounding community and parents/carers. These hampers have all been created from donated items that are going to be delivered to the Sydney Ronald McDonald House charities. Students wanted to bring some holiday joy to

families who may not get to experience such joy this year. Sarah M (a student in 9/10RL) also got her Girls Guide group to contribute small hampers to our project as well. The students in 9/10RL are very proud of their efforts.



### **SAVE THE DATES!**

- Last Day of Term 4 2020: Friday 18 December 2020
- First Day of Term 1 for Mon/Tue Preschoolers, Kindergarten Students and all NEW students to Harrison School: Monday 1 February 2021
- First Day of Term 1 for all continuing students: Tuesday 2 February 2021
- Harrison School Swimming Carnival – Thursday 11 February 2021, Stromlo Leisure Centre
- Year 5/6 Aqua Fun Day – Monday 22 February 2021, Big Splash Waterpark Jamieson
- Year 7-10 Aqua Fun Day – Wednesday 3 March 2021, Big Splash Waterpark Jamieson



### **SHOP SMART, AND PLAY SAFE THIS SUMMER**

With Christmas and school holidays just around the corner, make sure to shop smart and think about both safety and sustainability when buying gifts for family and friends.

Parents and Carers can play their part in keeping their kids safe this festive and holiday season by:

checking the age recommendations for toys and buying those which reflect the child's age and do not pose a choking hazard

- reading and following the warning labels and instructions on toys
- ensuring all household items with button batteries can't be opened by children
- keeping toys with lithium button batteries well away from small children · checking information about recent national safety toy recalls at [www.productsafety.gov.au](http://www.productsafety.gov.au)
- supervising children at all times when they are playing in pools.

Why not consider sustainable gifts this festive season? Sustainable gifts are not only good for the environment, they are often better for the hip pocket too! Smart and sustainable gift ideas include tours and passes to local attractions, organic gifts like worm farms and plants, or second-hand presents.

For more tips on safe and sustainable shopping this summer visit [www.act.gov.au/shopsmart](http://www.act.gov.au/shopsmart)



### ASSEMBLY CERTIFICATES

Congratulations to our Principals Award Recipients:

Isabelle S,	Rameen K,	Debby Y 2x,
Jameson L 2x,	Iris T,	Geetha S,
Sumayra T,	Ruby C,	Zia C,
Vyaas N,	Aariz N,	Madeleine O
Lachlan M,	Zali F,	Deeksh V,
Hannah W,	Brielle W,	Shuhe L,
Sasvath S,	Benjamin T,	Sophie L,
William Z,	Anthea L,	Sophia C,
Amelia F,	Taseen T,	Muhammad R,
Jihan S,	Lucas D,	Joshua B,
Asher C,	Calix C,	Jerome C,
Theo B,	Darcy K,	Ibrahim M,

### Year 10 Graduation and Formal

On Wednesday last week, we held the Year 10 Graduation and Formal in our school Gym. It was lovely to be able to welcome 2 guests per graduating student back on school grounds. A massive thank you goes to Miss Lee, Miss Evans, Miss Atallah, Miss Pillay, Miss Watson, Miss Ford, Deb and Trish for their organisation and coordination of the event. They transferred the gym into a beautiful space for our students, who had a wonderful night. We wish our graduating Year 10 students all the best for their future endeavours.



### 2021 STATIONERY LISTS

The Harrison School stationery lists for 2021 are now available on the COS website for ordering. The lists are also available on the school website, please see the links below. [2021 Stationery Lists](#).

More information about how to order can be found [here](#).

A reminder the cut off for orders is **11 January 2021**.

## REMINDER

### STUDENTS NOT RETURNING TO HARRISON SCHOOL IN 2021

If your child is not returning to Harrison School in 2021 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 2021.

### 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 2021 (Tuesday 2 February 2021), please complete the form on this link; [Holiday Leave Form](#) and return it to the front office as soon as possible.

### THERMOMIX RAFFLE

The Thermomix raffle was drawn last week, and we have one very excited winner - congratulations! Thank you to all of those who purchased a ticket.



### SCHOOL TRAVEL FOR 2021

Students who require a School Opal card or travel pass for 2021 can now [apply online](#). A new application should be submitted if a student is applying for a school travel pass for the first time or requesting an additional pass as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody).

Students who have changed school/campus, changed address, repeated a year or received an expiry notification from Transport for NSW for their school travel entitlement should re-apply or [update their details](#).

More information can be found [here](#).



## LIBRARY NEWS

### NAIDOC WEEK

#### Book Donation by Big W Gungahlin

Harrison students were invited by Big W to enter their NAIDOC WEEK Colouring competition.

The winners received books from a selection of Indigenous stories. A selection of Indigenous titles were also donated to our library. Thank you to Debra and the staff from Big W for their continued support.



### School Holiday Activities

#### National Portrait Gallery

Bookings essential

<https://www.portrait.gov.au/calendar/story-time-magic-beach>

The beach is coming to Canberra! Listen to the story *Magic Beach* by Alison Lester and create your own visual response.

- Wednesday 6 January 2021, 10:30am – 12:00pm and 2:00 – 3:30pm All materials provided; for children of all ages and abilities.

Can't come to us? We'll bring the beach to you! Join us online for a reading of Alison Lester's *Magic Beach* followed by a chance to create your own visual response with items at home. Wednesday 27 January 2021 10:30 – 11:15am



## ACT Public Libraries

Register your child for their own library card [here](#) and receive a free book.

School holidays Online Stories - <https://vimeo.com/showcase/librariesact-storytime>

## National Museum of Australia

Online Kids activities.

<https://www.nma.gov.au/learn/diy>

## National Gallery of Australia

Kids and family Art activities.

<https://nga.gov.au/whatson/programs/kidsfamilies.cfm>

## National Library of Australia

<https://www.nla.gov.au/whats-on>

## Happy Holidays

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all the staff, students, and families all the best for Christmas.

Have a safe holiday and may 2021 be filled with health and happiness!

Thank you for all your support this year and always encouraging the love of reading!

See you in 2021 😊

The Library Team



## DEFENCE NEWS

We would like to congratulate our Yr 6 and Yr 10 Defence Students on their Graduations and wish them all the very best for bright and happy futures. We would also like to congratulate Michael Foster on receiving the Long Tan Award at his graduation last week.

We wish all our Defence Families a happy and safe Christmas and holiday season. For those who are travelling, please stay safe. We look forward to seeing many of you again next year and to those who are leaving us, we wish you all the best at your new locations.

## DCO Support for ADF Families:

[defencefamilyhelpline@defence.gov.au](mailto:defencefamilyhelpline@defence.gov.au) or 1800 624 608.

Sarah and Zoe

[Sarah.McGavin@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Sarah.McGavin@ed.act.edu.au)

[Zoe.Rossiter@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Zoe.Rossiter@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 2021, hopefully with some more exciting ideas/opportunities!



## HARRISON HEARTS

We hope to be up and running again in Week 2 of school in 2021.

## CANTEEN NEWS

The Junior and Senior Canteens will be closed for all orders and over the counter service on Friday 18 December. Please remember to send your child with food on this day as they are not able to purchase from Canteen. Availability of stock will also be affected as we near the end of term and some menu items may not be available.

The Junior and Senior Canteens will reopen on Tuesday 2 February 2021.

## SECOND-HAND UNIFORM SHOP

The Second-Hand Uniform Shop will be opened on the following days from 8:30am-9:30am.

### Week 10 Term 4 2020

- Wed 16 Dec, 8:30am-9:30am
- Thurs 17 Dec, 8:30am-9:30am
- Fri 18 Dec, 8:30am-9:30am

### 0 Week Term 1 2021

- Wed 27 Jan, 8:30am-9:30am
- Thurs 28 Jan, 8:30am-9:30am
- Fri 29 Jan, 8:30am-9:30am

### Week 1 Term 1 2020

- Mon 1 Feb, 8:30am-9:30am
- Tues 2 Feb, 8:30am-9:30am
- Fri 5 Feb, 8:30am-9:30am

## 2021 School Year

- Every Friday from 8:30am-9:30am during 2021 school terms

For all those planning on visiting the shop when it re-opens please make note of the following:

- All sales will be CARD ONLY, no cash transactions in line with COVID restrictions.
- Sales and donations only, no buy backs or swaps. We will revisit this in 2021 as restrictions ease and if we have enough volunteers to assist.

The P&C have created a sign-up website for all volunteers. If you can help keep this valuable service running, please visit the website and sign up

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040e48a4ad22abf58-2ndhand1>. The P&C will provide support and training for all volunteers.

In the meantime, if you would like to sell or swap your Harrison uniform items please join our Harrison School Uniform Buy, Sell & Swap Facebook Group -

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/3518239331522558>.