



Newsletter

Week 5 Term 3

DATES TO REMEMBER	
Saturday 15 - Sunday 23 August	National Science Week
During August	ICAS English, Science, Dig Tech
Tuesday 25 & Thursday 27 August	Yr 4 Touch Football Gala Days
Wednesday 2 September	Indigenous Literacy Book Swap fundraiser
Wednesday 2 & Thursday 3 September	Miles Franklin Art Show
Tuesday 1 & Friday 4 September	Father's Day Stall
Monday 7 September	Yr 6 Combined Band Rehearsal

Notes home

Fathers Day

Combined Band Rehearsal Yr 6

Touch Football Gala Day Yr 4

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hats

Now that we are in August, it's a requirement under our Sun Smart Policy that all children wear hats when outside for play and PE. Please make sure your child has their hat (and a spare at home too please!) as children will need to sit under the verandas if they do not.

Car Park

I would like to thank the kind drivers who stop and ask if I would like to cross back over to the path when I am out on car park duty. Thank you for this, but you don't need to. When it is raining, as it was on Tuesday, I like to go out and stand on the road. I find it slows cars down when the driver finds the Principal standing there (although not everyone does, which is disconcerting). I would rather not do this but feel compelled to slow cars down in the carpark. Children are unpredictable at the best of times and a wet road increases your stopping distance. Speeding through will add a few mere seconds to your driving time. And on most days, what's the rush? A few years ago a driver accidentally knocked down a grandparent in the carpark. They lost their licence, resulting in the children needing to go to their local school, not Miles Franklin which was their chosen school. Imagine that conversation over the dinner table. Imagine trying to explain your actions to your partner, your children, the police. Many years ago I was in the home of a friend when the police brought their dad back after being caught drink driving. Waiting to be collected, I had the joy of listening to the family in tears at the thought of the fine they couldn't pay, the loss of freedom, the sacrifices they would need to make over the next 12 months and the potential loss of his job. Very awkward... all just for a few extra beers down the pub on a Friday afternoon. There are parallels here: please, just slow down.

Furthermore, we are getting increasingly concerned about drivers feeling the need to double park or worse, those driving through, stopping next to the double-parked car and calling their children over to get in the car. Please consider the conversation in the hospital when your partner gets there and you have to explain to them why you felt it was necessary to tell your child to run out, not between two parked cars but four. Please, if you cannot stop in a designated area go around and come back into the carpark and pull over or park when it is safe. The area between the crossing and the disabled car parking spaces is not a safe place to stop; it reduces the vision for other drivers and just past this is a popular crossing area (we don't encourage not using the crossing but we do see a lot of families crossing here). This is especially worrying when there are parking places available just past the disabled spaces...

This section in the newsletter might be confronting to some of you. My response is that our children's lives are precious.

Social media, phones and online gaming in the evening

We've recently become aware of a few of our older children staying up really late to engage in texting, messaging each other or online gaming. Sometimes children are waking up in the early hours of the morning and continuing this. Whilst what happens outside school remains the choice of the parents, here are a few ideas:

- Take all devices away from them before they go to bed
- Better still, no devices away from the family living spaces at any time!
- Go to bed early. Primary school children should be in bed by 9.00pm if not a lot earlier. For reference, our high school child is in bed before 9.00pm...
- Have a conversation with the other parents of the group your child is in and agree on some parameters about the use of these in the evenings, weekends and mornings. A lot of children become anxious if they do not hear from their friends or fear they will be missing out unless they are online at all hours. Knowing that none of their friends will be online after a certain time will reduce this tension.

Satellite Selfie

This week is Science Week in schools. Whilst this is embedded within our units of inquiry, we acknowledged this specifically by making a '40!' sign on the oval for the 'Satellite Selfie' that occurred on Monday. It was wonderful all being together in the same place, with staff dotted around obviously, and we hope the finished picture is a great reminder of the significant milestone our school is in this year.

Art Show

Planning for the Art Show is well underway with many pieces of artwork already prepared. More information on this will be forthcoming but we are planning on having the Art Show open to parents and grandparents to come through the hall in Week 7 (we are currently in Week 5). Obvious differences will apply compared to two years ago but we plan to work within the current restrictions to provide as much of an opportunity as possible for you and your children to have the same as previous experiences. For the majority of that week Afters will operate from the school gate to the left of the entrance to the hall.

School Assistants appreciation morning tea

Also in Week 7 the P&C are organising a School Assistants appreciation morning tea to thank and celebrate our wonderful non-teaching staff. More information on this will also be coming out to you shortly.

Chris

IB Learner Profiles

Congratulations to the following students who will be receiving IB Learner Profile certificates on Friday 28 August 2020.

Well done!

Classes	Students		
K Davis	Ryker B	Cai H	Damian G
K McGarity	Lachlan S	Claire K	Sebastian B
K Stewart	Amelie P	Rafael V	Indigo B
1 Bourne	Benjamin H	Imaniyat A	Kira S
1 Packard	Miranda L	Carter R	Everett G
1 Prunster	Sam G	Zach S	Indie H
2 Holland	Alastair W	Josh R	Isaac F
2 McGruer	Iyasu B	Cooper T	Jaxon T
2 Morris	Kobe R	Kira D	Lucy H
3 Marshall	Scarlett H	Patrick Y	
3 Nuttall	Ayden S	Oliver G	Jovi N
3 Bullock	Samantha B	Pravachan D	Krusoe G
4 Brennan	Myles C	Charlie A	Jade Mc
4 Fletcher	Evelyn P	Dayal S-P	Layla M
4 Malusa	Alexandra D	William J	Lilly S
5 Dorsett	Dean M	Kaisei D	Jack E
5 Dykes	Dev S	Victoria P	Tom C
5 Sybert	Isaac P	Bashar A	
6 Sweeney	Caleb R	Kai M	Rohan C
6 Kragh	Kaleb S	Riley C	Harper H
6 Maxwell	Eva C	Angus O	Gabriel H
EALD Hudson	Caleb S	Salvatore F	Misha R

Year 4 News

Guest Speaker - Mr Chris Headon

As part of our inquiry 'How We Organise Ourselves' we were privileged to have Mr Chris Headon come to visit Year 4. He was able to give us valuable insight into the world of law and lawyers. Mr Headon's talk was very entertaining and certainly informative about what laws are and how they are important to maintain order in our community. During his talk Mr Headon presented a 'mock' court explaining how the court process works and the role of lawyers in the court system.

Some interesting questions were raised by the Year 4 children:

- What are some of the countries you have been to and worked as a lawyer?
- What are the different types of lawyers?
- What happens in court?
- What made you decide to become a lawyer? How long does it take to become a lawyer?
- How do lawyers work during COVID-19?
- What makes a good lawyer?



COMMUNITY NEWS

Support for Canberrans to Connect During COVID-19

In a year that has tested all aspects of Canberra's wellbeing, we have been reminded of our responsibilities to each other and the power of community. The Community Services Directorate has developed the Wellbeing Calls Service and Connect in Canberra website to keep the community informed and connected through COVID-19.

The Wellbeing Calls Service is provided by the Australian Red Cross and is available to all ACT residents who would like to register for a free phone call to feel more connected and less isolated. You can call the service on 02 6234 7630 between 8am and 4pm weekdays or register for a call by completing the CSD SmartForm found on the Community Services website. On the Connect in Canberra website, you can access a range of support services including emergency food relief and visit sections on Supporting Our Neighbours (including a Know Your Neighbour card), Online Safety, Health and Wellbeing, Activities Hub, Kids Corner, What's On and a Community Activities Pack.

FATHER'S DAY STALL COMING SOON!

The stalls for Father's day will be held on Friday 4 September in the hall and Tuesday 1 September for Preschool early week classes. The stalls are a fun way for the kids to get something great for dad and raise money for the P&C at the same time! Please donate a dad friendly item and leave it in the tub in your child's classroom at any time up until Friday 28 August. A flyer will be going home this week with some gift ideas for each year group.

We can always use volunteers to help on the day of the stalls and we would love to have you there – the smaller children especially need your help deciding what to buy. Volunteers are very welcome anytime on 4 September between 8.45am and 1.00pm (even for 30 mins). Please email leesa.chris@bigpond.com or post on the school's facebook page to let us know that you can help out. Or just come down to the school hall on Friday morning after kids have gone into class to help us make a great stall for the kids!

Thanks!

Leesa and Rachel

CANTEEN AND UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

Canteen

Thanks to everyone for supporting the Canteen!

We have added a lot of new items to the menu which have fast become favourites for the children to purchase. Some of these items include heart waffles, apple and cinnamon cake, carrot cake, jam drops and traffic light sticks. At recess there are 4 new items on offer, baked beans or spaghetti jaffles or 'jaffas' as well as banana custard or apple custard raisin loaf 'jaffas'.

Preschool children are now able to order from the Canteen 5 days a week as the menu has recently been adjusted for this.

We have had a lot of birthday packs ordered which is a great way for your child to celebrate their special day with their class without adding any extra pressure on families. All you need to do is order via Flexischools (with 1 weeks' notice) and we take care of the rest, delivering to the classroom for all to enjoy.

Choose from

- Freshly made cupcakes
- Frozen fruit cups
- Icy poles

Uniforms

We are running low on some winter items and due to current times are experiencing extended delays with delivery (mainly our tricolour long sleeve shirts in some sizes) so these have been made unavailable to order on Flexischools to avoid orders not being able to be filled.

Year 6 T-Shirts – We do have a few extra T-Shirts available in size 12 if anyone was wanting to purchase another for \$30. If you are interested, please either contact the front office or email us at: mfpcanteen@gmail.com

A reminder that all uniforms are delivered to classes via the lunch baskets each day unless we are out of stock of the item or it's a special order. If we don't have the item you have ordered in stock, we will order it and get it to your child in the classroom once it has arrived. Sometimes this can be a few weeks if items need

loging and backpacks can take up to 6 weeks to arrive if we don't have them in stock.

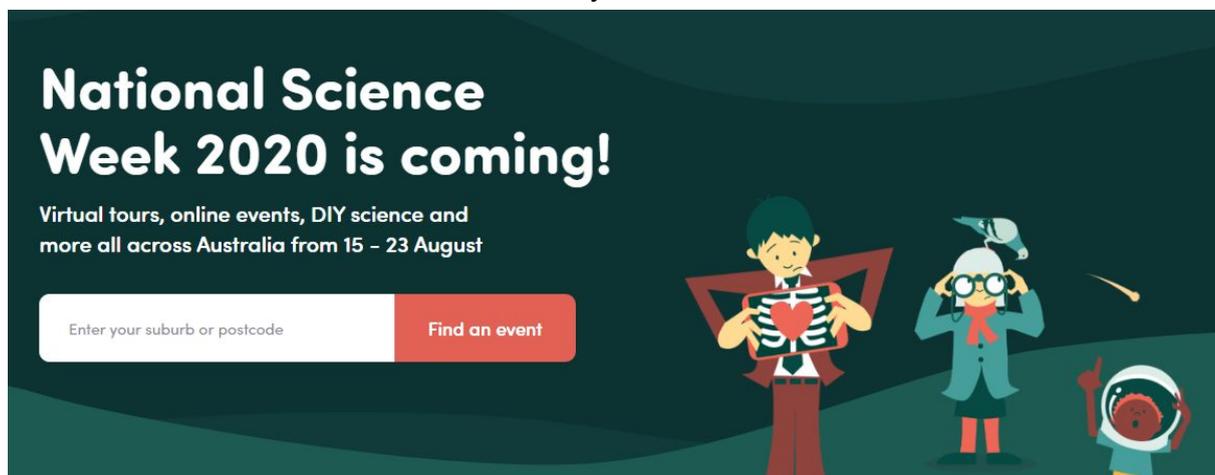
Please remind your children if you are going to make a lunch order for them, as we have had many children recently forgetting to come and collect their lunches from the canteen.

Brilliant Writers Competition 2020

The Miles Franklin Brilliant Writers Competition is up and running, the children have been given a wide array of writing seeds to inspire their creativity and all year levels across the school have started the writing process. Children have the opportunity to enter the competition, which is judged by Canberra authors and winners will be announced at the Miles Franklin Day assembly in Term 4.

NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK

Check it out to find a Science event near you



National Science Week 2020 is coming!

Virtual tours, online events, DIY science and more all across Australia from 15 - 23 August

Enter your suburb or postcode [Find an event](#)

The banner features three cartoon characters: a boy holding a human skeleton, a girl with a microscope, and a child with a planet. The background is dark green with a star and a comet.



The Great Book Swap – Wednesday 2 September (Week 7) 2020



SRC Fundraiser for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation

In week 7 the SRC are holding a fundraiser for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation (ILF). The ILF raises awareness and funds for children in remote Indigenous communities across Australia. The money raised by Miles Franklin students will help to provide books to children in these remote communities.

On **Wednesday 2 September** the SRC will be holding a 'Great Book Swap' in the library. Students are encouraged to choose a book from home that is in excellent condition to donate to the Book Swap. These books will be collected from classrooms and displayed in the library on Wednesday 2 September. Classes will come through the Book Swap and buy a book for a \$2 donation. If students would like to donate more than one book, that would be wonderful (but please check with parents first).

If you would like to make a donation to our fundraising page for the ILF Book Swap, please click on the link:

<https://go.greatbookswap.org.au/EventDetail/7011J000001hn2wQAA/miles-franklin-primary-school-great-book-swap>

Students are encouraged to:

- Choose a book (or books) from home to donate to the Book Swap. **Bring them in ASAP** to the library or classroom.
- Bring at least \$2 on Wednesday 2 September to buy a second-hand book.

Any questions email Vicki Nunn- vicki.nunn@ed.act.edu.au





A message from the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Development

In the ACT there are 88 public schools, over 49,000 public school students and around 3,800 educators. But of course, I understand that for each of us as parents, the most important school is the school our children go to. That's why I want to make sure that every public school is a great school.

The ACT Government is upgrading and expanding public schools to make sure that learning environments are accessible and sustainable.

The government is committed to ensuring that every public school has the infrastructure to support high-quality education and that's why the government has been investing more than \$115 million to upgrade public schools right across the Territory.

Here at Miles Franklin Primary School the government has provided:

- an upgrade of the phone system to a modern digital network, including new phones, servers and an uninterruptable power supply for emergencies;
- ramps to a number of classrooms and common areas for greater accessibility;
- greater thermal comfort through new cooling systems;
- upgrades to the student toilets including accessible facilities and an accessible toilet;
- sliding door replacements;
- ground works for the covered outdoor learning area; and
- tree planting for more greenery and shade.

Additional projects have also been delivered as part of the ACT Government's \$35 million fast track stimulus program to support local businesses and keep Canberrans employed. This included:

- Improvements to the drainage system of the school;
- new flooring in the toilets;
- the addressing trip hazards around the school; and
- the draught proofing of doors to improve thermal comfort.

Every child and family has a place in ACT public schools regardless of their background or life circumstances. That's why this investment into public school infrastructure goes beyond just the basic things that allow learning and teaching to take place. The ACT Government invests in public schools to make sure that every student has what they need to be included, and to learn and develop their interests, passions and life skills.

The ACT Government has upgraded heating and cooling systems, reducing polluting emissions and making temperatures comfortable and conducive to learning in over 40 older public schools across Canberra.

The government also provided 4,000 Chromebooks to schools at the beginning of this school year and a further 3,000 Chromebooks and 500 iPads were purchased for use during the COVID-19 pandemic to assist with remote learning.

Schools have seen upgraded classrooms, toilets, libraries, canteens and bike shelters, as well as gardens, landscaping and playground areas in schools to make sure that these spaces are positive and accommodating.

As Canberra grows, the government is making sure that schools grow with it. Every child has the right to access education and the ACT Government is making sure that this right is equally ensured for every young person.

Yvette Berry MLA



Limited Places Available NOW



Koala Playschool is a play-based educational program that meets the developmental needs and interests of three and four year olds.

Sessions are conducted by our Early Childhood Teacher and Assistant with the help of parents and carers.

Koala Playschool is the ideal setting to provide opportunities for your child to gain independence and develop social skills in a safe, supportive and stimulating environment. With the focus on warm reciprocal relationships, children are given the opportunity to play and learn in a rich, vibrant learning community. Our learning spaces are welcoming and well-resourced with a bright airy classroom and a beautiful natural garden.

We are located in Cook.

For more information or to place your child's name on our waiting list please visit

www.koalaplayschool.com.au