



# Amaroo School Newsletter

Week 4, Term 3, 2015  
11 August 2015



Education and Training

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Dear Families

Some extremely commendable information came across my desk last week from our Director General, Diane Joseph. Ms Joseph had written to Richard Powell to congratulate him. It would appear that Amaroo School has been extremely successful in the Language Perfect World Championships. Amaroo School has been identified as the WINNER of the Language Perfect Championships ACT French Award for the TOP School in French in the ACT 2015. What is more our students were placed first overall in the ACT and SEVENTH overall in the WORLD. I can only agree with Diane Joseph when she commends the work of languages at Amaroo and the impressive achievement for ongoing dedication to the learning and teaching of languages. A truly brilliant effort! Congratulations to all of the hard-working students and staff. I am seeking further input from Kiraly Middleton and Greg Tozer as I have been led to believe that over 1.5million questions were answered by our students. I shall have to get back to you on the finer details. Well done, once again, to all of the students who have worked so hard to make this happen.

This week I have been the receiver of some excellent student work. In KTHT the students were so very pleased that the fire brigade had visited and as a consequence of the visit students had some questions they wanted to ask:

Yak: Is you helmet heavy?

Rose: How do you breather?

Maia: Do you like being a fireman?

Ava: Do you ever get scared?

I think that we would all like to know the answers to those very thoughtful questions.

The final group of learners who brought their work to me was a group of mathematicians from 4SDU Susanna Di Donna class. They had been working in teams to provide answers to problems and had the task of finding as many different ways of illustrating their thinking. Thank you to: Mark and George who had the task of working out money spent and change given; Sarah and Amy who were assessing the number of petals to be found on various flowers and Siobhan and Harpriya who had to estimate and verify how many four-legged and two-legged animals, in as many combinations as possible equalled 40 legs. Can you work that one out?

Finally the annual School Satisfaction Survey, for staff, students and parents will be released to the community very shortly. Collecting this information about the school enables and informs future planning and direction and enables the Amaroo Team to set directions and address challenges and build successes. When you receive the survey link and log-on data please complete the survey and add your thoughts about Amaroo.

## Calendar Dates

<b>Weds 12 August 2015</b>	Amaroo Angels 9am-11 noon in the Community Room: Parents & Adults most welcome (and their pre school children). PISA testing -Year 9 and 10 students.
<b>Thursday 13 August 2015</b>	PISA testing -Year 9 and 10 students Diamond Gallery-Belconnen. Larry Brandy Aboriginal storyteller with year 3-5, 11:30 – 1:20pm. Duke of Edinburgh. Year 2 & Diamond Terrace in school event with Reptiles Inc. Year 3 Rock the Block- In school Program.
<b>Friday 14 August 2015</b>	Crazy Tie/Onesie Day -Whole School. Friday mornings Breakfast Club: 8:15am - 9:00 am Sapphire Terrace Wet Area- all students welcome all ages. Buddies program Year K-10. Duke of Edinburgh. Defence Group Yrs 6-10, Friday B1 in the community Room in the library.
<b>Monday 17 August 2015</b>	School Board Meeting 5:30pm-7pm.
<b>Tuesday 18 August 2015</b>	Wakakirri-Canberra Theatre 7/8 Boys & Girls Soccer. 3/4 Boys & Girls Touch football Athletics-North Gungahlin Track and Field (AIS). Preschool-National Dinosaur Museum, Gold Creek. Student Defence Group Year K-2, B1, Community Room in the Library. Student Defence Groups Year 3-5, B2, in the Community room in the library. Years 7/8 North Football, location TBA

**Family, Subject and Program Contributions 2015**

In Term 1 we sent home the family transaction statements and we will be sending them home during this term. These contributions assist the school in providing a quality education for your child. Thank you to those families who have already paid. All payments are welcome either by cash, cheque, credit card or direct debit to the school's bank account as listed on your invoice. Please return the payment advice section of the Family Transaction Statement with your cash payment, credit card details or direct deposit payment to the school's bank account, details of which are included on your statement. If you require a new family transaction statement please contact the Front Office.

**Amaroo School Classes for 2015**

We are currently looking at enrolment numbers for 2016. We ask all parents whose children may be attending a different school in 2016 to fill out the form below. This feedback is extremely important to us as we need accurate figures to plan effectively for next year. Please return this form to the Front Office .

**Ice on school grounds**

With the recent below -0 degree temperatures in the mornings please be very cautious walking or riding in the shaded areas in and around the school grounds. Please advise you children to take care on their way to school and in the school grounds throughout the day on these very cold days.

As always, please contact the Deputy Principals; Benjamin Hall, Rebecca Turner, Sam Beattie, Tiffany Mahon or myself, to clarify any issue of concern to you. The whole school team at Amaroo School are committed to working with our community to ensure our students have the very best opportunities to learn.

Have a fabulous week

Regards

*Julie Cooper*

Principal

Amaroo School



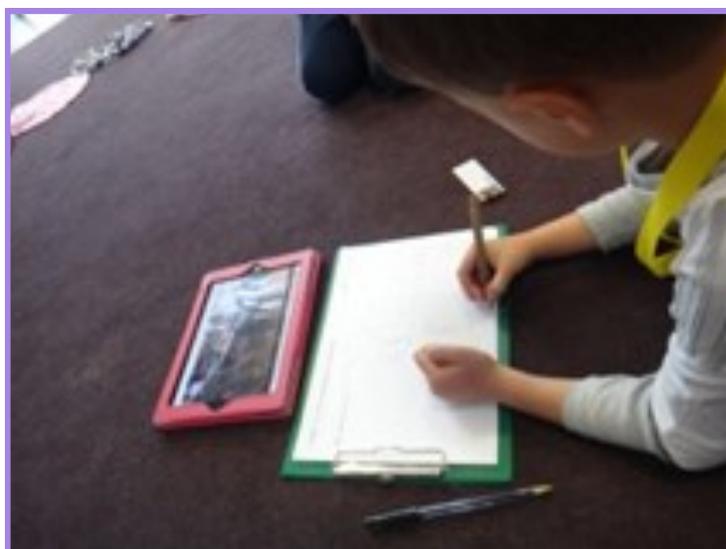
<b>School Board</b>	<b>P &amp; C</b>
<b>Board Chair:</b> Trudie Wykes 0420 571 666	<b>President:</b> Linda Holland
<b>Parent Board Reps:</b> Glen Storrar, David Smith	<b>Vice President:</b> Graham Roberts
<b>Staff Rep:</b> Felicity Boate and Sara Jayn Middleton	<b>Secretary:</b>
<b>Student reps:</b> Laeken Storey; Savannah Sithideth	<b>Treasurer:</b> Helen Harvie

# Preschool

For the past few months in Preschool, the children have been working towards recognising and writing their name confidently and legibly. The children are working towards recognising the letters in their name, sequencing them correctly and letter formation. We incorporate learning experiences to strengthen this skill each week during Investigations and whole group times. Each class now has a 'sign in' sheet where the children write their name on entry into Preschool each day.



During morning Investigations, some of the classes have introduced the role of 'Reporter/Photographer'. This provides the students with a responsibility to observe, record and present to the Preschool group what their peers participate in during this learning time. It encourages them to write, draw and also gives them confidence to be an active participant of whole group discussions. The students are very enthusiastic about the 'Reporter' role.



# Kindergarten

In Literacy, we have been busy writing letters to our friends. This is a continuation of focus on the book 'Ernie Dances to the Didgeridoo' as Ernie writes letters to all of his friends when he lives in Arnhem Land for one year. We have been discussing the characteristics of a letter and what we need to include. A letter must contain the date, a greeting, the recipient's name, a personal message and a signature at the end. When we finished writing our letters, we placed them in a sack to deliver. A very special postman delivered our letters; we were so excited to discover that we all had received one as well.



The firefighters from Gungahlin Fire Station visited us last week. We looked through the fire truck and at all the equipment they need when they are called out to a fire. Everyone in Kindergarten got to spray the fire hose! We learnt how to 'Get down low and go, go, go!' as well as 'Stop! Drop and Roll'. We are all aware of the importance of having smoke alarms installed in our homes, and knowing our address if we ever need to call 000.

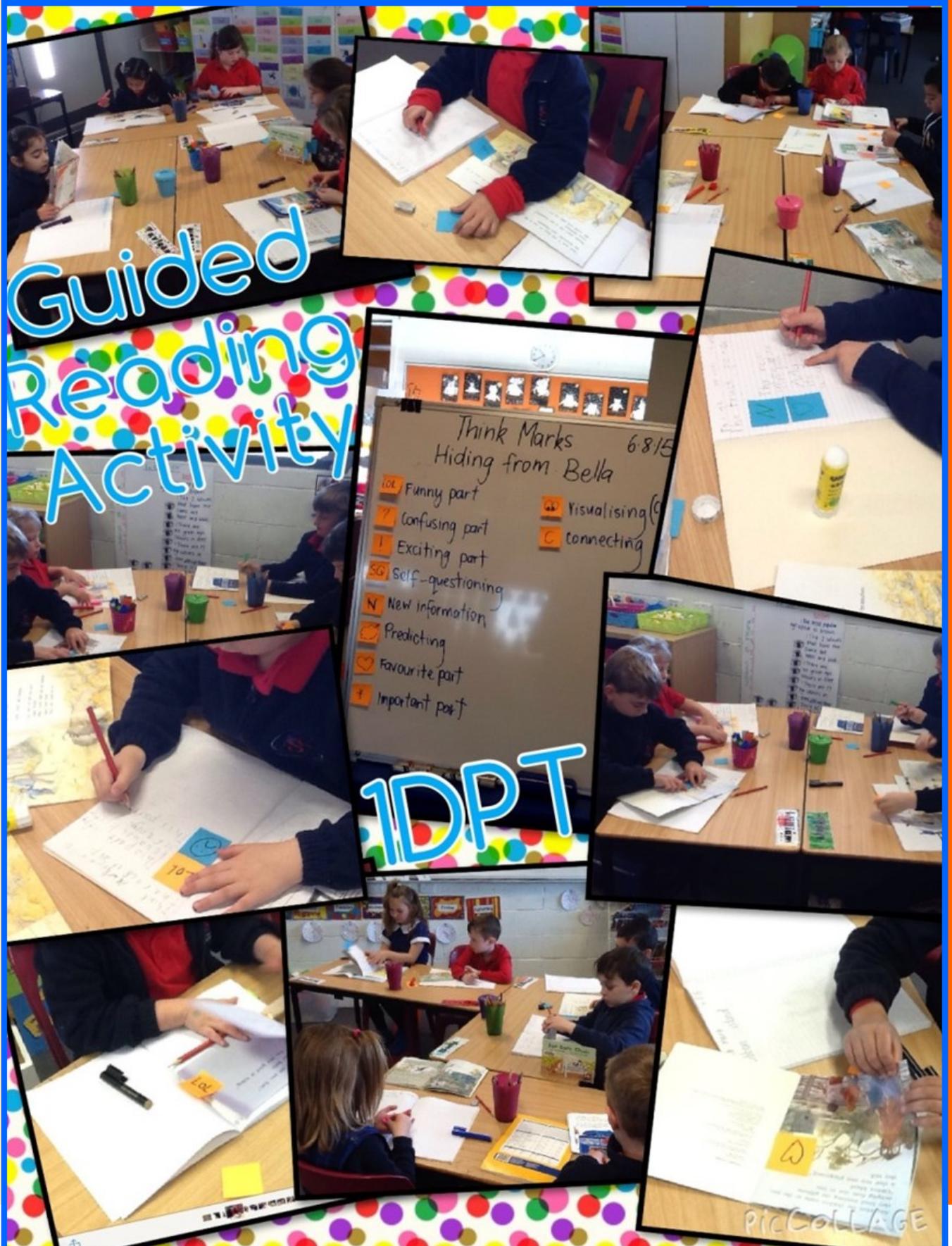


In Dance, we have been exploring storytelling through movement and the different emotions that we experience whilst watching or participating in dance. Kindergarten have developed some great dance moves, we can create movement sequences using low, medium and high movements!



# YEAR 1

During guided reading, 1DPT have been focusing on using post it notes to help us gain a deeper understanding about our texts.



# Year 2

What an exciting week of learning our Year twos have had this week! Our Reptile school visit was certainly a highlight. Many students were able to get up close and personal with a range of wonderful scaly reptiles. Week 4 has seen the students of Year 2 engage in researching and exploring information about Australian animals to draft, compose and edit Information Reports. They have been able to find important facts and consult a vast range of sources which they have used to further their understandings of a particular animal. In number groups, we have been focusing on how we can use arrays and groups of, to solve challenging mathematical questions. These strategies allow students to select the most efficient strategy and apply it to any given problem. Year 2 have been highly engaged during this time and have enjoyed using a range of hands-on resources such as dice, counters, ten frames and playing cards to complete challenging activities.

As we are heading ever closer to spring, we have asked that students begin to wear their school Hats, not caps when outside. A gentle 'hat' reminder when we are packing for our day would be greatly appreciated.

And finally, a huge thank you to all those parents who gave some time to assist the K-2 teachers with our laminating and cutting in Week 2. Your presence here at Amaroo School encourages a sense of community amongst staff, parents and the wider community. A big, huge, enormous thank you to you!



## *Year 2 Aqua Swim Program*

*What will be covered in the practical element of the swimming program?*

**Introduction and assessment (safe entries and exits)**

**Sculling and treading water**

**Front float and forward movement**

**Back float and backward movement**

**Life jackets(PFD's) and other aids**

**Submersion body orientation and rotation**

**Basic rescue skills**

**Emergencies - Recognition and Management**

**Survival swimming in clothes**

**Other environments**



**Including seaweed beds and simulation currents!!**

# ***What will be covered in the classroom based element of the swimming program?***

## **AQUASAFE Teacher Resource - Introduction for Teachers**

- Program Overview
- Curriculum Links
- Australian Water Safety Strategy (2012-15) alignment
- Content Summary
- Lesson Overview

## **AQUASAFE Lesson One - In Our Community**

- Stormwater Drains
- Community ponds and parks
- Lakes and cold water

## **AQUASAFE Lesson Two - At Home**

- Around the home - baths, ponds and backyard pools
- At the farm - dams, watertanks and troughs

## **AQUASAFE Lesson Three - At the Beach**

- Rips and waves
- Rocks
- Sea creatures

## **AQUASAFE Lesson Four - At the River**

- Currents and rapids
- Murky water and submerged objects
- Slippery banks

## **AQUASAFE Lesson Five - At the Pool**

- Lifeguards
- Personal safety
- Rules and signs



# **Crazy Tie & Onesie day**

Friday 14 August  
Week 4 Term 3  
Students and  
School Staff can  
come to school  
dressed up in a  
crazy tie or  
onesie or both.

*Students and  
school staff just  
need to bring a  
gold coin  
donation for the  
privilege of  
dressing up.  
This money will  
go towards the  
fundraising for  
the Year 10  
Formal 2015.*



# PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Year 3

This week in Year 3 we have been participating in our Rock the Block program. It has been wonderful to watch the students get involved and have a go at a range of moves in various dance styles. The students have loved participating with their peers in doing something a little different to keep active and always look forward to their next session. We can't wait to see the final dance!



## ROCK THE BLOCK



## Year 4

In Science, Year 4 has been focusing on weathering and erosion. We have been expanding our knowledge about the causes of erosion and our awareness of prevention techniques. In 4KWU, Students have been conducting experiments to determine the best erosion prevention technique.



## Erosion



## YEAR 5

Last week's Gallery Gathering, hosted by 5CWJ and 5SCA, showcased the many year 5 students who are dancers for the annual Waikikiri performance. Year 5s were apart of all elements of the performance – character actors, toys, soldiers, trees, lollies and even the mystical dream creatures! In line with this term's explosion of performing arts, Year 5s are also participating in an acapella music unit, learning how to use their mouths as instruments to produce beats, lyrics and other melodic elements.

## Acapella

# Middle School

Thank you to everyone who has been supporting the school uniform policy. Just a reminder that all layers need to be in school uniform and that if students wear long sleeve tops under their T-Shirts that they need to be plain navy blue, red or white only. Leggings, tights etc also need to be plain navy blue. No jeans are allowed.

It is wonderful to see the students and staff in Middle School embracing the use of the Google Apps for Education platform. The engagement in class has been superb and there has been some fantastic work produced. It has also been pleasing to have students showing pride in their work and presenting this to staff, including the Principal and Deputy Principal. When asked to explain what they did, why they did it and how they would use this in their life it is evident that they have met the learning intentions of the lesson.

We have a number of students involved in a range of activities in the school including sport, Wakakirri, Dance Fest, art programs and band. We also have students participating in pastoral care programs focusing on managing emotions, dealing with anxiety, facing challenges, communication skills, problem solving skills, making positive choices and social skills. We really hope students enjoy the programs and develop important lifelong skills.

Congratulations to all the students who have participated in recent English ICAS test and good luck to those doing the Maths test on Tuesday. The number of Middle School students sitting these tests has been excellent. We have also had students sit an online Assessment of Language Competence test last week and look forward to hearing the results.

Just a reminder our school values are:

**Inclusion** of all members of our school community, through respect, tolerance and recognition of difference  
**Excellence** in all that we do and expect.

## SENIOR SCHOOL

### Year 9 News

As of Term 3, Naomi Goode has taken over the role of Year 9 Co-ordinator. She has previous experience in this role and brings a wealth of knowledge regarding student wellbeing and support. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's progress, email Naomi at [naomi.goode@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:naomi.goode@ed.act.edu.au)

### DanceFest

The Dancefest 2015 Production will be on Wednesday 16 September (time will be announced closer to date) The Middle & Senior Dancefest students have been working hard this term and would love if parents could please come along to enjoy their dedication and hard work to this amazing showcase. Tickets can be purchased on the Canberra theatre website.

Regards, Angela Fattore; Dance Specialist Teacher

### Mobile Phone Policy

As you are aware Amaroo Senior School implemented a new Mobile Phone Use Policy this year: Our Very firm policy is that students must have their mobile phone switched off and in their bag before they enter a school building. If a student has their mobile phone in view in a school building it will be confiscated by a member of staff. If students refuse to hand their phone to the staff member, the phone will be confiscated by an executive member of staff and we will be asking parents to collect the phone on behalf of their child. Mobile Phone use in young people can be harmful. Many of our students are showing symptoms of phone addiction and related anxiety conditions and some are exposing themselves to risky behaviour through their mobile phone use. We ask our fantastic community of parents and carers to support us as we strive to make the Amaroo School community safe and focused on learning for every student in our school.

## ANU Extension

### For year 11 students in 2016

ANU Extension provides an enhanced learning experience for year 11 and 12 senior secondary students. ANU Extension students will enrol in an ANU academic award program and is open to all domestic year 11 and 12 students who have a concurrent full-time enrolment at an Australian secondary school in 2016.

It is anticipated that in 2016 advanced courses will be offered in **Chemistry, Physics, Conservation Biology, Japanese, Indonesian, Chinese, Astrophysics, Specialist Mathematics, Engineering and Advanced Music.**

An Information Evening will be held:

**Monday 7 September 2015**

ANU Campus, Manning Clark Building  
Lecture Theatre 1  
6.00 pm

All interested prospective students and their parents and friends are invited to attend.

For additional information please visit our website <http://extension.anu.edu.au/>  
Or you can contact  
[helen.kaye@anu.edu.au](mailto:helen.kaye@anu.edu.au)

# SENIOR SCHOOL SOCIAL

**THURSDAY WEEK 8 TERM 3**

**6.30PM - 9PM**

**YEAR 9 AND YEAR 10 STUDENTS ARE  
INVITED.**

Tickets are \$5 per student.

This fabulous event is being run to help  
fundraise for the  
Year 10 Formal.

There will be music, lights, dancing, food  
and fun.

## *Announcing The Year 10 Graduation and Formal 2015*

The Year 10 Graduation and Formal is to be Held Tuesday 8 December 2015.

The Year 10 Graduation will be held at Albert Hall. The Ceremony will go from 5.40pm – 7.15pm.

The Formal will be held next door, at the Hyatt Hotel, from 7pm to 11pm.

The permission/ticket purchase notes for the Formal and Graduation will be sent home Friday Week 3.  
The Cost of a ticket to the formal is \$150 per student.

The formal ticket price includes:

- A sit down 3 course dinner and soft drinks throughout the night,
- DJ entertainment,
- A 15x20cm portrait and a collection of single and group photos on CD,
- Formal decorations,
- A Year 10 Yearbook.

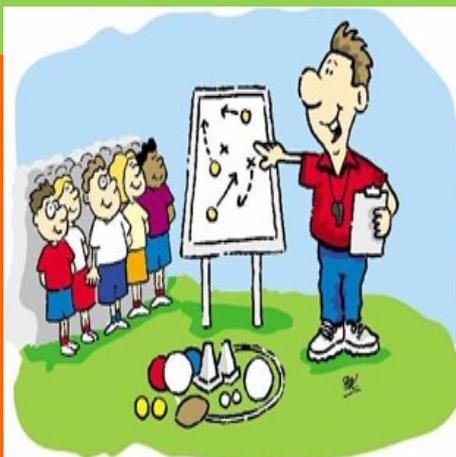
**The minimum \$50 deposit for the Formal is due by Tuesday, 1 September 2015.**

**Final date for full payment is Friday 30 October 2015.**

# PE & SPORT

We have many teams going out this term to represent Amaroo in Soccer, Futsal, Basketball, Touch Football and Netball. Teams have been selected and notes are going home to students in the next few weeks.

Please ensure you meet the deadline for the notes as we are unable to accept any after the due date. Please also remember to check how the students are getting to the competitions as some of the days require parents/guardians to drop students at the venue. Please check with the appropriate teacher if you have any questions or concerns.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS WHO HAVE BEEN SELECTED TO REPRESENT AMAROO

<p><b>3/4 Boys Touch</b> <b>18 August 2015</b></p> <p>Arran          Jack Zayne          Nick Charlie          Josh Toby            Riley Hunter Jai</p>	<p><b>3/4 Girls Touch</b></p> <p>NO TEAM SUBMITTED DUE TO LACK OF NUMBERS.</p>	<p><b>3/4 Mixed Futsal</b> <b>10 August 2015</b></p> <p>Masah Emilia Kaylee Riley Parris Zayne Zac</p>
<p><b>5/6 Girls Futsal</b> <b>10 August 2015</b></p> <p>Lexi Hannah Indy Gabi Jasmine Cynthia Ashika Tori Bridie</p>	<p><b>5/6 Boys Touch</b> <b>20 August 2015</b></p> <p>James          <b>Reserves</b> Harry          Jared Daniel          Dom Ethan Blake Tony Ajay Braedon Max</p>	<p><b>7/8 Boys Soccer</b> <b>18 August 2015</b></p> <p>Blaze          Sebastian Ryan          Owen Deen          Joseph Martin          Jason William          Kieran Abdullah          Max Dennis          Dusan Suluiman</p>
<p><b>7/8 Girls Soccer</b> <b>18 August 2015</b></p> <p>Shelby          Mikalieggh Jessica          Amber Katie          Maria Athina          Elise Meghana          Jessica Darcy          Jasmine Felicity          Maddy Takira</p>	<p><b>9/10 Boys Soccer</b> <b>26 August 2015</b></p> <p>Ni Doh          Nathan Jake          Nick Josh          Mitch Tony          Luke Hyojun          Dion Jaxon          Justin Farhad          Alex Jared</p>	<p><b>9/10 Girls Soccer</b> <b>26 August 2015</b></p> <p>Reegan          Piper Katelyn          Ivana Alexia          Anny Abbey          Jess Stephanie          Marissa Maddy          Sarah Hannah          Chelsey</p>

**THESE LISTS WILL BE ON THE SPORTS NOTICEBOARD KEEP CHECKING THE NOTICEBOARD FOR MORE UPDATES!**

Congratulations to the 5/6 Boys futsal team who competed last week. They all played exceptionally well and displayed the values of excellence and inclusion during the competition. The team was undefeated in all matches and made it to the semi-finals where they narrowly missed out on a place in the finals.

Good luck to the 3/4 Futsal teams, the 5/6 girls Futsal team, the 5/6 boys basketball team, the 7/8 Netball team and the 9/10 Netball team who are all competing this week.

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Next week sees our 3/4 and 5/6 Touch football teams and 7/8 Soccer teams play. Good luck to all competing teams.

Congratulations goes to our snow bunnies this week that competed in the Interschool's Snow Sports Competition held at the end of July. Students participated in a range on ski and snowboarding competitions. More details on their achievements will follow in next fortnight's newsletter.

## SL@AM PRESENTS AMAROO SCHOOL YEARBOOK 2015

The Amaroo School Yearbook will be returning in 2015 to showcase and celebrate the achievements of our students throughout the year. It will include photos of Have You Got Game, Amaroo's Got Talent, Anzac Day Memorial Service, Junior and Senior Sporting Carnivals, Camps, SRC and much more. It offers the chance for all students from **Preschool to Year 10** to be recognised for their hard work and effort, as well as providing a chance for you to keep a lasting memory of their dedication throughout the year.

If you would like to purchase a copy of this year's yearbook, you can order one (or more) by returning the note handed out on Friday the 31st of July for **\$15 as an early bird special up until Friday the 28 August**, or for **\$18 after the 28 August to Wednesday the 23 September**. If you require another note, they will be available from the school's front office. Further information will become available via the school's website, Facebook and Twitter accounts in the coming days.

Thank you  
SL@AM students



### WHAT'S ON IN PE THIS WEEK?

#### Year 5/6 Futsal





**NETBALL**

**AFL**

**S  
O  
C  
C  
E  
R**



# LANGUAGES

## THERE IS SO MUCH HAPPENING IN LANGUAGES AT AMAROO SCHOOL!!!

**MULTICULTURAL DAY 2015:** Get ready Amaroo School for the biggest Multicultural Day yet!! It will be held on Friday 28 August (Week 6). We are raising money primarily for the Tabaka Academy in Kenya, who really need our help! Together, we can make a huge difference to the lives of their students. The money from last year helped to build 2 classrooms for the school (see the pictures below). This year they are hoping with our help they can build more toilet facilities for students.

During Multicultural Day Amaroo students can:



- Celebrate with us at the Languages Whole School Assembly (9.15am-10.00am)
- Dress up in appropriate cultural costume (please bring a gold coin donation to be given to your homeroom teacher in the morning)
- Join in the fun at an extended B1(11.00-11.45am) and bring some money to spend at the stalls

## Nara University High School Visit October 2015 – Please consider being a host family!

Thank you to the families who have volunteered to host a student. We are still looking for more families though as we will be hosting 10 students from Nara University High School (NUHS) in Japan from **21 – 24 October 2015**. We are currently looking for host families for this cultural exchange, providing accommodation and meals for three nights: **Wednesday 21 October, Thursday 22 October and Friday 23 October 2015**. Host families (anyone over the age of 18 years old) will also need to have their Working with Vulnerable People card to be able to host a student. We can provide the application forms for this.

If you are interested in hosting a student or need further information, please see Mrs Middleton in the Middle School or contact her via email: [kiraly.middleton@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:kiraly.middleton@ed.act.edu.au) . We look forward to a wonderful visit!

**Japan Trip 2015:** We are getting really excited about the trip! We leave in **Week 10, September 22 and return in the holidays on October 6, 2015**. Thank you to all the students who have returned Our final Information Night will be held on **Thursday 10 September 2015 (Week 8)**. We are also planning a Multicultural Day stall to help with the trip.

## JAPANESE

**Year 3 Japanese:** Year 3 students have finished learning family members names in Japanese, and they have started learning how to count people in Japanese using songs and games. Please practise the song with your child!

**Year 5 Japanese:** Year 5 students continue to be enthusiastic about learning Japanese! It is great to hear students using simple greetings, understanding the scripts used in Japanese language as well as exploring Japan using online resources.

**Year 6 Japanese:** Students have been exploring the topic of schools in Japan. They have been thinking about questions they have about Japanese schools and comparing them to our schools here in Australia. We have particularly enjoyed hearing about students experiences of schooling in other countries. Classes have been interviewing their teachers' about their Japanese school experiences. Some lucky classes got to see photos of a young Middleton Sensei in her Japanese school uniform!!!

**Year 7 Japanese:** Year 7 have started learning about families in Japanese. Ask your child the names of different family members in Japanese. It is great to see student's writing and reading developing. Please encourage your child to revise using language perfect at home!

**Year 8 Japanese:** Students are started a short unit focused on Hiroshima and the dropping of the atomic bomb in WWII. Students will explore events leading up to WWII as well as the devastating effects of the atomic bomb. As part of this unit, students will have the chance to hear the story of Sadako and make a crane which will be taken to Hiroshima in September on the school trip.

**Year 9 Japanese:** It is great to see students increasingly using kanji in their writing. Year 9 have also been focussing a lot on developing their listening skills and it is great to see them developing their confidence in this area.

**Year 10 Japanese:** Year 10 students are working on their weather reports. I can't wait to see the final products! We are also thinking about ideas for our Multicultural Stall, it is going to be fantastic!!

## FRENCH

**Year 4 French:** Our Year 4 students have started the topic of "*Dans la salle de classe*" (In the classroom) where we have learnt some vocabulary, labelled items and danced around to a catchy French song about the classroom.

**Year 5 French:** Our Year 5 students are making great strides in learning a new language. We revised how to say "*Bonjour*" (hello), "*Comment t'appelles-tu?*" (What's your name?), "*Je m'appelle...*" (My name is...), "*Au revoir*" (Goodbye), "*Oui*" (Yes) and "*Non*" (No). Many students have been keen to perform partner dialogues in French and have expanded their repertoire to converse longer by learning different ways of answering "*Ça va?*" (How are you?). We also know the colours of the French flag are "*bleu, blanc et rouge*" (blue, white and red).

**Year 6:** Year 6 students continue to expand their vocabulary and learn the gender of the nouns relating to food. They have learnt how to use the partitive articles, *du, de la, de l', des*, according to the gender and the number of the nouns when expressing what they eat and drink.

**Year 7:** Year 7 students have continued their work on the unit of *Food* and have been enthusiastically learning the vocabulary. We have done various activities to consolidate the spelling and pronunciation of vocabulary for food including language perfect and other online resources. We have focused on the gender of the nouns as well (*le, la l' or les*). Students have been assessed through a vocabulary test and we will move on to express food and drink preferences.

# *Meet the Pastoral Care Team*

## **Pastoral Care Coordinator – Ian Thomson**

Ian is the Pastoral Care co-ordinator at Amaroo School, coming from Pastoral Care roles at Kingsford Smith School, and working within the Student Engagement team in at central office. Ian loves seeing students reach their full potential, and is driven to provide them with the opportunities and choices to make that happen. Ian's other role in the school is around effective use of technology in education (which he just completed his Masters in) and he is also heavily involved in the Library and Electives team. When he is not at Amaroo you can often find Ian behind a video camera, or out in his van with his Mt Bike on the back and his surfboard on the top.

## **Youth Support Worker- Matthew Taylor**

Matthew has been working at Amaroo School since 2012. He is passionate about helping students to build skills to deal with difficult situations both in and out of school. Matthew has worked in variety of roles both in Government and the community sector before coming to Amaroo. Matthew continues to build and update his skills in Pastoral Care with learning new programs and formal study. He loves time-saving ideas, good discussions and eating well.

## **School Chaplain- Deb Horscroft**

Deb has been working at Amaroo School since 2008. She is enthusiastic about providing support and a listening ear to students, staff and families at Amaroo School. Deb has a background in Psychology and Mental Health, and works Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Deb helps run programs for students to help deal with grief and loss, bullying, anger and anxiety. She is open to discussing spirituality and worldviews or chatting about favourite books and computer games. Deb is keen to promote her favourite charities: Operation Christmas Child and Days for Girls and loves books and almost any kind of craft. Chaplaincy services are available to any person, but students or parents can opt out of this service if they wish. There is more information about Chaplaincy available on the school website.

## **Defence School Transition Aide (DSTA) – Vanessa Lovell**

Vanessa offers support and information to students and parents from Defence families, focussing on Preschool to year 5. Vanessa enthusiastically interacts with the school population through whole school activities and other events run by the Pastoral Care team. Vanessa has experienced the difficulties of moving with her Defence family and has x years of experience helping students making these transitions. It is wonderful to be able to welcome her back to Pastoral Care at Amaroo. Vanessa runs Tuesday Defence activities groups during B1 for K to 2 students and B2 for Years 3 to 5 students. Vanessa also helps out with Amaroo Angels on Wednesday mornings, where all parents are welcome to join us for a cuppa and help make resources to support the teaching staff.

## **Defence Transition Mentor (DTM) – Pavlina Bailie**

As DTM, Pav's role is to offer support and information to Defence students and their families, with a focus on years 6-10. She also works closely with the Amaroo Angels and Pastoral Care team. Pav has worked at Amaroo in a number of roles from Preschool to Year 10 and we are pleased to welcome her back to Pastoral Care.

Pav runs Defence drop-in sessions for Year 6 to 10 on Friday at B1 in the Community Room in the library.

## **Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Award Manager - Jamie Foster**

The DofE International award is a youth achievement award offered in over fifty countries around the world and by a number of schools in Canberra. The Award starts with the Bronze level at 14 and consists of four sections, community service, skill, expedition and physical activity. Jamie is offering the award at Amaroo as both an elective and an extra- curricular activity and current projects include renovating the schools Unakite garden and also learning vehicle mechanics each week. Jamie also works with years 6 to 10 offering a number of alternative curriculum projects designed to engage students in practical projects, examples of these include mountain biking, outdoor activities and 'mythbuster' style challenges for groups of young people.

# Defence News

Dear Defence Parents and Families,

Welcome back to Term 3. We hope you all had a relaxing and wonderful break and that the children have settled in and are all ready for another great term. With new changes to the Defence staffing we would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves.

My name is Vanessa Lovell and I will be replacing Michelle Nazzari as the Defence Schools Transition Aide (DSTA) for the rest of this year while she teaches French. I previously worked at Amaroo School as the first Defence Transition Mentor from 2008 to 2010, and then worked as a DSTA at Hewett Primary School in South Australia from 2011 to 2012. My husband has recently discharged from the Army after 15 years of service, so I have an understanding of the various challenges posed by the Defence lifestyle. As DSTA my focus will be on Defence students from Preschool to Year 5.

My name is Pavlina Bailie and I will be replacing Jo Farmer as the Defence Transition Mentor (DTM) while she is on maternity leave. I have had the opportunity to meet some students during our drop-in sessions on Friday and hope to meet many more in the next few weeks while we continue with the weekly Friday drop-in sessions. I filled in temporarily as the DSTA at Amaroo in late 2013 and have since been working in the Preschool as an assistant and covering staff for release and lunch breaks from 2014. I am happy to be returning back to the Team and looking forward to meeting and being involved with Defence students, parents and families and as well as with the wider community, the Amaroo Angels and other projects.

If you have an upcoming deployment or a parent will be away for a period of time due to exercise or other work related travel, please let us know so that we can provide extra support to your child or children if required. Similarly, if you will be posting out at the end of 2015 or during Semester 2, please contact Pavlina or myself to relay the information so that we can check in on your child in the lead up to them leaving the school. We can also assist with tutoring information if needed.

## **Defence Groups**

K-2 – Tuesday at B1 in the Community Room in the Library with Vanessa

Years 3 – 5 – Tuesday at B2 in the Community Room in the Library with Vanessa

Years 6 – 10 – Friday at B2 in the Community Room in the Library with Pavlina

## **Parent Meet & Greet and Contact**

As many parents have not had the opportunity to meet us yet, we are looking to have a morning tea in the coming weeks around school drop off time. Keep an eye out for details. If you have not received an email from either of us yet, you may not be on our email list. If you would like to be added, please contact us at the school on the details below.

## **DCO's KidSMART Program**

DCO will be running their popular KidSMART Program again soon. The program is for children aged 9-11 years and they currently have a few spots left. It will be held at Deakin from 3.30pm to 5.00pm on a Tuesday afternoon for 4 weeks. For more information contact DCO or Vanessa.

Finally, if you have any questions, comments or suggestions please feel free to contact us.

Vanessa Lovell

Monday & Tuesday 8:30-3.00pm

Wednesday from 10:00-1.45pm

P: 614 21286

E: [vanessa.lovell@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:vanessa.lovell@ed.act.edu.au)

Pavlina Bailie

Tuesday 8:30-3:00

Wednesday & Thursday 8:30-3:15

Friday 8:15-3:00

P: 614 21286

E: [pavlina.bailie@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:pavlina.bailie@ed.act.edu.au)

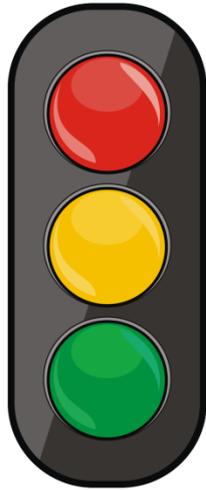
# School Attendance

Good school attendance goes hand in hand with success!

Did you know?

Missing 10% can make it harder to learn to read.

Children can fall behind just by missing 1 or 2 days every few weeks.



## Chronic absence

20 or more days

## Warning signs

7-20 days absent

## Good attendance

7 or fewer absences

Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.

Absence can affect the whole class.

When do absences become a problem?

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school and themselves. Good school attendance will help children do well in high school, college and work.

## Woolworths Earn & Learn 2015

Dear Parents & Carers,

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 15 July to Tuesday 8 September, 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.

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 ideal for our students – including resources for Maths, English, Science and some fantastic fun supplies for Arts & Craft, Sport and for our library. If you'd like to know more visit [woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn](http://woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn)

**JUST ROCK UP!**

# BASKETBALL INDOOR SPORTS & MORE!

**FREE**

**12-25 years**

**Mondays**  
**3.30 - 5.30pm**

Transport available if required

**HARRISON SCHOOL GYMNASIUM**  
off Nullarbor Ave.  
During school term, starts Week 2

Contact: (02) 6222 8100

The parenting event of the year - information, innovation and advice on all things prenatal to preschool.

Proudly Supported by  
**CityNews**

## CANBERRA Baby & Beyond Expo

**9am to 3pm AIS Arena**  
**Saturday 15 & Sunday 16 August 2015**

Guest speaker Pinky McKay  
**Sat** 10am Baby Sleep  
 1pm Toddler Tactics  
**Sun** 11am Baby Sleep

The latest in products and design, pregnancy and birth support, nursery displays, early childhood activities and much more.

Follow us on facebook  
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[www.canberrababyexpo.com.au](http://www.canberrababyexpo.com.au)

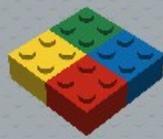


Sponsored by Northpointe Baptist Church

# TRIVIA NIGHT

**When:** starts 7pm 15 August  
**Location:** Amaroo School Hall  
**Cost:** \$10 per adult \$5 per child  
 All funds raised over costs will go to James and Elisabet Felipe in Spain.

*BYO Food and Drink (an alcohol free event)*  
 for more information phone Pastor Perkins on 0403 796 570



# BrickExpo

Canberra 29th & 30th August 2015

**TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW!**

**www.BrickExpo.com.au**



Sessions  
and tickets are  
limited!

Proudly supported by



HELLENIC CLUB  
Where Canberra Meets

*Bricks to  
the World*  
[www.bttw.com.au](http://www.bttw.com.au)

little  
sprout  
Read Play Learn



### What is it?

An entertaining and interesting exhibition of rare and unique LEGO® creations by interstate and local collectors and modellers.

Hundreds of static, moving and robotic models in themes including: Star Wars™, Trains, Planes, Space Ships, Racing Cars & Sculptures.

### Where is it?

The Hellenic Club of Canberra  
Matilda Street Woden

### When is it?

8:30 to 5:30, Saturday 29th August 2015

8:30 to 5:30, Sunday 30th August 2015

Brick Expo is a not-for-profit event organised in association with the Canberra Lego User Group. Event proceeds will assist our major charity PaTCH (Paediatrics at the Canberra Hospital).

This event is not affiliated with The LEGO Group. LEGO and the LEGO logo are trademarks of The LEGO Group. © 2015 The LEGO Group.



## PLANNING FOR 2016

To assist us plan classes and staff for 2016, please complete the slip below **if your child/ren are NOT returning in 2016**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Will NOT be returning to Amaroo in 2016 (Please tick reason listed below)

Moving to another ACT Government school

Moving to another ACT Non- Government School

Moving Interstate

Moving Overseas

Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Community News

Amaroo School does not necessarily endorse the products or services advertised.

**Please see more after school services for students and families and other items of interest in our Parents biz Directory through our Amaroo School App through your App Store on your mobile device**

<p><b>'Antoinette Karsten Art', Art classes and holiday workshops</b> Drawing, painting, sculpture, and lots of other fun projects to develop skills and confidence in our young creatives. Ages 10-16.</p>	<p>Email or call Antoinette for more info. antoinettekarsten@hotmail.com Mob: 0422693546</p>
<p>Calisthenics is a dance sport, combining exercises with flexibility, dancing, marching, hand apparatus manipulation while dancing, and artistic/aesthetic dance, suitable for girls and boys. Classes are designed for specific age groups, 13 years and under, 10years and under, 7 years and under.</p>	<p>As a performance dance sport, calisthenics use costumes for stage work, which are extensively supplied through the club wardrobe. An invitation is extended to new participants to attend two obligation free classes. Additional information can be found on <a href="http://www.academycalisthenics.com.au">www.academycalisthenics.com.au</a>, with enquiries to <a href="mailto:info@academycalisthenics.com.au">info@academycalisthenics.com.au</a> or 62882858</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Gungahlin Dance Academy</b> <b>Exceptional dance training for all ages</b> <b>Fully equipped studios in Amaroo</b></p> <p>Classical Ballet (RAD) Contemporary Jazz Tap Private Tuition</p>	<p>Performance Team Ballet examinations Annual Performances 2014 USA tour Ages 3 and up For further information and enrolment Details- Web: <a href="http://www.gdance.com.au">www.gdance.com.au</a> Email: <a href="mailto:gdance@bigpond.net.au">gdance@bigpond.net.au</a> Phone: 6255 5204</p>
<p><b>SCOUTS = Adventure + Life Skills</b> Scouting is for boys and girls aged 6-25. Scouts participate in programs that encourage them to grow through adventure by experiencing new challenges, making new friends, building confidence, taking responsibility for themselves, and being provided with opportunities to explore their own abilities and interests.</p>	<p>Come and try Scouts today and take advantage of our 3 week FREE trial. Visit <a href="http://scoutsact.com.au">scoutsact.com.au</a> to find your closest Scout Group or call 1800 SCOUTS</p>
<p><b>Action Tae Kwon-Do</b> Action Tae Kwon-Do has children only classes so that your children are taught relevant skills in a safe environment. These children classes are for children aged 5 -12 years of age.</p>	<p>After progressing through our children's program the children will have the required skills to join our adults program.</p> <p>Classes at Amaroo School Call Paul for information 0414 898 888</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Bollywood Dance Classes for adults &amp; kids by Canberra School of Bollywood Dancing</b> <b>A fun way to keep fit and Active!</b> <b>Free trial class at Amaroo School – Monday 9 Feb</b> <b>Adults &amp; Kids 7 + years - 6.30 to 7.30 pm</b> <b>Venue – Amaroo School dance studio (downstairs)</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Special 6 week fee \$65 for a term Please email <a href="mailto:canberrabollywood@bigpond.com">canberrabollywood@bigpond.com</a> to secure your spot. More details on our website <a href="http://www.canberrabollywood.com.au">www.canberrabollywood.com.au</a> Find us on Face book – Canberra School of Bollywood</p>
<p><b>Bandits Baseball - Juniors &amp; Seniors</b> Sign On 15 Aug 10am - 2 pm Magpies Sports Club 22 Aug 10am -2pm Aranda Playing Fields</p>	<p>Contact Ph 0419202155 <a href="http://www.actbandits.baseball.com.au">www.actbandits.baseball.com.au</a> email: <a href="mailto:actbandits@yahoo.com">actbandits@yahoo.com</a></p>
<p>Music lessons at Amy's Music Studio At Amy's Music Studio I provide creative, fun and effective violin, viola, piano, theory and kinder beat (early childhood music) lessons for all ages and levels.</p>	<p>Qualified and enthusiastic teacher with lots of experience . Come for your free trial lesson in Gungahlin today! Amy Garden 0432925033 <a href="mailto:amy@amysmusicstudio.com">amy@amysmusicstudio.com</a> <a href="http://www.amysmusicstudio.com">www.amysmusicstudio.com</a></p>