Dear Parents and Carers

Next week I will be commencing four weeks Long Service Leave. During my absence Ben Hall will act in my role as Principal of the school. Ben is an experienced Deputy Principal from within our school who has an enormous range of skills and experiences. Ben is looking forward to the challenge of being Principal for a short term and will add value to the school given this opportunity. I look forward to my return for term four and the challenges of the last term of the year.

**Year 3 Portable Classrooms**

On September 15 Amaroo School will take possession of our four newly refurbished portable classrooms for Year 3. This will allow us a two week period to establish and move everything into place for the start of classes in the portables during term four. Whilst this has been a very lengthy period it will be terrific to have these valuable learning spaces in action.

**Student Achievements**

Troy and Jess from Ms Fruean’s Year 6 class have completed some excellent mathematics work. These students have been solving the learning challenge of creating their own test and then solving the problems. Outstanding work and a great way to learn.

Trent from Ms Robert’s Year 5 class has completed an excellent piece of symmetrical art work. This part of their study of mathematics and his work shows great attention to detail and is an example of a student producing their very best work. It is fantastic to see a student taking pride in producing quality work.

Cassandra and Mirabel from Ms Thomas’ Year 2 class have completed an excellent three dimensional shape picture. They are learning all about three dimensional objects in mathematics and have transferred their learning into drawings. Great work girls.

Jackson from Ms Winter’s Year 4 class has completed some excellent hand writing work. Jackson has been working hard to improve his writing and to use the correct grammar procedures where appropriate. The rapid improvement in his work is a great credit to the enormous energy and effort he has put into his hand writing.

**Class Visits**

Zoe, Oliver P, Oliver D, Aaron, Piper, Gabby, Neve and Sophie from Ms Oldham’s Year 8 Music Elective class have been studying Australian Rock Music. They have been learning basic rock rhythms on both the drums and auxiliary percussion instruments. After just a few short lessons they have been able to perform and showcase their new skills. All the students agree this is a fun area to study and enjoy learning music. The in class performance the students completed showed great talent and skill. As a result of this experience they all see learning in music as an important part of their future. (pictured next page)
Amaroo School Satisfaction Survey 2014

The 2014 School Satisfaction Survey for Parents and Carers is now open. Please complete the survey by Friday 29 August 2014. A letter about the parent and carer survey was emailed to parents and carers or sent home with students. If you do not have a letter for each child in your family, please contact the front office. The letter contains all the information you will need to complete the survey.

Thank you in anticipation of your participation in this important school survey.

The key results from the 2013 School Satisfaction Surveys have been published in a brochure which is available at www.det.act.gov.au.

P & C Council School Traffic Survey for parents and carers.

The ACT P&C Council is conducting a school traffic survey for parents and carers. Amaroo School has received, and continues to receive, a lot of community feedback about the roads and car parks nearest to our school. We encourage everyone in our community to please take the time to complete the survey. A large response from our community will help drive change and may well lead to an improvement in safety on our roads around the school and in our car park.

Please follow the link provided to complete the survey


As always, please contact the Deputy Principals; Benjamin Hall, Gail Taylor, 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.

Richard Powell
Principal

Amaroo School
Preschool

The preschool has been very busy over the last weeks. Pyjama day was celebrated in all classes where toast, hot chocolate and pj’s were the flavour of the day. Book Week has been celebrated this week and the preschoolers have been sharing the story “I’m a Dirty Dinosaur.” They have been creating art work related to this lovely story.

Over the next weeks, children in the start of the week groups will be engaging in an incursion from the Canberra Museum and Gallery. Gallery Education staff will present a program titled “Every Picture Tells a Story.” The children will explore some of the paintings from the Nolan Gallery and learn about the stories they tell.

The current outdoor program has provided dramatic play opportunities in the royal palace, plenty of open ended experiences through the provision of sparkly fabrics, a castle and knights play space along with soccer an obstacle course and an outdoor art studio - at times challenging in the Amaroo winds.

The staff have been excited to be involved in the creation of a DVD, highlighting the quality education that is a feature of our preschool. The video was showcased at a network meeting of Early Childhood educators where we received wonderful feedback on our preschool.

Please remember that the weather can change quickly and dramatically in one day. Please ensure that your child has an extra layer to put on before outdoor investigations.

Kindergarten

Welcome to week 6! Can you believe that we are over half way through the term already? Last week Kindergarten had a fabulous time decorating, selling and eating delicious cupcakes in our RSPCA cupcake fundraiser. We were able to raise a total of $272 – what a fabulous effort! We also had a wonderful time celebrating Book Week and it was great to see so many students get involved by dressing up on Friday.

This week we are celebrating Literacy and Numeracy Week and also have health checks happening from Monday to Thursday. We are off to Questacon in week 8 so please make sure you send back your child’s permission note as soon as you can. And lastly, don’t forget to congratulate our fabulous Learning Legends from last week: Mikayla, Dori, Prinath, Elizabeth, Meg and Ethan. Have a great week!

On Friday Kindergarten students presented Simon; from the RSPCA, funds they raised totalling $272, by making cupcakes on Cup Cake Day. Kindergarten were presented with a certificate in acknowledgement for their fundraising efforts and had a surprise visit from Gerald the galah, who resides at the RSPCA.
Year 1

How amazing did we all look in our costumes for Book Week last week? Thank you to all parents and carers for attending our Early Childhood Assembly. We hope you enjoyed our fantastic singing and moves.

All Year 1 teachers are very pleased to see many homework books being brought in on a Wednesday for marking. We are noticing many students are not participating in Mathletics. Each week as mentioned on the homework sheet, teachers are setting tasks for students to complete. Can you please encourage your children to complete tasks so we can hand out Mathletics awards each terrace assembly.

In Guided Reading we have been looking at the Reading Strategy 'Skimming' and the Character Key 'Sally Setting'. Students have enjoyed quickly looking through a book to get an idea of what it will be about. Skimming the book helps children to see how the text is organised, what the most important parts are and what they already know about the topic. The Character Key Sally Setting likes to discover where a story takes place and looks at the illustrations. During home reading time see if your children would like to use the reading strategy or Character Key using their text.

Year 2

Amazing effort Year 2’s with our celebration of Book Week. You all looked fantastic and made a great effort to make a character from a book come alive. The variety in costumes definitely showed how everybody can love reading different types of stories.

In Year 2, we have been immersing ourselves in Geography and sharing how we are connected to our home, community and Australia. We learnt that even though we may not have visited a place, we can still feel connected through books, movies, sport and most importantly family and friends. Where outside of Canberra do you feel a connection to?

During mathematics students have been drawing 3D objects and comparing their properties to other objects. It has also been great fun see how a net can be cut and folded to create a variety of 3D objects. A huge round of applause goes out to all those busy students who have been logging on to Mathletics for homework. Year 2 teachers have been seeing such hard work and look forward to handing out those bronze, silver and gold certificates, well done!

On behalf of the Year 2 team, we hope you have a fantastic week.

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Primary

Year 3

Year 3 are focusing on life in Canberra in the 1800s. 3RIO and 3EPO travelled to Lanyon Homestead and participated in activities about life as a convict and free settler. The students thoroughly enjoyed the day and particularly enjoyed being treated like a convict. They carried buckets of water from the river up to the garden bed to water it, grade wool and clean it, make fences and distribute wheat to other convicts. What a busy day!
Year 4

In Mathematics, Year 4 students have been looking at mapping. They had to create a Treasure Island map that included a title, key, scale, north point, coordinates, labelling, key locations, directions and show different types of vegetation.

Students have also been busy using the iPads and atlases to research a North American and South American Country. They have used their research to compare the vegetation, location and climates of these countries.

Year 5

This week 5AAJ and 5AKJ have been exploring the solar system and 3D shapes. In 5AKJ we have created a 3D model to demonstrate the orbital path of the Moon, Earth and Sun. In 5AAJ, we have put on our designer hats and created a playground using 3D shapes.
Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) to Amaroo School

As part of our 3 year ICT Strategic Plan, Amaroo School is examining the option of becoming a BYOD school from 2015. BYOD refers to the practice of people bringing their own devices with them to the learning or work environment. For Amaroo School BYOD is about personalising learning. A personally owned digital device supported by school infrastructure creates personal teaching and learning environments that facilitate learning that is unique and individualised to each learner. Educational research highlights BYOD as the technology practice that will best accommodate personalised learning in schools.

Researchers from the Hong Kong Institute of Education analysed the effects of a BYOD model on sixth graders that were studying the anatomy of a fish using an inquiry-based approach. Using Edmodo, Evernote, and Skitch, students were able to take notes, snap photos, share their observations with classmates, and acquire knowledge that was beyond what was available in textbooks. The researchers noted that the BYOD model gave students a sense of ownership and control over their learning, and concluded that BYOD in conjunction with good pedagogical practice had a positive impact on primary students’ learning.

A school district in California adopted a BYOD approach last year. Every student does their daily classroom activities on their personal Google Chrome book purchased by their parents. They upgraded their wireless to 1:1 capacity (1 device per student) and now conduct formative assessment that allows teachers to send questions to students’ devices and monitor answers as they come in. This method of real-time assessment provides teachers the opportunity to adapt their instruction and review challenging concepts.

This year Melbourne’s Ruyton Girls’ School has deployed a new IT network to support BYOD as part of the school’s plan to access e-books and online course materials.

In the last year eight schools in the ACT including Harrison School and Alfred Deakin High School have been trialling the implementation and efficacy of BYOD using a Google Apps for Education platform to support and transform the communication, collaboration, critical thinking and problem solving occurring between students in and across their classrooms. BYOD in schools is strongly supported by research and practice and is something we believe will enhance personalised learning opportunities for our students, improve student engagement in learning and help us to create learners who are truly prepared to be successful resilient citizens living in the 21st century.

We strongly encourage you to contact Tiffany Mahon on 62058913 if you have any feedback or suggestions about Amaroo School’s ICT Strategic Plan currently in development.

Middle School

Year 6

A big thank you to all parents and students who have been making sure the Amaroo School uniform is worn with pride on a daily basis. In particular, it is fantastic to see hats being worn whenever students are outside. It is now compulsory hat wearing season. Hats are available from the uniform shop for a modest price and there are many hats left unclaimed in lost property.

It is also the time of year when stationery supplies need a stock up. It would be greatly appreciated if the most basic study implements are restocked. These include; pens, pencils, erasers, rulers, scissors and glue.

Finally, we have a ‘World of Maths’ incursion planned for later this term. This incursion involves learning mathematical knowledge and skills in a problem solving, collaborative setting. Not to mention it is a lot of FUN! Further information and permission notes will go home shortly.

Year 7

Students are working on myths and legends in English. The G&T classes are reading Arabian Nights while the other classes are reading a range of myth types, such as creation myths and myths about Gods and Goddesses. Soon they will be rewriting and modernising a myth.

In History all classes are continuing to learn about Ancient China. The focus is now on the Qin and Han dynasties and what daily life was like during those times. The Qin dynasty is remembered for establishing the Great Wall of China and building the terracotta warriors, while the Han dynasty is best remembered for establishing the Silk Road trade route.

Students are learning about area and perimeter in Maths. They are using formulas to calculate the areas of simple and composite shapes such as squares, rectangles, parallelograms and triangles.

In Science, students are completing their assessment task on invasive species and their impact on the environment. They are taking on the role of a National Parks Interpretation Officer to educate the public about these species and ways to control them.
Student Led Conferences
Student Led Conferences will replace the traditional Parent/Teacher interviews in Term 3. They will occur over a three week period (Weeks 9 and 10) in 20 minute blocks. The Student Led Conference takes place with the students, their Study Coach and parents/careers present. The purpose of these conferences is for students to present and discuss their learning at Amaroo School. Students will be demonstrating important life skills in communication, organization, leadership, self-evaluation, self-reflection, and goal setting. These are all skills that employers seek in their employees. Term 3 Progress Reports will be shared at the conference. Please note that this conference does not replace the upcoming review meetings of ILPs and PLPs. There will be a letter going home to parents that contains more information about Student Led Conferences and how to book your appointment.

Year 10 Formal
The Year 10 Formal Committee is continuing to organise fundraisers. Coming up this term we have:

Friday 5 September: A ‘Onesie Day’ – for a gold coin donation students can wear their onesie or pyjamas to school. Students must be sure to wear good, solid footwear – no soft slippers! This is during Health and PE week, so there will also be some fun activities at break times to celebrate.

Thursday 11 September: Senior School Social – for $5.00 students can come along to an evening of music, dance and fun! This will be held in the school Gym from 6.30-9.00pm. Tickets will be sold during B1 and B2 at the canteen by Formal Committee members from this Wednesday. Students must buy their tickets ahead of the Social, as no tickets will be sold on the evening.

All students are to be picked up by their parents at the end of the Social. There will be some light refreshments sold during the evening from the canteen.

Year 10 students - remember to keep those Formal ticket payments coming in!

CAREERS AND WEX NEWS
My name is Caroline Knoke and I am excited to be stepping into the work experience and careers role whilst Karen Duncan takes maternity leave. The talented Steve Hardy will also be assisting me in this role. We will have a regular monthly update in the newsletter to celebrate student achievement and keep parents informed about opportunities for senior school students in building towards future career and study pathways.

It has been a very busy start to Semester 2, with many students being successful in securing places in FLOs (Flexible Learning Options), undertaking work experience placements and continuing ASBAs.

Most notably, the following students will be working towards the Certificate 1 in Building and Construction throughout Semester 2: Mitch, Joshua, Michigan, Jared.

The competencies for the certificate will be met primarily through targeted restoration and development projects within the historic Well Station adjacent to Harrison School. This will begin the initial stages of a long term plan to redevelop and restore the shearing shed and groomsman’s quarters as an historical site, and for community use. The above students will be working with those selected from Harrison school.

Students will work closely with local trades and businesses. It is anticipated students will focus on the construction of a toilet block, outdoor classroom seating, a BBQ area, post and railing fencing and replicating traditional resources.

In addition to above the FLO, Taylah and Chad have been selected to participate in a Fitness and Sporting FLO which will lead to various related qualifications.

Congratulations to Kyle who secured a spot in the Certificate II in Automotive Vocational Preparation with Commonwealth Motors.

Several students are currently undertaking White Card and Asbestos Awareness Certificate training in anticipation of undertaking work experience later this semester.

Many thanks to all students who attended the Careers Xpo at EPIC recently. It was a very busy day with multiple schools attending. The behaviour and attitude of Amaroo School students was outstanding, with many students finding valuable pieces of information regarding courses, training providers, establishing contacts, and of course collecting a wide variety of advertising merchandise and stationery along the way!

If you have any questions in regards to careers, college and work experience enquiries please feel to contact me at caroline.knoke@ed.act.edu.au

Caroline Knoke

Careers/WEX Coordinator
Onesie/Pajama day Friday 5 September 2014

The year 10 formal committee will be hosting a gold coin donation fundraising Onesie/Pajama day on Friday 5 September 2014. This will be conducted in conjunction with Health and PE Week and the year 10 students will be running novelty sporting events at B1 and B2 for any students wishing to participate. This is a whole school fundraiser. Please make sure that appropriate protective footwear is worn (no slippers).

Apell for soccer/football boots for Somali children

One of our families from Amaroo School has plans to travel to Somalia. In Somalia many children play soccer bare footed on roads that contain shrapnel and while we use and then throw away our soccer shoes, kids in many parts of the world don't have any. We are kindly asking if any families have football boots/soccer shoes they are no longer using, can they please donate them to children of Somalia. A bin is located in the front office of Amaroo School where you can place them to donate used soccer shoes/football boots for Somali children who will take them gratefully. Please make sure that as much soil and grass is removed prior to bringing into school. ANYTHING ELSE BUT DAMAGED IS OKAY!!! Thank you. Senior SRC are coordinating the appeal.

Languages at Amaroo

Nara University High School Visit October 2014 – 5 HOST FAMILIES STILL NEEDED

We are still looking for a few host families for this cultural exchange, providing accommodation and meals for three nights: Wednesday 22 October, Thursday 23 October and Friday 24 October 2014. 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, please see Mrs Middleton in the Middle School or contact her via email: Kiraly.middleton@ed.act.edu.au Thank you for your support. We look forward to a wonderful visit!

Year 8-10 Japan Trip 2015 – INFORMATION NIGHT IN WEEK 6

The Languages Team are preparing for the information night to be held next Wednesday. We have seen a lot of interest in the students at school about this trip. If you would like to know more, please return the expression of interest slip indicating whether you can attend the information night or not.

The 2 week trip is to be held at the end of Term 3 2015. It provides an invaluable learning experience for our Japanese Language students to experience life in Japan. Their experience will include attending a Japanese school for 3 days, visiting world heritage cultural sites, visiting the Hiroshima Peace Museum and exploring more contemporary culture in areas of Tokyo, including Tokyo Disney Land.

Japan Trip Information night: 27 August in the Languages Room (GLA 215).

Japanese

Year 4 Japanese: Our Year 4 students have learnt how to tell time in Japanese through various games and completing worksheets. We have also started learning the daily activities of their favourite characters in Japanese.

Year 5 Japanese: Year 5 have been practicing their speaking skills. They have been learning about greetings, asking for someone’s name and answering. We have also explored cultural practices such as bowing. Get your child to do a self-introduction with a respectful bow!
Year 6 Japanese: Students have started a unit on Japanese homes. So far we have looked at some of the obvious differences between the layout of a Japanese house and comparing this to their own house. We are trying to reflect on these differences to discover more about Japanese culture.

Year 7 Japanese: Year 7 have completed their assessment tasks on family and pets. We are now starting a new unit looking at how to use adjectives to describe things in their life.

Year 8 Japanese: Students have been completing their assessment tasks on verbs and objects. They should hopefully now be able to tell you where they are going and what they are going to do on the weekend in Japanese!

Year 9/10 Japanese: Year 9/10 Japanese: students have completed their listening tests and this week will do their reading assessment. I encourage students to use Language Perfect to revise relevant vocabulary.

French

France/Belgium Trip Club:

Thank you to the families who have returned the chocolate money. We will be ordering another batch of chocolates and you will receive these THIS week. The final Parent Information night will be held on Thursday 4 September at 6pm in the Languages Room. The expectation is that all students are represented at this information night as there will be final paperwork to complete and sign as well as important information to be distributed. We have also organised an incursion for the students attending the trip on Friday 12 September to have a group final bonding meeting. More information about this will be emailed in the next few weeks.

Year 3 French:

We have continued enjoying lots of games and activities in French classes this week. We have worked on Lesson 1 in our Primary French Workbooks and focussed on saying how we are feeling. Ask your child to show you the gestures for the following new phrases:

Comment ça va? How’s it going? J’ai faim I’m hungry
Ça va bien, merci. Et toi? It’s going well, thanks. And you? J’ai soif I’m thirsty
Ça va très bien, merci! It’s going very well, thanks. J’ai chaud I’m hot
Ça va comme ci, comme ça It’s going ok J’ai froid I’m hungry
Je suis fatigué(e) I am tired

This week 3JRO was Muzzy’s Magnifique Class and received a special message on their whiteboard from him!

Year 5 French:

In Year 5, we have begun learning key vocabulary for Classroom Objects and learning how to say what’s in our classroom, school bag and pencil case. Students have enjoyed singing the following learning songs:

“Dans Ma Salle de Classe”: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=098xf9d-Ntw

“Dans Mon Sac d’Ecole”: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u8Tny8hvc4
Year 6 French:
Thankyou to all the students for handing in their French Family Tree assignments- they look fantatsique! We are now working on our Family Descriptions portfolio pieces, and beginning our exciting new unit on superheroes!

Year 7 French:
It has been great to receive students’ Facebook Profile assignments and seeing the students use a range of new sentence structures and vocabulary to describe their hobbies, interests and activities. We are now working on our new unit about describing the weather in French, and we look forward to making our very own weather reports.

Year 8 French:
In their unit, “Les Jeunes Français”, students are working on an exciting Webquest to help them to learn about the lives of young people in France. We have been comparing French and Australian laws on a range of topics such as driving, marriage, school, part-time jobs and more and the students have been interested to learn about the similarities and differences.

Years 9/10 French:
Students have presented their new characters to each other for the French learning sitcom we have been watching, Extr@.

Amaroo School Satisfaction Surveys

The 2014 School Satisfaction Surveys will be conducted from 11 to 29 August 2014. Parents and carers, school staff and students (in years 5 to 10) will be asked to participate in these important surveys. The survey results will contribute to the school improvement process, which aims to achieve high standards in student learning, innovation and best practice in ACT public schools. The surveys include nationally agreed parent and student items and our 2014 School Board Report will include a summary of our school survey results for these national items. Although the survey is voluntary, we hope you will want to participate. It won’t take much of your time and it will help us understand areas where we are doing a good job and areas for further development. A letter and/or email about the parent survey has been sent out to you. The key results from the 2013 School Satisfaction Surveys have been published in a brochure which is available at www.det.act.gov.au under publications.

Primary Sport

Congratulations to the following students who will represent Amaroo at the Touch Football Gala Day on Friday 29 August. We wish you the best of luck.
5/6 Boys Team – Rowdy, Tucker, Jacob M, Ashton, Blake H, Jaiden, Daniel, Braiden B, Linny, Biar, Duot, Nick G.

Congratulations to the following students who will represent Amaroo at the Milo Cricket Blast on 2 September.

The North Gungahlin Athletics Carnival was held on 21 August. Congratulations to all students who participated. Results and selections for ACT Team will be released shortly.

PE

We have had a fantastic term so far in sport. We had the PSSA Sports Carnival last week, with excellent participation from the students who attended. A big thank you to Mrs Bryant and the organising teachers for making this a great day!

The 3/4 and 5/6 Touch teams are going out next Friday to Deakin, the Year 9/10 soccer teams are going out next Wednesday. Good luck to all of those players. The 7/8 Soccer was on last Monday and the Girls team made it to the finals, which will be held later in the term. The 7/8 and 9/10 Netball teams went out last week and we had some stand out players on the day, congratulations to Eleanor S, Sara B and Bree M for winning the best and fairest awards, and also to Touriek G for his excellent umpiring.

The Primary School basketball championships were held at the Belconnen Basketball stadium in Week 4 and Mrs Ward and Mr K took our years 3/4 and years 5/6 teams. Well done to all of those students for participating with their best effort on the day.
We also had amazing success at the ACT SSSA Hockey competition, which was held at the Lyneham Hockey Centre. The 7-10 Girls team played brilliantly all day and won the grand final in the end, tallying the most points for the day. Well done girls!

Finally, in individual sporting achievements, congratulations to Megan T and Sarah H for being selected for the 13ys Girls Hockey national team, competing in Brisbane. Well done girls! Daniel A in year 7 who won two bronze medals in Foil and Sabre at the Tri-State (Vic, NSW and ACT) u15/u17 Fencing Championships and a gold medal in the men’s open team sabre at the Victorian State Championships. Well done Daniel!
Mathletics @ Amaroo

Mathletics provides a safe, secure and engaging online world of learning for students at Amaroo in Kindergarten to Year 8. Rewards and certificates can be earned to keep students motivated, with mathematical gaming to expand upon the core strands learned along the way. Adaptive practice activities and tutorials form dozens of Mathletics courses, each aligned to the individual requirements of the National Curriculum.

We have had a great number of students participating in Mathletics this term through homework tasks and classroom activities.

Across Amaroo School, in just 4 weeks, students have achieved amazing results from their Mathletics. Students in Kindergarten to Year 8 have been awarded a massive 379 Bronze certificates, 59 Silver certificates, 4 Gold certificates!

Here are some more exciting results from this fortnight:

Year 3 are our top Mathletics users in Amaroo School collectively achieving 317, 400 points
Our top class in Amaroo this fortnight is 3JRO achieving 88, 220 points

A big congratulations to the following students who are our three top Mathletics achievers this fortnight:
  Jasmine (3NRO) – 36, 930 points
  Jackie (3RIO) – 15, 030 points
  Kissharee (3RIO) – 14, 750 points

Did you know that Mathletics has a parent console which is designed to help you enhance your child’s learning experience and gather valuable insight in their progress? You can receive weekly reports on their results and encourage participation. This is an excellent way to track their improvement, encourage usage and support their work.

All you need to do is simply register your details to receive your username and password and you can begin supporting your child right away. To activate your free access to the Parent Console visit www.3plearning.com/parents.

Library News

Amaroo School staff, students and families certainly got into the spirit of Book Week last week, having fun sharing the love of reading with others. We started with Buddy group activities in Week 4 and continued last Tuesday with 620 students attending the’ Wonderful World of Roald Dahl’ play, from a South Australian company, Shane Davidson Presents. On Friday, students and staff enjoyed dressing up as their favourite book characters and parading at assemblies. Year 1’s presented a terrific Book Week themed assembly and Mr Hall did a very good impersonation of a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle! P-6 classes participated in art activities around the shortlisted books.

A big thank you to parents and carers for your support of the activities! Check out the Children’s Book Council of Australia website (cbca.org.au) for winners of the 2014 Book of the Year Awards. The Book Week colouring in competition entries are due back to the library this Friday. Parents and carers can join in the fun too and collect a copy of the page from the library. The fun continues this week with the Literacy and Numeracy Week.

Lost Property: Please remember to label your child’s clothes, water bottle, hat and lunch box. We have quite an accumulation in the library lost property area.

Happy Reading!
Library Staff

Book Club

Issue  6 Book Club pamphlets have been sent home. Orders and payment are due back at school by FRIDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2014

Payment Details
Orders can be paid by cash, credit card or cheque. All cheques should be made payable to Scholastic Australia; Credit Card orders can be made by phone (1800 557 908) or online (www.scholastic.com.au/payment). Please keep a copy of your receipt number. Orders should be placed in an envelope marked with your child’s name, class and the amount enclosed. If you have any questions please ring Michele in the library on 6205 2172. Book Club Co-ordinator
Amaroo School Support Staff Week

Last week we also celebrated the work of our wonderful Amaroo School Support Staff with morning tea provided by the executive team. Certainly our unsung heroes who quietly go about the business of supporting the students, teachers and executive staff! Remember to say a big thanks to our Front Office, Fishbowl staff and business administration staff, Pastoral Care staff, Learning Support Assistants, our Canteen staff and helpers, the library assistants, the Food Technology, Science and Design and Technology assistants and of course our fabulous building service officers.

Thank you

SL@AM

2014 Amaroo School Yearbook Information
This year the SL@AM students are creating another whole school yearbook. Since the school is turning 10 and there is an enormous amount of students, we are attempting to gain as many photos of students as possible and incorporate them into the yearbook. The prices this year are $13 for a special pre-order and $15 for the copies that are ordered after the date. However, parents will NOT be able to purchase the yearbook at the front office after the end date of the orders. We would love for you to celebrate this 10 year anniversary yearbook with us. The pre-order note was sent out to all families a fortnight ago and will need to be returned by Friday September 19, to confirm your order at the $13 price.
If there are any enquiries, please don’t hesitate to contact the Yearbook Committee at 2014amarooyearbook@gmail.com or Ash Brettell. Thank you!!

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care Play programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Type of Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Years 3-5 X Box Dance Group</td>
<td>B1</td>
<td>Downstairs Dance Room</td>
<td>Open Year 3-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Skipping</td>
<td>B2</td>
<td>Gym</td>
<td>Open Years 4-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>K-2 Defence Group</td>
<td>B1</td>
<td>Community Room</td>
<td>specific yr Defence students + 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>3-5 Defence Group</td>
<td>B2</td>
<td>Community Room</td>
<td>specific yr Defence students + 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>6-10 Defence Group</td>
<td>B1</td>
<td>Community Room</td>
<td>specific yr Defence students +1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Breakfast Club</td>
<td>8:15-8:50</td>
<td>EC Multipurpose</td>
<td>OPEN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Cards 4 Troops</td>
<td>B1</td>
<td>Community Room</td>
<td>Open Year 3-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Karaoke</td>
<td>B2</td>
<td>Downstairs Dance Room</td>
<td>Open Year 6-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Group Games</td>
<td>B2</td>
<td>the Hill</td>
<td>Open (run by Senior SRC)</td>
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Amaroo Angels
We thank our enthusiastic parent volunteers who attend our weekly Amaroo Angels sessions. Everyone is welcome. Normally our sessions are run in the Community Room of the library on Wednesdays 9am to 12pm. However, our session on Wednesday 27 August 2014 will be run in the Boardroom opposite the front office reception. If you have a little time to spare, want to meet some lovely people, enjoy some provided snacks and beverages and (this week), assist in preparations for Father’s Day activities, please join us for some laughs and fun!
Defence News

Postings
It’s that time of the year when most posting orders have been finalised. Please let us know if your family will be posting out so that we can offer your children additional support, assist in their transition to a new location and school, and most importantly, organise a farewell party! Also, please inform the Front Office of your expected departure so that the system can be updated.

CONTACT
For new and established families who would like more information about services, organisations, support and interest groups in Canberra, check out CONTACT (Canberra Community Information). CONTACT is located in the Griffin Building at 20 Genge Street, Canberra City or visit www.contactcanberra.org.au. Their phone number is (02) 6248 7988.

Cards 4 Troops
Card making sessions will be run on Fridays during B1 for the rest of term 3 in the Community Room located in the library. This initiative is aimed at making as many as 600 Christmas cards to be given to troops who are deployed or at sea. In some circumstances, Defence personnel cannot access local shops to purchase Christmas cards and the lovely handmade cards are a great gesture for the troops and their families and friends. Please encourage ALL students from year 3 and older to attend and help in this worthy cause.

Legacy Week
As previously detailed in last fortnight’s Defence News segment, Legacy Week runs from 31 August to 6 September.

On Friday 22 August 2014, the Senior School Assembly was graced by a special speaker: Chris Hunter of Legacy. We thank Chris for attending our school and providing Legacy materials to the school.

Student volunteers will be making their way around the school this week to offer staff and students Legacy merchandise for purchase.

Bears: $15  Badges: $2 and $5  Wrist Bands: $3  Pens: $5

Legacy badges will also be sold in Gungahlin outside of Coles and Big W on the weekend of 5 – 6 September.

Michelle Nazzari (DTA – Preschool to Years 5)  Jo Farmer (DTM – Years 6 to 10)
Michelle.Nazzari@ed.act.edu.au  Jo.Farmer@ed.act.edu.au

School Psychologists News

Limiting Screen Time Yields Multiple Benefits
Parents may not always see it, but efforts to limit their children’s screen time can make a difference. A new study, published in JAMA Pediatrics, found children get more sleep, do better in school, behave better and see other health benefits when parents limit content and the amount of time their children spend on the computer or in front of the TV.

Douglas Gentile, lead author and an associate professor of psychology at Iowa State, says the effect is not immediate and that makes it difficult for parents to recognize. As a result, parents may think it is not worth the effort to monitor and limit their children's media use. But Gentile says they have more power than they realize.

“When parents are involved it has a powerful protective effect across a wide range of different areas that they probably never would have expected to see,” Gentile said. “However, parents aren’t likely to notice that putting limits on the children’s media is having these effects several months later.”

Considering that children average more than 40 hours of screen time a week, not counting time spent on a computer at school, even small changes can make a difference, researchers said. They are not suggesting parents completely eliminate screen time, but find a healthy balance.

The study found there is a ripple effect associated with the benefits of limiting both screen time and media content. Gentile is not surprised to see a direct impact on sleep, academics and behavior. However, limited screen time also indirectly affects body mass index. The study found that children got more sleep if parents limited screen time, which also resulted in lower risk of obesity. Parents limiting exposure to violent media resulted in increased prosocial behavior and lowered aggressive behavior seven months later.

Researchers analyzed the media habits of more than 1,300 school children who were recruited to participate in an obesity prevention program. Students and parents were surveyed about everything from screen time limits, to violent media exposure, to bedtimes and behavior. Teachers reported grades and commented on student behavior and school
nurses measured each student’s height and weight. 

Data were collected at the start of the program and seven months later at the end of the program. By looking at these factors collectively with a group of children over a school year, it was easier for researchers to identify patterns that are hard to recognize in individual children.


Meg (meg.lewis@ed.act.edu.au 62053328) and Fiona (fiona.mckinnon@ed.act.edu.au 62058916) School Psychologists
The Australian Childhood Vision Impairment Register

The Australian Childhood Vision Impairment Register is hosted by the Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children and is supported by Vision Australia and Guide Dogs. It is the first national register of children in Australia with vision impairment. The Register has been collecting data since 2009, and this data is providing important information about the types of eye disease and vision disorders children have and the support they need. The data is also used by service providers and researchers. Data is stored securely and no child can be identified in any way when the data is released.

Families are invited to register their child (aged 0-18 years) if they have vision impairment in both eyes which has been diagnosed by an eye specialist or ophthalmologist. Registration can be completed by contacting Register staff on (02) 9872 0303, or by visiting the VI Family Network website at: vifamilynetwork.org.au. The website also provides information on eyes and vision; family support; education and related issues; braille and low vision aids; technology supporting vision impairment; newsletters from Australian low vision agencies and support groups, useful websites; and news and events that might interest families across Australia.

Sue Silveira Research Fellow, Renwick Centre
Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children
sue.silveira@ridbc.org.au
(02) 9872 0248

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**DIABETES TYPE 1 STUDY**

Do you have a relative with Diabetes Type 1?

Are you 1-45 years of age?

Are you generally healthy?

**You may be eligible for the Type 1 Diabetes (T1D) Prevention Trial**

If you have a relative with Type 1 Diabetes, you could be at risk for this disease. Paediatric Research at Canberra Hospital is participating in studies monitoring the risk of Diabetes in relatives of T1D individuals and is offering an opportunity for you or your child to participate.

Please contact the Paediatric Research and Clinical Trials Unit at The Canberra Hospital on 61747600 for more information.

This study has been approved by the ACT Health Human Research Ethics Committee
Gungahlin Community Craft Fair

Supporting children and youth through Chaplaincy
Saturday 20 September, 10am - 4pm
Salvation Army Hall
30 The Valley Way, Gungahlin

Contact us for more information about:

- Booking a stall
- Entering a quilt in the display
- Craft Workshops
- Items already available for sale
- Chaplaincy in Gungahlin Public Schools
- Volunteering or donations

Visit us at www.facebook.com/GungahlinCommunityCraftFair or email craft fair co-ordinators Deb Horscroft and Robyn Fisher at gungahlincraftfair1@gmail.com
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<tr>
<th><strong>Community News</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Amaroo School does not necessarily endorse the products or services advertised</td>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>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.</strong></td>
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<p>| <strong>'Antoinette Karsten Art', Art classes and holiday workshops</strong> | Email or call Antoinette for more info. <a href="mailto:antoinettekarsten@hotmail.com">antoinettekarsten@hotmail.com</a> Mob: 0422693546 |
| Drawing, painting, sculpture, and lots of other fun projects to develop skills and confidence in our young creatives. Ages 10-16. | 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 |
| Gungahlin Dance Academy | 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 |
| Exceptional dance training for all ages Fully equipped studios in Amaroo | | |
| Classical Ballet (RAD) Contemporary Jazz Tap Private Tuition | | |
| Nurturing Within Yoga offers Private class's in your home to provide 1:1 INDIVIDUAL &amp; PERSONALISED program | Please contact Michelle on (m) 0417288460 email <a href="mailto:michjono@bigpond.com">michjono@bigpond.com</a> or connect via the Nurturing Within Yoga FB page and PM. |
| Do you want confidence, adventure and leadership skills? Scouting is education for life and helps builds confidence, friendships, responsibility and leadership. <strong>Scouts</strong> 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. | Limited offer – 3 week FREE trial Call 1800 SCOUTS or visit our website, <a href="http://www.scoutsact.com.au">www.scoutsact.com.au</a> |
| <strong>Do You Love Candles? Do You Love Home Decorating?</strong> | For more information contact Annette Gleeson Independent Consultant with <strong>PartyLite</strong> on 0418 261 444 or <a href="mailto:lovecandles.annette@gmail.com">lovecandles.annette@gmail.com</a> |
| Choose from a selection of quality candles in a variety of fragrances, shapes, colours and sizes, and beautiful candle accessories in crystal, wrought iron, porcelain, pewter and decorative florals and mosaics! | | |
| <strong>Girl Guides meet in Gungahlin! Are you a girl aged 5-17 years, and looking for laughter, learning, friendship and fun?</strong> | Come and try for free. Email – gungahlin district <a href="mailto:guides@gmail.com">guides@gmail.com</a> Ph: Felicity (District Manager) 0448 553 701 <a href="http://www.girlguides-nswact.org.au">www.girlguides-nswact.org.au</a> |
| Come along and find out what guiding is all about. Weekly meetings during school terms in various locations around Gungahlin. | | |</p>
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<tr>
<th>National Tae Kwon-do</th>
<th>Our Children's program offers a professionally designed age-specific curriculum that has been especially developed to teach children in a fun and enriching way.</th>
<th>Classes at Amaroo School. All enquiries Phone 0414 898 888 <a href="http://www.nationaltaekwondo.com.au">www.nationaltaekwondo.com.au</a></th>
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<tr>
<td>Nurturing Within Yoga</td>
<td>Nurturing Within Yoga offers Private class’s in your home to provide 1:1 INDIVIDUAL &amp; PERSONALISED program: Specializing in Anxiety &amp; supporting more ease in your life Special offer for Autumn &amp; Winter Please contact for further details</td>
<td>Please contact Michelle on (m) 0417288460 email <a href="mailto:michjono@bigpond.com">michjono@bigpond.com</a> or connect via the Nurturing Within Yoga FB page and PM</td>
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<td>Bollywood Dance Classes for adults &amp; kids by Canberra School of Bollywood Dancing.</td>
<td>Free trial class at Amaroo – Sunday 3 Aug Registration essential to secure a spot. Email <a href="mailto:canberrabollywood@bigpond.com">canberrabollywood@bigpond.com</a> Kids 3 –6 years - 3 to 4 pm Adults &amp; Kids 7 + years - 4 to 5 pm Venue – Amaroo School dance studio.</td>
<td>For more details contact Krisha Jilson on: Phone: 0403-156833 Email: <a href="mailto:canberrabollywood@bigpond.com">canberrabollywood@bigpond.com</a> Website: <a href="http://www.canberrabollywood.com.au">www.canberrabollywood.com.au</a> Join us on face book: <a href="http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Canberra-School-of-Bollywood-Dancing-CSBD/242646885787711">www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Canberra-School-of-Bollywood-Dancing-CSBD/242646885787711</a></td>
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<td>ENROL YOUR CHILD IN DRAMA TODAY! FOR TERM 3! ACTing Up! Creative Drama Classes</td>
<td>Do you have children between the ages of 5-12yrs? Do they love Drama and Singing? If so consider enrolling in our friendly and creative drama classes.</td>
<td>To register your child, please contact Brooke on P: 0409 135 921 E: <a href="mailto:actingup.act@gmail.com">actingup.act@gmail.com</a> W: <a href="http://www.actingupact.com">www.actingupact.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Butterfly Wicks</td>
<td>Butterfly Wicks is a boutique business supplying candles and candle accessories to the Canberra region through local markets and direct sales. We have beautiful handcrafted quality candles using biodegradable materials.</td>
<td>For sales and orders please contact: Butterfly Wicks Shane Weise Mobile: 02 6241 9126 <a href="http://www.facebook.com/butterflywicks">www.facebook.com/butterflywicks</a> <a href="mailto:Butterflywicks@iinet.net.au">Butterflywicks@iinet.net.au</a></td>
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