

14 November 2019

Dear Parents, Grandparents and Carers

Improve Learning and Achievement for all Students

It has been another busy fortnight with plenty of important learning taking place across our great school. The SPARK reading mentors have reconnected with their reading mentees. Current research tells us that it is beneficial for schools to have external partnerships and understand the impact of these partnerships on student learning. I have been analysing the impact of the SPARK program throughout the year and it is pleasing to see the progress of students who participate in the program. If you are a parent, grandparent or carer and would like to provide feedback about the program, please contact me via the front office.

Our very capable Kindergarten students have completed their final PIPS (Primary Indicators of Performance) assessment. It was very encouraging to see how much growth the children have made over the year and the impact our high expectations and differentiated teaching programs are having on student achievement. The PIPS parent information will be provided to families in week 9.

As we move into week 5, our 5/6 students are busy developing their Market Day stalls for the Kakadu Fun Day. There will be a range of stalls on the day. You may have seen on our Facebook page that each Friday from 3:00-3:15pm, Ryan in 5/6S is holding a veggie stall with organic fresh produce being harvested that afternoon from our productive kitchen garden. Bring along your gold coins and get in quick, last week he sold out!

This week Ms Calvert and I are meeting our new 2020 preschool children and their families to get to know them and begin planning for their learning next year. The transition from home or child care to preschool is a big deal for little people and at Richardson, we want to ensure that our newest students and families feel welcome as they begin their journey with us.

In recognition of the excellent learning throughout our whole school Science Fair, this Friday Mrs Vince will be presenting awards during our Kindergarten assembly.

Develop an Expert Teaching Team

Last Monday, our dedicated staff participated in professional learning with literacy expert Christine Topfer. We learnt about the importance of developing a word conscious classroom and high impact teaching strategies, with a focus on strengthening and enriching children's vocabulary.

Last week, as part of our Quality Improvement Plan in Preschool, we warmly welcomed Regina Nugent and Michele Foley from the Early Childhood section of our Directorate to visit preschool and provide feedback on our progress this year. It was very encouraging to hear their feedback and affirm the work the preschool team have progressed this year around Quality Area 1 (Programs and Practices). The impact of this work with our preschool team and families has been significant.

On Thursday afternoon, I attended a professional learning workshop for Educational Leaders in Preschool to hear more about Exceeding Themes and the Assessment and Rating process. Our preschool team will be continuing our work towards reaching this benchmark. Our next formal external Assessment and Rating Review will take place in 2021.

Provide a Safe, Inclusive and Respectful School Culture

On Tuesday morning, the Koori preschool and Seahorse classes came together for a community breakfast. Thank you to the Tuggeranong Child and Family Centre for their generous sponsorship of the breakfast along with Woolworths Calwell who provided yummy bacon, eggs and fresh rolls that Mr Branko cooked. After our tummies were full, we moved to the new Bush Tucker Garden beds to plant them out with local Indigenous bush tucker plants. Thank you to Mrs Sue Turtle for applying for the Landcare grant and for working closely with Elders and families to create such a beautiful space for learning about culture and Country.

As part of our increasing cultural awareness, we have taken the opportunity to consult Elders and families about the names of our preschool classes. As we are on Ngunnawal Country, and as a mark of respect for our local animals and culture, we invited our preschool community to suggest new names for each of our preschool classes. The new names that were selected by the community were; Butterflies (Koori preschool), Black Cockatoos and the Swans. These animals represent a connection to Ngunnawal Country. Thank you to Miss Taylor for overseeing this process and for her valuable contribution to ensuring our cultural integrity journey continues.

The 2019 World Kindness Day was held on Wednesday. Each class was invited to donate non-perishable food items to support our local Richardson Community Street Pantry. We will continue to accept donations until Friday. If you would like to donate, please send it to school and we will ensure it makes its way to the Street Pantry. Thank you to everyone for supporting this community initiative.

Our end of year whole school concert is a wonderful opportunity for us to come together as a community. This year it will be held in our school hall on Thursday 5 December from 4:00pm – 5:00pm, *****SAVE THE DATE*****

We are very fortunate to have a team of working bee volunteers from Ernst & Young who will don their work-gear this Friday and provide labour to shift new sand into the preschool and main school sandpits and shovel soft-fall tan bark into the play equipment space in preschool. This is the first time our school will be involved in the EY Care Day. Thank you to everyone that will help on the day.

Warm regards
Nicole Agius
Executive Teacher/Educational Leader Preschool



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Student Awards

DAB Awards

Displaying Amazing Behaviour

The following students will be receiving an award at assembly on Friday 15 November 2019.
Assembly is 9:15am in the Hall.

NAMES	CLASS
Lincoln Sullivan	Dolphins
Malakai Kelly-Higgins	Dolphins
Desmund Tong	Dolphins
Michelle Mampallil	Seahorses
Kaan Cakir	Seahorses
Cruz Jacky	KM
Jaidon Foster	KB
Mike Taiao	KB
Kaylee Gardner	1/2Q
Charlotte Stafrace	1/2Q
Faith Wadley	1/2N
Layla-Fay Aldous	1/2N
Jorja Smith	3/4V
Hanna Fitrawan	3/4V
Kayva Meldrum	4/5SG
Raymund Tong	4/5SG
Bella Spencer-Brown	2-6T
Thomas Studholme	2-6T
Emmet Hughes	5/6S
Ailys Dulguime	5/6S

Congratulations to the following students who will receive their Silver 75 DAB Certificate at Friday's Assembly. These students have consistently displayed our signature behaviours of being Respectful, Positive Learners and Safe.

NAMES	CLASS
Monica Comandari	KB
Ron Cabais	1/2N
<p>Congratulations to the following students who will receive their Gold 150 DAB Certificate at Friday's Assembly.</p>	
Hannah Herczeg-Clarke	5/6S



50 Nights Reading Awards

Ava Chalk	4/5SG
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170 Nights Reading Awards

Theodore Currie	KM
Chloe Wicks	KB
Tahlise Haines	KB
James Cooper	KB
Catherine McKay	1/2N
Jaycob Robertson	1/2N

240 Nights Reading Awards

Lucas Batchelor	1/2Q
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Science Fair Awards

Grade	Science Fair Award
<u>Preschool to Kindergarten</u>	People's Choice Award: KB Participation Award: All students P-K (awarded in class)
<u>Years 1 to 2</u>	1st: Ron Kirby Cabais, Hani Wilson, Henri Fitrawan 2nd: Bree Ingram, Skye-Marie Bowan, Evangeline Pesefea, Chloe Maniti 3rd: Faith Wadley, Zara Meldrum, Izzabella Comandari, Gabriella Bonaccorso Encouragement Award: Ahmed Saeed, Jaycob Robertson, Nathan Howe People's Choice Award: Cade Clarke, Kendrick Singh, Tylar Jeffries, Xavier Exposito
<u>Years 3 to 6</u>	1st: Zak Schumacher 2nd: Kira Batchelor 3rd: Lara Costa Encouragement Award: Nevaeh Peters People's Choice Award: Hannah Herczeg-Clarke & Ryan Peberdy



This week the SRC helped the P & C collect non-perishable food for the Richardson Community Pantry. Student representatives went to each class and discussed the importance of this community service with students and how the collection would be used to help those in need.

In our meeting last week, students discussed how the Santa's Mailbox would work during the last two weeks of school. Students in each class will have the opportunity to send each other kind wishes for the school holidays and will be able to post letters and cards to each other through a mailbox system that will be set up in the front foyer during weeks 9 and 10. Students will work with classroom teachers to ensure that mail is respectful and that students have a clear understanding of the requirements of letter and card writing.

The SRC Executive has been busy over the last two weeks gathering data from across the school about which Positive Behaviour for Learning option students would like for the reward system. A big thank you to the SRC Executive for their work with this!

We would like to welcome Jen Glover, classroom teacher, to our SRC team!

Kind regards,
Emma Vince and Jen Glover

What's happening in Kirrang

1/2 have been hard at work this term. During our inquiry learning we have been building our inquiry skills to ask questions about *how* and *why* things work and exploring possible answers.

At the start of the term we completed our Science and Technology inquiry into simple machines (levers, screws, inclined planes, pulleys, wedges and wheels and axles). We worked collaboratively to apply the Design, Make and Appraise (DMA) process to build working models for our Science Fair entries.

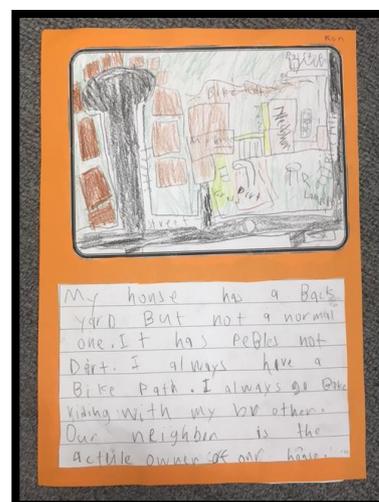
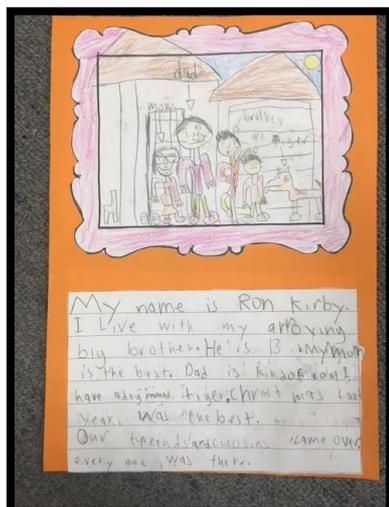
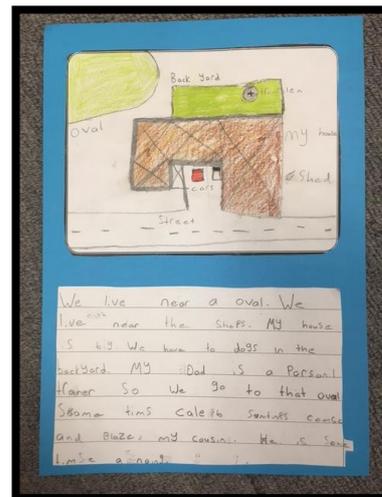
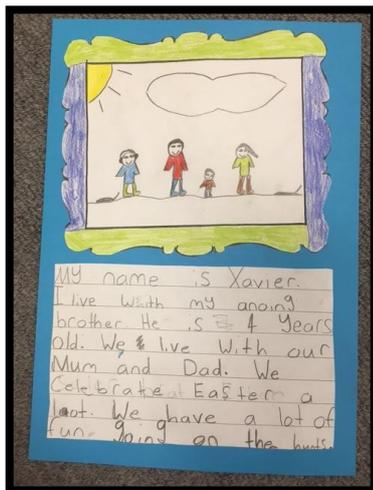
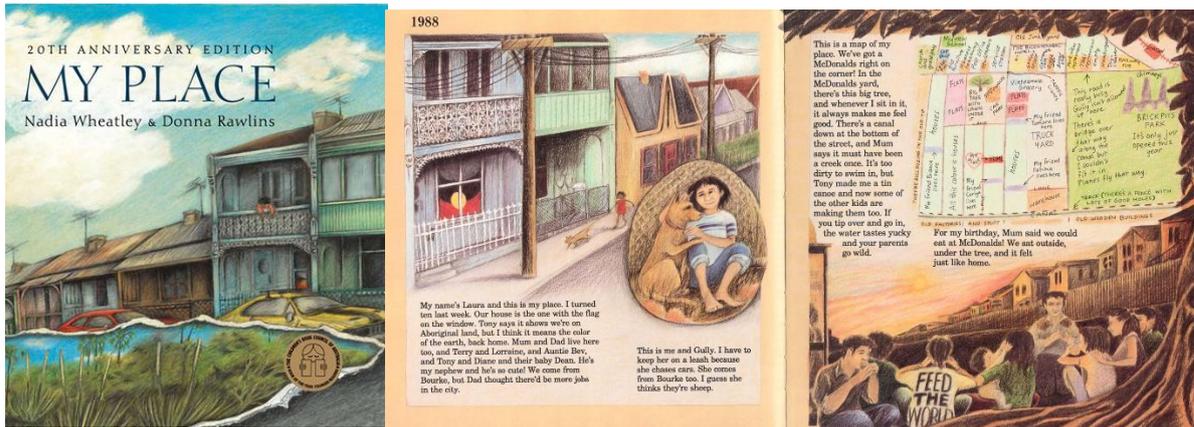


We are now exploring music and dance for our arts inquiry. Students have been learning about the significance of music and dance in different cultures. We started our inquiry by exploring the different types of sounds we can make with different types of instruments and moving our bodies by following different dance routines.



We have started exploring the lives of children over a 200 year period in **My Place by Nadia Wheatley**. The book follows the history of one particular piece of land in Sydney from 1788 to 1988 through the stories of the various children who have lived there. We discovered that as we read forward in the book, we are actually travelling back in time.

The common elements of family, home and celebrations that each of the children shares in the book, have prompted writing our own class books! We have also integrated our learning of 'place' with our current maths topic of location and mapping. It's been interesting looking at maps of our area and identifying familiar places around our homes and school. We are applying our knowledge of location and direction vocabulary to write about our neighbourhood and draw and label our own street maps.





Positive Behaviour for Learning - PBL



The past two weeks has seen students, staff and parents across the Richardson Primary community engaging in consultation about the two options for the reward system after level 3. We look forward to sharing the results of this consultation process with our families!

This fortnight (weeks 3 and 5) students have engaged in learning about the processes and procedures for online and ICT settings. Teachers and staff have been handing out 'Free and Frequent' tickets (DAB's) when they have observed this positive behaviour in students. Ask your child if they received a DAB for displaying Respectful, Positive Learner and Safe behaviour during this fortnight!

Next fortnight (weeks 6 and 7) teachers will be explicitly teaching and rewarding students for displaying correct Hallway behaviour.

This fortnight teachers have been targeting:	Next fortnight teachers will be targeting:
 <p>ICT / ONLINE</p> <div data-bbox="240 1126 595 1256"> <p>Respectful</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We handle the devices with care • We are respectful online users • We respect others privacy </div> <div data-bbox="240 1274 595 1397"> <p>Positive Learners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We use our devices for learning • We only access approved sites • We stay on task </div> <div data-bbox="240 1420 595 1545"> <p>Safe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We carry laptops with the lid closed • We keep devices in the lockers • We report inappropriate use to an adult </div>	 <p>HALLWAYS</p> <div data-bbox="906 1160 1273 1261"> <p>Respectful</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We care for students' work and displays </div> <div data-bbox="906 1303 1273 1386"> <p>Positive Learners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are aware of others learning </div> <div data-bbox="906 1429 1273 1516"> <p>Safe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We stay in class unless we have permission </div>

As always, teachers and staff are handing out DAB's for those positive behaviours we expect in all settings.

Kind regards,

Emma Vince
Internal PBL Coach



EVERYWHERE

Respectful	Positive Learners	Safe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are well mannered and speak politely • We respect school property and our environment • We put rubbish in the bin 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We participate • We do our best • We are all learners • We help others to learn • We follow teacher instructions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are in the right place at the right time • We stay in bounds • We move safely • We keep our hands and feet to ourselves • We walk our scooters and bikes

Fresh Tastes is a free ACT Government service that helps Canberra primary schools make healthier food and drinks a bigger part of life at school. Our school has been involved in Fresh Tastes for three years. We've had many achievements that have helped improve the health and wellbeing of our students, families and staff. We'd like to share our success with you!

OUR ACTION AREAS



“Our school is very conscious of modelling healthy food and drinks. The modelling, explicit teaching and exposure to healthy food and drinks in our school community has been nothing but exemplary.” - Staff member

CHANGES TO OUR FOOD & DRINK CULTURE

We have made improvements to our:

- leadership on healthy food and drinks
- partnerships with school partners, families and students
- communication
- resources
- environment
- readiness for change
- knowledge to help make our food and drink culture healthier



OUR KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- We re-established our kitchen space, which is regularly used by our school community
- We developed our food garden and are using it to teach nutrition
- Our community is more involved in healthy food and drink activities

WHAT'S MADE IT WORK FOR US

- Our fantastic Fresh Tastes action group
- Support from our school community
- Access to support and resources from Fresh Tastes
- Having appropriate school infrastructure (e.g. garden space and cooking facilities)
- Our school prioritises healthy food and drinks

Safe and Supportive Schools

Positive Behaviours for Learning

Many parents and carers will have heard about a program called Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) and wondered what it involves. PBL is a framework that schools use to get everyone – students, staff, families and the school community - on the same page to create a safe and supportive learning environment for all students. As part of the Program, schools create clear expectations and rules using positive language, for example "walk" instead of "don't run". This is done for all areas across the school and everyone involved in the school community. Students and families are involved in this decision-making process. Schools are supported in implementing PBL by an external PBL Coach and Senior Psychologist from the Education Directorate. To find out more, visit the [Positive Behaviours for Learning section of the Education Directorate website](#).

Resources for promoting safety at school and online

We all have the right to be treated with fairness and dignity. We all have the right to learn and work in a safe, respectful and supportive school environment that values diversity - an environment free from bullying, harassment, discrimination and violence. This includes at school, in the community and online.

The Education Directorate website provides information and resources to help families. It includes links to useful websites such as the eSafety Commissioner who provides strategies for families around online safety and the Student Wellbeing Hub and Bullying No Way websites that provide useful information for parents and young people. To find out more, visit the [Safe and Supportive Schools section](#) and the Being Safe Online section of the Education Directorate website.

Safe and Supportive School Contact Officers

We are committed to building a diverse and inclusive learning environment that benefits all our students. As part of this our school has two members of staff, one female and one male, who support and respond to students who may be experiencing bullying, racial or sexual harassment. They have undertaken specific training for this important role. They frequently remind students that they are available to help them with any concerns. If you would like to know more about the range of approaches we take to ensure our school is safe and supportive of all students, please talk to your child's teacher or the principal.

SCHOOL TIMES

9:00 - School Begins

11:00 - 11:15am Supervised Lunch Eating

11:15 - 11:45am Lunch Time/Play

11:45 - 1:15pm Middle Session

1:15 - 1:45pm Recess/Play

1:45 - 3:00pm Afternoon Session

Breakfast Club

A great way to start your day!

When: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday And Friday

Time: 8.40am (Mon, Tues, Wed and Fri)
8.15am (Thurs)

Venue: Canteen

Who: All students Preschool to Year 6

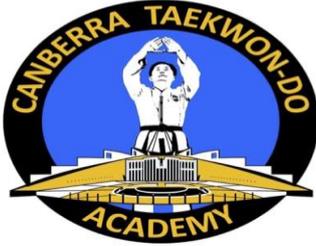
We look forward to seeing you there



Calling all volunteers! The Richardson Primary Interests and Pursuits Program starts in week 3. Come and join our team of volunteers each Friday afternoon to engage with students and their chosen learning activities!

Please contact Mrs Vince
emma.vince@ed.act.edu.au
to join our team!





Come and learn ITF Taekwon-Do in a fun and safe family-friendly environment from Australian ITF Team Representative and International Gold-Medalist, Instructor Ben Mott.



Classes held every Monday & Wednesday at 6pm in the Richardson Primary School Hall.

Contact Ben on 0431 730 025 or email ben@canberratkacademy.com.au

Special discounts for Richardson Primary Students



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Sunday 1st December

C3 Church, 184 Clive Steele Ave, Monash. Parking on site

Carols at 4.00pm Festival starts at 5.30pm

Carols will start at 4pm with an indoor picnic, feel free to bring a picnic blanket. Lots of carols will be sung, hear how we are supporting local charities and giving a helping hand to some local families doing it tough.

The free community festival will start at 5.30pm directly after the carols conclude. There will be something for everyone, petting zoo, jumping castle, obstacle course, bucking bull, face painting, balloons, and community food vendors with affordable food for the family. We will also have clowns Barney and Klutz performing every 30mins.

Gaming Awareness for Parents Session

Would you like to connect with your kids playing video games?

Are you concerned your kids are playing too many video games?

Come along and learn about the types of games being played and the good, bad and social aspects of gaming!



Wednesday 20 November
6pm

Namadgi Community Room

Light supper will be provided - gold coin donation

Childminding is available (registration essential)

Please RSVP to romney.kelly@ed.act.edu.au

