

15 October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to term 4! We are looking forward to another exciting term filled with lots of learning and personal bests. As the weather begins to warm up, we encourage our students to bring a drink bottle and SunSmart hat to wear whilst outside. Due to COVID 19 restrictions, drinking bubblers are not available. Children can refill their bottles at the drinking refill stations located on the playground.

Improve learning and achievement for all students

Next week, 2021 Preschool students and their families will be invited to attend the Preschool information evening on Monday 19 October between 4:00pm – 5:00pm. This session will answer many questions parents have about their child starting preschool. To support this important transition, information packs will be distributed at the end of the session. Invitations have been sent out via email and we ask that you RSVP by calling the front office.

Every year we provide an opportunity for prospective preschool students and their siblings under three years of age to take part in the Richardson Playgroup. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to become familiar with the environment, meet new friends and support their transition to preschool. Parents and their children are invited to attend each Thursday between 9:00am – 10:00am in the Preschool commencing Thursday 22 October (week 2).

Targeted support or Response to Intervention (RTI) will begin this week. RTI is a process our school uses to help students who are struggling with a skill or lesson. Our teachers use assessment data and other measures of progress to determine which students access the program. This term our RTI focus is on literacy skill development, particularly reading and writing, and will be delivered by our executive teachers Mr Smith, Mrs Hogan and Mrs Watling.

A much loved community event is our Book Week celebration. Next Wednesday morning children in multiaged groups similar to our RIPP structure will rotate through a series of literacy based activities that our clever and creative Book Week Committee have designed. On Tuesday the Butterfly and Cockatoo preschool groups will have their dress up day and parade and on Friday the rest of the school will have theirs. Parents are welcome to attend both parades. Also, throughout the week our senior students will be visiting all classes to read a story they have written and prepared to students during eating time.

Develop an expert teaching team

We are excited to welcome back Helen Jolley who has returned to work in the Koori preschool and LSU as a learning support person. Helen started working with us at the beginning of the year before taking some leave. The children are very happy to see her return.

Our leadership team will continue to lead professional learning in the Essential Literacy Practices with each of their teams. This will involve looking closely at each of the practices, student data and goals for effective teaching and implementation.

Our school Psychologist, Ashleigh Dolan, has changed her days this term. She will work each Wednesday and Thursday. If you would like to make an appointment with the Ashleigh please contact the school's front office on 6142 3630.

Provide a safe, inclusive and respectful school culture

This term we have brought the Breakfast Club back each morning. Students can arrive at school from 8:40am and enjoy some hot tasty toast before making their way to the playground. We are seeking interest from any parents who want to help run our Breakfast Club next term. If you would like to assist, please let me know via the front office on 61423630.

Luke, our new YWCA Club House coordinator has been busy working with the students to produce music, posters, photos and teaching them how to DJ. The group of committed students hosted their first school disco at recess today and it was a runaway success! One of our students commented to Mrs Wilson that it was the best day of her life and could we please have one every day?!

Kind regards

Brooke Calvert
Deputy Principal

SCHOOL TIMES

9:00-11:00am

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

Flexi School Lunch Orders

Healthy Kids Association welcomes you to another year of providing your school with healthy lunches.

We are a not for profit organisation and our mission is to promote and influence healthy food choices for children.

Your lunches will be delivered every Friday for the 11.00 break, lunch orders will need to be placed by 8.30am.

Order lunches online at [Flexischools.com.au](https://flexischools.com.au) or you can download the new Flexischools App. REMINDER: Please ensure you update your child's new classroom for 2020.

Looking forward to continuing our service to you.

Canteen team - Kerry & Lucy



There is a basket near the front office that is full of lost property. If your child/ren are missing anything please take the time to check the lost property basket.

Garing and Sharing



Richardson Primary School acknowledges the Ngunnawal people, the traditional custodians of this land. We would also like to pay respect to the United Ngunnawal Elders Council and to the Elders, both past and present of the Ngunnawal nation. We also extend that respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in our community.

TERM 4 STAFF 2020

Executive Team & Administration

Principal – Anna Wilson

Deputy Principal – Brooke Calvert

Executive Teacher Kindergarten & Preschool - Natalie Hogan

Executive Teacher Year 1/2 and LSU – Deborah Watling

Executive Teacher Year 3/4/5/6 – Ben Smith

Business Manager – Stephanie Bermingham

School Secretary – Marie Annesley

Building Service Officer - Branko Novakovic

Koori Preschool

Sue Turtle & Helen Jolley

Black Cockatoos / Swans Preschool Unit

Jasmin Nuzda & Glenise Henderson

Possum Magic Unit

Amie Smith - KS

Kirrang Unit

Barbara Martin – 1M

Kathryn Hope – 1/2H

LSU

Anne Tow, Kylie Crabtree & Vanessa Archer – K-4T

Iterika Unit

Cherie Lugg-Restall – 2/3F

Brett Hobbins

Brodi Allingham

Kakadu Unit

Dean Dudgeon – 3/4D

Ben Smith, Jen Glover & Tamara Blake – 5/6SG

Creative Arts Teacher – Andrew Fraser

LSA Support

Nathan Spencer

Tristan Eldridge

Library – David Hutchison

EALD – Deborah Watling

School Psychologist – Ashleigh Dolan

School Band Teachers – Evan Thomas from the Instrumental Music Program

REMINDERS

School Phone Number: 6142 3630

School email: info@richardsonps.act.edu.au

1. **Accidents at school:**

Any member of our school or local community who has an accident before, after or during school please come to the front office or ring the front office as staff trained in First Aid are available to assist, support and offer First Aid. We certainly want to know about all accidents, offer whatever support we can at the time and follow up as well as rectify any safety risks we are unaware exist around the school. Thank you for your cooperation.

2. **Allergy Aware:**



We currently have a number of children and staff with Asthma and gluten, nut, artificial colouring / preservatives allergies presenting in our school and the wider community. Our staff supervise eating duties at lunch time every day and train the children to eat their own food, NOT to share food and NOT to borrow or swap food. In particular peanut butter products, fresh peanuts or nutty muesli bars.

Richardson Primary School is a nut aware school. We ask families not to bring nuts or nut products to the school or to school activities in order to minimise exposure to students who do have allergies.

While this is an acceptable strategy to reduce the risk of exposure to known allergens, it is never possible to guarantee a school site is nut free.

Richardson Primary School cannot claim that we are nut or peanut free. Such a claim could not reliably be made and, if made, may lead to a false sense of security about exposure to peanuts and peanut products.

Some food packaging have the words 'may contain' in relation to nuts. The 'may contain' statement is voluntary information provided by the manufacturer in order to inform the consumer that the product may have been inadvertently contaminated during the manufacturing process. It does not necessarily mean that the product will contain the allergen (this information is on the ingredient list). Some children who are at risk of anaphylaxis eat the products that have the 'may contain' statement while others do not. Products with the 'may contain' statement do not need to be removed from the school.

3. Medication:

Departmental policy requires schools to ensure that: Any request for administering medications must be in writing. The medication must be accompanied by clear written instructions on the method of administration, timing and dosage, and signed by a doctor. Forms can be provided by the school upon request. We would be grateful if such letters regarding medication could be sent as soon as possible.

4. Bikes and scooters:

Bikes & scooters are to be left locked at the bike & scooter racks. The school does not accept responsibility for lost or stolen bikes or scooters. By law, a helmet must be worn while riding.



5. Canteen:

Healthy Kids Association will operate from Calwell High School and deliver lunches to Richardson Primary School every Friday at 11:00am. The menu has a variety of freshly made food and drinks that have been approved by the National Healthy School Guidelines. The ordering process has been streamlined using an online service called flexi schools where you can plan ahead and make an order the night before. All orders must be completed online

6. Children arriving after 9.00am or leaving school before 3.00pm:

If you need to keep a medical or dental appointment or for any reason, please come to the front office and sign your child /ren back into/out of school. This is for safety and security reasons so that we know exactly who is on the premises.

7. Containers for food:

Tins (especially lids) and glass containers are dangerous to have in lunch boxes. We encourage you to use reusable plastic containers at all times.



8. Current Contact Numbers:

It is **very important** that we have your current contact numbers and at least one other emergency contact number. If your child is sick or has an accident we need to be able to contact you immediately.

9. Dogs:

ACT Dog laws prohibit dogs from being on the premises (including the grounds) of primary schools at any time. For the safety of our students, dogs should not be on the school grounds. There are obvious problems when dogs use the playing areas as a toilet. We also have

some students who are very frightened by dogs.

10. Information Regarding Events, Excursions and Performances:

Please remember all notes that go home have a definite closing date. Your assistance with returning all notes, along with your permission is crucial to informing us as to whether the event can proceed or not. There is a section in the newsletter advising of coming events.

11. Liability for the Loss, Damage or Theft of Students' Personal Property at School:

Advice from the ACT Government Solicitor indicates that notwithstanding the merits of each particular incident, schools generally cannot be held responsible for the intervening acts of third parties, resulting in the loss, damage or theft of students' personal property. Parents and students are advised that schools do not provide private insurance cover to automatically compensate for the loss, damage or theft of bicycles or other personal property and nor will they be legally liable for the loss.



12. Lost Property:

Parents are requested to label all items of school clothing, as staff endeavour to ensure all labelled items misplaced are returned to their owners. All lost property is at the front office area in a basket labelled "lost property". At the end of each term, school uniform lost property items WITHOUT any identification, are washed and donated to charity. Please visit the lost property area regularly throughout each term to claim items.

13. Mobile Phones and all Electronic Equipment:

All mobile phones and electronic equipment brought to school must be left at the front office in the morning. Phones and any electronic equipment can be collected at 3pm. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

14. Playground Equipment:

The school playground equipment should only be used by students during school hours under the supervision of staff. In the interests of the safety of all children, parents should ensure that their children do not use this equipment before or after school or when a staff member is not supervising, unless of course you are there providing the supervision outside of school hours.



15. Retrieving Items from the Roof:

Mr Branko is the only staff member who has undertaken additional training regarding safety with accessing the roof. As a result, he will only be able to access the roof once a fortnight to retrieve any items that have found their way onto the roof.

16. Safety in the Car Parks:



The aim is for people to park in the various designated spaces, which have been designed to minimise the risk for children and adults, particularly as pedestrians, as they move into and out of the car parks. Double and triple parking is particularly dangerous, as children can be hidden as they move between cars. As well as the central car parking spaces in front of the school, please consider using the car parking areas marked out next to the oval or along the side streets bordering the school such as Rohan, Mack, Pritchard or Chauncy Crescents. We appreciate your cooperation, as keeping our Richardson children as safe as possible is our main focus.

17. School Psychologist:

We have a registered psychologist, Ashleigh Dolan, who can provide individual support to students, parents and teachers. Parents or carers will always be contacted to give permission for the School Psychologist to work with a child. If you wish to make an appointment contact our Deputy Principal on 6142 3630.

18. School Uniforms:

We wear GREEN AND GOLD with pride. Uniforms with the school logo are available from Savvy's at Home World Tuggeranong. Alternatively green shorts and gold polo shirts can be purchased from local providers.

19. Smoke Free:



All public school grounds in the ACT are now smoke-free. A government policy, which prohibits smoking at all government schools came into effect on January 1, 2008. It applies to all staff, departmental officers, students, contractors and visitors, including volunteers. Under the policy, smoking is no longer allowed in enclosed and open spaces, such as ovals and car parks, or in grounds managed by the ACT Department of Education and Training.

21. Student Absences:

Class rolls are marked both morning and afternoon by the class teacher each day. All student absences are recorded using the following code. An **S** for when written advice has been received by the class teacher to

explain that the student has been sick or ill for a particular day or for a specific number of days. An **L** for when written advice has been received by the class teacher to explain that the student has been on leave for a particular day or for a specific number of days. If the class teacher does not receive any information regarding a student's absence, then an **A** is recorded for the specific day. All student absences and late arrivals are totalled at the end of each term and recorded on student records. Children arriving after 9.15am are asked to report to the front office and collect a late note to take to the class teacher. Your assistance with providing information for every student absence is greatly appreciated.

22. Sun Hats and Keeping Safe at All Times:

Richardson Primary school recommends that children wear broad brimmed sun hats for Terms 1 and 4. Hats are not required to be worn in Terms 2 and 3. We ask all families to be aware and take extra care regarding safety for your child/ren wearing any earrings other than studs, necklaces, jewellery, clothing or hats which have long cords that could possibly get caught on equipment. At RPS we support the safety of all children at school.

23. Unauthorised Access to School Roofs:

Parents are reminded of the dangers inherent when children climb onto the school roof. Your support in reminding children of these dangers is requested. Signs have been erected at the school warning of dangers of accessing the school roof.

24. Volunteers and Visitors:

All visitors, classroom helpers, and volunteers must come to the front office to sign in. This is for safety and security reasons so that we know exactly who is in the building.



25. Complaint or Concerns:

Many concerns are resolved quickly and easily by discussing the matter directly with the school. Firstly speak directly to your child's teacher or talk to a member of the executive team. If you continue to be concerned please make an appointment to see your principal.

If you are not satisfied you may lodge a written complaint. The Complaints Policy and Complaints form are available from the policy section of the Directorate website: www.education.act.gov.au

You have the right to approach the ACT Human Rights Commission. Details are available from the Commission website: www.hrc.zact.gov.au/humanrights.

If you need assistance, or you would like to compliment us, contact the ACT Education and Training Directorate's Liaison Unit on 6205 5429 or visit www.det.act.gov.au/contact_us

Thank you for your cooperation in these matters.



BOOK WEEK 2020

Next FRIDAY, 23rd October, we will be having our annual Book Week Dress Up Day. Students are encouraged to come dressed up as their favourite book character.

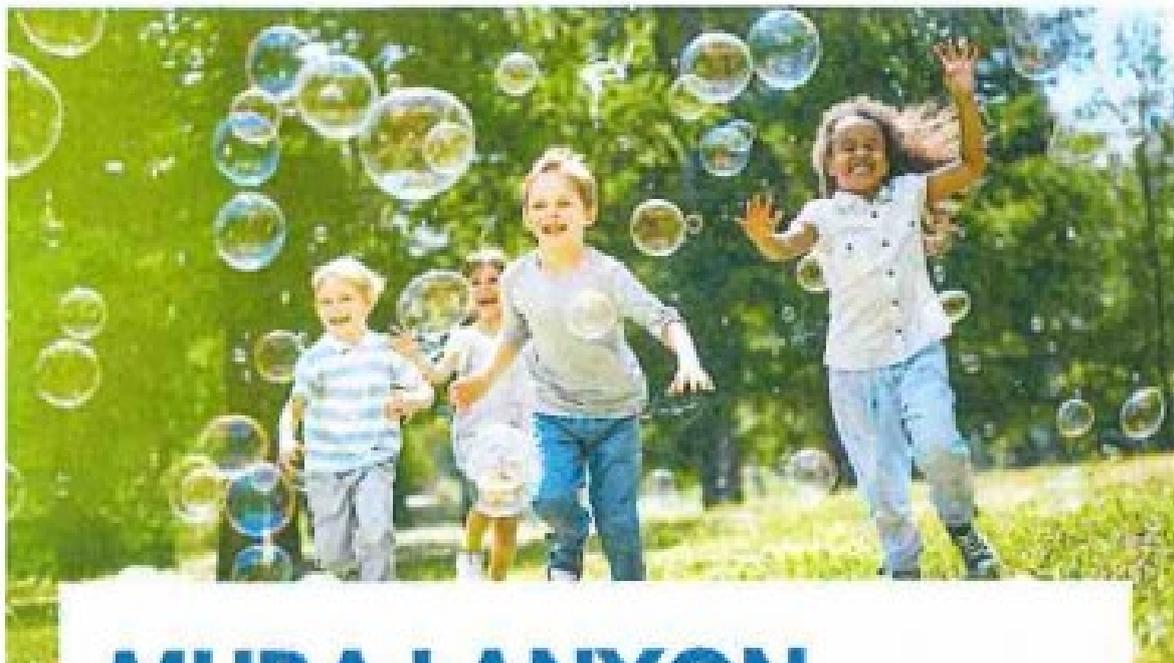


Canberra Taekwon-Do Academy. Winning Nearly all the Gold and Silver at the National Australian Championships.

Come and Join Australia's No 1 Taekwon-Do School today



Classes every Mon & Weds Night in the school Hall. Classes start at 6pm.
Contact Head Instructor and Australian Representative Ben Mott for details
0431 730 025 or Email Cantkdacademy@gmail.com



MURA LANYON PLAYGROUP

The Mura Lanyon Youth and Community Centre (MLYCC) welcomes parents and carers, and their children aged 0-5 years from the Tuggeranong area to join a weekly playgroup.

Fruit, tea and coffee provided.
Indoor outdoor play and activities.
Supportive and accessible playgroup for all.

Starting: Friday 30th October
Fridays 9:30-11am
Mura Lanyon Youth and Community Centre,
22 Sidney Nolan Drive, Conder.

Due to social distancing requirements, please call Pip on
0417459297 to attend the playgroup.



GUNGAHLIN COLLEGE
THEATRE
presents

POPSTARS

THE 90's MUSICAL
Written by Neil Gooding and Nicholas Christo
By arrangement with David Spicer Productions www.davidspicer.com.au



27-31 OCTOBER, 7.30PM
Gungahlin College Theatre | Bookings: stagecenta.com

Dinner Show: Thursday | Bookings: 02 6142 1000

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GUNGAGHLIN COLLEGE ARTS PROUDLY PRESENTS...



Covid restrictions getting you down? Desperate to get out of the house? Missing live music and theatre? Well, we have the perfect event for you!

Take a toe-tapping trip back to the 90's in the hilarious new musical **POPSTARS** and witness the epic battle between Boyband vs Girlband on the Gungahlin College Theatre stage. Presented by the Musical & Stage performance students and crewed by the Live Production Services students, this show is sure to delight! Packed with smash hits from the hyper-coloured 1990's by artists such as THE SPICE GIRLS, BACKSTREET BOYS, N*SYNC, BRITNEY SPEARS, CHRISTINA AGUILERA, MC HAMMER and many more.

***POPSTARS** is set in a school in the 1990's where Mark is head over heels in love with his girlfriend, 'Queen Bee', Shannon Van de Witt. However, when Shannon learns that pop-band impresario Simon Austin is the surprise judge at the State Talent Show she dumps him for her chance at showbiz stardom and Mark rapidly goes from High School Hero to High School Zero. However, his garage band buddies rally around him and soon a plan for revenge is hatched to change their grunge band to a boyband and snatch the Talent Show title from Shannon's 'Candy Girls.' There's just one small problem... the boys can't dance. To address this 'minor' problem Mark enlists the help of the ultra-talented, new girl, Ella to help with their boyband makeover and sparks soon fly. Can Mark get the girl, get the Grand Prize and get even with the scheming Shannon closing in? It's anyone's guess as the countdown to the Grand Finale begins. It's sure to be one to remember...*

DATES:

Tuesday, October 27 7:30PM
Wednesday, October 28 7:30PM (Cast 2)
Thursday, October 29 7:30PM (Dinner Show) **
Friday, October 30 7:30PM
Saturday, October 31 12:30AM - MATINEE (Cast 2)
Saturday, October 31 7:30PM

Location: Gungahlin College Theatre
Running time: Approximately 140 mins
Advisory Information: PG Rating
Warning: Smoke haze and flashing lights

Bookings for the evening performances: Stagecenta.com
Cost: Adults - \$25, Concession - \$15, Family - (2 Adults/ 2 Concession) \$70

****Special Thursday evening DINNER SHOW:** Available on Thursday, October 29, including a 3-course meal for only \$30/person plus your ticket price. **Please book your tickets on stagecenta.com, then call the Gungahlin College Front Office on 61421000 to pre-book and pay for your dining experience.** Places are limited, so get in quick!

Further Information: Call Gungahlin Arts on 61421013 or email crystal.mahon@ed.act.edu.au