Dates to remember:

Family Portraits
23rd October

School Disco
5th November
3-5pm
Gold coin donation

End of year sing-a-long
24th November
Leadership Team Overview

Welcome back to the final term of 2016!
We have lots of great events that mark the end of our school year throughout this term. They include:
   PIPS online testing – Kindergarten final assessment
   End of year Sing along
   Bush School – Kindergarten and year 2
   Year 1 Out and About program
   Year 2 Graduation – Thursday 15 December @9.15
   Buoyed Up Yachting program for year 2
   Reporting on student achievement
   Portfolios
   Kindergarten and Preschool Information sessions for those starting in 2017

We are currently working on our classes for 2017. If you know that you are moving schools please let us know to enable us to successfully plan our classes and the staffing required to operate that is dependent on accurate numbers.

School Readiness
The end of the school year is both exciting and sad. It can also be a scary time as children move to new settings and are faced with the unknown. Research surrounding school readiness and what is required to ensure a child flourishes throughout the formative years of schooling has found “that early development of academic literacy such as reading, writing and mathematics are of less importance than development of a child’s social, emotional and independence skills. Instead, an assessment of a child’s readings should take into greater consideration skills which create the optimal basis for children to function and constructively learn at school. Children need to be able to initiate, problem solve, communicate effectively, deal with conflict, form friendships, relating easily with teachers, adapt to different classrooms and teaching styles, to have tolerance and to take some responsibility for their own belongings, actions and behaviours. Without these skills, effective learning is significantly impeded. Some examples of social maturity are:

   Being able to separate from parent/caregiver when dropped off at the early childhood program without distress
   Taking responsibility at a basic level for own possessions . . . .
   Dealing at a rudimentary level with conflict, not hitting or hurting others when conflict or frustration occurs.
   Being able to talk with and respond to adults
   Showing an interest in peers although not necessarily a true friendship
   Following a few directions at a time without being distracted by others
   Completing task without needing lots of prompting from adults
   Making some decisions and initiating own play and work without always following the lead of others or needing lots of prompting from adults.

Source:
New Staff joining us:

This term we have Natalie Lalor joining us as our Business Manager until Sandra Trayling returns at the end of term 1 next year. Farah Junaid has done an exceptional job in this role for the past term. We valued her sharing her extensive skills in the area of finance with us and look forward to her continued work with us on some special projects this term.

Sandra Hall is joining us from Monday 17 October as our new Deputy Principal whilst Shannon Birch takes leave to look after the new edition to her family. We wish Shannon, Barney and Evan all the best with their new edition. Sandra is joining us from Miles Franklin School. She brings a great deal of experience and expertise in performing this role. We look forward to welcoming her to our team. I know she will enjoy getting to know all of our families and children.

Sarah Grainger will also be joining us later this term as she returns from her maternity leave. We look forward to her return.

Staffing 2017

We welcome the following staff who will be joining NECS next year:

Abigail Bellinger and Tahlia Bruce, both of whom have been on contract with us this year but will be with us on a permanent basis in 2017.

Cindy Treverrow will also be joining us.

NECS Street Art Commission

The 31st October deadline for the NECS Street Art Commission is rapidly approaching. The school is seeking the submission of concepts, together with costings, from all interested Canberra artists. The work will be rendered on to one of the prominent walls within our Library. For further details on this project and how to make a submission please visit the Facebook page @necsstreetart or contact Sophie for details at families.necs@gmail.com

Please like the page on Facebook to help us promote the project
Koori Preschool finished term 2 with 4 weeks of swimming lessons. The children’s improvement over the 4 weeks was remarkable and their confidence in the water improved. We thoroughly enjoyed the bus rides to and from Swimming with sightings of wild life, big trucks and also the enjoyment of singing songs, especially ‘The Wheels on the Bus’ song.

It is hard to believe we are in week 2 of term 3 already. We started the term celebrating NAIDOC week with painting with ochre, making emu feather tapping sticks and painting our faces. On Friday afternoon we joined the whole school in the hall to watch a performance from the ‘Wiradjuri Echoes’. The children were excited to see Duncan and his family after we watched them on Youtube talking about their culture. David painted the children’s faces with white paint. The boys had white hand prints to represent welcoming their ancestors and the girls had dots on their faces to represent gathering berries and nuts. The Koori Kids were invited up on stage to dance. It was a wonderful way to end NAIDOC week. We look forward to the ‘Wiradjuri Echoes’ coming back to celebrate ‘National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander’s Children Day’ with us on August 4th and teach us more about their culture.
Year 2 – Galaxy of Stars

The Year 2’s have jumped straight into their new routine this term, loving their spelling activities in the morning. We use this time to provide the children with hands on ways to engage with their spelling words so that they are able to better commit them to memory. It is obvious that many Year 2’s have been practicing their spelling words over the break as they have come back confident in acing their spelling tests.

We have begun our research into the Brain this term and are learning what each part is called and how our brain works in stressful situations.

We know that sometimes it is difficult to react properly but have been learning new meditation and mindfulness skills to help us stay calm and think of solutions.

As the weather is warming up the Year 2’s are loving being outside, we recently planted a crop of carrots, tomatoes and corn and are awaiting their shoots to sprout through the soil. We are using this keen interest in being outside to have the children plan different sports for the rest of the school to engage with outside during our lunch times. They will be in charge of setting up different activities and running them in small groups on the grassed area outside our classroom.

Buoyed Up with Tackers

Tahlia, Tina and David
Collections for our end of year raffle needed!

It's that time of year again! Narrabundah Early Childhood Yr 2 Students are organising a raffle to help cover the costs of our end of year sing-a-long and a gift presentation from Yr 2 to the school. We are hoping to be able to offer some amazing raffle prizes but need your help! If you have anything suitable to donate please drop it off to Audrey in the front office any time, any businesses can discuss with Audrey donations in exchange for advertising in our newsletters. Keep your eyes peeled for tickets going on sale in the coming weeks.
Jollybops Science Show

As part of our Children’s week celebrations the Jollybops Science Show is coming to Narrabundah Early Childhood School to present Moove and Groove with energy science show for all students in P-2.

Each show aims to bring science alive through exciting, stimulating and interactive science demonstrations. The show will increase the children’s knowledge and understanding of scientific principles and understanding. They are presented in a fun way, by the shows characters of Rusty The Robot, The Jolly Professor and The Jolly Wizard.

These shows have consistently been awarded the prestigious “Frater” award for a top ten touring act in NSW as voted by teachers and should not be missed.

When: Tuesday 25th October 2016
Where: School hall
Time: 2:00pm-3:00pm
Cost: $5.00 per child or $10.00 per family

A permission note will be sent home with children this week.

If your child does not normally attend school on Tuesdays but wish to attend the performance they need to be accompanied by an adult.
Community Breakfast

All families are invited to our ‘Community Breakfast’

When: Wednesday 26th October 2016

Time: 8.00am-8.50am

Where: School Hall
Save the Date
NECS Singalong
Thursday Evening 24 November
Picnic, BBQ and singing
Special interactive performance by
Wiradjuri Echoes

www.sutherlandact.softball.org.au

The Saturday Morning Junior Competition is played at Mawson Playing Fields from October to March (with a break for summer holidays).

We have teams for school age boys and girls:
- T-Ball (6-9 years)
- Diamond Ball (4 - 5 years)
- Softball (10+)

Contact person for the Morning Junior Competition is Mike Sargeant on 0434 148 544 or email sutherlandsoftball@gmail.com

The Saturday Afternoon Competition is played at Hawker Playing Fields.

We have teams in the competitive and social grades – so any age and experience welcome.

Contact person for the Afternoon Competition is Alan Bain on 0411 674 355 or email sutherlandsoftball@gmail.com

We also have a mixed team in the Thursday evening Slow Pitch Competition at Hawker – which doesn’t require any experience and is lots of fun! Email sutherlandsoftball@gmail.com for more information.

Did you play softball when you were younger and want to play again?

Season starts next week!
Come and Play!
ACT RURAL FIRE SERVICE
OPEN DAY & FIELD DAY

Sunday 23 October 2016 from 10am till 3pm

All you need to know about bushfire in the one place and meet the people that help protect you each bushfire season

Welcome to Country • Smoking Ceremony
firefighting demonstrations • joy flights
bushfire preparedness tips • jumping castles
face painting • petting zoo • food stalls
free parking • lucky door prize • and more...

ACTRFS helicopter base at Hume, next to Southcare, 68 David Warren Rd off the Monaro Hwy.

PREPARE.ACT.SURVIVE.  This bushfire season.

Principal— Bernadette Hayes
Board Chair— John Norgrove
Families@NECS President— Phoebe Bathgate
Communities@Work Director— Rebecca Lester
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