



# Narrabundah Early Childhood School

Learn • Develop • Nurture

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Week 6, Term 3, 2022

## Acknowledgement of Country

In the spirit of reconciliation, we acknowledge the Ngunnawal people, the traditional custodians, of the land on which we meet, learn and play.

We pay our respect to Elders past, present and future and acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and their families at our school.

We will work in partnership to create and share our stories.



Thank you to families who donated costumes or donated money towards costumes to help ensure that every child who wanted to dress up was provided with the opportunity to do so. We have a wonderful community here at NECS.

There is a famous quote by Emilie Buchwald –



## Principal's Message

### Book Week

Reading plays an important role in the life of babies, children and even adulthood. It promotes brain development, imagination, plays a critical role in language and emotional development and provides an avenue for positive relationships to develop. Book Week is a special week each year run by The Children's Book Council of Australia. It is a time to celebrate books and Australian children's authors and illustrators.

At NECS some children elected to dress up as a character from a book for dress up day.



The quote reflects the important role that caregivers play in their child's reading development from a very young age. Children often feel safe, cared for and close to a caregiver when they are being read to. It is generally a calm time, a time for undivided attention and a shared experience. If you would like to read more about the power of reading to and sharing stories with your child, I recommend you read the article below from the Raising Children Network -

<https://raisingchildren.net.au/babies/play-learning/literacy-reading-stories/reading-storytelling>

Mem Fox also has *Ten read-aloud commandments* that are worth a read –

<https://memfox.com/for-parents/for-parents-ten-read-aloud-commandments/>

### Keeping Children Safe

In last fortnight's newsletter I shared information regarding keeping children safe in the carpark and the increased responsibility drivers have in carparks linked to Early Childhood Education and Care services and schools. It is disappointing this week to learn that caregivers have had inappropriate exchanges in the carpark.

Once again, I remind people that the carpark is a very busy place between 8.00am - 9.30am and 2.30pm – 3.30pm each day. On days when it is raining the busyness goes up a notch. We urge all families using the carpark to be patient, calm and to follow the road rules. I would encourage families to allow an extra 5-10 minutes on rainy days to find a safe park. It is also important to note that many young eyes and ears are watching and listening to you, their role models. Please be respectful when interacting with others, including school staff.

We have contacted the Access Canberra and invited them to visit the carpark on occasion to help ensure people are using the carpark safely.



Lastly a reminder that Friday 9 September is a pupil free day. There will be no school on this date for children in the Red Grass Parrots, Koori Butterflies, Wombats, Emus and Bettongs. There will be minimal supervision provided for those who are unable to make alternative arrangements on this day. Please contact the front office on 6142 3828 or [info@necs.act.edu.au](mailto:info@necs.act.edu.au) at least two days prior if you require supervision for your child.

Warm Regards

Julie

## Emu Classroom

The Emus have been very busy this term. Our Year 2 students were given the fantastic opportunity to participate in the Aqua Safe program run by Royal Life Saving Australia. During these lessons the students learnt about water safety, how to safely enter the water, what to do if you fall in, how to rescue someone without putting yourself in danger and the importance of life jackets.

Everyone had a great time, and it was wonderful to see the students have a go at everything, even when they were a bit unsure



This term we are studying the physical sciences of push and pull. To begin our investigations, we build a 'Dog Treat Feeder' machine using cardboard, a tennis ball, dominoes and a toy car.

We will continue to explore push and pull and create more machines during the term.



Students have been working on identifying literacy goals that they would like to work towards. During reading and writing conferences students are given feedback on their learning and together with the teacher they come up with a learning goal that they will focus on.

Learning goals will be posted on StoryPark for families to see.

## Cultural Integrity at NECS

The NECS Cultural Integrity team have been busy curating an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander resource section within the NECS School Library. This section houses many picture story books and teaching resources available to support teachers planning and embedding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and perspectives in the classroom. Each term, NECS receives new Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander picture books through the 'Cultural Integrity' book club which are on display for educators to read and use in their teaching and learning. The book club sessions provide opportunities for educators across the ACT education Directorate to come together to share how they are incorporating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives in the classroom and to view and share new resources.

With the ease of covid restrictions, NECS hosted its first Cultural Connections afternoon for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families across P-2 to connect, meet each other and share stories and talk with staff from Gugan Gulwan. Our next Cultural Connections afternoon is on Thursday 1 September, 2:30-3:30pm.

The school would like to invite parents and carers to express their interest in helping to drive our RAP development and implementation journey. For further information, please read the Invitation to join the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) Working Group.



Your login for the survey is the email by which you received this notification, and the school code for our school NARP.

You should have received the email on the 19th August inviting you to participate in the survey.

The survey should take 5-10 minutes to complete, and you can access it from any mobile device until midnight, Friday 9 September 2022. Your participation is voluntary, but we do hope you will help.

The Education Directorate is committed to ensuring this survey is accessible for all. If you have difficulty accessing or interpreting the survey, please email [cathy.macmaster@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:cathy.macmaster@ed.act.edu.au) or telephone 02 6142 3828 for assistance.

Learn more about the survey here:

[www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/school-satisfaction-and-climate-survey](http://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/school-satisfaction-and-climate-survey)

Thank you for your participation.

## School Satisfaction and Climate Survey

**2022 School Satisfaction & Climate Survey**  
19 August - 09 September

**Your feedback will help to shape your school!**

2022 School Satisfaction and Climate Survey for parents and carers. Available online in the following languages:

Arabic, Burmese, Chinese, Hindi, Korean, Urdu, Vietnamese, Punjabi, Bengali, Spanish, Telugu, French and Italian

**ACT Government**

The 2022 School Satisfaction & Climate Survey is now open!

Dear parents and carers

As part of our continuous effort to improve ACT schools, the Education Directorate invites you to give feedback in an online survey about your experience of your child's school. Your responses will help your school to identify what it does well and how it can improve. The data will also be used to underpin school improvement practices and inform government priorities, as well as in research projects and longitudinal studies aimed at improving the quality of education services in the ACT.

The survey opened on Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> August 2022.

All personal information will be handled in accordance with the Territory Privacy Principles set out in the *Information Privacy Act 2014*. Details about how personal information is stored and used are available in our *Privacy Policy* (available at [education.act.gov.au](http://education.act.gov.au)). Your responses will be only reported and used in aggregate with responses from other students. No personal identifying information will be provided to any school or college.

Please complete the survey ONLINE at [https://acteducation.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_0SM21r8U6W56JW6](https://acteducation.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0SM21r8U6W56JW6)

Your login details:

## Lunch orders

A reminder that children in preschool to year 2 may purchase a lunch order from Communities at Work. See the attached menu for options.

There are lunch order forms at the front office. Please complete one of these, place the correct money in an envelope and place the order in the lunch order box at the front counter before 10.30am.

**communities at work**

**TERM 3 LUNCH ORDER MENU**

**Meal of the day \$4**  
Subject to variation. Childcare menu can be found on NECS website

**Sausage Roll \$4**  
Beef mince, puff pastry, mixed vegetables. Served with a side of home made tomato chutney

**Lasagne \$5**  
Beef mince, home made béchamel sauce, pasta sheets, mixed vegetables

**Spinach Puffs \$4**  
Spinach, puff pastry, ricotta cheese. Served with a side of home made tomato chutney

**Cheese Toastie \$3**  
Wholemeal Bread, tasty cheese, toasted

**Wholemeal Sandwich \$2**  
Choose from Jam, Vegemite or cheese spread on wholemeal bread

**HOW TO ORDER**  
Order forms available onsite. No change given, please provide exact cash payment at time of ordering

**Piece of fruit \$2**  
Randomly selected from available fruits (Red apple, Green Apple, Pear)

**Chocolate Milk \$3**  
200ml Devondale chocolate milk

## PBL awards



Congratulations award recipients -

Congratulations - 1 x Rise award, 1 x Inclusion award, 1 x Safety award, 1 x Excellence award
Hamish
Teddy Mc
Harper
Yindi
Jackson
Savannah L

Week 5 award recipients -

Respect	Inclusion	Safety	Excellence
Robbie	River	Abigail	Kingston
Theodore	Lily	Ranui	Nakita
Violette	Manaia	Rhys	
Eva	Morgan	Monty	
Luca		Leticia	
Amelie		Savreen	
Frida x 2		Aaliyah	
Leo		Savannah L	
		Henry	
		Nevaeh	
		Evelyn	
		Vladislav	
		Matilda	
		Colin	
		Eh Ku Soe	
		Marius	
		Alex	
		Savannah FV	

Bronze award recipients -

Bronze - 1 x Rise award, 1 x Inclusion award, 1 x Safety award, 1 x Excellence award, 1 x Congratulations award and 2 other awards
Manaia
Oumou
Bianca
Robbie
Frida
Jonah
Mia
Teddy N
Nakita
Nicholas
Madison
Amelie
Luca
Eva
Violette
Frederic M-S
Kingston
Leo

Week 6 award recipients -

Respect	Inclusion	Safety	Excellence
Curtis	Phoebe	Eh Ku Soe	Ranui
Colin	Leo	Morgan	Henry M
Walter	Oumou		Vladislav
Alice	Duke		Harley
Henry L	Fred G		Savannah FV

Communities at Work - Manager update

The upcoming September school holiday program will be open for enrolments in Week 7 and the booking form is attached along with hard copies available from the Communities at Work office (next to Julie's office), the front office and from the Out of School Hours Care team. If you are not an existing family you will need to complete a full enrolment pack (not just the SHP booking form) and be assessed for the Child Care Subsidy.

Please return these via email to [necs@commsatwork.org](mailto:necs@commsatwork.org), or directly to our office.

[https://necs.schoolzineplus.com/\\_file/media/2584/c\\_wseptember\\_2022\\_shp\\_booking\\_form.pdf](https://necs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/2584/c_wseptember_2022_shp_booking_form.pdf)

To learn more about Reconciliation Australia's Narragunnawali program and RAP development process, you may also like to visit: [www.reconciliation.org.au/narragunnawali](http://www.reconciliation.org.au/narragunnawali)

## Communities at Work - Wombats Room

Over the past few weeks, the children in the Wombats room have explored a variety of different indoor and outdoor activities. Inside we have been focusing on literacy building up to book week. We redesigned our reading corner to make it more inviting and cosy which the children have been enjoying. We have also been enjoying STEM experiences celebrating science week, with children had lots of fun with our sensory ocean slime experience. Outside we have been enjoying our new tricycles and outdoor equipment, the children have been having fun exploring the natural environment and engaging in physical play. The children have been developing their gross and fine motor skill development as well as engaging in social play to build their communication development.

## Invitation to join the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) Working Group

Narrabundah Early Childhood School's (NECS) **Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)** aims to support our school community in developing an educational environment that fosters higher levels of knowledge and pride in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories cultures and contributions. Through our RAP, we commit to strengthening relationships, respect and opportunities in the classroom, around the school and with the community.

Developing and implementing our RAP is a long-term commitment that requires ongoing consideration and collaborative effort. Within our community, there is unique knowledge and valuable experience that we would love to see reflected in the Actions that we commit to in our RAP. Therefore, to ensure our RAP creates meaningful and sustainable change, we would like to seek your support.

The school would like to invite parents and carers to express their interest in helping to drive our RAP development and implementation journey.

If you would like to be involved in any way with the development and ongoing implementation of our RAP, including being part of the RAP Working Group, please contact Donna Seal, Community Coordinator, phone: 61423828 or email: [donna.seal@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:donna.seal@ed.act.edu.au) to discuss further.

Narrabundah Early Childhood School (NECS) would like to take this opportunity to thank our parent/carer RAP Working Group members Chantelle Hoolihan; Joshua Roberts and Donna Fitzgerald-Verrent for your continued support to help drive our RAP development and implementation.

## Wear It Purple

It was great to see so many children and families embrace Wear It Purple Day today. At NECS this represents our commitment to inclusion and diversity. Everyone is welcome at NECS.



## Front Office Notices



The Meerkat productions incursion permission and payment are due back now for Kangaroos, Green Grass Parrots, Bettongs, Emus and Wombats. The note is attached for your convenience.

[https://necs.schoolzineplus.com/\\_file/media/2538/final\\_meerkat\\_productions\\_note.pdf](https://necs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/2538/final_meerkat_productions_note.pdf)



The National Museum of Australia excursion permission note and payment are due back now for the Wombats, Bettongs and Emus. The note is attached for your convenience.

[https://necs.schoolzineplus.com/\\_file/media/2539/permission\\_note\\_nma\\_final.pdf](https://necs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/2539/permission_note_nma_final.pdf)

## Future of Education Equity Fund

Applications are now open for Future of Education Equity Fund – Round 2, 2022.

The ACT Government's expanded Future of Education Equity Fund provides financial assistance to low-income families (and independent students) with students in years P-12 to meet the costs of education expenses, such as school uniforms, school excursions, sport equipment and activities and music lessons through a one-off payment.

The Future of Education Student Equity Fund Round 1 opened in late 2021 for families with students in years 7-10. Round 2 is only open to families who have NOT already applied for and/or received payment to support their students in the 2022 school year using a paper-based form.

The following payments are available to those who meet the eligibility criteria:

- \$400 for preschool students
- \$500 for primary school students
- \$750 for high-school and college students

2022 applications close 30 September 2022. Only applications received by this date will be processed. There is no limit on the number of students for whom each applicant can apply, providing they meet all conditions.

### Eligibility Criteria

*Applicants must:*

Reside in the ACT

Have sole or shared parental responsibility for a dependent student(s) in grades P-12; or be an independent student

Be financially responsible for the student(s)

Demonstrate low-income status through:

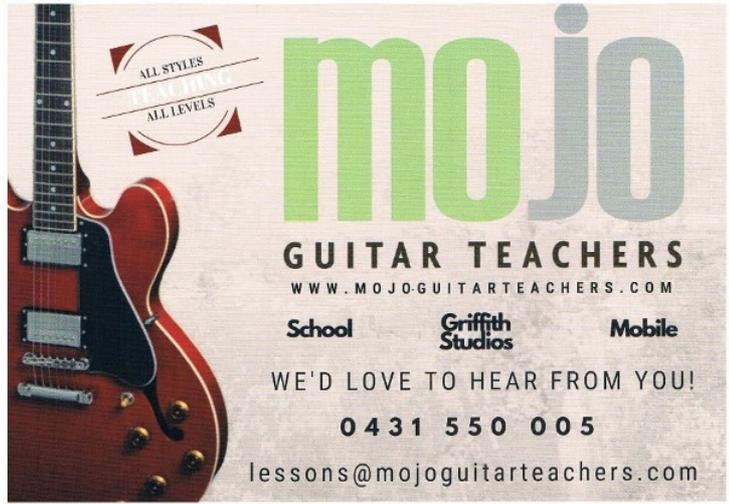
- a current means-tested Health Care Card or Centrelink card, which must list the student(s) as dependents; or
- alternative forms of evidence proving low-income status or equivalent financial stress.

*Students must be:*

- Enrolled full-time in a public or non-government school in the ACT in years P-12. NOTE: For the purposes of the Equity Fund, a preschool is defined as a preschool that is attached to an ACT school and led by a Principal. When applying online, only eligible preschools will appear in a drop-down list.
- Enrolled in an approved form of education other than a school and of an equivalent age to a student in years K-12 e.g. attending the Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT), or registered for home-schooling in the ACT.
- Residing with the applicant in the ACT, or in special government care that is paid for by the applicant or be independent.

Visit the Education Directorate, Support for our students, financial and resource assistance for families webpage more information and to apply <https://www.education.act.gov.au/support-for-our-students/financial-and-resource-assistance-for-families>

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