



Narrabundah Early Childhood School

Learn • Develop • Nurture

23-27 Kootara Crescent
Narrabundah ACT 2604
Subscribe: <https://necs.schoolzineplus.com/subscribe>

Email:
Phone: 02 6142 3828



Week 10, Term2, 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.



Principal's Message

Survey about school hours

At NECS we are continually looking for ways to improve. At the moment we are seeking information from the NECS community about ways to retain enrolments until the end of year 2 and the timing of the school day at NECS. Currently all Education Directorate preschool and K-2 classes at NECS operate 9am - 3pm.

We know that many families at NECS need to do more than one school drop off and pick up each morning and afternoon due to our school ending at year 2. We also know that this can mean that when the year 2 child exits NECS that often the younger sibling leaves too due to the competing school drop offs. We are keen for as many children to stay at NECS until the end of year 2 as possible.

We are seeking input from families to know if we changed the NECS school day to 8.45am - 2.45pm if this would assist families.

School days for our two closest ACT Public Schools are

Red Hill Primary School - 9.10am - 3.15pm

Forrest Primary School - 9am - 3pm

It is important to note this is just a consultation. We are purely seeking information from the NECS community. Please complete the survey via the link - https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeQwIDYYOdIOB0B7JuCJ2eRaSzb7fehJGUU43-njUMLTBEtOQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

Reconciliation – Sea of Hands

Have you noticed the beautiful new display on the side fence? During Reconciliation Week all children at NECS created a hand for our own 'Sea of Hands'. 25 years ago, the Sea of Hands first appeared as a powerful statement of solidarity with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. I encourage you to have a look at the display, it supports our Reconciliation Action Plan and our ongoing commitment to Reconciliation.



Swings

Have you seen our new swings? The children took great delight in watching the swings being constructed last week. We created an observation gallery, that was very popular. The tradespeople were friendly and happy to explain what they were doing to the children. We have received the final safety certificate and the fence came down yesterday.

We will be implementing processes to ensure the swings are shared. We have initially created a timetable for classes to use

the swings on allocated days and there is a timer. We anticipate that in time these processes will be reduced as the novelty factor wears off.

The swings have been installed with a timber edge as an added safety barrier. This has been included in the design to help create a visual and physical barrier to reduce the chance of children running in front of or behind the swings whilst they are in use.



To families who are travelling over the school holiday period we wish you safe travels. We look forward to welcoming everyone back next term.

Term 3 return dates are as follows:

Monday 18 July - Green Grass Parrots, Kangaroos, 3 year old Butterflies, Wombats, Emus and Bettongs

Thursday 21 July - Red Grass Parrots and Koori Butterflies

Warm Regards

Julie

3 Year Old Butterflies Classroom

We have had a wonderful ten weeks of learning and exploring as we move into Term 3 in the amazing 3 year Old Butterfly room. The Butterflies have made amazing connections through print and engaged in many rich conversations with educators and peers through some of our favourite books including Dear Zoo, The Hungry Caterpillar and The Little Red Hen.

We have seen many creative sparks fly as we interpreted our amazing artwork. The children have had the opportunity to link these to our focus text or to just let their imaginations take them on a journey of their own.



During this term we have been working hard on not only getting our minds strong but our bodies as well with our weekly Gross Motor sessions in the hall. We love using our big muscles as we run, jump, balance and slither to some of our favourite songs. With an amazing term of fun and growth, I can hardly wait for Term 3.



Have a lovely break and we look forward to hearing about all of all your adventures when we return to school for another amazing term.



Cross Country

On Wednesday 22 June K-2 children had a beautiful morning at Red Hill Primary School running the cross country. The top three place getters in each group were -

Kindergarten boys - 500m

1. Teddy
2. Hudson
3. Jonah

Kindergarten girls - 500m

1. Manaia
2. Laura
3. Lylanoor

Year 1 boys - 500m

1. Luca
2. Walter
3. Duke

Year 1 girls - 500m

1. Nakita
2. Amelie
3. Eva

Year 2 boys - 1km

1. Marius

- 2. Alex
- 3. Fred

Year 2 girls - 1km

- 1. Savannah
- 2. Olivia
- 3. Cali

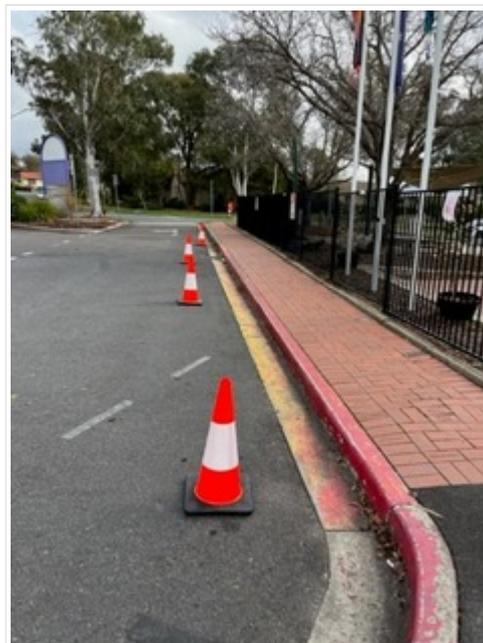
The Red Hill Primary School year 6 house captains were truly fabulous. They were so kind and encouraging to each and every child. They ran the track with every group of children, cheered them on and helped at the finish line. We have awarded them RISE certificates to thank them for their help.

Thanks to all of the supporters who came out to watch and cheer the children on. Your support was appreciated.

There are a collection of photos below. Please note a) not all children wanted to be photographed b) one of my photographer helpers has cropped off a few people!



The yellow line indicates this is a no parking space. We have begun putting out the cones again each day to remind people not to park here.



The parking signs indicate where cars may safely stop.



Communities At Work - Wombats Room

Over the past few weeks children have explored various indoor and outdoor learning experiences including, using sticker to follow aboriginal patterns, lady bugs counting and matching activities, shape recognition/matching using tongs and sorting colours.

These indoor activities were planned to improve their familiarity with aboriginal patterns and their meanings. Also, to support and enhance their hand eye coordination, cognitive, fine motor and numeracy skills. Outdoor activities included sand pit play, balancing beam, stepping stones and riding bikes . These activities helped them with their gross and fine motor skills development. They worked on their social skills development as well.



Parking

A reminder to families to only park in allocated parking spaces during drop off and pick up. Schools are busy places 8.45-9.10am and 2.50-3.10pm each day. By parking in allocated car spaces you are helping to keep children safe.

Thank you for helping to keep children safe.

Term 3 Pupil Free Days

Dear parents and carers,

Staff planning (pupil free) days in term 3

Thank you for your support in term 2. We are pleased to have transitioned back to more usual school activities and have welcomed the easing of some COVID-19 restrictions.

ACT public schools have continued to face workload pressures with higher than usual staff and student absences due to the ongoing presence of COVID-19 and seasonal flu in the community.

This has often meant school leaders and teachers are taking extra class time to cover staff absences. We value and appreciate everyone's commitment to our students during these challenging times.

We expect these workforce pressures will continue through the colder months of the year.

The Education Directorate is supporting ACT public schools to manage their extra workloads with two staff planning days in term 3. These days will give teachers the time for lesson planning and administrative tasks that they can't do while on class.

Our school will hold staff planning (pupil free) days on:

Friday 5 August 2022 and Friday 9 September 2022.

Where possible, we ask that students do not attend school on these days. Students who can't stay at home will be able to attend school and be supervised while undertaking general learning activities.

Please confirm via phone on 6142 3828 or email if your child will be attending school on these days.

If you have any further questions about public school staff planning days, please reach out to our front office.

Keyak	Bianca	Harley	Cruz
Lylanoor	Luca	Abigail	
Naomi	Jonah	Aaliyah	
	Ashwin A	Grace	
	Conan	Lloyd	
		Leticia	
		Siena	
		Teddy N	
		The Wombats	
		Laura	
		Pippin	
		Isaiah	

Congratulations certificates are awarded to students who have received one Respect, one Inclusion, one Safety and one Excellence award.

Byron
Keyak
Pippin
Ellie

Week 10 award recipients -

Respect	Inclusion	Safety	Excellence
Duke	Marius	Alice	Eh Ku Soe
Jonah	Austin	Savannah FV	Eli
Mia	Oumou	Amandla	
Byron	Manaia	Lylanoor	
	Amelie		

PBL Awards



Week 9 award recipients -

Respect	Inclusion	Safety	Excellence
Byron	Alpha	Eloise	Curtis
Max	Amandla	Anna	Harper

NAIDOC Week

https://necs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/2314/naidoc_week_community_events_taking_place_in_the_act.pdf
https://necs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/2315/naidoc_week_newsletter_2022.pdf

How Did NECS acknowledge and celebrate NAIDOC Week?

Children preschool to year 2, had a wonderful day learning on Country at Birrigai to acknowledge and celebrate NAIDOC Week which falls in the first week of the July school holidays, from 3-10 July.

When we arrived at Birrigai it was so lovely to see and connect with the Birrigai staff who came and taught at NECS in October 2021 when NECS school staff were isolating. Our day began with morning tea in the beautiful outdoor landscape of Birrigai where the children performed an acknowledgement of Country on Country.

On the Sensory Bush Walk, children learnt about how Ngunnawal Peoples used plants for bush medicine, for example, if you had a wound, the leaves from the tea-tree plant were used as an antiseptic to clean the wound and the leaves from the curry plant were rolled and applied like a band-aid. We walked to the rock shelter; a shelter used by Ngunnawal Peoples for thousands of years. Children enjoyed exploring the rock shelter; thinking about how it might have been used by First Nations Peoples, and enjoyed the challenge of climbing through to the other side.

Children also participated in the 'Passport to Nature' program where they had the opportunity to cook an apple on the campfire and engage in a range of experiences such as leaf threading, natural dye print making, a rainbow scavenger hunt (looking for natural items of various colours), using binoculars and magnifying glasses to locate natural wildlife as well as time to explore the natural surroundings of Birrigai. Children were very curious to identify the animal that the animal droppings belonged to. Did you know that Wombat's poo is shaped like a cube?



range of other props to engage children and their parents and/or carers in a developmentally, fun and musical environment.

At Move and Groove children 0-4 years and their parents and/or carers can:

- Learn new songs and musical games.
- Explore percussion instruments, drums, ribbons, puppets and parachute.
- Move and Groove to the music.
- Enjoy active play.
- Make new friends.
- Enhance child development.

Move and Groove is on Tuesdays from 9:15am-10:45am (weeks 2-8) during school term in the library. Please bring a healthy morning tea and sunhat for your child/ren.

A gold coin donation is appreciated to assist with the cost of the program.

For further information please contact Donna Seal, Community Coordinator on 6142 3828, email:



HPE

This term we have been working on some fundamental movement skills, running, jumping, throwing and catching. We have been exploring these skills through playing a variety of games such as Octopus, Emu, Rob the nest and Relays. Maybe you could ask your child to teach you something they have learnt during HPE? The school break is a perfect time to get out and try something new, like a hike in one of our beautiful national parks, or maybe you and your family could try conquering Mount Taylor!

It has been awesome seeing everyone's enthusiasm about giving these skills a good try. We were lucky enough to put our running skills to the test at the Cross-Country carnival, held at Red Hill on Wednesday the 22nd of June. Well done to everyone that gave it their best!

Move and Groove

Move and Groove is a fun music program facilitated by a Music Therapist and the school's Community Coordinator. Facilitators use musical instruments, puppets, parachute and a

Be You



Be You is a national initiative for educators, aimed at promoting and protecting positive mental health in children and young people. Be You provides educators with knowledge, resources and strategies for helping children and young people achieve their best possible mental health.

Narrabundah Early Childhood School is committed to a whole-school approach to promote mental health and wellbeing. This semester, educators will engage with the 'Family Partnership' domain of the Be You Professional Learning. This term educators engaged with the Be You, 'Assist' module which focused on partnering with families to support positive mental health outcomes for children.

Summary of the Be You 'Assist' module states that for most people, the home environment and family relationships have the biggest impact on later life outcomes. Children and young people who grow up in a nurturing family environment are

more likely to experience better health outcomes in adulthood. Protective factors within the family include strong and stable relationships, supportive parenting, and consistency in routines and limits. Families can boost protective factors by taking the time to listen, helping children and young people to feel understood and loved, taking time to have fun, and helping children and young people learn coping skills.

In healthy family relationships, people communicate well and trust and rely on each other for support, love, affection and warmth. Conflicts, which are a normal part of family life, are dealt with in a safe and respectful way. Children and young people can also be exposed to risk within the family, such as family conflict, inconsistent parenting, family violence, child abuse, neglect, mental health issues, substance abuse or financial difficulties (Be You, Assist Professional Learning Summary).

At NECS, educators are available to support families by:

- Being open, approachable and understanding.
- Providing information such as age-appropriate behaviour and developmental milestones.
- Providing options for families to choose from when and if they want information and services.

At raisingchildren.net.au they provide free, reliable, up-to-date and independent information to help your family grow and thrive together, including preschooler and school-age development resources. Also, please see a list of [useful resources](#) listing information and resources for your family.

Families can learn more about the [Be You](#) initiative and access resources, such as [Fact Sheets](#) and visit the [Beyond Blue's Healthy Families](#) website. If you have any question regarding the Be You initiative please don't hesitate to contact our Community Coordinator, Donna Seal, email: [\[email protected\]](#)

The [Be You Families](#), [Be You Early Learning](#), [Be You Primary](#) and [Be You Secondary](#) Facebook pages offer great links to information and resources for all families and educators.

Barnardos

https://necs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/2313/cp_brochure.pdf

Holiday Happenings

https://necs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/2312/newsletter_advert.pdf