



Narrabundah Early Childhood School

Learn • Develop • Nurture

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

Email: info@necs.act.edu.au
Phone: 02 6142 3828



Week 10, Term 1, 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

As term 1 draws to a close I would like to thank staff for their flexibility and commitment to providing high quality learning to children in challenging circumstances. I also want to extend my thanks to families for keeping children home when they are unwell and communicating with us regarding COVID exposures in your house. This term has not been easy for anyone and unfortunately, I am not confident it is going to improve anytime soon.

We will start term 2 on the same COVID restrictions we are on now. Please know as soon as ACT Health guidelines permit families to enter the school, we will welcome you in with open arms. We understand that families are seeking to see their child/ren's classrooms, have more time to speak with teachers and educators and we look forward to welcoming you back in as soon as we have permission to do so.

Parenting is time consuming and can be a tough gig. Having the time to read a book can sometimes elude us but you may have time to listen to a podcast whilst driving to and from work or running errands. Today I would like to recommend two podcast series.



Parental as Anything with Maggie Dent: Maggie Dent, one of Australia's favourite parenting authors and educators gives you practical tips and answers to your real-world parenting dilemmas. Maggie talks to parenting experts from around the world to find practical solutions to the challenges every parent is facing today. She'll help you be the parent you really want to be and give you ideas on how you can raise healthy kids who thrive.



The Sue Larkey Podcast: This podcast gives you some insight into how Sue got into Autism Spectrum Disorder education, what motivates her and what to expect from this podcast. Sue Larkey enlightens, and entertains with valuable insights into Autism Spectrum Disorder, ADHD, ODD and PDA. Covering strategies from the Early Years to Teens Years and Beyond. Join Sue as she shares simple yet effective tips, supports and strategies on a range of topics including social skills, communication and positive behaviour support. You will find later in the newsletter a range of information from ACT Libraries. ACT Libraries offer a wide range of programs for children and families. Today I am including their 'Language Development & Literacy Support for 0-12 year olds'. I encourage you to take a look.

https://necs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/1956/language_development_and_literacy_support_programming.pdf

Please take care over the Easter break. If you are travelling, please drive carefully and we look forward to seeing you all in term 2.

Back to school dates are as follows:

- K-2 (Wombats, Bettongs & Emus) – Tuesday 26 April
- 3-year-old Butterflies – Tuesday 26 April
- Green Grass Parrots – Tuesday 26 April
- Kangaroos – Tuesday 26 April
- Red Grass Parrots – Thursday 28 April
- Koori Butterflies – Thursday 28 April

Warm Regards

Julie

2023 Enrolments

Enrolments will soon open for places in preschool, kindergarten, year 1 and year 2 at NECS for the 2023 school year. To learn more about enrolling your child at NECS we encourage you to watch the following video - <https://www.necs.act.edu.au/>

Online enrolments for the 2023 school year will open from 6am on Tuesday 26 April 2022. This is for all students from Preschool to Year 12.

The enrolment link can be found on the ACT Education Directorate website or via this link:

<https://form.act.gov.au/smartforms/servlet/SmartForm.html?formCode=1087>

To learn more about enrolling at an Early Childhood School we encourage you to watch the following video - https://www.necs.act.edu.au/our_school/principals_message

A special reminder to families with children in year 2 this year. You will need to enrol your child in a school for year 3 in 2023 via this process.

https://necs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/1939/2023_enrolments_at_necs.pdf

Red Grass Parrot Classroom

The Red Grass Parrots celebrated Harmony Day on Thursday. They have been busy engaging in a range of activities and experiences relating to Harmony Day. We read The Rainbow Fish and discussed sharing with others, like the Rainbow Fish did in the end. The class then made a fish Harmony Day display as 'We are individual fish but all swim together in this school'. We read 'I like Myself' and discussed how we may be different on the outside we are the same inside. The children then made a face for our Harmony Day 'Every face has a place' display. Several children in the class came in cultural dress for the day which was wonderful. We sang some songs that also celebrate

diversity and different cultures. The class really enjoyed the skittle and water rainbow experiment. The Red Parrots have enjoyed building with the magnetic construction and wooden blocks, painting their own Rainbow Fish and creating 'magic' paintings with candle wax and watercolours.

Your partners in Education

Kim and Toni



New P-2 Lunch Order menu

We are very excited to announce that based on family feedback, Communities at Work have created a new lunch order menu for children in preschool to year 2. Please see the attachments below for more information regarding the new menu which will be in operation starting term 2. Please note that exact payment must be made in full at the time of ordering. Children must place their lunch order in the box in the front office by 10am on the day of ordering. If you have any questions about the lunch menu please contact Michelle or Molly at Communities at Work on 6142 3824.

https://necs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/1940/term_2_lunch_order_menu.pdf

https://necs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/1951/term_2_meal_of_the_day_menu.pdf

Communities at Work - Koalas Room

This month in the Koalas room, the children have been learning all about the season Autumn. This has helped with their colour recognition skills as they collected and identified the different coloured leaves. The educators have also been discussing the colour change in the leaves during group time and re-enacting how they fall from the trees. The children have loved exploring Autumn themed art as well by painting cardboard leaves in the Autumn colours, supporting their fine motor skills and creativity. They have been practicing their helping, nurturing, and caring skills as well by giving the baby dolls a bath and drying them off with a towel. The children loved this experience as it is one of their many developing interests. During this month, we also celebrated Harmony Day by making handprints with the colour orange. Throughout this experience the educators would also discuss with the children that regardless of our background or circumstances, everyone belongs.



Communities at Work Manager Update

If you are still wanting to book a day or two in the school holiday program the attached booking form for currently enrolled families. For new families you will need to complete a full enrolment to the service by requesting an enrolment pack from necs@commsatwork.org

There are some exciting changes to the menu for Term 2 which we are sure families will enjoy the healthy and nutritious options available. Ordering will continue to be via order forms placed at gated entrances.

Move and Groove



WEEK 1		WEEK 2	communities at work  MARRABUNDHA EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICE A new adventure every day!  Please bring morning tea, lunch, a hat and a drink bottle.
MON	Service Day 11 April Get ready for a fun-filled day in the service, organised by our educators, tailored to your interests. Imagine a range of activities, from science, art, cooking, active games, play... whatever strikes the mood! Feel free to share your ideas with them too and they'll do their best to include them. In Service All Day	PUBLIC HOLIDAY 18 April	
TUE	Service Day 12 April Get ready for a fun-filled day in the service, organised by our educators, tailored to your interests. Imagine a range of activities, from science, art, cooking, active games, play... whatever strikes the mood! Feel free to share your ideas with them too and they'll do their best to include them. In Service All Day	Service Day 19 April Get ready for a fun-filled day in the service, organised by our educators, tailored to your interests. Imagine a range of activities, from science, art, cooking, active games, play... whatever strikes the mood! Feel free to share your ideas with them too and they'll do their best to include them. In Service All Day	
WED	Nick the Stockman 13 April Nick the Stockman and his canine companion Ted are coming to visit us today to tell us all about life on a farm in the outback. We will be making damper, billy tea and will get an awesome whip-cracking demonstration. Inclusion 8:30 am	Strings Attached 20 April Get ready to spark your imagination in this hands-on learning experience with a moose puppeteer. We will get to play with all sorts of amazing puppets before putting on our very own puppet show! Inclusion 12 pm	
THU	Service Day 14 April Get ready for a fun-filled day in the service, organised by our educators, tailored to your interests. Imagine a range of activities, from science, art, cooking, active games, play... whatever strikes the mood! Feel free to share your ideas with them too and they'll do their best to include them. In Service All Day	Service Day 21 April Get ready for a fun-filled day in the service, organised by our educators, tailored to your interests. Imagine a range of activities, from science, art, cooking, active games, play... whatever strikes the mood! Feel free to share your ideas with them too and they'll do their best to include them. In Service All Day	
FRI	PUBLIC HOLIDAY 15 April	Service Day 22 April Get ready for a fun-filled day in the service, organised by our educators, tailored to your interests. Imagine a range of activities, from science, art, cooking, active games, play... whatever strikes the mood! Feel free to share your ideas with them too and they'll do their best to include them. In Service All Day	

Should you need to contact the rooms directly throughout the day when your child is in attendance the numbers are:

Koalas: 61420034

Wombats: 61420031

Platypuses: 61420026

School Holiday Program and OSHC: 0481 462 733

Kind Regards,

Michelle

In term 2, 2022 the school is offering families the opportunity to participate in Move and Groove via Zoom, on Tuesdays between 9.30am-10.00-10.15am.

Move and Groove is a fun music program facilitated by a Music Therapist. The Music Therapist uses musical instruments, puppets, and a range of other props to engage children and their parents and/or carers in a developmentally, fun and musical environment.

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

- Learn new songs and musical games.
- Explore instruments at home (eg. pots and pans, spoons...)
- Move and Groove to the music.
- Enjoy active play.
- Enhance child development.

If you are interested in joining Zoom Move and Groove please contact Donna Seal, Community Coordinator phone: 6142 3828, mobile: 0480 266 493 or email: donna.seal@ed.act.edu.au

ACT Play space upgrades

Get involved in selecting equipment and amenities you'd like to see for an upgrade to a play space in Ngunnawal, Chisholm, Gordon and Aranda. Have your say on:

- new play equipment including climbing structures, balancing equipment and swings
- new amenities such as bike racks, furniture and shade trees
- safety and accessibility upgrades like lighting, fencing or path improvements
- diverse play elements such as nature play, basketball hoops, fitness equipment and learn to ride tracks to cater to diverse age groups, and all abilities play elements like basket swing.

Provide feedback on [YourSay](#) or by emailing the project team at communityengagement@act.gov.au. There's also an opportunity to ask questions on a Q&A public forum on

YourSay. Feedback from the community will provide information on the most popular play space equipment and amenities within each suburb to inform the design process. Consultation closes Thursday 5 May 2022.



			Tamika Colin
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Week 10 PBL awards:

Respect	Inclusion	Safety	Excellence
All 3-year-old Butterflies	River Gursaanjh	Caesar Florence	Koda Rubi
Lincoln	Max	Angus	Savannah
Jaidyn	Mia	Mia	Violette
Robert		Naomi	Eva
Keyak			Lylanoor Duke Kyeson

Congratulations Certificates are awarded when a child has received one Respect, one Inclusion, one Safety and one Excellence award.

PBL awards



Congratulations Certificates	
	Naomi
	Mia
	Angus
	Laura
	Conan

Family Partnerships



Week 9 PBL awards:

Respect	Inclusion	Safety	Excellence
Cruz	Adela	Abigail	Rhys CT
Alex CG	Morgan	Aaliyah	Matilda
Alice			Evelyn
Nicholas			Mia C
Chloe D			Angus
			Hudson
			Eh Ku Soe
			Savannah

The research consistently shows that partnering with families is considered a key factor to supporting positive mental health outcomes for children. Be You describes a partnership as a collaborative relationship between people who agree to share responsibility and work together towards a common goal. The school recognises that families are their children's first and most influential educators. NECS is committed to forming genuine partnerships with parents and carers to develop a positive, inclusive and resilient learning community where every child, educator and family can achieve their best possible mental health.

Part of our commitment to creating a mentally health community is to enhance our school community's understanding of the concepts of mental health and wellbeing

in children. As a whole school we engage with the Be You Professional Learning and participate in rich conversations about each topic. This term, educators engaged with the Be You online 'Partnering with families - Partner' module.

Key points from our professional discussion included:

- Effective communication between the school and parents and carers forms the foundation for developing and maintaining strong partnerships at NECS.
- The benefits of strong educator-family relationships, with research consistently showing their importance to social and emotional wellbeing and academic achievement.
- The development of positive relationships between families and educators takes time and effort from all parties.
- By partnering with families, we can strengthen the network of relationships essential for children and young people's mental health and social and emotional learning.

One of the next steps to progress parental engagement at NECS is to reflect on our existing practices and plan for improvement. Part of our improvement strategy is to explore the use of the Family-School Partnerships Framework to guide best practice.

We would like to hear from parents and carers about the school's approach to partnering with families. If you have any suggestions and/or feedback about how the school could improve family-school partnerships please contact our Community Coordinator, Donna Seal, email: donna.seal@ed.act.edu.au or phone: 61423828

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.

ACT Libraries

Rediscover your local library these school holidays. From making solar ovens and iconic Canberra bus stops, to mind boggling Qwestacon displays, there is plenty of free holiday entertainment at a library near you. Some events and sessions include:

Woden Library Open Day – 20 April 2022

Popcorn & PJs: Grab your pillow and some snacks and join us for kids' movies at the Woden and Dickson Library.

Paper Pilots: Learn how to make paper planes designed by the Australian Air Force (sessions for various skill levels, ages 6 to 10+).

Vote 4 Me – Story Time & Craft: Enjoy a story, craft and fun election role play with author Krys Saclier.

Pom Pom Planets: Learn about space, planets and our solar system while creating your own pom pom planets (ages 5 to 8).

Special holiday Story Times (ages 3 to 5) and Giggle & Wiggles (ages 0 to 2)

There's plenty for big kids too, with tours of our new Woden tech spaces, yoga and workshops for parents.

For the full program of activities, dates, locations and to register for a session, visit the [Libraries ACT website](#).

https://necs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/1952/early_literacy_calendar_april_2022_a33393799_.pdf

https://necs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/1953/a3_double_sided_school_holidays_april_2022_final.pdf

Death cap mushrooms

https://necs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/1931/death_cap_mushrooms_0.pdf

-- Do not pick or eat wild mushrooms --

Advice about Death Cap mushrooms

Death cap mushrooms grow in the ACT. They can grow anywhere in our region, at any time.

It is hard to distinguish a death cap mushroom from an edible mushroom, even for experienced collectors.

Do not touch or eat wild mushrooms, and keep children and pets away from them.

All parts of the death cap mushroom are poisonous. Cooking, soaking, freezing, peeling or drying does not make them safe. Eating even a small amount of a death cap mushroom can kill you.

If you think you may have eaten a death cap mushroom, urgently seek medical attention at a hospital emergency department. Do not wait for symptoms to occur. The chances of survival increase where treatment is started early.

Take any remaining mushroom to the hospital for identification.

If you think a death cap mushroom may be growing in a public area, report it to Access Canberra on 13 22 81.

If you are concerned about wild mushrooms growing at your home, remove them using gloves or a tool and dispose of them with your household rubbish.

Find more information on death cap mushrooms (including some translated resources) at <https://health.act.gov.au/about-our-health-sy.../fact-sheets>.

Mojo guitar teachers

https://necs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/1950/mojo_school_flyer_revised_.pdf

Soccer for Juniors

https://necs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/1932/red_soc_t2_22.pdf