



CURTIN COURIER

Issue 19
June 28 2017



Theodore St Curtin ACT 2605
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*We seek to inspire
We gather to support
We strive to succeed*

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Student-Absence No: 0437 787 824

Diary Dates

**June 30
No Assembly**

June 30 Last day of
Term 2

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

July 17 First day of
Term 3

Principal
Merryn O'Dea

Deputy Principals
Kerri Clark
Maryanne Hayes

Contact Ph.: 6205 5622

Board Chair:
Myles Cronin
Ph: 0423 029 290

P&C President:
Joanna McKenzie-Kay
joanna_mckenziekay@hotmail.com

AFTER SCHOOL CARE
6285 4444
Bookings
6282 2644

Dear Parents/Carers

Term 2 is complete!

Reading and signing each child's report was a great privilege. As a principal, I was left so proud of our school and the learning progression evident for each child. This increase in skills and understandings for students as individuals is our core business as teachers. Behind the scenes, teachers are working to further analyse student assessments and plan tailored learning programs for term 3.

As a growing school, we have welcomed approximately 30 new students since February. To accommodate learning for all students, from term 3 we will be slightly rearranging our class structure. 6SL will be split into two groups and join 6HH and 6RD in the Patterson Hall. Sharen Lyons will then join the junior team to take on a new 1/2 class.

As the semester closes, we also farewell some staff who are leaving us to seek new opportunities.

Katherine Wills has supported students and teachers as a Learning Support Assistant and made a significant contribution through teaching small groups to develop skills, supporting individual students and as a preschool assistant. We wish Katherine and her family all the best as they return home to Tasmania. We will miss Katherine's strong student focus and positive energy.

Jimi Connal has been invaluable to Curtin as an LSA and classroom teacher. Jimi has provided a supportive learning environment, collaborated with teachers in the shared space and led school programs. While we understand the lure of Melbourne and extended family, the 3/4 students and whole school community will miss Jimi's considered, calm and dedicated approach to improving learning.

Maryanne Hayes has made a huge impact to learning at Curtin as a temporary Deputy Principal. Maryanne's legacy includes our *Bring your own Chromebook* program, innovative approaches to reading instruction in kindergarten, and supportive preschool team. Maryanne has mentored teachers and students to achieve their best at Curtin. After an extension time in the school to embed our ICT approach, we farewell Maryanne and wish her well in return to Hughes Primary School.

We operate as a school within a context of change and it is the collaboration and professionalism of staff that ensures these changes are opportunities for learning for existing and new students. Our work is supported by each family's participation in their child's learning as well as the generous support we receive through families volunteering their time, expertise and financial contributions.

As always, I remind you of our 'open door' policy. Please feel welcome at any time to talk with myself, Kerri, executive staff or your child's teacher to find out more about an aspect of our school or to address a question.

Enjoy some well deserved family time over this winter break and I look forward to seeing everyone back at school to embrace term 3 on Monday 17 July.

Yours in learning,

Merryn O'Dea

CANTEEN CLOSED FRIDAY 30 JUNE

Board Report - Meeting June 8th 2017

The new board, with a number of new members is learning the board processes and exploring the diversity of the board.

Discussion was mainly around the *Positive Behaviour for Learning* program and the results that are being achieved. This combines with the existing provisions for behaviour management that the school constantly works to improve. Results of reflections on 2016 and 2017 are positive as the incidence of playground incidents has reduced and other indicators are also very positive.

The ACT department of education is conducting a wide ranging review of education in the ACT. Historically the measures of education quality in the ACT were at the top of the measures for all states and territories. While our results are still above average overall, they have come back to be less outstanding than they were in the past. The department is now consulting widely on ideas that may be considered to further enhance education at all levels in the ACT. All suggestions are welcome and it is expected that this will result in a number of initiatives that will be rolled out once they have been fully developed.

The board will now set a full set of agenda topics for future discussion, along with a timetable for future meetings. These will support the school's strategic plan and areas for development identified in school data. If there are any areas that parents feel should be considered, please let me or any other member of the board know of your suggestions.

The board passed the existing finance reports.

Myles Cronin
0423 029 290

KIDSMATTER

This year the Kidsmatter team have been lucky enough to have two lovely parent volunteers, Arianne Lowe and Kirsty Kobus, join us. They are helping to ensure that a parent voice is represented and heard throughout our planning process and we hope to provide further opportunities for input throughout the year. We would love to have more volunteers to join us in term 3. While we would like to have parents across the junior and senior school to provide balance across the team, we welcome anyone interested in joining. Please email Rachel Tibballs if you are interested.

(rachel.tibballs@ed.act.edu.au)

Canteen News

Canteen closed Friday June 30

P&C News

The School Disco, was a great success with almost 400 children attending across both the Junior and Senior sessions. A massive thank you to all the volunteers who helped on the night - we could not have done it without you!! Also a big thank you all the kids who were very well behaved and showed some very funky dancing skills to the mix of tunes played by the wonderful DJ Cliff.

Due to the larger than expected numbers this year, the event has made a profit of \$880 that can be re-invested into the school's Equity Fund used to support school families.

5TD Photography Workshop Canberra College

Our journey started at 9:15am, when we boarded the Canberra college bus and headed to our destination. We were so excited to be spending the day experiencing the wonderful art of photography and the facilities that Canberra College has to offer.

Stephanie, our photography teacher, began to explain the safety rules and outlined the plan for the day. After we were placed in groups with a helper, and had chosen our materials, we headed off to the darkroom. Our first task was to create images on photographic paper. After placing our objects on the photographic paper, we used enlargers to print the objects which at first weren't visible! The image was then made visible by dipping the photographic paper in four different chemicals called the: Developer, Stop bath, Fixer & Wash.

In the middle session, Phil their part time photography teacher and part time magician, put on an AMAZING MAGIC SHOW!

Our next task was to create a negative image using pinhole cameras.

Finally, we converted our negative images into positive images. We had an AMAZING time learning about photographic techniques!

Special Thanks To: Stephanie Smith for organising this enriching program, Richard, George, Phil, Madi, Jess, Aisha, Tori, Rosie & Sarah who were wonderful helpers.

Written By: Brianna T, Addie I & Emily S!



STEM FESTIVAL 2017



Week 6 term 3 Mon 21 –Thur 24 September

If you work, study or are just passionate about **science, **technology**, **engineering** or **mathematics** and are willing to share that expertise and enthusiasm with our students during this year's STEM Festival, please contact**

Deborah.fitzgerald@ed.act.edu.au





CANBERRA AFL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

TUESDAY 11TH JULY - 8:00AM - 5:00PM

HARRISON SCHOOL

BOYS & GIRLS 4 - 10

\$50 INCLUDES AUSKICK PACK

LISA KENNEDY - LISA.KENNEDY@AFL.COM.AU

AFLAUSKICK.COM.AU   

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