



Farrer Primary School Newsletter  
Term 1 Week 3: 16 February 2023



## *Acknowledgement of Country written by KS*



We would like to acknowledge that we enjoy living on Ngunnawal land. We love this land. We love the wind that blows through the trees, we love the blue tongued lizards, the snakes and kangaroos, we respect the lakes and rivers that flow and sometimes flood. We love all the weather, the sun and the snow. We love the colours in your artworks and thank elders past present and future for caring for Ngunnawal land.



## *Messages from our Principal - Ms Liz Wallace*



### *School Captains*

As announced last year, our School Captains for 2023 are Penny Halliday and Jamie Konrad. Penny and Jamie have been busy this week with School Captain duties including meeting and greeting the Canberra Raiders players who visited and hosting their first assembly. Congratulations again to Penny and Jamie for being selected as School Captains through the speech, voting and interview process. I look forward to working with Jamie and Penny this year and capturing student voice in school wide matters.



*1 - School Captains: Jamie and Penny*

## *House Captains*

Congratulations to our 2023 House Captains who were announced at assembly this week. Our House Captains for 2023 are:

### **Bencubbin**

House Captains: Georgie Hart and Hugh Hamilton

Vice Captains: Sebastian McGlinn and Maddy Wheelhouse-Buchanan

### **Winglen**

House Captains: James Le Pavoux and Tori Ardlie

Vice Captains: Logan Rasmussen and Sofala Ehinger-Hall

### **Glenwarri**

House Captains: Leila Evans and Sam Tarasuik

Vice Captains: Amy McNamara and Laura Assouad



2 - **Winglen:** Sofala, Tori, James & Logan





3 - **Bencubbin:** Georgie, Hugh & Sebastian (Maddy - absent)



4 - **Glenwarri:** Amy, Leila, Sam & Laura

## *Staff Team*



*5 - Preschool team: Ms Sylvia Kaltner, Ms Lana Dibb and Mrs Kelly Bennet*



*6 - Kindergarten team: Miss Amanda Stoddart and Mrs Libby Mackie*





*7 - Year one team: Miss Jasmin Cerni and Miss Emily Bromley*



*8 - Year two team: Ms Ali Bos and Miss Georgia Lucas*



*9 - Year three team: Ms Sarah Otuhouma and Mrs Tori Barbaro (plus Miss Jodie White)*



*10 - Year four team: Miss Lara Wilson and Mr Bright Lai*





*11 - Year five team: Mr Jake Ovington and Miss Rachel Mian*



*12 - Year six team: Ms Kylie Munn and Ms Lauren Uhr*



13 - Small Group Program team: Mrs Kat Newton and Mrs Kim-Maree Janszen



14 - Specialist team: Mr Aaron Flynn, Mr Paul McGregor and Mr Brett Maron (plus Mrs Sarah Aby)





*15 - Learning Support Assistants: Miss Natalie Soffe, Miss Georgia Willey, Mr Noah Saddler and Mr Juwan Compain (plus Miss Eloise Bacon)*



*16 - Building Service Officers: Mr George Geou and Mr Anthony Donaldson*



*17 - Front office team: Ms Trudy Thornton and Mrs Jenny Cavalier*



*18 - Leadership Team: Miss Jodie White, Ms Mariana Fuenzalida, Ms Liz Wallace and Miss Emily Craggs*

## *Masterplan update*

Last year we engaged the team from Wellspring to consult with students, staff and families in order to develop a playground masterplan. The masterplan incorporates a range of upgrades and new spaces for learning and play. The upgrades will be completed over the next five - seven years with funds available in the school budget along with funds obtained through grant opportunities and donations.

At the end of 2022 the bike track was installed. Over the summer break the community meeting space was completed.



The next project in the upgrade is extending the Cameron play equipment.

We will also see the installation of a roof over the Cameron hardtop area in coming months followed by replacement of basketball and netball hoops and remarking of courts. The roof installation will be funded by the Education Directorate.



*19 - community meeting space*



*20 - community meeting space*



21 - bike track



22 - bike track

## *Canberra Raiders visit*

Earlier this week we welcomed Zac Masters, Nick Cotric and Corey Harawira-Naera from the Canberra Raiders as part of the NRL Community Blitz program. The players talked to children about the importance of resilience, support and gratitude in sport and in day to day life.











### *Toys and other precious belongings*

We encourage children to keep toys, collector cards and other precious items at home. At school they can be distracting. We also do not want to see precious items broken or lost.

### *2023 Information Sessions & BBQ*

Thank you to everyone who came along to the Information Sessions and BBQ last week. It was lovely to have families onsite and in classrooms again.

Thank you to OSHClub for the donation of bread and onions for the BBQ. Thank you to staff for running the BBQ.

### *School Board nominations*

Two members of our school board will reach the end of their appointment in March 2023 creating vacancies for one parent member and one staff member. Our school board provides valuable input into strategic planning and monitoring across many aspects of our school. If you are interested in nominating for a position, or would like to know a little more about what is involved with being on the board, please contact me or talk to one of our current board members. Further information can also be found on the Education Directorate website [https:// www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/get-involved-in-your-childs-school/school boards](https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/get-involved-in-your-childs-school/school-boards). The 14 day nomination period for vacant positions on our School Board commenced on 6 February 2023 and will close on 20 February 2023.

If you would like to nominate please contact our Acting Business Manager, Jenny Cavalier, [jenny.cavalier@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:jenny.cavalier@ed.act.edu.au) for a nomination form.

## *Quality Learning*

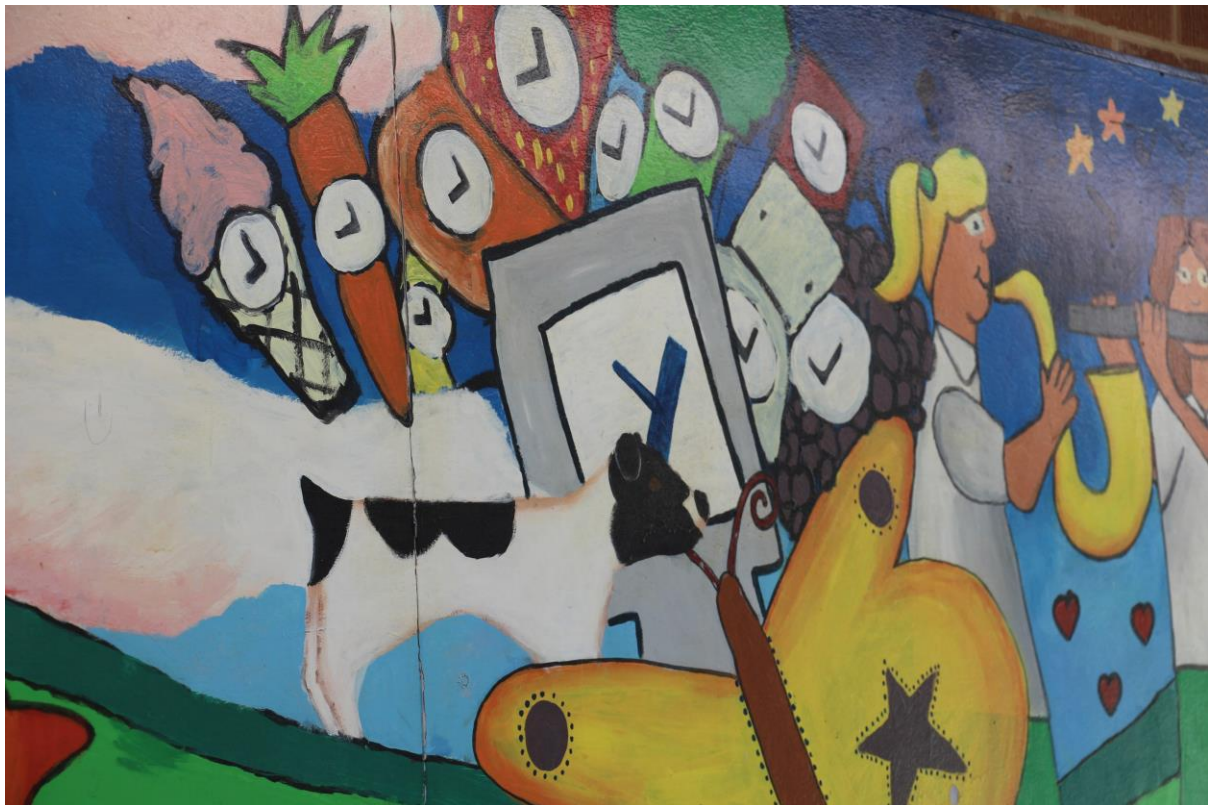
Congratulations to the following children who have shared quality learning with school leaders in the past fortnight.

Yr 1 Riley - inquiry

Yr 1 Roy J - writing

Yr 1 Isaac M - maths

## *Upcoming Events*



### **Week four**

22 February: swimming carnival, K-6

23 February: Yr 6 Parliament House excursion

25 February: GWS Giants visiting Yr 6

### **Week five**

Hatching chicks program in preschool



2 March: Rugby League Gala Day, Yrs 3-6

### **Week six**

Hatching chicks program in preschool

6 March: Assembly

8 March: Netball Gala Day, Yrs 3/4 TBC

10 March: Dance Nation begins for participating Yr 4-6

10 March: Netball Gala Day, Yrs 5/6 TBC

### ***News from kindergarten***

What a wonderful start to Kindergarten. The students in Kindergarten have had an amazing start to the year! Students in KM and KS are settling in well and enjoying learning all about school and their classmates. They enjoy creating, reading books and playing with our friends.

Every day in KM we use playdough to make food in our café. We even made a sign!

We create many different things.



Kindergarten read the book *Welcome to Country* and collected natural objects to inspire us while writing our class Acknowledgements of Country.



KM talked about how nature made us feel:

- I like nature, mummy likes nature. It is beautiful.
- Nature is beautiful and peaceful. Nature and Country makes me happy.
- My stick makes me feel like my mummy does - good and safe. It feels happy.
- When I hold my stick I feel happy. Because it's land and we are part of Country.

KS used a map of Ngunnawal land to create art using natural materials.

They then drew their representation.







## Environment Centre News

Hi Farrer families

A working bee is organised for this Saturday between 10am and 12pm. Carol, our resident 'Scientist in School' biologist, will lead us in weeding, mulching, setting up compost bins and general tidying. Anybody who is willing and happy to come down and help out is greatly appreciated. If you have any tools such as small trowels or forks that would assist with weeding, please bring them along, but they are not necessary. Kids are welcome to come along with your supervision.

If you have any questions for Carol she is happy to be contacted on her mobile number, 0431 881 514.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Aaron Flynn,

Science Teacher.

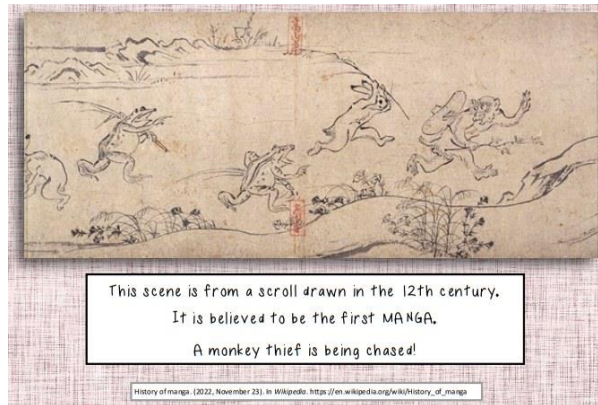


## Japanese News

Konnichiwa! We have been delighted to see all the students for Japanese lessons! Aby Sensei is teaching the Ellyard classes and McGregor Sensei is teaching the Cameron students.

2023 is Year of the Rabbit - USAGI DOSHI. Students born in 2011 are “Usagi” people! They are meant to be kind-hearted, flexible, polite, smart, gentle, lively and ambitious.

We have looked at the story of the Zodiac Race and completed Year of the Rabbit activities in our classes. We talked about some rabbit related cultural references, like this picture.



Students made little origami USAGI.









We look forward to lots of Japanese fun this year!

Aby Sensei and McGregor Sensei

## *Information for Kindergarten families*

### **Kindergarten Health Check**

ACT Health have advised that the Kindergarten Health Check will take place on 20th and 21st of July (Term 3 week 1). The checks will take place at school starting at 9.15am.

The 2023 check includes vision, hearing and growth (height, weight and Body Mass Index). Families have received a questionnaire that includes the Parent Evaluation of Developmental Status (PEDS), Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs).

As a follow up to the health check, parents / guardians are encouraged to make an appointment with their General Practitioner to review results and undertake a more comprehensive assessment of their child.

Envelopes containing information about the checks were sent home in week 2. We ask that these please be returned to school by 7 March 2023 as this is when they will be collected by the school health team.

### **BASE - Kindergarten assessment**

This week, Kindergarten teachers have been conducting the BASE assessment program with our 2023 Kindergarten cohort.

The early years assessment program uses BASE to assess early reading, phonics and numeracy skills of students in their first year of school. There are two assessments, with the first occurring in Term 1 and the second in Term 4.

BASE data is used to identify, as early as possible, students who may need extra support or enrichment. The data helps teachers plan appropriate learning experiences for every child in the class.

Information about the program can be found at the BASE website <https://www.education.uwa.edu.au/base>

BASE reports are available to the school principal and relevant teachers to assist with planning and teaching in the classroom. The BASE results are part of the wide range of assessment information collected by teachers.

[Individual student reports](#) using BASE results are provided to parents during term two and term four.

Parents and carers are encouraged to discuss their child's progress with teachers, establishing a partnership that supports their child's future learning.



Emily Craggs

A/g Executive Teacher P-2

### ***Scholastic Book Club***

We are looking for a parent volunteer to coordinate book club this year. The role involves distributing the catalogues, managing ordering and overseeing deliveries. Please see Trudy at the front office or contact her at [info@farrerps.act.edu.au](mailto:info@farrerps.act.edu.au) if you would like to take on this role.



## Christian Education in Schools

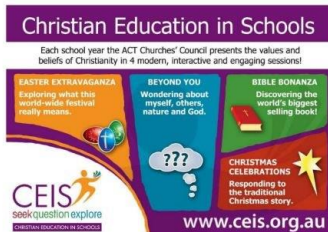


### Christian Education In Schools

Christian Education is available as a curriculum option at your child's school because parents have requested it. This is based on provisions in the Education Act 2004. The Christian Education In Schools (CEIS) project provides a coordinated service to fulfil such requests. This service includes four modern and interactive sessions each year (one per term and varied each year), prepared professionally and delivered by trained and endorsed volunteers. The one-hour sessions are designed for groups of students to discuss and explore the topics outlined in the image.

Parent permission is essential for children to participate in CEIS. Please use the section below if you would like to request this for your child. Requests remain in effect while your child is at their school, but can be changed by contacting the front office. Each CEIS session will be advertised in the school newsletter. For further information please contact your school or visit [www.ceis.org.au](http://www.ceis.org.au).

Kind regards,  
Karen Baron  
CEIS Coordinator



✕

#### PLEASE RETURN THIS SECTION TO THE SCHOOL FRONT OFFICE

☐ YES, I request that my child/ren listed below participate in the CEIS sessions offered at school.

CHILD: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

CHILD: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

CHILD: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Carer signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Christian Education in Schools | 82 Limestone Avenue | Ainslie | ACT 2602 | Ph: 02 6230 5155  
A project of the ACT Churches' Council Inc. ABN 61 264 840 124  
[www.ceis.org.au](http://www.ceis.org.au)

This note is available on the [school website](#).

## News from the P&C



**Do you have any ideas?** We're thinking about events and activities for 2023. If you've got any ideas or capacity to lead an event, we'd love to hear from you. Our events cannot run without volunteers. Not sure what the P&C does? Check out our 5 year plan and strategy - [P&C 5 Year Plan](#)

### Upcoming P&C Meetings

P&C Committee                      Thursday 16th of February 7-8pm

Canteen Sub committee        Wednesday 15th March 3-4pm (Week 7)

Uniform Shop subcommittee TBA

### Uniform Shop

A big thank you to the Uniform Shop Ninjas, Anthea Healey, Sarah Richardson and Deb Bowden who supported our families returning for 2023. Great work Ladies!

**Second Hand Sale** - Get your hands on some pre-loved threads at our second-hand uniform sale! Join us this Friday the 17th from 2:45-3:45 in front of the hall, and let's make those old uniforms feel young again.

**How to order** - Go to the [P&C Uniform Shop](#) or scan the QR Code (don't forget to put your student's name and class in the comments at checkout).

**Anything else?** Shoot us an email - [FPSUniforms@gmail.com](mailto:FPSUniforms@gmail.com)



### **Canteen**

**Daily Specials** - We're trialling daily specials this term! We'd love your feedback or ideas for future options.

**Reusables** - We have lost over 500 spoons... PLEASE remind your children to return them in the lunch tubs and check your lunchboxes and kitchen drawers as we know (from experience...) that some are making their way home.

**Volunteers!** - We always need volunteers in the canteen, if you can spare an hour here and there, we'd be really grateful! Just find a time that suits and sign up here: [volunteersignup.org/DPAJ3](https://volunteersignup.org/DPAJ3)

### **Fundraisers**

#### **Shoes!**

Don't forget to mention Farrer Primary School if you are purchasing new school runners at the Athlete's Foot! We get \$5 from each purchase.

### **Wine**

We are still running our Farrer Community Grapevine fundraiser! Jump online and grab some grapes! [Wine Fundraiser](#)



### **P&C Handy Contacts & Links**

- Email - [FarrerPS.CommunityAssociation@gmail.com](mailto:FarrerPS.CommunityAssociation@gmail.com)
- Facebook - [P&C Noticeboard Facebook](#)
- Website - [P&C Website](#)

### **Canteen**

- Contact - [thekidskitchenfarrer@gmail.com](mailto:thekidskitchenfarrer@gmail.com)
- Term 4 Volunteer Roster [volunteersignup.org/R9H7B](https://volunteersignup.org/R9H7B)



- [Pantry list](#)

### **Uniform Shop**

- Sales - [P&C Uniform Shop](#)
- Email - [FPSUniforms@gmail.com](mailto:FPSUniforms@gmail.com)

### ***Community News***





Give your kids a REAL Challenge!

School Orienteering

**SC-ORE**

**SC-ORE Orienteering**

**2023 Term 1**

A before school body and brain work out.

4-week Challenge for Primary School aged children

**Teams 2 girls and 2 boys**

Thursday 2 March	Torrens Primary School (Torrens)
Thursday 9 March	Chapman Primary School (Chapman))
Thursday 16 March	Trinity Christian School (Wannlassa)
Thursday 23 March	Holy Family Primary School (Fadden)

**SC-ORE online [registration](#)**

For more information visit [Orienteering ACT](https://act.orienteering.asn.au/juniors/blue-sparks/sc-ore) (act.orienteering.asn.au/juniors/blue-sparks/sc-ore)

Or email [schools@act.orienteering.asn.au](mailto:schools@act.orienteering.asn.au)



Registration closes 24 February 2023

There are no expectations on schools or teachers to organise any aspect of students' attendance.  
Parents and carers are responsible for their child/children.

**COME 'N' TRY  
BASKETBALL!**

**FUN!**

**FREE!**

- Three-week skills-based program
- For any boys and girls born 2014 or younger

**Girls:** Mondays 20, 27 Feb and 6 March

**Boys:** Thursdays 23 Feb and 2, 9 March

Register your interest [registrar@vikingsbasketball.com.au](mailto:registrar@vikingsbasketball.com.au)

**VIKINGSBASKETBALL.COM.AU**



## Contact Us



### **Farrer Primary School**

Lambrigg Street

Farrer 2607 ACT

02 6142 0860

Email: [info@farrerps.act.edu.au](mailto:info@farrerps.act.edu.au)

Visit us on the web at [www.farrerps.act.edu.au](http://www.farrerps.act.edu.au)

Principal: Liz Wallace

A/g Deputy Principal: Mariana Fuenzalida

Primary Executive: Jodie White

A/g Early Childhood Executive: Emily Craggs

A/g Business Manager: Jenny Cavalier

School Board Chair: Phillip Bowden

P&C President: Cassandra Mann