

The Gang Gang Gazette

Week 10, Term 4 (21st December, 2018)

Principal: Tania Collis **Deputy Principals:** Rikkie Klootwijk and Daniel Breen
Executive Teachers: Deborah Lowrey, Marni Payne and Kate Stear
P & C President: Trudy Green napscommunity@gmail.com
Board Parent Representatives: Amanda Galbraith, Tara Pearce and Sue Webeck
Board Email: napsboardreps@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

2019

Kindergarten and Preschool Group 1, First Day	Monday 4 th February
Years 1 to 6, First Day	Tuesday 5 th February
Preschool Group 2, First Day	Thursday 7 th February
P -6 Information Evening	Wednesday 13 th February (Times TBA)
<i>Getting to know you</i> Interviews	Monday 18 th to Friday 22 nd February
Billy Tea Bush Band Dance, Community Welcome and P & C Barbecue	Thursday 28 th February (Time TBA)
Kindergarten and Junior IEC Water Fun Day	Tuesday 12 th March
NAPS Swimming Carnival	Tuesday 12 th March

Notes Home

- Year 6 Yearbook
- Note to 2019 Kindergarten families
- Note to new Year 1-6 families
- Head lice note (Year1/2)

Dear Families and Friends,

Today marks the end of a very busy year here at NAPS and one of which we are extremely proud. We turned 60 this year and celebrated with a range of activities across 2018. These included discos, sporting days, the revamp of our school hall and the open day where we were visited by past students and community members. We have also had

a book published with a piece of writing from students in kindergarten to year 6 to honour our past, present and future. This 60th anniversary book will be accessioned in the library and there is a copy in my office. This book not only acknowledges our 60th birthday but also the impact of the Writing Project over the last year on the way we see ourselves as teachers of writing and how our students see themselves as authors. Thank you to Kate Stear for organising this project. Last week we had a wonderful morning tea, with all the members of our community who volunteer, to thank them for the assistance they provide us every day. We were also presented with a certificate from The School Volunteer program for our *Decade of Community Involvement Award* which is a testament to the community ties we so deeply value and appreciate.



At North Ainslie we strive to be

We also had a very big year with both IB Evaluation and School Review through the Directorate. The feedback to our school was positive and also gave us wonderful impetus for our next steps. Next year we will be sharing more of these reports and working as a community to finalise our new Strategic Plan and set our goals for the next five years of learning. I would like to thank the Board for their support during these processes and the way in which they work with the school throughout the year. Thank you also to everyone in our community, we certainly value the partnership we have with you in your child's learning. A huge thanks to our staff who make NAPS what it is, without you my job would be very different. Finally to our wonderful students, thank you for making our job the very best one in the world and the reason we love coming to school every day.

Indigenous Mural

On Wednesday, we opened our Indigenous Mural which is the fabulous painting across one wall in our Senior Courtyard. I would like to thank Judy Hamilton, our Director, for coming to the opening and to the teachers and students who performed so beautifully. Thank you to the 22 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students who designed and painted the mural with two of our parents who also happen to be amazing artists – Elinor Archer and Jakki Kennedy. The work they put in with our students was amazing. Thanks also to Deb Lowrey who oversaw the project and ensured its success. We look forward to adding a native and bush tucker garden in front next year.



Below is some more information about the project and the design created by the students.

The NAPS Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mural Project started out in July 2018, spanning over several months till completion. Local artists and NAPS parents, Jakki Kennedy - a Wiradjuri woman from Cowra NSW, and Elinor Archer - a Palawa woman with connections to Oyster Bay and Ben Lomond country in North-East Tasmania, were invited into the school to help facilitate and collaborate on the project. Joined by the North Ainslie Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, the group worked to develop a concept for the 26 metre long brick wall. Over several workshop sessions, the artists and students came up with the idea you see here today. It was important to the students that the mural: incorporated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander colours; included Australian flora and fauna; connected to family and culture; was inclusive of all the students in the school; and had both water and land elements



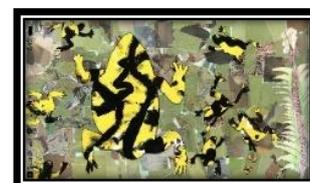
THE DESIGN

The Aboriginal flag stars as the centrepiece of the design with the Torres Strait Islander flag colours running through the mural as a waterhole. Students, groups of siblings, families, teachers and the artists then researched and discussed animals important to their mobs and totems for their specific clan groups. Students decided on an animal design and drew it out as a silhouette to then apply to a space on the wall. Some students decided to include several animals to represent family members, including grandparents and cousins. The sun as the centre of the mural was then painted by Jakki in her contemporary dot style and this same technique was taught to each student and applied to their animal silhouettes. After the base design was complete, every student within the NAPS community contributed a design element to the final mural - every graduating year 6 student was able to contribute a hand-print, at the same time learning about traditional ochre hand-printing in this process; while all other students contributed whites to dots along the green lines to represent the stars and white within the Torres Strait Islander flag.



NSW and ACT Children's Endangered Species Art Competition

Josie Wright was a finalist in this year's NSW and ACT Children's Endangered Species Art Competition. She said, "The best part was getting an award and I think it makes people think about taking care of endangered species".



2019 Start of the Year

Preschool

Both group 1 preschools (Monday/Tuesday and every second Wednesday) start on Monday 4th February and should arrive at their preschool in the morning where they will be greeted by staff (NAPS at 9.00am, Hackett at 9.15am). The students in group 2 (every second Wednesday and Thursday/Friday) commence on Thursday 7th February at the same times.

Kindergarten

The first day of school for kindergarten students is **Monday, 4th February 2019**, commencing at **9.00am**. Upon arrival at school, please come to our hall where you will be welcomed by the kindergarten teachers and the school's leadership team. Classes will be read out and teachers will then take students to their classrooms, which you are welcome to visit and see for yourself. After the children have settled in, you are invited to return to the staffroom at 9.45 am where there will be tea, coffee and biscuits. You will be able to meet or catch up with other parents and the leadership team will be available to answer questions. School finishes at 3.00pm and you will be able to pick your child up from their classroom.

Years 1 to 6

School for students in years 1 to 6 starts on **Tuesday, 5th February at 9.00am**. Please join us on the senior courtyard for morning lines. After lines, students will go to their new year group and classes will be read out again before they head in for their first day.

Classes for next year

Classes for next year are currently being finalised as we continue to receive enrolments for 2019. They will be given a final review early next year and you will be able to visit the school to find out your child's class teacher on Monday, 4th February from 1.30pm. Staff will be in the foyer with the lists but due to privacy reasons, we will not be posting class lists publicly.

Uniform Shop Opening Times

If you would like to purchase uniform items our P&C uniform shop is open every Thursday morning from 8.45am - 9.15am and Tuesday and Thursday afternoon from 2:45 - 3:15pm. Additional opening time will be as follows

- Friday 1st February from 11 am – 12pm
- Monday 4th February and Tuesday 5th February 8:30-9:30am and 2:45 pm -3:15pm

School Board

The School Board plays a vital role in helping the school to set the strategic and financial vision for our school. I have really enjoyed working with the Board this year and value the input and insight they have provided me during 2018. I would like to thank all our School Board members for their hard work and support. I would especially like to thank Travis Thurston, Sue Webeck and Amanday Buykx whose time on the Board will come to an end early next year. If you are interested in nominating for the two parent positions, information on how to do so is below. There are enormous benefits for the children and yourselves, including making new social connections, building a strong school community and having a voice in the future direction of the school.

All parents and carers of NAPS students are eligible to nominate, including preschool parents. You can pick up a nomination form from the front office during normal business hours (9am to 3pm, Monday to Friday). Jo Munoz is the Assistant Returning Officer.

Nominations open 11:00 am Monday 5th February 2019

Nominations close (14 days later) 11:00 am Monday 19th February 2019

On behalf of all staff, our very best wishes to every family and we hope you have a wonderful time celebrating your traditions with your family and friends. Stay safe and we will see you all in 2019.

Tania Collis (Principal)

Baby News: Former NAPS teacher Dani Godwin is delighted to let the community know that baby Amelia has arrived safely. Dani, Ben and Amelia are doing well.

Back to school asthma checklist



Asthma
Australia



1. ASTHMA ACTION PLAN

See a doctor for a signed Asthma Action Plan or Care Plan. Most schools require an up-to-date plan for each student with asthma at the start of the new school year.

Evidence tells us that using an Asthma Action Plan can help to reduce hospitalisations, improve lung function and reduce the number of days off school.

While with the doctor, why not combine this with a check-up for your child's asthma, including a check on their device technique.

2. RELIEVER MEDICATION

Check with the school about their medication policy and work with the staff to find the best way to manage your child's asthma medication, including before physical activity (where applicable).

- Medication and devices are clearly labelled with your child's name
- Medication is in date and with sufficient medication remaining

3. TALK TO SCHOOL STAFF

Make time to talk with the class teacher and the school nurse (where applicable) about your child's asthma, their Asthma Plan and their usual triggers, symptoms and medication.

Also talk to your child's sport coaches and supervisors of other school activities. Don't forget to keep staff up-to-date with any change to your child's asthma management.

Use this valuable time to:

- Go over your child's Asthma Plan
- Discuss the signs of asthma for your child
- Show them your child's asthma medication and demonstrate how to use it
- Talk about the extent to which your child can self-manage their asthma
- Provide details of how to contact you when:
 - They have asthma symptoms
 - They use a reliever medication at school



Proud partner of Asthma Australia. teachershealth.com.au

LEARN MORE ABOUT ASTHMA.

Contact your local Asthma Foundation **1800 ASTHMA** Helpline

At North Ainslie we strive to be