***The Gang Gang Gazette***

*Week 8, Term 1 (29th March, 2019)*

**Principal: Tania Collis Deputy Principals: Rikkie Klootwijk and Deborah Lowrey (Acting)**

**School Leaders: Marni Payne, Kate Stear** **Alex Patterson, and Kate Bush**

**P & C President: Trudy Green**  [napscommunity@gmail.com](mailto:napscommunity@gmail.com)

**Board Parent Representatives: Amanda Galbraith, Tara Pearce** **and Sue Webeck**

**Board Email**:  [napsboardreps@gmail.com](mailto:napsboardreps@gmail.com)

## Upcoming Events

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| --- | --- |
| 5/6 Camp (Group 1)  5/6 Camp (Group 2) | Monday 1st – Wednesday 3rd April  Wednesday 3rd – Friday 5th April |
| 3/4 Oz Tag | Wednesday 3rd April |
| CEIS | Tuesday 2nd April |
| Junior assembly hosted by KSM & KGM | Friday 5th April |
| Nth Gungahlin Swimming Carnival | Monday 8th April |
| Preschool Constable Kenny Koala visit | Tuesday 9th April & Thursday 11th April |

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| **Notes Home**   * Nth Gungahlin Swimming note (Selected Students) * Headlice Notification (K) * NAPLAN letter |
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| **Board**  Next Meeting:  Tuesday 21st May 2019, 6.00pm  **P & C**  Next Meeting: Special AGM  Tuesday 7th May 2019, 7:30pm |

**Dear Families and Friends,**

Over the last two days, I have been privileged to join other principals and deputies from across the ACT in attending our biennial leadership conference. This year’s theme is *The Leading Edge, Leaders and students at the edge of their learning.* Today we heard from Professor Viviane Robinson from New Zealand who shared her research and thoughts from her latest book *Reduce change to increase improvement*. Professor Robinson talked us through her Theory of Action and how it can be used to fully ascertain the actions, consequences, and values and beliefs guiding our current reality. This can then be used to fully understand what is needed to continue the improvement journey in the school. Viviane reminded us not to design the future until we deeply understand the present.

We also spent the day learning from Pasi Sahlberg whose message was to ensure we use large and small data sets to gain a full picture of both the school and each student who attends. He also challenged us to think about what the schools of the future may look like and what our role in shaping them can be.

***Autism Awareness Day - Thursday, April 11 (Week 10)***

In 2008, The United Nations General Assembly unanimously declared 2 April as World Autism Awareness Day. This year we have decided to add this special day to our school calendar.  The day will be run by the Student Leaders and the Learning Support Unit for students with Autism (LSUA). As our 5/6 students including some from our LSUA are on camp next week, we have decided to hold the day in week 10 on Thursday, April 11. The colour used for World Autism Awareness Day is blue, so all students can wear blue to school to demonstrate their support and participation. We are also using the day to hold a fundraiser to add to the work about to be done to improve the playground in the LSUA. To do this we will be selling bubble mixture/wands in the lead up to the day starting from Monday, April 8. The bubble mixture will be labelled and kept at school for distribution by teachers on the day. We will hold a special assembly just before recess to share more information about Autism and this will be followed by the whole school blowing bubbles. Further information on times for sales will be shared over the next week.

**Writing from 3/4 students**

We love to celebrate our students’ writing and are amazed at what great authors they are. This term we had our swimming carnival and some of our year 3/4 students used it as inspiration for some wonderful writing.

*I witnessed people cheering on the competitive athletes who were racing through crystal clear waters at Dickson Pool. I felt a surge of power in the last stretches of the race as my team cheered me on by singing our chant.*

*Jules J 3/4LF*

There were rows and rows of people diving in. Different types of races flying past. I saw lots of victories. People were having first-class feasts of lollies. Ringing in my ears, I heard chanting, splashing and whistles blowing for the races to start. Munching and crunching as people ate their way through hot chips. I wanted desperately to dive in. I willed for the King Fishers to win. The smells of hot chips, lollies and all sorts of chemicals wafted by. The fresh water was so pure and smelled like the sea.   
By Niko 3/4LF

*I noticed the racers skim across the glimmering water. The chilly air lingered around the edge of the pool. The sweet scent of lollies and ice creams filled the cool air. The loud chanting of the best house ever (obviously the Parrots) filled the air as the races started. The whistle blew, my heart skipped a beat, everyone knew the race had started. The soft grass brushed against my feet as I made my way across to my house group. The soft dewy air gently touched my face as I sat there shivering.*

*By Evie 3/4LF*



**Evonne Goolagong Foundation’s Indigenous Tennis Day**

On Wednesday this week, NAPS teachers Sarah Buckley and Fiona Hemmings accompanied 15 students to the Evonne Goolagong Foundation’s Indigenous Tennis Come and Try Day. There were lots of fun tennis activities, coaching by Indigenous instructors, a healthy lunch and a talk by Evonne Goolagong Cawley. Evonne shared her love of tennis and her passion for a good education for all. Our teachers and students were also joined by family members who came along during the day to watch the fun and the learning. There were reporters at the event and two of our NAPS students were lucky to be photographed with Evonne. To see the Canberra Times article and read about Evonne’s journey please click on the link below. Thank you to Sarah Buckley and Jo Munoz for organising this excursion and a huge thank you to Fiona Hemmings who came as a volunteer for the day.

<https://www.canberratimes.com.au/sport/tennis/goolagong-foundation-courts-canberra-s-indigenous-kids-into-education-20190327-p5181k.html>

**Changes to public transport**

From the beginning of Term 2, the ACT Government will be introducing the new integrated public transport network which will include bus and light rail services operating together. As part of this upgrade, the way students will get to school by public transport will change from Term 2, 2019. Some students will use different routes, make connections between services or use light rail for the first time. Every student who will use public transport needs to be aware of the changes.

*What do you need to know?*

Bus services will change for the beginning of Term 2.

* The change to services will include dedicated school services for the commencement of Term 2 on 29 April 2019.
* The new timetable information will be available on line from early March, including an improved online journey planner.
* Information about services for each school is available online at www.transport.act.gov.au/getting-around/new-network/schools.
* Light rail services are being tested now and you can find out more about safety for pedestrians, cyclists and drivers around light rail online at www.canberra-metro.com.au/safety.

Have a great weekend.

Tania Collis

(Principal)

## NAPLAN Online

NAPLAN Online will occur in our school between 14 and 24 May 2019.

NAPLAN Online is a more engaging assessment that adjusts questions to each student’s achievement level. It also delivers more precise results to schools and parents more quickly.

NAPLAN provides valuable information to schools and parents about literacy and numeracy achievement. It supports school improvement processes by enabling teachers to monitor student progress over time and to identify areas of strength and development.

All eligible students are encouraged and supported to participate in NAPLAN testing. Visit [www.nap.edu.au](http://www.nap.edu.au) to see interactive versions of the test and for more information.

If you have any questions in regards to NAPLAN or if you wish to discuss your child’s participation in NAPLAN 2019 please see Rikkie Klootwijk ASAP.

Feedback requested – Active Streets

The Active Streets for Schools program is an infrastructure program – supported by educational resources – to make it safer and easier for children to walk or ride to school. We are lucky that our school will be supported by the program over the next four years. Active Streets helps to make school environments safer and more accessible by providing a range of tailored solutions depending on the school and local environment. Improvements may include new or improved footpath connections, more dedicated crossings or traffic calming (e.g. speed humps) to ensure the trip is safe and easy for children to navigate.

To commence the program, Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) would like to discover how children currently travel to and from school and find out where you think improvements can be made around the suburb and the school.  TCCS have set up a [survey](http://bit.ly/AS-survey) to gather this information. All the information collected will be de-identified and confidential. The final survey question asks about the type of infrastructure improvements our community would like considered through the program. To complete this question you can either:

* Provide an explanation in the text field in the survey, or
* Drop a pin on our [Ride or Walk to School map](https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1RP_zciskvt-cYdbd_ZwyoxHRVOPMcNHZ&ll=-35.25342634400636%2C149.14229910208428&z=16) and provide a comment

To drop a pin on the map, you will need to be signed in to a Google account, which is as simple as signing up if you don’t already have one. More information about setting up an account and dropping a pin on the map is available in [these instructions](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VZixMKbeDkaqxn0lCNymgCjceRNxiweW/view?usp=sharing). TCCS will also welcome feedback about our Ride or Walk to School map, so please use the drop pin feature to comment on the highlighted routes. Alternatively you can print our map, write on the map and return it to [TCCS](mailto:TCCS.Activetravel@act.gov.au?subject=Active%20Streets).

Thanks in advance for taking the time to complete the survey. Your response will help to influence how the program is delivered to suit our school community.

[Complete Survey
http://bit.ly/AS-survey
](http://bit.ly/AS-survey)

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**P &C NEWS**

**P&C News**

The P&C held its Annual General Meeting last Tuesday. Unfortunately we were unable to form a Committee. We will try again to form a Committee at a **Special General Meeting on Tuesday**

**7 May** (Week 2, Term 2). The 2018 Committee will act as caretakers until this meeting.

There is some positive news, we have a Secretary (thanks to Rachael Harris for putting her hand up again). Post-meeting discussions have been positive for the role of President and Vice-President, but we **desperately** need someone to put up their hand for the role of Treasurer. It’s also important to remember that the 2018 Committee isn't running away and will support the new Committee.

Understandably, people have expressed concern over the level of commitment required of a P&C Committee member. If all is functioning well, none of the roles should take more than 2 hours per week. Things can get out of hand when the Committee also need to organise events/fundraisers. We've been taking steps to manage this, including making some tough decisions about the type and frequency of events. There is more to be done, and I would like to make it clear that the new Committee will have a clean slate to make the changes required to better balance the workload. The 2018 Committee doesn't want to leave you with any unnecessary baggage!

More information will be provided in the coming weeks about the work of the P&C generally and the specific Committee roles. Members of the 2018 Committee will be around the school at drop-off and pick-up over the next few weeks to answer any questions. As always, you can also get in touch via [napscommunity@gmail.com](mailto:napscommunity@gmail.com) or contact me, Trudy, directly on 0427593525.

Regards

Trudy

**Sustainability Fair**

Planning for the 2019 Sustainability Fair has been hampered by the uncertainty with the date for the upcoming Federal election. As such, the P&C have decided that we will not run the Sustainability Fair in 2019, but will run an **Election Day Fair** instead (date to be determined, most likely the 11 or 18 May)

We are committed to the Sustainability Fair, last year was a great success. However, the calendar for the second half of the year is always tight and we really don't want to risk the nasty weather of 2018! It's also hard to pass up the opportunity to capture a few spare $ from the extra visitors to the school.

The Election Day Fair will have:

* BBQ - Bacon & egg rolls & sausage sandwiches
* Cakes
* Coffee
* Second hand books (we'll be asking for donations soon)
* Suitcase Scrummage - we'll be selling spots for you to sell your wares, such as toys, CDs, clothes etc, whatever you can fit in a suitcase (or bags/boxes)
* Student Fundraising stalls

We'll soon be setting up a volunteer sign-up sheet, some extra hands to plan the day would be great. If you can spare a few hours, please get in touch via [napscommunity@gmail.com](mailto:napscommunity@gmail.com)

**Healthy Eating Hub LogoTERM 1 HEHUB CANTEEN MENU (Open Wednesday, Thursday Friday)**

**Recess**

A selection from the following:

Frozen Peas ‘n’ corn cup $1.00 Fruit of the day / Apple slinky $0.50 / $1.00

Pikelets, Popcorn (VG) $0.50 Toasties $1.00 Frozen fruit cup $1.00 Vanilla Yogurt (V, GF) $2.00

Banana muffin (v, DF) $1.00 Cheesy Corn Fritters $0.50

**Lunch**

Vegie sticks Free Fruit of the day $0.50

Vegemite sandwich (VG) $2.00 Vanilla Yogurt (V, GF) $2.00

Tex Mex toasted wrap(V) $2.50 Milk bottle (150ml) $1.50

Soy milk (VG) $2.50 Tuna & cheese toasted sandwich $3.50

Smoothies $2.00 (collect from canteen)

**Daily Lunch Special- $3.50**

**Wednesday: Thursday: Friday:**

*Pizza(V) Italian chicken toasted sandwich (DF) Veg Sushi (VG),*

*Tuna Sushi (GF*

## After Hours Program

**PLAY TOUCH IN WINTER!**

“Touch Football ACT are running a Junior Winter Competition spanning from 7 May to 25 June. The competition will be 8 weeks and will be held at Deakin Playing Fields each Tuesday evening starting at 5:30pm and ending at roughly 7pm.  This competition will align with Term 2 of the School Calendar year and will run from Week 2 to Week 9. This competition is perfect for your kids to get involved in as it allows them to be active in winter in a fun, friendly environment and do so before it gets too cold.  If you want to play Touch Footy in Winter and want more information, please visit the Touch Football ACT Website or simply give them a ring – (02) 6212 2880.”

Website link- <http://websites.sportstg.com/assoc_page.cgi?c=1-697-0-0-0&sID=413260>

**Code Club**

## Easter Family Night

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