

# Southern Cross Early Childhood School



Newsletter 19 | Monday, 28 November 2016

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**Tuesday 29 November**

**WASTE FREE DAY**

**Thursday 8 December | 3.30**

**Meet your Teacher Afternoon**

**Thursday 8 December | 2.00-3.00**

**Good Vibes Afternoon**

**Thursday 8 December | 5.30-7.30**

**Year 2 Fun night**

**Tuesday 13 December | 5.00-7.00**

**End of Year Celebration**

**Wednesday 14 December | 9.15-10.00**

**Whole School Gathering - Kindergarten**

**Wednesday 14 December | 10.00**

**Volunteers Morning Tea**

**Thursday 15 December | 2.00-3.00**

**Year 2 Graduation**

**Friday 16 December**

**Last day of school for 2017**

Dear Families

## Staffing

We are in the final stages of organising our staffing for 2017. We have two staff leaving our school this year. Natalie Prevedello has been successful in winning a position at Campbell Primary School and Aniya Sluzalek has won a position at Kingsford Smith School. We will miss both of these very talented teachers but we wish them all the best as they move to their new schools.

In our teaching team, returning to our school in 2017 will be Bianca Boyle and Rebecca Bull who have worked in Kindergarten this year. Katharine Finlayson who was our music teacher last year and the year before will also be returning to the team. Also returning in their release roles are Jenny Millsted for science and Ingrid Schryver for the arts. We have some new team members joining our team who bring with them a wealth of experience and commitment to early childhood education. Jessika Morris joins us from Giralang Primary School, Fiona Manton joins us from Burgmann Anglican School, Kathleen Chambers joins us from Amaroo School and Hayley Gray joins us from Kingsford Smith School. Keep an eye out in the next newsletter for more information about Jessika, Fiona, Kathleen and Hayley.

In our admin team returning as Learning Support Assistants in 2017 will be Illona James, Michelle Fisher, Kerrie Palethorpe and Kerri Wilesmith.

I know that you will join me in welcoming our new team members to Southern Cross Early Childhood School.

## Thank you to our Volunteers!!!

There are so many volunteers that work in so many ways supporting our school from coming on excursions, to helping with a lunchtime club, to covering books, to gardening, to being on the School Board or P&C and many more! As a special thank you to these people we would like to invite you to a thank you morning tea to be held after the Whole School Gathering in Week 10 this term (10am on 14 December 2016). We will be sending out official invitations later this week but as we know that sometimes these can go astray in bags, please consider yourself invited. For catering purposes, please RSVP to Nicole at Reception if you can join us.

Kind regards

*Lyndall Read*



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Southern Cross Early Childhood School acknowledges that our children learn on Ngunnawal Land.

# From Southern Cross

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## Good Vibes Afternoon

On Thursday 8 December 2016 at 2pm, the K-2 students will be mixing into small groups across the school for a special 'Good Vibes Afternoon' where we will be discussing the important topic of **bullying** and **harassment**. We will be focusing on defining what these terms mean and learning about it through role plays and discussions. We are going to give our children the language of *using their W.I.T.S* to support them through challenging social situations. We will be clearly explaining when to use each of the strategies of **Walking away**, **Ignoring**, **Talking it out** and **Seeking help**, as some situations require seeking help immediately. Your child might come home talking about using their WITS after Thursday week 9. We will be running another 'Good Vibes' session early in 2017 to consolidate this learning.

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**W**alk away  
**I**gnore  
**T**alk it out  
**S**eek help

## Waste Free Day Reminder – Tuesday 29 November 2016

Whole School - Tuesday 29 November 2016

Murrumbidgee and Molonglo - Friday 2 December 2016

We thank all families for their support in working towards keeping our school environment healthy and waste free.



## Professor Waste-Less (Jason) and Professor Count- A -Lot (Gavin)

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## Science News

During our Week 7 science lesson in Majura Michelle Stuckey, Chloe's mum, came in and worked with the class. Michelle prepared engaging activities for the students about birds and their different types of beaks.



Victoria is imitating a Pelican fishing for food by using a net to pick up ping pong balls.



It was challenging picking up rice from a cup with fine metal tweezers like a Spoonbill and putting it onto a plate.



Chloe is using strong tweezers to pick up and crush smarties to learn how Cockatoos pick up and crush seeds. It is quite difficult.



Children are using tongs to pick up corn kernels from a bowl of water like an Ibis and put it onto a plate.

Our thanks go to Michelle for her time and effort in preparing and presenting these wonderful activities.

All classes from Kindergarten to Year 2 have been studying 'Living Things' in their science lessons this term. Each Kindergarten child has made a grass head to learn about the things plants need. Lanyon have taken theirs home, Booroomba students will bring theirs home this week and Mugga Mugga next week.

Here are a few examples of our successes:



Jenny Millstead  
Science Coordinator

## 2017 School Year

The 2017 school year commences on **Monday 30 January 2017** for students attending the beginning of the week preschool groups, Cotter and Ginninderra.

Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 students return to school on **Tuesday 31 January 2017**.

The end of the week preschool groups, Molonglo and Murrumbidgee commence school on **Thursday 2 February 2017**.

Looking forward to the 2017 school year 😊

## Library Borrowing

The last day for borrowing from the Southern Cross Early Childhood School Library will be

**Friday 2 December 2016** (end of week 8). All books need to be returned by **Friday 9 December 2016**.



# Community Hub

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## Great Grocery and Gift Train Appeal – FINAL WEEK

Thank you to everyone who has donated gifts and/or non-perishable groceries to our gift train for the Salvation Army. The train will not be leaving for the Salvation Army until early next week, so if you have an item to donate please place it in one of the many carriages of the train located just inside the front school entrance. All donations are greatly appreciated.



## Tuning in to Kids – Parenting Program

Tuning in to Kids is a parenting program that helps children learn to understand and regulate their emotions.

The school will be running the Tuning in to Kids program in Term 1 2017. Please contact Jason via email: [jason.thornton@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:jason.thornton@ed.act.edu.au) or by calling 6142 0020 if you are interested in finding out more about the program.

# KidsMatter

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## Parent Survey 2016

Thank you to all who participated in the Kids Matter parent survey. Your feedback will help us in our planning for child and family support at Southern Cross Early Childhood School in 2017.

Here are some of the main points from the feedback we received:

### What families think is important for their child to learn about at Southern Cross:

- Where to go and who to ask for help when needed
- How to foster and promote positive relationships with their peers
- Learning about different cultures, families and ways of living



### What families would like to know more about:

- Parenting and child development
- Developing community support networks
- Managing challenging behaviour
- Building resilience
- Dealing with bullying

### Things that are working well:

- The school respects and values family beliefs and wishes
- The school provides a safe and caring environment
- The school communicates well with families
- Families feel welcome at the school
- Teachers at the school care about the children and families feel comfortable talking to teachers about their children

### What some families are unsure about:

- If the school connects with outside services to assist children who are experiencing difficulties
- If children at school have someone they can talk to when they need help or advice

Please see Jason Thornton (Kids Matter Coordinator) if you have any comment or would like to find out more about Kids Matter at our school.

## Year 2 Class Carer's Event

On Friday 18 November about 20 Year 2 families enjoyed a fish and chips dinner by the Lake. The weather was balmy and the kids had a ball spending the evening running around with each other, playing cricket, and learning to hula hoop. The grown-ups got to relax, chat, and not cook dinner. As our final class carer event in the final term of the final year at SCECS for these kids the evening was a lovely reminder of the strong, inclusive and warm community spirit we have at our school.



Celia and Sarah (Year 2 Class Carers)

## Murrumbidgee & Molonglo Class Gathering



End of year playdate ..... join us for our last pre-school playdate on **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2pm** at Holt playground (near the Holt Community Hub), Pickworth St. There is a playground and bike area, we'll also have some ball games and a Christmas Treasure Hunt.



Please let us know if you're coming so we have enough supplies 😊

Sally ☎ 0422 409 586

✉ [salandrev@gmail.com](mailto:salandrev@gmail.com)

Elizabeth ☎ 0417 836 645

☎ [71elizabethwilliams@gmail.com](mailto:71elizabethwilliams@gmail.com)

## From the P&C

### 2016 End of Year Raffle

That time of year is fast approaching... SUMMER HOLIDAYS!!

The SCECS P&C is holding one final fundraiser... The END OF YEAR RAFFLE to top off our fundraising for 2016.

You could win for yourself and/or your family and friends, some fantastic prizes.

**1st PRIZE:** THE COMFORT PACK - A stunning queen-size quilt, handmade by one of our parents and P&C executive member Robina Sanderson complemented with wine and chocolates. Valued at \$450.

**2nd PRIZE:** CANBERRA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA-SHELL PROM FAMILY PICNIC EXPERIENCE - Enjoy a lovely day out with the family at Government House, listening to amazing music. Includes tickets to the prom and picnic hamper. Valued at \$150.

**3rd PRIZE:** QUESTACON FAMILY PASS - Entry to Questacon for 2 adults and 2 Children. Valued at \$70.

Plus more surprise prizes.



What do we need you to do? Over the next three weeks, by MONDAY 12 DECEMBER 2016, sell the tickets attached to EVERYONE YOU KNOW, or purchase them yourself. More tickets are available at the front office. Return ticket stubs and any unsold tickets, along with money raised in the bag provided to the P&C MAIL BOX (it's on the wall in the kitchenette near reception)... tickets will be drawn 13 DECEMBER 2016 ... at the END OF YEAR CELEBRATION, just in time for the HOLIDAYS! Ticket holders do not need to be present to be in the draw.

All fundraising this year goes towards the improvement of our school grounds and other much needed resources for our children.

All enquiries -Bonnie Roppola (P&C President) 0417 256 234

# Anglicare

## December/January School Holiday Program

<b>Week One 2016</b>	<b>Monday 19 December</b> <b>Christmas Bake Off</b> Come and join us for lots of Christmas baking.	<b>Tuesday 20 December</b> <b>Water Day!</b> Don't forget your swimmers, rashie and towel for a day of water fun!	<b>Wednesday 21 December</b> <b>Christmas Movie &amp; Milkshakes</b> Movie day & milkshakes with our Franklin and Googong friends.	<b>Thursday 22 December</b> <b>Christmas around the world</b> How do others celebrate the holiday season?	<b>Friday 23 December</b> <b>Cleaning Bee &amp; Bike Wash Day!</b> Wear old clothes and bring your bikes.
	<b>Monday 9 January</b> <b>Australian New Year Celebration</b> Join us to celebrate the New Year... we will be creating Firework Crafts.	<b>Tuesday 10 January</b> <b>Kambah Adventure Park Excursion with Franklin and Googong</b> Bus will pick us up at 9.45. Please remember hats and sensible shoes.	<b>Wednesday 11 January</b> <b>African Culture Exploration Day</b>	<b>Thursday 12 January</b> <b>Cooking Day</b>	<b>Friday 13 January</b> <b>Technology Day</b> Bring your Game Boys etc. These must be clearly labelled as we take no responsibility for them. A basket will be provided for these to go in. There will be specific times for playing them.
<b>Week Three 2017</b>	<b>Monday 16 January</b> <b>Leisure Day</b> Franklin & Googong will join us for a day of fun. Bring your bikes and we will finish the day with a movie.	<b>Tuesday 17 January</b> <b>Summer Craft Day</b>	<b>Wednesday 18 January</b> <b>Windmills, Kites and Spinners</b>	<b>Thursday 19 January</b> <b>Mexican Culture Exploration Day</b>	<b>Friday 20 January</b> <b>Bunnings Incursion</b>
	<b>Monday 23 January</b> <b>Larry Brandy – Indigenous Storyteller incursion</b> Larry will share some traditional indigenous stories along with other activities.	<b>Tuesday 24 January</b> <b>Cooking &amp; Teddy Bear's Picnic</b> Bring your teddies and cook up a picnic lunch.	<b>Wednesday 25 January</b> <b>Egyptian Culture Exploration Day</b>	<b>Thursday 26 January</b> <b>Public Holiday</b>	<b>Friday 27 January</b> <b>Australia Day at Franklin Early Childhood School</b> Drop your children at Franklin for a day of fun at the park and school
<b>Week Five 2017</b>	<b>Monday 30 January</b> <b>Lunar New Year Celebration</b>	<b>Tuesday 31 January</b> <b>2017 school year starts</b>			

# Community Information

## Tuning in to Kids



### Emotionally Intelligent Parenting

A six session parenting program for parents/carers of children in Preschool to Year 2.

**Would you like to:**

- Improve interactions with your child?
- Learn to better understand your child?
- Help your child learn to manage their emotions?
- Help to prevent behaviour problems in your child?
- Teach your child to deal with conflict?

**Tuning in to Kids shows you how to help your child develop emotional intelligence!**

**Children with higher emotional intelligence:**

- have greater success with making and keeping friends
- have better concentration at school
- are more able to calm themselves when upset or angry

**Where:** Southern Cross Early Childhood School  
Wirraway Crescent, Scullin ACT

**When:** Thursdays: From 16 February to 23 March 2017  
Time: 9.15am to 11.15am

**Cost:** Free

**Contact:** Jason Thornton - Community Coordinator  
Phone: 6142 0020  
Email: [jason.thornton@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:jason.thornton@ed.act.edu.au)



## Found the perfect gift

Looking for an inspired yet practical Christmas pressie? Why not add a **Project Dinnertime Cooking Clinic** to your own wish list or give it to a loved one? Give the gift of a 60 minute one-on-one cooking class with an Accredited Practising Dietitian to increase **kitchen inspiration and cooking skills**. And the lucky recipient can bring along a friend or significant other for free! **That's a healthy 2017 all wrapped up!**

Contact us to arrange this thoughtful present or visit [www.projectdinnertime.org](http://www.projectdinnertime.org)





5.30pm international food stalls, activities & kids entertainment  
7pm the main event begins!

Saturday December **10<sup>th</sup>**



**Special  
Guests**  
Santa on a  
Harley  
Alan Tongue  
&  
Natalie Miller



**Page Park**  
Macadam St



Bring the kids to learn the Brown Snake, the Caterpillar, the Bunny Hop and lots more. Experienced callers, great Aussie bush music by the T in Mugs.

Refreshments available.

Where - Yarralumla Woolshed, Cotter Road, Yarralumla, ACT

When - 2.30 - 4.30PM, Saturday, 3 December.

Cost - Free



Stay on for picnic/dinner from 6.30 PM (BYO food, drinks, rugs chairs tables etc) and Bush Dance (charges apply) from 8.00 - 11.30 PM with the Bush Capital Band. For more detail see <http://www.mfs.org.au>