

Southern Cross Early Childhood School



Newsletter 19 | Monday, 2 December 2019

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday 4 December | 7.00-8.30

P&C Meeting

Monday 9 December

Year 2 Swimming commences

Monday 16 December | 2.00-3.00

Year 2 Graduation

Tuesday 17 December | 5.00-7.00

End of Year Celebration

Wednesday 18 December | 9.15-10.00

Whole School Gathering - Kindergarten

Wednesday 18 December | 10.00-11.00

Volunteers Morning Tea

Thursday 19 December

Last Day of School

Monday 3 February 2020

**Beginning of week Preschool and
Kindergarten start school**

Tuesday 4 February 2020

Years 1 and 2 start school

Thursday 6 February 2020

End of week Preschool start school

Dear Families

Staffing

I am pleased to let you know that barring any unexpected last minute changes, our teaching team is finalised for 2020. I would firstly like to acknowledge Shane Newman and Sarah Barry who will be leaving us at the end of 2019. Shane and Sarah have made a huge contribution to our school, Shane for the last two years and Sarah for this semester, and we will miss working with them. The good news is that both Sarah and Shane have received permanency within the Directorate and have been offered positions in other schools. Would you join me in congratulating both Shane and Sarah on their appointments.

Emily Tanner has also been offered permanency and will join us at Southern Cross Early Childhood School and Jackie Neill and Candice Scott were both permanently appointed to Southern Cross in the teacher transfer round. Congratulations Emily, Jackie and Candice and we look forward to more years filled with learning and fun.

We have two new teachers joining our team next year. Johnathan Price will be joining us from Fraser Primary School and Sarah Hornby will be joining us from O'Connor Cooperative School. You will be

able to read more about them in future newsletters but for now please welcome them to Southern Cross Early Childhood School. We also will welcome back Maria Kerr from parenting leave. Classroom locations will remain the same for 2020.

Our 2020 teaching team will be:

Preschool - Sarah Hornby, Kellie Rogers, Candy Scott and Maria Kerr

Kindergarten - Sophie Jarvis, Karen Novak and Nicole Harvey

Year 1 and 2 - Hayley Gray, Lisa Ryan, Emily Tanner and Johnathan Price

Release - Jackie Neill



Southern Cross Early Childhood School

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🌐Web: www.scecs.act.edu.au

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

Meet your Teacher Afternoon

We will proceed with our Meet Your Teacher afternoon for children in Kindergarten to Year 2 on Thursday 12 December 2019, 3.30-4.00pm. If you would like to join us please wait out on the Black Top outside the Kindergarten Rooms. We look forward to seeing you there.

Admin Arrangements

We are still in the process of finalising our admin team for 2020. One change I would like to let you know about is our Business Manager, Cheryl Fraser will be taking leave for the first three terms of the year. Cheryl has been a huge part of Southern Cross Early Childhood School and does so much work behind the scenes to ensure that our school runs smoothly and everyone is looked after. Cheryl will decide what the future holds for her later next year, but I am sure that in the meantime you would love to wish her all the best for her adventures in 2020.

Reports

Our team have been busy writing their end of year reports for the children in their classes and our executive have been busy reading and checking them in preparation for them to go out to you next week. I acknowledge that teachers spend many hours away from their families in their personal time to complete the reports for their class. I would like to thank the team for their time and effort in preparing these comprehensive reports.

Thank you to our Volunteers!!!

Our volunteers are such a huge part of our school who work in so many ways to support us from coming on excursions, to helping with a lunchtime club, to covering books, to gardening, to being on the School Board or P&C. As a special thank you to all our wonderful volunteers 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 (10 am on Wednesday 18 December 2019). 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 officially invited. For catering purposes, please RSVP to Nicole at Reception if you can join us.

Kind regards,
Lyndall

From Southern Cross

Waste Free Day

Well done to all the classes for taking part in our Term 4 Waste Free Day. It is impressive to see so many children with no waste in their lunch boxes. Our goal is to minimise the use of single use plastics and where we can all other waste that ends up in our landfill. Thank you to all our SCECS families for taking part. We will find out what class had the least amount of waste out our Whole School Gathering on Wednesday 18 December 2019.





Southern Cross
Early Childhood School



ANGLICARE
NSW SOUTH | NSW WEST | ACT

End of Year Celebration

Tuesday 17 December 2019

5.00pm – 7.00pm

Children from Anglicare to Year 2 will be performing some of their favourite songs.

What to bring: A picnic dinner (no nuts or alcohol please) and a rug or chair.

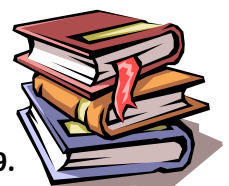
The P&C will be running a sausage sizzle on the night.

Please note: Families have duty of care at this event and please be mindful of our neighbours when parking.

Library Borrowing

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

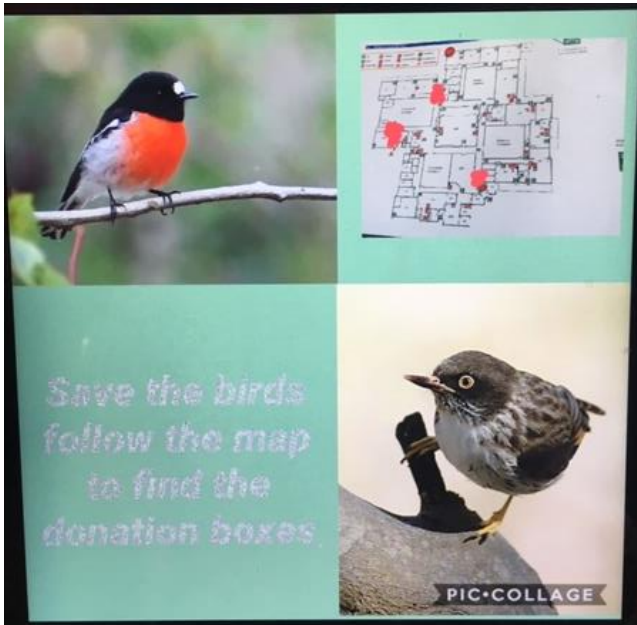
Friday 6 December 2019 (end of week 8). All books need to be returned by **Friday 13 December 2019**.



Endangered Wildlife

The Dyrirrigurat children (Sienna, Maya and Lewis), have been making boxes to collect money for endangered birds. Some species that are on the endangered list are the Brown Tree Creeper, the Hooded Robin, the Scarlett Robin, the Painted Honey Eater and the Little Eagle. The money we collect will go to ACT Wildlife.

If you have any spare change please donate it in our boxes. The boxes are located near reception, The Bright Star Café and near the Kindergarten corridor. Thank you.



Helpful Hints for Home

Planning ahead for the big break

The long holiday break is fast approaching and what a great time to plan for some family learning time. Families are often asking how they can we support their child's learning over the break. There are many fun ways you can support your child's reading, writing, numeracy, curiosity and routine while on holidays. Here are a few inexpensive ideas:

- Keep your eye out for the Southern Cross reading and writing challenge
- Select a novel that you could read together as a family
- Visit your local library to explore different book genres
- If you are going away on a holiday write postcards back to friends and family
- Go for walks around the different nature reserves in Canberra to explore the different environments and connect with Country.
- Visit the different national treasures we have in Canberra, for example, The War Memorial, Botanical Gardens, The Arboretum.
- Create artwork out in nature from items that have fallen onto the ground, take a phot of it to keep a memento of the artwork
- Play a different board or card game together as a family each week
- Spend time to learn something new together, for example for to knit or sew.

- Have time to be mindful. Search for Mindfulness for kids on google and do a meditation together. Smiling Minds is also a good app for mindfulness.
- Have a calendar or timetable of the day for your child to know what is happening for the day or week.
- Build a cubby or set up a tent in the backyard to camp outside for a night.

Remember the holidays are about the children having a break from the busy school term and enjoying time to grow as a child. Having time to talk, laugh and explore together is the best learning any child can have.

Be You

Bunduluk & Dnnawan

End of Year Play Date

All end of week Pre-schooler families are invited!

Place: CISAC , 100 Eastern Valley, Bruce

Date: Saturday 14th December

Time: 10am to 12pm

Cost: Children \$5.80, Adults \$7.50


Slide extra \$4.50

(Slide is optional, adults must pay and ride with children under 6 years)

Family Engagement Coordinators

Bunduluk
Ivy's Mother
Martina 0405529357

Dnnawan
Caleb's Mother
Sumita 0424614875



Remember to bring drinks, towels, swimmers and lunch or have it at the Café.

**Children must be accompanied by an adult in the water.*

**Families have personal duty of care when attending this play date.*

This is a P&C supported event!

Preschool Play Date – Wamburrang and Guginya – Sunday 17 November 2019

Wamburrang and Guginya pre-school classes held their last play date for the year on Sunday 17 November 2019 at Black Mountain Peninsula. The children enjoyed the playground, playing tag and creating games. The highlight was spotting five ducklings with their parents down by the lake. Thank you to all who joined in the fun!



Watching the ducklings take to the water at Black Mountain Peninsula.

Year 1/2 Play Date – Monday 25 November 2019

The Year 1/2 classes have made good use of the warm weather and the beautiful new Southern Cross Oasis by having a water-filled play date this term.

Ice blocks were enjoyed by many and an amazing array of water based games and activities were created! Splashing, dam building, sand castles, water 'cooking' in the mud kitchen, and 'don't spill!' balancing games were some highlights.

It was a fabulous afternoon, enjoying a wonderful new resource! Thank you Southern cross!



Kindergarten Play Date – Wednesday 27 November 2019

Kindy kids and their families shared a relaxed and cool afternoon in the shade of the Oasis. Ice blocks and ever-popular feats of strength from Samara's dad Craig were enjoyed by all. Thanks to everyone who came and enjoyed the Kindergarten play dates this year.

Isaac's report from the play date: "I really liked playing with my friends and Samara's Dad. I jumped off a rock and was caught and turned upside down!"



Community Hub

Circle of Security Parenting Program 2020

In Term 1 2020, the Belconnen Community Service will run the Circle of Security Parenting program at Southern Cross Early Childhood School.

Below is a brief explanation about the program from the Circle of Security International website –

<https://www.circleofsecurityinternational.com/for-parents>

At times all parents feel lost or without a clue about what our child might need from us. Imagine what it might feel like if you were able to make sense of what your child was really asking from you.

The Circle of Security® Parenting™ program is based on decades of research about how secure parent-child relationships can be supported and strengthened.

Using the COS-P model developed by the Circle of Security originators, our trained Facilitators work with parents and care-givers to help them to:

- Understand their child's emotional world by learning to read emotional needs
- Support their child's ability to successfully manage emotions
- Enhance the development of their child's self esteem
- Honour the innate wisdom and desire for their child to be secure.

Details of the program are as follows:

Circle of Security Parenting - Eight-week program

When: Tuesdays - starting 11 February 2020

Where: Southern Cross Early Childhood School

Time: 9:30am to 11:00am

Who: Parents and carers who have children under five years of age

Childcare: Not available

Places are limited, so if you are interested please contact Jason Thornton by email jason.thornton@ed.act.edu.au or phone 6142 0020.

Family Support over the Christmas Holiday Period

The end of year school holiday break is usually an opportunity for sharing quality time with family and friends. However, we know that this time can sometimes cause financial and emotional stress. If you have any concerns or questions leading into the holiday break, please drop in for a chat to discuss options and support. All discussions are confidential.



Jason Thornton – Community Coordinator
Email - jason.thornton@ed.act.edu.au
Phone - 6142 0020

Anglicare

School Holiday Program

The School Holiday Program will be in operation on Friday 20 December 2019. Anglicare Early Learning Centre will be closed from Monday 23 December 2019 through until Monday 6 January 2020 inclusive. Reopening for Long Day Care and the School Holiday Program, on Tuesday 7 January 2020.

Enrolment for the School Holiday program closes Monday 16 December 2019.

Summer School Holiday Program 2020

Friday 20 Dec
End of Year Party
Join us as we celebrate a wonderful year! Today will be full of endless water fights, face painting, oasis expeditions and so much more! Don't forget to bring your swimmers, a towel and plenty of spare clothes!

Monday 6	Tuesday 7	Wednesday 8	Thursday 9	Friday 10
<u>Centre Closed</u> Centre closed for Educator Planning Day	<u>We're going on a Bug Hunt</u> Let's take out our magnifying glasses, explore the mysteries that nature holds, see what creepy crawlies we can find and visit the treehouse for a picnic with friends.	<u>A day full of Friendship</u> Will you be creating friendship bracelets for your best friend or joining in on some group games today as we highlight the power of friendship.	<u>Avatar Story Creation Day</u> Create your own Na'vi from Pandora and write a story about them that goes beyond your wildest imaginations on this Avatar themed day.	<u>Zoo and Aquarium Excursion</u> Let's go visit our local zoo, check out all our favourite animals and then enjoy an afternoon tea with the meerkats.* <i>*This excursion will incur an additional fee</i>
Monday 13	Tuesday 14	Wednesday 15	Thursday 16	Friday 17
<u>Spooky Hideouts</u> Get ready for a creepy day as you break off into two teams and compete with your friends to see who can make the spookiest fort.	<u>Pokémon Day</u> Come dressed up as your favourite Pokémon or trainer, join Team Rocket or Team Ash and try to 'catch them all' throughout the suburbs!	<u>Dawn of the Dinosaurs</u> Have your friends been taken by dinosaurs? Come join us on another nutty adventure with our prehistoric Ice Age friends.	<u>Spies in Disguise:</u> Venture out to Hoyts Belconnen to watch a privately screened spy adventure movie whilst eating tasty popcorn and snacks!*	<u>Harry Potter Day</u> TROLL!!! IN THE DUNGEON! Let's see how many magical creatures we can name from the Pottermore as we try to locate the Philosophers Stone...

Various activities are offered as an alternative for all programmed days. These include craft, construction, reading, music experiences, group games, outdoor activities, and free learning experiences. Please also bring your child's bike/scooter and helmet if they wish to go to the bike track that day.

Summer School Holiday Program 2020

Monday 20	Tuesday 21	Wednesday 22	Thursday 23	Friday 24
<u>Nuddya Disco</u> Dance to express, not to impress! Join us today as we dance along to all your favourite songs and tumble around on the gymnastics mats.	<u>Botanical Gardens Discovery Walk</u> Stroll through the amazing Botanical Gardens and learn how plants are important for animal biodiversity.* <i>*This excursion will incur an additional fee</i>	<u>Woodworking Hard</u> Or hardly woodworking? Hammers, nails and saws are our tools of choice today as we try our hand at some carpentry. I wonder what you will create...	<u>Star Wars Battles</u> Don't forget your bikes and helmets today pilots, and welcome to the Dragon Void, the oldest, most dangerous race in the galaxy. I wonder if there will be any undercover agents travelling today...	<u>The "Boring" Day</u> When we asked the children what they wanted to do during the school holidays, someone asked to do boring stuff. Little do they know what's actually on offer today...
Monday 27	Tuesday 28	Wednesday 29	Thursday 30	Friday 31
<u>Public Holiday</u> Centre closed for Australia Day	<u>Treat Day</u> The day named by the children, for the children. On the menu today will be pancakes for breakfast, pizza for lunch and cookies for afternoon tea. Guess who's cooking?	<u>Excursion to CSIRO Discovery Centre</u> We will be using science to imagine, collaborate and innovate today as we visit Australia's national science research agency.* <i>*This excursion will incur an additional fee</i>	<u>Teacher for a Day</u> Who runs the world? Children of course! Today art is on the agenda and the children are in charge. Watch as our space is transformed into a beautiful hall of creation and wonder...	<u>Nuddya's Got Talent</u> Today we've got a special guest coming in to help you create musical numbers as you sing, dance or perform your way to win this year's competition!*

Monday 3 Feb
Tag you're it!
Join us for our last hoorah before the school term starts and head out to play laser tag at Zone3, earn points as a team to become victorious over your friends!*

**This excursion will incur an additional fee, only available for Year One and Year Two children.*

Various activities are offered as an alternative for all programmed days. These include craft, construction, reading, music experiences, group games, outdoor activities, and free learning experiences. Please also bring your child's bike/scooter and helmet if they wish to go to the bike track that day.

Southern Cross P&C

Final 2019 P&C Meeting

The next P&C meeting will be held this Wednesday night, 4 December 2019, 7pm at Pizza La Casetta Pizzeria (Scullin Shops). All welcome as we plan the end of year BBQ and 2020 activities.

End of Year Raffle

We are seeking donations of anything for our end of year raffle! Please drop off prizes to reception by the end of week 9. A bottle of wine, a box of chocolates etc will help flesh out our hampers!

We would like to thank the Scullin Traders, Dominos Pizza, Priceline Belconnen and Cafe Bolivar for their generous donations as well as the families that have already donated to our prize stash.

2019 Tea Towel Fundraiser

The final tea towel design has been approved and is on it's way from the printers. Expect to see tea towels delivered in week 9. There is a limited number of tea towels available and, with well over half already sold, we need you to get your orders in ASAP to avoid disappointment! They are \$12.50 each or just \$10 if you buy three or more.

School Clothing

A reminder to any families leaving us or families of children who have grown out of our uniforms: please donate any unwanted uniforms to the box at reception!

Winter is a long way away but it's good to plan ahead! We have a stash of second hand size 4 and size 8 jumpers at \$10. We also have some size 6 long sleeve polos at \$5 each. If you would like these, or any other second hand items please email scecschoolingpool@gmail.com

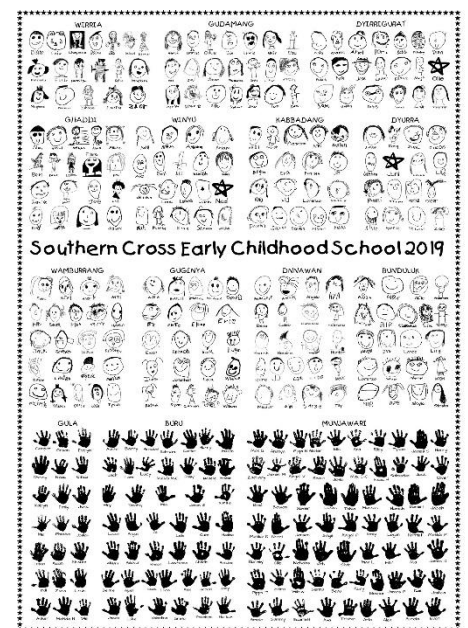
New uniform orders need to be placed by Friday 13 December 2019 to guarantee delivery by the end of the school year. Any orders received over the school holidays will be made available for collection between **12.00-4.00pm Friday 31 January 2020.**

School Banking

The P&C would like to thank our School Banking volunteer Jigar for all his help this year. Jigar's family is off to a new school in 2020 so we need to find a replacement! If you think you could help us in this role, please let Jigar or Jess know.

Thank you

The P&C would like to thank everyone for their contributions and help in 2019. It's a massive team effort and it's been wonderful to see people put their hands up to help us at every event.



Community Information

ACT Nutrition Support Service

"Bring a plate"

The festive season is on our doorstep and with that comes the dreaded request to 'bring a plate'. You know it's coming so be prepared with our simple, festive options which are guaranteed to wow the party.

Something for starters

We can't go past [bocconcini bites](#). Nothing is easier than this and they look so festive!

Or if you are looking for an alternative to chips and crackers then try our no fail [pita crisps](#). Perfect when paired with our [beetroot dip](#).



Salads are sorted

You don't want to add another tossed salad to the festive table that is filled with everyone else's tossed salad! Our [rainbow super salad](#) is a guaranteed show stopper. Or if you are looking for something really simple try the [beetroot and lentil salad](#). Our [mango salsa](#) is an amazing taste sensation that would accompany any summer party meal.



Sweet Sensations

So you drew the short straw to 'bring something sweet'. Bypass the pav and give our [berry bruschetta](#) a go (hint - sourdough raisin bread works best). Our version of [rum balls](#) (add rum as desired) are amazing or bring something fun for the kids with our [chia trifle cups](#).



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