

# Southern Cross Early Childhood School



Newsletter 17 | Monday, 4 November 2019

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**Tuesday 5 November | 5.15-6.00**

**Kindergarten 2020 Information Evening**

**Wednesday 6 November | 12.00-1.00**

**Belconnen High School Children's Theatre  
Performance**

**Thursday 7 November**

**Outside Learning Day**

**Monday 11 November | 10.30-11.30**

**National Portrait Gallery Excursion -  
Preschool**

**Wednesday 13 November | 9.15-10.00**

**Whole School Gathering - Kindergarten**

**Friday 15 November | 12.30-1.30**

**National Portrait Gallery Excursion -  
Preschool**

**Monday 18 November | 9.10-9.40**

**Kindergarten visit for 2020 families**

**Tuesday 19 November–Friday 22 November**

**Scholastic Book Fair**

**Thursday 21 November | 9.10-9.40**

**Kindergarten visit for 2020 families**

Dear Families

## Public Education Awards

Last Thursday evening was the ACT Public Education Awards Ceremony and I was thrilled to attend and support our three nominees. Nominated for Early Childhood and Primary Teacher of the Year was Sophie Jarvis and we had two nominees in the Education Support Person of the Year, Kerrie Palethorpe and Stefanie McFetridge. It was a great opportunity for us to recognise some of the amazing practice that happens at our school and to celebrate members of our team. Although Sophie, Kerrie and Stef were not the winners this year, we applaud them and congratulate them on being nominated by the team.



## Chief Minister's Reading Challenge Awards Ceremony

Last Thursday morning I attended the Chief Minister's Reading Challenge Awards Ceremony with three of our children from Southern Cross. The children attended as representatives of all the amazing readers at our school who completed the reading challenge. They were presented with a certificate and a book voucher from Paperchain Books which we look forward to using! The children also got to take a photo with our Director General Meg Brighton.



## Bike and Kite Day 2019

Bike and Kite Day this year was a bit different with the joint activities of celebrating our 10th Birthday and the Official Opening of the Oasis. It was an amazing afternoon and so lovely to see our community enjoying the afternoon together. Our thanks to the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Development, Yvette Berry for joining us for the afternoon and opening our Oasis. She was very impressed with the Oasis and loved that our children were so eager to get into the sand and dirt. We got kites made and flying and the bike track and jumping castles were in high demand! The face painting was amazing. It was great to see the children enjoying themselves with the Mr Zamboni the Magician and dancing with Culture Break. I would like to thank our volunteer musicians, The Cashews, for providing our entertainment and Max Guyatt for helping with the bike checks. A big thank you to our Community Coordinator, Jason for organising the day and to the team who helped with set up, pack up and who came along to support the event. Should you have any feedback about Bike and Kite Day 2019 – what worked well and/or what we could do better, please email your thoughts to Nicole at [Nicole.Emerton@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Nicole.Emerton@ed.act.edu.au).

## Outside Learning Day

This Thursday is Outside Learning Day and we are super excited to be spending the day outside and being curious! It is highly likely that we are going to be messy at points in the day so please make sure that you pack a change of clothes.

## School Improvement - Action Research Mini Conference

In addition to the professional learning that we undertake across the year our team have been working with Giralang Primary School to further our understanding about Cultural Integrity. This Thursday our teachers and executive will be presenting to the combined school teams the outcomes of our research that we have undertaken over 2019. This is a great opportunity for us to learn from each other and see how we can improve practice across both schools.

## Class Placement for 2020

In our last newsletter we provided a link so you can provide information about class placement for 2020. If you have not already done so and would like to provide feedback please follow this link <https://forms.gle/qP3ViTnALidKm9EZ7>

Kind regards,  
*Lyndall*



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



# From Southern Cross

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## OUTDOOR CLASSROOM DAY!

A day on Country

Thursday 7 November 2019

Please join us on Thursday 7 November 2019 for a whole day learning outside connecting to Country. Children will have the opportunity to explore, learn and play in the Southern Cross Outdoor Learning environment. Parents with siblings are welcome to join us. Beginning of the week Preschool families are welcome to come along and join in with parent supervision. If you would love to volunteer at one of the Learning Workshops, please come and let Jackie or Candice know.

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## Bike and Kite Day – Sunday 27 October 2019

It was wonderful to see so many families at our Bike and Kite Day last week. The sun was shining and there was a light breeze which provided a perfect afternoon for all to enjoy. We also celebrated our 10 year anniversary of being an early childhood school and we officially opened the Oasis. It is hard not to have a good time when you have cake, sand and mud, alongside face painting, Lego, magic and jumping castles. Thank you to everyone who helped out on the day and for our wonderful school community for coming along and enjoying time together.








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## Lunchtime learning Clubs – Woodwork

Shane is running the Woodwork Club each Thursday lunchtime for children in Kindergarten and Year 1/2. A two week roster has been set up so all children who are interested in woodwork can have a turn.




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## Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group

**Narragunnawali**  
Reconciliation in Schools  
and Early Learning

**NAKRA  
GUNNA  
WALI**

Southern Cross has a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). This is a formal statement of commitment to reconciliation. The RAP identifies key actions for our school community to work towards to build relationships, respect and opportunities for learning within the classroom, the school and the community.

Members of the school community are invited to be part of the RAP working group, which meets 1-2 times a term to make sure our school is active in our reconciliation journey. Both indigenous and non-indigenous community members are welcome.

If you are interested in being part of the Southern Cross RAP working group, contact

[jason.thornton@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:jason.thornton@ed.act.edu.au), [sophie.jarvis@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:sophie.jarvis@ed.act.edu.au) or [emily.tanner@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:emily.tanner@ed.act.edu.au).

You can find out more about Reconciliation Action Plans at <https://www.narragunnawali.org.au/raps/what-is-a-rap>

# Helpful Hints for Home

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Reading is one of the most important experiences you can do with your child. Families often ask a number of questions about how to support their child's reading. Below are a few frequently asked questions and guides that may help you when reading with your child.

## *Frequently asked questions*



### *I don't have enough time!*

- It's ok if you don't read a whole book or a chapter at once.
- If you don't have 30 minutes, try just 10!
- Be intentional about making read alouds a regular part of your life.
- Try listening to audiobooks in the car – you are still sharing a story together.
- Read during snack time or at the breakfast table.



### *My child can read on his own.*

- Reading alone and reading aloud are not mutually exclusive. We can and should do both!
- Children are able to listen to stories with more complex vocabulary than what they can read on their own.
- By sharing a book together, you are building strong bonds with your child.
- Reading aloud stimulates conversations that you might not otherwise have.



### *What books do I choose?*

- Start with topics that interest your child.
- Ask a librarian or your child's teacher for recommendations.
- The self-selection, self-interest factor is important – let kids read what interests them.
- 89% of kids say their favorite books are the ones they themselves have picked.



### *My child won't sit still.*

- Studies show that for many children, actively engaging in something with their hands helps them to listen better.
- For some kids, information can go deeper into their brains when the child physically moves around.
- Create a fidget basket with hands-on activities for your child to use while you read.





## *What do I say while I read?*

- Having one-on-one discussions will get children to reflect on their reading.
- We tend to overcomplicate things – it's okay if the questions are simple!
- Have a conversations about the book, as though you were talking about a movie.
- Talk as though you are in a cozy book club than a formal classroom.
- Keep it easygoing, friendly approach.



## *When do I read?*

- The most popular time is bedtime since it's a great way to relax at the end of the day.
- Use waiting times to pull out a book – at the doctor's office, before practice starts, etc.
- Listen to audiobooks in the car.
- The most important thing is to create a routine that works for your family.



## *My child doesn't like to read*

- Our attitude about reading and the atmosphere we create in our home matter.
- It's essential that we communicate with our words, actions and attitudes that reading is worthwhile for its own sake.
- Show interest in what interests your child.
- Kids benefit simply from the presence of books.
- Create a literacy-rich environment and expose them to role models who read often.

WWW.THECOLORFULAPPLE.COM

# Be You



## *Wamburrang & Guginya Black Mountain Peninsula*

*Sunday, 17 November 2019  
10 am to 12 pm*



*Please join us at Black Mountain Peninsula for our last play date of the year and some awesome games!*

*Bring along some afternoon tea (no nuts please) and have a fun morning with other families from preschool.*

*Meeting point: Playground at Black Mountain Peninsula, Garryowen Dr, Acton ACT*

*Please RSVP by 12 November by texting Tina on 0402 295 824  
or Birgit on 0405 814 106*

*Parents/Carers are responsible for their child's  
supervision during this activity.*

*Please be aware that this event is near water.  
This is a P&C endorsed event.*



# KINDERGARTEN PLAYDATE OASIS

**WHERE: OASIS, SCECS**

**WHEN: WED 27TH NOV, 3PM**

Bring a change of clothes,  
it will be muddy!

Kindergarten Family  
Engagement Coordinators

Dyurra  
Tamira Ford  
(Isaac's Mum)

Kabbaqang  
Frances Stewart  
(Dylan's Mum)

Wingu  
Craig Methorst  
(Samara's Dad)  
0402 539 979



This is a P&C supported event  
Families have personal duty of care when attending this playdate.

## Community Hub

### Japanese Conversation Classes

with Ai Sephora



*It's not too late to join in.*

*Come along this Tuesday at  
9:15am in the Community Room  
to learn basic Japanese!*

## Story Time in the Library

Come along to story time on Thursday mornings at 9.00am in the library. The session runs for 30 minutes and is suitable for all children under 5 years. It is a great opportunity to enjoy some good old fashioned story telling and make new friends.



## Anglicare

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### Mango Fundraiser

Orders have now closed for the 2019 Mango Fundraiser.

Our estimated delivery date will be during the week from Monday 9 December 2019.

(however it may be earlier or pushed back a week pending fruit picking and ripeness).



### Lost Property

We currently have a lot of lost property in the Anglicare entrance corridor. Items that have not been collected by Friday 8 November will be donated to charity. Please come and take a look if your child is missing anything 😊

### 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.

## Southern Cross P&C

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### Tea Towel Fundraiser

Order forms for tea towel orders will go home with students this week. They will be selling for \$12.50 each or \$10 when you buy more than three. Thanks in advance for your support for this P&C fundraiser.

### End of Year Celebrations

The P&C will be holding a raffle drawn at the end of year celebration held on Tuesday 17 December 2019. If your family has anything that could be donated as a prize, we would be grateful!



## School Clothing

We are heading into our busiest period for school clothing orders. We thank you in advance for getting orders in by week 8, 6 December 2019, to guarantee delivery before the last day of school. Any orders received during the school holidays will be processed and ready for collection Friday 31 January 2020 between the hours 12.00-4.00pm.

The P&C is keen to collect any uniforms from our families leaving us this year. Please drop off any unwanted uniform items to the collection box near reception.

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## Scholastic Book Fair

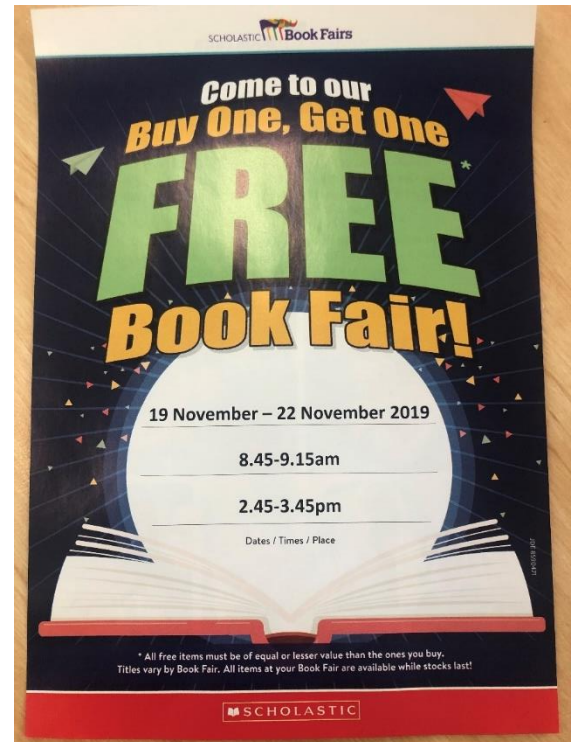
**Southern Cross is holding a another Book Fair in 2019!**

**Tuesday 19 November – Friday 22 November 2019**

**This gives you another chance to purchase some gifts leading up to the end of the year 😊**

More information soon.

Organised by Nicky and Jasja



## Community Information

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### ACT Nutrition Support Service

**I'm super yummy and finally back in season. Who am I?**

Get excited Canberra! Mango season is here and that means Aussie grown mangoes are back in town and cheap to buy. But how healthy are these sweet and juicy tropical treats?

Mango benefits

Half a mango contains around 300kJ, and because mangoes have a low Glycaemic Index (GI), they help to maintain healthy blood sugar levels and keep you satisfied for longer. They're also a great source of fibre, potassium, and Vitamins A and C, helping your body to function at its best.



**Half a mango is equivalent to one serve of fruit providing half of your daily fruit requirement.**

## Mango recipes

If you can resist the temptation of gorging straight into your mangoes a-la naturale then be sure to try our mango recipes.



[Mango sorbet](#)



[Mango salsa](#)



[Orange and mango spritzer](#)

## Too many mangoes?

So you've bought a crate of mangoes from road side store or took part in a healthy fundraising mango drive and now you have plenty of mangoes ready to eat right now! Here's some tips to help make your mangoes last.

- When ripe, store your mangoes in the fridge, this will stop them ripening any further. Fully ripe mangoes can be stored in the fridge for a few days.
- Remove the skin and stone, and freeze the flesh in ziplock bags.
- Blend the flesh and freeze in ice cube trays to use in smoothies or add some flavour to iced water.

Frozen mangoes are ideal added to smoothies, or blended with low-fat Greek yoghurt to make a healthy homemade frozen yoghurt!

**Fun fact - Mango trees can live for over 300 years!**

**4pm -  
8.30pm**

**SCULLIN  
TWILIGHT  
CELEBRATION**  
  
Celebrating summer's imminent  
arrival and the first birthday of  
the Scullin Community Group.

**SAT  
23RD  
NOV**

**SCULLIN SHOPS**  
Music by 80s cover band Flux Capacitor.  
(Check out [fluxcapacitorband.com.au](http://fluxcapacitorband.com.au))  
Late night trade (Xmas gifts!) at Scullin Traders.  
Outdoor bar, beanbags and boules.  
Pizza or Chinese takeaway from Sue's Kitchen

ROCK SCULLIN LIKE IT DID IN THE 80'S - [WWW.MYSCULLIN.COM](http://WWW.MYSCULLIN.COM)