

SOUTHERN CROSS EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOOL

Respect | Resilience | Kindness | Creativity

NEWSLETTER 17 | MONDAY 30 OCTOBER 2023

Dear families and friends

Welcome to Week 4! Our term has been so busy already and there is a lot of appreciation in this newsletter as well as some reminders for what is coming up in our calendar.

BIKE AND KITE TWILIGHT COMMUNITY GATHERING

Wow – what a wonderful turn out at our Twilight Bike and Kite Community Gathering last Friday! Thank you to those in the community who came along. Families had fun with face painting, learning circus skills, drumming and music, kite making and flying, and of course, bike riding. We were so lucky to have a lovely spring afternoon for our event. Thank you to all our staff for preparing the materials we needed and thank you to those who attended on the day. Our wonderful P&C provided a BBQ and raised money for our school – thank you to all the volunteers.

CONGRATULATIONS

I would like to congratulate Maria, Hayley, and Candy for their presentation at the online Affiliated Schools Conference last week. Maria, Hayley, Candy and myself have been involved in a Teachers as Researcher's initiative throughout 2023. As part of this project, the team have been exploring our approaches to play at Southern Cross. I would like to thank them for all their hard work and dedication to supporting children's play across the curriculum here at Southern Cross.

GRANDPARENTS AND FRIENDS DAY

Our lovely grandparents and friends spent time with the children last Friday

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday 30 October | 9.15-10.15

Grandfriends Day

Preschool - Guginya and Wamburrang

Monday 27 November –

Friday 1 December

Year 2 Swimming

Tuesday 5 December | 12.00-1.30

Christian Education in Schools

Wednesday 6 December

Outdoor Classroom Day

Thursday 7 December | 5.00-6.30

Year 2 Fun Night

Monday 11 December | 2.00-3.00

Year 2 Graduation

Tuesday 12 December | 5.00-6.30

End of Year Celebration

Southern Cross Early Childhood School
Wirraway Crescent Scullin | ACT | 2614

☎ 02 6142 0020

🌐 www.scecs.act.edu.au

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



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morning (end of the week preschool groups and K – 2) and today (beginning of the week preschool groups). The children shared two special songs with their special visitors before presenting them with a flower they had made. They then spent time with them in classrooms and the outdoor learning environment. The children were so proud sharing their learning and engaging in experiences across the school. Thank you to those who could come and visit and a huge thank you to Sharron, Sarah, Belinda, Bianca and Alys for organising the event.

WORLD TEACHERS DAY

Last Friday we celebrated the teaching staff at Southern Cross for their skilled work in educating, inspiring and supporting our students. Teachers were greeted with a beautiful morning tea to recognise their passion, dedication and unwavering care and commitment. Thank you to all our educators for the amazing work you do each and everyday to support our students, families, community and each other.



TERM 4 REPORTS

Our Term 4 reports will go home in Week 9 via email for Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2. As in semester 1, our teachers are committed to documenting the learning that has happened in semester 2. To ensure the delivery of reports, please notify the front office if you have changed your email address. Preschool reports will be sent home as usual via classroom teachers. Interviews will be held in week 10 at parent request.

2024 CLASS PLANNING

It is that time of the year when we start to forward plan and consider classes for 2024. The children will be selecting five 'positive working partners' (these are not always friends) in class with their teachers. This information, as well as the extensive knowledge your child's teacher has of the children, will support our team when making decisions for our 2024 class placements. If you would like to contribute some further information, please use the Google Form link: [Class Planning 2024](#). Please be aware that as much as we try to fulfill everyone's requests, it is not always possible to do so.

2024 TRANSITIONS

A successful transition can ensure a smooth start to a school year with positive connections and engagement in learning. At Southern Cross we have many processes to ensure a positive start to the school year.

2024 Preschool - Over weeks 5, 6 and 7 our 2024 preschool children will be visiting preschool to become familiar with educators and the environment. Families have been emailed information specific to these visits.

2024 Kindergarten - Our current preschool children will be engaging in visits to the kindergarten classrooms and outdoor learning environments over the next few weeks, so they become familiar with the routines and environment. More information will be shared on Seesaw about these visits.

2024 Year 1/2- Later in the term, our current kindergarten children will be visiting the year 1/2 classrooms and engaging in learning experiences with the current year 1 children. We will provide more information over the coming weeks.

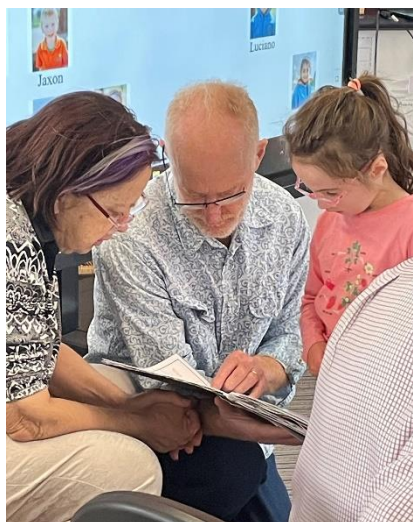
Have a great week everyone,

Liz Marman

FROM SOUTHERN CROSS

GRANDFRIENDS DAY

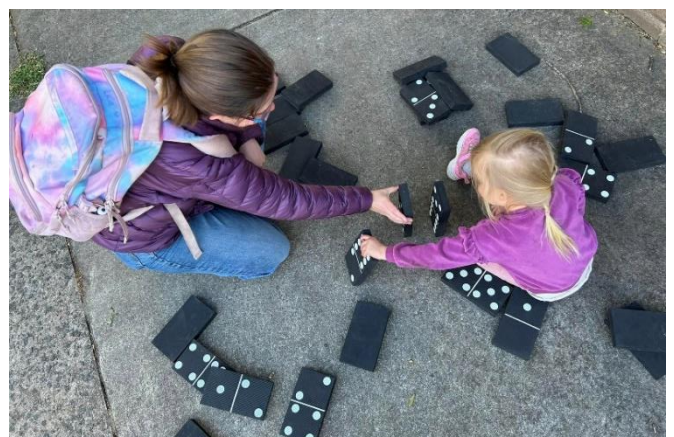
What an amazing turn out for Grandfriends Day at Southern Cross! It was lovely to see so many people come along for morning tea and a peek in the classroom.



Thank you to all the special people in our children's lives for showing such a keen interest in the learning that happens here at Southern Cross.

TWILIGHT BIKE AND KITE GATHERING

To celebrate Children's week, Southern Cross hosted our annual Bike and Kite day event. Families came along for an evening of face painting, drumming, music, circus skills, kite flying and bike riding. It was great to see so many members of the community celebrating with us.



NEWS FROM YEAR 1/2

Year 1/2 have combined their lessons on health with soccer clinics from Football Australia. They are already very popular with children expressing their excitement for the next sessions.

As well as learning about decisions that affect our life, children are discovering how their bodies and achievements change over time. They are learning how exercise makes them feel and learning to push through boundaries when tired or hot, in order to improve their fitness.

Football Australia is supporting them to develop their kicking skills, such as passing and shooting and how to work in team situations.



FROM THE P&C

FUNDRAISING EFFORTS

We're so happy to share with our community the amount of funds we have raised through our latest events! Check it out!

Referendum BBQ: approx. \$1500

Bike and Kite BBQ: approx. \$1250

Walkathon: approx. \$950

We are really pleased by the generosity of the school community, what a great outcome! We are grateful for the people who could volunteer, they are our most precious treasures, without them events like these could not go ahead.

Why volunteer with us -

Meet Frances Stewart. She is Southern Cross Early Childhood School P&C vice president, the P&C Council's new communications officer and a huge fan of handing out Zooper Doopers.

"I love seeing happy kids. To be honest, that is my biggest motivation for being part of the P&C. It is impossible not to smile when you hand a child an ice block and I love the smiles I get in return," she says.



Frances, Patty, and Cris

Read more at <http://www.actparents.org.au/.../537-why-i-volunteer...>

PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT GRANT

We're also super grateful to José, who kindly set up the kitchenette for the community room.

This is the product of the grant that our previous committee secured. This grant is designed to foster parent engagement in the school community.

At the Southern Cross Early Childhood School's community room, lots of things happen! This room is used for family information sessions, for the Walga nature group (especially during inclement weather), for Christian education, for tutorials for UC student teachers and it is also used as a music room a couple of times a week.



Having a kitchenette there now means that the potential for future community engagement is greater.

What are some ideas that come to mind?

Please send your suggestions to scecsbandc@gmail.com

NEXT EVENTS

Tea towels - Get ready to place your orders! Our annual portrait tea towels are being produced and will arrive soon!

Year 2 T-Shirts - Every year the SCECS P&C gift each Year 2 student a graduation t-shirt. These have been used at the Year 2 fun night to collect friends and educator's signatures and warm wishes. Thank you to Sam, who is busy working behind the scenes to get these ready.

End of Year Celebration event - The P&C work with the school to facilitate an End of Year Celebration where children perform for their family and friends. There will be opportunities to volunteer for this event. Keep an eye out for further information.

NEXT P&C MEETING

Tuesday 28 November TBC

Lately the P&C have been doing hybrid meetings (some people meet somewhere, and others join in online!) - put the date in your calendar and come along!

KEEP UPDATED

Also, don't forget to like our page on Facebook, comment, like, share posts, etc. so that our algorithm improves, and our news and events are seen by more people from our community! 😊

<https://www.facebook.com/scecspscandc/>

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

DADS OF NORTH CANBERRA

[Dads Group](#) promote positive parenting for fathers and father figures + give new Dads the support and connection they need. Our early

intervention approach provides new Fathers with positive social relationships and easier pathways to health services if they need them. You can find the official

Dad's Group Facebook page for Canberra here - [Dads of North Canberra](#).

The first program launched by Dads of North Canberra is

our weekly dad's group – it's like a playgroup/mothers group, but exclusively for dads and their kids. It is a super relaxed and approachable peer-to-peer support program; Coffee, kids, dads and a playground...that's it.

Dads of North Canberra; mid-week Dads Group

- **When:** 10am each Wednesday during the school term
- **Where:** We meet at Gang Gang Café and then stroll across to Melba Street Park
- **Cost:** Nothing! + free coffee on your first visit

The Dads of North Canberra also plan to launch a monthly Saturday morning BBQ in 2024, this event will take place 10am on the First Saturday of the month (location tba).

