

Southern Cross Early Childhood School



Newsletter 2 | Monday, 22 February 2021

Respect | Resilience | Kindness | Creativity

DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday 23 February | 5.15-6.00

All about Preschool Curriculum – Parent Information Session

Wednesday 24 February | 7.00

P&C AGM

Wednesday 3 March | 9.15-10.00

Whole School Gathering - Gudamang

Wednesday 3 March | 5.15-6.00

Transition Pathways – Parent Information Session

Monday 8 March

Canberra Day Public Holiday

Friday 12 March | 8.00-8.50

Community Breakfast

Monday 15 March | 9.30-10.30

2022 Preschool Information Tour

Wednesday 17 March | 12.00-1.30

Christian Education in Schools

Wednesday 24 March | 9.30-10.30

2022 Preschool Information Tour

Friday 2 April

Good Friday Public Holiday

Dear families and friends

Thank you to our staff and families for prioritising time to connect and exchange important information about our learners during the Getting to Know You interviews. Working in partnership is something we highly value. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher in the future should you wish to discuss anything about your child's learning.

If you haven't had a chance yet to talk with your child's teacher, please contact Nicole at reception to make a time. If you cannot make it into school, we can make a time for a phone call.

Southern Cross Vision, Mission and Values

Our Vision, Mission and Values help to keep us focussed on what our community thinks is important.

Our Vision

We will inspire a passion for learning across our whole community and provide opportunities for children to play, learn and grow.

Our Mission

We recognise children as being capable, creative and competent learners. We partner with their family and our community to nurture their development. We prioritise relationships, play experiences,

quality practice and inclusive environments with meaningful connections to Country. We respect and value everyone as learners.

Our Values

Respect, resilience, kindness and creativity.

Every day our teachers and educators look for opportunities to recognise when we see our children demonstrating these values around our school.



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

☎ Telephone (02) 6142 0020

✉ Email: info@scecs.act.edu.au

🌐 Web: www.scecs.act.edu.au

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

Social media

We try and regularly post interesting things to our Facebook page. Whilst we know that Facebook is not perfect, we do find it useful to share our happenings at Southern Cross Early Childhood School. Grandparents especially love to see our photos! We do take great care with media permissions, but should there be a photo that you do not want posted please let us know and we will remove it straight away.

Reading at Southern Cross – Reader’s Workshop

Staff were re-introduced to the Reader’s Workshop Model in the week before school started back. Last week (week 3) we were lucky enough to have Christine Topfer present Professional Learning which allowed us to think deeply about the strategies we are using to support our readers in our classrooms.

Research tells us that if we want children to improve their reading, then they need to spend most of their learning time engaged in meaningful reading. The Reader’s Workshop Model allows for the teacher to explicitly teach and model a strategy for one-third of the lesson time and for children to practise that strategy for two-thirds of the lesson time. Whilst children are practising, the teacher will conference with individual children or work with a small group of children to provide feedback and to discuss individual reading goals. A reflection is orchestrated at the end of the lesson to enable the children to reflect on their learning and consider what may be their focus for the following day.

We encourage you to ask your child what they are reading during Reader’s Workshop and the strategy they are practising to help them improve their reading skills.

Kind regards,
Kelly

From Southern Cross

Whole School Gatherings

We are delighted to announce that we will be able to host Whole School Gatherings in 2021.

Whole School Gatherings are an opportunity for the school community (children, educators, families and Anglicare at Southern Cross) to come together to connect and to celebrate learning at Southern Cross. Whole School Gatherings usually occur twice per term in Week 5 and Week 10 at 9.15am-10.00am. Please see the dates below for 2021. We will communicate with families which class is hosting the whole school gathering throughout the year.

2021 Whole School Gatherings
Date
Wednesday 3 March - Hosting Class: Gudamang
Wednesday 31 March
Wednesday 19 May
Wednesday 23 June
Wednesday 11 August
Wednesday 15 September
Wednesday 3 November
Wednesday 8 December

COVID Safe reminders

- Check in with the **Check in CBR** app
- Hand sanitise upon arrival
- Leave spaces (seats) between family groups
- Stay home if you are unwell

If you have any questions, please see Nicole and reception.

Enrolments for 2022

If your child turns 4 years old before 30 April 2022 they are eligible for enrolment in an ACT Education Directorate Preschool.

Applications for Enrolment for the 2022 school year are available online from 19 April 2021.

Forms are available online at: <https://form.act.gov.au/smartforms/servlet/SmartForm.html?formCode=1087>

We are holding 2022 Preschool Information tours before enrolment opens to enable you to view our preschool sessions in action and give you a chance to ask any questions you may have.

Tour times:

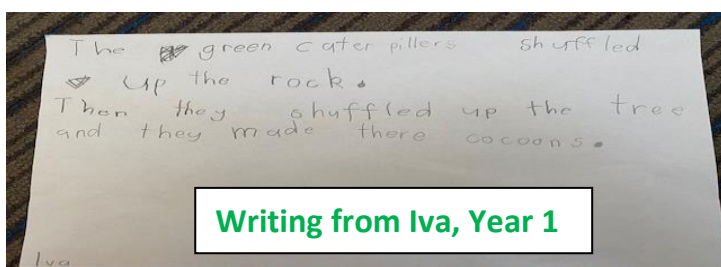
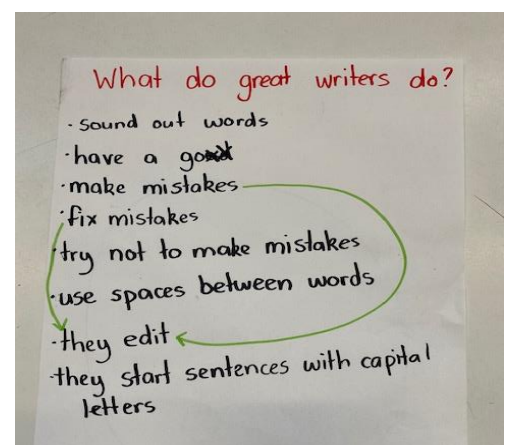
- 9.30-10.30am Monday 15 March 2021
- 9.30-10.30am Wednesday 24 March 2021
- 9.30- 10.30am Wednesday 5 May 2021
- 9.30-10.30am Thursday 27 May 2021

To register your interest please contact reception on 6142 0020 or email Nicole on nicole.emerton@ed.act.edu.au

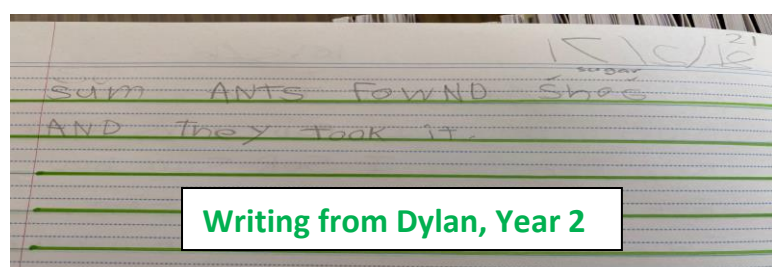
Writing in Year 1/2

Year 1 and 2 have already been working hard on their writing! We have been focusing on seeing ourselves as writers, recognising the things great writers do, and writing recounts/retells of things we have done and read or watched. Classes have also been working on editing, word noticing and different sounds in words, such as digraphs.

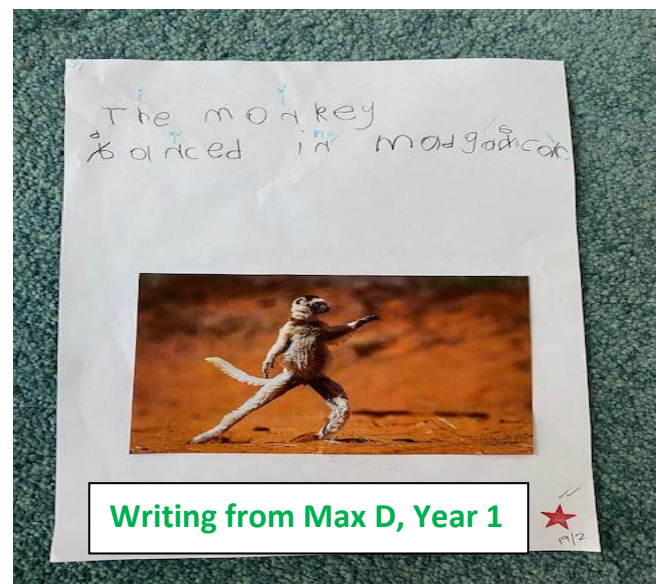
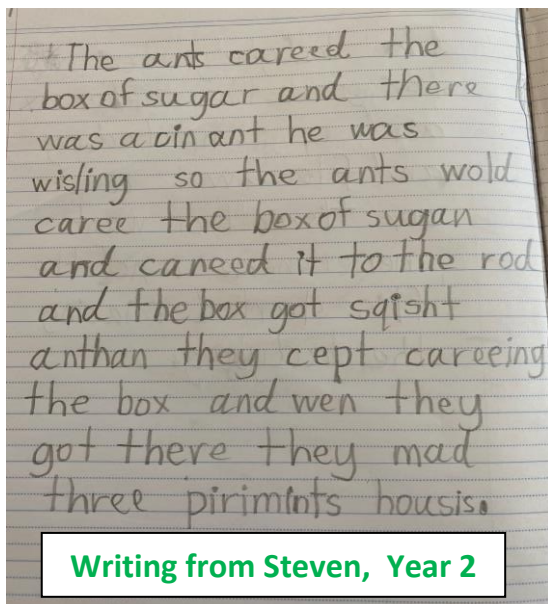
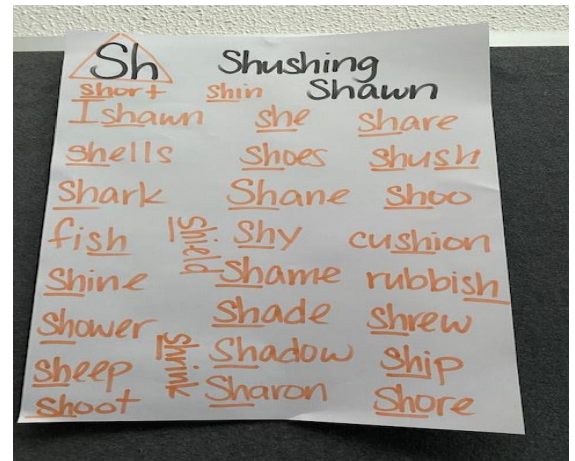
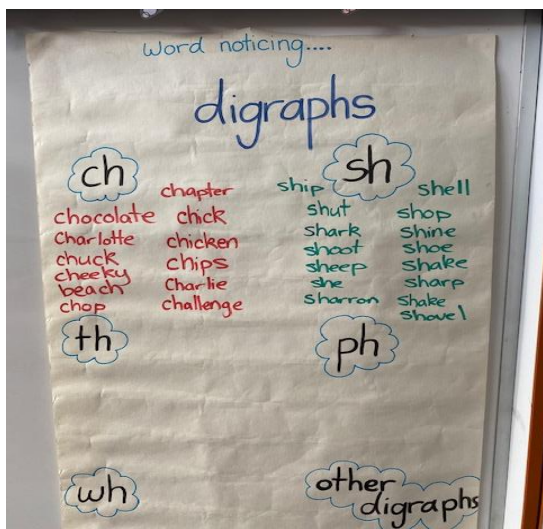
Here are some examples of the learning different classes have done and some of the writing we have already produced. We hope to keep noticing words, exploring how we are writers and publishing our own texts as we keep growing as writers!



Writing from Iva, Year 1



Writing from Dylan, Year 2



Community Hub

Southern Cross Early Childhood School

Story Time



When: Tuesday mornings—Term 1 2021

Time: 9:05am to 9:30am

Where: On the grass near the front entrance

For: Young children with their parents or carers



Community Picnic Breakfast

@ Southern Cross Early Childhood School

Friday 12 March 2021
8:00am – 8:50am

Bring a picnic rug and join us under the trees near the staff carpark.
This is a great opportunity to enjoy a healthy breakfast with other families
from our school.

You are invited to wear clothes that represent your culture or
orange clothes to celebrate Harmony Week: 15 – 21 March 2021.



Capital
Region
Community
Services

Circle of Security



Circle of Security Parenting Program – SCECS Term 2 2021

Topics include:

- *Introducing the Circle of Security Parenting program.*
- *Developing skills in distinguishing the 'need' moments.*
- *Building a solid emotional foundation for your child/children.*
- *Tuning into your child/children's shifts in attention and emotion.*

Circle of Security Parenting is a program designed to enhance attachment between parents/carers and children. You will discover how to establish a secure base that gives your child/children a sense of safety as well as develop observational skills to strengthen your relationships.

For: Parents and carers who have children five years or younger

Session day: Thursdays – total of eight sessions

Start date: Thursday 29 April 2021

Time: 9:30am to 11:30am

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

Registrations are essential as places are limited.

Contacts: [Jason Thornton](mailto:jason.thornton@ed.act.edu.au) on 6142 0020 or jason.thornton@ed.act.edu.au

[Matty Samson](mailto:Matty.Samson@crccs.com.au) on 6264 0200 or Groups@crccs.com.au

Linking Families to Learning

Oral Language

A child's oral language development is the foundation of their literacy learning, it is where they begin to navigate their understandings of language. Here is a link to an article on the reading rockets website if you are interested in reading more.

<http://www.readingrockets.org/article/young-childrens-oral-language-development>

Below are some ideas to help support oral language development.

Supporting talk and interaction

Parents can support oral language development through:

- making up stories – storytelling
- singing songs
- telling nursery rhymes
- reading and enjoying books
- interacting with others and engaging in meaningful conversations
- actively listening
- instilling a sense of wonder about the world

Dinner time talk

The dinner table is a great opportunity for families to have a chat. Here are some useful conversation starters:

- I wonder ...
- I noticed ...
- I think ...
- I realised ...

Talking about books and experiences

Talking with children about what they are doing, what they are going to do, and what they have been doing, can help them to develop an understanding of the type of language used in books (e.g. Once upon a time). Children need a lot of experience of this kind of language in preparation for literacy. Try using the acronym TALK as a reminder of what to address with families.

T = Take time to talk, making yourself available for interactions

A = Ask questions to which you do not always know the answer

L = Listen actively

K = Know your child and the language they use.

Extending talk

Extending a child's thinking and conversation supports both literacy and numeracy learning. Invite children to extend their talk with these useful questions:

- 'What makes you say that?'
- 'Tell me more.'
- 'Can you tell me why you think it is true?'
- 'Can you show me which part of the book makes you think that?'

Out and about

Look for letters and numbers when you are out and about. Find words and symbols that give us information – shop signs, street signs, house numbers. Talk about how we use this information to help us find places

(Department of Education, Tasmania Government. Learning Families Together Initiative 2017)

Anglicare

We love how well the children are settling into their new programs with us at Anglicare, and how they are finding their groove transitioning from school to our After School Care Programs. We welcome our new OOSH co-ordinator, Ioulia (pronounced Yulia) to our team in a couple of weeks from now! Ioulia brings with her years of early childhood experience, as well as mentoring. She will be the perfect fit for our OOSH program, and we look forward to welcoming her to our team.

Walga Nature Preschool

From tomorrow, the new courtyard will be utilised as the pickup and drop off point for Walga. If you are enrolled from 9-3 only, please drop the children off in this courtyard, rather than the community room. Please use the tablet at reception to sign your children in. All before and after school program bookings for preschool drop off and pick-ups will remain in the community room.

Anglicare School Photos

We have changed companies for school photos this year, and are utilising Sandpit Photos. The dates for these are the Monday 15 March, Wednesday 17 March, and Friday 19 March. More information will be sent out by the end of this week, but please keep these dates on your calendar. Sibling photos will also be available.

P&C

Final message from outgoing P&C President

As this is one of my last jobs as the outgoing P&C President, I just wanted to say a huge thank you to everyone that has supported this committee over the last two years. I am so proud of some of the environmentally friendly practices we implemented in 2019 and the COVID safe activities we were able to enjoy in 2020.

- Thank you to Jasja who runs the book club and helps whenever she can.
- Thank you to Cassy and Megan for being the uniform shop volunteers. You have been amazing.
- Thank you to Nicole for her time as Treasurer and bringing her calm and level-headedness to every event.
- Thank you to Mel for being Secretary and my right hand woman through it all. I could not have done any of it without you and thank you for loaning Max on a regular basis.
- Thank you to any parent and carer that volunteered at anything over the past two years. We literally couldn't do it without you.
- Thank you to the teaching staff who have put up with me popping in with flyers and forms, thank you to Jose for always helping and not being put out by any of our events, thank you to Jason for keeping the show on the road and getting us organised, thank you to Nicole for putting up with me asking for printing and advertising and for being at the coal face of the uniform shop and every other P&C event. Thank you to Kelly, Emma and Nicky for your support at every event, and lastly;
- Thank you to the Southern Cross community for trusting me with the events that are so special to our kids and being flexible when 2020 made things look a bit different. It's been a pleasure.

Jess Yeo
P&C President

P&C AGM

The P&C AGM will be held on Wednesday evening, 7pm in the staff room. You can also attend on Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79158588556?pwd=Qk5yZ1h5U0NhZnlzNkRRaVJEWk9zUT09>

Meeting ID: 791 5858 8556

Passcode: 8FdJHF

This meeting is critically important for our community as we need a new President, Treasurer and Secretary to continue. Without a P&C committee there will be no events such as the disco. We need new faces to step up as the current committee has served two years and the President's children have all graduated. The new committee will be supported by the outgoing members.

We will support you!!

The P&C Need YOU!
Annual General Meeting
Wednesday, 24th February
7pm in the Staff Room
(or via ZOOM)

We need a new President, Secretary and Treasurer so that the school can have:

CampOUT! **Movie Night!** **Disco!**
Sausage Sizzles and More!

Community Information

ACT Nutrition Support Service

Squeezing the truth about juice

Juice has been causing controversy in the media over the past week as a big debate emerges around the healthfulness of juices. We are here to put the debate to rest with some fast facts!



Fast facts

Is there any debate to the healthfulness of fresh fruit?

Not at all! Fruit is a fabulous source of vitamins and minerals, all packaged up in a fibrous structure that fills us up and provides the right balance of energy in one tidy serve! This is how nature intended us on eating fruit sugars. The message is clear on this one, make sure you eat your fruit whole!



How does juice compare to fruit?

When fruit is pulverised, squeezed and in some cases concentrated and pasteurized, it is no longer equivalent to fruit. Why? Once a fruit is juiced, it is stripped of its valuable fibre. This means you are left with a drink that is concentrated with fruit sugars, is fast to consume and provides less nutritional value than its fruit counterpart!

So, should I avoid fruit juice all together?

The [Australian Guide to Healthy Eating](#) considers half a glass of fruit juice as a serve of fruit, but recommends this should be occasional. Save the fruit juice for sometimes, and choose water as your main beverage.

What about all of those vitamins I could be missing from my fruit juice?

Fruit juice is a great source of vitamin C, however in many fruit juices (such as the shelf stable, reconstituted varieties) the natural vitamin C has been lost during the processing, heating and storing of the juice. The Vitamin C in these juices is actually synthetic so it is really just like taking a sugary Vitamin C supplement.

One whole orange provides around 85mg of natural Vitamin C. This more than meets the daily requirement for adults at 45mg per day.

Did you know?

A popper of fruit juice contains a whopping 6 teaspoons of natural sugar. That is equivalent to the amount of sugar the [World Health Organisation](#) recommends we consume in one whole day!

