

Southern Cross Early Childhood School



Newsletter 11 | Monday 25 July 2022

Respect | Resilience | Kindness | Creativity

DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday 2 August
Canberra Museum & Gallery Excursion
Guginya & Wamburrang

Friday 5 August
Staff Planning Day

Thursday 11 August
Canberra Museum & Gallery Excursion
Bunduluk & Dnnawan

Wednesday 13 August – Thursday 21 August
National Science Week

Wednesday 20 August – Tuesday 26 August
Book Week

Monday 22 August
Author Visit – Shelly Unwin

Monday 22 August – Friday 26 August
SCHOOL PHOTOS

Dear families and friends

Welcome back to term 3 everyone! We have had the most amazing start to the term. The children are settled in their classes and learning has been focused and engaging.

National Science Week and Book Week

National Science Week is happening from 13-21 August this year. The theme this year is *Glass: More than meets the eye*. Lisa has some exciting things planned for all of the children across the school. Stay tuned for more details. There are some great ideas for activities to engage in at home here:

<https://www.scienceweek.net.au/>.

The Children's Book Council of Australia's Book Week is happening from 20-26 August this year. The theme for this event is *Dreaming*

with eyes open... Southern Cross are lucky enough to have booked in a visit with author Shelly Unwin on Monday 22 August. Shelly was born in the UK and moved to Australia in 2022 and now resides in Sydney with her family. Shelly has written picture books for children, including *Blast Off* and *There's a Baddie Running Through This Book*. In preparation for Shelly's visit, if families would like to order one or more of Shelly's books, there is an order form on the last page of this newsletter.

COVID-19 Reminders and Staffing

Our COVID-19 safety measures will remain the same as term 2. We will continue our routines of hand washing and hand sanitising across the school and whilst masks are no longer mandatory, our staff will be wearing masks inside if it is not possible to socially distance. A copy of our Air Quality Ventilation Plan can be found on our website.

To continue to keep our children and staff well, please continue to keep your children at home if they are unwell. We do understand that juggling work and children can be tricky as many of our staff are trying to do the same. If you would like to chat with someone about this to see how we can help, please do not hesitate to get in touch via 61420020.

Please also remember that RATs are still available from reception. Please phone Nicole to arrange collection.



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Wirraway Crescent Scullin | ACT | 2614

☎ Telephone (02) 6142 0020

✉ Email: info@scecs.act.edu.au

🌐 Web: www.scecs.act.edu.au

Staffing

Staffing remains stable, however it is still a challenge to find casual staff to cover when our staff take leave. The leadership team are being as strategic and proactive as they can and where possible we will cover classes with relief or with the leadership team. Classes will need to be split if we do not have any additional staff to cover in the school. Our teams have been planning the teaching and learning programs collaboratively, which means that when classes are split across year levels, the teaching and learning will continue to ensure continuity of learning. Our structures, such as Reader's, Writer's and Maths Workshops, enable children to continue their learning in any space across the school. I would like to reassure you all that the continuity of learning for children remains one of our highest priorities here at Southern Cross.

Save the Date!!!

It is very exciting that we will be able to hold some of our community events this year. Please save the date for the events listed below:

- Bike and Kite Day – Sunday 30 October – 11.00am-2.00pm
- Grandparents Day – Bunduluk & Dnnawan Friday 29 October – Time TBC
- Grandparents Day – Monday 31 October – Time TBC

Staff Planning Days

Just a friendly reminder that our two Staff Planning Days this term will be Friday 5 August (week 3) and Friday 9 September (week 8).

Where possible, we ask that students do not attend school on these days. Please confirm via phone on 61420020 or email nicole.emerton@ed.act.edu.au if your child **will be attending** school on these days.

Stay well everyone,

Kelly

From Southern Cross

UR FaB Understanding and Responding to Feelings and Behaviours

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)

Your child's school has volunteered to take part in the UR FaB early intervention program for children in primary school. The program focuses on children's emotional and social development, and while we are here at your school, the team will be contributing to the school newsletter and providing information and ideas in regard to supporting children with their social and emotional development.



Importance of 'Together Time'.

Children from birth to adolescence need time and attention from their parents. There are number of benefits to 'Together Time':

- Helps children to feel closer to their parent and focus on their emotions and this can be a powerful influence on a child's behaviour.
 - Develop a stronger bond as it encourages communication between the child and the parent, and it provides the child with the opportunity to voice their thoughts and feelings.
 - The child has an opportunity to model their parent's behaviour, while the parent can observe and learn about their child's strengths and weaknesses, temperament, activity level, and developmental stage, in order to better know them and guide them.
-

Research suggests that it is the quality of the time spent together not the quantity that is important, and that 10 – 15 minutes per day is enough.

(Myers, 2022. The Importance of Family Time on Kid's Mental Health and Adjustment to Life)

Quality time involves:

- Play that is directed by the child, and a parent having their full attention to their child's world. Use time together, such as mealtimes, to talk and share a laugh. Use descriptive commenting and praise
- Avoid competing with your child and use positive communication avoiding criticism. Laugh and have fun, make it enjoyable
- Focus on your child's strengths not his/her weaknesses
- Don't focus on the "correct" way or specified rules for a game. Don't use it as a teaching moment.
- Model cooperation by doing what your child asks you to do
- Engage in pretend and make-believe play with your child
- Curb your desire to give too much help—give just enough support to avoid frustration but not so much you take over your child's exploration
- 'Attention rule' – attend to positive behaviour and ignore negative behaviour (results in increased positive social behaviour in the child). Don't give eye or verbal attention to annoying behaviours

(Regan, S, 2020. What It Means To Have Quality Time As A Love Language + How To Show Love This Way)

The parent child relationship is an important factor in your child's social, cognitive and emotional development. In prioritising time together and strengthening the parent child bond you are helping your child to feel safe and secure.

(National Academies of Sciences, 2016. Parenting Matters: Supporting Parents of Children ages 0 - 8)

More on descriptive commenting and praise next time!
The UR FaB Team

Chief Minister's Reading Challenge

There is still time to complete the Chief minister's Reading Challenge! All you need to do is read 30 books by Friday 19 August, that is **25** days away.

The Challenge is a great way to help you support your children in discovering the rewards of reading and developing a love of good literature.

At the completion of the Challenge, each child who returns their record sheet will receive a signed certificate from the Chief Minister to celebrate their achievement of meeting the Challenge.

Record sheets need to be returned by **Monday 22 August 2022**. Record sheets can be downloaded here - https://www.scecs.act.edu.au/our_school/notes

Happy reading!



Southern Cross P&C

Hi everyone

Welcome to Term 3. Just a brief update from us this week.

Our next P&C meeting will be at 7pm next Monday (1 August) at the school. We would appreciate it if you could please wear a mask.

We are hoping to hold some events such as the Walkathon this term, updates will be provided once dates can be confirmed 😊.

Thanks

Patty and Katherine

Co-Presidents, SCECS P&C

Community Information

A graphic for a community event. On the left, there is a grey rounded rectangle with the Scullin Community Group logo (a stylized '3') and the text 'SCULLIN COMMUNITY GROUP LOCAL • COLLABORATIVE • CREATIVE'. Below this, it says 'A BUNCH OF BUSKERS WILL BE PERFORMING AT THE SCULLIN SHOPS'. Further down, it says 'COME ALONG AND LISTEN, CLAP, PLAY A TAMBOURINE, MARACAS OR YOUR OWN INSTRUMENT, BRING YOUR FRIENDS, MEET YOUR NEIGHBOURS AND JOIN IN!'. At the bottom of this box, it says 'ALL DONATIONS GO TO THE SCULLIN COMMUNITY GROUPS COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES.' and 'SEE YOU THERE!!!'. To the right of this box, there is a large grey speech bubble containing the text 'BUSKERS BIG BASH BONANZA - SAT 30 JULY 9.30AM - 12.30PM'. Below the speech bubble, there is a line drawing of a person playing a guitar. To the right of the person, there is a line drawing of a guitar case. At the bottom right, there is a black box with the text 'Find out more about Scullin Community Group @myscullin'.



RSVP using the QR Code or Link:
bit.ly/3nIdMIP

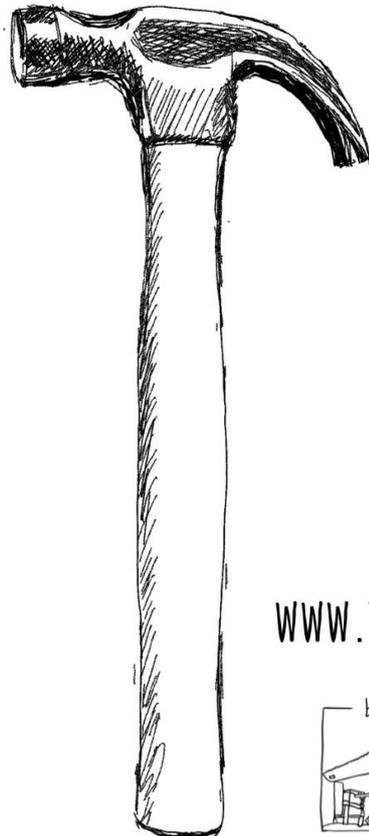


**ACT Primary School
Parent & Carer eSafety
Online Webinar**

Time: 6pm – 7pm
Date: 1 September 2022
RSVP: QR Code/Link

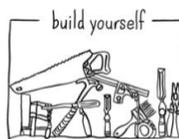
Topics:

- Understanding eSafety issues impacting young people
- Hard to have conversations with your child
- Where to go and how to report when things go wrong
- Current Trends and Updates



GET BUILDING
IN OUR WEEKLY
WOODWORK
CLASSES FOR KIDS
7YRS+

WWW.TWOSHEDSWORKSHOPS.COM.AU



TWO SHEDS WORKSHOP
WOODWORK FOR WOMEN & KIDS

Shelly Unwin is coming to Southern Cross Early Childhood School !



Shelly Unwin is an internationally published children's author, speaker, chapter coordinator for SCBWI ACT and Australia Reads Ambassador.

Shelly is the author of *Blast Off!*, a narrative non-fiction space adventure, illustrated by Ben Wood, *There's a Baddie Running Through this Book*, illustrated by Vivienne To, and her latest release *Hello, Baby!* illustrated by Jedda Robaard.

Described as 'effervescent' and commended for leaving the students abuzz, Shelly is quickly making her mark in the industry for sharing her contagious joy of books.



TO ORDER

- SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT WWW.SHOP.BOOKCOW.COM.AU/C/SHELLY-UNWIN
- ADD YOUR CHILD'S NAME AND CLASS IN THE ORDER NOTES
- AT CHECKOUT SELECT 'SHELLY UNWIN' FOR PICK UP

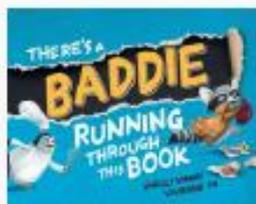


Order by Friday 19 August to have your books personally dedicated to your child and available when Shelly visits on Monday 22 August.



An adorable picture book that celebrates the arrival of a new baby, with gorgeous illustrations by the bestselling illustrator of *It's Not Scribble to Me*. **\$19.99**

Rocket through the solar system in this funny, fact-filled whirl around the planets. Join two junior astronauts as they discover what makes each planet unique and what might happen if you were to get too close. 'You couldn't land on Mercury -the heat would burn your bum!' **\$19.99**



A fast-paced story about a baddie on the run and a playful text that invites the child and reader to interact with the book reminiscent of children's classics such as Richard Scarry's *Great Big Air Book* and Nick Bland's *The Wrong Book*. **\$19.99**

The Book Cow

47 Jardine Street KINGSTON www.bookcow.com.au Ph 02 5100 2730

Canberra's newest, independent bookshop - selling pages for all ages