

SOUTHERN CROSS EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOOL

Respect | Resilience | Kindness | Creativity

NEWSLETTER 2 | MONDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2024

Dear families and friends

Thank you to everyone for coming along to the Welcome Picnic in week 2. It was lovely to see our families connecting and the children playing together. Thanks also to our families for attending our family-educator meetings to support the 'getting to know you' process. Our teachers and support staff have truly done an amazing job with forming positive relationships with the children and setting up the learning expectations for the year. Classes are settled and children are engaged in their learning. Massive thanks to our staff for all they have done to ensure this great start to the year.

HARMONY FESTIVAL

On Friday 22 March, our school will partner with our wonderful P&C to host a *Harmony Festival* from 5pm-7pm at Southern Cross Early Childhood School. There will be many experiences to engage in, including dancing, art and connecting. We invite our families to wear traditional dress or clothing that represents their culture, history and heritage.

As a part of our Harmony Week celebrations, we have a vision to create a community recipe book and we would like to invite our families to share a family recipe with us. We will gather the recipes and provide a digital Southern Cross Early Childhood School Community Recipe Book. Please email your recipes to nicole.emerton@ed.act.edu.au.

If your family would like to share any art, dance, music or other unique aspect of your culture, please get in touch with Sharon.craft@ed.act.edu.au to let us know! We are excited to bring our community together to share culture and experiences. If you would like to read a book in your language to your child's class, please also get in touch.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday 22 February | 9.00-9.30
P&C Meet and Greet

Tuesday 27 February | 9.00-9.30
P&C Meet and Greet

Wednesday 28 February | 9.15-10.00
Whole School Gathering - Wirria

Monday 11 March
PUBLIC HOLIDAY – Canberra Day

Wednesday 13 March | 12.00-1.30
P&C Meet and Greet

Friday 22 March | 5.00-7.00
Harmony Festival

Friday 29 March
PUBLIC HOLIDAY – Good Friday
Monday 1 April
PUBLIC HOLIDAY – Easter Monday

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



ACT
Government
Education

For the last 3 years, our school has partnered with the ACT Education Directorate and the University of Canberra (UC) to engage in a range of initiatives to support early career teachers and professional learning for our staff. One of these initiatives is the PCK Clinics – where pre-service teachers from UC attend a tutorial here at our school. The pre-service teachers work with their tutor in the Community Room and then teach prepared lessons in small groups with our year 1/2 children. The focus this semester is on the science curriculum. The Science PCK Clinic started on Wednesday last week and will continue throughout term 1. I would like to thank our teaching team who were brilliant at supporting the pre-service teachers. We look forward to sharing our knowledge with the pre-service teachers over the coming weeks.

EARTH HOUR

This term, children across our school will be learning and collaborating with their teachers to raise awareness of how we can protect our environment and learn about the impact of climate change. You can find more information here: <https://www.earthhour.org.au/>.

Earth hour is on Saturday 23 March; however our teachers will be talking with children about this event throughout week 8 at school. You can read more information about Earth Hour further in the newsletter.

Have a lovely week,

Kelly

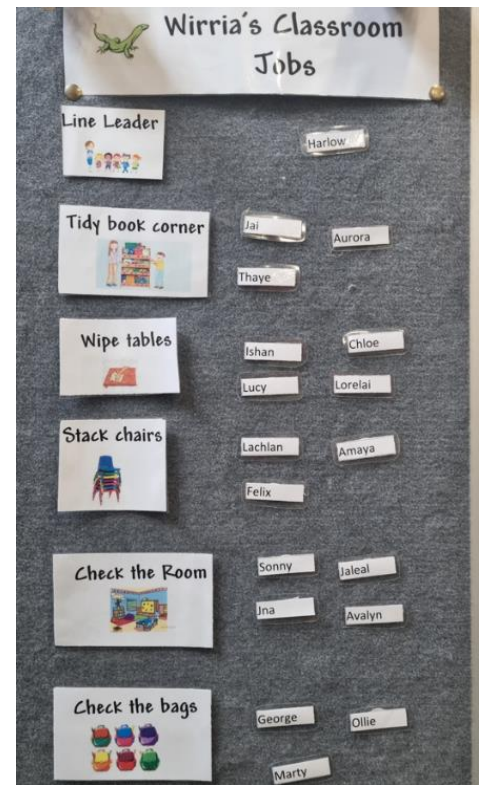
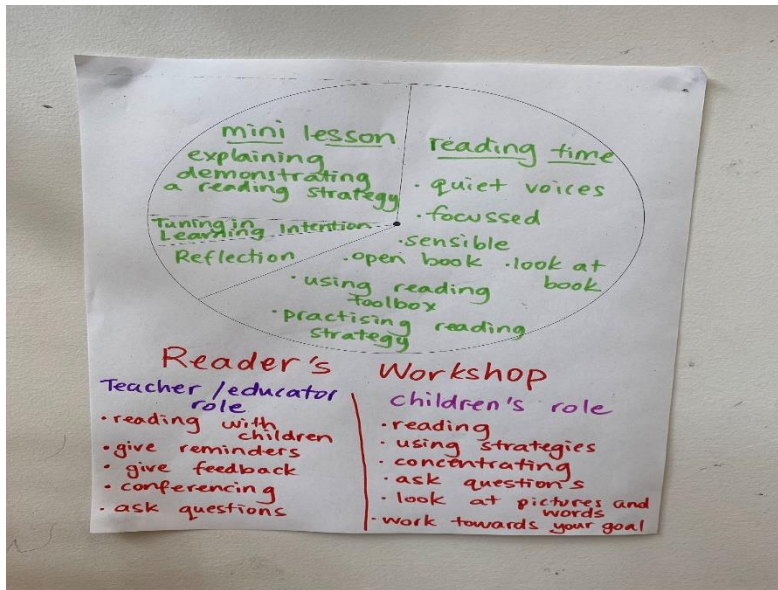
FROM SOUTHERN CROSS

NEWS FROM YEAR 1/2

Year 1/2 have had a very settled start to the year. It has been wonderful to see the children forming new friendships and reconnecting with their old friends.



The children have been engaging in a variety of learning activities and setting up and participating in classroom routines.



PLAY WORKSHOP

Through Play Workshop the children have been investigating the **Learning Assets**. The **Learning Assets** are the qualities and skills that good learners need to develop and enhance their learning. So far, we have been investigating being a **Communicator**, **Contributor**, **Self-manager**, and **Collaborator**.

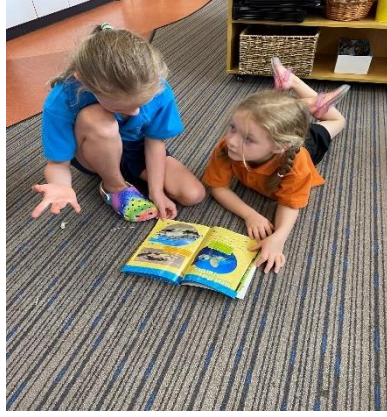
We are -

Communicators:



'The first time we had to communicate. I communicated after watching James. He needed humans, so I got him some humans. We didn't even need to speak to each other, I knew what he needed!' George - Wirria

Self-Managers:



'I am a self-manager. I get my things ready for school.' James- Gudamang

Collaborators:



'I am a collaborator. Our group was making an ice cream shop. It was my job to make the ice cream balls.' Banjo - Dyirrigurat

Contributors:



'I am a contributor. I was sharing my ideas with my group.' Ritchie – Ghaddi

The children will be exploring the **Learning Assets** in more detail as the year goes on. These will be woven through all their learning and outside play.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Wednesday 28th February week 5 – **Wirria** to host Whole School Gathering 9:15am

EARTH HOUR

WHAT IS EARTH HOUR?

Earth Hour started in Sydney in 2007 and has since grown to become the world's largest movement for the environment, with over 190 countries and territories participating annually to raise awareness!

Earth Hour has grown to become much more than switching your lights off, but that iconic switch-off moment is still an important part of Earth Hour. Millions of participants around the world will switch off their lights at 8:30 pm local time on Saturday 23rd March to demonstrate their support of the environment. This action is symbolic and is not an action to save power. We know it will take so much more than an hour of turning our lights out to have a measurable impact on climate change, but the action helps to bring greater awareness to the issue and demonstrates your commitment to help protect the planet – both during and beyond Earth Hour.

The world's biggest landmarks, like the Empire State Building, London Bridge and Australia's own Sydney Opera House and Harbour Bridge, switch off each year as a symbolic display of their commitment to the planet.

SAVE THE DATE



save the date:

Harmony Festival

at
Southern Cross Early Childhood School
Friday 22 March
5.00-7.00pm

cultural activities
SCAVENGER HUNT
FUN!

Everyone Belongs

This is a joint P&C and school event to connect, celebrate and have fun!

COMING SOON: PARENTAL PORTAL

During term 1 we are rolling out a new Parent Portal, a secure online platform used to share student information between you and your child's teachers.

Using the Parent Portal on your mobile phone, tablet or computer, you will be able to:

- notify us if your child is sick or explain an absence
- book parent-teacher interviews
- receive academic reports
- receive our school newsletter
- receive messages from your child's teachers
- make payments
- access the school calendar and your child's student timetable.

One of the many benefits of the Parent Portal is that it will be used by all ACT public schools from preschool through to year 12, so there will be no need to use a different system as children change schools during their public-school journey. If you have children at nearby schools you will not need to sign up to the system twice. You will be able to easily add a student to your account once their school has access to the Parent Portal.

SIGN UP NOW

To access the portal, you will need to create or have access to an ACT Government Digital Account. You can sign up now and complete the level 2 identity verification process to get ready for our launch this term.

To complete the identity verification process, you will need one of the following:

- Driver's licence
- Australian Passport
- Birth certificate
- Australian citizenship certificate
- Change of name certificate
- Marriage certificate
- ImmiCard
- Australian visa
- Medicare
- Centrelink Concession Card

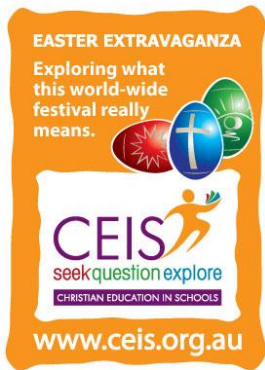
Visit the ACT Digital Account website to create your account: <https://www.myaccount.act.gov.au/>

If you have any issues with creating your account and completing your level 2 identity verification you can get in contact with ACT Digital Account to resolve by calling 13 22 81.

You will receive an email in term 1 with an access code to link your existing account to your child's records. If you have any questions, please contact the school on 61420020

For more information about Parent Portal, visit the Education Directorate website:

<https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/parent-portal>.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

Term 1 - Easter Extravaganza

This term students will move through interactive stations to explore the events of Easter as told in the Bible.

Student attendance is by parent request only.

Christian Education in Schools (CEIS) occurs once a term at Southern Cross Early Childhood School for children in kindergarten - year 2. Children can attend a 45-minute session coordinated by the CEIS project, using approved resources and volunteers. If you would like your child to attend these sessions, please see reception.

FROM THE SOUTHERN CROSS P&C

P&C POSITIONS VACANT

Thank you so much to everyone who got in touch about the positions left vacant after our AGM last week. We have welcomed a few new committee members who have generously offered their time to help make our school an even

better place.

The Treasurer position is not yet filled. It would ideally suit someone with an accounting or bookkeeping background, but we are also very happy to provide support and training to someone interested in learning these skills.

If this is you, call or text Frances on 0421 181 981.

MEET THE P&C

To allow parents the chance to meet the current parents in the P&C, the school will host a welcome coffee at the family hub near reception on Thursday 22 February at 9am and again on Tuesday 27 February at 9am.

Hope to see you there!



**MEET THE
P&C**

COFFEE AND A QUICK CHAT

**9AM THURSDAY 22.2 &
TUESDAY 27.2**

Parent Lounge in the library

LEARN WHAT WE DO AND HOW YOU CAN HELP

Contact Frances 0421 181 981

NEXT P&C MEETING

The next P&C meeting will be held on Monday 18 March at 6pm in the school's Community room. Everyone is welcome - we would love to see some new faces and hear what is important to your family.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The school and P&C will work together to host a twilight Harmony Festival on Friday 22 March. The P&C would like to provide a Scavenger Hunt and fire pits to roast marshmallows at this event.

If you are interested in volunteering some time to help set up, supervise, or pack up please get in touch - Frances 0421 181 981.

We would also like to borrow an additional fire pit if anyone has one available, as well as donations of firewood.

JOIN OUR FACEBOOK GROUP <https://www.facebook.com/groups/scecsbandc>

Frances

SCECS P&C



COMMUNITY INFORMATION

BELSOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB
Fun, Football and Family

REGISTRATIONS OPEN

Are you our next Matildas, Socceroos and friends who just want to have fun?

We have spots available across a range of age groups, and welcome players for Peewees, MiniRoos.

Age groups:
Peewees: U5 to U6
MiniRoos Mixed: U7 to U9s
MiniRoos Girls: U6/U7s to U8/U9s
Juniors Open and Girls: U10 to U18s

Season will run from May through to September, with games played on Saturday mornings.

Register Now
<https://belsouthfootballclub.com>

Still register if the package says WAITLISTED, you could be the one we are waiting for.

MAGPIES
JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

SEEKING GIRLS & BOYS OF ALL AGES
MIXED AND YOUTH GIRLS TEAMS

SUMMER SESSIONS
Mondays until 4th March
5.30pm to 6.30pm, All Welcome

COME AND TRY / REGO DAY
Friday the 15th March @ 5pm
(Sausage Sizzle for all attendees)

WHERE: Holt 1 Oval (Ormsby Place, Holt ACT)

Season 2024 starts at the end of April

REGISTRATIONS ARE OPEN

Under 9's - Under 17's

AUSKICK ROOKIES / PROS (5 - 8YO)

rego@magpiesjuniors.com

MAGPIES JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

@MAGPIESJUNIORSFOOTBALLCLUB

WWW.MAGPIESJUNIORS.COM