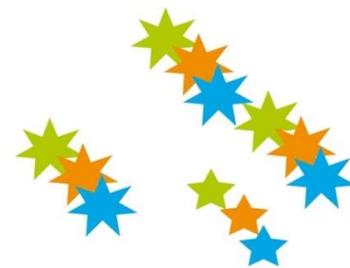


Southern Cross Early Childhood School



Newsletter 3 | Tuesday, 10 March 2020

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday 13 March | 8.00-8.50

Community Breakfast – FUNKY Hair Day

Monday 16 March | 9.30-10.30

2021 Preschool Information Tour

Tuesday 17 March | 5.15-6.00

Numeracy Information Session

Wednesday 18 March | 9.15-10.00

REPEAT Numeracy Information Session

Wednesday 18 March | 12.00-1.00

Christian Education in Schools

Thursday 19 March | 9.30-10.30

2021 Preschool Information Tour

Thursday 19 March | 3.30-4.30

2020 Graduates visit with Year 2 Children

Tuesday 24 March | 5.15-6.00

NEW DATE

Transition Information Session

Dear Families

School Improvement

Last newsletter I shared our school's vision, mission and values for your information. In this newsletter I would like to highlight our two priorities in our School Plan. They are

- To develop student agency and confidence to improve writing and spelling (in context)
- To develop student agency and confidence to improve numeracy and understanding of the language of mathematics

Our school plan is designed to have a sharp focus on areas for improvement and these were developed following our school review in 2018. Community Engagement, Inquiry Learning, Play, Sustainability, the Outside Learning Environment and our Cultural Integrity journey are also important strands of our work. Our teams will start sharing information about our work in the two priority areas in future newsletters and through Seesaw as well.

Transition Information Session

We have had to change the date of our Transition Information session. It will now be held on Tuesday 24 March 2020 5:15 to 6:00pm. Please RSVP for the session at reception. (Minimum numbers are required for the session to proceed.) This is a great opportunity to hear some more information about the process and how you can support your child. We know that transitions can be an emotional process for families, and we want to support you and your child however we can. Enrolments open at the beginning of Term 2 for 2021. If you are still trying to decide which school you would like to enrol in, the best thing to do is to organise a time to visit the school. All our principals in ACT Public Schools are keen and eager to meet you. Further information about transitions and pathways is up on our website and you can also make a time to talk to me or Emma if you need further support.



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.

CampOUT! 2020

CampOUT! is on again so SAVE THE DATE! We will be gathering on Friday 27 March 2020 from 5 pm. Families will be able to bring their tents and sleeping bags to camp overnight at the school. We will have some activities in the evening and then in the morning share a yummy breakfast cooked by the P&C. Notes are about to go out and you can pick up a registration form from reception.

Community Breakfast

Our Community Breakfast is on next Friday 13 March 2020 from 8 am in the Bright Star Cafe and it is also our Funky Hair Day. Our Year 2 leaders will be fundraising to support wildlife injured in the bushfires. If you can stay on, after the breakfast we will be having a Funky Hair Walk on the blacktop so that we can see who has the funkier hair! I am looking forward to some crazy hair and seeing you all there.

Start of the Year Survey

Thank you to those families who responded to our start of the year survey. It has given us some really useful feedback about what we are doing well (that our team are welcoming and caring and how we support transitions and build relationships - thank you!) and what could be even better. This includes, some of our children did not get their postcard or it came after they had started! Our apologies for that. We will try to work out with Australia Post what went wrong. Some families wanted some more information about drop off and pick up or additional opportunities to connect with families before the start of the year – we will think about how we can work on this. Some of our families are still working on goals for their children, either in general or about writing in particular. One family asked for a term overview – these go out in Week 3 so please see your child's teacher if you have not got one yet! We did get feedback from one family about having too many events or sessions and them not knowing what was the most important to attend. Our team will work on providing advice about this, and also look at how families can access handouts if they are not able to get to the events/sessions. As I said, it was great to get your feedback, just like our children we are also learners and are looking for ways to improve, so my sincere thanks to families for taking the time to respond.

Kind regards,
Lyndall

From the Education Directorate

Insurance and Ambulance Transport

The ACT Education Directorate does not provide any insurance cover for injury, disease or illness to students resulting from school activities or school-organised excursions. Claims for compensation are met where there is a legal liability to do so. Liability is not automatic and depends on the circumstances in which any injury, disease or illness was sustained.

As there is no automatic insurance cover for personal injury if your child is injured at school or during a school organised activity/excursion you should therefore consider whether taking out personal insurance cover for your child is warranted.

This insurance might cover contingencies including medical/hospital expenses, ambulance transport outside the ACT, cancellation of transport/accommodation or loss of/damage to luggage.

The ACT Ambulance Service provides free ambulance transport for students who are injured or suddenly become ill at school or during an approved school event **within the ACT**.

From Southern Cross

Enrolments for 2021

If your child turns 4 years old before 30 April 2021 they are eligible for enrolment in an ACT Education Directorate Preschool.

Applications for Enrolment for the 2021 school year are available online from 28 April 2020.

Forms are available online at:

<https://form.act.gov.au/smartforms/servlet/SmartForm.html?formCode=1087>



We are holding 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. Please let others know in our community that these sessions are available.

Tour times:

- 9.30-10.30am Monday 16 March 2020
- 9.30-10.30am Thursday 19 March 2020
- 1.30-2.30pm Tuesday 31 March 2020
- 9.30-10.30am Wednesday 13 May 2020

As places are limited RSVP's are required, to book into a tour please contact reception on 6142 0020 or email Nicole on nicole.emerton@ed.act.edu.au

Chief Minister's Reading Challenge

We are underway with the Chief Ministers Reading Challenge with classes recording the books they are reading as a group. If you would like to do the challenge independently it is not too late to start.

Please ask Nicole at reception for a sheet or refer to the previous Seesaw post about the challenge.

You might like to do it with your child and enjoy the reading challenge as a family.



Harmony Day

Next week is Harmony Week! We will be celebrating on Tuesday 17 March 2020 (and Thursday 19 March 2020 for our Dnnawan and Bunduluk preschool groups). This is a day to acknowledge and celebrate our diversity. It is about inclusiveness, respect and affirming a sense of belonging for everyone in our community. Children are invited to wear orange or clothes that represent their culture as part of our celebrations.

Sporting Schools Initiative – Tennis program

As part of the Australian Government's Sporting Schools initiative, the children from Year 1/2 have started tennis sessions with Adrian from ECC Tennis Academy. Sessions are on Thursdays and will continue for the next three weeks. Due to the rain, the last session took place in the hall.

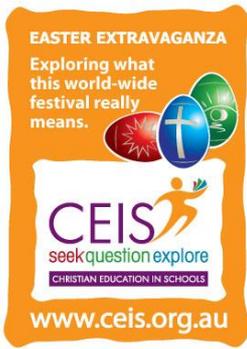


Gardening with Winyu

Winyu have enthusiastically embraced the challenge of establishing our garden bed. With the help of our amazing Green Team representatives Nicole, Martina and Rebecca, the children have already cultivated some seeds in newspaper pots and are looking forward to planting them.

We are growing broad beans, beetroot, radish, strawberry, spinach, lettuce, coriander and sugar snap peas to name just a few! The Winyu children are also looking forward to caring for our apple tree in the orchard and observing, investigating and recording seasonal changes during the year.





CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

Term 1 - Easter Extravaganza

This term students will use various resources to explore and express ideas about Easter and the stimulus question 'Who is Jesus?'

Student attendance is with parent request only.

Christian Education In Schools (CEIS) occurs because parents request it for their children, under ACT legislation. Sessions are coordinated by the CEIS project, using approved resources and volunteers. If you would like to add your child to the existing attendance please see Reception or go to www.ceis.org.au/yes

Community Hub

Community Breakfast

Come along to our Funky Hair Community Breakfast this Friday at 8am at the Bright Star Café. Colour your hair or wear a crazy wig and support WIRES to preserve Australian wildlife after the recent NSW bushfires. The Year 2 leaders will be collecting donations for WIRES at the breakfast.



Funky Hair
Community Breakfast
@ Southern Cross Early Childhood School

Come along to the
Bright Star Café and enjoy a healthy breakfast
with other families from our school.

*Our Year 2 leaders will be collecting gold coin
donations for WIRES to help animals who have
been affected by the recent bushfires in NSW.*



Friday 13 March
2020
8:00am – 8:50am



Southern Cross Early Childhood School
together with the P&C present

CampOut 2020!

Free family camping at school!



**5pm Friday 27 March to
10am Saturday 28 March 2020**

No cooking on site is permitted.
Please bring a picnic or takeaway dinner.
The P&C will provide a FREE cooked breakfast!

Families must RSVP for this event by completing
the registration form available from reception.
RSVP by 20 March 2020.

This is a nut and alcohol free event.
No smoking on school grounds.
Please be mindful of our neighbours when parking.

Linking Families to Learning

Southern Cross
Early Childhood School



Linking Families to Learning Numeracy Information Session

**Want to find out more about Numeracy learning at
Southern Cross Early Childhood School?**

Our Numeracy Coordinator, Sophie Jarvis will be running two sessions at school on:



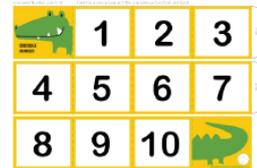
Tuesday 17 March 2020

5.15-6.30pm

and a **REPEAT** session

Wednesday 18 March 2020

9.15-10.30am



The last half hour of each session we will be walking through the classrooms looking at numeracy learning examples.

If you are interested in attending, please RSVP Nicole at Reception via email nicole.emerton@ed.act.edu.au or in person.

Minimum numbers are required for the session to proceed.

Helpful Hints for Home

At the Whole School Gathering on Wednesday last week we had Professor Wasteless and Professor Recycle talk about our school recycling bins. Our children are getting good at knowing what goes into the different bins, maybe they can help you at home with your recycling.

Recycling tips for home

Did you Know?

- **Not everything we can recycle can go into the yellow bin.**

Only put containers, packaging or paper/card in your recycling bin. Many other things can be recycled but not through the kerbside system.

- **Not to put recycling inside plastic bags.**

If you leave your recycling in plastic bags it goes straight to waste in landfill – tip it in loose and put plastic bags in the rubbish bin.

- **You shouldn't put shredded paper in the recycling bin.**

The dreaded shredded paper does not belong in the recycling bin. It clogs the machinery and contaminates other recycling.

- **Hard plastic items like toys and furniture should not be put in the recycling bin.**

Only rigid plastic containers and packaging such as bottles and punnet trays can be recycled in the yellow bin. Other items like toys, coat hangers or plastic buckets are made from different plastic resins and the system is not designed to process these things.

- **Soft plastic should not be put in the recycling bin.**

Soft plastics can't go in the recycling bin as they tangle machinery- they need be taken to REDcycle collection points at major supermarkets so they can be turned into new products like furniture and decking. This includes things like chip packets, squeeze pouches and bread bags.

- **Not putting small items in the recycling bin or putting items inside other items.**

The Materials Recovery Facility can't sort anything smaller than a credit card. Small items like plastic lids fall through gaps and contaminate other recyclables. Nothing smaller than a credit card is a good guide and make sure all containers are empty.

If you are interested in sustainability here is a thought-provoking link to a survey to find out your ecological footprint.

<http://www.footprintcalculator.org/>

Be You

Resilience - promoting positive mental health and wellbeing with your child!

The results from our 2019 BeYou Parent/Carer Mental Health and Wellbeing Survey indicated that families at Southern Cross wanted to learn more about resilience and gain a better understanding on how to respond to your child's feelings and behaviours.

Charmaine Nicoll, Karina Dunn and Taylor Walsh from the UR FaB program will present a workshop about resilience for parents and carers on **Thursday 2 April 2020** from **4:30pm to 6:00pm** in the **Community Room**.

More information about the UR FaB team and program:

UR FaB is a program of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (Canberra Health Services) which is based on the CASEA (CAMHS and Schools Early Action) program that has been successfully run and evaluated in many schools in Victoria. UR FAB is being run in collaboration with the ACT Education and Training Directorate. The UR FaB team are mental health early intervention clinicians, who specialise in working with young children. The team works closely with schools and their support people, school psychologist and teaching staff.

Please register for this workshop by contacting Nicole Emerton at Reception.

Email - nicole.emerton@ed.act.edu.au

Phone - 6142 0020.

Minimum numbers are required for the session to proceed.

Anglicare

School Holiday Program

The School Holiday Program will be in operation from Tuesday 14 April 2020 until Friday 24 April 2020. Spaces are limited, enrolment is essential, please look out for enrolment forms, to be emailed this week ☺

Monday 13	Tuesday 14	Wednesday 15	Thursday 16	Friday 17
Centre closed for Easter Monday	<u>Giant Easter Celebrations</u> Today we're <i>hopping</i> into Easter 2020 with some <i>egg-citing</i> activities and cooking experiences! We might even have some <i>hare-obics</i> on the agenda...	<u>Excursion to Questacon</u> Join us as we develop a greater understanding and awareness of science and technology on our excursion to Questacon! <small>*This excursion will incur an additional fee</small>	<u>Somewhere Over the Rainbow...</u> Let's get creative today with some rainbow themed art experiences! From giant group paintings through to stained glass windows, nothing is off limits.	<u>Can't Stop the Feeling!</u> Get ready to get your groove on today with a day full of discos, gymnastics and yoga! Don't forget to bring your game face, as there will be many musical games on offer as well!
Monday 20	Tuesday 21	Wednesday 22	Thursday 23	Friday 24
<u>Outdoor Adventures</u> How does a day full of group games at the Treehouse, Oasis expeditions and local walks to discover some hidden treasures sound? We can't wait!	<u>Lego Creations</u> I wonder what our 'Master Builders' will come up with today, as we turn the hall into a giant Lego building station, before watching some Lego themed movies in the afternoon.	<u>Close Knit Community Appeal Day</u> Get your knit on for a good cause! Join us as we knit and crochet some warm woollen clothing and blankets to donate to those in need.	<u>Ready, Steady, Cook!</u> Will you be on team Capsicum or Tomato as we battle each other to race the clock and create the best movie snacks of all time...? Only time will tell which team comes out on top!	<u>Australian War Memorial Excursion:</u> Remember, interpret and understand the Australian experience of war during our visit before exploring the Discovery Zone <small>*This excursion will incur an additional fee</small>

Various activities are offered as an alternative for all programmed days. These include craft, construction, reading, music experiences, group games, outdoor activities, and free learning experiences. Please also bring your child's bike/scooter and helmet if they wish to go to the bike track that afternoon.

Seeking Donations

We need your help! We are inspired by a pedagogical approach in the UK called the Curiosity Approach. This is the idea that we learn more from resources that are natural and open ended, and inspire creativity/emotion. Your trash could potentially be our treasure, and we would be so grateful if you have any of the below that you would be able to donate to us to continue to add to our environments. The only thing that we are steering away from is plastic, as it is not sustainable and doesn't align with our philosophy in looking after our environment.

Things we would love:

Cardboard tubes (not toilet rolls)
Paper
shoes for dress ups (in good condition)
Bangles and jewellery
Handbags and wallets
Mirrors
Lamps
Old furniture
PVC piping

Timber offcuts
Milk crates
Cotton reels
Corks
Bottle tops
Rocks
Shells
Glass bottles

Old electronics, printers, phones, laptops, kettles
toasters etc
Kitchenware
Fabric
Clothes for dress ups
Rugs (in good condition)
Branches
Bike rims
Pallets
Old tools and nails etc (not rusty)
Books

Magazines
Plants
Pots/barrels for plants
Seedlings
Old garden tools (in good condition)
Sheets
Rope
Tyres
Baskets (not plastic)
Serving trays

The children would benefit so much from any of the above, and we would be so appreciative of anything you could potentially donate 😊

P&C

P&C AGM

Our P&C Annual General Meeting was held Wednesday 26 February 2020. The committee all returned to their roles for 2020 and we are thankful for everyone's ongoing support.

School Banking

The P&C is looking for a School Banking Coordinator. This role requires a weekly or fortnightly commitment on Friday mornings during the "Read With Me Cafe". The Commonwealth Bank will provide training and guidance. If your family is keen on school banking and would like to see it continue at Southern Cross, please email me on scecspondc@gmail.com

CampOUT!

CampOUT! 2020 will be held Friday 27 March to Saturday 28 March 2020. Watch out for the email with all the registration information. RSVP by 20 March 2020.



P&C Walkathon

Due to Year 2 Swimming being held in Term 1 this year we have postponed the annual Walk-A-Thon to Term 2. Stay tuned for more info.

Jess Yeo
P&C President

Community Information



Available to all families in the ACT.

Offering a free and confidential counselling service.

Assisting & supporting parents with ideas about raising children.

***Interpreters available**

The only telephone counselling service for parents and carers in the ACT.

**PARENTLINE
6287 3833
9AM-5PM**

**FREE TELEPHONE
COUNSELLING**



FREE KIDS BUSH DANCE - SATURDAY 28 MARCH

The Monaro Folk Society is celebrating its 50th Anniversary of musical events in Canberra

We are hosting a special free day at Yarralumla Woolshed showcasing our activities.

This includes a Kids Bush Dance between 12.30 and 2.00pm

For info see: www.monarofolk.org.au/kids-bush-dances

The Monaro Folk Society is celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year of bringing bush dances and music to the Canberra community.

Our annual Shearers Ball will be held in the evening at the Yarralumla Woolshed on Saturday 28 March. To mark the anniversary, we are holding a range of free activities during the afternoon to showcase what we do: notably, performances by musicians as well as join-in Irish Set Dance and Contradance.

We kick off with a free Kids Bush Dance from 12.30 to 2.00pm. This is aimed more at primary aged children; however, parents are encouraged to join in with littlies if they wish. The dances will be taught and called, accompanied by one of the MFS bands, the Tin Mugs. Refreshments will be available. All are welcome, so please tell your friends and bring your children for a fun afternoon. Information is available on our website: www.monarofolk.org.au/kids-bush-dances/



Another Chance Op Shop, Ross Smith Cres, Scullin shops will be having 50% off all clothing and books from Monday 16 – Saturday 28 March. Great bargains to be found, especially in children's and babywear. Like us on Facebook for more information. Open Monday – Friday 10am-4:30pm and Saturday's 10am-1pm. Another Chance is a project of Mosaic Baptist Church.

ACT Nutrition Support Service

Rainbow super salad

As far as salads go, this one packs a nutritional punch.

With the perfect blend of colourful vegetables, wholegrain carbs and a sprinkling of dairy, nuts and seeds, this vegetarian dish is sure to please.

You'll need:



walnuts



diced beetroot



feta cheese



brown rice



carrot



sesame seeds



Give it a go tonight! [Get the recipe](#)

Nourishing Little Minds 0-2 years

Delivered in partnership with Libraries ACT parents and carers of children aged 0-2 are invited to join our 4-week food adventure.

Each session includes food based Giggle and Wiggle stories and songs followed by food exploration activities. An Accredited Practising Dietitian will be available to provide advice on feeding young children and answer questions.



Term 1 bookings now open for 0-2 years!

Our next 4-week program for 0-2 year old children starts Monday 16 March 2020

Choose from the following libraries:

Kippax Library

Mondays from 16 March to 6 April

10:30-11:30am

[Click here to book now](#)

Civic Library

Tuesdays from 17 March to 7 April

10:30-11:30am

[Click here to book now](#)



Supported by the ACT Government under the ACT Healthy Canberra Grants program.