

# Southern Cross Early Childhood School



Newsletter 7 | Monday 24 May 2021

Respect | Resilience | Kindness | Creativity

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**Tuesday 25 May**  
**P&C Walkathon – Whole School**

**Thursday 27 May – Thursday 3 June**  
**Reconciliation Week**

**Friday 28 May**  
**P&C Walkathon – Bunduluk & Dnnawan**

**Monday 31 May**  
**PUBLIC HOLIDAY**

**Wednesday 2 June | 12.00 – 1.30**  
**Christian Education in Schools**

**Monday 7 June | 6.30 – 8.00**  
**P&C Meeting**

Dear families and friends

## National Simultaneous Storytime

Last week at Ghaddi's Whole School Gathering, the whole school listened to a read aloud of the story Give Me Some Space by Philip Bunting. The story gives a beautiful message about looking after our home (Earth). There is some wonderful vocabulary which provides opportunity for discussions about space. We have plenty of copies in the library if you would like to borrow the book for reading at home. Please see our Helpful Hints for Home section later in this newsletter for some ideas of how to engage children with this book at home.

## Southern Cross Alumni Visit

On Thursday last week we had many year 3 students – our alumni, who were previously year 2 students at Southern Cross, visit our school for a Southern Cross Alumni Visit. Our current year 2 and 2020 year 2 students were so excited to reconnect and talk about their new schools. Jason, Emma, Nicky and I facilitated a discussion in the library after a play and afternoon tea. Some of our past year 2 students wrote down their thinking on an information sheet. These are displayed in the corridor near our preschool classrooms.

The purpose of this session was for our current year 2 children to connect with their former classmates from 2020 and talk to them about the transition to their new school. This is an opportunity that we hope will build confidence and an understanding of starting at a new school. I would like to thank all of our past families and students for making the time to ensure this important event could happen.

## Play Workshop at Southern Cross ECS

Recently, our kindergarten team presented their Play Workshop term 1 learning with the rest of our teaching team and two ACT Education Directorate teachers from the Enabling Pedagogies team in the Education Support Office (ESO). Our kindergarten team shared the play experiences the children engaged in daily to explore the inquiry questions from the Australian Curriculum (Humanities and Social Sciences – HASS) – Who am I? Where do I live?

Over many weeks, the children explored these questions through play. Teachers provided art studios, writing studios, building corners and dramatic play areas for the children to create, explore, write, build and enact important parts of



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

their lives that make them 'them'. The children created a Museum of Me – with inspiration from the picture book Museum of Me by Emma Lewis - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1wcnEKh5o7E>. They wrote invitations, created posters, designed tickets and gave a speech to open their museum. The children from year 1/2 were the audience and spoke to the kindergarten children about their museums. Our visitors from the Enabling Pedagogies Team, asked if they could come back and do some filming to showcase our strong early childhood practice across the ACT Education Directorate. The learning here shows authentic student-centred learning, focusing on agency and co-construction, collaboration and inquiry-based learning.

Our teachers use the Workshop Model to structure the Play Workshop. This includes explicit teaching for one-third of the lesson, and for two-thirds of the lesson, the children have the opportunity to play and inquire into key questions and concepts that have been discussed in the explicit part of the workshop. A reflection time at the end of the session connects the children's play with learning and helps to guide their thinking to provide a continuation of the play for the next day. Teachers use the following learning assets to guide children through their play: We are researchers, we are collaborators, we are thinkers, we are self-managers, we are communicators.

Play is an important part of the learning at Southern Cross. You will see that it is always linked to a curriculum area and that children are inquiring into key questions throughout their play. We invite you to come and talk with us further if you would like to know more about this part of your child's day.

## National Reconciliation Week

National Reconciliation Week is recognised between 27 May to 3 June. The theme for 2021 is *More than a word. Reconciliation takes action*. Our teachers and our Reconciliation Action Plan team have been busy preparing for this week to ensure we continue our school's journey in acknowledging our history and understanding the impact that the past has had on us all. Many picture books have been sourced and our teachers have planned discussions and activities to explore this important message. If you would like to find out more about this important week, please visit the website here: <https://nrw.reconciliation.org.au/>.

Warm regards,  
Kelly

# From Southern Cross

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## End of May is Hats Off Day

Hope you are keeping warm this week - winter is certainly upon us! This week marks the end of May, that time of the year when we start to witness local UV levels dropping off and staying low (under 3) all day in Canberra - low enough for us to relax our normal school sun protection behavior, including hat wearing and sunscreen application.

Many years ago Cancer Council ACT coined the phrase - **End Of May is Hats Off Day** to assist Canberra primary schools and early childhood services with their hats on (and off) policy - incorporating a balanced approach to UV protection.

So, in keeping with the **End of May is Hats Off Day** jingle, all Canberra school students (and teachers) can leave their hats at home or replace it with a beanie as we enter in the low UV June and July winter months.

Please remember to pack appropriate clothes for your child at school. This may include a beanie, jacket, gumboots or layers of clothes which can easily be taken on and off. If you could clearly label items, that would be very helpful.



## Learn to Ride Centre – Traffic Lights

At the beginning of Term 1, some of our Wamburrang friends asked the question “Do the traffic lights (in the Learn to Ride Centre) work?” So began a deep exploration around finding out the answer to this!

We began by brainstorming about this question.

From this we decided to write a letter to Kelly to see if she could help us to find out the answer. Kelly did some research and investigating for us and we received a letter back from her which told us that unfortunately when the traffic lights were donated to the school they were already broken. We decided to write a letter to Transport Canberra to see if they could help us! We worked hard at thinking of what to include in the letter and then writing it. We then went and delivered the letter to Nicole at the reception. Nicole posted it for us.

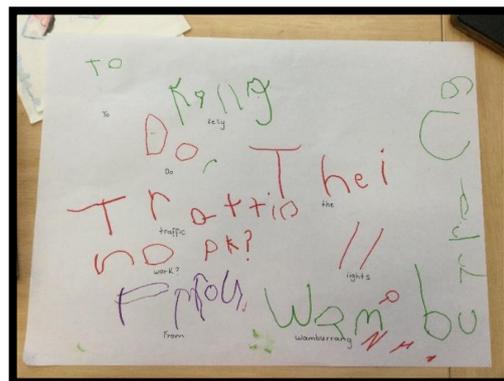
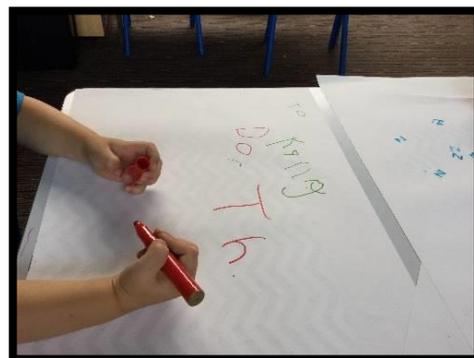
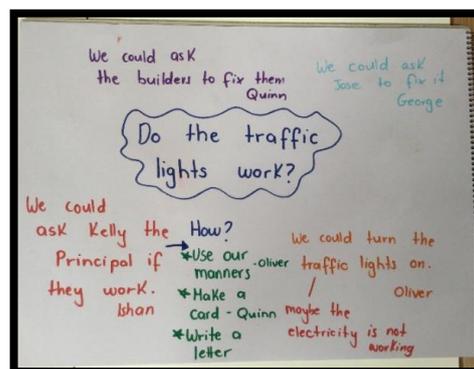
During our time away from school during the school holidays, some workmen from Eco Wise came to fix the traffic lights! Transport Canberra had received our letter and had asked Eco Wise to come and fix them! How amazing is that?

They came and replaced the circuit board. They also changed the bulbs and gave them a clean. It was so exciting to come back to Term 2 to see the lights working!

We had discussions around what the colours mean and what we should do when we are using the bike track. Green – Go, Orange – Slow down, Red – Stop.

Our Wamburrang friends have been using the lights so well. Some of our friends have been supporting others by being the Traffic Light monitors and reminding the bike riders when to slow down, stop, and go. Kathleen wrote a thank you email to Transport Canberra.

What an amazing display of collaboration, persistence and dedication shown by the Wamburrang Preschoolers. This has been a wonderful learning experience which will now benefit our school and wider community.

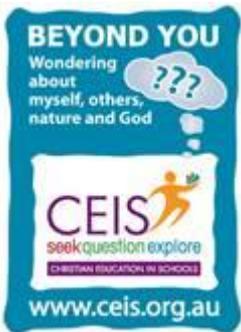




## Social Emotional Learning in Kindergarten

In kindergarten this term we have been implementing the Protective Behaviours Program as part of our Social Emotional Learning (SEL) at Southern Cross. Some of the topics we have covered so far include, 'We all have the right to feel safe at all times', 'Feelings' and 'Early warning signs.' A visit from Kenny Koala earlier this term helped to reinforce our learning about keeping ourselves safe within the community by explaining who we can talk to and where we can go if we are lost. In all of our kindergarten classrooms, children have the opportunity to check in with their emotions at the beginning of the day and at any time throughout the day as a way to identify and communicate how they are feeling to their teacher. In kindergarten our SEL skills are practised daily in our Play Workshop where we focus on what collaboration, communication and commitment looks like, sounds like and feels like. Teachers work to ensure that all children are reflecting our school values and these learning assets to create an environment where every class member feels a strong sense of belonging.





# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

**Term 2 – Beyond You**  
This term students are encouraged to wonder about some of the often-asked big questions about God and creatively present some of their thoughts and ideas.  
**Student attendance is with parent request only.**  
Please use the section below if you would like to request and haven't done so previously.

Christian Education In Schools (CEIS) occurs because parents request it for their children, under ACT legislation. Sessions are coordinated by the CEIS team, using approved resources and volunteers. If you would like to add your child to the existing attendance list please see Nicole at reception.

## Family Board Games Night – Wednesday 12 May 2021

How wonderful it was to see so many families attend our Family Board Games Night. The hall was buzzing with excitement as families played familiar games and discovered new ones. The school has a large number of board games in the library for borrowing. Please see Nicole at the front desk if you would like to take a game home to play with your family.



## Sporting Schools – Gymnastics

This term, Abiah, Emi and the team from Woden Valley Gymnastics Club have been running gymnastics sessions on Mondays with the kindergarten and year 1/2 classes. The children have been actively involved in moving their bodies by learning different ways to jump, roll, balance and stretch. Each class is split into two groups where they follow a rotation trying different activities and exercises. This program is funded by Sporting Schools which is an Australian Government initiative.



## Garden Club

Garden Club is held on Thursdays during the second half of lunch. This term, the children have been involved in a number of activities such as weeding, planting, digging, moving soil, watering and making plant signs. Last Thursday, the children were given a task to photograph something living, something prickly, and something that smells nice in the Environment Courtyard. Here are some of their photos.



## Linking Families to Learning

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### Helpful hints for home

On Wednesday last week the whole school participated in National Simultaneous Story Time. This year marked the 21st year a picture book, written and illustrated by an Australian author and illustrator, is read simultaneously in libraries, schools, pre-schools, childcare centres, family homes, bookshops and many other places around the country. It aims to promote the value of reading and literacy, using an Australian children's book that explores age-appropriate themes, and addresses key learning areas of the National Curriculum for Foundation to Year 6.

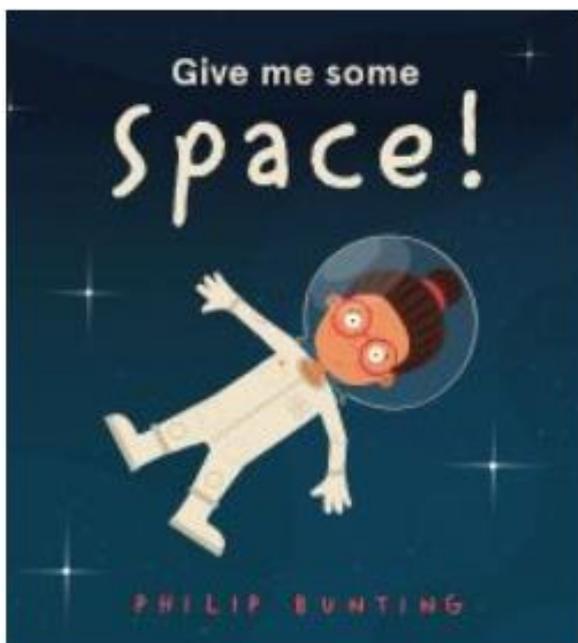
The picture book chosen for this year was 'Give me some Space!' written and illustrated by Philip Bunting.

This book explores astronauts, space travel, space, imagination and the importance of looking after our world. Below are some links to explore more about National Simultaneous Story Time and this year's book 'Give me some Space', with some ideas to discover more about space as a family together at home.

<https://www.alia.org.au/nss>

<https://www.scholastic.com.au/scholastic-in-the-community/national-simultaneous-storytime-2021/>

<https://www.nla.gov.au/stories/video/alia-national-simultaneous-storytime-2021>



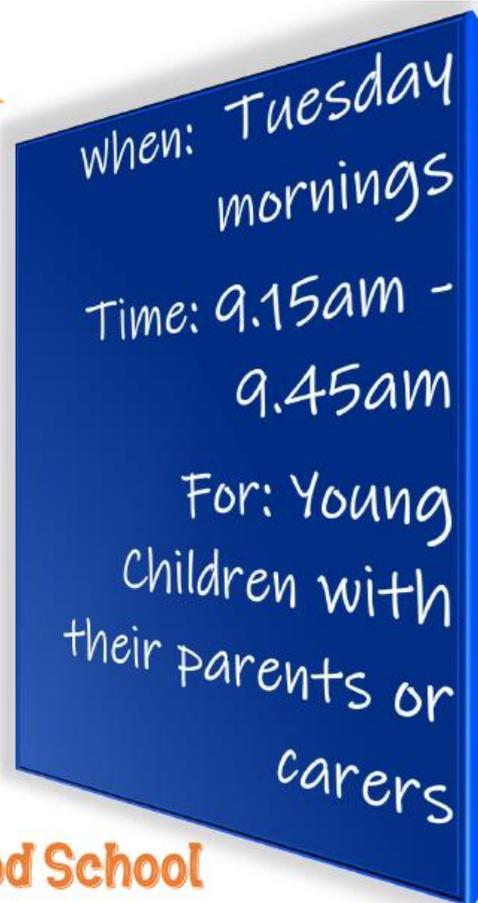
[storytime-2021](https://www.nla.gov.au/stories/video/alia-national-simultaneous-storytime-2021)

# Community Hub

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@ Southern Cross Early Childhood School



## Anglicare

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### Wet/Dry Bag Fundraiser

Anglicare is participating in our wet/dry bag fundraiser again! Those who have been with the service for a couple of years now can attest to just how wonderful these bags are. As we are a sustainable service, and moving away from single use plastics, the wet dry bag is a wonderful alternative for those muddy/wet/painted on clothes that often come home from us as children are encouraged to learn through their play. As a mother of a daughter who attends Southern Cross, these have been absolute life saving for me; the educators simply place her soiled clothes in the bag, and everything comes home to be washed, including the bag itself. Because they are such a staple here at Southern Cross, the educators also are aware of how they work, and use them without thinking!



They are also a great tool for swimming lessons, outdoor sports such as soccer/footy for soiled clothing, and play dates to keep spare clothing in!

When you place your order, please be sure to use the code **SCULLIN 2**. This will ensure the fundraising code is active for the centre, and we receive 25% of all sales to spend directly on resources for the children. Orders close **Friday 28 May**, so be sure to get in before then!

To place your order visit [www.mamasnaturalmagic.com.au](http://www.mamasnaturalmagic.com.au)

## Entertainment Books – delivered differently

We are fundraising with Entertainment, formerly Entertainment Books. Now available as a digital app.

For a limited time only, purchase a Single City Membership and get a FREE upgrade to Multi City! Discover more everyday with offers across dining, travel, activities, shopping & more. Begin exploring and saving across 21 cities and regions in Australia and New Zealand at nearly half the price until 31st May.

We are fundraising with Entertainment

### Get a FREE MEMBERSHIP UPGRADE!

Buy today and 20% of the purchase goes directly to our fundraising cause.

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*(Image of a woman and child smiling in a car)*

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- SYDNEY
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- HOBART
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- PERTH
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- WELLINGTON
- BALI

Support us & buy now

*(Crown icon)*

Support Anglicare at Southern Cross Early Childhood School and unlock your free upgrade:

<https://www.entertainment.com.au/orderbooks/26z930>

## P&C

### Walkathon

We are looking forward to Walkathon tomorrow

**Tuesday 25 May** and for the end of week pre- schoolers on **Friday 28 May!**

If there is a change in plans due to the weather, a message will be sent out on SeeSaw and Facebook.

Please continue your fundraising/sponsorship efforts this week- we'll accept donations until **Friday 28 May**. Thank you to all of you who have helped raise funds so far! Thanks too to our volunteers who have offered to help on the day.

Here is the link to sponsor the event:

<http://www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au/southern-cross-early-childhood-school/custom-store/sccecswalk>



## Movie Night- Save the Date!

The P&C will be holding a Movie Night on **Friday 18 June** in the school hall. More details will follow soon. At this stage we will be limiting numbers to 40 adults plus children, and will be asking that only one adult per family attend (due to COVID-19 restrictions).

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## P&C Meeting

The next P&C meeting will be held in Week 8, **Monday 7 June**. Please send us an email if you have anything you would like to include at [scecsbandc@gmail.com](mailto:scecsbandc@gmail.com).

# Community Information

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## ACT Nutrition Support Service

### Healthier dessert recipes (yes, they do exist!)

The mercury has plummeted in Canberra, and many of us are turning to comfort food as we huddle up in the warmth. As we still have winter coming, perhaps we might need to diversify our mid-week sweets, and choose something that will still benefit us nutritionally!

Check out our top three favourite sweets -

## Mini cheese cakes

Serves 6

### Ingredients

1 cup quick oats  
1 tablespoon margarine  
1 tablespoon honey  
1 cup (250g) reduced fat cream cheese  
1 cup (250g) reduced fat cottage cheese  
2 teaspoons vanilla essence  
Juice of one lemon  
1 ½ cups frozen mixed berries

### Method

1. In a medium sized bowl, combine oats, margarine and honey with your fingertips.
2. In another bowl, mix cream cheese, cottage cheese, vanilla and lemon juice.  
Optional: for a smoother mixture, blend with a hand blender.
3. Add the berries to a microwave safe jug, and microwave for 1 minute intervals and mix with a whisk.  
Continue until the mixture resembles a syrup.
4. In 6 small glasses, make a base layer of the oat mixture. Press down to make a flat base.
5. Spoon the cheese mixture on top of the oat base, and top with the berry syrup.
6. Place in the fridge for at least 30 minutes before serving.



# No Bake Apple Crumble

Serves 2

## Ingredients

- ½ x 410g can pie apple
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 tablespoon sultanas
- 100g reduced fat custard
- 100g reduced fat natural yoghurt
- ¼ cup crunchy granola cereal

## Method

1. In a mixing bowl, mix the pie apple with cinnamon and sultanas.
2. In a separate bowl whisk together custard and yoghurt, using a fork or a whisk.
3. Using ramekins or short drinking glasses, layer the yoghurt mixture and apples, alternating as you go.
4. Finish the top layer with yoghurt and add a sprinkling of granola.

Tip: Try swapping the apples with other stewed fruits such as peaches, apricots or rhubarb. You can also swap the sultanas with raspberries or blueberries.

Optional: Replace granola with natural untoasted muesli for a lower energy option.



# Choc Avo Mousse

Serves 4

## Ingredients

- 1 avocado
- 2 tablespoons cocoa powder
- 2 tablespoons maple syrup (or honey)
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

## Method

1. Place all ingredients in a small food processor or blender and blend until smooth. If you don't have a food processor then electric hand beaters will work too.
2. Evenly divide the mixture across 4 shot glasses.
3. Chill in fridge for one hour before serving.

Serve with fresh strawberries.



## Can dessert be part of a healthy diet?

As we regularly like to say, it is all about balance and moderation. Dessert can absolutely be part of a healthier diet when it is occasional.

If dessert is something that you enjoy having regularly, keep an eye out for healthier options. We have lots of recipes on our [website](#).

## Another Chance Op Shop - Scullin

Another Chance op shop is hosting a Winter sale with 50% off all clothing from Tuesday 1 June – Wednesday 30 June. Open weekdays 10am – 4:30pm, and Sat 10am-1pm you'll find Another Chance at Scullin shops, Ross Smith Crescent. The shop is a project of Mosaic Baptist church; "in the community, for the community".





**A free family event for Reconciliation Week  
10 am Thursday 27th May 2021**

This year we will be featuring a Story Walk of Say Yes, written by Jennifer Castles and illustrated by Paul Seden, published by Allen & Unwin in March 2017. A story walk has each page of a picture book set up on a walking route. This story is about the 1967 Referendum told through the eyes of two young girls.

Time	Place	What's On
10:00	YMCA	First story board stop
	Acknowledgment to Country	Say Yes Story Walk
10:30	Kippax Library 35 Hardwick Crescent, Holt	Say Yes Story Walk Stop
11:00	Kippax Playground	Say Yes Story Walk Stop
11:10	Uniting Care Kippax Cm Luke St & Hardwick Cres, Holt	Say Yes Story Walk Stop Video clips and Outdoor Activities
11:30	West Belconnen Child and Family Centre 6 Luke Street, Holt	Final Say Yes Story Craft Activities and a Sausage Sizzle
12noon	finish	

Supported by LIBRARIES ACT

Capital Region Community Service | Swanson Court, Belconnen  
02 6264 0200 | [contact@crs.com.au](mailto:contact@crs.com.au) | [www.crs.com.au](http://www.crs.com.au) | [f crcs](https://www.facebook.com/crcs) | [@crcs](https://twitter.com/crcs)



**SignHear® Seasons**

An innovative bilingual social program run by a deaf-specialist Speech & Language Pathologist, proficient in Auslan and English.

SignHear® Seasons is an opportunity for deaf & hard-of-hearing children in the Canberra area to participate in bilingual activities, consolidate and extend their Auslan skills, and develop their social skills, within a play-based approach. All levels of Auslan knowledge are accommodated. A teenaged deaf model is also present in each session.

★★★ SignHear® Winter and Spring dates have been set! ★★★

<b>WHO?</b>	Deaf / hard-of-hearing children (and siblings) aged 5 to 12 years
<b>WHEN?</b>	9:30am to 12 noon
<b>WINTER:</b>	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> June, Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July
<b>SPRING:</b>	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> , Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> & Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> September
<b>WHERE?</b>	Meeting Room 1, Weston Creek Community Centre (next to Coleman Court Shopping Centre)

**SignHear® Seasons fees (Autumn, Winter and Spring)**

	One session	Two sessions	Three sessions
Deaf/hard-of-hearing child	\$80	\$140 (\$70/session)	\$195 (\$65/session)
D/HH child + one sibling	\$100	\$160	\$220
D/HH child + two siblings	\$120	\$180	\$240

**SPACES ARE LIMITED**

Self-managed or Plan-managed NDIS funds can be used. COVID-19 protocols will be implemented.

Reserve your child's registration ASAP at [toni.mozaiko@gmail.com](mailto:toni.mozaiko@gmail.com)

SignHear® is a registered trademark of Mozaiko Moments  
GPO Box 1003, Canberra, 2601  
[mozaiko.moments@gmail.com](mailto:mozaiko.moments@gmail.com)

~ creating moments and momentum ~



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- Minimal aquatic fitness required
- Work during school hours

Contact Royal Life Saving ACT to register your interest and find out more:  
Phone Nora on 62605800 OR Email us: [programs@royallact.com.au](mailto:programs@royallact.com.au)