



ACT
Government

Education and Training



DATES TO
REMEMBER

Please see
page 7

Principal:
Kate Smith

Deputy Principal:
Kerri Clark

Executive Teacher:
Helen Cox

Executive Teacher:
Maryanne Hayes

Preschool Teacher:
Susan Jones

Business Manager:
Gaye Broad

School Secretary:
Karen Stone-Tolcher

IEC Office:
Pansy Sung

School Board Chair:
Ms Melanie O'Hanlon

P&C President:
Mr Andrew Reichstein

Hughes NEWS

TERM 1 ISSUE 3

27th March 2015

Hughes Primary School acknowledges the Ngunnawal People, the traditional owners and custodians of this land.

Principal's Message

Here we are, almost at the end of the term, and we have had so much to celebrate!

But firstly, and most importantly, I would like to recognise the work and dedication of Ms Kerri Clark, our Deputy Principal, who, sadly leaves us next week, to take on the role of Deputy Principal at Curtin Primary School. Over the years of service at Hughes, Kerri has made enormous contributions to the school and shown leadership across the school, particularly with the Introductory English Centre and the Blue Gum classrooms. Across her day, she warmly welcomes new families to the school, from all over the world, and I know she offers an authentic and inclusive Hughes welcome and nurtures those families as they join our learning community. Kerri has led the school with many initiatives, introduced and delivered programs, stretched our thinking, had lots of fun, and is the best staff dancer at our end of school concert items. Her greatest strength however lies in advocating for students with additional needs. Please join with me in remembering many fond memories we have had with Kerri as our DP, and I will personally miss her cheery manner, quick wit, high intelligence and comradery. All the very very best at Curtin, I am pleased to know we will still get to work closely in this neighbourhood school.

We thank Ms Mel O'Hanlon and Mr Andrew Reichstein for their previous work on the School Board, and also to Mr Adam Porter and Ms Maryanne Hayes for their dedication across the last two years. I will let you know in the next newsletter who the new representatives are. Our community member continues to be Mr Joshua Ceramides. The school Board meet once or twice a term. Please liaise with our school Board parent or teacher reps, if at any time you would like advice, or to share ideas to improve our school culture. Also, remember our P and C is a vibrant and proactive way to contribute to our school - particularly given this is our BIG year

for the Food and Wine Extravaganza!! We need all the help you can give!!

Harmony Day last week was a sensational feast for all our senses. A huge thank you to the school organising committee for their exceptional work - there are hours and hours and hours of work planning this day, and hours and hours of work after the event as well. A huge thank you to all the families who donated food, time, displays and energy in making this day so amazing. A huge thank you too, goes to the students for wearing their national costumes, and orange Harmony day clothes, and for participating in the range of activities that our fabulous teachers organised across the morning. This is without a doubt, THE most amazing day of our school year. I loved every minute of it and know we have fond memories to carry with us well into the future.

Learning programs in classrooms have been expertly delivered to our students, and it is in this newsletter that I must say a very big thank you to all the staff members who are working many extra hours of their own time across the week, to ensure the program is robust and activities are engaging for our students. You are an absolutely remarkable team of dedicated teachers.

Staff have also been working in updating our School Vision and School Belief Statements and we look forward to launching those soon. We celebrated our 50th birthday last year, so we are ready to launch ourselves into the future of Hughes Primary - the Rise of Who We Are!

Until next time - create happy harmony!

Kate Smith



Cooperate, Attitude, Responsibility, Excellence

Groom Street HUGHES ACT 2605 Phone: 6205 5699

Fax: 6205 5653

www.hughesps.act.edu.au

Email: info_hughesps@ed.act.edu.au

Dear Parent/Carers

What a wonderful day Harmony day was! A true celebration of our rich heritage and the diverse culture within our school I was immensely proud of our three students who stood before everyone and shared their stories of experiencing school life in an inclusive school, regardless of background. Please read their stories in the following pages.....

And now comes the hard part..... I wish saying goodbye was as easy as saying hello.

For over five years I have been part of the Hughes school community. Having lived in the inner south for many years, I would drive past this school and often consider Hughes PS as just another school in the ACT, hardly giving it a second glance. My outlook changed completely once I worked within the school and saw it for the hidden diamond it truly is. Friends commented how they had sent their children to the school, because of its diverse makeup, instilling the significance of inclusion and acceptance in their children. Such a true reflection of our school! I was so pleasantly surprised when I started to get to know the community... its students, its staff and its families. I was made to feel welcome right from the onset, such a natural way of this community.

I have over my years, seen students, staff and families come and go. I have seen tears turn into smiles, apprehension turn into confidence, persistence and resilience to weather and manage the speed bumps, and I have seen self-doubt change and grow into pride, evident in the smiles of their sense of achievement. These memories I hold dear and take with me.

I have seen the school go from its "teenage years" to a school in the 21st century with a cool sophistication that reflects its enhancement, engagement, enthusiasm, and exceptional commitment to improving student outcomes for each and every student. I am in awe of its students and staff that work together to benefit student learning across the school. And for this experience I am truly, truly grateful.

To the students of Hughes, I thank each and every one of you for making my day, with smiles, hellos, chats, laughter, enthusiasm, and commitment to learning in your classrooms.

To the staff, I am honoured to have worked alongside such committed, enthusiastic and forward thinking colleagues, stretching theirs and my thinking to improve in every way; for working with such positivity and being there for each other. And above all their sense of fun and enjoyment, for without this, it would not be the inspiring workplace that it is.

To the community, I applaud your commitment to and investment in the academic, social and emotional wellbeing of our students, and the relentless support that you provide our school. Working in partnership with many of you has been an absolute privilege.

What we leave behind is a part of ourselves, but in the words of Winnie the Pooh:

How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard.

I leave a most memorable part of my professional life but take heart I will be close by at Curtin PS, to catch up on students, say hello to staff and bump into families. I won't say goodbye, but farewell until we meet again. I will truly miss the Hughes family and wish you all the absolute best now and always.

Kerri

PS I am only moving to the next suburb (Curtin PS). Imagine how hard this would be if we were moving much further afield!!!



SCHOOL ASSESSMENT

At the beginning of every school year, and continuing throughout the year, assessment of each student occurs in a variety of ways. The use of multiple criteria – **the collection of ‘snapshots’ in order to develop a comprehensive ‘photo album’ for each child, over time** – provide information which assists teachers in the decision-making needed to guide students through their learning journey.

When viewed as a whole, the album presents a more accurate and revealing ‘portrait’ of an individual than does any single snapshot within.

[Tomlinson, C.A., & McTighe, J. (2006). Integrating Differentiated Instruction and Understanding by Design. Heatherton, Vic: HBA. p.60.]



NAPLAN 2015

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an everyday part of the school calendar since 2008. This year, NAPLAN assessments will occur from the 12 – 14 May.

NAPLAN is not a test of content. Instead, it tests skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time through the school curriculum. Excessive test preparation using previous tests is not useful.

NAPLAN tests identify whether all students have the literacy and numeracy skills that provide the critical foundation for their learning, and for their productive and rewarding participation in the community. Students are assessed using common national tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy.

Information for Parents/Carers about NAPLAN can be found at:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support/parent-carer-support.html>

2015 NAPLAN information brochure for parents and carers.

http://www.nap.edu.au/verve/resources/NAPLAN_2015_Parent_information_brochure_web.pdf

A NAPLAN Information Session will be held for interested parents with students in Years 3 and 5 in the near future. A note will be sent home beforehand. I will look forward to seeing you there.

Helen Cox

Executive Teacher of Achievement & Potential

Children's Vision

Good vision is important for your child's educational, physical and social development and to help them reach their full learning potential. Many children continue to experience undetected and unnecessary vision problems and often they assume that how they see is normal.

It is up to us, their teachers and parents, to be able to recognise the signs of a vision problem, and to help children look after their eyes.

We hope to help parents to detect potential vision problems in children early, and to teach children about their eyes and the importance of good vision.

Recognising eye problems in children

Symptoms of eye problems include:

- complaints of blurred vision, headaches, or sore eyes
- delayed progress in reading ability
- a turned eye, red or watery eyes, and frequent blinking
- poor hand-eye coordination in sports
- losing their place or omitting words and skipping lines when reading

Contact for a copy of the Children's Vision Parent Guide or visit the website:

www.optometrists.asn.au/childrensvision

Optometrists Association Australia recommends that children's eyes be checked regularly throughout their school life, and immediately on observing any problems with their eyes or vision. Behavioural Optometrist Mr Craig Butler of Mackinley Optical is available for appointments - call 6248 9100 - Canberra City or 6251 3399 – Westfield Belconnen to book an eye exam today.

Kindergarten Health Screenings

The Kindergarten Health Screenings will be on Monday 4th, Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 6th of May.

An envelope sent home with your child should have been returned to the class teacher or front office by now.

Updated Student Information

Over the next two weeks you will receive a copy of the current details we have on our system for your child(ren).

It is important that this information is up to date on our system, especially contact details should we need to communicate with you urgently.

Please look carefully at these forms and make any alterations required and return to the front office as soon as possible.

Health and PE News

The annual Hughes Primary School Cross Country Carnival will be held on Friday 10th April, with races starting at 1pm. Students have been training hard in classes and everyone is looking forward to a fantastic afternoon, with the whole school participating and great leadership by our house captains.

Students are reminded to wear their house colours on the day.

Mugga - Yellow

Forster - Blue

Taylor - Green

Stromlo - Red



If you are able to assist on the afternoon from 12:30 - 3pm, please email Miss Smith (joanna.smith@ed.act.edu.au) or if you would like to come along and cheer on the students, we would love to see you - everyone is welcome!

Joanna Smith

Do not pick or eat any wild mushrooms!

ACT Chief Health Officer is reminding the community not to touch, pick or eat any wild mushrooms found growing in and around the ACT. The Death Cap mushroom can easily be confused with edible wild mushrooms.

In Canberra, Death Cap mushrooms grow mainly near established oak trees in mild, moist weather typically observed in late summer and autumn.

All parts of the mushroom are poisonous and consuming even a small amount of the mushroom can be fatal. Cooking the mushroom does not make it safe to eat. Anyone who suspects that they may have eaten Death Cap mushrooms should seek urgent medical attention at a hospital emergency department.

It is advised that people remain vigilant and remind friends and family who are visiting or new to Canberra not to touch, pick or eat any wild mushrooms. For safety, all mushrooms should be purchased from a reputable supplier.

If you see wild mushrooms in public areas, call Canberra Connect on 13 22 81.

A fact sheet providing information about the Death Cap mushroom is available online at <http://www.health.act.gov.au/datapublications/fact-sheets/environmental-health>.



Authorised by Paul Kelly Chief Health Officer, Population Health, Health Directorate



Do you have a concern about your ACT Public School?

Many concerns are resolved quickly and easily by discussing the matter directly with the school.

First speak directly to your child's teacher or talk to a member of the executive team. If you continue to be concerned please make an appointment to see your principal.

If you are not satisfied you may lodge a written complaint. The *Complaints Policy* and the *Complaints Form* are available from the policy section of the Directorate website: www.det.act.gov.au

You have the right to approach the ACT Human Rights Commission. Details are available from the Commission website: www.hrc.act.gov.au/humanrights

If you need assistance, or you would like to compliment us,

contact the ACT Education and Training Directorate's
Liaison Unit on Tel: 6205 5429 or
Email: DET.CommunityLiaison@act.gov.au

DATES TO REMEMBER



APRIL 2015

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Thu 2/4 | Autism Awareness Day (wear bright coloured clothes to school) |
| Thu 2/4 | IEC Graduation Ceremony 1.45pm |
| Fri 3/4 | Public Holiday (Good Friday) |
| Mon 6/4 | Public Holiday (Easter Monday) |
| Thu 9/4 | Cinderella Performance - Whole School 9.30-12.30 |
| Fri 10/4 | Cross Country Carnival |
| Fri 10/4 | Assembly 1.45pm |
| Mon 13/4 - Fri 24/4 | School Holidays |
| Mon 27/4 | Public Holiday (ANZAC Day) - there will be a holiday for ACT public servants, including teachers and other employees working in ACT public schools. This is due to ANZAC Day falling on a Saturday this year. ACT public schools will therefore commence Term 2 on Tuesday 28 April 2015 . The Education and Training Directorate has also been in contact with a number of outside school hours care providers who may wish to offer a program for students on the day. If you are aware of a need for care, you may wish to contact your outside school hours care provider. |

STUDENT INJURY INSURANCE AND AMBULANCE TRANSPORT

The ACT Education and Training 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 organised activity within the ACT.



PARENT EFFECTIVENESS TRAINING (P.E.T)

Supported by Parentline ACT

Communication skills for peaceful parenting and resilient children (without the use of punishment or reward). Helps develop emotional intelligence, and grow confident, considerate children. Powerful, proven and practical. Yell less, enjoy your children more. Build relationships that last a lifetime.

The course consists of three-hour sessions, once per week, for eight weeks. Booking is essential. \$290 pp for the course (investment includes a workbook and textbook).

Course begins: Thursday, 7th May, 2015; **Time:** 6.30 pm to 9.45 pm; **Place:** Weston, ACT.

Enjoy P.E.T. with **Larissa**, Canberra's most experienced P.E.T. instructor.
0413 451 607 www.parentskills.com.au info@parentskills.com.au

Harmony Day 2015



2015 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

Registration Form

Please return this form to the front office at Hughes Primary School.

I give permission for my child _____ of _____
Child's name *Class*

to participate in the following 2015 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS):

Please select the subjects you would like your child to enter:

Students should sit on the official sitting date for each subject to be eligible for UNSW medals. However, your school may choose to sit at another time to fit in with other school activities and routines.

| Subject/Paper | School Years | Official Sitting Date | Closing Date | Entry fee, incl. GST | Fee enclosed |
|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Digital Technologies* | 3 – 10 | 19 May 2015 | 21 April 2015 | \$8.80 | |
| Science | 2 – 12 | 3 June 2015 | 6 May 2015 | \$8.80 | |
| Writing | 3 – 12 | 15-19 June 2015** | 18 May 2015 | \$18.70 | |
| Spelling | 3 – 7 | 16 June 2015 | 19 May 2015 | \$12.10 | |
| English | 2 – 12 | 28 July 2015 | 30 June 2015 | \$8.80 | |
| Mathematics | 2 – 12 | 11 August 2015 | 14 July 2015 | \$8.80 | |
| | | | | TOTAL | |

* Previously known as Computer Skills.

** Students may sit Writing anytime in the week beginning Monday 15 June.

Please find enclosed _____ total entry fee. _____
Amount *Date*

Name of Parent/Guardian

Signature of Parent/Guardian

(please circle one) Cheque Cash Credit Card Eftpos Direct Debit

Cheques should be made payable to **Hughes Primary School**. **If paying by CASH, please provide the EXACT amount.**

If paying by Direct Debit – please ensure you reference the payment ICAS (student's name)

Paying to: Hughes Primary School – BSB Number **032777** – Account Number **001412**

If paying by Credit Card please complete details below:

Card Type: Mastercard Visa

Card No:

Cardholders Name: Expiry Date:

Cardholders Signature:

\$1000 FREE KIDS DENTAL* WITH THE CHILD DENTAL BENEFITS SCHEDULE!

Great news, the Child Dental Benefits Schedule continues in 2015! The Commonwealth Government dental scheme provides eligible children with a \$1000 free kids dental benefit* on selected dental services within a 1 year calendar period.

In 2014 many families were surprised that they were eligible for the free \$1000 benefit*. To gain access to benefits, children must be eligible for Medicare, must be between 2 and 17 years of age for at least 1 day of the calendar year with the child or parent, guardian or carer receiving Family Tax Benefit Part A or another relevant government payment.

Not sure if you're kids are eligible? Contact your local Pacific Smiles Dental Centre, have your Medicare card ready and they can easily check to see if your kids are eligible or have remaining benefits from 2014.

Information provided by Pacific Smiles Dental: visit pacificsmilesdental.com.au for further information.

**Free when services covered by the Commonwealth Government's Child Dental Benefits Schedule are bulk billed by participating Practitioners for treatments provide to eligible patients.*

pacificsmilesdental.com.au to book an appointment'."/>



The Smith Family Woden Store

BUYING IS GIVING

DID YOU KNOW THAT EVERY PURCHASE FROM THE SMITH FAMILY STORE SUPPORTS PROGRAMS TO HELP DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN TO SUCCEED AT SCHOOL?

There is something for everyone at The Smith Family Woden Store, located at 4 Easty St, Philip ACT (Cnr Launceston and Easty St).

Not only will you find a great range of high quality clothing and accessories for the whole family at affordable prices, but your purchase will also go towards helping disadvantaged young Australians create better futures for themselves through education.

At The Smith Family stores, **buying is giving** because all proceeds we make from the sale of clothing donations go directly to learning programs for disadvantaged children supported by The Smith Family.

The Smith Family is a national children's charity that helps disadvantaged young Australians to succeed at school, to prevent them from experiencing a lifetime of poverty. We look forward to seeing you at our Woden store!

For more information visit thesmithfamily.com.au/recycling

Canberra Public Schools
25% OFF
 Next Purchase
 All Students and Families



Come Visit Our Store!
 New stock arriving daily

Visit The Smith Family Store for a great range of Designer brands, formal and casual wear

The Smith Family Store,
 Cnr Launceston and Esely Streets Woden
 Mon- Fri 9am-4:45pm Sat 10am-1:45pm
 Ph: 82328374



www.smithfamily.com.au

Helping Young Australians in need to build better futures through education

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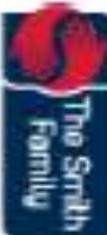
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www.smithfamily.com.au

Helping Young Australians in need to build better futures through education

thesmithfamily.com.au

www.flexischools.com.au

ONLINE ORDERING



- Available 24/7
- Convenient for parents
- Removes paper orders and cash
- FREE registration

Online ordering is more convenient, providing a 24/7 payment and ordering system that can be accessed from home, work or a mobile device.

No more fumbling around for coins in the morning or sending kids to school with excess cash, online orders are faster and more accurate giving parents peace of mind that their order and payment is received accurately at the school.

Registration is free and only takes a few minutes.

EASY, ONLINE REGISTRATION

- Go to www.flexischools.com.au
- Click REGISTER
- Enter your email
- You will be emailed a link to an online form - follow the link
- Choose a username and password and complete the form
- Add each student and their class
- Top-up the account - VISA or Mastercard preferred.



Place lunch orders from your iPhone, iPad or mobile device!

For help call 1300 361 769

 **flexischools**

HUGHES PRIMARY SCHOOL (online orders only)

Wednesday Term 1 2015



Juice \$1.60
Apple
Tropical

Milk \$2.80
Strawberry
Chocolate



Water \$1.20



* H=Halal
*V=Vegetarian

Snacks
Milo Slice \$1.20
Choc chip cookies 50c \$1.00
Jelly \$1.20
Salad Tub \$1.20
Watermelon Tub \$1.20



Hot food
Pizza Single (handian/cheese& bacon) \$3.00
Sausage roll (carrteen made) \$2.60
Popem chicken & wedges \$3.80
Nachos with salsa&cheese \$3.50
Chicken nuggets x3 \$2.60
Cheese Pizza (carrteen made) \$3.00
Fried Rice/2spring rolls \$3.50

Sandwiches \$2.50 
Cheese or Ham

Toasted Sandwiches
Cheese/ham \$3.00
Cheese \$2.50

Sushi \$2.50
vegetable handroll

Ice Creams
Frozen juice Cup \$1.30
Frozen Yogurt \$2.60

Wednesday Special
Hot Dog Choice of sauce \$3.00



Burgers and Wraps
Chicken Burger with chicken patty, lettuce and mayo or sauce \$4.50
Wrap with choice of cheese, tomato, cucumber, carrot and lettuce \$3.00
Wrap with Chicken, with choice of tomato, cucumber, carrot and lettuce \$3.00

Property of Alfred Deakin High School