



# Weetangera School

'Our vision, as a community, is to inspire a passion for learning'



**ACT**  
Government  
Education

Weetangera School is an  
ANAPHYLAXIS AWARE SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **School Administration System (SAS) Onboarding Message for our School Community**

On Monday 24 August, our school will progress into the third stage of implementation of the new School Administration System (SAS). So far, the program has helped to bring digital roll marking, parent/carer SMS communication and wellbeing processes across all ACT Public Schools. This is a major step for our school and the Directorate as we move away from the MAZE system as our source of student and financial information. The Directorate's SAS team will be working very closely with us to ensure that the correct support processes are in place to ensure that the transition is a success.

As we transition into the new modules of the system over this period, information will be provided to the school community about new features that enhance or change current school processes. This update is particularly exciting for the administration of our school as previous releases have been focused on teacher use. We expect this to be a smooth transition and appreciate your support and understanding during this time. As always you can contact the school office if you have any questions or concerns that may arise.

### **Canberra moved to Stage 3.1**

Last week, Canberra moved to Stage 3.1 of its recovery plan which eases restrictions on some businesses and allows others to re-open. This is a partial transition to the next stage in reopening the ACT economy and does not impact on current restrictions in ACT schools. As detailed in the Roadmap for ACT public schools, schools are still required to limit the number of adults on school grounds... we are looking forward to this restriction being lifted.

### **School SunSmart Hats**

The wearing of School SunSmart hats commenced recently for Canberra schools due to the UV levels climbing to 3 and above every day. Thank you for your support and we appreciate families assisting their child to pack their School SunSmart hat each day for our daily PE lessons and break times.

### **2020 School Satisfaction and Climate Survey**

You will have received information about the [2020 School Satisfaction and Climate Survey](#) which is available online from 10 to 31 August. The survey results help us to continue to make quality informed decisions about our school improvement priorities and actions. This year, there is also a shortened paper-version of the parent survey available in the following 12 languages: Arabic, Burmese, Chinese, Dari, Dinka, Farsi, Hindi, Karen, Korean, Mon, Urdu and Vietnamese. To request one, email [EDUSurveys@act.gov.au](mailto:EDUSurveys@act.gov.au). We are encouraging as many parents and staff members as possible to complete the survey - your feedback is important, and we hope that you will take part. For more information please visit the Education Directorate's website using the address: <https://>

### **SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS**

**Parent Reps.** Yehuwdiy Dillon - 0458 866 937, Amy Begley - 0403 498 397, Vijaya Porwal

**Principal** - James Barnett 61422600; **Teacher Reps.** - Natarsha van den Boogaard

## **Newsletter No. 25**

**20 August 2020**

**Week 5**

### **COMMUNITY DIARY**

Inclusions may be added in the diary at the front office.

#### **September**

- 1 P&C meeting  
7pm- 9pm**
- 1-2 Weetangera  
Writers Festival**
- 4 Jersey Day**
- 17 Kinder Information  
Session 6-7pm**
- 22 Yrs 3-6 Athletics  
Carnival  
11:30am- 3pm**
- 25 Y6 Market Day**

**ASSEMBLIES 9:15 am**

**ALL ASSEMBLIES  
POSTPONED  
UNTIL FURTHER**



**Attachments**

Weetangera School  
Southwell Street  
Weetangera ACT 2614

Telephone: 6142 2600  
Canteen: 6142 2621

**Please read our web site:  
[weetangeraps.act.edu.au](http://weetangeraps.act.edu.au)**

[www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/school-satisfaction-and-climate-survey](http://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/school-satisfaction-and-climate-survey)

### **'Have Your Say' on Molonglo Valley's new public school**

The ACT Education Directorate's new public school in the Molonglo Valley is currently being constructed. The name of the new school will be selected from a list of Aboriginal leaders known for reform and activism. These names were short-listed after consultation with families and the Office of the Surveyor-General and Land Information and the Place Names Committee. These leaders are: Ngingali Cullen, Evelyn Scott, Isabel Coe, Arnold 'Puggy' Hunter and John Budby. You can find more information on the ACT Government's Your Say website. Uniform and logo designs are also available on this website for community consultation.

Yours faithfully

James M. Barnett  
Principal

### **A message from the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Development**

In the ACT there are 88 public schools, over 49,000 public school students and around 3,800 educators. But of course, I understand that for each of us as parents, the most important school is the school our children go to. That's why I want to make sure that every public school is a great school.

The ACT Government is upgrading and expanding public schools to make sure that learning environments are accessible and sustainable.

[The government is committed to ensuring that every public school has the infrastructure to support high-quality education and that's why the government has been investing more than \\$115 million to upgrade public schools right across the Territory.](#)

Here at Weetangera School the government has provided:

- an upgrade of the phone system to a modern digital network in the primary school and preschool, including new phones, servers and an uninterruptable power supply for emergencies;
- new cooling and ventilation systems across various areas of the school, including sickbay, to ensure school environments are comfortable;
- a roof replacement at the preschool; and
- additional flagpoles to display the Australian, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags, to recognise and respect Australia's first people, and demonstrate our commitment to reconciliation and an inclusive and welcoming community.

Upgrades to the school's outdoor multipurpose hardcourts and learning areas were also completed as part of the ACT Government's \$35 million fast track stimulus program to support local businesses and keep Canberrans employed.

Every child and family has a place in ACT public schools regardless of their background or life circumstances. That's why this investment into public school infrastructure goes beyond just the basic things that allow learning and teaching to take place. The ACT Government invests in public schools to make sure that every student has what they need to be included, and to learn and develop their interests, passions and life skills.

The ACT Government has upgraded heating and cooling systems, reducing polluting emissions and making temperatures comfortable and conducive to learning in over 40 older public schools across Canberra.

The government also provided 4,000 Chromebooks to schools at the beginning of this school year and a further 3,000 Chromebooks and 500 iPads were purchased for use during the COVID-19 pandemic to assist with remote learning.

Schools have seen upgraded classrooms, toilets, libraries, canteens and bike shelters, as well as gardens, landscaping and playground areas in schools to make sure that these spaces are positive and accommodating.

As Canberra grows, the government is making sure that schools grow with it. Every child has the right to access education and the ACT Government is making sure that this right is equally ensured for every young person.

**Yvette Berry MLA**

# Spotlighting

## Weetangera

Proudly brought to you by Year 2

This term in Year 2 , we have been learning about Information Reports and their structure. We have been focusing on writing facts about animals and adding detail by creating compound sentences. Here are some that we came up with!

Kangaroos have large feet and strong legs so they can bounce high.

- Jackson



Koalas have large furry ears and sharp claws so they are able to climb trees really well.

- Bonnie

Dolphins have a blowhole on top of their head so they can take a breath.

- Tallin



The koala is a cute, drowsy type of creature and they are often found in gumtrees snoozing.

- Vera



Instead of wings, penguins have flippers which help them swim.

- Tessa



Chameleons can change their colour so they can protect themselves from predators and nature.

- Braxton

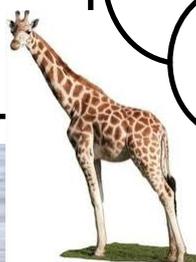
Polar bears have thick white fur because it helps them camouflage into the snowy environment they live in.

- Zalie



Giraffes have long necks so they can munch and crunch on high branches

- Lara





An art activity we really enjoyed was creating an emotions cat. First we looked at how different lines can show different emotions, then we chose an emotion and created our masterpieces using line. Can you guess which emotion these cats portray?



What lines did we use to portray our emotion?



What colours did we use?



## AWARDS CERTIFICATES

Last week certificates were awarded for:

**Critical Thinking:** Gus C, Avery M, Sophie G, Abby J, Alfie O, Fawaaz S, Peter D, Evie G

**Communication:** Shaan J, Hugo M, Felicity C, Emily D, Sachi V (WOM), Lottie F (WOM), Lanxi H, Elena L (WOM)

**Creativity:** Annabelle O, Jack D

**Collaboration:** Tenuun T, caine C, Kevin C, Ananya H



# NO PARKING

Do not park across Schumack St driveways when picking up your child. We have had complaints from the public not being able to access their homes between 2:45pm-3:15pm

# PARKING INSPECTORS HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED

## FAMILY SIBLING PHOTOS

are available from the front office at a cost of *only* \$6.

## DOGS

Under ACT Government policies, dogs are not permitted on school grounds.

Dear Parents & Carers,

### Weetangera School Parking and Traffic Guidelines:

Cars should not park in the Pick Up and Set Down zone at the front of the school.

## READING AT THE TANG 8:30am to 8:55am

The library is open every morning for students with accompanying parents/carers to sit quietly and share a book.

# Ps... How does your garden grow?

## Garden Visit

This week's garden visit was from a flock of Cockatoos! I don't know if you have noticed but the cockies are getting very cheeky and daring. They have feasted on my succulents and veggies at home and over the weekend they chewed on our little lettuce and parsley seedlings. The sad thing about it is that they don't even eat all of what they pick. So you may notice that the net has gone up to protect the plants. Hopefully that will deter further feasting!



## Pumpkin soup and muffins

The canteen is offering delicious homemade pumpkin soup and pumpkin muffins. These treats are made from the pumpkins grown in our very own school garden. The ladies have put a lot of love and care into cooking them and have put them up for sale on flexischools. Try some soon - Yum!

## Home recycling tips

Did you know that **batteries** should not go into your recycling or rubbish bin? Household batteries contain recoverable materials when recycled through specialised battery recycling programs. Materials such as lead, cadmium, mercury, lithium, manganese, nickel and zinc are used to make batteries. These materials are all non-renewable, can be recycled an indefinite number of times and have a commercial value. Lead, cadmium and mercury can be hazardous to human health and the environment if incorrectly disposed of.

You can recycle batteries at the Mugga Lane and Mitchell Resource Centres, Aldi and Battery World. Click the link below for more details.

<https://www.cityservices.act.gov.au/recyclopaedia/recyclopaedia-a-z-listing>

Nicole and the garden/sustainability team.



# Pps... reminders

## P&C MEETING

Tuesday 1 September  
at 7pm, in the school staff room. All are welcome.

Book Club – It's been 6 fun years but it is time for me to hand over the role of book club organiser/s to someone new.

Ideally suited to 2 people, the book club organiser/s efforts contribute significantly to the fundraising rewards for Weetangera Primary.

If you would like to take on this role, please contact me at [admin@mpsact.com.au](mailto:admin@mpsact.com.au) and I will be happy to show you the ropes.

Kylie

## NEW TO CANTEEN MENU

Pumpkin Soup

\$3.50

Hot Chocolate

\$2.50

*Everyday*

Order via  
Flexischools



## A REMINDER THAT SCHOOL BANKING IS EVERY FRIDAY

So dust off your banking books and start saving again. If you would like to begin school banking, or have any questions please check out the website ([www.commbank.com.au/schoolbanking](http://www.commbank.com.au/schoolbanking)) or contact Jen, your school banking coordinator ([martyandjen@bigpond.com](mailto:martyandjen@bigpond.com)).

