



O'Connor Cooperative School
together we learn, together we grow



NEWSLETTER

Term 3 Week 1 Wednesday 19th July 2017

35a Macpherson St, O'Connor ACT 2602 PO Box 6231, O'Connor ACT 2602

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Principal: Jenny Loudon
Business Manager: Natalie Lalor

Board Chair: Marianne Cullen
P&C President: Angela Corin

DATES TO REMEMBER

25 July First Aid for all classes
27 July MEP Research & Alumni Meeting 6.30pm
8 Aug School Board Meeting 7.45am
11 Aug P&C Special General Meeting 3.10pm
11 Aug P&C General Meeting 3.15pm

Community Singing Friday 2.30pm in Redgum - All welcome

NOTES SENT HOME

20 July School Photos
1 July MEP Ethics Note

Welcome to Term 3

I hope you all enjoyed the winter break. For those of us who stayed in Canberra it was certainly very crisp but lovely in the sun. We look forward to an engaging and busy term of learning.

Staffing

This term we welcome Mariana back following her 12 months maternity leave. Mariana will be here each Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and will be the Executive Teacher on Thursday and Fridays.

In week 3 our Yasmine O'Brien, an experienced and passionate early childhood teacher, will join our team teaching preschool Mon-Thurs and sharing various roles across the K-2 classes on Fridays.

School Photos

This week your school photo package has been sent home with your child. If you would like to order more copies of your photos or purchase a copy of the whole school photo, please contact Natalie in the Front Office. For our Year 1 and Year 2 students, separate year group photos were taken as well as their class photos. These are also available for purchase @ \$16 each. See display images in the classroom enclosed noticeboard.

MEP Concert - Week 10 6.00pm Thursday 21st September Llewelyn Hall

Please read the separate attached note (or hard copy sent home with you child) regarding the research we are undertaking with the ANU Music Engagement Program (MEP). Part of this work will include our whole school P-2 concert, which all students are working towards, which will take place at Llewelyn Hall in Week 10 this term.

If you would like to know more about the MEP research being undertaken please join us next Thursday evening at 6.30pm in Redgum when Susan will again outline the details of the research and singing with our alumni students and their families.

Regards *Jenny*

Finance

Thank you to those families who have made a voluntary contribution to our school. If you are yet to do so and would like your donation to be tax deductible, please advise Natalie that you would like your contribution to be donated to our library fund. Voluntary contributions for 2017 have been set at \$110.



Thank you to those families who have also paid the bulk book pack contribution of \$90. Our stationery is purchased in bulk at the beginning of the year to ensure all students are able to access stationery supplies as they need them throughout the year.

Preferred method of payment is electronic funds transfer and details are as follows:

BSB: 032-777

Account number: 001172

Account name: O'Connor Cooperative School

If you have collected a school jumper or T shirt and are yet to pay, these bank details should be used. Please note purchase type in the reference section eg. Loudon Vol Con or Lalor Jacket. Receipts will be issued on payment. If you are unsure if you have paid for the voluntary contributions, the book pack contribution or for school clothing, please contact Natalie.

Upcoming Events

P&C Special General Meeting Friday 11th August

A Special General Meeting of the P&C will be held on Friday 11th August at 3.10pm (week 4 after community singing) to ratify the new constitution. A copy of the current and proposed constitution are available in the front office. Please contact P&C President Angela or Vice President Kathy (details at the top of each newsletter) for further information. This meeting will be followed by the general P&C meeting for term 3.

National Science Week 12th -22nd August

Future Earth Do you have a Science or Technology background? If so we would love your assistance. We would like to invite you to come and share your expertise with our students during our Science Fair this term.

When: Week 5 - Wednesday 16th August 9.00 – 11.00am

Where: O'Connor Cooperative School

What: School Science Fair

If you think you may be able to assist please send me an email by Friday 21st July and I will give you further details in regards to times and ideas.

Sarah.Hornby@ed.act.edu.au

General information for all families

School starts at 9.00 am

Families are asked to make sure children are at school by **9.00am each day**. We appreciate your efforts to ensure that the learning for your child and others in their class can start promptly at 9.00am. Supporting the teachers and valuing the start of the day means every child has access to the outline of the learning to take place. ***On the rare occasion you may be late, please sign the register at the front office and collect a late slip for your child to hand to their teacher.***

School Gates

Please ensure that gates are closed as you enter and exit the school grounds and encourage any older siblings to remember to close the gates as well. We ask that children do not climb the gates to locate the opener, as this leads to the gates becoming unstable and requiring repair.

Please do not let children out of the gates if they are not in your care.

Anaphylactic friendly school

In the interests of all children's safety, we ask that all nuts and nut products are kept out of the school grounds: This includes any food containing nuts or nut products. There are also several students in the school with allergies to various foods, including nuts, eggs and certain fruits including kiwi fruit and mango.

- If you are supplying a birthday cake or treat for the class, please check with your child's class teacher to see if there are children with allergies.
- If your child has an allergy you may wish to provide an alternative food which can be kept in the freezer at school for such occasions.

Administration of Prescribed Medication

The Directorate is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for students. While school staff have a duty of care to students to provide first aid assistance when required, parents will be aware that schools cannot be responsible for the general management of medical conditions.

In special circumstances, staff may be able to assist with the administration of medication. In these cases, directorate policy requires principals to ensure that a comprehensive written authority is obtained from the student's parents and also seek from them a written statement from the student's doctor authorising a member of staff to administer the prescribed medication.

In these cases medications must be clearly marked with the child's name and dosage requirements and handed to the front office. The medication **must** remain in the office, where it will be administered to the child.

Student Injury, Insurance and Ambulance Transport

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**.

The 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 consider whether taking out personal insurance cover for your child is warranted.

Being a Volunteer at School - Working With Vulnerable People Act

Volunteers who regularly work with children in classrooms or regularly make contact with children during other school activities need to be registered. This means applying for a Working With Vulnerable People (WWVP) card. This is a fairly simple process involving taking identification and completing a form at any ACT Government Shopfront. There is no cost for volunteers. Becoming registered is a positive action and all parents and carers are encouraged to consider registering so that you are readily available to assist the children of our school. Without registration people are not able to assist children.

Some volunteers may choose not to register but to continue supporting the school by reducing the number of days on which they work so as to avoid exceeding statutory limits. If you are unsure whether you need to be registered, please contact the school.

ALL volunteers must sign in and out each day they assist at O'Connor School. We are strengthening protection for children, but we depend on our volunteers in a variety of ways and look forward to your continued support in whatever capacity you choose.

Staff Carpark

The staff car park has limited spaces as you know and it is important that parents do not use the staff carpark during the day - especially during pick up and drop off times.

Whilst there may, on rare occasions, be a vacant spot we have many part time staff, visiting staff and Directorate representatives who also need to use our car park. Crossing the footpath during drop off and pick up times can also be dangerous as children are hastily making their way to school.

In the interest of safety for all and especially our children, I would ask you to please park in the street and walk into the school grounds.

Community News

2018 Australian of the Year Awards – Be Great and Nominate

Give our nation's best the recognition they deserve. Play your part in recognising Canberrans doing remarkable work, helping others and making a difference. Nominate an Australian of the Year, Senior Australian of the Year (65 years and over), Young Australian of the Year (16 to 30 years) or Australia's Local Hero. Nominations can be made online at australianoftheyear.org.au and close on 6 August 2017.



Australian of the Year Awards

Be a great Australian and nominate someone for the Australian of the Year Awards

[Australianoftheyear.org.au](http://australianoftheyear.org.au)

#BeGreatandNominate

Nominations close 6 August 2017



Canberra Academy of Chess is a team of people who have one passion in common: teaching chess to others. We've been doing so in the ACT for over 8 years. Canberra

Academy works closely with Sydney Academy of Chess.

AUGUST 2017

5th

[Woden Saturday Fun Tournament](#)

OCTOBER 2017

1st

[Canberra Chess Challenge 15](#)

3rd

[Woden Holiday Coaching Clinic \(Spring\)](#)

21st

[Woden Saturday Fun Tournament](#)

NOVEMBER 2017

5th

[Schools Chess Challenge at Melba](#)

DECEMBER 2017

3rd

[Canberra Xmas Swiss Chess Challenge](#)

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Canberra Academy of Chess Tournaments and Events

Our mailing address is:

Canberra Academy of Chess

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