



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

29 Nov	Kindy Transition 11:30am-12:30pm
29 Nov	Kindy 2018 "Let's Play" at Nicholls 4pm-5pm
06 Dec	Kindy Transition 11:30am-12:30pm
06 Dec	Choir/Recorder ensemble at Westfield
06 Dec	P&C Meeting 7:00pm
07 Dec	Choir/Recorder ensemble at Parliament House
08 Dec	Year 6 Graduation
11 Dec	End of Year Awards
15 Dec	Last day of school
05 Feb	First day for Preschool M-W Group and Kindergarten students
06 Feb	First day of Term 1 2018

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE TEACHER

### PRESCHOOL MATTERS GRANT

Congratulations to our Preschool Team who were successful in winning a \$1000 Preschool Matters Grant to create a Parent Literacy Corner in their family room. This funding supports initiatives that strengthen parental engagement with children's preschool education and develop collaborative partnerships with families and communities. On Monday 20 November, the Minister for Education, Yvette Berry visited Giralang Preschool to make the official announcement for successful ACT Preschools. A survey will be forwarded to families before the end of the year to find out what you would like to see in our shared Literacy Corner.



### 2017 CHIEF MINISTER'S READING CHALLENGE AWARDS CEREMONY

In recognition of student achievement during this year's Chief Minister's Reading Challenge, our school has received an award for having one of the highest student completion percentages in Years 3 and 4. This includes students reading 15 books to complete the Challenge this year.

Our school was invited to the CMRC Awards Ceremony this morning at the National Library of Australia. Theo from 4C and Hannah from 3I accepted the award on the school's behalf. They even got to meet authors Jack Heath and Harry Laing! Congratulations to the students, their teachers and families for this amazing achievement. You are a big inspiration to us all. Happy reading!



### EXTERNAL SCHOOL REVIEW REPORT

As you are aware, our school was externally reviewed by an independent panel in August. Our External School Review Report has now been uploaded onto our website for public viewing. Please follow this link to access the report:

[http://www.giralangps.act.edu.au/our\\_community/school\\_board](http://www.giralangps.act.edu.au/our_community/school_board)

## SCHOOL STRATEGIC PLANNING

On Wednesday 22 November, we engaged in a strategic planning day with Ron Bamford from the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER). In attendance were the School Leadership team, teacher representative Kieran Blackwell, Director for School Improvement Belconnen Martin Watson, and School Board members Nathan Kruger and Kathryn Couter. The day was rigorous and productive. We have achieved the greater parts of the final plan. Thank you to those in attendance for your valuable input; it really was a collaborative effort. At the beginning of 2018, we will be consulting with students and parents to provide feedback on our new strategic plan before seeking the School Board's final approval.

## TRANSITIONS AND MOVE UP DAY

A reminder, current preschoolers are off to **Let's Play** in Nicholls this afternoon from 4:30pm-5:30pm. Please pay \$9 per child at the venue. Siblings are welcome to join us. We look forward to seeing you there!

**"Move up Day"** will take place on Wednesday, 13 December for Preschool to year 5. During this time, students will acquaint themselves with next year's class by participating in getting-to-know you activities with their 2018 classmates and teacher in their new classroom. It is also a great opportunity for students to ask questions and overcome any anxieties that may be popping up with regards to a new school year. "Move up Day" was very successful last year with students ending their session with an abundance of enthusiasm for the following year.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Our school website has a wealth of school information including our curriculum, community organisations, information hub, recent events and permission notes. You can also find our 'Giralanger' newsletter updated every fortnight. Please follow this link to access any information:

<http://www.giralangps.act.edu.au/>

## LIONS' READING ACTION PROGRAM

The Lions' Reading Action Program is a worldwide program instigated by the International President of the Lions' organisation in 2012. Since then each International President has endorsed this program to improve literacy skills worldwide. The Lions Club of Canberra Belconnen has supported the program since 2012 by donating books to many Belconnen schools each year. Here is Miss Love, Neeve and Theo receiving two donated books from Lions representative, Beverly.



## NEWCOMBE MEDAL – AUSTRALIAN TENNIS AWARDS



Mark Bormann and Kieran Blackwell attended the Australian Tennis Awards on Monday evening in Melbourne. The awards were hosted by TV and Radio personality Rove McManus. Unfortunately, we were not successful in winning Most Outstanding School this year. That honour went to Riverton Primary School in South Australia. However, we were thrilled to be recognised in the top 3 schools in Australia!

Kathi Brown – Executive Teacher

## JAPANESE FUN DAY

The learning of Japanese language and culture was recently showcased at Giralang Primary School as part of our Japanese Fun Day. In mixed age groups, students participated in a range of language and cultural activities, including origami, Japanese toys, *Koinobori*, language and number games, and traditional cooking and craft activities.

Learning another language is an enriching experience, and this was certainly evident throughout the day as students came together to celebrate our Japanese program. A big *yoku dekimashita!* to Morgan Sensei for organising the event and for her continuing work in bringing Japanese language and culture to our classrooms. The day ended with a musical Japanese folk tale performance called 'Omusubi Korobin'.

## NEWS FROM THE SRC



The SRC will be collecting food items to donate the Salvation Army up until the end of Week 9. We

are asking you to bring in any non-perishable foods (that haven't expired) that can be donated to families in need. Some examples of non-perishable foods are:

- tinned foods - fruit, baked beans, soups
- meal bases – pasta, pasta sauces, stir fry sauces, rice
- biscuits, cereals, sugar, coffee
- personal toiletries - shampoo, soap, baby wipes

All donations can be placed in the boxes under the Christmas tree at the Front Office.

Thank you for your support - SRC

## LOST PROPERTY

The Lost Property area (located in the corner of the indoor eating area outside the canteen) is overflowing with lost jumpers, jackets and other clothing, as well as lunch containers and drink bottles. Many of the items have names on them.

If you are missing items, please have a look over the next few weeks. Everything that is not collected by week 10 will be donated to Vinnies or the Second hand uniform store.

P&C

## BOOK PACK STATIONERY LIST FOR 2018

Have you ordered your child's 2018 Book Pack from Chalk Education? If not, you have until 15 December to order on line, or drop your order form back to the Front Office before extra charges are incurred. If you have not received a copy of your child's book pack list, please see the Front Office. If you have any questions please contact the P&C on [giralangpandc@gmail.com](mailto:giralangpandc@gmail.com)

## THANK YOU COLES KALEEN

We are very grateful to Coles Kaleen for donating supplies for our Breakfast Club each week.



## SCHOOL BANKING



Please note that **Friday 1 December** is the last day to order your rewards this year. We would like to say a big thank you to the volunteers who have offered to help run the school banking program next year.

School Banking is on every Friday. Please drop off your banking books to the Front Office in the morning.

If you would like to know more about School Banking, please visit [commbank.com.au/schoolbanking](http://commbank.com.au/schoolbanking) to register.

Cate Ticehurst & Christine Ostheimer – School Banking Officers



# Thank You



It takes an enormous amount of volunteer time and energy to make a P&C work. This year more than thirty people volunteered for regular P&C roles or tasks, and an equal number volunteered for one-off tasks at events. This is an amazing turn-out for a school community as small as ours! Many much larger schools struggle to find so many volunteers, and especially so many people who are willing to take on large or complex tasks. Some people who deserve special thanks this year are:

**Nardia Kerin, Julian Carrick, Kirsti Kuzmanoski, Tracey Pinto, Shirley Kardum and Levi Beeching** for taking on Executive Committee roles

**Heather Clarke, Eve Wisowaty, Marisa Kruger, Elise Wark and Lili Jankovic** for organising our wonderful Record Breaking 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party, which was a great community event and also raised \$2,700 for our school

**Nicholas Hall, Jennifer Sexton and Alica Tschierschke** (Precinct Committee) for working tirelessly on many different projects to improve our school's environment, including much needed new playground equipment

**Laura Anderson** for running the School Uniform Shop, and **Suzanne Garniss, Sean MacIntyre, Giselle Cruzado and Alica Tschierschke** for operating the shop on Friday mornings

**Cindy Allen, Kirsti Kuzmanoski and Tracey Pinto** for running the School Canteen and encouraging healthy eating habits and new food choices in our children

**Shirley Kardum** for running the Mango Fundraiser, which raised over \$3,000 for our school

**Kim Kingston** for co-ordinating breakfast club and working alongside the Red Cross volunteers every week to feed our hungry children

**Julia Helle** for running Book Club, which has allowed us to purchase many new books and educational resources for our library and classrooms

**Cate Ticehurst and Christine Ostheimer** for running School Banking, which provided a fun introduction to saving and earned \$500 for our school

**Jennifer Sexton and Alica Tschierschke** for running two awesome discos that were great fun for the kids and also raised \$1,730 for our school

**Val Brennan** for MCing our fantastic trivia night, which raised \$1,350 for our school

**Brett Reeves** for fitting out our new second hand uniform store and **Janelle Kennard** for sorting through mountains of clothes to get the store back in order

**Sharyn Lynch** for organising the constantly messy Lost Property area

Thank you all! And thank you to all the other people who turned up to help out at discos, sausage sizzles, cake stalls, morning teas and other events this year. You are wonderful people, you take the burden off our busy teachers' shoulders, and your contributions to our school and community are much, much appreciated.

Thanks to everyone's hard work we have raised an amazing **\$20,000** for new playground equipment!

*Megan Hemming, P&C President*

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School Office Hours: 08.30-15.30

**P&C ASSOCIATION**  
Megan Hemming President  
Nardia Kerin Vice President  
Kirsti Kuzmanoski Secretary  
Julian Carrick Treasurer

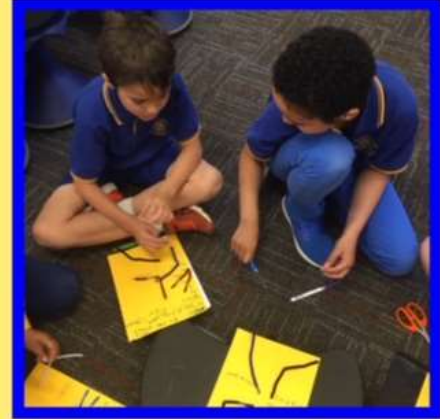
**BOARD REPRESENTATIVES**  
Glen Howard 0448 628 192  
Kathryn Couter 0414 410 672  
Nathan Kruger 0409 956 667

# News from... 2/3G - Pegasus, 2/3I - Aquila, 2/3W - Dracos

Over the term the Year 2/3 unit has dabbled with poetry. We have read poetry, listened to poetry and written some poems of our own. We would like to share some with you, hope you enjoy!

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Haiku</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">What am I?</p> <p>Smoke fills the high sky Flames flicker up in the air Destroying Nature</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Damian</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Haiku</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Who am I?</p> <p>I'm first person here Aboriginal culture United and strong</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sonny</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Cinquain</b></p> <p>Crocodile Trashing Killer Machines Still Hunter Killer They all do death roll Dinosaur</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Martin</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Acrostic</b></p> <p>Bailey can sing At the concert. I am Lovely at singing. Each singer is the best, but..... You know who was the best?</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Bailey</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Senses</b></p> <p>I see birds as black as bats I smell tanbark as brown as can be I taste cold air on my tongue I touch wood as smooth as silk I hear kids playing</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Poppy</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tanka</b></p> <p>The Deep Forest</p> <p>Dark, gloomy forest Wind whistling through the tall trees Crows singing sad songs Streams dripping icy water I'm scared. Get me out of here!</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Maeve</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Cinquain</b></p> <p>Guinea pig Adorable, soft Eating, cuddling, patting All love to eat Rodent!</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Jonah</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tanka</b></p> <p>In the flower field Red roses roar angrily Peaceful poppies dance Sunbathing sunflowers chat Dithering daisies gossip</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Josephine</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Cinquain</b></p> <p>Mouse Fluffy, adorable Sleeping, running, digging Likes to eat a lot Rodent!</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lotte</b></p>

# Year 2/3



Shaun Grandi – Year 2/3 Teacher  
Katrina Ireland – Year 2/3 Teacher  
Meredith Wells - Year 2/3 Teacher

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15 - 19 JANUARY

# SWISH TECH WEEK

ORANA SCHOOL

[WWW.SWISHTECH.COM.AU](http://WWW.SWISHTECH.COM.AU)

