"The school with the ANZAC spirit"
Mr Peter Collins, ACT Tobruk Association

the Giralanger

ACT Government
Education and Training

19 November 2014

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

19 Nov	Kindy Transition 11.30 – 12.30
24 Nov	Christian Education in School (CEIS), 2.00-3.00pm
26 Nov	Kindy 2015 – Lets Play 5.00-6.30
27 Nov	School Disco
28 Nov	Market Day 11.00 – 1.30
1 Dec	Awards Assembly 1.30pm
3 Dec	Kindy Transition 11.30-12.30
3 Dec	Rats of Tobruk Christmas Lunch
8 Dec	Mango pickup
8 Dec	Year 6 Graduation Assembly 12.00pm & Dinner
10 Dec	Kindy Transition 11.30-12.30
11 Dec	Parent helper morning tea
11 Dec	Preschool Pack Pickup 3.15-4.30
15 Dec	Whole School Fun Day
17 Dec	Last day of school

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE TEACHER

END OF YEAR FUN DAY

Monday 15 December is MONDAY FUN DAY for Giralang Primary School students. To celebrate the end of our action packed year at Giralang PS we will all be involved in a variety of fun activities. Preschool will be involved in an onsite water fun day and K-2 and 5&6 will enjoy a morning at the National Arboretum whilst years 3 & 4 will explore the new Boundless Playground. A note will be forwarded home to families shortly.

NEW SUN SMART POLICY

Last week the School Board endorsed the updated Giralang Primary School Sun Smart Policy. This policy reflects updated recommendations from the Cancer Council. You can find this policy attached to this newsletter.

BANDSTRAVAGANZA

Congratulations to our wonderful Giralang Band who performed at Llewellyn Hall on Monday night. The students were wonderful ambassadors for our school and Mr Blackwell and IMP teacher Felicity Gallagher were extremely proud of their efforts on the night.

One of our year 6 students, Olivia B has been part of the band since year 3 and she wanted to give some advice to the year 2 students who may be considering the Giralang Band in 2015.

"The band is so much fun! I have had so many great opportunities including special performances, playing at the school assembly, combined band practice and Bandstravaganza. I have learnt 4 different instruments including the fife, flute, bass drum and snare drum. It has given me a whole other skill set. I love being in the Giralang band!"

BOOK PACKS

If you purchase your child's Book Pack before **12 December 2014** you will receive the heavily subsided rate of $87.50. This is a saving of almost $25 per pack. If you wish to view the list of items included in each pack, please see our Front Office staff.

TELEPHONE: (02) 6205 5866
FACSIMILE: (02) 6205 5862
www.giralangps.act.edu.au
info@giralangps.act.edu.au
School Office Hours: 08.30-15.30

P&C ASSOCIATION

Jennifer Sexton	President
Valerie Brennan	Vice President
Tamara Middleton	Secretary
Alison Brake	Treasurer
Janelle Kennard	Council Delegate

BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

Alison Brake	0468 435 131
Megan Taylor	0417 714 911
Toni Patterson	0411 965 067

TRANSITIONS

Preschool 2015

Thank you to those families who were able to make the preschool play dates. Children who attended were given their very own Giralang drink bottle during their visit. The children loved exploring the indoor and outdoor environment. The sandpit and the water wall were a HUGE hit! We look forward to hosting you again on Thursday 11 December from 3:15pm in the preschool. This final visit will be to collect a preschool pack and make a time to meet with the 2015 preschool teacher in February.

Testing out the water pump

Painting a master piece in the Preschool

Having a blast in Kindergarten

Kindergarten 2015

Thank you to those families that were able to make last week's first Kindergarten Transition session. Your children had a wonderful time exploring the kindergarten classrooms. The interactive whiteboard was very popular with many of your children! We are looking forward to today's visit. Please remember that next week's transition visit will be at ***Let's Play*** at Gold Creek from 5-6:30pm. The cost is $8.50 per child and parents are free. We have exclusive use of the venue during that time. We hope to see you all there.

END OF YEAR AWARDS AND ASSEMBLY

The Giralang End of Year Awards will be presented on Monday 1 December at 1:30pm in the school hall. This year we have made some changes to the class awards. We believe these awards reflect the truly outstanding calibre of our students and their many and varied achievements. There will be 6 awards per year level including;

- Academic Award
- Citizenship Award
- Sportsperson Award
- The Giralang Rising Star Award
- The Arts Award
- The Japanese Award

The criterion for each award is attached to this newsletter.

NAME LABELS

Looking for a useful Christmas gift that's NOT A TOY?! What about sticky name labels for lunch boxes and drink bottles or iron on school uniform labels? Consider ordering them from 'My Name Label' (mynamelabel.com.au) as the school receives a reward for all sales which quote our fundraising code – 70c50551

I've just finished my order for my nephews and nieces! More information is available at the Uniform Shop.

Lili Jankovic - Executive Teacher

BOOK FAIR

I would like to thank the amazing support from families of our Book Fair last week. We sold just over $2800 in books. This has been the most successful Book Fair we have had so far. Your support for our school and our students love of books is extraordinary. Thank you to the numerous staff members who gave assistance throughout the week. Well done everyone.

Ms Zago - Book Fair Coordinator

PLEASE TAKE CARE

Drop off and pick up times can be hectic when trying to find a car park. Please be mindful not to block entry or exit points around the Giralang Shops work site. Trucks and the like are constantly moving to and from the site and safety is our main concern during peak times. Thank you for your consideration.

Belinda Love - Principal

WE ARE LIVE!

The 'new look' Giralang Primary school website has gone LIVE. The website has many features of our previous website with some new exciting additions. There is a latest news section, which will be regularly updated and links to our digital backpack and information hub.

The school website will bring a useful online link to parents and the wider community about all that Giralang Primary School has to offer. The framework is now in place and our website will grow and evolve as we upload content over the next 12 months, exciting times ahead.

Natalie Garrett
A/g Deputy Principal

FRONT OFFICE
Notes home from 19 November 2014

- Voluntary Contributions - due
- Preschool Consumables – due
- 2015 Book pack order form – due 12 December

Hao Thai
Business Manager

FROM THE P&C

Flexischools News
All school payments can now be made through Flexischools, including Book Packs for next year, and Voluntary Contributions.

Also, all items for the disco on 27 November will be available on Flexischools, including

- Disco Entry
- Meals and Drinks
- Lolly bags
- Glow Products

Mango Fundraiser
The mangoes will be delivered on Monday 8th December. The usual pick-up times are 3-4pm on the Monday, and 8:30-9:00am on the Tuesday, but these times will be confirmed closer to the day. People who placed an order will receive an email or text message confirmation. There are still 10 trays of mangoes available for purchase, just place your order with payment at the front office.

End-of-Year Dinner
The P&C are having an end-of-year dinner at The District in Crace, on Wednesday 3 December from 7pm. If you would like to come along then please send an RSVP to giralangpandc@gmail.com.

Disco News
The P&C have recently purchased a great new range of LED products to trial at this disco. There are limited quantities while we determine which items are popular, and which items survive an evening with young children!

If you have anything you would like to bring to the attention of the P&C please feel free to contact us at giralangpandc@gmail.com

Jennifer Sexton – P & C President

LOST PROPERTY

There are a large number of items in lost property located at the Front Office. Please check if any belong to your child as all clothing will be placed in the second hand shop at the end of the year.

We would like to thank the Giralang 7 Eleven for sponsoring our Breakfast Club

SCHOOL BANKING

Banking day at Giralang is every Friday. Bank books can be dropped off at the Front Office on Friday mornings. Come and join in the fun and learn to save with the School Banking Program and help your school in fundraising!

"The end of term will be here before we know it. Don't forget the term 4 competition only has 2 weeks left. Also please note that there are only a limited number of handballs and swimming bags left so please place your order as soon as possible if you would like one of these items. The last day of school banking is 12 December. You are able to use your tokens to buy the rewards up to 12 December, however if the rewards do not arrive before last day of term, we will deliver them when school resumes in 2015."

Cate Ticehurst and Christine Karner-Ostheimer
Banking Officers

PRESCHOOL

Last week the children started their transition program to Kindergarten for 2015. It was great to see so many of our parents/carers at the information session. This is a good opportunity for families to meet from both Preschool groups and build connections. It also gives the teachers an opportunity to view the children's interactions in a less structured environment. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask and DON'T FORGET YOUR SOCKS!

Lilly & Bailey cutting out their rainbow snakes

Back in Preschool we have been camping. The tent has been a popular Investigation over the last couple of weeks with the children role-playing fishing, building a camp fire and sleeping in a tent. Some friendly platypuses have joined the fish in the river and we look forward to adding some of our rainbow snakes created by the children after reading 'Warnayarra, The Rainbow Snake'.

Stuck in the mud with the Opals

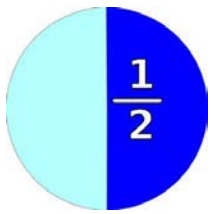
The children in the Opals have been enjoying the hill without an obstacle course this fortnight and instead using it to play a game of 'Stuck in the mud'. There were a few problems in the beginning with some of the children knowing different rules to others. Students were brought together to talk about the different rules and as a group they decided on which ones they wanted to use and which they didn't.

Our buddies have been very helpful in helping us practice our performance for the whole school assembly in Week 8. Please keep an eye out for more information posted in home pockets this week. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Katrina Maciver – Preschool Teacher
Katrina.maciver@ed.act.edu.au

KINDERGARTEN

This week we finished our Inquiry unit 'On the Move'. We loved being scientists and designing, making, testing and appraising our balloon rockets. We learned about labelling our diagram and writing a materials list. We talked about what helped the balloon rocket move and discovered that the air pushed the balloon along the string. We also talked about what hindered it moving such as the string being too loose or the balloon being stuck onto the straw the wrong way.



In our math groups we have been continuing to explore what an equal share is and how one group can be shared in many different ways. We've also started to make the connection between our double numbers and sharing between two. For example we know that double 4 equals 8 so that means that 8 shared between 2 must be 4. It's really

amazing how we can transfer our knowledge and use it in new situations!

In gross motor we have been focusing on strengthening our core muscles by doing activities such as crab walking and sitting in a human sized spinning top where we need to spin it with our bodies. At first this was pretty scary because it feels like you're falling but we all find it really fun now that we have learned what to do.

Mrs Jay-Daniel has had a fantastic first two weeks in the Emeralds and has loved joining in with all the learning groups and activities. She especially has been impressed with all the hard work and retell writing that the Emeralds have done.

If you have any questions please feel free to come chat to us after school or email us and we will get back to you ASAP.

Farleigh Jay-Daniel- – Kindergarten Teacher
Madelyn Packard – Kindergarten Teacher
Jessika Morris – Kindergarten Teacher

madelyn.packard@ed.act.edu.au
Jessika.morris@ed.act.edu.au

YEAR 1

We have reached Week 6 and things are very busy in our Year One classrooms!

Assembly
In Week 4 Year One hosted their last assembly for the year. Thank you to all the parents and friends who came along to watch. We're sure you agree that all of our students have come such a long way with their public speaking skills throughout the year.

AFL Clinics
Last week Year One participated in the last of the AFL Clinics. The students have loved attended these and have learnt a variety of new skills during the five sessions.

Library
There are a large number of Year One students who currently have overdue library books. Please ensure your child returns any library books they have borrowed throughout the year by Tuesday 2nd December. After this date students will be no longer allowed to borrow for the year.

Thank you to all the families who supported our Book Fair. Our Year One's love to read and we had some very excited students proudly showing off their new books!

Market Day
On Friday 28 November students are invited to attend the Year 5/6 Market Day! There will be a number of stalls which students can spend tickets to purchase goods and services, such as sponge throwing, sock wrestling, or coloured hair spray. Tickets must be purchased before the day and are 50c each. This is to eliminate the risk of students losing money on the day. Please visit the 5/6 area before or after school to purchase tickets.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us.

Paul Floyd – Year 1 Teacher
Stephanie Williams – Year 1 Teacher

paul.floyd@ed.act.edu.au
stephanie.williams@ed.act.edu.au

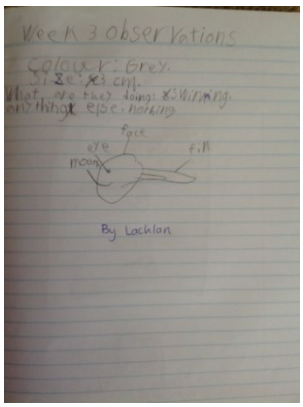
YEAR 2

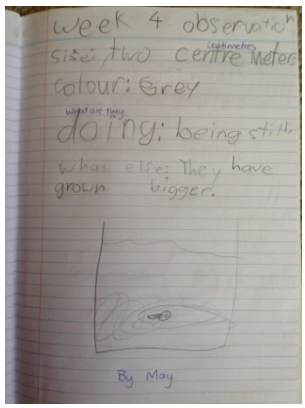
The past 2 weeks have seen some wriggly guests join our class- the mealworms have arrived! We have been observing their growth and making predictions as to what we think they will turn into. Here are some student predictions:

I think the will turn into moths - *Hayden*
I think they will turn into bigger worms - *Jacob*
I think they will turn into snakes - *Yuki*

We have also been discussing the difference between living and non-living things and have learnt that living things have 7 things in common called life processes. These are: the need for nutrition, to respire, grow, excrete, move, reproduce and they are sensitive.

We have continued our tadpoles observations and recorded their changes and growth. Here are some student observations:





As part of PE this term, we have been focussing on the skills of kicking, throwing and catching. The students have enjoyed our AFL clinics and a new game we have learnt called "Scatterball".

Karly Malmberg – Year 2 Teacher
karly.malmberg@ed.act.edu.au

YEAR 3

This fortnight the Sunstones would like to share with you their learning in Circle Time, History and Physical Education.

In Circle Time we read a book called the 'Love Monster & the Last Chocolate' by Rachel Bright. The story follows a dilemma of a little monster that found a box of chocolates and doesn't know whether to share them or not. We then brainstormed what sharing at school looks like.

Our list included good advice, stationary, laughs, love, friendship, good opinions, learning, games, books, ideas and stories. We then voted for what was most important to share and our top three are friendship, laughs and love. Things we thought were not a good idea to share included: germs, passwords, gossip, drink bottles, hats and secrets.

In History, we have been continuing to investigate objects and technologies used in our community in the past. We are learning how to produce timelines and navigate search engines for relevant information. Here are some fascinating facts we have learnt so far.

Isobel: Vegemite was invented by Australians.

Jeremy: Wi-Fi was invented by an Australian.

Amy: I've learnt that the note pad was invented by a Tasmanian Stationary Company.

David: Holden is an Australian car company.

Jasmin: Poppies were amongst the first flowers to bloom on the battle fields.

Oscar: Before trucks and cars were invented people used to use animals to transport things.

Sophie: The first 'ute' to be invented was by Australians.

Callan: The man who invented the underwater torpedo also invented the steam rail.

Sophia: 40 years ago milk was delivered in glass bottles.

Eli: 50 years ago you go get your meat from the butcher.

Jade: Most groceries are now available online.

Bek: Uniforms used to be stricter.

Aidan: Milk used to be 44 cents a litre.

The Sunstones have enjoyed the AFL clinics and learning the skills of marking, kicking and hand-balling. Here are some action shots.

Jade

Nikos

Annaliese

Isobel

Just a reminder to bring fruit break, hats and drink bottles everyday as the weather heats up!

If you have any questions please don't hesitate in contacting me.

Meredith Wells – Year 3 Teacher
Meredith.wells@ed.act.edu.au

YEAR 3/4 TIGER EYES

YAY … We are hosting our final assembly for the year this week! The Tiger Eyes are excited to sharing some outstanding achievements with you as we showcase our playground designs and sing a few tunes that we strongly identify with.

Last week 90% of our class participated in the 5-a-Side Football Gala at Hawker (along with Felix, David, Noah and Raychell from 3W). Providing exceptional leadership of our three teams were Elia, Tom and Maxx from the senior classes. We had a fantastic day and, while "technically" no results were recorded, won a number of the 8 games each team played. Personally, the day highlighted what incredible sportsmen and women we have at Giralang. Thank you to the parents who joined us for the day and made sure that my coffee supply did not dwindle.

It was a blast and even though we didn't win all the matches it was lots of fun and I hope we get to do it again. Muzn

I had lots of fun it was fantastic kicking the ball again. Asa
I had so much fun and you have a lot more time getting to know people better. This was the best day. Callan

It was fun being in an all-girls team. We did not score any goals but that's ok because I had fun. Jesse

Our Design Challenge continues with most students now working on their final activities before creating "the pig picture" – the **ultimate playground**. Please feel free to come and have a look at the amazing 3D models that surround our classroom.

Michelle Gee
michelle.gee@ed.act.edu.au

NEWS FROM SRC

Christmas Hamper Appeal – Barnardos

Help bring joy to Canberra children this Christmas. Last year, thanks to the generous donations of our school community, many families associated with Communities @ Work enjoyed a festive Christmas. This year our Christmas Hamper Appeal continues our strong ties with Barnardos.

Next week the SRC will put up the tree in the foyer, decorate it beautifully and provide a few boxes for donations to be placed.

While we are waiting for final details to be provided, Damien from Barnardos has stated that food donations are always welcome. At this time of year non-perishable, festive food items would be most appreciated.

The SRC will provide additional details at this week's assembly and throughout the next 3 weeks of this appeal.

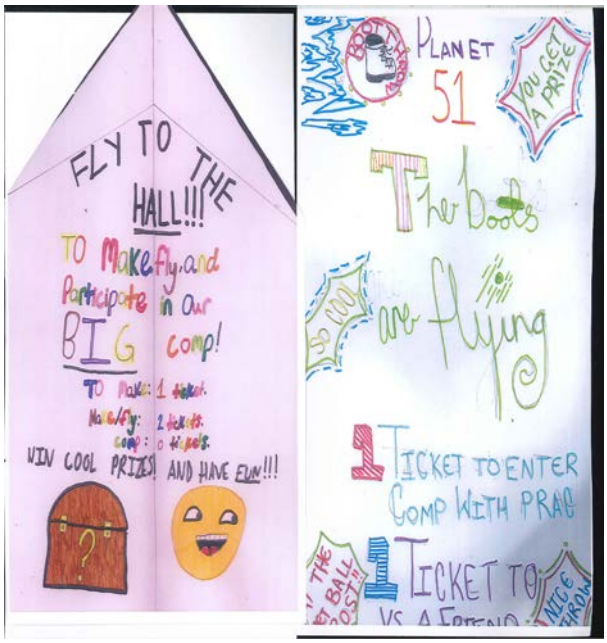
Michelle Gee – Year 3/4 Teacher

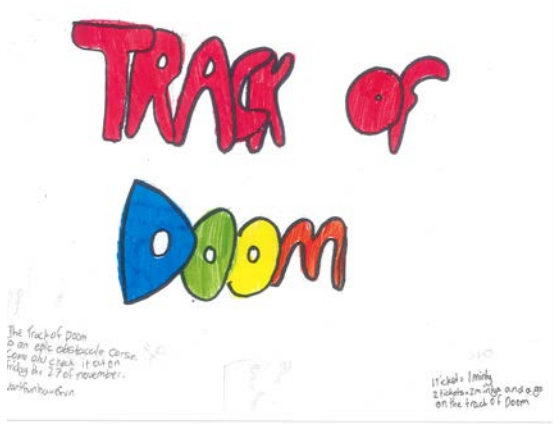
YEAR 5/6 AURA QUARTZES AND TEKTITES

Welcome to Week 6!

We have had an extremely busy couple of weeks here in Year 5/6. Our camp was a great success! The students had so much fun participating in activities such as The Big Swing, Archery, Dirt Buggies, Low Ropes, Mountain Bikes, The Assault Course and an Initiatives Course. We all certainly came home tired on the Friday. We took too many pictures to show here but we will endeavour to show some of them at a future assembly.

We are now setting our sights on Market Day, which is to be held on 28 November. Advertisements for the stalls are in this newsletter and will also be seen around the school. Tickets are now on sale for 50c each. Please see Mr Blackwell or Mrs Hepburn to purchase any tickets.





Year 5/6 Band students represented Giralang Primary School last night at Bandstravaganza at Llwellyn Hall. They were great role models for the other students and they placed exceptionally well. Congratulations to all of the students involved.

Homework has been going home each week – giving the students a variety of different activities to complete within the week. It is great to see a number of students participating and showing some great work too. Homework goes out on a Monday and is usually due on Friday, where we mark it in class.

If you have any queries or questions please feel free to contact us.

Dot Hepburn – Year 5/6 Teacher
Kieran Blackwell – Year 5/6 Teacher

dorothy.hepburn@ed.act.edu.au
Kieran.blackwell@ed.act.edu.au

parentline

Being a parent is the hardest job we'll ever have. All parents at some time experience difficulties and stress.

Parentline ACT is a confidential, anonymous telephone counselling and information service.

Phone Parentline if you would you like:

- To talk with someone about those parenting issues.
- Help with some ideas on raising children.
- Support in the important job you are doing.
- To know what is available for parents, teenagers and children.
- To build better relationships in your family.
- Help to understand your child or teenager's behaviour.

Parentline ACT.
Monday to Friday (except on public holidays), 9am to 5pm. Phone: 6287 3833

Literacy and Numeracy Corner

HAVE YOU TRIED…

Reading a book review?

Kids Book Review is a wonderful voluntary website that reviews children's literature from Australia and around the world. It is run by a small team of women who have decades of experience in the children's book industry; with roles such as author, publisher, editor, bookseller, blogger, book designer and typesetter, speech pathologist, librarian, early childhood educator, mother and book lover. It covers book news, reviews, interviews with authors and illustrators as well as competitions.

I just love reading the reviews, especially those written by children. The review can provide you with ideas and opinions that can be discussed once you have read the book too. Why not check it out over the summer to help select your family's summer reading or even try writing and submitting a book review for a family favourite!

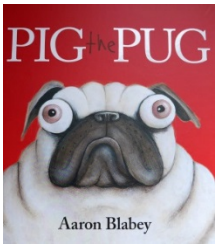
"The best books, reviewed with insight and charm, but without compromise." - author Jackie French
http://www.kids-bookreview.com/

HOLIDAY PUZZLE FUN – WORD TARGETS

Word targets are fun little puzzles that challenge your knowledge of words and are a great way to challenge kids spelling over the summer break. You can find them in the puzzles section of most newspapers. Here is one to get you started!

How many words can you make from the letters in the wheel? Each word must contain the hub letter I. Can you find a 9-letter word and at least 20 other words of five letters or more avoiding proper nouns?

HOT READS



Pig was a Pug and I'm sorry to say, he was greedy and selfish in most every way….
This week's Hot Read comes highly recommended from Russele, Louis, Joseph, Rhys and Eli who read this in book Shine Time. They thought Pig the Pug by Aaron Blabey was so great everyone should read it, here is why:

Joseph: I think people should read this book because the pictures are really funny.
Rhys: The ending in this book is hilarious and it teachers you to be nice.
Louis: This book teachers you to not be so selfish in a funny way. Plus Pig is really funny!
Eli: It teachers you to not be greedy and share. My favourite part is when Pig learns his lesson the hard way.

This is a hilarious book that tells the tale of Pig the Pug who can't quite come to grips with sharing his toys with Trevor the sausage dog. But Pig learns a very valuable lesson; that having friends can be very helpful and might be worth sharing toys with after all.

Happy reading!

Karen Tozer – Karen.tozer@ed.act.edu.au
Literacy and Numeracy Field Officer

FREE

Jumping Castle & Slide!

Christmas Fete

Sat 6 Dec, 10am-3pm

@ St Simon's Anglican Church
Georgina Cres Kaleen (6241 2034)

Fundraiser** for **Project Box Seat

www.canberratimes.com.au/act-news/push-for-funds-to-put-kids-in-box-seat-20130827-2sonu.html

BBQ, Plants, Music, White Elephant stall, Crafts, Cakes, Devonshire Teas