



UPCOMING DATES

19 December

Move Up Day!

Canteen Pizza lunch

21 December

Last day of school

4 February

8:45am – Pre-school commences

9am – Kindergarten commences

New students meet their teacher

5 February

9am – All returning students commence

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I love this time of year! Not because things are coming to an end but because new adventures await our graduating Year 6 class, anticipation is in the air for what's ahead for 2019 for all returning students and staff, and I can take some time to reflect upon and celebrate the glorious year that was. It has certainly been a wonderful year at Giralang Primary School. Thank you to every family for your support and good will throughout the year. We are a strong school community and our students benefit greatly from that connection and collaboration.

I would like to extend sincere thanks to our P&C and School Board. Both parent representative groups work tirelessly to ensure our school has what it needs to improve student outcomes academically, socially and emotionally. Thank you to the outgoing P&C President, Megan Hemming, who has worked so hard and achieved a tremendous amount over the past two years. Also, thank you to School Board Chair Nathan Kruger and Parent Representative Glen Howard for their significant contributions to the School Board during 2017 and 2018. During this time, we participated in School Review and set the new directions for the school for next five years.

Congratulations to our new Student Leaders for 2019. Emily McGrath and James Grudnoff are our new School Captains, and Hikari Robinson and Will Yeomans are our new School Vice Captains. I look forward to working with them all as a part of our School Leadership team.

Finally, I would like to thank our outstanding team at Giralang Primary School. I couldn't wish for a more professional, hardworking and dedicated band of highly-skilled educators and support staff. I am a very proud School Principal.

Wishing everyone a happy, safe and enjoyable summer break. Read lots of books and embark upon many adventures. See you all again in 2019!

Belinda Love - Principal



Our new Student Leaders and their proud families

TELEPHONE:	(02) 6142 2630	P&C Association	Board Representatives		
		Megan Hemming	President	Glen Howard	0448 628 192
		Vacant	Vice President	Kathryn Couter	0414 410 672
		Katie Bailey	Secretary	Nathan Kruger	0409 956 667
		Sean MacIntyre	Treasurer		
www.giralangps.act.edu.au					
info@giralangps.act.edu.au					
TWITTER:	@GiralangPrimary				
School Office Hours:	08:30-15:30				



STAFFING UPDATE

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the following staff members who will be joining our team in 2019:

- ✧ Aaron Foy from Florey Primary School
- ✧ Natalie Duke from UC High School Kaleen
- ✧ Sarah Baird from Maribyrnong Primary School
- ✧ Danielle Jackson from Ainslie Primary School
- ✧ Megan (Meg) Speed new recruit!
- ✧ Lauren Wells has gained permanency at Giralang Primary School

Our long serving Preschool Assistant, Faye Turner, is retiring. I would like to thank her for her enormous contribution to the lives of our youngest students. Many senior students still talk fondly of their memories of Faye and how she made them feel safe and welcome at school. All the best for your new adventures, Faye. We will miss you!

Rebecca Punch is transferring to Duffy Primary next year. Rebecca has worked in our Preschool and in the early years within the Primary School. I extend a big thanks to Rebecca for all her hard work during her time at Giralang Primary School and wish her all the very best next year and beyond.

Sarah Redgrove is transferring to Gordon Primary School next year. This is much closer to Sarah's home. Thank you for your contributions to our school over the past two and a half years, Sarah. Take care and all the very best for the future.

Finally, in brief:

- Laura Funnell is taking 12 months leave in 2019.
- Matthew Garratt and Stephanie Garratt are taking 12 months leave to work and travel in the UK and Europe in 2019.
- Kathi Huho will be taking maternity leave from the beginning of next year.

CLASSES AND TEACHERS FOR 2019

Preschool	Heather Lombard (M-W) and Danielle Jackson (Th-F)
Kindergarten	Dianne Sullivan and Lauren Margules
Year 1	Leanne Nicol and Megan (Meg) Speed
Year 2	Meredith Wells and Skye Knight (M-W) and Melinda Knight (Th-F)
Year 3/4	Lisa Ison, Aaron Foy, Lauren Wells and Sally Gladwin
Year 5	Katrina Ireland and Natalie Duke
Year 6	Allan Wylie and Shaun Grandi
Japanese	Linda Morgan
PE	Kieran Blackwell
STEM	Josie Floyd
Intervention Team	Sarah Baird, Carly Duncanson, Anne Mahony
EAL/D	Elise Wark

UPDATE FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR

After kindly being invited as a VIP to the final and very special Year 6 assembly and awards ceremony, it has highlighted just how much it has been another amazing year for the Giralang Primary School Board in our 41st year. We have been busy playing our part in overseeing a great team at such a wonderful centre of education excellence.

On behalf of the Board we wish to sincerely thank Belinda, Natalie, Kieran and the School Leadership team, all teachers, support staff, Parents and Citizens Association, volunteers, the Education Directorate, and most importantly our students, parents and carers, for such a great year.

I thank the Board members who have volunteered their time freely, working hard to support and care with positive energy, to nurture Giralang Primary School, continuing to make it look like the ever-improving and amazing school it is today. This has also been confirmed recently after receiving wonderful feedback from the ACT Education Directorate about our Vision for the School that we are striving towards already!

This year we have achieved:

- success across numerous fields of learning
- recognition of staff excellence
- delivery of the 5 year Strategic plan
- a new roof over the multi-purpose court
- shared funding of the spider web playground
- a positive school review and improvements in national results
- numerous grants to support the school in many forms
- heritage restoration of the hall roof to its original and architecturally significant style
- school events such as the art show, film festival, discos, Market day, Giralang's got Talent and book awards
- the school's involvement in the resolution of the Giralang Shops rejuvenation
- Cultural management planning

The Board is striving to improve the grounds and buildings for the school and community. This will allow a wider range of health, outdoor learning and well-being activities to take place.

At the first Board meeting this year we recognised the need for the Board to have a clear understanding of what the school environment aims to do whilst nurturing children in a safe and inclusive environment. The Board plays a key part in shaping and guiding the school strategically, making it the centre of excellence it is with Belinda, Natalie and the wonderful school team.

To all the Board members, I wish to personally recognise the wealth of education, specialist skills and experience to continue to support me directly as the chair, but even more importantly, that we are responsible in this role to improve Giralang Primary School.

Where we can we also support and assist the Parents and Citizens Association so that we all achieve specific goals to make the school even better. With over 25 community members took on regular volunteer roles for our P&C in 2018 and twice that number volunteered. This is an amazing effort, and on behalf of the Board, thanks to all those involved.

How lucky we are to have such community spirit that frees up the time of our precious school staff to concentrate on teaching and learning, contributing over \$6,000 of additional raised funds to make Giralang Primary's learning environment and resources top-notch. Importantly, it must be recognised that the hard work of the P&C makes sure the school has a canteen, uniform shop, second-hand uniform pool, book club, breakfast club, school banking, and a well looked after lost property area.

Volunteers make the P&C, and echoing the great opportunities available I hope you can get involved by taking on a role or helping out at fundraising events. With no experience necessary it is a great opportunity to meet other like-minded people getting involved with our school and community. So, if you can spare any time to get involved please get in touch with the P&C via email at giralangpandc@gmail.com.

Similarly, if you need to get in touch with the school Board or if you wish to talk through any matters big or small, we can be contacted through the school's Front Office.

We look forward to keeping in touch with key updates from the Board in the new year, and know that whatever the outcome with the upcoming election process for Board positions, we remain committed to making the school an even better place to learn and have fun!

Well done to everyone on all the hard work in 2018! Enjoy taking a well-earned break to recharge for 2019. On behalf of the Giralang Primary School Board I wish everyone a fun and safe Christmas holiday break gearing up for further success next year.

All the best and I hope to be able to continue to serve you and the community in this role for the next few years.

Have a happy, safe and fun-filled break!

Nathan Kruger

Giralang Primary School Board Chair

SCHOOL BOARD POSITIONS 2019

There will be two parent representative positions advertised early in the new school year. The Assistant Returning Officer will be Anna Klose.

Membership of the School Board is a wonderful opportunity for parents to participate in the ongoing management of the school and to contribute to the determination of the school's future directions. These positions are part of a seven-member group of three parents, two teachers, a nominee of the Directorate and the Principal. If you are interested in a position on the School Board and would like more information about the roles and responsibilities of School Board members, please feel free to contact me or you can talk with one of the current parent representatives – Nathan Kruger, Glen Howard and Kathryn Couter.

LIBRARY NEWS

Dear Parents, Carers and Supporters,

Thank you for your support over the year. It is wonderful to see so many students enjoying our library books. A special thank you goes to those families who have generously donated quality books that they no longer need.

May you all enjoy a safe and joyful Christmas and school holidays.

Rita



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2019 BOOK PACKS

Please be advised that orders for 2019 book packs have now closed. If parents/carers have not organised a book pack for their student/s, they are asked to source their own products with the previously distributed book pack list, and deliver them to their child's new class for the first school day of 2019. The Oxford Grammar book can be sourced through Officeworks.

UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS

The uniform shop will be open on Friday 1st February and Monday 4th February 2019 between 8:30am – 10am. Please feel free to stop in and purchase uniforms for your students on these days.

In regular term time, the uniform shop is open on Fridays between 8:30am – 9:15am. For further information on order forms and ordering through Flexischools, please see our school website at:

http://www.giralangps.act.edu.au/our_information_hub/school_uniform

Our second-hand uniform clothing pool is open every day during school hours, and clothing costs \$2 per piece. Donations to the clothing pool are always gratefully received.

STUDENT MEDICATION

Please collect any student medication, including asthma puffers and EpiPens, from the Front Office before Friday 21 December. If you would like to leave medication at the school over the holidays, you are welcome to do so.

LOST PROPERTY

The lost property area is located in the corner of the canteen eating area. There is currently an abundance of jumpers, jackets and other clothing, as well as lunch containers and drink bottles in the area. Please feel free to pop in and check lost property if you have lost items. Any unclaimed items will be donated to the second-hand uniform shop and charity organisations at the end of the year.

CANTEEN IN WEEK 10

The canteen will be serving a pizza lunch on Wednesday 19th December. Regular recess can be ordered.

On Thursday, canteen service is as normal, and on Friday the canteen is closed.

GIRALANG GROWTH MINDSET

The students at Giralang Primary school have increased their growth mindset understandings and are using that knowledge to support their progress towards achieving their learning goals. This year we have moved beyond creating a growth mindset culture to a place where students are taking ownership over their growth mindsets and are beginning to teach and support each other.

An example of this, on a whole school level, was the Growth Mindset Poster Competition. It was a big success, with lots of entries, making choosing a winner very hard for the judges. It was wonderful to see the students presenting their learning, and subsequently teaching others through displaying their efforts.



Growth Mindset	
• Learning theory and neuroplasticity • Cultural beliefs on learning and intelligence - praise	
Fixed Praise	Growth Praise
SMART	Embraced the challenge
GOOD	Persisted Fun
RACE	Didn't give up
WON	Tried a new approach
EASY	Adapted to feedback
A+	Recognised a mistake and then acted

Over the holidays, you could help to build upon this view as learning as a process of trial and error by praising your children's efforts using Growth Praise.

Elise Wark and Anne Mahony - Growth Mindset Team

STOP PRESS!....CARPARK SAFETY

Parents and carers are asked to take particular care in the school carpark. There have been increasing incidences, reported to the school, of community members not adhering to the school crossing signs, and driving through them when students are attempting to cross the road.

For pedestrian safety, parents and carers are asked not to use the footpath at the school crossing signs to drive onto the grass and park under trees.

Parents and carers are asked to please observe the 'no stopping' signs in the carpark. If cars are parked illegally, it is difficult for other cars and large vehicles to pass. When collecting students from After School Care, parents and carers are asked to park in car parking spots, and not along the curb. Curb parking also makes it difficult for other cars to pass.

CONGRATULATIONS YR 6 GRADUATING CLASS OF 2018!



CONGRAULATIONS TO OUR END OF YEAR AWARD RECIPIENTS!



NEWS FROM P&C

We will be looking for lots of new volunteers in 2019, as some of our wonderful, long-serving volunteers will be moving on from the school or their roles. You can get involved by taking on one of the roles described below, or just by helping out at fundraising events, baking a cake or coming to meetings. We know everyone is busy, so we try to keep time demands to a minimum, and any role can be shared between two or more people. No prior experience is necessary and lots of help and support is provided.

P&C is a great way to meet people and get involved in your community! All school families are automatically members of the P&C and are welcome at all P&C meetings and events. P&C is entirely run by volunteers and we always welcome new people.

If you would like to be involved, please get in touch with us at giralangpandc@gmail.com.

P&C Committee roles
President Chair meetings, provide leadership & management, liaise with the Principal, staff & school Board (1-4 hours per week)
Vice President Co-lead and manage the P&C (1-4 hours per week)
Treasurer Manage the P&C accounts (1-2 hours per week)
Secretary Manage minutes, agendas, correspondence and membership lists (1-2 hours per week)
Uniform Shop Business Manager Provide business management for the school uniform shop e.g. stock, co-ordinate volunteer roster (1-4 hours per week)
Delegate to the ACT Council of P&C Associations Attend Council meetings, keep P&C informed of Council events and services (A few hours per month)
Other P&C roles
Precinct Committee chair and members Work to improve school infrastructure and outdoor learning environment (1-4 hours per week)
School uniform shop assistants Staff the uniform shop on Friday mornings (1-2 hours per fortnight)
Second hand uniform shop co-ordinator(s) Sort donated items, keep the store tidy (<1 hour per week)
Canteen volunteers Help prepare food, serve and wash dishes in the canteen on Thursday or Friday (1-2 hours per week)
Breakfast club co-ordinator(s) Liaise with provider and sponsors, help serve on Tuesday mornings (1-2 hours per week)
Book club co-ordinator(s) Collect orders, bank money, distribute ordered books (2-4 hours per catalogue)

<p>School banking co-ordinator(s) Handle deposits and liaise with bank (2-3 hours per fortnight – work must be carried out on school premises)</p>
<p>Lost property co-ordinator(s) Keep the lost property area neat and tidy and remove unclaimed items at the end of term (<1 hour per week)</p>
<p>Events and fund-raising co-ordinator(s) – <u>Discos</u> Learn how to run school disco(s) by working alongside our experienced disco co-ordinators</p>
<p>Events and fund-raising co-ordinator(s) – <u>Mango fundraiser</u> Run this popular annual Fundraiser – help and instructions provided!</p>
<p>Events and fund-raising co-ordinator(s) – <u>fetes, events, other fundraisers</u> Organise a Mother’s or Father’s Day Stall, movie night, trivia night, BBQ, bulbs fundraiser or any other fundraiser you are interested in – help and instructions provided!</p>

SCHOOL BANKING

School banking will be collected this Friday 21st December. The school banking co-ordinator will endeavour to return your student’s bank book to them before the end of the day, however if they can’t locate your child, the bank books will be left at the Front Office where your student can collect it after school.

School banking will resume in week 1 of 2019.

PRIVATE PIANO LESSONS

Places for Private PIANO LESSONS will be available at Giralang school in 2019 with Mrs. Jan Downie.

I have 35 years’ experience and have been teaching at Giralang school for the last 15 years. Lessons are also available at my home studio in Giralang after school.

I have an Associate Diploma in Piano and a Piano Teaching Certificate covering all styles.

My aim is for all my students to enjoy learning music either just for pleasure or to undertake exams to further their skills.

I have successfully entered students for Piano, Theory and Performance exams up to Associate level.

My rates are \$36 per half hour at school.

For further information please contact me on 6241 2755 or mobile 0406 330 610.

JAN DOWNIE
AAGM, TTCERT.AGM

THANK YOU FOR A WONDERFUL YEAR



BEST WISHES FROM THE
GIRALANG PRIMARY SCHOOL TEAM! 🍷

CANBERRA CARTOONING CHILDREN'S WORKSHOPS

Dear Carers & Parents,

We are once again coming to Canberra to run our special cartooning workshops. The program will be held just after the Christmas period as follows:

Thursday 27th – Sunday 30th December 2018
La Trobe Park Scout Hall
Corner Gawler Cres. & Melbourne Ave, FORREST

To make a booking – please follow these easy steps:

1. Go to our web site: www.illustrating-man.com.au
2. Click on the colourful Cartoon Camp button in the middle of the home page
3. Select Canberra
4. Complete the on-line form & payment

We will email you a confirmation letter.

Kind regards,
Cartoon Kingdom
THE ILLUSTRATING MAN DESIGNS Pty Ltd
Cartoon Kingdom Head Office
Suite 2, 29 Newland Street Bondi Junction NSW 2022
Tel: (02) 9343 0833



BACKYARD LIFEGUARD

KEEP OUR KIDS SAFE THIS SUMMER.

The home swimming pool is the most common location for injury and drowning death for children under five. We can all work together to protect children in our community.

- Closely supervise kids at all times
- Learn how to resuscitate
- Check your pool barriers meet the current safety standards
- Keep your barriers clear of objects and plants that kids can use to climb into the pool area
- Teach your kids to swim and be safe around pools
- Ensure your pool gate is shut at all times

ACT Government SUPPORTED BY **Royal Life Saving** **Kids ACT** **SPASA AUSTRALIA**

HOW SAFE IS YOUR POOL?
Find out with our free pool barrier safety checklist. Pick up a copy from your local library or visit www.act.gov.au/backyardlifeguard



We invite your students to take up tennis this summer with a variety of options near club near you. There are a range of Holiday Camp, Term Coaching & Competition options and with Tennis Australia Qualified Coaches running the sessions you know that the kids are learning a sport they can play for life.

We thank you for helping our great sport and ask if you can place the following information in the final newsletter of the year.

KIDS TENNIS CAMPS – Summer 2019 Holidays

- Summer Camp #1: January 14th - 16th
- Summer Camp #2: January 29th, 30th & February 1st
- Venue: Old Parliament House Tennis Club

SUMMER TENNIS COACHING PROGRAMS – Starts Week 1, Term 1 2019

- Junior Coaching Programs for all levels launch the week of February 4th, 2019
- FREE Tennis Racquet for NEW players – When registering in before January 31st, 2019
- FREE Hot Shots New Balance Players T-Shirt

ACT JUNIOR TEAM TENNIS & HOT SHOTS MATCH PLAY – Summer Competition

Play for your ACT Regional Team or join a the Hot Shots Match Play Series this Summer

- ACT JUNIOR TEAM TENNIS – Season Launches Saturday February 15th
- Canberra Hot Shots Match Play – Season Launches March 8th

Contact & Sign-Up

Registrations: www.tenniscanberra.com.au

Email: play@tenniscanberra.com.au

Phone: 0423 366 014



ACT Team Tennis - A Team Experience



Giralang Family Day Care

registered with

It's about you. Always!
Communities@Work
PH: 02 6293 6590

I have vacancies for preschool-aged children on Wednesdays in 2019 and will deliver/collect from Giralang Preschool or offer before/after school care.

For more information please contact Anne by:

PH: 0419 668 300

OR EMAIL:

anne@giralangfdc.com.au