

Week 6, Term 2 | 03 June 2020

UPCOMING DATES

03 June

Online Board Meeting, 5:00pm

08 June

Public Holiday

09 June

P&C Canteen Virtual Discussion,
7:00pm

EXECUTIVE TEACHER'S MESSAGE

This week we welcome the final group of students back to face to face teaching and learning. It is wonderful to have all our stars back together on site. Well done to all our students and families for the fantastic way you have embraced a different model of teaching and learning in these challenging times.

As we come back together as a school community, it is time to acknowledge Reconciliation Week. This year's theme, *In this together*, reminds us whether in a crisis or in reconciliation we are all in this together.

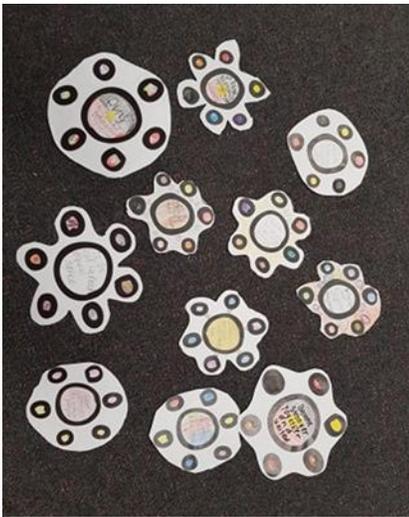
2020 marks the twentieth anniversary of the reconciliation walks of 2000, when people came together to walk on bridges and roads across the nation and show their support for a more reconciled Australia. As always, we stand on the shoulders of those who came before us, and Australians now benefit from the efforts and contributions of people committed to reconciliation in the past.

At Giralang Primary, our students continue to learn about the meaning of reconciliation and what part we can play as we collectively build relationships and communities that value Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, histories and cultures. All students have demonstrated their understanding by writing a wish for a reconciled Australia in the middle of the star which will become part of a school display.

Supervision at school begins at 8.30 when there is always a teacher available in the school playground to assist students. Please do not drop students off any earlier than this.

Now that winter is here, it is time for **'Hats Off'**. Students may like to bring a beanie instead. Please don't forget to label all winter clothing.

Sarah Baird – Executive Teacher



Above are student wishes for a reconciled Australia from 3G.

TELEPHONE:	(02) 6142 2630	P&C Association	Board Representatives
		Brooke Pearson	President
		Nikki Keane	Vice President
		Janelle Kennard	Secretary
		Sean Macintyre	Treasurer
		Paul Calvert (Chair)	0408 633 462
		Nathan Kruger	0409 956 667
		Eve Wisowaty	0431 655 865

www.giralangps.act.edu.au
info@giralangps.act.edu.au

TWITTER: @GiralangPrimary

School Office Hours: 08:30-15:30



CHANGES TO SEMESTER 1 REPORTING

Due to the unprecedented circumstances faced by schools across Australia this year, a national agreement has been reached to modify school reporting for Semester 1. In the ACT we will reduce the level of Semester 1 reporting for students from Kindergarten to year 10.

We recognise that providing families with information about their child's progress and learning is crucial and will be especially valuable after the start to the year we have all experienced.

Semester 1 school reports for 2020 will still include information about each student's level of progress against specific achievement standards for the learning areas that were covered in Semester 1. Teachers will still make a judgement about the level of engagement each student has demonstrated with their learning and, where appropriate, work habits. Personal and Social Capability will still be included.

Reports in Semester 1 will not include overall grades for learning areas/subjects or a comparative A-E grade summary. Additionally, reports will not include attendance information for Semester 1.

During Week 10, you will also have the opportunity to talk to your child's teacher during parent/teacher interviews which will take place online. More information about booking your parent/teacher interview will become available soon.

For any other queries or concerns, you can contact the Education Directorate via the [Education Directorate Contact Form](#) or call 6205 5429.

CHANGE TO PRIMARY SCHOOLS CENTRAL PLACEMENT PANEL DATE FOR SMALL GROUP PROGRAMS (LSU, LSU-A, LSC) AND SPECIALIST SCHOOL PLACEMENT

The 2020 school year has started unlike any other, and this has caused significant disruption to usual routines for students, families, and schools. As we welcome students back into our schools, planning is underway to minimise long term impacts of these unprecedented times on our students and their ongoing schooling. In line with this, the date for Primary Schools Central Placement Panel (where small group program placements for LSU, LSU-A, LSC and Specialist Schools are determined) has been changed, with applications now due in Week 6, Term 3 and letters of offer sent to parents in time for schools and parents to develop a transition plan together in Term 4.

The Secondary Central Placement Panel will proceed as anticipated with outcome letters for Year 6 student applications for high school in 2021, sent to parents early in Term 3.

If you would like to access more information regarding the Disability Education Central Placement Panel and process, please see the [Students with Disability](#) webpage on the Education Directorate website or speak to school staff. If you need further information, you can email your query to DisabilityEducation@act.gov.au.

RETURNING ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Please ensure that all electronic devices, charges and connections that were borrowed from the school for remote learning be returned to the Front Office as soon as possible.

CAR PARK SAFETY

A reminder that now all students are back to face to face learning, our car park can become a busy place before and after school. Unfortunately, we have received a report that yesterday a car hurtled through the children's crossing, at speed, while students were there ready to cross.

NEWS FROM 3G - BUNJI

Wow, what a busy first week back we have had! It has been so lovely to have our students back in the classroom. As many of you know, Reconciliation Week began on 27 May and finishes on 3 June. Year 3 have been doing a variety of activities to learn our true history as we create a space for the First Nations Peoples culture to thrive and breathe. We read *Stolen Girl* by Trina Saffioti and Norma MacDonald. We discussed how we felt while reading the text and what we learnt. We then created a response piece. Take a look!



This year for Reconciliation Week, we each made a wish for a reconciled Australia. We did this on the Indigenous star symbol. These will be displayed in the 'step to the stars' area. We can't wait for you to see them!

We spent some time on Country, creating artworks in the beautiful autumn weather. The students were inspired by Indigenous Australian artworks and Andy Goldsworthy. They used natural materials in our playground to create their masterpieces.





In 3G, we learned about the importance of the Bogong Moths to the First Nations Peoples. As Canberra was a part of the Bogong Moth trail. The Bogong moths were roasted in hot ashes and mashed to make 'moth meat'. They are said to be 'fat and juicy' and have a 'nutty taste'. It was a time that brought many Indigenous countries together. We then looked at the big Bogong Moth inspired by artist Reko Rennie in the National Museum of Australia in Canberra. We used Reko's bold and bright designs to create our very own.



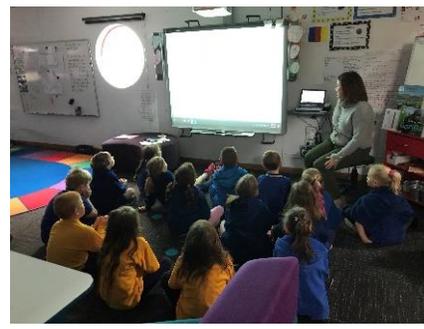
NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

Last week I was fortunate enough to be able to walk around the school while everyone was engaged in the National Simultaneous Storytime 2020 event. The event runs every year with the aim of promoting Australian children's literature through a read aloud experience. Remember that children who are read to gain all sorts of benefits through their lives – academic, social and personal. It was so gratifying to see everyone absorbed in the story and then for Danica's question to get answered by the Governor General and Mrs Hurley.

Library Overdues: We are sending out library overdues notices over the next couple of weeks. Please don't be alarmed if you have sent books back to the library but they are still showing as overdue. We have had so many books returned recently that our system struggled to cope. Please just let us know that you have already returned the books and we will set about trying to find them.

Yours in reading

Julian Wark



SCHOOL BANKING

Due to Covid-19, School Banking will resume in Term 3. Children need to drop off their yellow banking wallets to the Front Office and they will be returned to them after processing.

Banking Coordinator

NEWS FROM THE P&C PRESIDENT

Uniform Shop: We continue to operate the uniform shop in an online capacity only. While this can cause difficulties with sizing, any unworn items with tags attached can be exchanged, just send us an email. Our online platform has now moved exclusively to our online store, which can be found at <https://giralang-primary-school-pc.square.site/uniform-shop>. Our Second Hand store is also choc full of goodies at the moment! All items are \$2 and can be paid for at the front office. Please remember to practice safe social distancing while shopping, which we understand can be difficult in that little hallway but remains important.

Canteen News: The canteen reopened for Flexischool orders only last week. Unfortunately, due to current restrictions, we are unable to take paper or over-the counter orders at this time.

Last week you would have received an email regarding possible operational changes to the canteen. We will be holding a virtual meeting to provide information and discuss these changes on Tuesday 9th June, 7pm through the Google Meet platform via the following link (meet.google.com/pqi-ntks-wgb). We would love to have as many school community members as possible present to engage with this important issue. If you are unable to attend, it would be wonderful to hear your thoughts via the P&C email address (giralangpandc@gmail.com). Any decision regarding major changes to canteen operations will be made in consultation with the school community. We look forward to seeing you there!

Giralang Garden Collective: Despite the challenges over the last few months, we have been able to make some progress on the Giralang Garden! Thanks to funding from the Directorate we have been able to install gutters on the multipurpose court and a large water tank. Work on the garden fence will also begin shortly! This means, soon you will walk around the back of our school and see a large space ready to be filled with wicking garden beds, fruit trees, flowers, and more! In the coming weeks, we will connect with the students and discover their vision for the garden. We will be holding a *Dream Garden Competition* for students in weeks 9-10, where students will design what they would like to see in their garden.

To create a teaching space in the garden, the Giralang Garden Collective Committee is seeking advice and quotes from local businesses to build a shelter. If you, or someone you know, are interested in helping us with this project, please get in touch at giralanggardencollective@gmail.com by Friday 19 June.

We would like to send a huge thank you to everyone who supported the bulb fundraiser last term, we were able to raise just under \$500. Anne Gibson also deserves recognition for raising over \$200 with her plant stall! We have also received some donations of native plants from local businesses: Cool Climate Nursery and IDP Nursery. These will be planted around the fence perimeter. We will need more plants, so please propagate plants that will feed local birds and pollinators!

As our garden grows we are looking forward to seeing the connections it creates within the community! If you would like to get involved please email giralanggardencollective@gmail.com or have a look at our volunteer

job list here: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1L7DD5S-d6l9gzEFmeJBOpBQ-LwJFoZLVpRBGqNBLVxw/edit?usp=sharing>. We look forward to when we can organise a working bee and build the garden together. But until then, we hope you are finding time to enjoy your own gardens!

The GGC Committee

Brooke Pearson

P&C President

CANBERRA WE ARE HERE FOR YOU

**FREE telephone counselling
sessions Monday to Friday
9am-5pm**

Sessions via Zoom or Skype
Limited availability for FREE face-to-
face counselling sessions

Sadly our groups and training are temporarily suspended

**Contact us for a FREE
confidential chat**



6287 3833



parentline@parentlineact.org.au



PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS – DIANE LONDON – PIANO

Diane London has played piano since childhood and instantly developed a love for music, it is this enjoyment and appreciation that she has been passing on to others as a piano teacher for over 15 years in Canberra. Diane's training has included university study (BMUS) at the Canberra School of Music (Australian National University) as well as a Bachelor of Actuarial Studies from the Australian National University. Diane teaches from ages 4 years and upwards and teaches many adult students at her Lyneham studio.

As part of her studies at the Canberra School of Music, Diane has been taught by some of Australia's most talented musicians, including Professor Larry Sitsky who is a prolific Australian composer, pianist, researcher and who is one of the founding members of the Canberra School of Music (ANU) and John Luxton (former head director of the Canberra School of Music (ANU)). Diane has also been taught by Wendy Lorenz, making her a 6th generation descendant student of Ludwig Van Beethoven, the lineage is - Diane London - Wendy Lorenz - Maria Curcio - Artur Schnabel - Theodor Leschetizky - Carl Czerny - Ludwig van Beethoven.

As a pianist, Diane has performed many times at the Canberra School of Music as well as performances across Canberra including the Australian Parliament House and Wesley Music Centre. Diane has also adjudicated piano competitions such as the Miles Franklin Music Festival Piano Competition.

One of Diane's key approaches to her teaching is recognising and responding to unique student needs. Instead of following just one inflexible teaching style, she prioritises developing goals with the student and then creates a plan for the student to achieve their goals.

Student goals can vary widely and can include just wanting to learn to play the piano for fun, preparing for AMEB piano practical exams, learning piano to 'keep the brain active', or even learning music theory, history and composition. Diane has helped hundreds of students successfully achieve their musical goals.

\$37 per 1/2 hour lesson.

Lessons can be held at the school during school hours, or at Canberra Music Education School in Lyneham. Lessons are also offered on Saturdays.

Please contact Diane on 0414 788 380 for more information.

