



Taylor Primary School Newsletter

Newsletter No 2
Week 9 Term 1
Date: 3 April 2019
Taylor Primary School
Marconi Crescent
Kambah ACT 2902

Front Office Phone
61423000

admin@taylorps.act.edu.au

www.taylorps.act.edu.au

Psychologist Ellen Sheridan

(Mon/Tues /Thurs a.m.)

Principal Belinda Fenn

Deputy Principal Alison Williams

Business Manager Sharyn Widdowson

Board Chair Mel Selems

Executive

Annie McAppion (P-1)

Leanne Davis (2-4)

Helen Wilson (5/6, K6W & K6L)

P&C Shahna Smith

PPA Amy Clark



Principal's Message

School Improvement - How are we improving student growth in personal and social capabilities?

On Friday 15 March, the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence, Taylor Primary School hosted the Minister Yvette Berry and Director General of ACT Education Directorate Natalie Howson. The showcase presented student learning from the whole school inquiry; 'how do I contribute to a safe community? The feedback from our special guests was outstanding and we can all be so proud of our school. Some of the comments provided included; *'such a range of modes of learning', 'students articulated their learning so clearly, this is clearly learning that is happening all the time at Taylor'.*

Thank you to all the lovely and talented staff at Taylor for preparing the children and providing such rich learning experiences. The day was the perfect day to launch our school improvement priority 'improving growth in student personal and social capabilities'. The key improvement strategy to support this priority is the implementation of Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL). I'm sure that all families have heard about our four key expectations;

We are safe

We are responsible

We are respectful

We are learners

PBL brings together the **whole school community** to contribute to developing a positive, safe and supportive learning culture. It established strong school wide systems that promote early intervention and the teaching of social-emotional skills. We have clear expectations of students, staff and community members. These systems also provide a process that is aligned with the Education Directorate's Safe School's Policy when things do go wrong. PBL is a process, not a program. The process is ongoing and constantly modified to meet the changing needs of the school. I would really like to talk to the community in more detail about this part of the process so that we can strengthen our collective understanding of the role of staff, parents/carers and students. A very important part of this is to establish shared understanding of various terms and phrases that may be used to describe behaviours when things go wrong. Such as social conflict, friendship issues, harassment and bullying. Schools are socially complex places, where children learn from making real mistakes and success and with support and explicit teaching, continue to build a tool kit of strategies that help them to develop positive relationships with others and how to manage self when interacting and responding to others.

Next term I will be presenting this information in more detail for parents/carers. The sessions will include:

- How does the school respond when there is a social conflict between children?

Safe, Respectful, Responsible Learners.

- What is the role of parent/carers in this process?
- What is and what isn't bullying and harassment?
- What is the personal and social capabilities continuum?
- Q & A

I hope that there will be significant attendance at this very important information session. This is an opportunity to hear from me and seek further clarification about the PBL process and the various roles we all need to play to contribute to a safe community. Information and RSVP details will be sent home at the beginning of next term.

Signing in procedures for parents /carers and volunteers

In keeping with the theme of a safe community, I would like to remind all parents/carers and community members about the signing in procedures when visiting the school between 9am and 3pm. We very much welcome volunteers to help in the classrooms as arranged with class teachers. Please ensure that you sign in at the front office with the reason for your visit to the school. So that we can ensure as little disruption to learning time as possible, if you need to visit your child between 9am and 3pm, unless otherwise arranged with the class teacher please: Avoid visiting in learning times, when teachers are teaching, and children are engaged in learning. Please visit at the break times if required. Lunch is from 11:10 – 11:50 and recess break from 1:20pm – 1:50pm. All parents and carers are required to present to the front office between 9am and 3pm and sign in if you need to enter the main body of the school. I know that all parents/carers and community members will appreciate these processes and understand that these are to maintain a high level of safety and knowledge about who is on site. In the unlikely event of an emergency we need to know who is on site. These procedures are also about respecting teaching and learning time and the privacy of children as they are learning and growing with trusted and known adults and peers around them. Thank you in advance for respecting these procedures and announcing any visit to the school at the front office.

Facebook/Social Media and Website Images

The way that we share information with families continues to change and evolve. This may be a combination of online apps such as Seesaw, Facebook, School website, email or hard copy information. We are moving towards reducing the amount of paper copies of information that is sent home to families. Our preference is that all information goes home in a digital format except for permission notes where a signature is required. If you are not already on our email list or have new email address, please notify Tracy Waterson at the front office as soon as possible tracy.waterson@ed.act.edu.au

I understand that social media is not the preferred way of communication for some families and would prefer for their child/ren not to have images placed on the school Facebook page. If you can please notify the front office as soon as possible if you **do not** wish for your child to be photographed for the Facebook page (note attached).

Uniform

In keeping with the high standards that we have for all children at Taylor Primary. Can I please remind families about school uniform expectations, especially as we head into the cooler months. Please try to dress children in jumpers that are colour code (blue) or the school issued jumpers. We are currently looking into offering a different type of hoodie/jumper that we believe may be more appealing to children and families.

Regards,

Belinda Fenn

Merit Awards

The following students will receive a merit award at this Friday's assembly.

KF	KR	KS	K6W
Hunter Mozley-Betts	Ashley Matthews	Hamish Moore	Locklan Wood
Ingrid Raine	Miles Wilkins	Abigail Jones	K6L
1L	1S	1V	2B
Jasper Bryant Gapella	Avi Gupta	Harry Walker	Jeremyah Mose
Mia Wells	Benjamin Wright	Maeve Beech	Amity Keith
2L	2S	3H	3K
Levi Wilkins	Addison Twist	Dean McIntyre	Ben McIntyre
Kudum Korodit	Loki Suess	Mikayla Bull	Evelyn Taylor
4M	4W	5/6C	5/6T
Gemma Irwin	Tenzin Wangjor	Zoe White	Emilia Edmond
Olive Selems	Alice Lonsdale	Kaylee Tonge	Taylor Dawson

ACT Parents and Citizens and the Education Directorate working together for safer schools.

Building Strong and Safe Communities for Learning is a partnership project between the ACT Education Directorate and the ACT Council of Parents and Citizens Associations (P&C). It focuses on all of us - parents, students, principals and teachers- working together to reduce violence and bullying in schools. An initial workshop discussed the key issues, what is working well or not working well, and who contributes to these. A second workshop with representatives of the P&C Council and the Education Directorate considered the outcomes of the first workshop to help prepare for further conversations with our school community.

We want to make it easy for anyone who wants to have a say to be given the opportunity to be involved. There are two remaining workshops you may wish to attend: On 9 May 2019, 8:30am – 4:30pm the workshop will explore the key question “*How might we reduce and respond to violence in schools and co-create strong and safe communities for learning?*”.

In June 2019 a 2 – 3 hour showcase will highlight what we have learned. It will enable participants to attend at different times during the day.

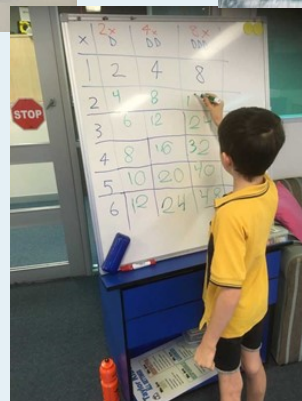
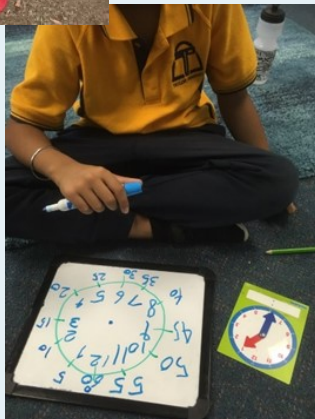
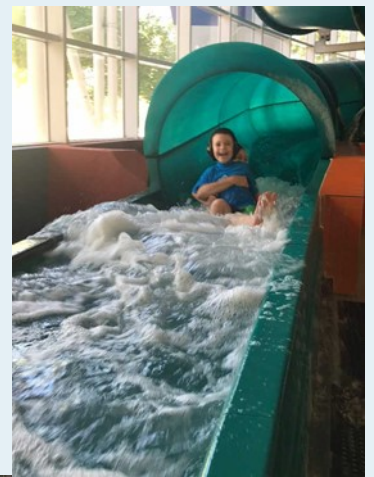
If you require any further information, or if you wish to attend the 9 May or June workshops, please contact Ms Leanne Ballard on Leanne.ballard@act.gov.au or 6205 2912 by 12 April, last day of Term 1.

K6L News

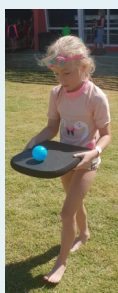
K6L has had a very busy term 1 so far we have:

- been learning about procedural texts in literacy, including structure, audience and language
- co created several texts, such as 'How to make Vegemite toast', and have now started writing our own
- used big books to work on our spelling by looking at different blends and vowel families, as well as finding synonyms for different words in the text
- started learning about multiplication in maths. We started by using blocks and pictures and then moved on to arrays to help form our understanding. We are now using strategies such as repeated addition and doubling
- continued to look at time. We have been working toward telling the time to the nearest minute on analogue and digital clocks and using a timetable
- we have been going to swimming lessons every Friday afternoon at Aqua Harmony in Kambah. This has been a fun experience and we have had a great time improving our swimming and learning about water safety. This helped us have an awesome time at the swimming carnival, especially on the water slide!
- We created an awesome poster for our inquiry unit on safety explaining to students how we can be safe at break times, specifically how we can be safe on the playground, on bikes, at eating times and on the grass area
- participated in the hockey clinic run by Hockey ACT to learn the basic skills and rules of the game. It has been great fun.

We have had a great start to 2019 and look forward to continuing our learning for the rest of the year.



Year 2



The Year 2 students have had a great start to the year. We cannot believe holidays are right around the corner. Some highlights so far have been getting to know their 5/6 buddies, hockey clinics, getting their own chrome books and their first swimming carnival. Some students even competed! All children are congratulated on showing the Taylor Values at CISAC.

Our Inquiry unit this term has been around 'Why do we acknowledge the past?' Students have been involved in wondering about why things have changed and why certain things were even invented. The students are excited to visit St. John's Schoolhouse Museum.

In Maths, students have been exploring place value and a variety of strategies for addition. Mathletics logins have been sent home and we encourage families to utilise this great web-based resource.

In Literacy, writing narratives has been our focus. We've explored a number of big books and had discussions around the three main parts of a narrative—the orientation, complication and the resolution. This unit fits in well with our school improvement plan of engaging students in writing tasks.

In reading we have learning about predicting, inferring and comparing to help us understand and learn from our texts. Reading Eggs logins have also been sent home and we encourage families to use this at home as well as reading as often as possible. Last but not least, all students have been engaged in a mini inquiry unit about bullying and how to create a safe environment for learning. Our work was displayed in the library for some special guests—The Director General! Making school a safe place for all students is one of our key focuses for our school improvement plan. Congratulations to all students for their hard work around such an important concept!





"It was fun learning all the skills."



"The AIS was great because I learnt new things about disabled sports."



"It was Great! Doing Chin-ups in Sportex was my favourite."



"The hockey clinic was inspiring!"

Year 4

We have had an active start to the year. Year 4 have been working hard to develop their skills during the hockey clinics. Students practised dribbling, passing and stopping the ball, and tackling an opponent. Both classes were such determined and motivated learners that they were able to use their new skills in a game at the end of their clinic.

For our *Healthy Me, Healthy You!* Inquiry Unit both classes have been exploring different aspects of health, such as food and nutrition, the benefits of physical activity and mental health and wellbeing. We have been exploring the importance of safe and fair play at school through games of handball. This has helped build our sportsmanship, fairness, and inclusion of our peers.

Students had the opportunity to visit the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS). Both classes particularly enjoyed the different types of virtual activities in the Sportex complex. Here students had the chance to try different types of sports such as downhill skiing, cycling, rowing and learn and experience sports through disabilities. They were then led around by an Australian Athlete, to different facilities around the AIS, exploring where many athletes come to Canberra to train before the Olympics and other big competitions. Year 4 are passionate about their healthy and active lifestyles and wish to continue this in the future.

"It was a great experience, everyone was working together as a team."



"The wheelchair races were fun!"



TAYLOR SPORT

What a busy start to the year we have had in the way of sports.

CLINICS and TUGGERANONG COLLEGE LEADERS:

This term we have been lucky enough to have students from K-6 involved with a hockey clinic, basketball clinics for students from year 1-4 and our year 1 students and a year 2 class have been involved with Tuesday afternoon sport led by Tuggeranong College students. It has been great seeing all students across the school participate in various sporting opportunities doing their personal best.

GALA DAYS:

During this term we have had a selected number of students from year 3, 4, 5 and 6 representing Taylor at a Rugby League and Buroinjin Gala Day. All students participated with sportsmanship whilst demonstrating some very good skills on the day. A big thank you to Sean and Greg that coached and supported our students leading up to and on the day, your assistance is appreciated.



SWIMMING:

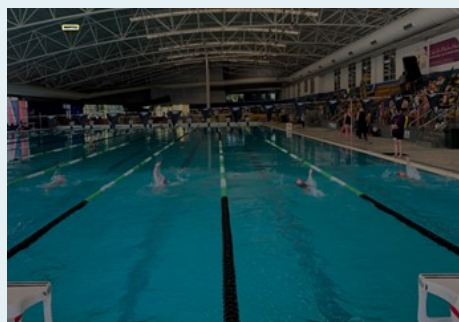
On Wednesday 20th March we held our first whole school swimming carnival at CISAC. Students participated in 50m, 100m and 25m events from 8 years and older and all students had fun in our fun water activities and rotations. I am sure the slide was a big hit for most, students and teachers alike.

Thank you to all the parents, carers, teachers, Tuggeranong students, CISAC staff and Taylor students for making it a fun and successful event.

The ribbons from the swimming carnival will be presented at the assembly this **Friday 5th April.**



*Congratulations to the selected students that participated at the **Tuggeranong Regional Swimming Carnival** on Tuesday 2nd April at the Tuggeranong Pool. These students swam well and all displayed qualities of Taylor K.I.D.S. A number of students finished in the top 10 overall. Well done!*



Next term will continue to be an active term with more events including the 2019 Cross Country, Track and Field carnivals and more sporting opportunities throughout the school. Please keep an eye out for more information and if there are any parents or carers that would like to support in any way please let me know.

Stay safe, keep moving and have fun.

Brooke Wood