



Taylor Primary School

Term 3 Week 5 Newsletter- August 2023

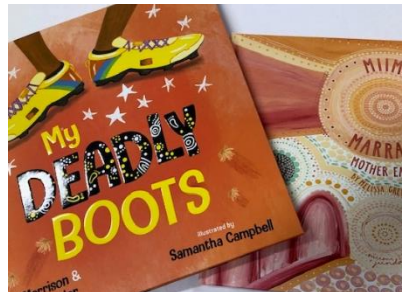


Hello Taylor families

It has been a fabulous first half of term 3. We commenced the term in week 1 with a NAIDOC Week walk on Country around our fabulous school. Students walked with their buddy classes and collected a leaf to decorate and add to our whole school artwork. The artwork will be displayed in the library very soon. Continuing with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives focus, Kindergarten had their first Bush Kindy session last week. Unfortunately, the rain changed their plans and their walk to Mt Taylor was reduced in distance, but the group enjoyed their experience. They again

ventured to Mt Taylor yesterday. Students and staff had a wonderful opportunity to reflect and discuss what we notice whilst being grateful for this beautiful place that we can learn and play.

Yesterday Taylor Primary hosted the Southside Indigenous Book Club, an opportunity for ACT teachers to discuss best practice and teaching strategies for using picture books and texts in their programs. The session was thought provoking and provided the school library with additional resources.



Staffing

Welcome to Ms Claudia McIntyre who joins us at Taylor after completing her university degree. Claudia is working with a range of classes and supporting us with relief teaching at Taylor. Mr Mitchell Souter also joins us as a Learning Support Assistant working mostly in year 5/6. We will include a photo of Mitch in our next newsletter.

School Review

This term, Taylor Primary School will be involved in the School Review Process, as we near the end of our 5 year strategic plan focused on improving reading, writing, and student wellbeing. School Review is a school improvement practice that provides us with an avenue to identify the effectiveness of our planning and management of school resources to improve student outcomes, evaluate progress towards Directorate and school priorities through using multiple sources of data. The review process creates a report based on the National School Improvement Tool and documents the 'next steps' to be incorporated into annual action plan. The school review team will be keen to speak with parents/carers to seek their input on Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon between 2.30-3.30pm (Week 8). Please contact linda.francis@ed.act.edu.au if you would like to be part of the parent group/s who speak to the panel.



Planning for 2024

We are well into our planning for 2024 and thank all families who have contacted the school about a change in arrangements for their children's enrolment for 2024. Please contact us (admin@taylorps.act.edu.au) if your children will not be attending Taylor Primary School. Alternatively, if you have additional children who will be attending Taylor, please also contact us as soon as possible to discuss.

2024 Enrolments

Notification of enrolments for 2024 for preschool and kindergarten, and year 7 should have been received by families. Taylor Preschool is currently full, with all positions allocated. Preschool class preference **Google Form** was distributed to families today for 2024 classes. Please complete the form as soon as you can with class placements to be finalised by Friday 1 September.

Kindergarten

Kindergarten recently celebrated 100 days of learning at school with a wonderful day of 'all things 100' activities. It was fabulous to see the students reflecting on their learning so far this year and clearly articulating their goals for the remainder of the year.

Science Week

This week students have been thinking creatively to solve problems around the Science Week theme of "Innovation: Powering Future Industries". They have been challenged to create objects, using the right balance and types of materials, that will be neutrally buoyant in a tub filled with water. Students also created the ideal paper plane for accuracy and speed whilst learning about the forces of flight. They had the opportunity to participate in an online Q&A session with Australian astronaut in training Katherine Bennell-Pegg, who is currently in Germany training with the European Space Agency.

Library News

Thank you to our librarian Nike Paterson and the staff who hosted the Book Fair last week. Special thanks also to everyone who supported the book fair over the three days. The book fair sold just under \$4000 of reading materials. The school earns commission from this which will go back into purchasing books for our library. Next week is Book Week. Several activities will run over the week including library scavenger hunts, making bookmarks, and our book parade, which will occur on Wednesday 23 August at 9.15am during our whole school assembly.

Year 4 artwork

Year 4 recently completed a collaborative artwork using a quilling technique. Each student created an aspect of the piece, including features such as the balloon, and many hidden animals. The piece, framed by Mr Chris took several weeks to complete. It is currently proudly on display in the Year 4 classroom.



Celebration of Learning

During week 9, all students will invite their families into school to celebrate learning from across the year. Emails to families will be sent during week 7 to book in for the sessions. We look forward to sharing learning with families.

School Collaborations

This term, Taylor Primary School have been excited to welcome **Academy of Future Skills** educators into classrooms across the school. The Academy is a team of STEM specialist teachers within the ACT Education Directorate, who are available to work alongside teachers to deliver highly engaging inquiry units. In Year 2, students have been enthralled with their inquiry into chocolate, testing their predictions on which type would melt the quickest. Meanwhile in Year 4, students have been developing their programming skills, including how digital technology systems work and how to program using micro bits. During STEM lessons with Ms Turvey, the Academy have been working collaboratively to design units of work for years 1 to 4.



Combined Bands for Year 5 and 6 Ukulele

Our year 5 and 6 ukulele students participated in their second combined bands rehearsal this week. Year 6 travelled to Richardson primary and year 5 hosted other primary schools, here at Taylor Primary including performing to all year 4-6 Taylor students. We continue to see our students' musical skills develop and the combined bands provides a wonderful opportunity to perform and collaborate as part of a larger group of musicians. Further rehearsals will be scheduled for term 4 in the lead up to a concert at the end of the year. Thanks to Mrs Robinson and Claire from the Instrumental Music Program for supporting our young musicians.



The **'Step into the Limelight'** choir students had their first combined rehearsal on Wednesday. Further rehearsals will be held in week 8 in the lead up to the combined schools choir performance on the evening of Wednesday 6 September as part of a celebration of 50 years of the Instrumental Music Program. Thank you to Mrs Robinson for leading students in this project.



Rostrum Semi Final

Earlier this term, Abigail in Year 6 represented Taylor Primary at the Rostrum quarter finals at Torrens Primary. Abigail successfully advanced to the semi-finals with her speech "Going backwards". This is the second year in a row that a student has represented Taylor Primary in the semi-finals. We will be hosting the semi-final at Taylor on Monday 28 August. Good luck Abigail!

World Cup Soccer

You might have seen our mention in the Canberra Times last weekend and on ACT Public Schools social media, our students participated in a mini-world cup tournament over lunch times organised and led by year 5/6 students. Teams aligned with those teams in the Women's World Cup and provided the opportunity for our year 5/6 students to discuss and research different countries and to promote a sense of community and teamwork across the school. Thanks to Ms White and the 5/6 team for organising. The final results were 1st place – Haiti, 2nd place – Vietnam and 3rd place- Portugal.



Professional Learning

Taylor teachers have also been learning from each other with sharing sessions at last week's whole staff meeting. Staff who attended the recent ALEA conference during the term 2 school holiday presented their learning to the rest of the staff. It was a valuable session and supports the research that sharing



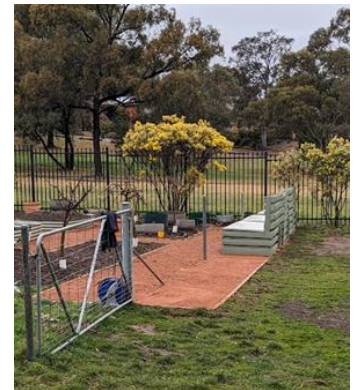
practice is an excellent way to develop our skills as teachers.

Next week, teachers will continue with our Structured Word Inquiry collaboration with five other schools from the ACT, to share ideas and examples of practice using this approach to investigate the spelling of words.



Garden and Green News at Taylor

Garden progress is still well underway, with an extension of our path completed on the weekend to allow our wicking garden beds to be placed. We would like to acknowledge the many hours of hard work that Justine and Rob Hansen have put into the construction of these upcycled garden beds and frames. Stay tuned for another working bee later in the term, as we have lots of exciting things coming up!



Lids4Kids

The Taylor Green Team meet together each week and look for ways to help our environment at Taylor Primary School. We have been busy preparing and rolling out new collection containers for Lids4Kids to each classroom. We are collecting milk bottle lids, yoghurt pouch lids, and most small plastic lids. These lids are too small to be recycled in our yellow bins but can be recycled through Lids4Kids. We are encouraging Taylor students to collect these lids at home too!

School Sport

On Monday 7 August we were blessed with a wonderful sunny day for our athletics carnivals. The track and field carnival for years 2-6 students was held at Woden Park. Congratulations to those students who progressed to the Tuggeranong Region Track and Field Carnival which will be held on **21 August** at Woden Park. Thanks to Mrs Wood for organising these events and to parent volunteers and Namadgi students who helped us out on the day.



The Stars, Kindergarten and Year 1 had a fantastic day participating in our Mini Athletics Day. Kindergarten and Year 1 started the day by warming up and getting ready to run a race in their age groups. They all did so well, especially as this was the first time for some of our Kindy children to run their first race!

It was great to have the Stars come and join us for our mini sport rotations, which included the giant parachute, egg and spoon races, an obstacle course and shot-put using beanbags and chalk. It was fabulous to see everyone joining in and having fun. We then enjoyed a delicious sausage sizzle for our picnic lunch. Thank you to Mr Chris and Taryn for providing and cooking our yummy lunch.



Pyjama Day

Our students and teachers enjoyed a very 'comfortable' day last Friday, as they came to school dressed in their pyjamas. The day raised \$468.00 for Ronald McDonald House charity. Thank you all for your kind donations to this worthy cause.

P&C news

The P&C (Taylor Craft Collective) will host the Father's Day stall on Wednesday 30 August and again on Friday 1 September. Please see the information (right) and on the flyer sent home with students today.

Thank you for completing the canteen survey. The P&C are using the results to decide on what a canteen option could look like.

Special thanks to Mr Chris for constructing a very sturdy clothes rack for the P&C uniform swap. The next uniform swap will be next Wednesday before the whole school assembly.

School satisfaction Survey

All parents and carers should have received email about the 2023 School Satisfaction and Climate Survey which is now open. Please check your email for the invitation and link to the survey. The feedback you provide helps us to identify what is working well and what we can look to do in the future. The survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete. Please contact us if you didn't receive the email and we can support to get a survey emailed to you.

Calendar dates for the remainder of Term 3

Week 6 – Book Week

Monday 21 August – Tuggeranong track and Field carnival.

Wednesday 23 August @9.15am– Whole School Assembly – Book Week Parade

Week 7

Monday 28 August – Rostrum Semi-final @Taylor (evening)

Wednesday 30 August and Friday 1 September – Father's Day stall

Week 8 – School Review week

Monday 4 September – Limelight rehearsal

Wednesday 6 September – Limelight rehearsal and night performance

- 5/6 Boys Basketball Gala Day

Week 9 –

Tuesday 12 September – ACT Track and Field

Friday 15 September – Junior Assembly hosted by Kindergarten In the Hall @9.15am

Week 10 –

Wednesday 20 September – 5/6 Think U Know session (AFP online safety)

Thursday 21 September – Year 2 excursion

As always, your feedback is welcome. Please contact us via email admin@taylorps.act.edu.au or on 6142 3000.

Kind regards,

Linda Francis – Principal

18 August 2023

