



# Taylor Primary School

## Term 3 Week 10 Newsletter- September 2023

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Hello Taylor families

Wow ... time flies when you're having fun and learning lots! There is so much to celebrate as Term 3 comes to a close. Spring has certainly sprung with the blossoms quickly turning into leaves. Our school grounds are looking amazing thanks to Mr Chris and the Taylor Garden Project.

### Celebration of Learning

It was fabulous welcoming families into classrooms for our *Celebration of Learning* during Week 9 this term. Students collaborated with their teachers to plan what learning they would like to share and how they would share this with their families. It was fantastic to see so many students talking proudly about their learning and sharing their successes, including things they'd like to continue working on. Thank you to all the families who attended. If you were unable to make it, please contact your child's teacher to organise another opportunity.



### School Review

During week 8, Taylor Primary School had a panel of principals working with our staff, students, and some parents and carers as we participated in School Review. Thank you to all the families who made themselves available to speak to the panel. As we await the report, we are looking forward to working with staff and the community to create our new Strategic Plan. We are interested in your thoughts and value the input of the Taylor community. The P&C meeting scheduled for early term 4 will focus on the work around the new plan.

### Year 2 & 3 Excursions

This week saw some of our students enjoying enrichment opportunities to support their learning. On Wednesday, Year 3 headed out to Floriade and Nerang Pond, where they explored different natural and man-made features in Canberra. They found it fascinating that we have some man-made features that appear to be natural, and enjoyed discussing if a feature is natural or if it has been made purposely (eg. Lake Burley-Griffin). On Thursday, our Year 2 students enjoyed learning about different animals during a zookeeper tour at the National Zoo. Students were allowed to pet a snake, feed alpacas and deer, and our bravest year 2s even fed an emu from their heads! We are very grateful to our wonderful teachers for organising these opportunities to extend learning and the parent helpers who came along to help.



## Planning for 2024

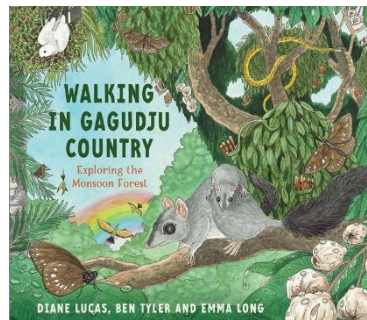
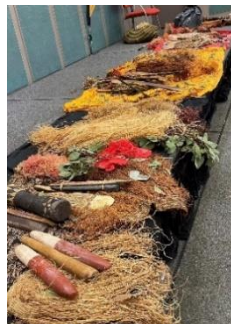
We are well into our planning for 2024 and thank all families who have contacted the school about a change in arrangements for their children's enrolment for 2024. Please contact us ([admin@taylorps.act.edu.au](mailto:admin@taylorps.act.edu.au)) if your child/ren will not be attending Taylor Primary School. Alternatively, if you have additional children who will be attending Taylor, please also contact us as soon as possible to discuss. Early next term we will send an email requesting any information you wish to share in relation to class placements for 2024.

## 2024 Enrolments

All families have now been notified for their preschool, kindergarten, and year 7 placements for 2024. Taylor Preschool is currently full, with all positions allocated. Notification of orientation days and information sessions will be forwarded to families early in term 4. We will also be supporting our year 6 students to transition to their high schools for 2024. Sessions will be hosted by each high school with additional visits scheduled for those who require this support. Please keep in touch with your child's teacher and members of the leadership team if you need any assistance or support.

## Sean Choolburra visits Taylor Primary

In week 9, Sean Choolburra entertained us with a blend of dance, storytelling, humour, and an amazing array of artifacts celebrating his Indigenous culture. In a highly interactive show, students danced, sang, played the didgeridoo and clap sticks, and even ended the show with a breakdance competition that had everyone cheering. It was also wonderful to have some of our Taylor Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in the audience. Also, in week 9, buddy classes celebrated Indigenous Literacy Day. Buddy classes read "Walking in Gagudju Country" and walked on Country and read to one another in the sunshine.



## Library News

This term classes celebrated Book Week in style. With a school dress up parade and 3 rotations with mixed age students investigating the 3 themes, Grow, Inspire and Create. Students enjoyed reading with their buddies throughout the week and the teachers looked amazing in their unique Rainbow Fish outfits. Thanks to all the families who supported the students to come as a book character. It was wonderful to have so many parents and carers at the whole school assembly for Book Week.



## Rostrum Finals

Taylor Primary hosted students from around the ACT region in a Rostrum semi-final, including Abigail from year 6. Abigail's speech saw her progress as a reserve finalist to the Rostrum Finals held at Canberra College on Monday evening. Although not in the finals competition, Abigail presented a highly engaging and entertaining speech on "Expecting the unexpected". Well done Abigail!

### Bricks 4 Kids Preschool Incursion

In week 9, the preschool children had a fantastic opportunity to work with a Brick Master as part of their Bricks 4 Kids incursion. It was fabulous seeing children working collaboratively to complete two Lego challenges. The challenges included creating a tree, a square 'Benny' character and a dinosaur. It was also great seeing the children work on their creativity and problem-solving skills.



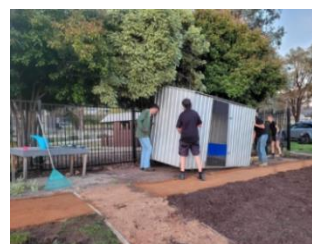
### Limelight

On Wednesday 6 September, students from years 4-6 performed in the Step into the Limelight Gala Showcase as part of the Southside Mass Primary Choir. The many weeks of rehearsals and preparations paid off with a wonderful performance of 'Sing for You' and 'We're All in this Together' alongside hundreds of other ACT primary students. The joy in being able to take part in this event was evident from their smiling faces and the friendships and connections made. Well done to all involved and especially to Mrs Robinson for not only preparing and supporting our students but also conducting the staff choir at Limelight this year! It was also great to have Taylor staff members, Ms Kobus and Courtney involved in the choir this year.



### Garden and Green News at Taylor

Last week we held another working bee to begin "Stage 2" of our Community Garden Project. This involved creating the final paths along the top of our garden space, mulching the area that will become our Indigenous bush tucker garden, and excavating the area to prepare for our yarning circle. It is exciting to see the ongoing progress and we would like to thank the families who came along to our working bee - it was a wonderful afternoon. Special thanks to Jaimi, Justine, Rob, Adam, Steve, and John, as well as Ms Glynn and Ms Fellows.



### Green Team



Our Taylor Green Team have been hard at work collecting and sorting small plastic lids for Lids4Kids, as well as keeping an eye on our classroom and staffroom recycling and compost bins. Please continue to collect any milk bottle lids, yoghurt pouch lids, and small plastic lids, and send them into our class collection tubs.



## School Sport

Congratulations to Aria, Amara, Tindra, Owen, Nick, and Lewis for their selection in the ACT Track and field carnival at the AIS a few weeks ago. Both Amara and Nick received 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> places in their events.

Congratulations to the year 5/6 basketball boys that participated in the Southside Jamie Pearlman Cup recently. The students played well together as a team for the first time and demonstrated great skills, progressing to the semi-final on the day. They wore the new Taylor singlets (donated by the local business Audio Tech and the P&C) with pride. A big thank you to Sean for coaching and supporting these boys leading up to and on the day.



## Backyard Cricket at Government House



On Monday 18 September, students from years 4-6 had a great day playing cricket, enjoying a BBQ lunch, and meeting the ACT Comets and other cricket stars. The Governor General hosted the event on the lawns of Government House which involves students from all over the ACT in partnership with the LBW Foundation to promote student education, wellbeing and physical activity. Thanks to Mrs Wood for supporting our students to attend.

## P&C news

The P&C (Taylor Craft Collective) hosted the Father's Day stall on Wednesday 30 August. Thank you so much to all the volunteers who made the gifts and worked at the stall.

Thanks also to Taryn Langdon and the P&C team of volunteers for the recent Pizza and Popcorn lunch. Thanks to Dominos Weston for your support of our school.

The P&C will be looking for your support when they host the Referendum BBQ and cake stall on Saturday 14 October. Thanks again for supporting our school.



### **A new School Dress will be available for- \$28 – with gold Taylor logo embroidery.**

Unfortunately, it is becoming incredibly difficult to source our school dresses so the one pictured here will be available for purchase from next term from the Front Office. The dress is considerably cheaper than the previous style and will hopefully be easier to maintain with the darker fabric. Of course, the previous style can still be worn as part of our uniform with a phasing out over the next few years. We certainly, do not want families to be purchasing replacement dresses for ones that still fit well.

We are also looking into the option of a navy-based school polo shirt with gold trim, similar to the dress. We would be interested in your feedback about this option.

## Have Your Say: mobile phones in ACT public schools

The Education Directorate is reviewing policies related to student use of mobile phones and similar devices in all ACT public schools.

A new *Personal Use of Communication Devices in ACT public schools' policy* will be created to ensure that ACT public schools and classrooms are safe places that provide an effective and accessible learning environment for all students. It will outline the appropriate use of mobile phones and other communication devices by students. By providing feedback, you can help make sure the policy meets the needs and expectations of parents and carers.



You can provide your feedback by visiting [yoursayconversations.act.gov.au/mobile-phones-in-schools](https://yoursayconversations.act.gov.au/mobile-phones-in-schools) before 8 October 2023.

**New bus timetable** will begin from Monday 9 October 2023 to align with the start of term 4. The changes include updated bell times and some refinements to 14 school services based on school and community feedback. There are no changes to the light rail timetable. The upcoming school holidays is the perfect time to ensure you're ready for the term ahead. For more information on school route changes, updated school packs and to view regular bus timetables visit the [Transport Canberra - School service changes for term 4](#). Contact Transport Canberra and City Services on [tccs.tcmessaging@act.gov.au](mailto:tccs.tcmessaging@act.gov.au)

## REMINDERS

- **Hats** are essential for outdoor activities. Please ensure your child has a name labelled brimmed hat each day.
- **Water bottles** – are also essential and can be refilled at the 4 water stations we have across the school.
- **Collecting your child early** – send an email [admin@taylorps.act.edu.au](mailto:admin@taylorps.act.edu.au) or phone the front office in advance so we can have your child ready for you. Retrieving children from the playground during break times can be challenging as there are many play spaces. The more notice you give the better.
- **Lost property** – weather is warming up and many jumpers are left lying around. Please label belongings.

**Term 4 Calendar is attached to this newsletter.**

As always, your feedback is welcome. Please contact us via email [admin@taylorps.act.edu.au](mailto:admin@taylorps.act.edu.au) or on 6142 3000.

Looking forward to seeing all our students and their families in Term 4 from **Monday 9 October 2023**. Don't forget to put your clocks forward an hour on Saturday night, 30 September for the commencement of daylight savings!

Kind regards,

**Linda Francis – Principal**

**22 September 2023**

**This information has been provided to us by YMCA regarding holiday programs.**

At the Y Canberra Region, we run Vacation Care across several services at our Canberra and NSW locations! Our programs enable children to explore science, get into nature, play sports, get creative and express themselves through imagination.

These holidays, our Vacation Care runs from **Monday 25th September to Friday 6th October**. We can't wait to see you!

If you would like more information, call us on **6242 4040**. Or visit our website where you will find the full holiday programs for each site!

