



Taylor Primary School

Term 4 Week 8 Newsletter-November 2023

Hello Taylor families

With just two weeks of the year remaining, we have much to celebrate and reflect on as 2023 comes to a close at Taylor Primary School. It has been fabulous working with the students, staff and the community, supporting your children to be the best learners and citizens they can be. We will have our final PBL awards and end-of-year book awards at the whole school assembly next Friday, 8 December under the COLA. On the same morning from 8.30am Taylor staff will host the Volunteers morning tea in the hall. I do hope you can join us so we can show our appreciation for your support throughout 2023.

We have postponed **Taylor@Twilight** to next Tuesday, 5 December 5.00-7.45pm – same times, same food and craft stalls – just next week!

2024 Staffing

We have 3 staff members transferring to other ACT government schools next year.

Ms Lee-Anne Turvey is transferring to Fadden Primary School in 2024 following her significant contributions to Taylor Primary School over the last 10 years. Lee-Anne has taught in a range of roles at Taylor, most recently as our STEM teacher. Her work as part of the specialist team has been one of collaboration and success. Goodbye Ms T, we will miss you at Taylor.

Mr Rhys Langley is transferring to Macquarie Primary School after teaching at Taylor for the past 6 years. Mr Langley will be missed by students, staff, and the community as he takes up his new appointment in 2024. We thank Rhys for his contributions to the learning of our students at Taylor. Keep in touch!

Mr Byron Moore is transferring to Gilmore Primary School for 2024 after teaching at Taylor for the past 7 years as a classroom teacher. Mr Moore was a preservice teacher (for 3 years) and continued on to teach across years 1-6. We thank Mr Moore for his work at Taylor and wish him all the best over the coming years. Have fun at Gilmore.

We are also saying farewell to our school psychologist **Ms Ellen Sheridan** as she moves to Sydney to be with her partner and commence a new psychology role. We appreciate all the contributions from Ellen in supporting staff, students and families.

Two of our much-loved support staff members, **Sienna Pitt** and **Aidan Pitt** are also moving on from Taylor Primary in 2024. Both Sienna and Aidan have made significant contributions to support our students and staff at Taylor and they will be greatly missed. We wish them well as they embark on some different opportunities in 2024.



We are delighted to welcome **Ms Laura Andrezza** to Taylor in 2024. Laura joins us from Mt Rogers Primary School in Melba where she has taught a range of year groups over the past 7 years.

We are also delighted to welcome **Mrs Rebecca Ridd** who joins us at Taylor in 2024 from Kingsford Smith School in Holt. Bec comes to Taylor with experience across all year P-6, having recently taught Koori Preschool and year 3-5 at KSS.



We also welcome STEM teacher **Mrs Caroline Schultz** to Taylor Primary School. Caroline joins Taylor Primary from the Academy of Future Skills (Education Directorate) where she has taught for the past 4 years. Caroline will be working with a range of year groups with a focus on science and technology.

Welcome Caroline.

We are delighted that our 'permit to teach' teachers, Ms Deanne Sattler and Ms Claudia McIntyre have been appointed permanently to teaching positions at Taylor Primary School.





We are also delighted to welcome **Ms Aimi Michell** who joins us at Taylor after teaching on the south coast of NSW. Aimi, a native Japanese speaker comes to us with a passion for Japanese language and culture and a love of working with children. She is excited to be joining our team and we are equally excited to be offering Japanese to the Taylor students again.

We also welcome back **Ms Jacqui Ingram** as the preschool teacher for Stars and Rainbows. We look forward to seeing Jacqui return to Taylor in 2024.

We would also like to congratulate **Mrs Emily Herridge** on her pregnancy. Emily and her husband Alex are expecting Baby #1 in late March. Mrs Herridge will be with us at Taylor in a range of roles for the first few weeks of the 2024 school year before commencing her maternity leave.

Celebrating staff

Ms Catherine Fellows has been nominated for a Sustainable Schools award. We were advised last week that she has been named as a finalist, with the awards ceremony on Friday. This award is for a person in the school community that, through leading by example, motivating and enabling others, being innovative and reflective, and setting and achieving goals has effected school-wide behavioural change towards improved sustainability. We wish Ms Fellows all the best. She is a winner in our eyes regardless of the outcome. The following citation is a summary of the nomination.

Catherine Fellows' sustained efforts have produced tangible results in the form of reduced landfill waste and a heightened enthusiasm for sustainability across the school. Moreover, her mentorship has empowered students to take ownership and develop essential leadership skills within the realm of sustainability. Catherine's legacy is not just a greener school but also a generation of environmentally conscious and responsible individuals who will continue to carry forward the torch of sustainability in their lives and communities.

Class structures for 2024

In 2023 the following class structures will be in place.

Preschool – 2 groups Stars and Rainbows (Jacqui Ingram and Debbie Corcoran)

Kindergarten – 2 classes (Ms Catherine Fellows, Ms Kate Foster-Lomas)

Year 1 – 2 classes Year 2 – 2 classes Year 3 – 2 classes Year 4 – 2 classes Year 5/6 – 4 classes

Teachers will be working in teams across the year group, with an assigned roll group.

Small Group Program – 1 group – Ms Buddie Henry

Performing Arts (Kirsty Robinson), PE (Brooke Wood), STEM (Caroline Schultz) Library (Nike Paterson) and Japanese (Aimi Michell) will be the classes that form our specialist team and release program.

All students will participate in a **transition morning on Wednesday week 10**, during the morning session, with their new teacher in their new classroom space for 2024. Your child will bring home a postcard from their teacher for 2024 as a communication to families. We hope that you will refer to the postcards during the summer break.

Thank you to the P&C for hosting our recent disco. It was a fabulous evening for both the junior and senior discos. Thanks so much to all our amazing volunteers who supported the smooth running of both discos. Congratulations to our Year 6 students on an outstanding Make and Move Day last Friday. It was wonderful to see all students having a great time with the activities and our student leaders, leading with enthusiasm. Thank you to the community for supporting the students to raise funds for their end of year event.

Garden and Green News at Taylor

Taylor Primary has partnered with the Sustainable Schools Program to further promote sustainability in our school and community. We have many exciting projects underway, and even more in the pipeline for 2024.

Students in our Green Team were recently involved in a waste audit to determine how well students and staff are currently using our recycling bins. This was a valuable learning experience for the students who will help in identifying goals and strategies to reduce contamination of our recycling streams.



Our Green Team continues to collect **plastic lids** from milk, yoghurt and drink containers. They have been busy cleaning and sorting lids ready to be recycled through Lids4Kids. **Remember to send in any lids from home** - these can be put in collection tubs in each classroom, or given to Ms Fellows.

Progress continues in our **school garden**. Our yarning circle is almost finished and plans are underway for our Indigenous garden. Garden Club is a popular activity on Wednesdays at lunchtime (all students are welcome!) and we are excited to see some produce growing in our garden beds.



2024 Garden/Sustainability Action Group - Any parents/carers interested in supporting our Garden Club or sustainability initiatives in any way (big or small), we would love to hear from you. Please contact Ms Fellows via email (catherine.fellows@ed.act.edu.au) for more information.

Pack the Bus



In the spirit of the holiday season, Transport Canberra, amplifyCBR and Communities@Work are once again hitting the streets of Canberra with the annual Pack the Bus community initiative.

Taylor Primary School is a designated drop off point for non-perishable food items, toys, clothing, and other necessities. Thank you to the families who have already donated to this important cause.

Items will be collected and then distributed through local charity organisation Communities@Work.

Pack the Bus is not just about collecting physical items, it's about uniting the community in a collective act of kindness. It warms hearts, brings smiles and reminds everyone that the true meaning of Christmas is about compassion and support for one another. **Our bus items will be collected on Friday 8 December.**

Student Book Packs for 2024

Book packs for K-6 have been emailed to families with a link to purchase the pack online through Winc. Lists can also be collected from the front office. If orders are complete by December 15, they will be delivered to the school for use from week 1 next year. Please contact the school if you need support with your child's book pack for 2024.



Rapid Antigen Tests within ACT public schools

Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) will no longer be distributed from ACT public schools. Families can now collect free RATs from ACT Libraries. Visit: www.library.act.gov.au/services

Please consider disposing expired RATs by recycling the cardboard and paper and disposing the remaining contents in general waste bins. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation. For more information, visit www.covid19.act.gov.au

Calendar dates for the remainder of term 4

Week 8

Thursday 8 December – Rainbows Preschool Come and Play session 9.15-10.15am, 2024 Kindergarten transition session (morning)

Week 9

Tuesday 5 December – Taylor @Twilight 5.00-7.45pm outdoors on grassed area, entry via the side gate (near Afters and preschool, and back gates)

Friday 8 December – Volunteers morning tea 8.30-9.15am in the Hall – all welcome
End of year book awards assembly - 9.15am under the COLA

Week 10

Tuesday 12 December – Year 6 Bowling Excursion, K-5 Movie excursion

Wednesday 13 December - Whole School Transition session (morning session, current K-5 students)

Thursday 14 December – Year 6 Graduation Ceremony (10-11.30am including morning tea) and Dinner (5.30-8pm) and Disco year 5 and 6 (6.45-8pm)

Friday 15 December – Last day of 2023 school year– Christmas Holidays begin

Looking forward to a fabulous end to the year.

We will produce a final newsletter for the year which will be emailed to families in week 10.

Kind regards,
Linda Francis
Principal
29.11.2023



TAYLOR at TWILIGHT

NEW DATE! TUESDAY 5 DEC

5-8pm

Come along with your family and friends to enjoy a picnic and student performances in the school playground.

FOOD, MARKETS & PLAY 5-6.30PM
STUDENT PERFORMANCES 6.30-7.45PM

BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC OR CHOOSE FROM ONE OF OUR FOOD VENDORS

- P&C BBQ
- Dumplings
- Potato on a stick
- Filipino Street Food
- Scott's Icecream
- Drinks... and more

TAYLOR CRAFT COLLECTIVE **BROWSE LOCAL HANDMADE MARKET STALLS**

This is an alcohol, smoke, glass and pet free event