NOTES HOME THIS WEEK

Student Educational Pack letter

PARENTS’ CHECKLIST
(Reminder of things to DO)

Sponsorship forms and monies due back Monday 20 October

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday 26 September  Assembly hosted by Year 3/4 - 2.15pm; Last day of term
Monday 13 October  First day of Term 4
Sunday 26 October  Preschool Fundraiser Family Photo Day 9am-3pm
Saturday 8 November  Montessori Spring Fair 11am-3pm

THIS WEEK’S UPDATES

BRAVISSIMI TUTTI on a SUCCESSFUL WALKATHON DAY YESTERDAY! A combination of ideal weather for walking, a highly organised P&C sausage sizzle and fruit stop, vigilant staff and energetic children made for a great day! Thank you everyone for your commitment to this fundraising event. Lots of Bouquets below and now we hope for the funds to roll in!

PLEASE REMIND YOUR CHILD TO START COLLECTING FUNDS FROM THEIR WALKATHON SPONSORS. The due date for return of all monies and forms is Monday of Week 2 (20 October) next term.

BIRRIGAI CAMP last Thursday and Friday was also a very successful venture for our Years 3 and 4 students who were challenged by the terrific outdoor activities provided in a beautiful natural environment. Teachers were very pleased with their enthusiasm for all that they took on and how they conducted themselves. Bravo to them all.

FLEXISCHOOLS Canteen ordering – Efficiency of ordering at the Walkathon sausage sizzle yesterday was enhanced by numerous students having labels indicating their name and order. This was due to parents ordering and paying for their child through the canteen’s subscription to Flexischools. The link to this ordering site and how to register is now on the school’s Home Page. Please start using it to make Raleigh Rogers’ job as canteen manager that much easier.

It has been a huge term with a wonderful range of learning and community activities. To name just a few: seven Italian teachers on sabbatical from Italy in our classrooms for the first 5 weeks, Limelight and Y Factor performances, excursions to the National Archives and the School of Music, Athletics Carnival, Birrigai camp, Book Week, Musica Viva visiting performers, Dance Kids program and fundraising at the preschool, Learning Journeys and finally Walkathon! Wow, no wonder we’re all weary!

I wish all students and their families a restful and joyous time together in the spring break and look forward to seeing you all back next term.

Ciao e Buone Vacanze

Lea (Signora Chapuis)

Quote of the Week - A good one for being self-aware!

‘The greatest obstacle to discovery is not ignorance – it is the illusion of knowledge.’

Davel J. Boorstin
BOUQUETS

Students: To Gian P for his excellent performance recently as a runner up in the nett division of the 12 and under golf championships.
To Zorba A for great improvement in reading.
To all Year 3/4 students for ‘Making their teachers’ day’ with their cooperative and responsible behaviours at Birrigai Camp. Bravissimi ragazzi!

Staff: To Maestri Cheryl Couch, Julie Bomball, Carmela Brancato, Jodie Stewart and Phill Hall for ‘Being There’ and ‘Making the Year 3/4 students’ Day’ with their prior preparation organisation of Birrigai camp; also maestri Roz Elliot, Sarah Veitch, Michela Corbella, Mery Bellagamba and Marli Ayrton for attending and being extra hands on deck. It was a very successful camp thanks to everyone’s efforts. Grazie tutti.
To Kate Pentony – LSA in Kindergarten who has been obliged to finish her time with us due to family and study commitments. Grazie Kate for your attention to our special needs students and for supporting Kindergarten teachers this year.
To Mery Bellagamba – one of our two Italian School Language Assistants whose time with us has sadly come to an end. Mery has been hosted by the Lowe, Wolnicki and Rogers families and will be celebrating her last day with us tomorrow. Grazie Mery for your support of our students in Italian kindergarten and with numerous other school activities. Buon Viaggio e Buona Fortuna!
Farewell also to Zen Scerri in Kindergarten who is leaving Yarralumla PS. We wish him and his family all the best at their new school.

Parents: To Pina Prosperi and Mark Kanard for their generous donation of 300 non-halal sausages to yesterday’s Walkathon.
To Raleigh Rogers for her efficient organisation of the Walkathon sausage sizzle and coordinating the parent helpers. A specially big thank you to Travis Hicks and Barry Campton for coming to school early to cook ALL those sausages and thanks to all our other parents who helped out on the sizzle line and fruit stop at the Governor General’s residence: Sarah Lee, Lisa Lockey and Pina Prosperi, Alix Snow, Nim Hehir, two Grandmothers - Anita Murray (Senti grandmother) and Liz Campton, Meg Monteleone, May Truong, Rochelle Whyte, Anna-Marie Tine, Anthony Sirr, Lanie Stephens and Caroline Fahey and Alison Senti for preparing the oranges.
To Beth Allan and Liz Campton for their amazing transformation of our new front garden bed with plantings. Grazie mille ladies for your selection of plants and hard work.
To Drew Meads for donating his time and skills to our school Board for the first three terms this year. Unfortunately Drew’s work and travel demands have necessitated his resignation this term from the Board. Our Board Chair, Deb Hicks has thanked him on our behalf in her Board report for his commitment to our school.
To the Halal butchery at Yarralumla for their donation of halal sausages for the Walkathon.

2014, Term 3 Assemblies

Term 3, Week 10  3/4 class

Board News

Well we are nearing the end of another busy term and no doubt many of you are looking forward to the school holiday break - I know I am.
As an update from the board, we have had a busy term and are making some great progress. The Board has ratified a number of policies and guidelines this term relating to the Yarralumla Primary school English-Italian Bilingual Language Policy, our School Enrolment management plan, and guidelines for the English Focus (mainstream) Program. In addition we have formed the Bilingual Program Sustainable Committee which is made up of two subcommittees- “Pathways to Life after YPS” and “The challenges and rigour of an Italian Program”. These subcommittees are starting to get traction and there is lot of work being done behind the scenes from Lea Chapuis and Lynden Lawton. We look forward to sharing with the community progress of the Bilingual Program Sustainable Committee towards the end of the year.

The Board has also approved expenditure for a new colour photocopier (multi- purpose A4 and A3 size) for the school. It was very clear that the current photocopier/fax was heading to the end
of its useful life making it cumbersome and difficult for the teachers to use in preparation for their class activities. The Board and P&C also endorsed a proposal for a fence along Loftus street which has now been submitted to the ACT Government for consideration.

I would also like to formally thank the P&C for their extremely kind contribution of $20,000 towards the resurfacing of the sports courts to convert them to a flexible outdoor learning space. This money will be an enormous help towards the school meeting its Key Strategic Priority #3 which aims to not only promote students’ fundamental movement and coordination skills but encourage student engagement and promote student leadership values. I would also like to thank again the P&C for an additional $5000 to the school for the purchase of items to support student learning in English and Italian literacy and numeracy and help us to continue to meet our Strategic Priority #1. These extremely kind contributions are very much appreciated and will go a long way to supporting the education of our children.

I would also like to advise that unfortunately, Drew Meads a recent board member has tendered his resignation and stepped down from his position on the board. This decision was not made lightly by Drew, but unfortunately due to some very demanding and competing work priorities he has been unable to continue. Thank you Drew for your contribution.

Finally I would like to continue encourage all primary school families to pay their voluntary contributions this year. Voluntary contributions are used to benefit all students at the school and your support is greatly appreciated.

I hope everyone has a very safe and fun holiday and I look forward to a great Term 4.

Deb Hicks
School Board Chair

Please note that the canteen is NOT open on Friday this week.

Please refer to the class list for canteen duty for next term and liaise with your class coordinator to ensure your week is covered. Correspondence can also be sent to me via email to: canteen@ypspandc.com

**Special food item price rise effective from term 4.**

From the beginning of term 4, all weekly special lunch items will increase in price by 50c. Therefore the special item will be $2.50. While the canteen remains not for profit we do need to cover our costs so we can continue to offer this service. We have not seen a price rise for a few years so need to move with inflation a little. To that end, the P&C will review all canteen prices during Term 4 to develop a new price list for 2015, but with a view to keeping prices as low as we can. The price increase on the special lunch items will not yet affect ordering via Flexischools. The weekly special will remain at $2 until the commencement of Term 1, 2015. So… jump onto Flexischools and save a little this term!

A big thank you to last week’s volunteers Dawn, and Jo, also to our student helpers, Myles and Lola.

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Thank you and regards
Raeleigh and Sarah

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**Canteen News**

The Walkathon sausage sizzle will have been completed by now (I am writing this on Tuesday evening). A huge thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who have offered their assistance.
Go paperless and coin free and place canteen orders online with Flexischools:


1. Register by email
2. Set up a user name and password
3. Add student/s names, class and school
4. Top up your account with funds
5. Place orders

Flexischools supports our valued canteen volunteers and:

- Saves hours processing paper orders
- Eliminates money checking
- Ensures orders are accurate and not missed
- Means the volunteer doesn’t have to be at school to receive orders
- Creates a one stop ordering process
- Is preferred by our YPS canteen volunteers

A second attachment to the newsletter gives more detailed instructions on setting up a Flexischools account. If you have any questions I am happy to assist or contact Flexischools direct via the website, they have a great team on hand.

Go ahead – register and make our canteen ordering better and an easier place to volunteer!

In Italian, we are continuing to improve our reading fluency through shared and one-to-one reading sessions. Since the beginning of the year the children have made great progress in sounding out words and comprehending texts. We are now trying to get more confident with reading tricky syllables and words (e.g. ce-che, ci-chi, ge-ghe, gi-ghi, c’è/ci sono).

In our measurement strand, we are focusing on length, height and capacity. The children have enjoyed role-playing the Italian version of ‘Goldilocks and the three bears’ (Ricciolidoro e i tre orsi) whilst identifying and naming in Italian which bowls held more or less, which chair was taller, and which bed was longer or shorter. We also had a lot of fun at pouring water in different containers to find out which one could hold more. Sometimes our predictions were right but other times our experiment findings surprised us. So, we have learned that we cannot always trust our eyes and measuring is usually the safest choice!

Unfortunately, the time has come for Mery - one of our Italian assistants – to go back to school in Italy. In the last few months, Mery has built a great rapport with all the students and we will miss her dearly. Cara Mery, grazie mille e buona fortuna!

Today, the students participated in our yearly Walkathon. This year, we walked to Weston Park and enjoyed a sausage sizzle in the sun. It was a great day to end our term. We hope you all have a safe and happy spring holiday.

BUONE VACANZE A TUTTI!

dalle maestre Veitch, Grujic, Medicott, Burrough e Federica
Well another term is fast coming to an end and we are all looking forward to the holiday break. Our students enjoyed having many parents and grandparents visit us during our Learning Journey and were keen to share their learning. The huckaback stitching was particularly popular, with some parents wanting to try it out for themselves.

Last week’s camp at Birrigai for the year 4s was amazing. We enjoyed lovely weather and the students had a fantastic time learning to make campfires and damper. They also participated in team challenges and had to work closely together to negotiate an obstacle course. Other activities were Glider Possum, Flying Fox and Vertical Playpen all of which took the students out of their comfort zone and challenged them. Students also had great fun exploring the open space and playing on the large rocks and in the gully surrounded by many kangaroos. Our Trivia Night run by maestra Veitch was a highlight and full of laughs. Below are some comments from our class about camp.

“I really enjoyed the trivia night especially when playing cubby bunny and Charlie broke the record with nine marshmallows in his mouth. I also liked the group dancing.”

“Birrigai is AWESOME!!!! The flying fox was the best and the food delicious.”

“I really liked Birrigai. They had a variety of challenges and activities that puzzled us and took us out of our comfort zone.”

This week also coincided with several of our students departing for the biannual Community Trip to Italy. As part of the trip, our students will take part in a week-long visit to a primary school in the small town of Scanzorosciate in the province of Bergamo. Students will participate in mainstream Italian classes and they will be hosted by an Italian family while being immersed in an authentic village community at the foothills of the Alps. Parents and carers who are accompanying the students will also be involved in several activities such as wine-tasting, visiting the Old City of Bergamo (Cittá’ Alta) and meeting their host family. Maestra Brissoni who will be travelling to Bergamo as well with her family has been organising the event since last year liaising with the Italian primary school and setting up the billeting process. We are looking forward to hearing all about their adventures when they return next term!

Maestra Brissoni and maestra Bomball

The vineyards around Scanzorosciate where the famous Moscato wine is produced.
In English class we have been learning about metaphors and similes. Our aim is to use these in our creative writing to add more description. We write creatively once a week during Writer’s workshop where students are able to write freely using all their ideas, in their chosen genre. Many students have written quite moving pieces related to our inquiry unit. They have demonstrated their understanding of the hardships involved in migrating to a foreign country and not being able to speak the language.

In maths, we are just finishing off our topics that will support our next investigation. Students will apply their knowledge to submit a design for a safari park showing the total mass of the animals in each enclosure, how much food they receive each week and the amount of time the animal carers will spend with the animals during feeding time. Students are very excited to start their investigations!

In Italian class we have been reflecting on the importance of developing strategies to enhance student self-assessment. One of these strategies is setting learning targets or goals. The setting of learning targets, or goal-setting, is an intrinsic part of the nature of self-assessment. Student self-assessment begins with setting learning targets, proceeds through the production of work that aims to achieve those targets, to the assessment of the work to see if it does in fact meet the targets and then, finally, to the setting of new targets or revising ones that were not achieved.

The process looks like this:

1. Set personal learning targets
2. Work towards achieving the targets
3. Evaluate progress

Ideally, students will increasingly assume responsibility for the setting of their learning targets and also for the monitoring or tracking of those targets.

Another strategy students have been exploring is designing and then responding to reflective questions and prompts. Some of the questions are:

- What have you learned?
- What did you find easy about learning to ...?
- How would you do things differently next time?
- What did you find difficult while you were learning to...?

We want to wish all students and families a wonderful term break and we look forward to seeing everyone back in term 4!

Buone vacanze!

maestra Brissoni, maestra Cansdell e maestra Meri
Sample of goal setting sheet

WANTED! SEWERS for end of year Arts Showcase!

In preparation for our Bollywood performance at the Arts Showcase, I would be grateful for any parents/carers who would be able to sew a few basic Indian looking tunics (pants and top) for our male performers.

If you are handy with a needle and/or sewing machine, please send me an email and I will arrange to meet with you to nut out possibilities.

Grazie, Lea Chapuis

Preschool Fundraiser
Family Photo Day
Sunday 26th October 2014

Come and participate in a fun Family photo session and raise funds for Yarralumla Preschool.

Cost is $20 for 15min session and you receive a free 10x13” enlargement for participating.

Pick up your free photos and view your other photos on Tuesday 11th or Wednesday 12th November from 2.30-3.30pm at the preschool

The full package is $189 includes 4 poses printed in a range of different sizes and a cd of all shots (only available with full package, not sold separately). Or you can purchase part packages from $35.

Contact Natalie Kingston 0412 750 732 to secure your session. ($20 is payable at time of booking your sessions, Credit Card Facilities available)

Mathletics Awards
21 September (Week 9) – Week 9 Term 3

Gold Awards
Dylan N 2280 18 Sept

Silver Awards
Lucy P 1430 21 Sept
Iman M 1090 15 Sept
Samara M 1078 16 Sept

Bronze Awards
Riley W 1644 17 Sept
Ashton C 1590 18 Sept
Jack W 1164 18 Sept
Erik N 1160 17 Sept
Ethan S 1138 15 Sept
Isabella H 1090 20 Sept
Lillian W 1090 21 Sept
Elijah E 1080 20 Sept
Thor B 1080 20 Sept
Freyja B 1080 20 Sept
Sam F 1078 18 Sept
Marcus K 1070 21 Sept
Elizabeth F 1050 21 Sept
James B 1030 17 Sept
Thomas F 1020 15 Sept
Lane A 1010 17 Sept

This week’s gold certificate was earned by a kindergarten student. What a fantastic effort! All certificates will be distributed in class.

Sarah Veitch
Mathletics Coordinator

WANTED

Lots and lots of SCREW CAP TOPS for Art Project, please.

Buckets for screw cap tops collection will be placed at Front Office and maestra Stewart’s classroom in Gambarri.
The holidays are just around the corner, and Aeoncademy’s specialist Visual Arts and Dramatic Adventures are all on offer. In Creative Catalyst we are offering advanced visual arts workshops designed for children 7-16 years old, with extension programs available for advanced projects and artists. Creative Catalyst Visual Arts carries programs designed by local artist Teffany Thiedeman, and continues to provide a fantastic multi-age learning experience to all comers. We also have mentoring opportunities available for children and teenagers coming into their own in the visual art sphere. In Vala Dramatic Adventures we continue with our historical, mythological, fantastical and futuristic interactive stories, with our M-Group extension program opening up once more for writing mentorship opportunities for older participants. Sparks Creative Play, our program designed for 4-6 year olds, is also running these holidays, and continues to provide participants with a tailored experience of our visual arts and dramatic adventure programs.

Andrew Yallop

School holidays at the Arboretum
The National Arboretum Canberra will host a series of exciting activities throughout the ACT and NSW school holidays (Saturday 20 September to Sunday 12 October 2014) to allow visitors from interstate as well as the locals to enjoy the Arboretum during their break. School holiday activities include Clydesdale horse-drawn carriage rides, kite making, bonsai workshops and guided walks for the kids.

There will also be a State Emergency Services storm awareness open weekend and a free creative corner at the Village Centre open every day between 10 am and 3 pm throughout the school holidays. There will be something for everyone at the Arboretum these school holidays. The full program of events is available at the National Arboretum Canberra website or by calling Canberra Connect on 13 22 81.

Creating Gardens for Now and the Future
ACTSmart Programs within the Environment and Planning Directorate is partnering with the Australian National Plant Society (ANPS) to deliver a sustainable gardens workshop.

Presented by the ANPS Canberra, the workshop topic is “Creating Gardens for Now and the Future”. Workshop participants will learn how new and existing gardens can be more sustainable through landscape design, plant selection, water retention strategies and the use of renewable materials. See the latest plant releases and talk to the breeders. Find out how plants can be used to insulate your house.

Venue: Australian National Botanic Gardens
Date:  9:00am – 1:00pm Saturday 27 September 2014
Cost:  $35.00 for ACT Government employees and ANPS members.  $45 full price.

To access a full description of this workshop and to register visit https://register.eventarc.com/25170/sustainable-gardens-workshop