



YARRALUMLA PRIMARY SCHOOL
24 Loftus Street, Yarralumla ACT 2600
Phone: 6142 3250
Email: info@yarralumlaps.act.edu.au
Website: www.yarralumlaps.act.edu.au



11 November 2021 NEWSLETTER NO. 14

DATES TO REMEMBER

Mon 1 Nov – Fri 12 Nov	Kindergarten Base Testing
Thursday 11 November	Remembrance Day
Friday 17 December	Last Day of Term 4
Monday 31 January 2022	First Day of Term 1 Kindergarten & New Students
Tuesday 1 February	First Day of Term 1 Continuing Students

Our Vision

Insieme creiamo studenti per tutta la vita - Together we create lifelong learners

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you

On behalf of the staff at YPS I would like to thank all the parents and carers for their patience and care in the afternoons during pick up. It is an extremely difficult task to ensure all 460 students get safely into a car, to a parent, afterschool care or tennis lessons. Parents and carers have done a wonderful job of showing patience in the line and waiting for families that might be taking a little longer to ensure their young child is safely secured in the vehicle. As a school we have had great success with the safety of our students. Thank you everyone for your efforts.

Semester 2 Reporting

Our teachers are currently in the process of writing students reports for semester 2. This semester has been unique with a period of online learning mixed in with learning at school. Teachers will be using assessments from across the whole semester and moderating with all year level classes when forming a grade. Reports will be sent home to families on Friday of week 9 with an opportunity for parent teacher interviews if required in weeks 10 and 11.

Leaving the School in 2022

If your family is intending on leaving YPS at the end of the year please contact the front office so the school can make the appropriate arrangements.

Parent Requests – Classes 2022

Our classroom teachers will start forming classes for 2022 next week. When forming classes our teachers work closely to consider multiple factors to ensure each class across the year level has a balance of social and emotional, work habits, EALD, behaviour management and academic achievement. This process ensures there is an even distribution of abilities in all classes. We ask the students to share with their teacher five people who they work well with within the classroom space and would enjoy having in their class the following year. As a parent if you have any educational requests regarding the placement of your child in a class at YPS in 2022 please email debra.sayers@ed.act.edu.au

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR	P&C	PRINCIPAL
Katrina Sanders (Board Chair) Phone: 0413 888 944 Email: katrinasanders1@gmail.com	Sophie Chadwick (President) Email: president@ypspandc.com	Rohan Evans (Principal) Phone: 6142 3250 Email: Rohan.Evans@ed.act.edu.au

Outside Providers

As part of the next phase of easing of restrictions, community use of school facilities commenced from Monday, **8 November** to allow for safe planning and adequate cleaning staff to be in place. To ensure the continued safety and wellbeing of the school community, community use of school facilities will be considered at a reduced capacity, outside of school hours only and where cleaning capacity exists. For a hirer to resume access to a school facility they must comply with the ACT Health directions demonstrated through a COVID-19 Safety Plan, including physical distancing and density numbers, use of masks (when not undertaking vigorous exercise), use of the check in CBR app, and hygiene requirements. This week we also welcomed back our private music teachers including Mojo and Rose.

Parent Satisfaction Surveys

To date we have had 67 parents complete the 2021 Satisfaction Survey. We would love to increase this number to 100 to ensure we receive a response from at least one third of our parents. Your responses will help the school to identify what it does well and how it can improve. The data will also be used to underpin school improvement practices and inform government priorities. It may also be used in research projects and longitudinal studies aimed at improving the quality of education services in the ACT. Please check your emails for the link to the survey which closes in a weeks' time.

Keep Smiling,

Rohan Evans | Principal

Leaving Yarralumla?

We are currently organising classes for 2022 and require families to indicate if they will **not** be continuing at Yarralumla School. A response is **not** required if your child is currently in Year 6 and will be going to high school in 2022.

Leaving Yarralumla Primary School P-Yr 5 only:

If your child/ren (not Year 6) **will NOT be returning to Yarralumla School in 2022** could you please complete the form below and return it to the Front Office ASAP.

Child's Name: _____ Class: _____

Child's Name: _____ Class: _____

Child's Name: _____ Class: _____

The child/ren will be attending:

- ☐ another Government school in the ACT ☐ a Non-Government school in the ACT
☐ an Interstate school ☐ an Overseas school

Welcome back to preschool!

Children are finally back filling the playground with laughter and play.... All the favourite activities were out and ready for the children - and our new zebra crossing was a great way to teach some important road rules.

Our poor preschool lizard was wondering where all the peace and quiet went



Preschool provides opportunities all day for some wonderful authentic reading, writing and numeracy experiences. This term in our Preschool Mini-Market we have children using money, writing shopping lists, selling coffee and cake, reading and writing signs - and most importantly showing up ready to spend some serious money.



Year One Physical Sciences Investigations

During our investigations into everyday phenomena, we have observed the effects of blocking light with opaque items.

We created puppets using cardboard and paddle pop sticks and used them to experiment with light and shadow.

We have noticed that shadows become bigger if the source of light – such as a torch – gets closer to the puppet. This can make it look quite 'spooky'... Something to keep in mind for our next Halloween party. 😊







Vote for us in the 2021 Canberra's Choice Award

Voting closes 5pm Wed 17 Nov... and only takes a minute at [2021 Volunteering Awards Canberra's Choice Award Form - VolunteeringACT](#)

Our Yarralumla Montessori Parents Association (YMPA) is very proud and excited to be nominated in the Team category in the 2021 ACT Volunteering Awards. Voting has opened for the Canberra's Choice Award and members of the public can vote as often as they'd like on who should be formally recognised at the 2021 event.

It's a wonderful opportunity for our community to acknowledge the importance of what parents collectively achieve through volunteering in support of their child(ren)s public education. Here at Yarralumla we have a long-standing and positive relationship between volunteers and our Montessori School which will celebrate 40years of operation in 2022. Daily volunteering, coordinated through YMPA Rosters, is essential to the success of our specialised program operating in a Public School. Families commit to regular volunteering throughout the three year program, or longer if multiple children attend.

Congratulations to our parent volunteers past and present. We wish YMPA all the best with their nomination.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING (PBL)

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) - a revisit for our Community

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) is a framework that schools use to get everyone – students, staff, families and the school community - on the same page to create a safe and supportive learning environment for all students. At Yarralumla we follow our STAR values of Safe, Team player, Active Learner and Respect.

PBL is an international evidence-based whole school process which can be implemented in any school setting to support students from pre-school through to Year 12.

What does PBL involve?

To start, schools create clear expectations and rules that use positive language, for example "walk" instead of "don't run". This is done for all areas across the school and all people involved in the school community. Students and families are involved in this decision-making process.

Once everyone has agreed to the expectations, a system is designed to acknowledge students for following the expectations. Students at Yarralumla earn recognition at 50, 100, 200, and 300 eStars.

This clearly defined set of expected behaviours (expectations and rules) is backed up by teaching procedures and procedures for acknowledging expected behaviours as well as responding to other behaviours. PBL uses an educative approach so there is the opportunity for students to get back on track.

Schools are supported in implementing the PBL by an external PBL Coach and Senior Psychologist from the Education Directorate.

What are the benefits of PBL?

When PBL is implemented well, teachers and students have more time to focus on relationships and classroom instruction. Students and staff benefit from:

- increased time focused on instruction
- improved social-emotional wellbeing
- positive and respectful relationships among students and staff
- reduced inappropriate behaviour
- better support for teachers to teach, model and respond effectively to student needs
- a predictable learning environment where staff and students know what is expected.

PBL establishes a continuum of support that helps students with diverse academic and social needs. The continuum is aligned with Trauma and Neuroscience Informed Education practices. All students receive supports that are for everyone, some students need additional support with specifically designed strategies and a few students need intensive wrap-around support to help them to engage at school. At Yarralumla, all incidents are recorded on our system so that we can gather data about places and times where incidents occur in order to find solutions to negative situations. When an incident is recorded, an alert is sent to the Deputy who goes through the incidents and works with teachers to look for patterns and find solutions. EStars (positive incidents) earn house points towards the students house so the competition is fierce for end of year honours.

What is the evidence base for PBL?

PBL has a longitudinal research base in achieving positive outcomes for students and school (and system) improvement. Specific outcomes are:

- enhanced school climate
- increased student engagement in learning with improved learning outcomes
- lower rates of minor and major inappropriate behaviours
- increased attendance rates
- greater connection with key stakeholders (students, staff and community).

PBL success for Term 4

Positive incidents this term number 1640 with minor negative incidents at 4 and major negative incidents at 2. During week 5 when all students were back on campus, the positive incidents were broken down into their categories as follows:

S: 1

T: 161

A: 216

R: 128

This is a fantastic result for 1 week.

One of the great things about PBL is that we teach the students what “TO” do rather than what “NOT” to do in a range of situations. Reminders of these positive behaviours are on signage around the school for the students to check in with.

If you have any questions, please contact your child’s teacher or send a question to debra.sayers@ed.act.edu.au.

Yours in positivity,
Deb Sayers on behalf of the PBL team.

REPORTING ABSENCES

If your child is going to be absent from school. Please send an email to class teacher or info@yarralumlaps.act.edu.au. Unexplained absences will receive a reminder message. If you receive this, please respond as soon as possible.

LOST PROPERTY

PLEASE check if some of it belongs at your home! We currently have a large number of named and unnamed school jumpers, jackets, hats and lunch boxes/drink bottles in our lost property. If your child is missing some items of school clothing or other possessions please let them know there is a basket outside the front office for them to check.

Please help us to reduce the amount of lost property we collect. Ensure all of your child's clothing and possessions are clearly marked with their name. Remember, writing fades with washing and second hand clothing needs renaming with your child's name.



Book Club LOOP

for Parents

LOOP is the Scholastic Book Club
Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for parents.
To order and pay for Scholastic Book Club by credit card visit:
www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP



Scholastic book club will be online only. There will be no hardcopies available. Please order and pay online through LOOP. No cash will be accepted at the school.

Have your say on better places to play!

Calling Canberra kids and parents! You can now have your say on the future of play spaces in the ACT.



The draft ACT Play Space Strategy sets the direction for the future of our play spaces to make sure they are happy, healthy, inclusive and sustainable.

Canberra has among the highest number of play spaces per capita of all Australian cities, with over 500 owned and managed by the ACT Government, and we want to make sure they keep getting better as our city changes and grows.

The ACT Government is also currently seeking feedback on a proposed new play space and recreation park for the inner north, to provide a wider range of outdoor recreation opportunities for residents of all ages and abilities. To learn more and provide feedback,

visit YourSay.

Both consultations close 14 December 2021.

Community News

BEGA VALLEY | BELCONNEN | CALWELL | COOMA | CORROBOREE
EURO COAST | GINNINDERRA GOULBURN-MULWAREE | GUNGAHLIN
JINDABYNE | LANYON | MURRUMBATEMAN | QUEANBEYAN
SOUTHERN TABLELANDS | TUGGERANONG | WESTON CREEK | WODEN



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SPORTS

Basketball – Netball
Soccer – Cricket

LOCATION

Australian National University (ANU)

20 –22 December 2021

&

19 –21 January 2022

Call 1300 914 368 or visit australiansportscamps.com.au to book or for more information.



Want \$500 to help you with school costs?



Saver Plus is a financial education program for families and individuals on a tight budget to develop life-long savings habits.

To join Saver Plus, you must:

- ✓ Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card **AND** an eligible Centrelink payment*
- ✓ Be studying yourself **OR** have a child in school (can be starting school next year)
- ✓ Have regular income from work (either yourself or your partner)*
- ✓ Be 18+ years old

*Many types of income and Centrelink payments are eligible

Here are some of the school costs the \$500 can be used for:



laptops & tablets



uniforms & shoes



books & supplies



sports fees & gear



lessons & activities



camps & excursion

For more information, please contact your local Saver Plus coordinator:



Kathleen Watson



CanberraSP@thesmithfamily.com.au



0448 730 305

DELIVERED BY



everyone's family

Find out more
at saverplus.org.au

Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ and delivered in partnership with local community organisations. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services.