



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



31 March 2022 NEWSLETTER NO. 5

DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday 7 April	School Photos
Friday 8 April	Last day of Term 1
Friday 15 April	Good Friday
Monday 25 April	ANZAC Day
Tuesday 26 April	First day of Term 2
Wednesday 4 May	Whole School Cross Country

Our Vision

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

Italian Program

YPS is currently in correspondence with Brunswick South Primary School in Melbourne to enhance our students written Italian proficiency by establishing writing opportunities through pen pals. Brunswick South Primary is an Italian bilingual school. We look forward to developing this relationship in the coming weeks and sharing our students writing via Facebook, Seesaw and the Newsletter. Our three students from the University of Bergamo have booked their flights to Australia and will be joining our classes mid-year. We will be asking our local families to host the three students during their stay in Australia. Francesca our Italian Teaching Assistant is currently in Italy and will re-join our Italian program in week 3 of Term 2.

Building Works

Our two new classrooms next to the hall are due for completion in the upcoming school holidays. The windows are due for removal this weekend including the canteen. The new classrooms will be used as building works continue around our school including the replacement of classroom windows. Year level classes will move into the new classrooms while their windows are being replaced. The Education Directorate has been supporting the school in employing removalists to move all furniture, teaching resources and student items. The school will notify the community when classes will be moving during term 2. The marquee will remain at the front of the school for the vacation care program run by Aeonacademy. Once the classrooms are completed the marquee will be removed.

Cross Country

YPS will be holding their school Cross Country carnival on Wednesday 4 May on the school grounds. Please continue to provide your child/ren with an opportunity to run during the upcoming school holidays in preparation for the carnival. Students will be practicing their running during Physical Education lessons.

Assembly

Congratulations to all our Merit Certificate recipients and STAR Award winners from our week 8 assembly hosted by Year 5/6. Our STAR awards continue to be sponsored by Adrian from Southern Property in 2022. Our final assembly of the term will be held next week in the hall. The assembly will be hosted by Year 1. Unfortunately parents are still unable to attend due to COVID restrictions.

Parents Satisfaction Survey

This fortnight we review the Parent Satisfaction Survey Results from 2021. Thank you to the 78 parents that completed the survey last year. 84.21% of surveys were completed by the mother, 7.89% by the father and 7.89% by both parents. This data is used to inform our 2022 Action Plan and set strategic directives for 2022. The school

will survey the parent community at the start of term 2 to take a deep dive into some of the questions where the school has only had small improvements and are still below the ACT average. The school will be seeking future strategies to assist in improving these areas over the next six months.

The percentages below indicate the number of families who agree or strongly agree with the statement. A response of neither agree or disagree are not counted.

Questions	2020 Results		2021 Results	
	All Schools	YPS	All Schools	YPS
Teachers at this school believe that every student can be a success	88.5%	88.4%	80%	76.8%
Teachers give useful feedback	79.2%	69%	78.1%	73%
Staff at this school treat students with respect	83.6%	77.9%	90.2%	90.1%
This school is well maintained	87.3%	41.9%	84.5%	71.1%
My child feels safe at this school	89.5%	90.7%	90.3%	93.4%
Student behaviour is well managed at this school	72.6%	59.3%	74.2%	57.9%
The school is active in seeking parents opinions and ideas for making important decisions	72.9%	59.3%	61%	46.1%
My child is making good progress at this school	82.5%	70.9%	81%	81.6%
The achievements of students are celebrated at my child's school	85.7%	83.7%	85.6%	92.1%
Community partnerships are valued at this school	72.4%	61.6%	69.7%	57.9%
Diversity is recognised and celebrated at this school	86%	83.7%	83.2%	80.3%
I am satisfied this school has high expectations in all that it does	78.9%	50%	77. %	60.5%
I am satisfied with the availability of health food and drink at this school	63.9%	47.7%	62. %	39.5%

AFL Clinics

Students in Year K-6 have been participating in AFL clinics as part of their Physical Education lessons in the last week. The clinics have been run by Eastlake Football Club.

Term 2 Calendar

YPS is currently working with one of its wonderful parents to create a Term 2 calendar for our community. As Covid restrictions are lifting across all ACT schools we are now able to offer more programs across the school. The Whole School Calendar will be sent home to families in week 10.

Keep Smiling,

Rohan Evans | Principal



STAR AWARD

Awarded to

Scarlett S

March 2022



Scarlett is so very well deserving of this STAR award. On a daily basis, she demonstrates kindness, respect and care for her classmates and teachers. She actively participates in all aspects of her learning - always striving to improve. Through her Year 6 Leadership position of Sustainability Leader, Scarlett models being a team player and makes everyone around her feel comfortable with her wicked sense of humour. Congratulations on this very well-deserved award Scarlett!



STAR AWARD

Awarded to

Indiana S

March 2022



Indiana is a thoughtful, caring and motivated member of our class. She is always ready to lend a helping hand to her teachers and classmates. Indiana eagerly participates in all school tasks and perseveres when these are challenging. She takes roles within the school with great responsibility including band, being an ICT Leader and an inclusive friend. Indiana demonstrates each of the STAR values which are valued at Yarralumla. Congratulations on being a fantastic role model, Indiana!

PBL (Positive Behaviour for Learning)

We continue to teach our students what TO do on the playground and in the classrooms rather than what NOT to do. Following some issues on the playground this week I want to let you know how the staff at Yarralumla deal with tricky situations.

If there is a minor or a major incident the following occurs

- 1) Teachers unpack what happened with students concerned. If necessary, they have a teaching partner take their class for ten minutes so they can work through this. A restorative conference approach is taken here. <https://inclusive-solutions.com/restorative-conferencing/> If this has been the case, the incident is written up on our system and everyone is ready to move on.
- 2) If it is an incident involving physical aggression for example, the incident is referred to a Deputy.
- 3) The aggressor spends some time (varying according to severity and repetitiveness) outside the Deputy office where they reflect and spend time talking through their response and various choices they could have made.
- 4) When the "victim/s" are ready, a restorative conference is conducted by the Deputy.

S = Safe. We teach our students how to be safe in the playground. For example: Reminders are given when soccer is being played to keep hands and feet to ourselves. There have been occasions when we give students a rest from playing soccer until all players can agree to the rules being played by

T = Team player. We teach our students to work as a team when working out the rules to a game. Will the soccer goalie be permitted to be a run back goalie? How will disputes be resolved if there is a disagreement on whether a penalty should be allowed? If there are ongoing issues with a particular type of game, teachers provide reminders before sending students out to play.

A = Active Learner. We ask students to reflect on what they have learnt. To continue with the soccer example, we ask – how did the solution work today? What else could you try? Can you think of a solution?

R = Respectful. We teach our students to play respectfully on the playground by setting games up in PE and Sport lessons to model appropriate behaviours. Teachers demonstrate how to respond to challenging situations like when someone is out in cricket and yet did not see it that way. We suggest ways that students could protest a decision whilst taking the emotion out of the moment

Data from PBL

eSTARS: so far in March we have had 1468 eSTARS awarded. There have been 4 students reach the milestone of 50 with ONE student the 100 milestone so far this month.

SAFE = 205

TEAM PLAYER = 286

ACTIVE LEARNER = 551

RESPECTFUL = 426

Minor Negative Incidents = 46 Many of these involved students using unkind words to other students in playground areas of the school and are evenly spread from our youngest students to our senior students. Teachers deal with these incidents on the spot and conduct restorative conferences. The other big contributor to this number is non-compliance in which a student is refusing to follow instructions given by a teacher. Most of these situations have occurred during play times where a student is behaving in an unsafe way.

Major Negative Incidents = 5 (1 in the classroom and 4 in playground areas). Four of these incidents involved physical aggression and one was for threatening behaviour.

As always, I am happy to discuss our processes in further detail and can be contacted on debra.sayers@ed.act.edu.au

I will provide additional information in the next newsletter.

Keep being STARS,
Deb Sayers
Deputy Principal

YEAR 1

Year One have been working hard on producing good quality writing and linking it with pictures they have made.



In Science we have been exploring a variety of habitats to find out how these habitats meet animals' needs. As biologists do, we have observed small habitats, such as gardens, and we have identified sources of food and shelters for the insects that live.

To learn about Italian phonics patterns, we have been listening carefully to common words and we have worked on identifying their initial letters and syllables. We have also had a go at spelling words starting with vowels.



We have been looking at building our knowledge of numbers through daily number talks.

Thursday 7 April 2022



Photo envelopes were handed out on Thursday 24 March.

Please note you do not need to return envelopes back to the school all orders are done online.

If you need a sibling order form or additional order form they are available for collection at the Front Office, you can send your child to collect the forms from the Front Office or you can ring the Front

Office when you arrive at the school and someone will come out with the form. Please hand the sibling order form to the photographer on photoday to ensure a photo is taken.

Don't forget to report positive rapid antigen test results to ACT Health

Thank you to all those parents and carers who have been following the health advice and reporting to schools when their child has attended school during their infectious period for COVID-19.

Don't forget!

You must report your positive RAT



Stay COVID Smart
Go to [covid19.act.gov.au](https://www.covid19.act.gov.au)

Please be reminded that all positive rapid antigen test result must also be reported to ACT Health via the online form at www.covid19.act.gov.au/RAT-positive

This advice applies to everyone in our community. REMEMBER:

If you can't complete the form or you're having trouble, you can call 5124 6500 between 8am and 6pm and ACT Health will help you.

Reporting your positive result is important. It helps us track the spread of COVID-19 in the ACT and it means we can help you access support you may need.

More information on what to do if your child tests positive is available on our page www.covid19.act.gov.au/covid-positive.



Please keep your child at home if they are unwell and get them tested if they have any of the following symptoms.

COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

Main Symptoms of COVID-19:

- Fever or chills, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, loss of smell or taste, runny or blocked nose

Less common Symptoms:

- Muscle pain, joint pain, diarrhoea, nausea, headache, vomiting, loss of appetite, fatigue, unexplained chest pain, conjunctivitis (eye infection)

ACT Health updated factsheet: Testing children for COVID-19 using rapid antigen test: Children and COVID-19 advised that COVID-19 testing is not recommended if your child has recovered from COVID-19 in the past 8 weeks.

2023 ONLINE ENROLMENT

2023 Online Enrolment - Is your child starting preschool or moving to high school next year? The online enrolment portal for 2023 will open on Tuesday April 26th. Families lodging enrolment applications by June 3rd will receive an offer from July 25th for the following year. Applications made after June 4th will receive an offer later in the year.

Information about the enrolment assessment criteria and priority enrolment areas can be found at https://www.education.act.gov.au/school_education/enrolling_in_an_act_public_school. If you would like any advice or require any assistance to lodge an enrolment application please contact Teresa Smith (Enrolments Officer) on 6142 3250.

CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL



School Cross Country Carnival will be held on Wednesday 4 May. Yarralumla students are encouraged to wear their house colours for this whole school event. Please ensure your child has suitable footwear and clothing for this event and bring a water filled bottle.

McKell – Red

Menzies – Blue

Slim – Yellow

Yarralumla has three student teachers from the University of Bergamo coming in June 2022 and we are looking for families to host them during their internship!

Dear Parents and Carers

We are in the very fortunate position of hosting three student teachers from the University of Bergamo this year! In the past, prior to the global pandemic COVID-19, Yarralumla Primary School hosted student teachers from the University of Bergamo for a number of years.

This is an enriching and exciting experience for the visiting student teachers, Yarralumla teachers, and of course, our students and their families! They bring to our school energy, vitality, new ideas and Italian pedagogy.

I am writing this notice to call for expressions of interest from our school families interested in hosting one of these three student teachers. If you are in a position to accommodate a student with their own bedroom and ensuite, live close to school so the student teachers can walk to school, or if not, are in a position to drop them off and pick them up each day from school, we are very interested in hearing from you.

Our first student teacher, Silvia Lotta, is planning to arrive in Canberra on 16 June 2022 and returning to Italy between 10-15 September 2022.

Aurora Zanchi and Elisa Pellicoli will be arriving in Canberra on 27th of June at 21.30. The student teachers will be at Yarralumla Primary School for approximately ten weeks. Aurora and Elisa have sent through a brief biographies of who they are and an accompanying photo.

If you are interested in hosting one of these young teachers and would like more information regarding this opportunity please contact me via email at: Lynden.Lawton@ed.act.edu.au

I look forward to hearing from you!

Maestra Lynden

A reminder about parents and visitors on school grounds

A reminder parents and carers are encouraged to drop children off without entering the school grounds. Some children may require some assistance, and this will be supported. Riding and walking to school where possible is encouraged to ease the congestion in the car park.

- Each year level has a designated dropoff and pickup location
- Older siblings are to meet their parents at the meeting point for the youngest child in the family
- No parents/carers/visitors on school playgrounds or in classrooms unless organised prior with classroom teacher/s
- Masks need to be worn inside school buildings at all times

Please contact the front office on: 02 6142 3250 or via email info@yarralumlaps.act.edu.au if you need to:

- drop items off for your child
- collect your child during the school day
- collect items such as uniform orders or learning resources
- collect a child who is unwell

Staff will bring children or items to you while you wait in your car.

Can you guess what the most littered item in the world is? Believe it or not, it is the cigarette butt!

Here are the facts!

1. **Cigarettes are the most littered item in the world. There are even more cigarettes than plastic bottles.**
2. **Cigarette butts are filled with poisons. Butts are there to collect the poisons.**
3. **The poisons leak out into our oceans killing fish, corals and a lot more.**
4. **Cigarette butts thrown onto the ground are washed into our drains which flow into lakes and rivers and finally into the seas and oceans.**
5. **Cigarette butts often cause fires in our bush when they are thrown away in the grass or near trees.**

DO NOT LITTER!

BUTTS BELONG IN THE BIN!

By the YPS Sustainability leaders: Emily, Olivia, Ruben, Scarlett, Sienna



Community News

School holiday entertainment at Libraries ACT

Rediscover your local library these school holidays. From making solar ovens and iconic Canberra bus stops, to mind boggling Questacon displays, there is plenty of free holiday entertainment at a library near you. Some events and sessions include:

- Woden Library Open Day – 20 April 2022
- Popcorn & PJs: Grab your pillow and some snacks and join us for kids' movies at the Woden and Dickson Library.
- Paper Pilots: Learn how to make paper planes designed by the Australian Air Force (sessions for various skill levels, ages 6 to 10+).
- Vote 4 Me – Story Time & Craft: Enjoy a story, craft and fun election role play with author Krys Saclier.
- Pom Pom Planets: Learn about space, planets and our solar system while creating your own pom pom planets (ages 5 to 8).
- Special holiday Story Times (ages 3 to 5) and Giggle & Wiggles (ages 0 to 2)
- There's plenty for big kids too, with tours of our new Woden tech spaces, yoga and workshops for parents.

For the full program of activities, dates, locations and to register for a session, visit the [Libraries ACT website](#).

Attachments:

- [Brochure – Free holiday entertainment at libraries ACT \(507 kb PDF\)](#)

Contact [Libraries ACT website](#) on 02 620 59000.

Death Cap mushroom public health warning – information for staff, students and families

ACT Health has issued another public health warning about the dangers of Death Cap mushrooms, which are growing across the ACT. It has asked for schools to help raise awareness of this important public health issue. The key message is: Do not to touch, pick or eat any wild mushrooms.

The attached newsletter text provides information about Death Cap mushrooms, what to do if you have eaten one, and how report or dispose of them if you find them growing at your home. A Death Cap mushroom warning letter with additional information for school representatives is also attached.

Attachments:

- [Newsletter text – Death Cap mushrooms \(46 kb Word\)](#)
- [Death Cap mushroom warning letter for school representatives \(155 kb PDF\)](#)
- [Electronic flyers and posters about Death Cap mushrooms](#)

Contact Health Protection Service on 02 5124 9700 or hps@act.gov.au.

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS™



The next Holiday Happenings edition is now available online.

To see the *Programs, Activities & Events* happening these holidays go to:

www.holidayhappenings.com.au/online-booklet



SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMP

UPCOMING CAMPS

11-13 April 2022

9am - 12pm Ages 5-9 years	1pm - 4pm Ages 10-13 years
-------------------------------------	--------------------------------------

Belconnen Basketball Stadium

19-21 April 2022

9am - 12pm Ages 5-9 years	1pm - 4pm Ages 10-13 years
-------------------------------------	--------------------------------------

Tuggeranong Southern Cross Stadium

Further details about cost, requirements and registration at www.basketballact.com.au

Play football with Canberra Croatia FC



Community Leagues - Boys or Girls

Training at Yarralumla oval

Miniroos under 6 - under 9
Miniroos under 10 - under 11

ActewAGL Juniors under 12 - under 18

Just a reminder that team nomination due dates for the community competitions is rapidly approaching!

If you don't register soon there won't be a team!!

Have you registered?

Log onto www.playfootball.com.au and register for the 2022 Season
Registration packages are now open for all age groups from miniroos to junior leagues and senior leagues



Time to register is running out

Require further information email: info@canberracroatia.com.au