



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



9 February 2023 NEWSLETTER NO. 1

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday 13 February	Parent Information Night
Friday 17 February	Preschool Family Picnic 5pm-6.30pm
Friday 24 February	P&C BBQ
Tuesday 28 February	Preschool Duncan Smith Wombats
Thursday 2 March	Preschool Duncan Smith Bilbies
Friday 10 March	Swimming Carnival Year 2-6 Kindergarten Water activities
Monday 13 March	Canberra Day
Wed 15 -17 March	Year 5/6 Cooba Camp

Our Vision

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome

A warm welcome to all our families and community for the start of another school year. This year we welcome 28 new families to our preschool program, 13 new families to our Montessori 3 year old program and 9 families to our primary school. We also welcome the following new staff: Elspeth and Louise in Kindergarten, John in Year 2, Ben in Year 3/4, Larissa and Angela in Year 5/6 and Mandy Lee to our Executive Team. We are extremely excited to have all our students and families return safely to the school ready for another exciting year of learning.

We are looking forward to our Parent Information evening to be held at YPS on Monday 13 February 4:30-5:00 where classroom teachers will share information about the year ahead. All sessions will be recorded and placed in google classrooms for families to watch at a more convenient time if they are unable to attend. Students have settled well into the classrooms and we are extremely thankful for the work of Helen DelGuzzo who designed a new transition process for the start of the 2023 which has ensured a great start to the year. Our thoughts are with our Turkish families who attend YPS who have family affected by the recent earth quake in Turkey.

Italian Program

This year we see Larissa in Year 5/6 and Louise in Kindergarten join our Italian teaching team. Maestra Mimma will return to the school once a month to work with our year 3/4 students in the area of Italian dance. We are excited to announce that six Italian primary school students from the university of Bergamo will join us from June to September to develop their teaching skills in our bilingual classrooms. It will also be a wonderful opportunity for YPS families to host the students during their stay. Overseas travel has again opened up for ACT schools and we are in the process of organising our Italian Community Trip in October for our families. Maestra Lawton will have more information in the coming weeks about the Community Trip and hosting the university students.

This week our Italian text books arrived for our students Year 1-6. Students will use these text books as part of their Italian lessons and will be able to take them home at the end of the year to revise their learning and share with family members.

Maestra Francesca is again supporting our teachers and students in the classroom to raise the level of Italian proficiency of our students.

The school is continuing to work with a number of native speaking applicants who would love to teach at our wonderful bilingual school.

This week I will be meeting with Dante Alleghri on continuing the work between the two organisations in supporting the Italian speaking students at YPS.

Communication

If you require any information about your child's progress or wellbeing please contact your classroom teacher via email. Firstname.lastname@ed.act.edu.au Both Lauren and myself are always available if you require any further assistance or have specific questions. The school uses a number of communication tools with the community to share messages. We understand that individual families have preferences on how they receive and access communication and the school takes these into consideration. At the start of each term a calendar is emailed home to all families with an outline of events that will occur during the term. These items can also be seen in the fortnightly newsletter and on our school website. Newsletters are emailed home fortnightly on the even school weeks. We use our electronic sign at the front of the school to remind the community of upcoming events. The school uses its Facebook page to celebrate and remind families of upcoming events. Year level specific notes and whole school notes are emailed home to families. The front office uses the sms system to remind families about due dates and events or if your child is absent from school. If your child is unwell at school you will receive a phone call from the front office staff. Students receive semester based reports and teachers are available for interview after both reports. Classroom teachers can be emailed to set up appointments or discuss specific learning or wellbeing needs. Communication is an area that the school will continue to focus on after receiving helpful feedback from the community from the Parent Satisfaction Surveys.

Building Works

During the recent school holidays building works were completed on our preschool bathroom, the small group space and Year 3/4 Blu. We look forward to sharing photos of the new spaces on our Facebook page. During the upcoming April school holidays and into the start of term 2 the windows in the corridor leading to the hall and the hall windows will be replaced. The Education Directorate, YPS and Aeonacademy are currently meeting fortnightly to arrange a suitable relocation during this period of time.

Assembly

Our whole school assemblies will continue fortnightly this year on Wednesday afternoon 2-3pm. This week our 5/6 students hosted the assembly. The students heard 11 amazing speeches from year 6 students who would like to be considered for the positions of school captains in 2023. Students and staff years 3-6 were given a voting slip to complete at the end of the assembly. All students in Year 6 will be given a leadership position for the year as they prepare for their transition to high school. Congratulations to all our merit award winners. Year 3/4 will host next week's whole school assembly.

Uniforms

With many of our students wearing new uniforms and receiving new lunch boxes and drink bottles over the summer break, please ensure all of your child's items are clearly labelled so that items can be returned to their classroom if lost around the school. Each year we see large numbers of unnamed items in lost property. Lost property I located outside the school library at the end of the main corridor.

P&C Welcome BBQ

The P&C will hold a welcome BBQ for the YPS community on the evening of Friday 24 February. Please lock the date into your calendar. More information about times will come from the P&C in the coming weeks

Keep smiling,

Rohan Evans | Principal

SCHOOL BOARD

Nominations are being sought for Yarralumla Primary School Board. An email with the nomination form attached was sent to families on Tuesday. Please contact the Front Office if you would like a hardcopy. The Yarralumla School Board provides opportunity for parents to participate in a formal mechanism for decision making at a school level. Membership of the School Board is for a two year period and Board meets twice each term.

P & C News

On behalf of the YPS P&C, a big welcome to all the new families who have joined YPS this year. YPS has always had a particularly strong sense of community, with an active parent body who are passionate about our unique bilingual school. I hope that you will enjoy your time belonging to this wonderful school. To returning families, like mine, I'm sure it feels great to be back at YPS for another year of learning, friendship and fun.

So – what does the P&C do?

The YPS Parents & Citizens' Association (P&C) is a group of parents, carers and friends of YPS who exist to support the school and its students. The P&C raises funds for many aspects of YPS life, including teaching resources, playground improvements and classroom infrastructure. The P&C also operates the in-school Uniform Shop and runs a number of social events throughout the year to enhance the YPS community spirit more broadly. In pre-COVID times, the P&C coordinated the biennial YPS *Festa Fantastica* which was as fantastic as it sounds! Bring on the next one!

P&C meetings

The P&C holds meetings twice a term at YPS. Since the pandemic, we have provided for virtual attendance too. P&C meetings are a great opportunity to meet other parents and carers, bring ideas forward, ask questions and collaborate on improving the learning environment at YPS. We are extremely fortunate that our Principal, Signor Evans, often attends P&C meetings. His presentations at P&C meetings provide a not-to-be-missed opportunity for parents to be comprehensively aware of the wide range of activities happening at YPS.

First P&C meeting – Monday 20 February 2023

Unsurprisingly, the pandemic was a difficult time for the P&C in terms of bringing our community together. With that in mind, the P&C would love to see as many of you as possible for the first P&C meeting for 2023 which will be on the evening of Monday 20 February. Further details, including a zoom link, will follow closer to the date.

YPS Welcome Barbecue – Friday 24 February 2023

The YPS P&C is hosting an informal twilight picnic and barbecue at YPS to get together and celebrate the start of the school year. We did not have this event for a few years during the pandemic, so please come along to help ensure that the 2023 Welcome Barbecue makes up for the lost years!

The P&C will be cooking a free sausage sizzle and all members of our community are welcome. Bring along a picnic blanket, chairs, nibbles and drinks so we can enjoy YPS's beautiful location together. The barbecue is a great chance to meet other families while the kids run wild as the sun goes down. Save the date!

The P&C will need some volunteers to help make this a great night. We will put out a roster closer to the day. Please consider signing up to help, even for a short time.

Hope to see you there!

Patience Neal
P&C President
president@ypspandc.com

Kindergarten Term

1 Week 2



Oh my goodness! What a fabulous start to the year! Kindergarten have already been busy learning Italian, counting, drawing, exploring the gardens, learning about our boundaries



We have started learning about the letter 'Ss'. We have been sound detectives and discovered the 's' sound in books, around the classroom and our outdoor areas! How many S things can you see?



italiano!

Questa settimana, stiamo imparando l'italiano parole come Benvenuto, Ciao, Buongiorno e mi chiamo!



We have been learning about how to be STARS -Safe, Team Players, Active Learners and Respect. We have been focusing on being Active Learners and Team Players in the classroom and the playground.

Year One Learning Snapshots

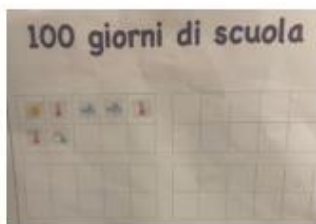
Term 1, weeks 1-2

In classes Corallo, Magenta and Rossa, we have been focusing on setting up predictable, safe and engaging learning environments. Check out our classrooms and some of what we have achieved so far!

- Establishing behaviour expectations around our school's STAR values (Safe, Team Player, Active Learner, Respect)
- Establishing routines and expectations in all subject areas
- What we do if we need help in and out of the classroom
- Where to find all our learning resources
- Who does the jobs in the classroom
- How we solve social problems
- Learning intentions and success criteria

We look forward to a happy and successful year with your children.

Helen Del Guzzo, Jessica McGarrity and Jacinta Hunter



YEAR 2 NEWS

Our Language Portraits

Year 2 students have created beautiful portraits that show languages spoken at home and at school, as well as their hobbies and interests.



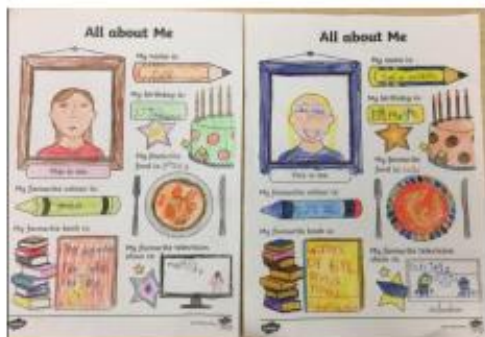
What is Your Mixture?

We have started our Chemical Sciences investigations by looking at *how* and *why* materials are mixed by professionals, such as chefs and scientists.

We have recorded our guesses on post-its and shared our thinking with the class.

Writing

Year 2 started to practise their handwriting, including sharing what they did during the school holidays.



All About Me

We had the opportunity to learn some key facts about each other while completing and presenting our All About me posters.

Year 3 - 4 Update

2023 is off to an amazing start in Years 3 and 4! In English we are focusing on narrative writing and already seeing some imaginative and exciting tales emerge.



In Maths we are using our knowledge of “cosa ti piace?” and “mi piace” to ask each other our favourite things in the world. A way to get to know one another and to start building diagrams.





Year 5/6 News



The 2023 year 5/6 classes are impressing their teachers and peers by being absolutely outstanding! They're respectful and hardworking!

Take a look at what they've been up to recently...



In Italian, we have been writing about ourselves in the activity "Tutto su di me". We're also learning to answer questions and write good complete sentences.

In English, we read the book 'The Dot' by Peter Reynolds and discussed ways we can have a growth mindset at school and in our lives. Students decorated their own dots and wrote down their own growth mindset goals.



Our year 6 students have also been working hard toward their future leadership roles. Many applications have been submitted and all our students are very excited to demonstrate how fantastic they are!

This Wednesday our potential school captains will present their speech at assembly...we can't wait to see who is going to represent our school this year!



In Science, we are learning about ecosystems, habitat and living things. Students have been answering some interesting questions in their book!

In HASS, students have started to learn about colonisation and Federation in Australia. We will be looking at the impact these events had on our history. The topic has raised some interesting questions amongst the students. We encourage families to discuss these topics with their children at home.

2023 CLASS NAMES & TEACHERS EMAIL ADDRESS

Class name/Year Level	Roll Group	Teacher Name and Room Number
Montessori	M3G, M4G, MKG M3P, M4P, MKP	Paola.Tonel@ed.act.edu.au Alaina.Baird@ed.act.edu.au
Preschool Bilbies and Wombats	PS Bilbies & PS Wombats	Kirsty.Jones@ed.act.edu.au
KINDERGARTEN – PURPLE THEME		
Kindergarten- Ametista	KA	Claire.Hansen@ed.act.edu.au
Kindergarten- Lilla Mon-Wed Thursday- Friday	KL	Louise.Smith@ed.act.edu.au Elspeth.Windeyer@ed.act.edu.au
YEAR 1 RED THEME		
Year 1/2 – Rossa English only	1/2R	Jacinta.Hunter@ed.act.edu.au
Year 1 - Magenta	1M	Helen.DelGuzzo@ed.act.edu.au
Year 1 - Corallo	1C	Jessica.McGarrrity@ed.act.edu.au
YEAR 2 GREEN THEME		
Year 2 Giada	2G	John.Bannon@ed.act.edu.au
Year 2 Smeraldo	2S	Federica.Maggioni@ed.act.edu.au
YEARS 3/4 BLUE THEME		
3/4 Indaco	3/4I	Lynden.Lawton@ed.act.edu.au
3/4 Celeste	3/4C	Stefano.Bloisi@ed.act.edu.au
3/4 Blu - English Only	3/4B	Rita.Rogers@ed.act.edu.au
3/4 Acqua	3/4A	Fiona.Agostino@ed.act.edu.au
3/4 Azzurra	3/4AZ	Benjamin.Tyacke@ed.act.edu.au
YEARS 5/6 YELLOW THEME		
5/6 Zafferano Mon-Wed Wed- Fri	56Z	Larissa.Shihoff@ed.act.edu.au Mandy.Lee@ed.act.edu.au
5/6 Ambra	56A	Brittney.Reynolds@ed.act.edu.au
5/6 Oro	56O	Fabiola.Tiberti@ed.act.edu.au
5/6 Giallo-English Only	56G	Angela.Southwell@ed.act.edu.au
Small Group Space Perla	SGP	Melissa.Medlicott@ed.act.edu.au

HELPFUL INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

Please remember we are an **Anaphylactic Friendly School**. Please do not bring **nut** products into the school, and be aware that "Nutella" spread and many muesli/health bars contain nuts.

Office Hours

Our Front Office is staffed from 8.30am – 3.30pm each day. Outside these hours, and if for any other reason the office is not staffed, an answering machine service will be operating and we will return your call as soon as possible.

Anything different happening at home

We encourage you to advise the class teacher of any changes in your child's home routine e.g. birth of a new sibling or a temporary or permanent change in family situation.

School Hours

School commences at 9.00am and concludes at 3.00pm with breaks for lunch break from 11.00 – 11.50am and recess 1.30 – 2.00pm. If your child is late they need to enter the school via the front office and sign-in.

Pick-up Arrangements

If your child is to be collected from school during the day or taken home early, advised their class teacher or front office via email. If your child is going to be picked up by someone you have not listed as a contact please advise the school either in writing, email or by phone. Your child will not be released if we are unable to verify this.

COVID-19 Symptoms

Please keep your child home if they are unwell. If a child comes to school displaying possible COVID-19 symptoms, parents will be called to come and take them home. The main symptoms of COVID-19 are fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, and loss of smell or taste. More information about [symptoms and getting tested](#) is available on the ACT Government [COVID-19 website](#).

Absences

If your child is absent from school due to sickness or other family obligations, it is a legal requirement that you email the class teacher or front office explaining their absence. A phone call to the front office on the day is also appreciated.

Infection and Illnesses

Should your child contract an infection/communicable illness, please notify the office staff. There are certain periods of exclusion that apply to some infections. Please do not hesitate to contact the front office should you need further information. Some highly contagious childhood illnesses have a mandatory

exclusion period – details of these can be located on the Directorate's website. For example, more common illness and infections such as vomiting and diarrhoea have an exclusion period of 24 hours after symptoms cease. Please do not hesitate to contact the school should you be unsure whether your child should be excluded from school for any reason.

Management of Medical Conditions/Medication

The school cannot be responsible for the general management of medical conditions.

In special circumstances, First Aid staff may be able to assist with the administration of medication. In these cases, departmental policy requires a comprehensive written authority from the student's parents **and** a written statement from the student's doctor authorising a member of the First Aid staff to administer the prescribed medication. Forms may be collected from the Front Office.

Where your child requires specific first aid treatment (that is, specific instructions provided by your child's doctor) in addition to standard first aid treatment, a Personalised First Aid Action Plan is to be completed by your child's doctor and returned to school (For example asthma and allergies).

Communication

Email is Yarralumla School's preferred method of communication. The school will email home the newsletter, excursion notification, all important correspondence including student reports. Stay connected and informed through our school newsletter which is emailed out fortnightly on a Thursday. Always ensure the school has your correct email address.

Payments to the School

Yarralumla Primary School has an online payment option, using a Westpac service called Quickweb.

You can go to our school website: <http://www.yarralumlaps.act.edu.au/payment> and make a payment to the school's bank account. There will be a link that will redirect you to our Westpac Quickweb site. Payments can be made using a credit/debit card, for any school event, or financial contribution.

EFTPOS is also available at the Front Office.

Newsletter

The newsletter is published fortnightly and includes information about what is currently happening at the school and a list of dates for events. The newsletter is distributed electronically.

Food

Your child will need food for recess, lunchtime and fruit break. Food should be placed in an easily opened lunch box which will be kept in your child's bag. It is useful to have a frozen drink in the lunch box as this provides cooling for the lunch, especially in summer. Your child will also need a drink bottle as students become very thirsty during the day. We encourage children to drink water.

School Uniform

The wearing of school uniform is required at Yarralumla Primary. Exemptions can be granted by the principal in extenuating circumstances. However, the wearing of school uniform readily identifies our students in the community, especially when they are representing their school, and eliminates clothing competitiveness between students. All children are encouraged to wear an appropriate sun smart hat when playing outside. Children not wearing hats are required to stay/play in a designated shaded area of the school. A number of options are available to assist parents/carers who may be experiencing financial difficulties to obtain items of uniform for their children. Please do not hesitate to contact the principal for more information.

Sun Hats and Keeping Safe at All Times

Yarralumla Primary school recommends that children wear broad brimmed sun hats for Terms 1 and 4. Hats are not required to be worn in Terms 2 and 3. We ask all families to be aware and take extra care regarding safety for your child/ren wearing any earrings other than studs, necklaces, jewellery, clothing or hats which have long cords that could possibly get caught on equipment. At YPS we support the safety of all children at school.

Labelling and Lost property

Please make sure that all items of clothing (especially hats and jumpers) and other belongings (drink bottle, lunch box, school bag) are clearly labelled with your child's name and class. If you find your child is missing clothing items please check in the classroom and in lost property.

Mobile Phones and all Electronic Equipment

All mobile phones and electronic equipment brought to school must be left at the front office in the morning. Phones and any electronic equipment can be collected at 3pm. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Bikes and Scooters

Bikes & scooters are to be left locked at the bike & scooter racks. The school does not accept responsibility for lost or stolen bikes or scooters. By law, a helmet must be worn while riding.

Safe parking around schools

The start of the school year is a particularly busy time in our school carparks and surrounding streets. It's important that we park safely and legally to support the safety of students.

Parking on a footpath, nature strip or roadside verge can:

- Cause safety risks for pedestrians as they are less visible to oncoming cars
- Increase the risk for vulnerable members of our community like children, people who are visually impaired, and those using a wheelchair or pram
- Restrict the line of sight for other road users
- Restrict access for emergency services vehicles.

Parking on nature strips can also damage trees, footpaths, gutters and underground pipes and cables. Please also remember not to park across driveways or block neighbouring residents' properties.

As students return to school remember to also slow down and stick to the 40km/h limit around our schools between 8am and 4pm.

Parking inspectors regularly patrol school zones to support safe parking and keep students safe. If you cannot find a car park in our school car parks, we suggest parking a little further away and walking or riding the rest of the way – it's a quick and easy way to get in some exercise too.

Let's all work together to keep our kids and community safe! More information about travelling safely to school is available on the [Transport ACT website](#)

Information on Quickweb Payments via our School Web Page

Some parents have had troubles accessing Quickweb Payments. If this happens try visiting the Yarralumla Primary school website via a search engine, then clicking on the payments tab then clicking on the Quickweb link from there.

Yarralumla Primary School has an online payment option, using a Westpac service called Quickweb.

You can go to our school website: <http://www.yarralumlaps.act.edu.au/payment> and make a payment to the school's bank account. There will be a link that will redirect you to our Westpac Quickweb site. Payments can be made using a credit/debit card, for any school event, or financial contribution.

The information you complete on the form will enable us to accurately identify the funds and the purpose. The terminology used is listed below:

Family key: your family's identifier, first five letters of your last name and the first letter of your first name.

Student key: usually the first five letters of the students last name and first letter of his/her first name.

Fee Codes: a unique identifier of the event you are depositing funds for. This will be found on the correspondence sent home with your student.

The Quickweb payment facility will assist us to accurately identify the sender and the correct ledger for the funds to be receipted against. Receipts for payments can be issued via Westpac Quickweb, but if you require a gift deductible receipt, i.e. payments to a Library Fund, you will need to contact the school.

Any queries please do not hesitate to contact the front office on 6142 3250.

The 1,2,3 of Medical Conditions, Medication and Treatment Plans

The ACT Education and Training Directorate guidelines regarding Medical Conditions, Treatment Plans and the administration of all medication to students must be closely followed. The rule of thumb to ensure that we are able to assist your child in the best way we can while at school. At the beginning the school year families are required to complete a Medical Information and Consent Form. Any specialised, individual or temporary medical requirements must be accompanied by additional paperwork.

1. ANAPHYLAXIS, ASTHMA, DIABETES, EPILEPSY



2. Occasional Migraine, Headache, Hay fever, Allergies etc



3. Temporary Medication for Seasonal colds/flu/Allergies, Antibiotic, Pain relief etc



For further advice and to collect copies of medical forms please visit the front office or contact the front office staff on 6142 0960.

Community News

Chess class is started on Wednesday, 9 February 2022, 11:10am to 11:55am



Level 1 30A George St, Burwood 2134
Office: (02) 9745 1170

CHESS!!

Learn to be a chess champion! Coaching for students at Yarralumla Primary School (ACT) is held on Wednesdays from 11:10am to 11:55am, starting on 8 February 2023.

Learning and playing chess helps children develop their logical thinking and problem solving skills, improves their concentration and focus, while also being a great source of enjoyment. Activities include group lessons on a demonstration chess board or interactive whiteboard, puzzle solving and fun practice games.

Students earn merit awards by making checkmates, or by displaying skills and positive qualities, which all good chess players strive to develop.

If your child is interested in taking part, you can collect an enrolment form from the school office, or email enrol@sydneyacademyofchess.com.au for a copy. For all enquiries, please contact Sydney Academy of Chess on (02) 9745 1170.



If your little one loves to swim and wants to be in a team sport, they should try Water Polo.

Canberra Water Polo Academy runs Canberra Schools Comp in Term 1 and Term 4. Curtin Primary School has previously participated in these competitions and wants to expand their team.

We are looking to create both Years 3/4 and Years 5/6 Curtin/Hughes/Yarralumla teams. The only requirement is that the children are strong swimmers.

If you have any questions about Water Polo or would like to join the team, please contact Olivia on 0404 887 271.

Term 1, 2023 Competition
Location: CISAC Belconnen
Day: Friday
Time: 6.00pm – 8.30pm
Dates: February 17, 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 2023
Cost: \$140 per player (does not include pool entry)
Grades: Years 3/4 & Years 5/6
ENROL NOW - <https://canberra-water-polo-academy.class4kids.club/info/37>

