

FROM THE EXECUTIVE TEAM

Welcome to the 2015 school year at Mount Rogers Primary. To those of you who have enrolled your children for the first time, a very warm and special welcome, and to our 'returning' families it is lovely to have you back.

What a positive and productive start to the year we have had. Classes across the school have been working hard establishing protocols around how they will work to make the most of their learning time here this year. The results have been outstanding with students already focussed on working hard to achieve their goals.

I am delighted to announce that we have been successful in acquiring a Mandarin language teacher, **Vicky Magee**. Mrs Magee will be teaching Mandarin to all of our year 3-6 students on a weekly basis this term. She has begun the year with a focus on Chinese New Year. I encourage parents to ask your children what they have already learnt.

Our specialist Reading Recovery program for year one students will continue this year with Del Smith. We are very grateful for Mrs Smith's expertise and dedication working with students who need extra skills and time to acquire early reading and writing skills.

We are continuing our Science and Music Outreach programs this year and also have a specialist PE/Health program taught by Emma Burriss. As well as our new language teacher we have a three other new staff. **Debbie Lees** has transferred from Garran Primary to join our dynamic kindergarten team. Debbie is a highly accomplished, passionate and effective early childhood educator who delivers engaging programs to maximise academic and social achievements for all students. We are very lucky to have her as the third teacher in our kindergarten team.

Tim Holness is teaching our year 3 class alongside Helen. Tim is held in high regard across the ACT for his work in developing independent learners who achieve excellence. He is regularly invited to present sessions for teachers about 'Quality Learning'. I encourage all parents who have children in year 3 to come along to the parent information session at 5:30pm this evening to hear Tim talk about his approach to teaching and learning.

Heather Page is teaching one of our year 5/6 classes. Heather comes to us highly recommended by her previous principal at Forrest Primary. Heather is passionate about providing a supportive and trusting environment, where students are able to participate fully and take risks with their learning. An area she brings expertise to our school is as an accredited *Bluearth* instructor with a focus on physical fitness and helping students develop skills in self-regulation, cooperation and reflection.

I am delighted to welcome back **Nerida Knight** as our School Counsellor. Nerida will be here two days a week this year, each Tuesday and Wednesday. If you have concerns about your child that you would like to discuss with Nerida please leave a message for her with our front office staff.

A full list of school staff and classes will be included in our next newsletter.

CHANGE TO ASSEMBLY TIME

Assemblies will be held alternate Fridays in the school hall from 2:00pm. The first assembly will be next week Friday, 27 February. Parents and other family members are welcome to attend assemblies.

READ, READ, READ

Our Home Reading program will commence soon. Teachers are busy helping students to choose 'best fit' books before we send these home to share with families. In the meantime I encourage you to share a love of reading with your child each night.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU INTERVIEWS

'Getting to Know You Interviews' are an integral part of our communication and reporting procedures. Teachers highly value the information they receive about children at these interviews. I encourage all of you to make a time to meet and share information about your child with their class teacher. These will be held in the week commencing Monday, 23 February. The online booking system PTO will be used.

Continued over page

DIRECTORY

Principal:	Sue Harding
Deputy Principal:	Felicity Levett
Alfred Hill Drive MELBA ACT 2615	
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E:	info@mtrogers.act.edu.au
W:	www.mtrogers.act.edu.au
FB:	https://www.facebook.com/mountrogersprimary
Board Chair:	Paulene McCalman
P&C President:	Richard Helliwell
Canteen:	Donna Barnes Ph 6258 1552

IMPORTANT

Mount Rogers Primary is an ANAPHYLACTIC FRIENDLY SCHOOL

Please do not bring into our school:

Boiled **EGGS** or egg sandwiches
NUTS and nut products (please be aware that *Nutella* spread and many muesli/health bars contain nuts)
FISH (including prawns and tuna)

REMINDERS

18 Feb	Yr 3 Parent Information Session 5:30-6pm
23-27 Feb	'Getting to Know You' (On-line bookings available soon)
25 Feb	P&C Community Picnic 5:30-7pm
27 Feb	Schools Cleanup Day
27 Feb	Assembly 2pm Hosts: Year 5/6
2 Mar	P&C Meeting 7:30pm <i>All Welcome</i>
2 Mar	CBA School Banking Account Opening Morning 8:30am
2-6 Mar	Pink Week – SRC McGrath Foundation Fundraiser
9 Mar	Canberra Day

NOTES HOME THIS FORTNIGHT

DATE	TOPIC	RETURN
4 Feb	Yr 5/6 Camp Cooba	20 Feb
17 Feb	Term 1 Class Information Letters	
17 Feb	SRC Pink Week Fundraiser	27 Feb
18 Feb	"Getting to Know You" Interviews	

2015 TERM DATES

Term 1	2 February to 10 April
Term 2	27 April to 3 July
Term 3	20 July to 25 September
Term 4	12 October to 18 December

FROM THE EXECUTIVE TEAM - Continued

WELCOME FAMILY PICNIC

On Wednesday, 25 February we encourage parents to come to our 'Welcome to the Year Picnic'. The picnic will be held on the grass behind the school hall. We've kept it simple - bring the family, a rug and a picnic tea, and get to know some of your children's classmates and their families.

EARLY LINKS TO LEARNING PLAYGROUP

Sadly we are not able to continue hosting the Early Links to Learning Playgroup this year. West Belconnen Child and Family Centre who ran the program do not have the funding to continue running this. We are investigating other options to engage with families in our community.

STUDENT SAFETY

Parents and visitors are required to sign in when coming into our school. All parents and visitors are therefore to use the front doors when entering the school. The exception to this is for our parents of kinder students, who are going into the room for the first few minutes of the day to settle their child. Our school perimeter gates are locked between 9:30am and 2:45pm. Please wait outside the school building for your children at the end of the school day. This year at Mount Rogers we are continuing to focus on 'Work Hard, Get Smart' and for each child to be 'thinking about their own thinking'. You may consider starting the conversations about the school day with your child, by asking them what hard work they did to get smarter that day.

Looking forward to a wonderful year at Mount Rogers

Sue Harding, Principal

INTRODUCING STAFF MEMBERS

Hi, I'm Sue Harding. I have been principal of Mount Rogers Primary since July 2009. I grew up in a family where the importance of high quality education was recognised and valued. Both my parents were teachers and passionate supporters of public education. Dad also spent many years working in the Australian Government Department of Education. My years as a student at Red Hill Primary and Narrabundah High, and as the first group in the new college system at Narrabundah were wonderful. I think I always wanted to be a teacher. I have been teaching and leading education in ACT public schools for over 30 years where my passion for making a difference for every child drives what I do.



Because I believe all children can learn, in our school you will see:

- teachers provided with additional time to work collaboratively to share and use proven successful teaching strategies,
- students who need more time to learn, provided with additional support and structured programs
- a focus on students taking responsibility for 'working hard to get smarter'

Because I believe we need to get it right in the early years, in our school you will see:

- early intervention programs to cater for students with identified needs, particularly in speech, fine motor, phonics, number and social skills
- extra support in preschool and kindergarten classrooms
- a structured phonics program in our early childhood classes

Because I believe children learn best in a safe orderly environment, in our school you will see:

- the *Kids Matter* framework used as a whole school approach to support social emotional wellbeing
- a focused social skills program led by our deputy principal Felicity Levett
- strategies and processes designed to eliminate disruptive behaviour

Because I believe literacy is vital to learning, in our school you will see:

- structured teaching of reading, writing, phonics, spelling, listening and speaking
- literacy linked to all areas of learning

Sue Harding

CONGRATULATIONS

To be presented at our Assembly on
Friday, 27 February at 2pm - Hosts: Year 5/6

MERIT AWARDS

CLASS	RECIPIENT
K Lightning Bolts	Dylan P, Bridie W, Malachi R
K Starlights	Jared B, Charlie B
K Rainbows	Jack S, Jaimi R
1 Fireflies	Seth M, Zakree L, Isabelle C
1 Glow Worms	Elyse W, Jane K, Reese S
1 Luna Moths	Sarah O, Sarah C, Ollie M
2 Lighthouse	Flynn O, Ella H
2 Neons	Mac S. Jessica N & Whole Class
2 Northern Nights	Hannah S, Jakeal M
3B Bright Sparks	Sarah C, Darcy H-F, Alexander F,
3H Bright Sparks	Kaitlin H, Molly B, Alice N
4 Gamma Rays	Kohan S, Jane M
4 Laser Beams	Ethan C, Hunter T, Josie D
5/6 Krypton	William B, Zia M
5/6 Argon	Hugh B, Sophia B, Lachlan S
5/6 Xenon	Maneeha D, Edward M, Tayah B

ARTIST OF THE MONTH

CLASS	RECIPIENT
K Lightning Bolts	Annika D
K Starlights	Trayden H
K Rainbows	Lotte W
1 Fireflies	Jake B
1 Glow Worms	Phoebe M
1 Luna Moths	Malia D
2 Lighthouse	Elliot W
2 Neons	Afryna Y
2 Northern Lights	Emma T
3B Bright Sparks	William M
3H Bright Sparks	Ethan H
4 Gamma Rays	Leah B
4 Laser Beams	Anya C
5/6 Krypton	Mohana B
5/6 Argon	Hayley R
5/6 Xenon	Chloe V

So far in Kindergarten we have been busy...

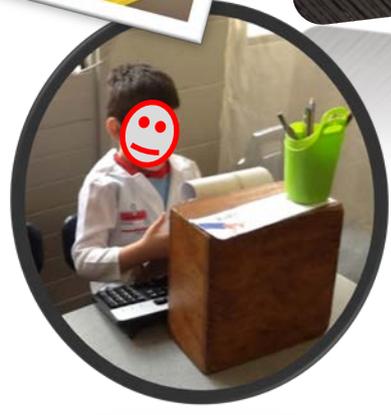
GETTING SMARTER THROUGH INVESTIGATIONS



MAKING NEW FRIENDS



FINDING OUR WAY AROUND



Learning about books, letters, rhymes and sounds



Learning about numbers and patterns



Feel free to come in after school and have a look around!

Reminders

DUE DATES FOR EXCURSION NOTES WITH PAYMENTS

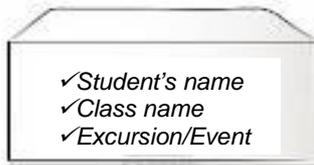
YEAR	TOPIC	RETURN BY	PAYMENT
5/6	Camp Cooba Payment in full or by instalments	Fri 20 Feb	\$87 – 20 Feb \$100 – 6 Mar \$100 – 20 Mar
All	SRC Fundraiser - Pink Week McGrath Foundation	Fri 27 Feb	Refer to note
	2015 Stationery Pack	Now	Refer to note

Excursion notes and payments received after the due date will not be accepted.

Important Reminders

PERMISSION NOTES FOR EXCURSIONS & EVENTS

Please return **ALL** permission notes, money or other notes to the school in an envelope or similar **via your child's classroom teacher**. Please do not take notes directly to the Front Office.



PAYMENTS FOR THE CANTEEN AND P&C (eg special lunches) **MUST** be in a **SEPARATE** envelope – please do not combine payments with any other school event. These payments can be given to your child's teacher also.

DIRECT DEPOSIT

If you are using Direct Debit for payments to the School's bank account, it is **most important** that you include the following in the reference field:

- Student's **LAST NAME** and **FIRST INITIAL**
- **EXCURSION TITLE** or **OTHER REASON** for deposit

Also, please let us know either on the permission note or by email that you have made a direct deposit **AND** promptly return your signed permission note or form.

ENTERING THE SCHOOL

If you are entering the school buildings at **ANY** time of the day you are required to sign in at the front office as either a registered or unregistered volunteer or visitor

LATE TO SCHOOL...

If your child arrives at school after 9.15am, **parents and carers are required to come to the front office WITH your child to sign them in**. Your child will then be given a late slip to hand to their teacher.

COLLECTING YOUR CHILD EARLY....

If you need to take your child out of school before 3pm or for an appointment during the day, **parents and carers are required to come to the front office BEFORE collecting your child** to complete an exit slip that is to be handed to the class teacher. Parents and carers are also required to **sign children back into school at the front office on their return**.

PLEASE NOTE....

Students can only be collected by those people who are listed on the pink Emergency Contact card for your child. Please ensure this contact card is kept up to date.

Important

MEDIA, PHOTOGRAPHY & IT PERMISSION

Previously, permission for media, photographs and internet usage by the School and ACT Education Directorate has been requested at the commencement of each year.

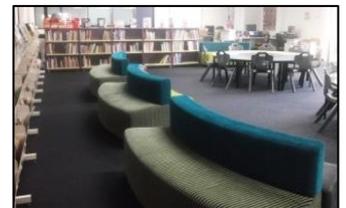
From this year the permissions provided to the school by parents/carers in 2014 will remain in place until the student leaves Mount Rogers Primary. You may update these permissions as any time in writing. Forms will be sent home to Kindergarten students soon to update their information.

Please contact the front office if you require further information.

NGUNNAWAL LIBRARY NEWS

▪ Please encourage children to bring *library bags* to school to protect their books. Even a shopping bag or pillowcase will help to look after our books.

We're excited to be in our new library space this year.



Here are some books purchased from the Book Fair funds last year. Thank you!

▪ We are lucky again this year to have retired teacher, Wendy Khara to support and help our library run efficiently and smoothly for staff and children.

Anna Comerford, Teacher-Librarian

YEAR 5/6 CYBER SAFETY PRESENTATIONS

This week a sergeant from the AFP is coming to the school to talk to the 5/6 students about the very serious issue of Cyber Safety. They will talk about how you can stay safe on-line, discuss the issue of cyberbullying and how this issue affects individuals, families and society a whole.

For more information about cyberbullying or bullying in general please follow the link below:

http://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/sites/default/files/public/KM_P_C3_RPFCMH_ChildrenAndBullying.pdf

For information about how to help keep your child safe online follow the link www.thinkyouknow.org.au



TERM 1 CALENDAR COMING SOON

YUMMY MONKEY CANTEEN NEWS



Term 1 Open – Monday to Friday

The 2015 Canteen Menu is now available. If you have not yet received a copy, please collect one from the Canteen.

There are two options for placing an order at the canteen.

(1) On-Line Orders

The canteen encourages placing orders through an on line ordering service. Orders can be placed until 9.15am on the day for lunch. Alternatively, orders can be placed in advance or set-up as a re-occurring order. Please either include a paper bag in your order, or place a paper bag or reusable bag in the canteen basket in the morning if possible. Paper bags are also available for 20c.

Flexischools is very easy to use and means you don't have to worry about writing orders on paper bags and finding change. Flexischools also provides many benefits to the canteen as it reduces the time needed to count money and tally orders. Go to www.flexischools.com.au to order online. It is very easy to register.

(2) Manual Orders

We accept cash orders too for lunch. Write your child's name, class, and food to be ordered on a paper bag. Please enclose the required money. Your child can then place the bag in the lunch order basket in their classroom when arriving at school. Change from lunch orders under \$2 will be returned in the lunch order, over \$2 will be sent home at the end of the day via the classroom teacher.

SCHOOL BANKING

School Banking Account Opening Morning

A representative from the Commonwealth Bank, Susan, will be at our school on **Monday, 2 March** to enable parents to open new "school banking" accounts for their children. This means you don't have to visit the bank itself! Susan will be situated in the **assembly area at morning lines from 8.30am**, for about an hour.

To get your child's starter pack for School Banking you will need to provide identification for yourself (eg a drivers licence), the school is able to verify that your child is a student. If your child has an existing account and wants to register with School Banking too, all they need to do is bring their yellow Dollarmite wallet on **FRIDAYS** with a small deposit and give it to their classroom teacher. They will receive a School Banking ID number for Mount Rogers and they will be on their way to fun rewards.

School Banking Tokens and Prizes

The number of deposits you make in a term are added up by the school banking system and you will be notified when you are eligible for a reward. If you bank every Friday of term, you will be eligible for a reward at the end of each term in a 10 week term. We have heaps of great new rewards this year, including ET DVD, a Planet handball, an Invisible Ink Martian Pen, Intergalactic Rocket, Glow-in-the-Dark Solar System, Cosmic light beam torch, Outer space savers money box, and Lunar light band.

Sue Jagla
(Ph 0401 030 939)



COMMUNITY NEWS



SUNDAY 1 MARCH 2015

How about joining the Mount Rogers team!

The YMCA of Canberra Runners Club invites women and girls of all ages to join in the YMCA Women and Girls' 5km Fun Run/Walk on 1 March 2015. Entrants may walk, jog or run the course.

There is also a \$500 prize for both the primary and secondary school with the highest participation relative to their female student enrolment. Visit www.wgfunrun.com.au for more information and to enter – **don't forget to register under the school team "Mount Rogers Primary School"**. On the day, those walking or running in the school team can meet to the right of Stage 88, to run/walk together.

Proceeds from the run will support OvCan, a local ovarian cancer awareness group.

AUSTRALIA CHINA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY ACT Branch Inc

Lantern Festival 2015

Lantern Making Workshop

1.30 – 3.30pm Sunday 1 March 2015

Cook Community Hub, 41 Templeton St, Cook

Come and make a lantern, be creative and then bring your lantern to the Lantern Festival. For adults and children (young children will need to be accompanied by parents).

Cost \$3 pp

Bring a cutting board, scissors, ruler and pencil
Workshop bookings essential - to acfsevent@gmail.com or Jean Ph 62547732

Festival: Saturday, 7 March 2015, 6-8pm

Come and enjoy the colour and spectacle in the Beijing Garden in Lennox Gardens, Flynn Place, Yarralumla.

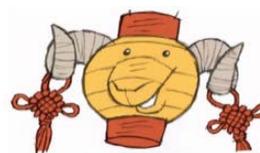
If raining the venue will be the Cook Community Hub, 41 Templeton Street.

Entry is free.

Bring your own lantern or buy one there.

Prizes for best hand-made lanterns.

For further information please email acfsevent@gmail.com or ring Carol on 6247 8231



Proudly sponsored by the
ACT Government Office of Multicultural Affairs

SCHOOL CAPTAINS

Hi, my name is **Bella C.** I have been a part of the Mount Rogers Primary School community since preschool. I have enjoyed every moment of my school years here and I hope to love my final year. I am very proud to be School Captain this year.

I am the eldest of 3, my twin brother Corey is in year 6 and my sister Sami is in preschool. In my spare time I enjoy playing with my siblings, shoe shopping and training at Tae Kwon Do where I am a brown belt black stripe.

This year I hope to be successful but most of all have a lot of fun. I hope to lead our school to the best of my capability. Have a great 2015.

Hello, my name is **Ethan R** and I am one of your captains for this year. Let me introduce myself to you. If there is chance for me to be outside I will be there.

Some of the favourite times at Mount Rogers are helping others learn and watching them learn around me.

I love going on holidays with my family and looking at cool places with them. My favourite subject is science because you have to think deeply and experiment to get the right answer.

I will never forget my time here and I am proud to be a school captain for 2015.



SCHOOL VICE-CAPTAINS

Hi, my name is **Nina** and I am this year's girl Vice-Captain. I am a dedicated student and enjoy the company of my peers. At home I live with mum, dad and sister Ingrid. My hobbies include being outside with my nine chickens, playing the piano and spending time with my friends. Also as a hobby I do competitive swimming for a club called Kings and train at 6:30am on Tuesday and Friday. At school my favourite subjects are the arts, history and one that isn't on the report card is debating. I support the AFL team Collingwood ('the Pies'). I hope you have a great year with me and the other captains and vice-captains.

Hi, my name is **Lachlan** and I am the 2015 Boys School Vice-Captain. I am proud to be 2015 School Vice-Captain and to be leading the students for this year.

I like sport and maths as a school subject. On the weekends I play sports such as AFL and softball and enjoy the team environment.

This is my second year at Mount Rogers Primary School after moving to Canberra from Wagga Wagga.



HOUSE CAPTAINS & VICE CAPTAINS

Blue Tongue Lizards

CAPTAINS

Ashleigh U & Ayden R

VICE CAPTAINS

Paris B & Liam L



Red Kangaroos

CAPTAINS

Acoya L & Jack M

VICE CAPTAINS

Sara F & Joel F



Green Tree Frogs

CAPTAINS

Savannah J & Dylan B

VICE CAPTAINS

Katie D & Justin D



Yellow Cockatoos

CAPTAINS

Nicola A & Fynn J

VICE CAPTAINS

Keeley D & Samuel H



Allergy Awareness ANAPHYLAXIS

Anaphylaxis is a potentially life-threatening type of allergic reaction commonly caused by food allergies or insect bites/stings.

We have students with NUT, EGG and FISH allergies in this school.

At Mount Rogers Primary School we do not provide, nor wish children to bring to school any:-

- EGG** boiled or egg sandwiches
- FISH** including tuna, prawns etc
- NUTS** all nuts and nut based products (eg peanut butter, health bars, dried fruit mixes, snack packs, some biscuit varieties, some chocolates, pesto etc)

