

FROM THE EXECUTIVE TEAM

Dear Mount Rogers families,

To begin with, an apology... sorry that we did not manage to get a newsletter out last week. It was a very busy week for me with many external meetings and unexpected issues that took up my time. As I always say expect the unexpected.

Huge thanks and congratulations to Pat for the swimming carnival yesterday. It ran like clockwork and was heaps of fun! The House Captains did a stellar job leading their houses and all students followed our RISE expectations throughout the day. It was wonderful to see our 8 and 9 year old students enjoy their first swimming carnival – you may recall we have not had one since 2021 due to COVID. Thank you to all staff who attended for supporting Pat and the students to enjoy the day, and thank you to all parents and grandparents who came along to cheer on their people – it was lovely to chat to many of you poolside.

Our junior students had heaps of fun back at school at their own water fun day. They enjoyed squirting each other with spray bottles and carrying dripping sponges in relay races.

Last Wednesday the staff and students of Mount Rogers celebrated International Women's Day. The theme this year was *A Fair Slice*, a theme the staff took very seriously as the inaugural staff bake-off took place. Some staff entered baked goods while others paid to eat and then vote for their favourite. We raised over \$400 for the Stars Foundation, an organisation that supports indigenous girls and young women to attend and remain engaged at school. The staff will work to add to these funds at the annual soup-off and slow cook-off later in the year!

I NEED YOUR HELP - well, really the P&C does. The annual P&C AGM was held early last week and unfortunately the position of secretary was not filled. Without a secretary the P&C will struggle to remain. I do not want this to be the case, particularly in the school's 50th birthday year and with many events planned. The secretary attends all meetings and takes the minutes and then distributes them after the meeting. Meetings occur twice a term on a Monday evening 7:30-9pm. It is not a difficult job, it just requires someone who can attend meetings, type and email! If the position is not filled by the end of the term, I will need to meet with the P&C president and decide next steps. If you are interested in this position please contact the P&C President on president.mountrogerspandc@gmail.com

As the weather turns a little cooler, a reminder to label your child's hat and jumper so we can return them to your child if they are misplaced.

Warm wishes

Felicity Levett – Principal

DIRECTORY

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IMPORTANT

**Mount Rogers Primary is an
ANAPHYLACTIC FRIENDLY SCHOOL**
Please do not bring into our school:

NUTS and nut products (please be aware that *Nutella* spread and many muesli/health bars contain nuts)

FISH including prawns and tuna

SESAME including hummus, some snack bars, vege chips, tahini, as bread topping

EGG as egg sandwiches or boiled

REMINDERS

24 Mar	Earth Hour at Mt Rogers
28 Mar	Belconnen Region Swimming Carnival
29 Mar	Cross Country Carnival
6 April	Last day Term 1

TERM 2

24 Apr	First day Term 2
25 April	ANZAC Day – Public Holiday
26-28 Apr	Year 5/6 Camp – Jindabyne Sports & Recreation Centre

TERM DATES

Term 1	30 Jan/31 Jan – 6 April
Term 2	24 April – 30 June
Term 3	17 July – 22 September
Term 4	9 October – 15 December

MEL'S LIBRARY NEWS

Books and storytelling are how we connect, understand, and find joy in the world around us. Reading for pleasure reduces stress, improves memory, and increases feelings of wellbeing, so why not take a break, and unwind with a good book!

The library is now open at Break 2!

Term 1 has certainly been an exciting one for the library so far. The library is now open at Break 2 and it has been great to see so many students joining in the fun activities.

The library is open for:

Kindergarten – Year 2 on Mondays and Wednesdays
Year 3 - 6 on Tuesdays and Thursdays

Library Monitors

I have also been extremely grateful for the support of my wonderful Year 5/6 Library Monitors.

These Library Monitors are supporting the library staff by:

HELPING other students and teachers in the library.

TIDYING to ensure the library is a wonderful space to visit.

READING books to younger children to help build the love of reading.

ORGANISING activities for other students to participate in when visiting the library.

Thank you

As always, I am very grateful for the community support of our library. We have received some wonderful donations of high quality used books in excellent condition which we have added to our collection. I am also thankful for the wonderful support of the Scholastic Book Club program, which has enabled us to purchase some wonderful new books for our school library.

Book Club – Issue 2 went home this week

Orders close Tuesday 21 March

No cash, online orders only

Throughout the year, I am constantly building and collating our collection and I love receiving books suggestion from the students. I would like to encourage students to make use of the library mailbox and suggestion slips on the circulation desk to share their suggestions.

Australian Reading Hour

9 March 2023 was Australian Reading Hour. If you get a chance this week, spend some time as a family reading. *Australia Reads* has put together an amazing list of books for younger readers. Follow the link to explore some new titles, many of which we have in our school library <https://australiareads.org.au/junior-readers/>

As always, happy reading!

Mel Colquhoun
Teacher Librarian



Swimming Carnival

Tuesday, 14 March



Hedland



Grainger



Alfred Hill



Baddeley



Great day at Dickson Aquatic Centre

Do you have concerns about your child's communication skills?

Attendance at a [Drop In Clinic](#) provides parents in the ACT with an opportunity to discuss issues about their child's communication skills. Speech Pathology Drop In Clinics are available for children 0 to 6 years who have a residential address in the ACT and are not eligible for the National Disability Insurance Scheme. Drop In Clinics take the form of an informal discussion and screening of skills and not a formal assessment. Parents and guardians may attend any Speech Pathology [Drop In Clinic](#) across different locations in the ACT.

The dates are here:

<https://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/childdevelopment/service/what-we-offer/speech-pathology/drop-in>

IT'S HAPPENING AT MOUNT ROGERS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Chief Minister's Reading Challenge 2023 Join the Challenge!

Ask your teacher or librarian for more information, or go to: bit.ly/ChiefMinChallenge



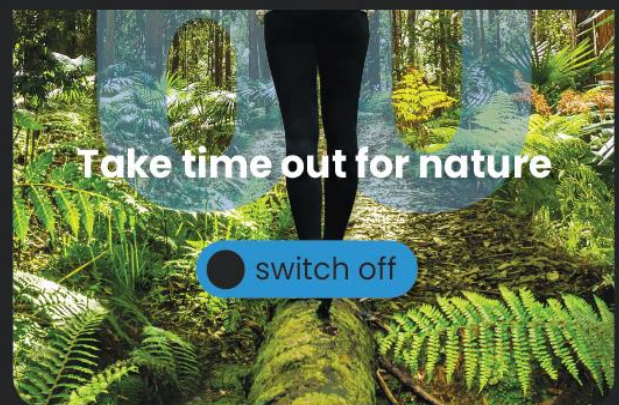
Reminder — STRANGER AWARENESS

This is a reminder to ensure your children and young people understand the importance of stranger awareness safety and information has been included on how to report an incident.

Please support us to keep our children safe by having conversations about moving safely around the community. You may wish to visit the Australian Federal Police website section on Child Safety for tips. In addition, the Safety4Kids is a non-government website that has useful information and links. The Constable Kenny website also has a number of tips for parents for younger children.

If you become aware of an incident or notice anyone acting suspiciously around a school or student, contact police immediately on 131 444 or in the case of an emergency call 000. If you witness an incident or if you have any information that could assist police, contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000. Information can be provided anonymously. We would also ask that you notify the school so we can also support the wider school community to be aware of incidents.

LUNCH TIME LIBRARY



We are switching off!
Friday March 24

earthhour.org.au

60
EARTH
HOUR



60
EARTH
HOUR



Reminders

EXCURSION & PERMISSION NOTES

YEAR	TOPIC	DUE	PAYMENT
K - 6	Classroom Resources		\$90
2023	Voluntary Contribution		Note home soon
Selected students	Year 5 Band - \$230 for 2023	10 Mar	\$115 1 st Instalment
5/6	Camp – Jindabyne Sport & Recreation Ctr	29 Mar	\$420

Notes and/or payments received after the due date will not be accepted.

2023 CLASSROOM RESOURCES Supporting your child's learning

\$90 per child - please ensure that your child has all the stationery items necessary for their learning in 2023.

Payment can be made by:

- Cash / cheque
- Online payment facility via website
- EFTPOS – at school office

Thank you for your support

2023 VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

The 2023 Voluntary Contribution note will be sent home to families soon.

Please wait until you receive this form to make any financial contributions.

Staying COVID Smart in 2023

Being COVID Smart remains a priority for all ACT public schools in 2023.

Students, staff and visitors are reminded to:

- Stay home if unwell and get tested for COVID-19
- Stay up to date with your vaccinations
- Practise good hand and respiratory hygiene
- Physically distance from others when in public places

Individual schools may implement additional measures to manage COVID-19 if deemed necessary in a particular setting. Any changes will be communicated to parents and carers.

If your child has COVID-19, you must let the school know.

We recommend keeping your child home for at least five days.

RATs are again available from the school for students in term 1 from the front office.

You can read more about how we are being COVID Smart in ACT public schools at

<https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/covid-school-arrangements>

APPLY NOW FOR THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION EQUITY FUND 2023



Apply now for the Future of Education Equity Fund for the 2023 school year. Eligible low-income ACT families can receive one-off payments for financial aid to help cover the costs of their children's educational costs, such as sport equipment and activities, music lessons, school uniforms and excursions.

The Fund is open to eligible students enrolled in preschools that are attached to an ACT government school, through to Year 12 in the ACT. Further information and the online application form is available at <https://www.education.act.gov.au/support-for-our-students/financial-and-resource-assistance-for-families>

BECOME AN ACT PUBLIC SCHOOL HOMESTAY HOST

The ACT Education Directorate is seeking Homestay hosts for international students planning to study at an ACT public high school or college. International students participating in the Homestay program are aged 16 years or above.

Homestay is more than providing a room and meals. You'll welcome a young person into your family and support their growth as they gain new perspectives, confidence, English fluency and academic and essential life skills.

If you can offer a place in your home, have the time to support a student's social wellbeing and academic endeavours and have an interest in other cultures, we would love to hear from you.

A weekly payment is provided to help cover the costs of living expenses.

Please contact the International Education team via email at: ieu@act.gov.au or by phone on (02) 6205 9194. To find out more visit [Homestay](#).