



# Mount Rogers Primary School

## Learning Caring Sharing



NEWSLETTER NO. 8

31 MAY 2023

TERM 2 WEEK 6

### FROM THE EXECUTIVE TEAM

Dear Mount Rogers families,

How is it week 6 already – I can't believe how quickly this term is going.

I start with congratulations to all students in years 3 to 6 for their participation in Rostrum Public Speaking to start the term. I am so proud of all students for giving a 3-minute speech a go. Our school final was held last Thursday, and I am delighted to announce that Maddie M from Yr 5/6 IceWing was our school winner, with Edward J from Yr 3/4 Snails as runner up. Maddie's topic was *Get Involved* and she had wise words for her audience; "It's important to get involved, if I had not got involved at camp I would not have discovered my love of slider bikes." She also spoke about knowing when not to get involved, for example when you get involved in someone else's issue, not your issue and make it bigger than it should be. Maddie will represent Mount Rogers at one of the regional quarter finals later this term. Good luck Maddie.

As part of our continual journey around school improvement we have been reflecting on communication methods and learning platforms. One of the outcomes of this is that at the end of this term we will say goodbye to the *Seesaw* platform for kindy to year 6. There are a number of reasons behind this decision. Aside from the enormous cost to the school to have this platform, I have spent some time over this term looking at the statistics of parent engagement in posts across year levels and the teacher workload associated with posting. This shows that the percentage of parents looking at *Seesaw* is the lowest it has been since it's roll out in 2018. I also have had a number of concerns this year in regard to the sharing of confidential information from parents on this third-party website. There have also been many parents concerned about their child's face and/or name appearing on *Seesaw*. In addition, despite clear messaging over the years that *Seesaw* is not the place for parents to message a classroom teacher and this should be done via email, this continues to happen.

I have used these wonderings to also look at our school's newsletter. I think it is time to re-vamp it with a greater, deeper focus on learning happening across the school and re-engage the community with it. The Education Directorate now recommends a digital platform called Sway for school newsletters. This platform is easy to navigate from a variety of devices and will allow for more integration of learning experiences to be shared with the wider community. So, watch this space as we transition to Sway!

I haven't had to write about our school carparks and parking behaviours for a very long time. Unfortunately, late last week there was a 'near miss' in the Grainger Circuit carpark. A student ran behind a car as it was pulling out of a carpark and was very nearly hit. I need to remind parents that the Grainger carpark is **not** to be used by parents, this being one of the reasons why. The carpark was built for staff during 2019 in response to the growth in the school and the number of staff employed and not for parent use.

I know there are times when there are spare car spaces in this carpark, however I ask you not to use them when collecting children, it is too dangerous. I know traffic and parking at pick up times is frustrating. I just need everyone to park legally and safely, it is not my job to police parking behaviours or listen to a parent say "Oh I know I shouldn't park here I'm just...". Please do the right thing.

Could you also please speak to your child if they ride to school as there have been some unsafe riding behaviours noted in the last two weeks. Students are not using the school crossing to get across Alfred Hill Drive or Grainger Circuit, and instead are riding across the middle of the road in front of cars and buses. I am terribly nervous that there will be an accident.

I am so excited about my BIG Walk on the last day of term. It has been so exciting to see sponsorships come in already this week and the excitement it has generated among students. Every time I am seen wearing my pink beanie, I am asked by children if I am training for the BIG Walk today! The P&C and I thank you so much for support!

Speaking of the P&C – an update regarding money raised at the Mother's Day Stall earlier this term – a whopping \$2324. Thank you so much for your support.

Lastly, I need to let the Mount Rogers community know that one of our valued front office team members and enrolment officer, Bronwyn Stone is leaving Mount Rogers this Friday to begin a new adventure. On behalf of the whole Mount Rogers team and personally, I thank Bronwyn for the continual efforts and consistency of corporate knowledge that she has brought to the role. For 13 years she has been supporting the Mount Rogers students, staff and community and has played a pivotal role in operational elements and the transitions from year to year. All the best for the future, Bronwyn.

Stay warm and label clothing!

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

2 June	Yr 3/4 Excursion – National Art Gallery
8 June	Yr 1/2 Excursion – National Museum of Australia
9 June	Kindergarten Health Checks
12 June	Public Holiday – Sovereign's Birthday
15 June	ACT Cross Country Championships at Stromlo
21 June	Athletics Carnival
23 June	Reports home
26-30 June	PTO Interviews
26 June	Christian Education in Schools Program
30 June	Felicity's BIG Walk – Arboretum to Mt Rogers School
30 June	Last day Term 2

### TERM DATES

Term 2	24 April – 30 June
Term 3	17 July – 22 September
Term 4	9 October – 15 December



ACT public school enrolments for the 2024 school year are now open for preschool to year 12 students.

**If you apply online before 2 June, you will receive an offer from 24 July 2023.**

Going local leads to great things and there is a place for every child from kindergarten to year 12 in their local school.

Prospective families are encouraged to discover what their local school has to offer. Find the school your child is guaranteed a place at [here](#).

Families are encouraged to apply for the preschool for their local primary school, however it is not always possible to offer a place at your local or preferred preschool due to capacity constraints at some sites.

The best source of information about enrolling for 2024 is the Education Directorate [website](#). You can visit school websites to find out more about your child's new school.

If you have questions or require further information, call the Enrolments Telephone Service on 6205 5429.

## MOUNT ROGERS SCHOOL'S BOUNDARY FENCE EXTENSION

The Education Directorate is extending the fence around the basketball court, the extension is to improve the safety of students and staff.

This work will take approximately three days.

Safety during construction is a priority and the area will be cordoned off for the duration of the work. Any disruption to nearby homes will be minimal.

ACT public schools are shared community assets. The fence will include a gate which allows continued community access to the basketball court after hours and on weekends.

If you have any questions, you can contact the Education Directorate via email:

[ACT.Education@act.gov.au](mailto:ACT.Education@act.gov.au)

## 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 Monday to Thursday for all K-6 students.**

With the weather starting to get chilly, we have seen an increase in demand for the library at lunchtimes. It is lovely to see students across the grades coming together with Lego, puzzles, board games, mindfulness colouring and free drawing.

The talented Yr 5/6 library monitors are running small group activities such as reading aloud and drawing lessons during the break. They are also available to return and borrow books for students and staff.



**Book Club - Issue 4 went home last week.**

Orders close Tuesday 13 June.

No cash, online orders only.



**National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS)** is a colourful, vibrant, fun event that aims to promote the value of reading and literacy. This year, we enjoyed reading the Speedy Sloth by Rebecca Young and Heath McKenzie.



As always, happy reading!

**Mel Colquhoun / Teacher Librarian**





## Sponsorship Form

Ask your friends and family to sponsor Felicity to walk 12 kilometres from the National Arboretum to Mount Rogers Primary School, to help the P&C raise funds for student led playground improvements!

Bank deposit is encouraged,  
cash is also welcome

Complete this form and submit it with any cash payments to the Front Office by Friday 30 June 2023 (Week 10)

# Felicity's BIG WALK

Friday 30 June 2023

Last day of Term 2



## Bank Deposit

BSB: 325185

Account: 03931010

Name: Mount Rogers Primary School

Parents and Citizens Association Inc

Ref: BIG Walk + your surname

*Thank you for  
your sponsorship!*



## LOST PROPERTY

**Has your child lost any clothing at school this term?**

Named clothing has been returned to children and unnamed clothing will be on display under the back verandah of the school on:

**Thursday, 1 June & Friday, 2 June 2023  
8:30am to 9:30am and 2:30pm to 3:30pm**

Please come and look for any missing items.

**Don't forget to label your child's jackets and jumpers.**

Clothing items can be returned promptly to your child's classroom if they are clearly labelled.



## ACT Education Directorate STUDENT INJURY INSURANCE & AMBULANCE TRANSPORT

The Education Directorate does not provide any insurance cover for injury, disease or illness to students resulting from school activities or school-organised excursions. Claims for compensation are met where there is a legal liability to do so. Liability is not automatic and depends on the circumstances in which any injury disease or illness was sustained.

As there is not automatic insurance cover for personal injury if your child is injured at school or during a school organised activity/excursion you should therefore consider whether taking out personal insurance cover for your child is warranted. This insurance might cover contingencies including medical/hospital expenses, ambulance transport outside the ACT, and cancellation of transport/accommodation or loss of/damage to luggage.

The ACT Ambulance Service provides free ambulance transport for student who are injured or suddenly become ill at school or during an approved school organised activity within the ACT.

## ACTIVE TRAVEL PROGRAM EVALUATION

Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) is undertaking an evaluation of the school active travel programs, including the Ride or Walk to School, Active Streets for Schools and School Crossing Supervisor programs.

As part of the evaluation, TCCS is requesting school communities to complete a short online survey about their travel habits to and from school. The survey can be accessed through [this link](#) or via the QR code below.



TCCS has engaged First Person Consulting (FPC) – a Melbourne-based evaluation consultancy – to manage the evaluation and the surveys. FPC will not be collecting any identifiable information from anyone completing the survey, and all responses will be kept confidential and anonymous.

TCCS appreciates your support to evaluate these programs to continue to enhance the program offerings to schools.



# Reminders

## EXCURSION & PERMISSION NOTES

YEAR	TOPIC	DUE	PAYMENT
K - 6	Classroom Resources		\$90
2023	Voluntary Contribution		
1/2	Excursion - National Museum of Australia	Now	\$12
3/4	Excursion – National Gallery of Australia	26 May	\$10
Selected Students	Belconnen Region Cross Country Carnival	18 May	\$10

**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:

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

*Thank you for your support*

## 2023 VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS Preschool & Primary School

Your voluntary contribution goes directly toward purchasing educational resources for students.

**Primary** \$100 per year – 1 child  
\$150 per year – 2 or more children in family (primary site)

**Preschool** \$200 per year – 1 child  
\$300 per year – 2 children in family (preschool site)

### Payment can be made by:

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

*Educational resources for students*



**Stay and Play!!**  
**Every Thursday morning**



**IS YOUR CHILD STARTING PRESCHOOL IN 2024 OR 2025?**  
**DO YOU LIVE IN MELBA, FLYNN OR SPENCE?\***

PARENTS, CARERS AND CHILDREN  
ARE INVITED TO DROP IN ANY TIME BETWEEN  
9.00 AND 10.20AM TO

### STAY AND PLAY.

OUTDOORS PLAY WITH ART, CRAFT, SANDPIT, DRESS UPS,  
CONSTRUCTION, SONGS AND STORIES.

We meet at Flynn Preschool  
Hedland Circuit, Flynn  
every Thursday morning  
from 9.00 – 10.20am

\*Please note - this does not guarantee enrolment  
at a Mount Rogers Primary preschool site.

PRESCHOOL TEAM LEADER and PRESCHOOL TEACHER  
Belinda Lum: belinda.lum@ed.act.edu.au

## 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.

**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>



**SUP  
HIRE**

**Stand-up paddle board hire at**

**Lake Ginninderra**

*Bookings essential*

**0432 600 655**