Dear Families,

How nice to have the Canberra Day long weekend in the middle of term. A chance for families, children and staff to enjoy the special celebrations planned for our city, get away to the coast or just enjoy extra time together in what looks to be nice weather. The first half of term 1 has been a happy and successful time with our school really demonstrating what a central hub for connections, communication and information sharing it can be for a whole community:

- We have received positive feedback on the information nights held in weeks 2 and 3 and people appreciated the child care in the library, the shorter presentations in the hall, the longer presentations in each classroom and the detailed term letters.
- Our first Coffee Chat of the year was a full table and new families met experienced Turner parents. This week’s Coffee Chat hosted by Robyn and Jen in my absence, was well attended too. Topics of interest covered this week were the mechanics and rules around school board elections, chess and the increased family involvement in community activities as well as a larger number of families connecting informally after school on the school grounds. The group also looked at the new ACT Public Food and Drink Policy and accompanying fact sheets (outlined further in Robyn’s column this week).
- The Big Afternoon Tea on the Friday of week 3 was a wonderful informal opportunity for children and their parents/carers to get together and connect.
- The Class Parent Contacts Network is very active and the planning for informal out of school activities (at the pool, at galleries) is gaining momentum and many new families have been welcomed into our school by the class reps. Later in the newsletter is the link for you to sign up to be a part of your child’s class network of parents if you have not already done so.
- The P&C committee positions were filled at the AGM and the Board elections ran last week. (The result cannot be shared with the community until the Directorate’s Returning Officer declares the result and then our Turner Assistant Returning Officer Linda Keith announces that to our school community.)
- The Disability at Turner session last week had a good turn-up and there was lots of information sharing, meeting of other parents and opportunities for questions and clarification of processes and resourcing; and
- The Individual Learning Plan (ILP) meetings facilitated by Allison Chapman between teachers and families have started this week.

Coming up in the second half of the term we have our swimming carnival on Thursday 12 March and Renee Gill has information later.
in the newsletter plus an invitation for you to join us at the pool; our first set of Reading Workshops for parents/carers on 17 and 24 March, you can book in by phoning the school (the ad is later in the newsletter); and you are invited to our assemblies as well.

One of the emails I received from a parent outlined how pleased she was that she has a little flexibility in her work to spend time in the classrooms of each of her children, gaining a window into their day. She went on to say ‘I’m lucky enough to be able to spend some time in each of the kids’ classrooms (albeit on alternate weeks) and it’s just such a wonderful experience to see how their talented teachers work. I wish that all parents were able to do it.’

So if there is any way you can find an hour even once a term in your child’s class I know you, the teacher and your child will gain a great deal from it.

Enjoy the long weekend; I just love the balloon festival!

Warm regards,

Jo

Jo Padgham

---

**NAPLAN Withdrawal Period**

The National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be held for our year 3 and year 5 students from 12–14 May 2015.

The period for parents to apply for their mainstream child to be withdrawn from some or all of the NAPLAN assessments is open now.

If you would like more information about this process please contact Sharon, Robyn or Jo for more information on 6205 6622.

---

**From The Deputy**

**Launch of the ACT Public School Food and Drink Policy**

Last week the Education and Training Directorate launched the new *ACT Public School Food and Drink Policy 2015*. The policy outlines a whole school approach to food and drinks and how to support children to develop healthy eating and drinking habits from an early age.

The policy was developed in consultation with nutrition experts, parents and carers, students, and the broader community and a suite of fact sheets has also been developed to help school communities understand and implement the policy. The policy and supporting sheets are available from the directorate’s website.


**Turner School Practices and Guidelines**

Turner School has practised for some time the healthy choices outlined in the policy such as promoting the drinking of water and healthy food options. We do not use food as rewards or encourage the consumption of sugary foods. Our teachers are also mindful of providing healthy options for special events like classroom celebrations.

Turner School also promotes safe practices to support students with food intolerances and allergies.

The school and Turner School Board in consultation with the community will develop a set of guidelines that articulate how the policy works for our school. There are exemptions to the policy and the Turner Guidelines will outline our practices for families. These include:

- Food and drinks sold at occasional fetes, fundraisers and school events no more than twice per term although healthier alternatives are encouraged.
- Food and drinks supplied from home, including birthday cakes.
- Curriculum-related cooking although schools should refer to the National Healthy School Canteen Guidelines when making curriculum decisions with regard to cooking.
Our teachers will continue to work with students in health and nutrition education and to consider religious and cultural practices at school events that involve food and drink. The school will also work with the Black Mountain School in ensuring that our Friday lunches continue to provide nutritious and healthy lunch options.

Categorising foods and drinks

The policy categorises food and drink using a traffic light system according to their nutritional value and levels of energy, saturated fat, fibre, sugar and salt.

GREEN food and drinks are the best choices. They should always be available, displayed in prominent areas, and actively promoted and encouraged. GREEN foods and drinks form the basis of a healthy diet. GREEN foods and drinks offer a wide range of nutrients and are generally low in saturated fat, sugar and salt.

AMBER foods and drinks should be selected carefully. They should not dominate the food and drink choices displayed or promoted. AMBER foods and drinks contribute some valuable nutrients, but contain moderate amounts of saturated fat, sugar and/or salt and may be low in fibre. AMBER food and drinks may contribute to excess intake of energy (kilojoules/calories) if consumed in large quantities.

RED foods and drinks should not be provided or sold in schools. RED foods and drinks are low in nutritional value and fibre and may be high in saturated fat, added sugar and/or salt. RED foods and drinks may also provide excess energy (kilojoules/calories).

Exploring the Fact Sheets and support materials

The fact sheets deal with a broad range of issues from the running of school canteens and fundraising through to the provision of resources for families and healthy lunchbox and treat options. Below is a link to the healthy lunchbox fact sheet for your reference.


Please take the time to look at the policy and fact sheets.

Year 5/6 Camp Cooba

We had a group of very tired teachers and students return from the 5/6 camp at the Cooba Sport and Education Centre. The camp was a wonderful experience and we will include more about camp experiences for you in the next newsletter. The school would like to thank the ten Turner staff members (Sam Hardwicke, Clive Beecham, Lyndsey Simcoe, Lauren Russell, Hana Kramer, Gosia Citowicki, Heather Walker, Julia Ison, Allison Chapman and Sarah Thomson) who organised and accompanied the students on camp.

Robyn Watson

**Turner Students at the Australian Junior Chess Championships**

Saffron Archer and Judy Tan recently competed in the under 12 girls division at the 2015 Australian Junior Chess Championships held in Canberra. Saffron placed third, winning a trophy and prize money, while Judy played well above her chess rating to finish eighth. Turner’s chess teacher Jeff Suptut, generously lent his time and expertise to help the girls throughout the tournament, and also assisted Saffron with her tournament preparation.

Saffron and Judy were members of Turner’s girl chess team which represented the ACT at the 2014 Australian Schools Teams Championship – the most elite chess competition of its kind in this country. The girls are looking forward to trying to qualify a Turner team for the 2015 event, the first qualifier being the upcoming North Canberra Girls Primary Zone Championships (date yet to be confirmed, but likely to be held in March).
P&C Report

The Fete Committee has formed. The first meeting is on Thursday 5 March, 7pm at The RUC at Turner, 54 McCaughey Street. You don’t need to be part of the committee to contribute to the fete. If you have ideas about how you’d like to see the 2015 fete run please let me know.

At the March P&C meeting we are going to set out our goals for the year. We’re collecting suggestions from the staff, students (via the SRC) and parents and carers. So far our list includes bits to make the inside of the cubbies more fun (wheels, telescopes, squiggly wiggly bits that will make the kids giggle), a musical playground, extra bike racks, a cover for the bike rack area so the bikes don’t get wet in the rain and a lift to enable wheelchair access to the stage.

What would you like to achieve in 2015? If you’ve suggestions (big or small) on what you’d like to see as goals for the P&C and ideas for how we can make Turner even better, or you’d like to hear what others think, please keep coming along to the next meeting. If for some crazy reason you can’t make it, you can always call me or email me. The next meeting is on at 7.30pm on Wednesday 18 March in the Library.

Let’s make a new list and start ticking it off.

Thanks
Helen Bell
P&C President

Reading Workshop
for
Turner Parent / Carers and Classroom Volunteers

Parents, Grandparents, Carers, Guardians and Volunteers all welcome.

Tuesday 17 March 2015
9–10.30am repeated at 7–8.30pm (Part 1)

Tuesday 24 March 2015
9–10.30am repeated at 7–8.30pm (Part 2)

Please commit to both sessions, held in the school library.

It is important children receive consistent messages about reading.
These two workshops will provide insights into the reading process and the strategies we use to support readers.

If you are already helping, or would like to help with reading in classrooms OR if you would like to know more about supporting reading at home, please come along.

Please RSVP to either school office
Ph: 62056500 or 62056622
We begin our sports calendar this term with our swimming carnival in week 6 on Thursday March 12. All children from Kindergarten to year 6 will attend the carnival with a modified program being provided for our younger students. Children who are 8-12 years old will be eligible to compete in a range of races on the day. Entries are due in by Friday March 7. Students cannot enter races on the day.

Children who compete on the day will need to qualify within set times to be eligible to compete at the Belconnen Zone Carnival on Friday 27 March. Qualifying times can be found on the School Sport ACT website – the link is listed with our PSSA calendar of events.

Throughout the day all students will be involved in a range of structured activities such as: volleyball, cooperative games, sand activities and water based relays (to take place in the water park and middle pool). All children must remember their shirt that can go in the water - this shirt must be worn at all times when not competing in races. Children are encouraged to wear their house colours as they will be earning house points in all their activities.

Parents are encouraged to come along for the day. If you are able to assist in any way please let the front office know and they can pass your information on to me (Renee Gill).

Term 1 has also seen the formation of the 2015 Turner School PE and Health Committee. The committee aims to promote health and wellbeing throughout the school community. The committee is made up of a group of dedicated teachers from all year levels that are passionate about enhancing Turner’s PE and Health program and providing rich and exciting opportunities for all involved.

Throughout 2015, children across K-6 will be participating in school based sporting clinics that are run by local sporting associations. These clinics support class physical education programs and provide the students with the opportunity to learn from experts in a number of different sports. These sessions will help to develop student skill levels and general fitness and on a number of occasions will lead to the opportunity to represent Turner at interschool PSSA competitions.

As part of a holistic and inclusive approach to health and wellbeing, a number of our students are also involved in programs such as the Pegasus Riding Program, Hydrotherapy and bikes. We join in community days such as ‘Be the Best You Can Be Day’ and the multi sports day for students with disabilities.

All classes have daily PE/fitness sessions. These are a mix of fundamental movement skill development, games, endurance, gross motor and are differentiated to suit different student needs and abilities. We schedule outdoor activity in line with our Sun Smart policy and also take into account frosty and cold mornings when they come too.

This year we are looking at further developing our relationship with Lyneham High School and their students by implementing fundamental motor skills and sports coaching sessions across the year levels. We also are excited to have some students from Lyneham High School assisting us with our swimming carnival and working with the children throughout their rotations on the day. This a great relationship that works well for leadership development for the older students and provides necessary assistance for us.

We will again offer 2 weeks of Learn to Swim lessons in term 4 for 60 children in 1/2 and an additional 60 places for 3-6 children. Our policy at Turner is to offer the learn to swim lessons to non-swimmers and poor swimmers before those who already access swimming lessons. In addition to this program, the Directorate is funding a water safety program for all year 2 students in semester 2. We will provide families with more information as soon as it is available.

We have a talented staff in terms of PE, sport and fitness and the in-school activities are of a high quality. In addition to class and team activities, staff members run morning Boot Camp on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays before school (8.30am in the quad) and everyone can join in...parents too!

We value parent, grandparent and carer support of our special events and welcome your expertise and time. Please contact your class teacher or myself if you can support our Turner PE and sport program in any way.

Renee Gill
The Primary School Sports Association (PSSA) is the body responsible for organising sport at a representative level across the ACT. Their website provides a great deal of useful information on upcoming sporting events [http://www.schoolsportact.asn.au](http://www.schoolsportact.asn.au). In addition to the website, information will be available on the PE/Sports notice board in the school hall and through in-class announcements.

The dates for this year’s key PSSA carnivals are listed below. **Please note that we are now part of the Belconnen PSSA region for 2015**

**Swimming:**
- Belconnen Swimming Carnival- Friday 27 March, Term 1, AIS Canberra
- ACT Swimming Carnival- Thursday 8 May, Term 2, AIS Canberra

**Cross Country:**
- Belconnen Cross Country – Friday 22 May, Term 2, Stromlo
- ACT Cross Country Carnival- Monday 2nd June, Term 2, Mt Stromlo

**Athletics:**
- Belconnen Athletics Carnival- Thursday 20 August, Term 3, AIS Canberra
- ACT Athletics Carnival- Tuesday 22 September, Term 3, AIS Canberra

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>Term 3</th>
<th>Term 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Whole</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Term 3</strong></td>
<td><strong>Term 4</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School K–6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Athletics Carnival—</td>
<td>Clinics TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Swimming Carnival—</td>
<td>Thursday 6 August (TBC)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 12 March</td>
<td>AFL Clinics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>K</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1/2</strong></td>
<td>AIS Swim School</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3/4</strong></td>
<td>Oz Tag Clinics</td>
<td>Touch Gala Day</td>
<td>AIS Swim School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>AusKick Gala Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5/6</strong></td>
<td>Oz Tag Clinics</td>
<td></td>
<td>AIS Swim School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Harmony Day at Turner School**

On Friday 20 March, Turner School will celebrate Harmony Day. This day recognises and celebrates Australia’s cultural diversity. Did you know we have over 40 different languages spoken right here at Turner? On Harmony Day we celebrate our inclusive community and we celebrate a sense of belonging. This year’s theme is ‘thank you’.

On this day we are asking everyone to wear orange (the colour that represents Harmony Day). Each child will also participate in an art activity in their classroom which will reflect their own culture and what they are thankful for. These individual artworks will come together to create large murals.

To help celebrate and build a sense of respect for our cultures, why not use this opportunity to talk to your child about their history and family roots, maybe dust off those photo albums and share these with your child.

If you have any questions about Harmony Day, please call the school on 6205 6622. Sharon Moloney, Leanne Oxley, Leanne Lucas and Elizabeth Hook (Harmony Day coordinators).
Apps Column
Sharon Moloney, Allison Chapman, Sam Hardwicke

Did you know about some of the clever settings on the iPad?

We all know how amazing iPads are and how engaged our children are when using them. But did you know about the extra features on the iPad and what they can do?

Not too many of us are confident to fiddle with the settings menu on the iPad however there are some great features that might be helpful to you at home! Each apps column we will take you step by step through some of these settings.

Locking into an app
This is called Guided Access on the iPad. Guided Access allows an adult to lock children into just one app which then requires a four digit passcode to allow the app to close. It also allows you to block certain functions within the app.

To turn it on....

**STEP 1**
Go to Settings, select General from the left menu. Then select Accessibility.

**STEP 2**
Scroll down and select Guided Access.

**STEP 3**
Turn Guided Access on by sliding the button to make it green.

**STEP 4**
Choose a four digit number (one your children will not guess!). You will need to enter this twice.

**STEP 5**
Open the app you want to use. Triple click the home button (the small circle at the bottom that closes your apps) and select Start. This will lock you into the app. You can also adjust the Options before you press start such as taking Touch off when you want them to not have touch access, Motion where they will not be able to rotate the screen within the app or you can set a Time Limit. You can also draw a shape around the sections you want to disable. These will go grey and you will not be able to touch them once locked into the app.

To unlock the app, simply triple click the home button again, put in your four digit passcode and then select End. Simple!

---

Do you know any great apps for learning? We’d love to hear about them! Contact Sharon, Allison or Sam at school on 6205 6622.

Want to know what apps we use? Our teachers are using a number of devices in their rooms to support children at all levels of learning. The list of the apps we use is on the school website.
Get connected at Turner School!

Sign up online to get connected to the parent community.

You can:
- Join your child’s class group of parents to get to know other families in your child’s class and possibly help in the classroom.
- Sign up for the Turner P&C information email.
- Volunteer to become a Class Parent Contact – be a friendly contact point for parents in your child's class.

How do I sign up?

Go to: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/8DVCFVB

More information
See the Volunteer page of the Turner School website or email
Class Parent Contact Coordinators:
- Robyn Thurecht robynthurecht@gmail.com
- Anne Napier annetim@iinet.net.au or
- P&C President, Helen Bell Helen.Bell@gbca.org.au

Weet-bix Kids TRYathlon

Congratulations to the Turner School students who participated in the Weetbix Kids TRYathlon at the Australian Institute of Sport on Sunday 15 February, including:
- Max A
- Olivia A
- Sienna B
- Nikita C
- Owen D
- Luca D
- Sophie H
- Stephen J
- Harry J
- Isobel J
- Kyle M
- Jamie P
- Leighton P
- Scarlett P
- Lily Q
- Tom Q
- Morgan Q
- Thea R
- Thomas R

Upcoming Assemblies

Wed 11 Mar, 2.10pm—Whole School Assembly, Senior Hall led by our school captains featuring the Turner Trebles and year 6 band.
Wed 18 Mar, 2.10pm—Senior Assembly, Senior Hall led by 5/6 Oodgeroo Noonuccal.
Wed 9 Apr, 2.10pm—Whole School End of Term Assembly, Senior Hall led by our school captains. Featuring the year 6 band.

Lost Property

Please ensure your children’s uniforms are clearly labelled with class and surname to ensure items be returned. Lost property can be located in both Condamine and David Street buildings.
Please take a moment to check for any lost property as any unclaimed clothing will be forwarded to our second hand clothing pool.

2015 Turner School Parent/Carer Expertise & Interest Register

We are keen to draw upon the talents, expertise and volunteer capacity of our school community. If you have a skill, expertise or interest you are happy to share with teachers and students, please go to the link below and enter your details.
https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2015_Expertise_Register

Late to school?

All students are required to collect a blue late note from the front office if they arrive at school after 9.10am.

Can’t Find a School Note or Letter?

Check our website under School Notes in the Our School tab or the Team Updates tab.
www.turners.act.edu.au

Car park safety

We have developed a green slip to put on the windscreen of cars parked on grass areas around the David St/Hartley St pick up and drop off areas to remind parents/carers to park in the on-street areas around the school. We understand parking is insufficient within the school carparks and we are working on solutions. Our children’s safety is paramount in all the measures we undertake and thank you for your cooperation.
**Pi Day!**
On 14 Mar 15 at 9:26am the (slightly American) date/time is 3/14/15 9:26. What better way to celebrate than to get together with like-minded Pi lovers and recite Pi. Dickson College will be running a community Pi memorisation competition!

Dickson College – 9am, 14 Mar 15

---

**Community Notices**

---

**O’Connor Cooperative School**

**FETE**
Saturday 21 March 2015
10am to 2pm
Macpherson Street O’Connor

---

**Pi Day!**
On 14 Mar 15 at 9:26am the (slightly American) date/time is 3/14/15 9:26. What better way to celebrate than to get together with like-minded Pi lovers and recite Pi. Dickson College will be running a community Pi memorisation competition!

Dickson College – 9am, 14 Mar 15

---

**Bricks @ The Woden School**

Brick Expo and Competition supporting Muscular Dystrophy and students with special needs.

**SAT/SUN MARCH 14-15TH 2015 9AM-4PM**
For competition details go to [http://www.thewodens.act.edu.au](http://www.thewodens.act.edu.au)

“Bricks @ The Woden School” is a Canberra Brick Expo event organised in association with the Canberra Lego User Group and the Woden School.

This event is not affiliated with The LEGO Group. LEGO and the LEGO logo are trademarks of The LEGO Group. © 2014 The LEGO Group.

SPONSORED BY:

---

**27th CANBERRA MODEL TRAIN EXPO**

**SATURDAY 28 March 2015 9am-5pm**
**SUNDAY 29 March 2015 9am-4pm**

University of Canberra High School
104 Baldwin Drive
KALEEN

- 30 Scale Model Railways
  - Displays & Clinics
  - Children’s U –drive
  - Trade stands