Dear Families,

Swimming Carnival success

Last Thursday’s pool day was a wonderful day and we could not have been luckier with the weather. Our day was packed full with novelties and games in and around the smaller pools and waterpark for all K-2 children and being a part of the day also helped the younger children see what a big sporting house competition swimming carnival day was all about. It was wonderful to have fourteen year 2 children from the O’Connor Cooperative School join us as well. The eight year olds and above involved in the races in the 50 metre pool had a brilliant day with house spirit soaring and increased participation in races from previous years. The older children also participated in fun swimming novelties and games when not in races. The Sports column later in the newsletter has more information on the carnival and those going on to represent our school. There is a great page of photos too.

Learning goals

I have had the pleasure of spending time in classrooms and I have been most impressed with the specific goals that students have set to help them determine just what it is they want to improve. Teachers work with students individually to help them work out their specific goal and in many cases the goal is written by the child and put close to where they are working to remind them of their focus. The goals are short term, specific and achievable. Most students will work out a reading, writing and maths goal and when they have achieved it, they feel quite a sense of achievement and can then go on to set the goal for the next step. Some students set goals in other learning and social areas as well. This also allows children working at different levels in the one class to have an individual learning path suited to them. We have found, along with the researchers in the field, that having students involved in setting goals and working towards them builds engagement with learning, motivation to learn and knowledge of being successful in their learning. I was very impressed by year 2 students who could tell me exactly what their writing goal was and how they had worked in that session to ‘get better’ in that area. I asked Kristina Pasalic to write a little bit more about her class and their goal setting work in this newsletter. Most impressive!

Harmony Day is being celebrated at Turner tomorrow Friday 20 March

The theme for Harmony Day this year is ‘Thank you’. Everyone is encouraged to wear something orange tomorrow, the colour of Harmony Day.
Reading Workshops for parents and carers

This week a big group of parents and carers attended Part 1 of the Reading Workshops; either the morning session or the evening session. Jen Faul, Robyn Watson and I have written an article on reading that provides a window into some of the practices in our classrooms and also some tips for parents to follow at home. Take the time to read the article. We will also keep it on the website for future reference.

Vandalism

Over the weekend we were unfortunately targeted with wilful acts of vandalism. The perpetrators accessed the roof areas of our school and then proceeded to smash external security lights and evacuation speakers along with some pipes. This is just so sad and senseless. We have been lucky for a very long time with virtually no vandalism to our buildings and grounds and we certainly hope this is a blip and we will return to a vandal free period. Thank you to all families who keep an eye on our school out of hours and I encourage you all to continue to do so and call the police should you ever see anything suspicious.

Car Parking and children’s safety at pick up time

Thank you to all parents and carers who have adjusted their parking arrangements at pick up time to make our school a safer place for children. This is particularly so on the David St side of the school where we have successfully reduced the number of cars parking at pick up time on the grassed areas where children walk. You will be aware that for a three week period we put ‘green slips’ under windscreen wipers of cars parked on the grass to remind people of our safety message. At its peak we had 27 cars on the grass and the lowest day 0 which is an impressive reduction! In the last week of the green slip reminders we averaged 4 or 5 cars a day. While we are not continuing with green slip reminders for the near future, we do ask that Turner families continue seeking alternatives to parking on the grass. I do know it is not easy for you given the current car park situation. We have noticed that there are often spare parking spaces along Hartley St so please check there to see if you can find a space and then walk to meet your child. Rest assured I am working very hard on your behalf to get our Directorate’s Capital Works team to lock in the car park upgrade as a priority, but at this point I have no further news.

Warm regards,

Jo Padgham

Additional Coffee Chat

Thursday 26 March, 8.45–9.30am
Library Conference Room
Come along!

Pick up zone on Condamine St entry loop

Please do not park your car in the pick-up zone next to the silver seats while you wait for your child to come out of class. Please leave the area free for cars to pull over while their child who is already waiting at the seats gets in the car.

School Photos

Monday 23 March 2015

Wear your full school uniform, brushed hair and a smile!

If you have not returned your photo envelope, please return it as soon as possible. One envelope per student.

All children will be photographed individually, even if they do not wish to buy a copy.

Please note, Preschool Wed-Fri class (PSH) photo day will be Friday 27 March 2015.

Don’t be late to School!

Warm regards,

Jo Padgham
**Student Individual Goals**

In 2KP Hungry Bears, we have begun setting some individual learning goals for reading, writing and maths. I regularly meet with each child in my class to talk about their learning and support them to write their goals to suit their learning needs. Together we have carefully chosen these goals based on what they want to improve along with targeted feedback from me about their learning. As the goals are displayed in a laminated pouch on the children’s desks, they are easily accessible during every lesson for children to keep track of what they are working towards. It also allows me to provide children with targeted on-the-spot feedback on their progress. As children achieve or ‘score’ a goal, they are then able to celebrate their achievement of getting smarter in their learning and set themselves a new learning goal to work towards.

Here are some examples of learning goals from our class:

- **I am working on reading the pictures to help me work out the tricky words.**
- **My writing goal is to write more sentences because I normally only write one long sentence.**

Kristina Pasalic, 2KP Hungry Bears

**Hats and Second Hand Uniform Items**

Autumn is upon us; however some of our maximum temperatures seem like summer! It is timely to remind all families that we ask all students to continue to wear a brimmed hat when outside for PE, sports or lunch and recess play. We follow the Cancer Council recommendation of hats off for June and July. The office team keep a supply of new hats for sale for $8.25 each should you need to purchase a new one for your child. Exact money in a labelled envelope with your child is OK, as well as parents popping in during the day to buy a hat.

Deb Parr and her team keep a very organised set of tubs containing clean second hand uniform items by size just outside Deb’s office. We encourage parents to pop in to see if there is anything they need to stock up on as the weather changes to cooler days. We ask for a $2 donation per item. Remember if your children have outgrown any pieces of their uniform, please bring them in and we will add it to the cupboard for someone else to access.
P&C Report

Last night’s P&C Meeting was great. We set our priorities for 2015. I’d like to thank everyone who took the time to make suggestions, especially the students, via the SRC team, and the teachers for coordinating this input. After considering suggestions from three wish lists (children, staff, parents and carers), here is what we agreed:

$5000 will be given to the SRC to spend on their priorities. The list of suggestions, presented last night, included more play equipment for the train yard, soccer goals, skipping ropes, sand toys, handball courts, an art mural on the outside wall, hopscotch and other games for the quad, soccer field markings, a flower garden, a play area for people with no hats, as well as many more items. The SRC will work with teachers to fund the items they agree are priorities given their budget.

$5000 will be allocated to the school to start work on a Musical Playground. This will be a designated part of each of the playgrounds where a mixture of commercial and bespoke outdoor instruments will be fitted. It will be accessible by all children.

$2500 is being spent on additional seating in the coming month.

$2000 is being given to the school for resources to support this year’s Artists’ and Writers’ Festival.

$300 will be spent on bits to make the cubbies more fun (wheels, telescopes, squiggly wiggly bits to make the kids giggle).

$4700 has been allocated for extra bike racks, or to rearrange the existing bike rack area to accommodate more bikes. The options for doing this are being discussed at the May meeting, so if you have ideas on how we can improve the bike rack area (or suggestions for where additional racks could be located) please let me know.

There were a few items on this lists that are being worked on separately. Jo is working with the Directorate to get shade for the Senior Enclosed Playground. She is also working with the Directorate on parking, particularly on the David Street side. This project is running in conjunction with the transformation of the 1/2 courtyards into outdoor learning spaces. The P&C is working on getting more seats to enable picnic tables under the trees. As part of the Book Fair, to be held later in the year, we will ask for donations of books for the library.

In other news, the Fete Committee is going well. We’re going to time the next meeting with the Thursday night Trivia Competition at the RUC, so we’ll probably win. I’ll keep you posted.

Thanks goes to Robyn and Anne and all the Class Parent Contacts. It’s great to see parents using this network to build connections.

It has been a great start to the year and it’s inspiring to have so many dedicated and active parents and carers working together to make Turner an even better school.

Kind regards,

Helen Bell, P&C President

0414 714191, Helen.bell@gbca.org.au

NAPLAN INFORMATION

General information

Parents/Carers information page:


2015 NAPLAN information brochure for parents and carers:

http://www.nap.edu.au/verve/_resources/
NAPLAN_2015_Parent_information_brochure_web.pdf

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.
Turner School Swimming Carnival!

The Turner School Swimming Carnival was held on Thursday 12 March at Dickson Pool. Students and teachers from K-6 spent an exciting day at the pool dressed in red, yellow, blue or green to support their house. We had an overwhelming increase in participation this year, with many students electing to challenge themselves and enter races. This included entries from many students from the O’Connor Cooperative School, as well as a last minute rush of entrants for the Girls 50m Butterfly.

As well as races we had a number of rotations for students to enjoy, many of which resulted in very wet, smiley faces. Each of the rotations were run by a Turner teacher and supported by a Lyneham High coaching student. The Lyneham students assisted by applying different sports coaching strategies they have been learning and helped to ensure everyone had a great time. There were also Lyneham High students assisting with timekeeping, marshalling and announcing. We would like to thank everyone who helped to make the swimming carnival possible and also make special mention to the parents/grandparents who gave up their time to support, time keep and marshal on the day.

On Friday 27 March, 22 Turner children will be attending the Belconnen Zone Carnival and representing our school. We wish them the best of luck in their races and we know that they will make all of us at Turner School really proud.

Well done to the following participants who came in under the qualifying times for the age groups:

Miani K
Grace Q
Kai C
Junho Y
Mion K
Sophie H
Thea R
Silka S
Jesse G
Ethan T
Tasmin E
Luka S
Lucinda A
Olivia A
Sebastian A
Hugh W
Nikita C
Mia T
Hannah P
Kyle M
Kailan B
Abigail M

First place:
Stonehaven
405 points

Second place:
Gloucester
337 points

Third place:
Isaacs
245 points

Fourth place:
Gowrie
213 points
My favourite part of the swimming carnival was the bucket race with Jo.
Roy I, 1/2CK

I came, I saw, I swam...
I won!
Chandler L, 5/6LS

I went in the water park and it was very cold.
Chiara C, 1/2IS

The swimming carnival was fun, I hope I do it next year.
Junho Y, 5/6LS

I swam in my first race ever!
Jessie C, 5/6SH

At the swimming carnival I swam 50 metres of backstroke. I swam so fast I was exhausted at the end!
Thea R, 1/2LF

I was swimming against a lot of 5/6s and they were very good swimmers. I was swimming against one of my friends from 5/6. It was very tiring and a little bit fun!
Shubh S, 3/4DC
This week the junior SRC would like to introduce themselves to you:

1/2 IS Animalia:
Edward F - I am new to Canberra. I am one quarter English and this is my first time being an SRC rep.
Toby H - My favourite game is Pokemon. I am very happy to be at this school and this is also my first time being in the SRC.

1/2 LF Jungle Drums:
Jaiden K - My favourite food is chocolate sundaes. I was born a soccer player. My favourite TV channel is Go.
Miranda S - I love to eat ice-cream. I like to read books and this is my first time in SRC.

1/2 SS Imagine:
Theo G - I like Lego. I like animals and space.
Tilly B - I have a big sister called Olivia at Turner. I like drawing. I am seven years old.

1/2CB Magic Beach:
Ada K - I love chocolate cake. I love to sing and dance.
Freddie K - I like watching TV. I love spaghetti. Minecraft is my favourite game.

1/2CK Cuddlepie:
Xiang Z - I like to read dinosaur books. I like to swim at the AIS pool. I am good at riding my red bike.
Claudia M - I have broken two bones in my life. I love swimming in my pool at home. I am 'caring Claudia' and I like to support everyone!

S1/2VO Snugglepot:
Sevde K - I am a good friend. I am in year 2 and I love Charlie and Lola books.

1/2MM Itchy Bears:
Stella H - My birthday is the 25th May. I have two fish named Cornflake and Browny. This is my second time being an SRC rep.
Leon T - I have a cat named Obie. I love playing with my friends and I’m really good at doing jumps on scooters.

1/2 KP Hungry Bears:
Zoe Cr - I like tap dancing. My favourite colour is purple and I like puppies.
James M - I am really good at soccer. I am a good friend and I play with my friends all the time.

S1/2DS Brave Bears:
Natalie M - I am good at reading and drawing. I like to camp in a tent and I like to play with the Play Station.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following Turner students who were selected by audition to join the ACT Primary Concert Band and ACT Primary Concert Choir through the ACT Instrumental Music Program.

ACT Primary concert band:
- Zoe G
- Jessie C
- Alice T

ACT Primary Concert Choir:
- Fey E
- Phillip E
- Isobel J
- Amira H
- Rebekah K

Student Artwork

Sienna B, 4LS
Art Report

Kindergarten

Here are some children in Sandra’s kindergarten class enjoying a productive and creative lesson about ‘Still Life’ watercolour painting. They learnt about composition, placement of the flowers and vase. They have also been learning about primary and secondary colours, and how they work well together. We picked the beautiful flowers from the garden.

Year 1/2

These are some student’s from Charlotte’s 1/2 class creating Indonesian masks – which links with their inquiry unit on festivals from different cultures. They looked at examples from Indonesia and learnt about the reason they are worn. The medium was mixed; they used card, fabric, gold paint and oil pastel.

Sally Visser-Marchant, Art Teacher

Year 3/4

This term 3/4 students have been exploring colour mixing using acrylic paint. We began with looking at the expressionist artist Paul Klee (1879-1940). Klee’s practice was underpinned by a continual exploration of colour mixing, with an emphasis on ‘tints’ and ‘shades’. Students learned that a ‘tint’ is a colour with white added to make it lighter; a ‘shade’ is a colour with black added to make it darker. The next step was for students to mix their own tints and shades, each time applying it to their artwork. Students used small plates as a palette, first adding white and black to primary colours, then mixing secondary colours and adding white and black again. The range of tints and shades were endless! Some students painted concentric circles, others painted a grid. All students produced a powerful artwork, clearly demonstrating their understanding of tints and shades. Keep an eye out in the Senior School Children’s Gallery, there will be a display up soon!

Renée Ferris, Art Teacher

Artwork by James E, 3/4MR

ACT Debating

The ACT Debating Union conducts competitions throughout the year for students to be involved in weekly formal debates. This year Turner School has entered 4 teams into the Junior Open Division for the very first time. The year 6 students involved in debating this year are Jess W, Tess B, Oscar Z, Alice T, Hannah P, Ezra J, Ronan D, Sam J, Hugh W, Adam M, Fey E, Rebekah K, Andre B and Felix T. The students are enjoying learning about formal debating, how to structure a debate and how to formulate a rebuttal. Turner teams will compete each Monday evening against students in years 6-8 from schools across the ACT. Monday 16 March was our first debate with students arguing the topic ‘We should allow doctors to override medical decisions parents make on behalf of their children’. For this debate we had one team arguing the affirmative position and three teams arguing the negative. Each team performed brilliantly for their very first time debating, with Turner 1 winning their debate against Canberra Girls Grammar School. All of the students involved are looking forward to our second debate next week and working on the feedback provided by the adjudicator.
Interested in joining us for a FREE after school tour of the National Art Gallery to see artwork by our class names?

- Margaret Preston
- Fred Williams
- Rupert Bunny
- George Lambert
- Clarice Beckett
- Namatjira

When: Friday, 22 May 2015
Time: 3.45 pm for approximately 1 hour
Where: Meet at NGA main entrance at 3.40 pm

All parents and students welcome!

Must RSVP to robynthurecht@gmail.com by 10 April 2015 with number of adults and children attending. The NGA will allocate staff according to numbers and need a month's notice.

Proudly organised by your friendly Class Parent Contacts!

Bike, skateboard and scooter riding safety!

Police advise that just like riding a bike, all skateboard and scooter riders should wear a properly fitted helmet. Bike, skateboard and scooter riders should dismount once on the paved areas of the school to ensure pedestrian safety. Bikes and larger scooters are to be locked in the bike racks and skateboards and smaller scooters stored in class teachers designated safe spots for the duration of the day. Police advise that children under 8/9 years of age are still developing visual judgement and should not ride to school without an adult.

Lost Property

Please ensure your children’s uniforms are clearly labelled with class and surname to ensure items can be returned. Lost property can be located in both Condamine and David Street buildings. We currently have items from 5/6 camp and the swimming carnival.

Please take a moment to check for any lost property as any unclaimed clothing will be forwarded to our second hand clothing pool.

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

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.

Upcoming Assemblies

Wed 9 Apr, 12.30pm—Whole School End of Term Assembly, Senior Hall led by our school captains. Featuring the year 6 band.

Whole School Read Aloud

Please join us for a Whole School Read Aloud presented by the 1/2 teaching team.

Wednesday 25 March, 1pm
In our Indigenous Garden
Community Notices

Matty Grey
Age-Less 2: Game On
March 21-22 Canberra Theatre Courtyard
Last show on the 22nd will have an Auslan Sign Language interpreter
Winner Best Kids Show 2013 Sydney Fringe Festival

Want to be in the crowd of kids where everyone has a Nerf Gun? Well, AGE-LESS 2: GAME ON is a show about games. All types of games. Whether it’s the latest in 3D-4G-hi def-surround sound-wifi-Wii-fit-on-line interactivity or ...well, you know, games where you actually interact,

Matty Grey will entertain and delight with his rapid-fire comedy and non-stop energy. He’s a performer who unlocked the hyperactive play mode and never turned it off!

This is a show for 5 to 12 Year olds with plenty of humour for the Mum’s and Dad’s. This is the follow on from his sell out show in the 2014 Festival Grossed out Game Show.

Tickets are at the web site canberracomedyfestival.com.au

2015 Sports Expo

*Participants will learn and play a variety of sports over the two days with Hockey, Touch, Netball, Cricket, Football and Volleyball all involved in 2015

O’Connor Cooperative School

Fete
Saturday 21 March
10am to 2pm
Macpherson Street
O’Connor

To register please go onto the Hockey ACT website. Registrations will close 6th April 2015.
www.hockeyact.org.au/development/clinics
DIABETES TYPE 1

STUDY

Do you have a relative with Diabetes Type 1?
Are you 1-45 years of age?
Are you generally healthy?

You may be eligible for the Type 1 Diabetes (T1D) Prevention Trial

If you have a relative with Type 1 Diabetes, you could be at risk for this disease. Paediatric Research at Canberra Hospital is participating in studies monitoring the risk of Diabetes in relatives of T1D individuals and is offering an opportunity for you or your child to participate.

Please contact the Paediatric Research and Clinical Trials Unit at The Canberra Hospital on 61747600 for more information.

This study has been approved by the ACT Health Human Research Ethics Committee