



Turner School News



Principal - Allison Edmonds * Deputy Principal - Robyn Watson * Business Manager - Deb Parr
Board Chair - Aarthi Ayyar-Biddle * P&C President - Nathan Richards

Safe and Supportive Schools Guidelines

Turner School's Safe and Supportive Schools (SSS) Team have reviewed our SSS Guidelines. These guidelines are based on the ACT Education Directorate's SSS Policy. As part of this process we sought input from students, families and staff. Thank you to all our families who were involved in the consultation process, via our coffee chats or by completing the survey. The feedback from the community has been reaffirming and as a school we are looking at implementing a few actions to make Turner School an even better place to be! Newsletter articles from our school psychologist, more structured play during lunch and recess run by our student school leaders and a school-wide connected program for our social and emotional literacy learning are a couple of actions we will build upon. Once the guidelines have been officially signed off by the Board, it will become available on the website for access.

Jess Engele and Antonia McGuire

5/6 Market Day

Tomorrow is the 5/6 Market Day. We encourage all K-6 students to bring along a few dollars on the day and enjoy the range of activities. Stalls will be operating from 11:00am-1:00pm.



Term 4 Fundraiser

What's your favourite animal?

On Friday 27th November (Friday week 7) come to school dressed as your favourite animal (or in casual clothes)

Bring along a gold coin and help to raise money for the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and Pegasus.

WWF and Pegasus



Wednesday 18 November 2020

K-2 5:15pm - 6:15pm / Yrs 3-4 6:30pm-7:30pm

Children are welcome to wear their best party clothes

Drinks will be available for \$1.50.

Cost: \$3.50 each \$7.00 a family of CURRENT K-4 students.

Due to COVID we have made some adjustments to meet current restrictions. So we don't have adults coming into the hall, we will have a signposted 'kiss and drop' and 'kiss and collect' point.

- Kinder-Year 2 disco: 5:15pm- 6:15pm – drop off and signed in at Condamine 'kiss and drop' point.
- 6:15pm- students collected at Condamine street pick up point.
- At 6:15pm-6:30pm, we will have a hall clean (touch point cleaners will be here to help teachers)
- Year 3/4 Disco: 6:30pm-7:30pm – drop off and signed in at Condamine 'kiss and drop' point.
- 7:30pm- students collected at Condamine street pick up point.

Students will be supervised by our amazing teachers! Our year 5/6 students will have a disco later in the term and notes will go home to these students.

Jayne Murray | P-K Team Leader



Wednesday 18 November Online
- Junior Assembly and Senior SRC meeting

Next Turner School
P&C meeting
7pm Tuesday
17 November
2020

Menslink Visit



On Monday the 3rd of November, Menslink attended Turner School and spoke with the 5/6 boys. Menslink is an initiative that supports young men with mentoring and education programs to help them through tough times. I found personally that the menslink speech was very helpful. Michael provided us with different strategies to help deal with different issues in our life. The main message was to speak up about your feelings with someone you trust and check in with your friends. **Ronan | Year 6**



SAVE THE NIGHT

Turner School's end of year concert, "Stronger Together" Night In

Thursday 10th December (Week 9) starting at 6.30pm

Join us for a night to remember as we innovate our traditional Turner School end of year concert. Settle down with your family (in front of a device) and enjoy a picnic (on your living room floor), while watching the excitement unfold!

At 6.30pm we will begin with a 'live' tuning in, followed by the pre-recorded concert uploaded to the Turner School – Learning from Home Hub at 6.45pm. All your favourites will still be included, such as instrumental groups, choirs and the P-6 cohort performances. Add this event to your calendar – you don't want to miss it!!

Ride/ Walk to school day 2020

S3/4EL and S3/4LC would like to thank everyone who got involved in our walk/ride to school day last Friday. The sun came out and it was great to see all the scooters, skateboards, bikes and walking shoes making their way to school. As part of our PBL, we have been researching the impact cars have on our environment and think it's important to raise awareness and encourage sustainable practices in the Turner School community.

Our classes worked hard to spread the word and organise this event, so we thank you for helping us make a difference.

Effie Logan | S3/4EL Classroom Teacher



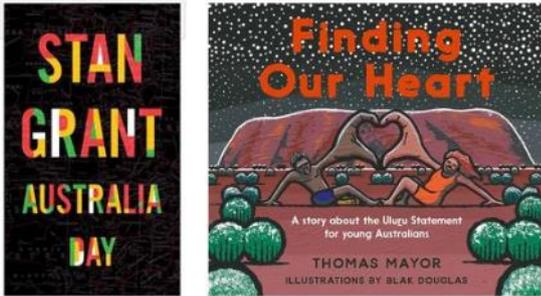
NAIDOC WEEK

A huge thank you for the appreciation shared by our parents at the P&C hosted breakfast for World Educator's day. I truly do work with a team of people who are so dedicated in doing their best for our students and these moments of recognition are a lovely reminder of the connection we have between our students, staff and parents at Turner School!

This week is NAIDOC week, with a focus on 'Always Was, Always Will Be'. I acknowledge the wisdom we draw on from Aboriginal People to influence our ways of being at Turner School. I thought I would share with you what's influencing my perspectives at the moment.....



Read it



Watch it



on ABC iView

Tune into it



https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn3czuOXaK8sz_PicbexF8A

Follow it



<https://www.instagram.com/commongroundaustralia>

Buy it



<https://www.apyartcentrecollective.com/about>
<https://aiatsis.gov.au/iam>

Hear it



<https://www.abcmusic.com.au/discography/deadly-hearts-walking-together>

Kind regards,
Allison Edmonds



NAIDOC Week 2020

This year the theme for NAIDOC week is '*Always was, Always will be*' and annually our school has participated in the North Side School Cluster activity. This year we took 9 students to Dickson College for an opening ceremony, feed and a Buroinjin skills workshop and game.

Across the school, the Year 3/4/5/6 students will be taking part in a weaving activity to create a traditional bracelet via link from a traditional teacher. The Kindy, 1/2 students will be taking part in dance workshops with an aboriginal student dance leader.

Jayne Murray | Indigenous Coordinator

Junior Athletics Carnival /Mini Olympics/ Olden Day Games

In Term 3, the Junior school planned to run a mini Olympics which was cancelled due to weather. So, we are going ahead with a Carnival with a few changes. In week 9, Wednesday 9 December we will be running an olden Day Games day. The students will come dressed in house colours and compete for house points based on participation and enthusiasm.

We will be participating in running races, egg and spoon, sack races, quoits, three-legged race etc. It will be planned to run over half a day and will be great fun leading into the end of the school year.

Jayne Murray | P-K Team Leader



2020 Transition Information—(for families that are new to Turner School)

Preschool 2020 Groups—Getting to know you interview—Interviews will be held during Week 9 of this term for 2020 preschool families to meet with their preschool teacher. Interviews are held in the David Street Meeting rooms and are half an hour in length. All families will be contacted in the near future to arrange a time.

Years K-6 “New to Turner families Transition visit” Thursday 19 November, 12:30 – 1:30pm

New to Turner School families are invited to visit current classrooms to get to know the school and other children. Please come to the school office on Condamine Street at 12:15pm. Parents can drop children at the Condamine Street Office for a quick meet and greet. Please see our online enrolment information session for parent information- <https://sites.google.com/ed.act.edu.au/learning-from-home-hub/learning-from-home-turner/enrolling-for-2021>. If you are concerned that your child may need a parent to stay for the transition visit please contact the school so we can arrange for COVID safe adjustments.

Years K-6 Turner School transition day - Friday 11 December, 12:30 –1:30pm

All Turner children and new children attending Turner in 2021 spend the middle session of the day with their 2020 peers. Please come to the school office on Condamine Street at 12:15pm.

Please RSVP to the transition sessions by following this [link: https://forms.gle/F8vQAaYvs3rLucqL8](https://forms.gle/F8vQAaYvs3rLucqL8).

If you have any issues in accessing the Google Form, please contact the school on 6142 2430.

Additional support—If you think your child requires additional support in transitioning to Turner School, please let us know so that we can support them in making a successful start to the school.

Setting Your Child up for Success in Kindergarten for 2021.

Starting full-time school is a big step for many children. One of the ways we work with families to build school readiness and to support children transition well is to offer our 2021 kindergarten families this workshop. This will cover some aspects of learning in kindergarten and how families can support their children. We will also provide some tips on ways that families can support their child in developing independence, promoting physical activity and wellbeing, and to develop social and emotional skills, language, communication and thinking. This workshop will be held on Thursday 26 November 2020. We will run two sessions, one in the morning at 9:00-10:00am and then repeated in the evening at 5:30-6:30pm. Please RSVP on <https://forms.gle/DaG72FX9Hsk3BLEf8>.

Bookings are essential.



Sustainability Leadership Student Conference

On the 30th of October, we met online with Dr. Sophie Lewis (who is our Commissioner for Sustainability in ACT) and other primary school students in the inner North to discuss the things primary schools are doing in their schools for sustainability.

We told them proudly about our STEAM Festival this year and how the theme chosen by the students was '*STEAM for Sustainability*'. We had the chance to share about some of our student-led projects here at Turner such as our Earthlings lunchtime club, our kitchen garden and our Project Takebk 10c bottle collection scheme. Some of the other schools said they would like to explore their own 10c bottle collection ideas which was exciting for us to share!

We also heard that other schools were leading their own sustainability projects such as building native community gardens, 'Waste free Wednesdays' and other soft-plastic challenges. It was interesting to hear what other schools are doing in sustainability and how we can improve here at Turner.

Dr Sophie Lewis would like to continue our discussions and will work with us to make connections and support our student-led projects for sustainability at Turner in the future which is very exciting for us! **Neil & Pipit (Year 5)**

Leaving Turner School?

If your preschool to year 5 child is leaving Turner School at the end of the year (or before) please notify us as soon as possible by letter or [email](mailto:turner@turners.act.edu.au) to the Front Office.



A message from our School Psychologist

ONLINE SAFETY FOR OUR CHILDREN



With our recent stats showing that mental ill-health is on the rise in our youth, more than ever our children and soon to be teenagers are needing their parents to help them navigate and thrive on the bumpy and unpredictable ride ahead.

The digital landscape has many positives and opportunities both for connection and education, but it can also be toxic and pervasive, a space where bullies, trolls and sexual predators connect with our young people 24/7. It is where our children connect, and we cannot cut them off from it, but in the same way we teach protective behaviours, we also need to teach our children to be critical consumers and to impart boundaries around screen time and use. The association between increased digital technology use and psychological distress is well documented.

The developmental impact of screen time differs according to the stage of development your son or daughter is at. While all families love the accessibility of facetime chats, and we know the many benefits of computers, from honing motor skills and eye-hand coordination, and enabling independent educational learning, they can lead to overstimulation and in fact limit real time interaction. Video games have similar benefits like eye-hand coordination and problem solving and devices like the Wii can actually get children moving, but as parents it is critical to use reviews and sites to pick suitable games; that games are played in shared spaces; that privacy settings are set and we know how to report in-game abuse and that you are aware of how gamers communicate so that you can spot signs of cyberbullying. In addition to monitoring their game use, have regular conversations with your child about what they play so they can come to you if something goes wrong. Give them advice on how to handle situations when players may be targeted or they see something that upsets them.

Neurologically, the pre-teenage and early teenage brain is growing and an abundance of dendrites are created which allows our young people to easily learn language; pick up a musical instrument and if disciplined excel in sport. But technology can have negative impacts on that same developing brain, and the feel good chemical dopamine released when our reward centre is triggered through repetition can also cause addiction and eventually decrease ability to organise, plan and prioritise. It is important to look both at the quantity and quality of screen time.

"Young people can't change their genetics or the economic situation of the country, but they can choose how they spend their leisure time. First and most important is to get enough sleep. Make sure your device use doesn't interfere with sleep -- don't keep phones or tablets in the bedroom at night, and put devices down within an hour of bedtime.... Overall, make sure digital media use doesn't interfere with activities more beneficial to mental health such as face-to-face social interaction, exercise and sleep." Twenge, March 15 2019 American Psychological Association

In addition to the physical issues being sedentary causes, too much screen time also creates concerns with real-life interactions, and instead of having the tools to adapt, children become increasingly isolated, with a sharp decline in imagination and empathy.

The Office of the safety commissioner has provided an online safety resource for families of young people (see attached). In addition to one-to-one regular "dates" with your child doing thing you both love; surrounding them with passionate and authentic people who share their interests and ensuring real face to face friendships through recreation activities, they advise parents to get involved and share online time with their children.

There is a lot of advice around boundary setting and what needs to be considered. <https://www.challengesuccess.org/parents/media-tips/> Parents are urged to make these proactively and preventatively, and also to model the behaviours they advocate.

**CHALLENGE
SUCCESS**

The following is suggested:

- Have free and frank discussions. Encourage your children to talk to you and let them show you how they use the internet. Discuss with them the things they may come across
- Manage their devices. Encourage your child not to use their device in their bedroom, and have these charging in a communal area from an agreed time each evening
- Put yourself in control by activating parental controls. Safe search settings can also be activated on Google, YouTube iTunes and iPlayer
- Stay safe on the move by realising that public wi-fi may not have the same safety features active.
- Have a family contract around internet use including where and when they can use portable devices
- Discuss with your child the benefits and risks of social networking, and ensure they understand that anything they email, upload or message you stay around for forever
- Keep private information private. If your child has a social networking profile teach them how to set strict privacy settings, how to block or ignore people and request that you or a shared friend you both trust becomes their friend/ follower so that posts and conversations are monitored
- Check age ratings. The age ratings that come with apps, games, films, and social networks are a good guide as to whether they are suitable. Also see Australian Classification Board and Common Sense Media

Wishing you and your family well and keep safe

Michelle (Turner School Psychologist)



2021 Class Information for Turner Parents and Carers

Following on from the successful model in place for a number of years, we anticipate our 2021 K-6 class structure will be Kindergarten, combined year 1 and 2, combined year 3 and 4 and combined year 5 and 6 classes for both mainstream students and special education students. As with this year, should there be a big variation in the numbers of students within the paired cohort, we may need to form one class of a single cohort.

The teachers know your children very well and bring a lot of information together when forming classes. We ensure each class has a balance of abilities, gender, behaviours and personalities. It is also important for children to experience new friendship groups as they progress through primary school and teachers work carefully to ensure friendship dynamics are a factor in class makeup too.

During term 4 we have a number of strategies in place to support all children with broadening friendship groups and with the transition process moving into 2021. As yet class locations and co-locations have not been decided.

We value input from parents and carers and students as well. We have asked years 1 to 5 students to name four good 'working partners' for us to consider and parents may also like to consider this as well.

If you would like to give YOUR thoughts on class placement for your child/ren please complete the slip attached and return to the Condamine St office by Friday 6 November 2020. A copy of the blank slip will also be placed on the school website. Completing this slip is optional. I know many of you are very happy to leave this decision with the school. Of course we cannot give guarantees on placement wishes as there are at times competing wishes presented.

Kind regards

Allison Edmonds

Parent / Carer Advice to Allison Edmonds on 2021 Class Placement

Student name:

Current class and teacher:

2021 year level:

Parent / Carer completing this advice:

Please name four children who would be 'good working partners' for your child:

Any other information you would like Allison and the teachers to consider?

Please ensure this slip is returned to the Condamine St office by Friday 6 November 2020.

