



Garran Gazette

DIARY DATES

8 December	Uniform Shop open, 8.45am	11 December	Farewell assembly: Mr Maccioni, Mrs Lomp, 2pm
8 December	School Concert, 6pm		
10 December	Year 1/2 MPowerdome, 11am		
11 December	CEIS, 9.30am		



Week 8, Term 4 – Thursday, 4th December 2014

Staff Movement at Garran Primary School

Each year teachers transfer into positions within our system of ACT Government schools. Transfer links closely with both professional development and organisational growth and maintains a vibrant, highly skilled workforce. The Garran School Leadership team have worked in partnership with our teachers, our School Network Leader and the Human Resources area of Central Office to consider the skills and aspirations of our teachers at Garran against our workplace needs. Transfer and selection of staff is currently in its final stages and we will be outlining staff movement in greater detail in next week's newsletter in order to sincerely thank departing staff and to ensure we welcome new staff. We are delighted to have such strong interest in the positions at Garran and have secured experienced teachers who wish to work at our school.

Preschool Information Evening

A big thank you to Belinda Mack, Marion Huho and Christine Lomp for last night's information evening for parents of next year's preschool intake. The teachers' presentation was well received and it enabled the parents to get a good feel about the programs and activities provided over the coming year.

School Concert

The students and teachers from P – 6 have been putting the final touches to their acts for the upcoming concert extravaganza to be held on Monday 8th December. Students need to be at school at their designated areas no later than 5.30pm to be kitted up for the 6.00pm start. It is a wonderful opportunity to showcase the many talents of our students and it will provide parents with a social event extraordinaire!

Reports

We are in the process of finalising Semester 2 reports which will go home with your child on Friday 12th December. If you are leaving Garran before the 12th, then reports will be mailed to your home address on Tuesday 16th December 2014.

Lock Down Practice

On Wednesday, the school participated in a lock down drill to provide us with information to ensure that the procedure was carried out effectively and efficiently. The drill did indicate some minor aspects which will need to be addressed but, on the whole, classrooms and offices were secured in minimal time. This will be discussed by staff at a feedback session next week.

RSPCA Fundraiser and Year 6 Cake Stall

Thank you to all the students, parents and teachers for your support at today's Garran Government sponsored fundraising event. I was great seeing so many rabbits, superheroes, pirates, clowns, astronauts, and many more parading around the school. Visitors to Garran today would have a very different impression from our normal school day. The Year 6 cake stall was extremely well received and we'd like to express our gratitude to our Year 6 parents for providing the huge quantities of delicious cakes and Sandi Lees and Garran Government for organising this event. There will be a more comprehensive report in next week's newsletter.

Sports' Leaders 2015

On Friday 12th December at 2.00pm, Garran will be holding House meetings to vote for the new House Captains and Leaders for next year. This is open to all students (except Student Leaders) in Year 5 to convince their team mates to vote for them after they have given their one minute speeches. So, if your child is trying out to be part of their House leadership team, encourage them to write their speeches before they present them next week.

ICAS Mathematics Medal

Arainn Pillay and his family attended a medal presentation ceremony in Sydney last week where he was presented with the ACT Year 2 Mathematics Medal. This goes to the top scorer in each state and it is a real credit to Arainn's mathematical ability given the many hundreds of students in Year 2 who participated in this across the ACT. Congratulations, Arainn!



Some reminders:

Sunscreen: please remind your child that sunscreen is available in their classroom and encourage them to put some on exposed areas before leaving the room at recess and lunch.

Parent Helper Morning Tea: This is organised by staff to thank all those wonderful [aren't helpers who, without your support, makes our lives that little bit more hectic. You are cordially invited to the staffroom at 11.00am on Friday 12th December to share in stories, some fine repast and a cuppa.

Christian Education in Schools: For those families who have organised this in previous terms, the last session will occur on Thursday 11th December in the school library from 9.30am – 10.30am.

K – 5 Gold Award Assembly: Friday 12th December from 9.30am.

Best wishes from all of us,

Jennifer Hall, Robert Maccioni, Christine Lomp, Penny Taylor-Yates and Janice Hourigan.

Questions about school policies or school practices including sharing of joy or concerns can be directed to the Learning Team Leaders listed below:

*Christine Lomp
Janice Hourigan
Penny Taylor-Yates
Robert Maccioni
Robert Maccioni*

*Preschool;
Kindergarten;
Year 1 and 2 Team;
Year 3 and 4 Team;
Year 5 and 6 Team; and Accelerated Learning Program (ALP) co-ordinator.*

AUSSIE AND EFFORT AWARDS

Sunny Boyce - 5S

It was the 5th of February 2013, when I first met Sunny. She walked unassumingly into my classroom, sat at my feet and answered her name so softly that it was lucky she was only a small distance away from me.

Throughout that year, I started to see another side of Sunny emerge. Her dazzling smile began to appear more often and she began to share more of her herself with the class. By the end of the year, I could not only hear her clearly when she answered her name, but I was often greeted by Sunny's warm and caring personality.

The young lady receiving the Aussie of the Month is someone that we can all look up to as students and people. She is kind, caring, helpful and always puts in 100% effort to everything she does. She puts others ahead of herself and never complains when she is asked to do even the most menial of tasks.

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## **Braydon Diebert - 3MH**

Braydon, you make yourself available to all the wonderful opportunities that present themselves. You put more than your best into everything you do. Your caring and sincere nature are traits that make people feel good, simply by being in your presence. But above all, the effort and resilience you display each and every day towards improving yourself and reaching your full potential are remarkable. Because of this openness and your resilient character I don't think your growth will ever cease. On day 1 this year you mentioned your desire to be the 'Effort Award' recipient for 3MH this year, it is your mind set, unceasing effort, altruistic, kind and humble nature that have not wavered once this year that have led to your being awarded the book prize you so much wanted.

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Madison Wedding - 1/2GL

Madison is a super conscientious worker.

Always puts 100% effort into everything she does.

Displays perseverance and concentrates eagerly when facing anything new.

Interested in learning, and works hard to excel in all areas.

Self motivated, showing outstanding listening skills that reflect her commitment to gaining more knowledge.

Organises herself promptly - and is willing to help her group and others.

Never complains about anything being too difficult, she just gives it a go and does her best.

Madison is certainly a well deserving recipient of this award. Congratulations, Madison.

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## **Isaac Kuppens - 4F**

Isaac is recognised for his outstanding citizenship in Year 4.

Throughout the year, Isaac has consistently demonstrated an excellent standard of personal and social values, both in the classroom and on the playground.

Isaac has an exuberant personality, however, he shows superb control by always attending seriously and calmly to lessons. At appropriate times, his humorous anecdotes and contagious laughter are shared with the class and his flamboyant performances in speech tasks have enthralled us all year long.

Isaac always uses his comedic skills for good. He is often found in the playground cheering up someone who may be having a bad day, with his funny stories.

Isaac is also a peace-maker. He has a strong sense of social justice and regularly offers helpful advice to others when conflict arises.

Isaac was nominated as the 4F recipient of the Aussie Award by the majority of his peers for his exceptional qualities.

Congratulations Isaac, you are a truly deserving Aussie!

## Natasha Sitsky - 1/2L

At the beginning of the year we came up with a class motto – Put Forth Your Best Effort. Students' brainstormed what it meant to 'Put Forth Your Best Effort' and throughout the year I have continued to refer to our class motto and use students and their work as examples of what this looks like- hoping to inspire others. One person who has continued to impress me has been Natasha.

Natasha started the year, and has ended the year consistently demonstrating her best effort. She has continued to try her best in English, Maths, and all other subject areas. Natasha has persisted, even when she found things challenging, and felt that she couldn't think of anything or couldn't do something. This persistence has led to success and Natasha has not only ended the year with excellent academic results but also with a strong work ethic. I would like to share an amazing poem that Natasha wrote, after she had come to me and said 'I can't think of anything to write'!

Congratulations Natasha on a well-deserved award. I hope you continue to try your best and persist, for this will lead to many successes in your life.

## Sachin Nanda - KN

Sachin started school full of confidence, with a big beaming smile, he was curious to discover new ideas and facts. Many times during the day I will hear, 'Mrs Nye did you know that....? Mrs Nye this means.....', as Sachin shares his ideas. He adds rich information to our class discussions, helping us to delve deeper into our learning together. Armed with the tools of his learning, Sachin challenges himself to improve his writing and reading. He determinedly chips away on his weekend recount, to include important detail to make his writing interesting and informative. Sachin has a love of reading and he eagerly looks forward to unlocking the next exciting adventure. He never says, 'this is too hard or I can't do it'. He always puts in his best effort and will stay until the task is finished to a high standard. I know that with your positive attitude and enthusiasm for learning you will go far and be capable of many exciting things. Congratulations on being awarded the Aussie of the Month. We wish you all the best as you head into Year One.

**Garran Primary Giving Tree**



Each year at Garran Primary School, our whole community is extremely generous, placing a wide variety of gifts and non-perishable food items under the Giving Tree in our front foyer.

In the last fortnight, our staff were devastated to hear that one of our long time Garran families lost their entire house and all their belongings to fire. We felt that giving begins at home, so this year we felt strongly that the Giving Tree donations go to this family.

After mentioning this at last night's P&C meeting, we were thrilled to see gifts arrive first thing this morning - a beautiful cutlery and dinner set!

We are seeking donations of any household items, clothing or gift cards. There are four children in the family – three boys aged 2, 11 and 14, and a girl aged 4 ½.

We would ask that items be placed under the Christmas Tree and that any gift cards are placed the payment/note boxes – **please no cash.**

We know how generous the Garran Community is. We are touched by the beautiful gift boxes that the Year1/2 students have created for Marymead.

We hope that with your help we can make the life of this family a little brighter at Christmas.





## School Concert BBQ

Thank you to those who have already volunteered to help. There is plenty of opportunity for others to chip in. Set up will be from 2pm - first sausages should be from 3.30PM and last service at 5PM.

- ◆ Sausage sandwiches \$2 (halal beef and chicken, vegetarian)
- ◆ Cans of drink/bottles of water \$1
- ◆ fairy floss and popcorn \$2



## School Banking



Dear deep sea savers and families, last week of school banking is next **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December**, remember to bring your deposit books!

Due to high demand the projection cups national wide, those who has redeemed the projection cups on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec would receive their rewards beginning of term 1, 2015.

Lastly, as of 2015, school banking would be on **Thursday** mornings.

Have an awesome week!

Allison Clark – 0421 089 988

## Fiesta Financials



The Fiesta and Raffle raised **\$29,125** for school projects.

This is a great result achieved through the fantastic organisation of Annie Leonard, greatly supported by the school classes and the willing volunteers.

And, of course, by the many people who turned up on the day.



## Congratulations!



*Eric Bell (5S) and his team from Kambah were successful in winning the ACT Junior Tennis Division 6 Red Premiership last Sunday.*

*The boys played against Campbell Tennis Club, who had been ladder leaders all year, and had not had any match losses. The teams played in sporadic rain showers, but were able to keep focus. After a few nail-biting sets, the Kambah Tennis Club won the match by 4 sets to 2. Well done to both teams.*



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Sally Vardy - School Board Chair  
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# Garralicious Canteen News

" Hello to our Garran families, carers and friends!"

As we wind down to the end of 2014, we understand how busy your general day to day life is becoming.

Our LAST day of trade will be FRIDAY 12th of DECEMBER 2014. The following week will be reserved for cleaning the canteen and its equipment.

Can I please ask EVERYONE to start nominating a 3 CHOICE option for both food and drinks in their children's lunch orders as I will be reducing my outside ordering for the end of year.

If vegetarian options are the only choice you can make, please be specific so that we can make another vegetarian option available for your child with the products we use. ( please view the menu on the website or get a copy from us directly ) Where we can, we will substitute as best we can with the money provided in your child's order.

Very briefly, I will be looking into probable price increases and overall changes to the look and the variety of our GARRALICIOUS menu over the summer. The price of bread and milk has again increased this year and while we were locked into a fixed price agreement with our milk supplier for the course of 2014, this will change again as of January 2015.

Our bread supplier is still cheaper than commercial supermarket suppliers but will still need to be looked into.

If any of our Garran Primary School families or carers (existing or new) would like to contact me and have a chat, please feel free to drop in to the canteen.

If it's busy ( I apologise in advance! ) I'm more than happy to chat over the phone after 1pm Mon to Thurs and 1.30pm on Fridays.

Thank you to you all for your support in 2014, and don't be shy to use our well awarded services in 2015.

Merry Christmas!

Viva, Bev, Liz and the rest of the Garralicious team."



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**CONGRATULATIONS to Emma Slater (3JH) who wins  
the Green Card Challenge!!!**

