Welcome back to an exciting and productive term. We welcome Noni See to our team. She will be teaching Mrs Ross’ class whilst she is on leave.

My name is Noni See and I’m very excited to be joining the Garran community this term. I’ve been working for Canberra’s education sector as a Learning Support Assistant and Youth Worker for the past ten years, but 2016 marks my first year as a classroom teacher after completing degrees in history, English literature, and (now) Primary Teaching. I have two children, their names are Archie and Agnes, and they happen to be Chihuahuas who also run my household. When I’m not reading or writing stories, I like exploring unusual places and trying to keep plants alive. My favourite part of teaching is embracing and nurturing each child’s curiosity and individuality. I look forward in getting to know the students of the Year 1 Wombles, and guiding them through their learning adventures.

The Learning and Teaching Program

English
Our writing emphasis for this term will continue to focus on the genres of recount and exposition, while introducing procedural texts. Students will continue to read a range of texts that explore rich vocabulary to enhance their own writing skills. Our reading program consists of modelled and shared reading, independent reading, guided reading and home reading. To support our guided reading we welcome parent helpers. If you have any time to spare we would appreciate any assistance you can give us at this time, it does not matter if you were not able to join us last term. All welcome!

Students borrow books to read at home every day. It is important that the blue reading satchel is returned daily. This term we will continue with the differentiated spelling program, Bee Spelling, catering for the needs of each child.

Mathematics
Using a hands-on approach, our Mathematics program will focus on place value, counting collections to 100, addition, subtraction, fractions, patterns, length, capacity, time, identifying 2D and 3D shapes, chance and data and the use of graphs to display information. Students will continue to work in differentiated groups rather than within their classes. This enables teachers to fully cater to the needs of each child, ensuring that Mathematics concepts are explicitly taught and practised at an appropriate level for each student. During maths groups, mental computation strategies will be developed as part of our whole-school focus.

Integrated Studies – Technologies - Design
This term our Integrated Unit lies in the curriculum area of Technologies – Design. Students will begin by exploring and comparing their local environment. This will include a walk to the Garran Shops. Please ensure that you return the permission note and medical consent form. The unit will culminate with the students using the principles of design, make and appraise to design and present a plan for a functional and aesthetically pleasing courtyard area for the Franklin building. The focus question for this unit is: Why do we consider how spaces are used in our home, school and community?

Science
Year One students will continue to participate in a Primary Connections Chemistry Science Program unit of work called Bend It! Stretch It! Through investigations, students will increase the use of their senses to explore physical changes in everyday lives, including ones they are responsible for through the actions of bending, stretching and scrunching. By incorporating hands-on activities, students will have opportunities to develop skills of observing, describing, comparing and communicating when reflecting on the properties of materials and how actions physically change objects and materials.

Physical Education
In PE students will participate in movement & physical activity (Fundamental Movement Skills) on a daily basis. Please ensure your child wears appropriate footwear for running and although the days are cooler, that they bring a sun-smart hat in order to take part in these fun lessons. Later this term students will participate in the Athletics Carnival at Woden Athletics Park. Details to follow.
**Bounce Back**

This term we will continue with our whole school wellbeing and resilience program titled ‘Bounce Back’. The program explores topics related to student resilience including: developing positive and social values; developing strategies for coping and bouncing back; finding courage in everyday life as well as in difficult circumstances; optimistic thinking and looking on the bright side; developing relationship skills; and skills and attitudes for being successful. A whole school focus will occur in assemblies each week and then be unpacked through explicit teaching in class groups.

**Indonesian**

In Term 2, students will continue the unit ‘Mari Kita Bermain’ (Let’s Play). Students will explore the kinds of games children in Australia and Indonesia play, noticing and reflecting on differences and similarities. They will play some games popular with Indonesian children and practise using language related to games and taking turns.

**Music**

In years 1 and 2 the ‘Upbeat’ program by Jeffrey Leask continues to be used as a basis for the teaching of Music. In Term 2 students focus on tempo and dynamics and continue to reaffirm beat, rhythm and pitch. They look at fast and slow, high and low, and louds and softs. Students continue to use the Kodaly method. Songs and melding body movement with words will facilitate memory recall. Simple solfa tunes are used to enable accurate pitch. Students use the Curwen hand signs to show where the tunes go. New dances will be taught in addition to those in the Upbeat program. Simple notation will also be taught.

**Library**

Students will take part in information literacy sessions, as well as book borrowing and exploration of texts. Students must have a library bag to keep their books safe. Please check in with your child and ask how they are going with the Chief Minister’s Reading Challenge!

**Homework**

Homework is sent out on Thursdays in odd weeks and is due back on the Monday of the following odd week. Regular reading practice is essential for your child’s reading development. Please encourage your child to read every day. Your child is welcome to read books from your home collection, the public library or our school books.

**Important Information**

**Student Requirements** – It is important that students have a broad brimmed or legionnaire style sun-smart hat at school every day for recess, lunch and PE sessions. We encourage students to bring water bottles and a fresh fruit or vegetable snack for fruit break in the morning.

**Absence Notes** – It is a directorate requirement that a written note be provided following a student’s absence from school. An email to your child’s teacher or the front office is also acceptable, as is a message sent via the Garran Primary School app. Whilst a phone call to the school is appreciated, it does not meet the legal requirements for notification of absence.

To contact your child’s teacher by email - firstname.lastname@ed.act.edu.au

**Important Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 6 May</td>
<td>Mothers’ Day Celebration Assembly, 9am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 12 May</td>
<td>School Rostrum Final, 11.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 17 May</td>
<td>BYOD Information Session, 6pm Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 18 May</td>
<td>Musica Viva</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 20 May</td>
<td>Aussie and Effort Assembly, 11.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 23 May</td>
<td>School Photos (MSP), K-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 7 June</td>
<td>School Athletics Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 13 June</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday Holiday</td>
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<td>Tues 14 June - Wed 15 June</td>
<td>Christian Education in Schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 17 June</td>
<td>Aussie and Effort Assembly, 11.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 30 June</td>
<td>Nexus Arts, Circular Rhythm Performance</td>
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<td>Fri 1 July</td>
<td>End of Term 2</td>
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Please note Nude Food Day is every Thursday.
Kind Regards,


2016 P&C Meeting Dates

The P&C holds its meetings on Wednesday evenings in weeks 4 and 8 of each term commencing at 7.00pm in the school’s staff room.

Term 2
- 18 May
- 15 June

Term 3
- 10 August
- 7 September

Term 4
- 2 November
- 30 November

You are cordially invited to attend.