

Duffy Newsletter

Friday 21st October 2022 - Term 4 Week 2



Be Respectful

Be Responsible

Be Inclusive



PRIME MINISTER

Owen



DEPUTY

Lilly



SPEAKER

Milica

Did you know? You can find notes on our website. Click on the link below to find a school note!

http://www.duffyps.act.edu.au/our_community/notes

Principal - Arilia Abell

Deputy Principal - Michelle Northey

Executive Teachers -

Kathryn Withers: Years P-2

Sarah Moore: Years 3-6

Business Manager - Alice Lollback

Phone: (02) 6142 2513

Email: info@duffyps.act.edu.au

Admin - Linda, Pipp & Shiara

Phone: (02) 6142 2510

Email: admin@duffyps.act.edu.au

Board Chair - TBC

P&C President - Kate Daly

Email: duffypandc@gmail.com

UP & COMING EVENTS

- **P&C Meeting** - Tue 25th October
- **Preschool Pet Ownership Incursion - Possums** - Wed 26th October
- **Wombats** - Thurs 27th October
- **Pupil Free Day** - Fri 28th October
- **Children's Week Grandparents Afternoon Tea** - 2:30pm Thurs 3rd November
- **Cuppa & Yarn** - 3:15pm Thurs 3rd November
- **Community Picnic** - Sat 5th November

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE - ARILIA ABELL

P&C Fundraising for Junior Playground upgrades

Following the school holidays our Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 students returned to find new upgraded outdoor learning area. Over the course of several years our junior school students have worked with their teachers to design and plan a natural play space.

Thank you to our wonderful P&C for their fundraising efforts that have made this possible.



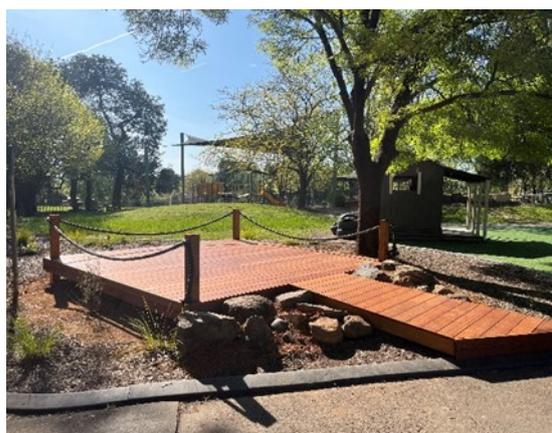


The new space creates a sensory experience with a range of natural elements students can explore using a combination of vertical and horizontal logs, balance beams, boulders/dried river creek bed with crossing bridge and tee pee's for shelter/quiet seating place, a sand pit, sand toy storage, mud kitchen and shop front with tables and seating.



Preschool Yarning Circle & Stage

As part of upgrades to the preschool playground we have installed a 'Yarning Circle' and 'stage or deck'. The use of a **yarning circle** is an important process within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture. The yarning circle has been used by Indigenous peoples from around the world for centuries to learn from a collective group, build respectful relationships, and to preserve and pass on cultural knowledge. A Yarning Circle encourages responsible, respectful and honest communication, to learn and practice the art of listening and talking from the heart, building trusting relationships, foster accountability and provide a safe place to be heard and to respond and share personal stories



Students in Kindergarten to Year 5 Classes

Now is the time we begin our initial planning for the 2023 school year. If you have a child in Kindergarten to Year 5 who **WILL NOT BE ATTENDING** Duffy Primary School in 2023, could you please email your child's name, class and where they will be attending in 2023 to info@duffyps.act.edu.au .as soon as possible.

Academic Reports

ACT public schools have commenced preparing student reports for Semester 2 2022.

The Education directorate has again made the decision that student academic reports will be provided with an overall A-E grade, and an assessment of achievement standard statements on a 5-point scale. Reports will not include detailed teacher comments. This strategy supports schools to prioritise teaching and learning as we continue to manage workload pressures due to COVID-19 and other illness. Our teachers will continue communicating directly with families about student learning and you are encouraged to speak with your child's teacher if you have any questions about their progress.

Duffy Primary School will be inviting all families in for end of semester interviews in Week 9, Term 4.

Regards,

Arilia Abell

Principal

Duffy Primary School

PLAYGROUND AFTER SCHOOL REMINDER

A reminder that the preschool space is operated by Woden Community Services before and after school each day. We ask families to please respect the space and allow the students enrolled in the program to use the playground without the presence of other students and families either before or after school as this impacts on the services program and ability to ensure student safety and supervision.

For families accessing our Junior playground between 3pm & 3:15pm we ask families to please supervise students to ensure their safety. The Junior playground gate will be locked at 3:15pm each afternoon.

A message from the ACT Education Directorate: Updates to the management of COVID-19 in ACT public schools

Term 4 planning days (pupil free)

These planning days provide an important opportunity for our staff to undertake training, plan for the remainder of the term and the year ahead and finalise end of year student reporting which can't be done during class time.

Two staff planning days (pupil free) will again be in place in Term 4. The dates are **Friday 28 October 2022** and **Monday 28 November 2022**.

While students may wish to use these days to catch up on homework and / or assignments, no additional work will be allocated to them on these days. Families may like to use these as wellbeing days for their children.

Students who can't stay at home will be able to attend school and be supervised while undertaking general learning activities. Please confirm attendance with the front office by phone on 6142 2510 or DuffyPS@ed.act.edu.au.

COVID-19 isolation rules have changed

As we start term 4, we continue to see the easing of public health measures that have been a feature of our lives for the last two years.

It is no longer mandatory, under law, to isolate if you test positive to COVID-19, but ACT Health advises that you should still stay at home and take steps to protect those around you.

If your child tests positive to COVID-19

You **must tell the school if your child is diagnosed with COVID-19**. [This is a requirement under ACT Education Directorate procedures for the management of infectious diseases. Telling us when your child has COVID-19 will also](#) help us track if there is an increase in COVID-19 transmission at school and manage any high-risk exposures for our more vulnerable school community members.

As with other infectious diseases, students with COVID-19 symptoms (including runny nose, sore throat, cough, fever) should get tested and **must not attend school while they are unwell**. The ACT Education Directorate strongly recommends parents and carers keep their child home for at least five days if they have COVID-19. You are at higher risk of getting COVID-19 if you live with someone who has COVID-19. ACT Health recommends some simple steps you can take to reduce the risk to others, including monitoring for symptoms, wearing a mask indoors and regular testing.

Rapid antigen tests

You can access a free rapid antigen test (RAT) from the school's front office.

If you test positive on a RAT you must register your result with ACT Health using the [online declaration form](#). Registering your positive result is still required under the Public Health

Staying COVID Smart

While COVID-19 public health measures have eased, the risks associated with COVID-19 transmission remain.

The best way to stop the spread of COVID-19 is to follow ACT Health's recommendations:

Stay home if you're unwell and get tested for COVID-19

Stay up to date with your vaccinations

Wear a mask on public transport and when in public indoors places if you can

Practise good hand and respiratory hygiene

Physically distance from others when in public places.

For the latest COVID-19 advice please visit the [ACT's COVID-19 website](#). More information about COVID Smart public schools is available on the [ACT Education website](#).

Ride Safely to School Week

[Monday 24 to Friday 28 October 2022](#)

During Ride Safely to School Week, Transport Canberra is encouraging our school communities to walk, ride, scoot or skate to school if they are able to. It's a great opportunity for schools to reinforce safety messages around cycling while encouraging students to choose active travel to and from school.

Learn more about the benefits of Ride Safely to School Week at [Travel safely to school - Transport Canberra](#).

Supporting an anxious child video series for families

In support of Mental Health Month, the Directorate has produced a short video series to help families support their child if they are feeling anxious. The three videos are presented by one of our senior psychologists. They cover understanding and responding to a child's anxiety and tips about supporting a child when they're feeling anxious. They are available now on the ACT Education website at [Wellbeing Support Resources for students and families](#).



Kindergarten Health Check Program

Offering catch-up clinics for those children whose parents consented for them to have the kindy health check but were absent on the day/s we attended the school. Parents would have received an 'absent' letter from us, informing them of their child's absence and inviting them to phone Central Health Intake to make a Kindergarten Catch Up appointment.

Appointments are held in the City Health Centre, Level 2, 1 Moore Street, Canberra City, and are available from **Friday 9th December until Friday December 16th**. Parents can call **Central Health Intake on 5124 9977** to make this appointment. When there is a queue, they offer a call back service. Parents may choose this option to retain their spot in the queue and receive a call back in turn.

P & C NEWS

Duffy Primary Twilight Community Picnic – Saturday 5th November, 3pm – 6pm

We are calling for contributions to stalls being held on the day, and volunteers to help out on the day too.

Book donations:

We need your second hand books. It is super easy to drop off or arrange collection of books, please call or SMS Jen on 0418 670 058 for details.

Plants:

Keep nurturing those potted plants for the plant sale!

Volunteer Now!

We need your help, please use this link to nominate times you can assist on the day.

The more the merrier: volunteersignup.org/XTRWX

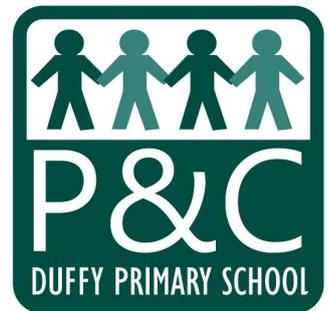
Keep an eye out for a letter coming out next week with more information on the Twilight

Community Picnic, and some raffle tickets to sell with some great prizes.

Upcoming meetings

The next P&C Meeting will be held on **Tuesday 25th of October, from 7pm.**

We'll post more info on the [P&C Facebook page](#) closer to the date. See you there!



Find the **Duffy Primary Parents and Citizens Association** on Facebook!



Don't forget that the lovely staff at Baker's Delight Coolman Court give the school store credits for every purchase made. These credits help us run events like school barbeques and other fundraising events.

Don't forget to mention Duffy Primary BEFORE your purchase.

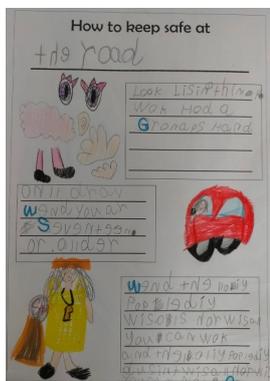
YEAR ONE

Safety first!

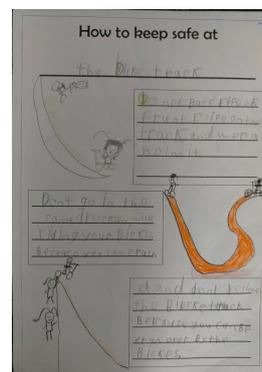
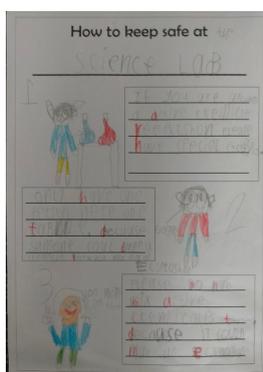
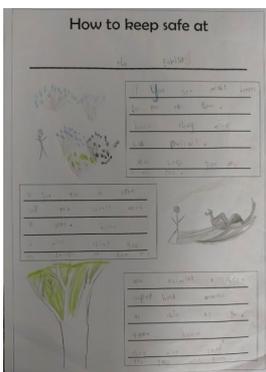
This term, Year 1 has been investigating different areas in our community and what strategies we need to use to stay safe. We looked at road safety first and discussed what we need to do to stay safe around the roads. We learnt Kenny Koala's strategy of how to cross the road with *Stop, Look, Listen, Think and Walk*. Year 1 then went out to the school parking lot to practise this on the zebra crossing.



Our next step was to explore how to stay safe around water, especially coming up to summer. We explored different water environments, such as the beach and the pool, and what we should be doing. The students then created mini roleplays to show how to apply these strategies.



We worked together to identify what we could do when we feel unsafe and how are the best people in our community to ask for help, like police officers. Each student then picked a place in our community, such as the park or the pool. They designed their own safety posters, identifying three strategies to keep safe in these places.



AWARDS

MERIT AWARD

Eevi Y - KCR

Eva J - 2KR

Tarun D - 4TS

Bimsen EM - KCR

Evie W - 2KR

Carter S - 4TS

Jack B - KDL

Fenn W - 2RT

Marcellous S - 5CM

Edgar J - KDL

Mito PV - 2RT

Nikita S - 5CM

Adele C - KKW

Lilla K - 2SB

Logan B - 5SZ

Karam A - KKW

Rupert A - 2SB

Shannon H - 5SZ

Jiaan M - KRW

Alice MF - 3GK

Thomas Turner - 6LK

Hayden T - KRW

Reed C - 3GK

Gryffin Elroy - 6LK

Patricia M - 1RP

Alienna G - 3LH

Tobie H - 6LK

Alice M - 1RP

Rachel G - 3LH

Ample S - 6ZG

Waratah V - 1SF

Daniel B - 4BS

James G - 6ZG

Jesse H - 1SF

Unsung T - 4BS

Kaimana S - 6ZG

GOLD SPIRIT AWARD

Elise G - KDL

Reed C - 3GK

Summer M - 3GK

Emerson H - KDL

Ryker C - 3GK

Erik Z - 3GK

Kirby M - KDL

Mathias C - 3GK

Layla R - 3GK

Charlie M - 2RT

Ryder I - 3GK

Elena R - 3GK

SILVER SPIRIT AWARD

Sam Howe - KCR

Logan P - KDL

Billie W - KRW

Chloie M - KCR

Joey W - KKW

Noah M - KRW

Alex S - KCR

Savenaca R - KKW

Jude F - KRW

Henry W - KCR

Angus C - KKW

Alexander H - KRW

Annabel M - KCR

Bridie K - KKW

Scarlett W - 1RP

Paige P - KDL

Haya K - KKW

Caspar M - 1RP

Emmanuel N - KDL

Elizabeth D - KKW

Alice M - 1RP

Ava L - KDL

Illya D - KKW

Finn W - 1RP

Ella H - KDL

Hayden T - KRW

Avie L - 1RP

Edgar J - KDL

Hugo M - KRW

Judd C - 1RP

Gus P - KDL

Maya R - KRW

Patricia M - 1RP

SILVER SPIRIT AWARD

Edward W - 1RP

Amelia C - 2SB

Yaksh P - 4TS

Dylan E - 1RP

Finnegan D - 2SB

Carter S - 4TS

Chase S - 1SF

Eden L - 2RT

Pia Y - 5SZ

Theodore S - 1SF

Joseph K - 3GK

Benjamin E - 5SZ

Harrison S - 1SF

George K - 4BS

Tobie H - 6LK

Jackson F - 1SF

Lizzie P - 4BS

Sarah M - 6LK

Jesse H - 1SF

Poppy T - 4BS

Maxwell K - 6ZG

Ganesha W - 1SF

Muhammad W - 4BS

Sofia M - 6ZG

River I - 1SF

Leo I - 4TS

Xyz M - 6ZG

BRONZE SPIRIT AWARD

Lingga W - GBP

Rohan K - KKW

Sandy M - KKW

Earn 300 Spirit Points to win the

PBL

HERO AWARD

Join other PBL Heroes in Week 5 and Week 9 for
Morning Tea with the Principal

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Duffy Parents & Citizens Association

Cuppa & Yarn

3 Nov
3pm

Barista
style coffee also
available for
purchase



All Duffy Primary families
are invited to the
Junior Playground
for tea/coffee, chat and play



GRAND FRIENDS AFTERNOON

AT DUFFY PRIMARY

Come and join us!

Thursday, 3 November from 2:30pm



Grand Friends are invited to join our students for an afternoon tea picnic and relaxing reading session outdoors followed by Cuppa & Yarn at 3pm in the Junior playground.

Please RSVP to this event via the front office 6142 2510 or via email admin@duffyps.act.edu.au



celebrating **Children's Week 2022**
22nd – 30th October



12/10/2022

FLORIADE 2022 PERFORMANCE



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A HUGE THANK YOU TO YEAR 5 BAND, YEAR 6 BAND AND SENIOR CHOIR!

On Wednesday 12th October, the Year 5 Band, Year 6 Band, and Senior Choir performed at Floriade!

The weather was BEAUTIFUL and it was thrilling for them to finally have the opportunity to perform again after the last few years of cancellations and disappointments.

The Duffy students absolutely shone on stage, and they demonstrated their hard work and dedication over the last few years, by making some beautiful music.





DUFFY PRIMARY SCHOOL

TWILIGHT COMMUNITY PICNIC

Saturday 5 November 2022
3pm - 6pm

Dust off your picnic rug, grab the family and join other Duffy families and community members for an afternoon of fun. **You don't want to miss this one!**

There will be:

- sausage sizzle,
- games and activities for the children,
- bake sale,
- plant sale and
- second hand book stall.

For more information visit facebook.com/duffypandc



ACT
Government
Education

Broaden your family's cultural experience – become an ACT public school Homestay host

The Education Directorate is looking for Homestay hosts for international students planning to study at an ACT public school at the secondary school level in both term 4, 2022 and 2023.

By becoming a host, you'll be adding significant value to the experience of an international student and will also broaden your family's cultural experience, with lifelong friendships often forming.



Homestay is more than just providing a room and meals. You'll be welcoming a young person into your family and supporting them in their personal growth as they gain new perspectives, confidence, English fluency, and academic and essential life skills.

International students participating in the Homestay program are aged 16 years or above.

Hosts receive \$300 a week. If you can offer a place in your home, have the time to support a student's social wellbeing and academic endeavours and have an interest in other cultures, then we would love to hear from you.



To find out more just search 'International Students' on the ACT Education website: Education.act.gov.au. To express an interest in the Homestay program or find out more, email Homestay Manager Monique Bush on monique.bush@act.gov.au or phone 6207 7281.