

NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Friday 16th February 2024
TERM 1 WEEK 3

WEEK 4

Monday 19th JC Getting to know you interviews 3pm – 4:30pm

Tuesday 20th JC Getting to know you interviews 3pm – 6pm

School photos K – Yr6

SC ODE 11:30 – 12:40pm 102 Pool session

Wednesday 21st JC Getting to know you interviews 3pm – 4:30pm

SC Meet and Greet 4:30 – 6pm

P&C AGM – 6pm start, all welcome!

Thursday 22nd JC Getting to know you interviews 3pm – 5pm

JC assembly – yrs3 /4 - 2:15pm

SC Drum beat program 10 – 11:30am
SC intro to camping ODE 101 depart 3pm

Friday 23rd JC Getting to know you interviews 3pm – 4:30pm

SC intro to camping ODE 101 return

WEEK 5

Monday 26th SC intro to camping ODE 102 depart 3pm

Tuesday 27th SC intro to camping ODE102 return

Wednesday 28th SC NAPLAN
practice test
SC Southside touch football

Thursday 29th SC intro to camping ODE 102 depart 3pm

School Photos – SC, Pre-school, Siblings 8am – 1:30pm
SC Drum beat program 10am-11:30am

Friday March 1st
SC intro to camping ODE 103 return

Students have settled into school routines for another year, and we have a number of events ready to go!

- Monday 19 February to Friday 23 February – Junior Campus Getting to Know You Interviews
- Tuesday 20 February - Junior Campus school photos
- Wednesday 21 February - Senior Campus Meet and Greet BBQ 4.30-6pm
- Thursday 29 February - Senior Campus, Preschool and Sibling photos
- 7 March – School swimming carnival (notes will be sent home soon)
- 13-25 March – NAPLAN, Years 3, 5, 7, and 9



Affiliated Schools Program

Caroline Chisholm School has been selected to participate in the University of Canberra's Affiliated Schools Program for 2024-2026. The Affiliated Schools Program is a collaborative partnership between the University of Canberra and the ACT Government and a key initiative under the Territory's Future of Education Strategy. The partnership is designed to enhance students' learning outcomes.

The Affiliated Schools Program commenced implementation in 2019. The significant elements and structures of the program were developed over a period of time between the University of Canberra and the ACT Education Directorate. A degree of flexibility has been built into the model and the timeframes for implementation to ensure that the Program aligns with each school's preferences and needs, while also addressing the Directorate and University's strategic priorities.

The Affiliated Schools Program is a collaboration designed to shape and enhance the future directions of teacher learning and development in the ACT (pre-service through to lead). The aims are to build teacher capability and a skilled future teacher workforce, equipped to meet the needs and aspirations of ACT public school students into the future. The Program has three major components – clinical models of initial teacher education, professional learning, and collaborative research to support school and system improvement.

The Affiliated Schools Program will enable us to strengthen and enhance our ability to build teacher capability, providing a vehicle for a collaborative and sustainable model for improving our teacher workforce and, ultimately, school students' educational outcomes. We are excited to engage in this professional opportunity designed to support staff to refine their knowledge and skills.

High Expectations at Caroline Chisholm School

- **Our Mission:** Caroline Chisholm School collaborates P - 10 to deliver holistic learning experiences for students, staff, families, and our community.
- **Our Foundational Beliefs:** Learning, Equity and Growth
- **Our Values:** Responsibility, Respect and Perseverance
- **Our Vision:** Caroline Chisholm School champions excellence in our community, enabling all learners to rise to the challenges of a changing world.

Our school values underpin our expectations, and it is through these that we aim to develop students with a strong sense of purpose, integrity and responsibility to others and self.

The school community is made up of students, family, staff, and the wider community. To enact our vision, we must work in collaboration with all members of the community, everyone has a role to play in making school a safe place to learn and work. This means we hold high expectations for positive and respectful relationships. Teachers work at their best when students are on time, ready to learn and respectful. Schools are also workplaces, and school staff deserve to work in an environment where they don't feel threatened or unsafe.

Unacceptable or unreasonable behaviours in the school community include, but are not limited to:

- being violent or threatening violence of any kind, including being physically intimidating, aggressive hand gestures or invading another person's personal space
- speaking or behaving in a rude, aggressive, or threatening way, either in person, via email, social media
- discriminatory or derogatory comments
- the use of social media or public forums to make inappropriate or threatening remarks about members of the school community.

Students who show respect and are shown respect:

- Feel safe around their peers and teachers.
- Are in the right place at the right time.
- Don't yell or talk over others.
- Listen to others even when they disagree.
- Don't try to control others.
- Use respectful language.
- Freely express who they are and allow others to do the same.



Staff are committed to working in collaboration with families to build positive working partnerships to ensure students are learning and wellbeing is prioritised.



The **National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)** is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 and will occur in our school between **13 and 25 March 2024**.

Online NAPLAN tests provide more precise results and are engaging for students. The tests are tailored (or adaptive), which means that each test presents questions that may be more or less difficult depending on a student's responses. This helps students remain engaged with the assessment.

Tailored testing allows a wider range of student abilities to be assessed and measures student achievement more precisely. A student's overall NAPLAN result is based on both the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions challenging; they may be taking a more complex test pathway.

All Year 3 students will continue to complete the writing assessment on paper.

NAPLAN provides valuable information to schools and families about literacy and numeracy achievement. It supports school improvement processes by enabling teachers to monitor student progress over time and to identify areas of strength and development.

All eligible students are encouraged and supported to participate in NAPLAN testing. Visit www.nap.edu.au to see interactive versions of the test and for more information.

We look forward to meeting families next week at interviews on the junior campus and the BBQ on the senior campus.

Warm Regards
Julie

Pre-school news

Welcome everyone!

It's been so wonderful watching all the new little people enjoying different experiences and making new friends at preschool. I need to remind everyone that it is a legal requirement that everyone dropping off and collecting a little person from preschool **MUST be 16 years old or over.** I look forward to learning more about each family as the year moves forward.

Please reach out with any questions, big or small, always welcome.

Jen Heywood

Preschool/Kindergarten Executive Teacher

Jennifer.heywood@ed.act.edu.au

Preschool- Bidjiwang

It has been another exciting and busy start to our preschool year. Children have settled well and are developing friendships with each other. The rhythm of our day allows for group times, free play inside and outside and more structured group experiences like GymbaROO and Gross Motor. To start our day, we come together for our morning meeting, setting the foundations for our school's BSEM practices in JC classes. We have even had some of other morning meetings outside sitting in our brand-new yarning circle.



On Thursdays, Ms Kristie will be doing GymbaROO with us during Ms Jill's lunch break. We practice our balancing, body awareness, have fun dancing together and always finish off with our parachute.



This week we have started our Gross Motor. Each Friday morning at 10am we walk up to the hall on the JC for our Gross Motor session. We split into six groups to take turns at different stations to practice fine motor skills, climbing, hand eye-coordination, balance and coordination as we move our bodies through different spaces. Of course, there is also an opportunity to practice waiting our turn. Parent helpers are welcome!



During our unstructured play time, children have the choice of exploring and participating in experiences inside or outside. The preschoolers have been playing together in the home corner, riding bikes, and taking turns on the swings. Some children have been investigating mixing colours and some have been working together to investigate how to move a large truck tyre in our yard.



And they call us Bidjiwang...



This year our preschool group name, Bidjiwang, is the Ngunnawal word for an earless dragon, local to the Canberra region. Our Cultural Integrity Officer, Candy has created an artwork of a Bidjiwang (pronounced Bid-gee-wung) which we are in the process of adding our handprints for the artwork to be displayed in preschool.

Year 5&6 news

The students have settled nicely back into their classes this year after a much-needed summer break. We began this year by focusing on a starter program that focused on different topics to ensure a positive expectation of behaviour and wellbeing is achieved within Grevillea and our classrooms.

Morning Meeting

During our morning meetings students actively participate in four aspects of mindfulness and wellbeing, which are: a greeting, a sharing component where we discuss an interesting photo, quote, topic, or question, a group activity (which is always fun) and lastly, we end with any important messages for the day or week.

Ready to Learn Plan

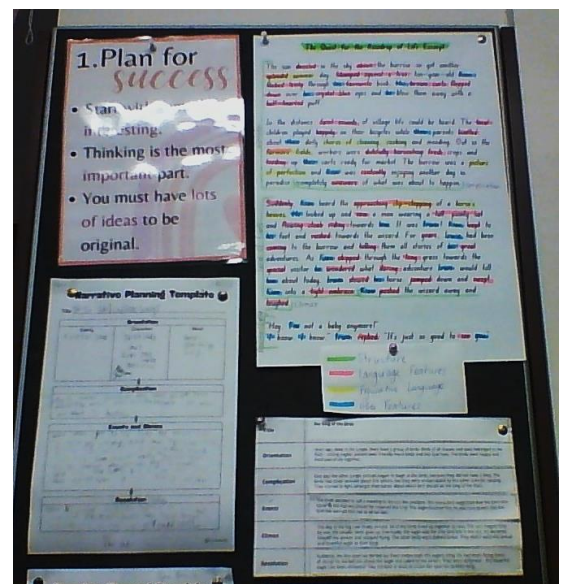
Students have been working on creating their very own Ready to Learn Plans for them to use to make sure they are always ready to face the challenges in the classroom. Students brainstormed ideas about how their bodies react when they are experiencing a variety of emotions and what they can do in the classroom to help them to regulate and be ready to learn. Students used their ideas to create their personalised learning plans.

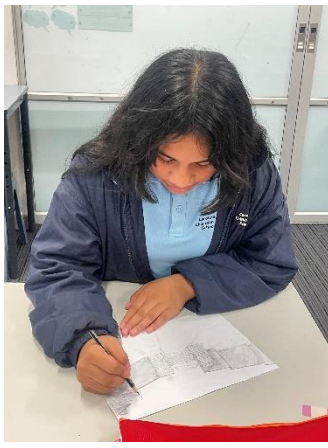
Literacy

In literacy this term we are focusing on our narrative writing using the 7 Steps to Writing program. So far, we have explored steps 1 and 2. **Step one** was about **Planning for Success**. Here we deconstructed a narrative, re-ordered a narrative text and planned an exciting story using a narrative planning template.

The **second step** was about writing using a **Sizzling Start**.

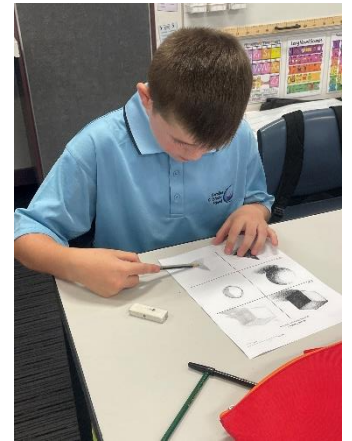
Here we looked at ways to engage our reader in the first few seconds of reading.





Art

In class, the students have been learning the fundamentals of art. They have begun by practicing different pencil grips to ensure light pressure, line, shape and form. Here are some examples of what they have created. The final assessment will be for the students to draw a meaningful object of theirs that incorporates all the fundamentals they have learnt.



Mindfulness

Students have enjoyed taking 10-15 minutes of mindfulness after third break to relax and recharge. We find this is an important aspect of our day as it helps students to regulate their emotions and find an activity to help them relax. The activities we have been exploring are mindful eating, playing dead fish and silent reading in the sun and appreciating nature.

Year 7 news

Year 7 Co-ordinator

I am thrilled to introduce myself as the Year 7 Coordinator! My name is Miriam Miley-Read, and I am beyond excited to embark on this journey alongside our fantastic Year 7 students. As the coordinator, my goal is to ensure that this academic year is filled with growth, discovery, and memorable experiences for each and every one of our Year 7s. I look forward to getting to know each student, fostering a positive learning environment, and supporting them as they navigate this exciting chapter in their educational journey. Although students are in the middle of week 3, they are settling into the flow of all of their classes and high school life. They have a wide range of classes to work through each week, so continue reading below to find out what they have all been looking at. Here's to a fantastic and enriching year ahead!



Science

Year 7 science is all about the forces of motion in our world. Our students aren't just hitting the books – they're diving into the action. Picture this: one day they are having tug of war battles to understand forces in motion and the next they're getting hands-on with Bunsen burners to spice things up. Our young scientists are on a mission to uncover the invisible and powerful forces that set everything in motion. Get ready for some mind-blowing revelations and maybe a bit of a science show!

Maths

If anyone wants help with integers, prime numbers or square roots, the year 7s will be able to help you, as these are just a few of the key focuses they are currently working on in Maths. Students will look to plotting coordinates, how numbers work together and ordering and comparing integers with these lessons. Numbers always tell a story, and the year 7s are learning how to read their language, so they can tell their story.

PE

Rather than focusing on sports specifically, year 7s focus on transferable elements to enhance skills. This is done through target sports, net/wall sports, striking/fielding sports, and invasion sports. At the end of this term, we will be focusing on track and field events in preparation for our Track and Field Carnival. The biggest focus for HPE is about the core values of leadership, communication, and teamwork.

English

This term in Year 7 English students have begun reading and writing poetry. Students have spent time writing in class to connect to their place in the world and reflect this in their work. Students have also taken a trip to the Library to meet our Librarian and borrow a book for classroom reading. This term students will finish by presenting their work to engage an audience and use language techniques impactfully.

Electives

Year 7s are offered five elective choices - Music, Drama, Dance, Digitech and Woodwork.

At the beginning of the year, students can write up their expression of interest from 1-5 for the 5 electives they are offered. Each term, students will be able to try different electives.

Looking forward to getting to know you all throughout the year.

Miriam



2024 Welcome BBQ Senior Campus

Wednesday 21st February
4.30pm – 6pm



Come and visit your young person's school, meet educators, and learn about supports and processes to help you successfully navigate the school year.



We ask for a gold coin donation for the sausage sandwiches. To help us cater for the event it would be appreciated if you could
rsvp [Booking form](#)



The CCS P&C Annual General Meeting will begin at 6pm in the CCS Senior Campus Board Room. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

Bus Safety Week 2024: Safety never goes out of style!

“What’s this coming along the road? It’s a bus it’s a bus... it’s a school bus!”

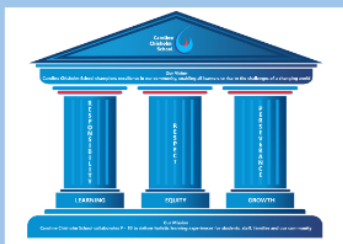
This week is Bus Safety Week 2024, and we are going back in time to 1989 with the original [Bus Safe Rap](#) because safety never goes out of style. Bus Safety Week is an opportunity to remind students of the importance of safe behaviours when on and around buses, bus stops and interchanges.

Brush up on your safety skills and see if you can do the Bus Safe Rap:

- **Signal the driver:** Always signal the driver a safe distance from the curb by raising your arm – and giving the driver plenty of notice.
- **Wait safely:** Wait until the bus has left before you cross. Never walk in front of a bus, as other road users may not see you.
- **Respect bus stops:** Bus stops and interchanges aren’t playgrounds. Avoid running or playing ball games while waiting for a bus.
- **Stay alert:** Put your phone away and turn the music down when moving around bus interchanges and crossing roads.

Let's showcase our commitment to safety as a community, from the bus stop to crossing the road, make safety your daily jam.

Visit Transport Canberra’s [travel safely to school webpage](#) for resources and information to make sure all students have a safe journey to and from school.



Junior Campus 'Getting to know you Interviews'

Book a time to meet with your child’s teacher for week 4.

Information on how to book has been sent out via email and a letter sent home.

P&C AGM

Wednesday 21 February – 6pm start, SC Boardroom

All Parents and Carers Welcome!!

ONLINE SAFETY EDUCATION

The Online Safety Education team are committed to supporting school communities to develop their online safety skills and knowledge. The team aim to increase the number of safe and positive online experiences students have and reduce the number of online safety incidents that impact on learning environments.

There are multiple webinars running each term with both afternoon and evening times available that will help your family be more confident and safer online by:

- understanding online safety and risks young people face
- learning strategies to prevent and respond to online issues
- supporting your child to be safe online
- knowing where to go for further support.

Register for the Parent & Carer Online Safety Webinars – 2024 online at
https://bit.ly/2024_OnlineSafetyWebinar_RSVP



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Online Safety
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RSVP

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ACT
Government
Education

National Office of Child Safety – ‘One Talk at a Time’

The National Office of Child Safety has launched the ‘One Talk at a Time’ Campaign that aims to help prevent child sexual abuse by encouraging adults to learn about the issue and have ongoing, proactive, preventative conversations with children, young people and other adults. The campaign is aimed at adults with children and young people in their lives. For more information about the campaign, visit [One talk at a time](#). Let’s end child sexual abuse ‘One Talk at a Time’.

Community urged to report online sexual exploitation. as children head back to school

As students head back to school for 2024, the Australian Federal Police (AFP) is encouraging the community to report any cases of inappropriate, harmful or criminal activities that have occurred online to children. Help ensure the safety, care and wellbeing of children is protected online. Abuse can be reported to the Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE). Read the full [AFP media release](#) for more information



COME AND TRY DAY
TUESDAY 20TH FEBRUARY
5:30-7:00pm @ Gowrie Ovals



SPECIAL GUESTS!

GOT ANY QUESTION?
secretary@valleydragons.com.au
www.valleydragons.com.au

