



Caroline Chisholm School

Preschool to Year 10

An ACT Public School

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# NEWSLETTER

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the community for their support this week. I understand receiving a notification about COVID-19 in schools may be unsettling for families; as a mum I do understand that strong feeling of protecting our children and young people. I appreciate your support for the Campus closure on Wednesday which allowed a number of things to happen including ongoing consultation with ACT Health (continuing from Tuesday night), planning for an opening of the Senior Campus on Thursday, and finally it allowed time for our senior executive to check in with families and provide the supports necessary for those impacted. What we have learnt is that all of the adjustments we have in place have been important as they have meant that only one third of students and staff on site were impacted. I would encourage all families to read through the adjustments we sent out last Friday to ensure that these processes are followed.



There will be some additional staffing changes across week 4 to support the staff who have been identified as close contacts and cannot return to site until Monday 1 November (myself included). If you need support please reach out via email or through calling the front office. There is no doubt there are a few exciting and busy weeks ahead.

Across this outbreak, there have been families in the broader Chisholm community who have been impacted by COVID-19 in many ways. Some families have been supported by the Good Shepherd Community Church at the Chisholm Shops who have provided a number of food hampers for us to deliver to families. My thanks to the team at the Good Shepherd, we have been grateful for the support.

I can understand that families may feel nervous or apprehensive about returning to on site learning. We do have extensive quality health and safety measures in place for the safe return of students and staff. Families will now have experienced first hand the response protocols and will have a clearer idea of what to expect should there be a need in the future. The health and safety is the responsibility of all people within our school

Friday 22 October 2021  
TERM 4 WEEK 3

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### RETURN TO ON SITE LEARNING:

Commencing 25 October  
(Week 4)

- Preschool and Kindergarten
- Years 1 and 2
- Year 6
- Years 9 and 10
- Out of school hours care (OSHC)

Commencing 1 November  
(Week 5)

- Years 3, 4 and 5
- Years 7 and 8

Tuesday 9 November  
P&C Fundraiser: P to 10  
Wear Team Colours Day



community and we will be working closely with students over the coming weeks to unpack what this looks like on site.

For families who choose to keep their young people at home beyond the return to on site learning plans in the next two weeks, we are unable to provide online learning materials for students unless there is an identified disability and medical need identified by a medical professional. I appreciate that some families may choose to stay at home and would like learning materials provided; further advice regarding this can be found at the following link under 'Can my child remain at home':

<https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/covid-school-arrangements/school-advice>

Welcome back to term 4! It is wonderful to be welcoming back all of our students over the coming fortnight. We appreciate that the last 7 school weeks will have impacted families, students and staff in different ways. As a school we have worked hard to ensure the transition to online learning and back to on site learning is as smooth as possible.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to our incredible teachers and educators for the way in which they have ensured that learning has been maintained to the highest quality, they have also ensured families who have needed additional supports have been able to access those supports. It has been wonderful to work alongside such a high performing educational team.

My thanks to our administrative team who have worked hard to ensure phones and enquiries are answered and that families have been able to access the supports they have needed. A huge shout out to Grant our ITO who has ensured that technology has been accessible and any issues have been resolved, this has been a huge undertaking!

My thanks to Mark and Kerrie who have been quick to make changes across both campuses to ensure we are ready for a return to on campus learning. Their work has been greatly appreciated as has their willingness to make adjustments to our learning environments.

Finally, my thanks to our executive team. They have worked tirelessly to support students, families, staff, and the community. Their leadership has been outstanding and through the many hours, they have ensured that we have all been able to support each other.

As learning returns to on site learning, I ask that all families read through and watch the video that was sent out on Friday 15 October. I appreciate there were a lot of pages, however we wanted to share all of the processes in place to help keep each other safe. Please ensure you are aware of these protocols and processes and enact them when school returns to on site learning; together we can keep each other safe. To access these documents and recordings please head to the following link:

[https://www.chisholm.act.edu.au/COVID-19\\_safety\\_at\\_our\\_school](https://www.chisholm.act.edu.au/COVID-19_safety_at_our_school)

### **World Teachers' Day**

Did you know that internationally World Teachers' Day is celebrated annually in October and in Canberra, will be celebrated next Friday 29 October? This initiative provides a great opportunity to thank a teacher for all that they do in the holistic development of your child or young person. Our teachers enrich the lives of children in many ways, from providing daily education at school, to attending camps over several days and nights, to planning enriching experiences through excursions. Our educators who work across the school are also an integral part of our teaching teams and we also acknowledge their contributions to the lives of all young people. Why not drop your young person's teacher or educator an email, send in a note or just tell them about the difference they make in your child's life!

### **Playground Upgrades**

The SC fence upgrade should have commenced this week. It is on hold until the contractor is able to attend site based on the changing restrictions. We also anticipate that the SC bike track will be built before the end of the year! While things have been delayed due to the restrictions in place, we are looking to

finalising this build before the break so that families can utilise the track over the December/January holidays. The nature play space (previously called ninja warrior course) will now be built in the new year. We are incredibly grateful to ACT Health and Transport Canberra and City Services for the support with this project.

### **JC Classes for 2022**

This term we will be working as a staff to plan our classes for 2022. A great deal of time and effort is involved in planning our classes each year. Staff have an in-depth knowledge of ways to enhance learning and they will use this knowledge to support the placement of students in classes for 2022. This information is combined with student strengths, personalities, friendships and student support requirements. Students on our junior campus will be asked to complete a sociogram where they are asked to list five children they feel they work well with. Students will then be placed into classes with at least one child from their list. We work closely with our preschool educators to best plan for kindergarten placements as well. If you believe your child's placement needs special consideration please let us know in writing as soon as possible. This can be done via email [Nicky.smith@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Nicky.smith@ed.act.edu.au) or by making an appointment through the front office. It is imperative that all requests are made directly to Nicky so that she is able to ensure appropriate considerations are made. Please remember that requests cannot be made for specific teachers. Junior Campus families will be informed mid-January through teacher introductory letters as to staffing arrangements and class placements for 2022.

### **SC Electives for 2022**

In relation to our senior campus students, Gavin McClory (Middle Years Executive) and Cassie Hoolihan (Electives PLT Coordinator) are coordinating electives for students moving into year 9. Gavin and Cassie will meet with the current year 8 students during term 4; students will be presented with an overview of the elective choices, and they will be asked to make their final decisions through an online system. Students currently in year 7 will be able to make their elective choices later in the term through a similar process. If you have any questions about this process, please reach out to either Gavin on email [gavin.mcclory@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:gavin.mcclory@ed.act.edu.au) or Cassie on [cassandra.hoolihan@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:cassandra.hoolihan@ed.act.edu.au)

### **Social Media and a Positive Digital Footprint**

With the return to on site learning, it is timely to revisit the importance of respectful and safe online chat. We often hear about negative interactions online involving concerns where children and young people have shared information about themselves in public online spaces.

We appreciate that it is really important for children, and indeed all of us, to know what's OK to share online and what's best to keep private. Families can also support young people when it comes to managing their online presence in a positive way. Anything posted online becomes part of a young person's digital footprint.

Your child's digital footprint is any information that exists about them online for people to see. Examples include photos, videos and posts that they have shared, comments made on posts and information about them on public pages or blogs.

Some key information which may assist you at home is to:

- Share with care: One of the most important parts of looking after your digital footprint is thinking about who can see any images you share, messages you send or public comments you post. Ask your child to think about how everything they share fits into their online persona – does it represent how they want others to see them?
- Use the right settings: It's best to only post things you're happy to make public, but that doesn't mean there should be no separation between what you share with the world and with your friends.
- Get involved: A thoughtful and carefully curated digital footprint that highlights your child's skills and interests could help them stand out in a good way. If there is a particular cause they are

interested in, encourage them to seek out the relevant organisations or charities online that they can follow or engage with.

- Keep on checking: If your child is working to have a positive digital footprint they should check regularly to see what it looks like and what comes up.
- Be safety conscious: It's hard to have a positive online presence if you're not in control of what 'you' share. Your child should use strong passwords and keep them private to keep anyone else from getting access to their accounts.
- Delete old accounts: Social media platforms go out of fashion quickly, once you post something online it's hard to guarantee that it will disappear completely, but it's best to have a digital spring clean and delete any old profiles instead of leaving them unattended.

If you haven't already seen it, take a few minutes to read through the Facebook Community Standards page: <https://transparency.fb.com/en-gb/policies/community-standards/>

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Jen

## TRANSPORT CANBERRA: SCHOOL BUSES

### **Updated bus timetables, including dedicated school buses starting Monday 25 October 2021**

Transport Canberra's dedicated school bus services will recommence on Monday 25 October 2021. This includes 'S' trips that divert into schools.

Please plan ahead as timings have changed for both dedicated school services and the regular timetable. We are strongly encouraging families to check their [school pack](#) and plan ahead.

Special Needs Transport continues to run for those families that need this service.

A range of [COVID-safe measures](#) are in place to help keep students safe on public transport. Please familiarise yourself with these measures and talk to your children about them before the return to school.

The [revised interim timetables](#) are online.

### **COVID Safe travel for school students**

Transport Canberra's highest priority is the safety of our customers and our workforce and increased cleaning at stops and stations and on board is being carried out every day.

When travelling with us we ask that you practise good hand hygiene, don't travel if you feel unwell and spread out where possible.

To help keep everyone safe we ask students to always:

- Wear a face mask if 12 years or over
- Use Check In CBR on board if you are 16 years and over
- Don't forget your MyWay card! Cash is not being accepted on buses – this doesn't mean you travel for free. Using a registered [MyWay card](#) remains important and helps with contact tracing.
- Use the rear doors on the bus unless you require low floor access
- Don't sit in the front seat on the bus or light rail – these seats remain closed to provide distance for our drivers



### **Consider walking or riding to school – or using a part way point**

Parents and carers may consider alternative ways to get their children to school. If they live close by, they can take advantage of the warmer spring weather and walk, ride or scoot to school!

Part way points are also a great way to get some exercise into children's days for families that live a little further away and this also helps to ease congestion around schools. Parents or carers can simply drop their child at a point, or park and walk the rest of the way with them.

### **Park safely and legally**

All 40km/h school zones are in place between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm Monday to Friday. Speed limits in school zones are there to ensure the safety of children by allowing motorists extra time to stop in an unexpected situation.

Parking across pedestrian crossings, corners, verges and double parking can block kids seeing the road.

### **Questions?**

For enquiries, customers are encouraged to visit [Transport Canberra](#) or call 13 17 1

## **P&C NEWS**

Hi CCS Community,

I'm so comforted by the support the community has given the school over this last week, while not completely unexpected, feelings of shock, sadness, concern, anxiety, are all more than acceptable at this time. Our families that have been touched by COVID 19; we are always thinking of you. We hope to be a support for you, and we ask that you reach out if you need anything.

We have had discussions at the last meeting in terms of opening up the Uniform shop and Canteens. While the restrictions for the ACT



have changed, our plan still goes ahead. Some important things to note:

- Uniform Shop still operates as Click and Collect as we operate on a school site.
- Canteens will also operate as Click and Collect.
- Students at the Senior Campus will have only 1 time during the day when they can access this service. They will need to bring some extra morning/afternoon tea to school with them. Flexischools has been updated to reflect this.
- ALL services will operate as ONLINE ONLY.
- These restrictions will be in place until further notice.

The fete team are still discussing the option of having a few events online in place of a community gathering. So far, we're thinking online trivia quiz, online stalls, a raffle, etc. Is this something you would like us to continue with? Should we incorporate this later in the year, and combine with the end of year celebration? Are you interested in finding out more details? Please get in touch at [ccs.pandc.contact@gmail.com](mailto:ccs.pandc.contact@gmail.com)

Many thanks,  
The P&C Committee

# OSHC Enrolments

Rollover (Re-Enrolment): 27 Sept to 4 Oct 2021  
New Enrolments Open 19 October



[commsatwork.org/oshc-enrolments](https://commsatwork.org/oshc-enrolments)

Communities@Work



## Want \$500 to help you with school costs?



Saver Plus is a financial education program for families and individuals on a tight budget to develop life-long savings habits.

To join Saver Plus, you must:

- ✔ Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card AND an eligible Centrelink payment\*
- ✔ Be studying yourself OR have a child in school (can be starting school next year)
- ✔ Have regular income from work (either yourself or your partner)\*
- ✔ Be 18+ years old

\*Many types of income and Centrelink payments are eligible

Here are some of the school costs the \$500 can be used for:



For more information, please contact your local Saver Plus coordinator:

Kathleen Watson

[CanberraSP@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:CanberraSP@thesmithfamily.com.au)

0448 730 305

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everybody's family

Find out more at [saverplus.org.au](https://saverplus.org.au)

Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St. Laurence and ANZ and delivered in partnership with local community organisations. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services.