Dear Parents/Carers

Information Evening, BBQ and Disco
It was fantastic to see so many of our families at last week’s event. A big thank you to the P&C for providing and cooking all the sausages for our families. The students had a great time at the disco with DJ Cliff. The teachers were impressed with the large number of parents attending the information sessions. This week teachers are available for interviews if parents would like to share more information about their child. A getting to know you information sheet was handed out on the evening and sent home to those families that were unable to attend.

Swimming Carnival
The school swimming carnival will be held on Monday 2 March at Tuggeranong Pool. Students in K-6 will attend the carnival. Students will participate in a number of water and land based activities. Students in years 2-6 will have the opportunity to compete in 50m and 100m races. We hope to have more students entering these races after the swimming lessons that were conducted in Term 4, 2014. Permission and payment notes have been sent home this week. If you did not receive a copy, please contact the front office. The district carnival will be held on 20 March 2015.

Camps
Our Year 3 students will be attending camp at Birrigai in March. An expression of interest has been sent home to ascertain numbers and final costing. Please return this to the school as soon as possible. Students in years 4, 5, and 6 will be attending camp at Borambola in Wagga on the 7-9 April. Please ensure you return your expression of interest form by the end of the week.

Mawson School App
Mawson Primary has its own Skoolbag iPhone and Android App to help us communicate more effectively with our Parent/Student community. We are asking parents/students to install our Skoolbag App. To install it, just look for our school name "Mawson Primary School" in the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store, and install it on your smart phone. We currently have 157 iPhone users and 81 Android users. It would be fantastic to get our user base up to 300.

National Ride2School Day
National Ride2School Day will be held on Friday 13 March. We are trying to increase the number of students that walk, ride and scooter to school to reduce the amount of stress on our carpark in the mornings and afternoon as well as increase the amount of physical activity by our students. If your child walks, rides or scooters to school they will get their name marked off on a roll by their classroom teacher. They will go in the draw to win a Trek bike that has been kindly donated to the school by Trek. Each child can win a maximum of 5 raffle tickets in the draw. The Trek bike will be drawn on Friday 13 March. To assist those families that live outside of the Mawson area, I will meet families at the carpark on Mawson Drive next to the oval on Tuesday 24 February, Thursday 5 March, Tuesday 10 March and Friday 13 March at 8:30am and assist students to ride to school from that area. Please remember to bring your helmet and a lock for your bike.

ANZAC Day public holiday for ACT Public Service Employees:
Under the ACT Public Service Enterprise Agreement, when ANZAC Day falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the following Monday will be a public holiday for ACT Public Service employees. To accommodate this requirement, students in ACT public schools will return on the Tuesday where ANZAC Day falls on a Saturday or Sunday. This will require a return to school on Tuesday 28 April 2015. This information is available on ETD’s website. http://www.det.act.gov.au/school_education/term_dates_and_public_holidays

Keep smiling,

Rohan Evans
Deputy Principal
VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS AT MAWSON PRIMARY SCHOOL

All visitors and volunteers involved with student related activities at Mawson Primary School, must complete a Visitor or Volunteer Nomination Form prior to entry into a classroom or school activity and also, if required, be registered under the Working With Vulnerable People Act, and obtain a Working with Vulnerable People registration card from the Office of Regulatory Services. Every visitor or volunteer must sign in on the Daily Sign-In Form which is located at the Front Office each time they visit the school.

FRONT OFFICE DISPLAY BY 2F.

The flowers have been donated by Nobel Style to celebrate the Chinese New Year—Year of the Sheep.

Constance Chen and Wenyan Liu having the opportunity to inform the Canberra community about our language programs at the Multicultural Festival last weekend. Our thanks go to them for giving some of their weekend to support our school.
P&C AGM MEETING

6:30PM

THURSDAY 5 MARCH 2015

TO BE HELD IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL CENTRE

IF YOU ARE NEW TO THE SCHOOL AND WOULD LIKE TO HEAR ABOUT THE P&C’S IDEAS AND INITIATIVES FOR 2015 AND BEYOND, COME AND ATTEND OUR MEETING. THIS IS A GREAT WAY TO MEET OTHER PARENTS AND CARERS.

WE ARE A FRIENDLY, ACTIVE GROUP AND WELCOME NEW FACES.

UNIVERSITY OF NSW ICAS COMPETITION 2015

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES 2015
INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS)

ICAS provides an opportunity for all Years 3-6 students to gain a measure of their achievement in an external testing situation.

All students receive a certificate and an individual student report indicating which questions they answered correctly and their score compared with the rest of the students tested. The tests are an excellent preparation for National tests and the test report is useful for highlighting your child’s strengths and weaknesses.

High quality UNSW certificates are awarded for each year level as follows:

- High Distinction to the top 1% of entrants
- Distinction to the next 10% of entrants
- Credit to the next 25% of entrants
- Participation to all other participating students

Students who receive the highest score in each year level receive a UNSW medal.

The entry fee per student is as follows and dates of competitions are listed below:

- Digital Technologies $8.00 19 May
- Science - $8.00 3 June
- Writing - $18.00 15-19 June
- Spelling- $12.00 16 June
- English - $8.00 28 July
- Mathematics $8.00 11 August
- All the above - $62.00

Permission slip and entry fees need to be in by Monday 6 April, week 10 term 1. Late entries cannot be accepted.

2015 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS) PERMISSION SLIP

I give permission for my child ______________________ to participate in the following 2015 ICAS Competitions

Digital Technologies $8.00
Science $8.00
Writing $18.00
Spelling $12.00
English $8.00
Mathematics $8.00
All of the above $62.00

Please find enclosed $____________________ entry fee Parent/Guardian ______________________ Date__________
Piano/Keyboard Lessons at Mawson Primary 2015 Term 1

The study of music has many benefits such as:

- Increasing confidence
- Building self esteem
- Fostering creativity

Bellchambers Music School invites enquiries, & enrolments for Term 1 2015

Emily Leong is the new teacher for Piano/Keyboard at Mawson Primary and is teaching on Tuesday & Thursday between 11.00am and 2.30pm. Emily has recently arrived in Canberra and is eminently qualified and with a delightful personality. Read about Emily on our website (www.bellchambersmusicschool - click on ‘what we teach’ then ‘piano’)

Fees for 2015 are $31.00 per ½ hour lesson, payable by the term in advance – so generally $310.00 per term. If you enrol part way through a term you pay only for the balance of the term.

Lessons re-commenced week 2 Tue 10 Feb for continuing students.

Please contact Bellchambers Music School on 6281 6270 stating that you are interested in tuition at Mawson Primary School.
Death Cap Mushroom

*Amanita Phalloides*

The Death Cap Mushroom is a deadly, poisonous introduced fungus that is responsible for 90% of all deaths related to mushroom consumption. There have been 4 fatalities and 12 reported incidents of poisoning associated with Death Cap Mushroom in the ACT(1).

**Description**

*Cap:* 40-160mm wide, may be white, but usually pale green to yellow in colour, or fawn if the mushroom is older, or located in full sun. The cap can be slippery or sticky to touch, and shiny when dry.

*Gills:* White, crowded and not attached to stalk.

*Stalk:* Normally white in colour, but may be pale green. Up to 15cm long with a papery cup shaped volva at the base (often buried in the ground). Normally a skirt-like ring is present high on the stem.

*Distinctive Features:* The white gills, cup-like volva and high skirt like ring help to distinguish the Death Cap Mushroom.

**Occurrence:** South Eastern Australia.

*Habitat:* Commonly found near established oak trees and possibly others, usually during later summer to early winter, after good rain or heavy irrigation.

*Toxicity:* Extremely poisonous. One Mushroom contains enough poison to kill an adult. Cooking or peeling does not make the mushroom safe to eat, and all parts are poisonous.

**Symptoms**

Onset of symptoms occurs 6-24 hours or more after ingestion of mushrooms. Symptoms include violent stomach pains, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea.

Symptoms may subside for 1 to 2 days giving a false impression of recovery. However, by this stage the toxin will have already caused serious liver damage. Death from liver failure can occur many days after ingestion.

(1) From 1999-2014

Health Protection Service
Population Health Division
Howard Florey Centenary House, 25 Mulley Street, Holder ACT 2611
Locked Bag 5005 Weston Creek ACT 2611
Phone: (02) 6205 1700  Fax: (02) 6205 1705
Email: hps@act.gov.au
Web site: www.health.act.gov.au