## COMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tonight</td>
<td>P&amp;C Community BBQ &amp; AGM 5:30-7pm, Asthma talk 5:00-5:30pm, Preschool information session 5:30-6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 February</td>
<td>Assembly 12:45pm</td>
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<td>22-25 February</td>
<td>Get to know you interviews</td>
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**REMINDERS TONIGHT:**

- **ASTHMA TALK:** 5-5:30PM
- **BBQ:** 5:30-7:00PM
- **PRESCHOOL INFORMATION SESSION:** 5:30-6PM

Look forward to seeing you there.

### ‘Getting to know you’ interviews next Week 4 Monday 22 February to Thursday 25 February.

Positive partnerships are critical to our success. If you would like the opportunity to individually meet your child’s teacher/s and share information about your child, please contact the front office or your class teacher to make an appointment. To help facilitate getting to know your child, we have provided a written questionnaire for you to fill in. We ask that you complete this information and return to your child’s teacher before or at interview time. We look forward to seeing you!

### Year 3 Birrigai Camp – Wednesday 9 March – Friday 11 March 2016

It is getting closer! Our Year 3 Birrigai Camp is planned for Week 6 of this term. Thank you to the families who have returned their permission note and medical forms promptly. Please ensure that any outstanding payment are finalised by **next Friday 26 February 2016**. If you need to adjust the payment period to suit your situation, please contact the front office to make arrangements before your child goes on camp.

### Year 2 - 6 SWIMMING CARNIVAL Wednesday 2 March 2016

The Year 2-6 swimming carnival will be held Wednesday 2 March at Lakeside Leisure Centre Tuggeranong pool. The cost is $12. Students from Year 2 – 6 will attend the carnival. Students will have the opportunity to compete in swimming races and participate in water tabloid activities. Permission and payment notes were sent home last week. All notes and payment to be returned by **Thursday 25 February**.

We are looking for parent volunteers, if you are able to volunteer on the day please contact Trish Ghirardello.

Thank you to Ms Constance Chen for representing Mawson Primary School at the A.C.T Bilingual Education Alliance stall during the Multicultural Festival in Civic last weekend. Each year MIP teachers from Mawson give up some of their weekend to promote Mandarin language learning and represent our amazing school.

4/5MIP and Ms Chen for their Chinese New Year performance at assembly last Friday. Clare G. and William D. did a wonderful job as the presenters coping with audio problems. The class amazed the audience with their introduction of some Chinese New Year food that symbolised good meanings and sang a song to congratulate people during Chinese New Year. The students looked very festive in their traditional Chinese costumes, many of which were purchased with funds from the P&C Association last year.

### BE PROUD OF MAWSON

Anabel F. 2F who at last Friday’s assembly donated a book to our library which she had published called *Short Stories*. The book was dedicated to Miss Liu for encouraging her writing last year.
The Chinese Australian Early Childhood Centre celebrated the Chinese lantern festival on Monday by showing their hand crafted lanterns to our Mawson Preschool students. They also shared scrumptious dumplings.

After School Hours
Just a reminder that the school day for k-6 students at Mawson finishes at 3pm. Over the past week we have had a number of children waiting for significant lengths of time to be picked up at the end of the school day. This can be distressing for students and also impacts on teaching staff who attend a range of professional meetings after school. We understand that sometimes you may be held up by circumstances beyond your control. In these situations please contact the front office so we can inform the classroom teacher, or make short term arrangements to supervise your child. After School Care may be available for circumstances where you may be delayed. Contact Alex on 62864160 to discuss how this could be done. However you do need to have your child enrolled before using this service.

Liz Bujaroski
Executive Teacher
The P & C Association committee has been successful in gaining a fundraising day at Tuggeranong Bunnings BBQ on Saturday 5 March 2016.

Are you able to help out by coming along for 2 hours any time from 8.00am to 5.00pm. Contact Nerida King, coordinator on 0431550901.
Dear residents

As part of the ACT Government's commitment to the maintenance and upgrade of the Territory's road network, road resealing will be conducted on Ainsworth Street between 20/2/2016 and 5/3/2016.

These works will be undertaken between 7am and 6pm during the allocated period (weather permitting).
Australia is one of the most culturally diverse countries in the world, with one in four Australians born overseas and nearly 20 per cent of Australians speaking a language other than English at home (Australian Bureau of Statistics, April 2013).

This rich cultural diversity throughout Australia means that many health and community professionals will have clients, and also interact with children and families, from diverse cultural backgrounds.

Health and community professionals like psychologists, counsellors and social workers can play a critical role in supporting children from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities and make a positive difference to their mental health and wellbeing.

**Cultural identity and children’s wellbeing**

A strong cultural identity is important to a child’s mental health and wellbeing. Having a strong sense of their own cultural history and traditions helps children build a positive cultural identity for themselves, gives them a sense of belonging and self-esteem and supports their overall wellbeing.

When children have a strong cultural identity, they are well-placed to make social connections with others and develop a sense of belonging to their community, even if the community’s cultures are different to their family culture.

Having a positive sense of belonging in both settings helps children move between cultures with greater ease and confidence, and can increase their engagement.

In turn, belonging builds children’s self-esteem and resilience, and reduces the likelihood they will experience depression and anxiety.

To be able to get on well in a culture that is different to their family culture, children often need to understand and respond to different expectations. For example, the expectations around body language can be very different across various cultures. In many Asian cultures, making direct eye contact with an adult is viewed as a sign of disrespect or a challenge to that adult’s authority.

It can be complex, and sometimes confusing, for a child from a different cultural background to their school culture to make sense of the different expectations.

In some cases children may experience ‘cultural conflict’ and feel that they have to choose one culture or the other, even though they have to live in both.

This can be stressful for children and have negative impacts on their mental health and wellbeing.

However, when children have a positive sense of belonging to both cultures, their mental health and wellbeing is supported and so is their learning.