Dear Parents/Carers

Autumn is here and over the next 3 months the deciduous trees will begin to change from green to yellow, orange and red before losing their leaves for winter. It is a glorious time of the year.

On Monday we farewelled 12 Xi'an students who had been with us for 5 days. It was a wonderful experience for all involved and friendships have been forged that will endure.

Swimming Carnival
The school swimming carnival was held on Monday at Tuggeranong Pool. All students from K to 6 attended and had a fun day swimming and participating in water games. Thank you to Mr. Evans for the overall organizing of the carnival especially the 3 to 6 races. Thank you to Mrs Ingram and Ms. Aherne for organizing the activities for K to 2 students. It was wonderful to see the parents come along and support the students. Ribbons will be awarded at the school assembly on Friday 13 April.

Assembly
The talented Year 3N students hosted the school assembly last week. It was very entertaining and the audience thoroughly enjoyed their items. Thank you Ms. Nestler for your efforts and organization in preparing the students for assembly. This Friday's assembly will celebrate the end of 15 days of Chinese New Year. The MIP classes have prepared items for the Lantern Festival. Do join us if you can.

Learning Support Unit (LSU)
The LSU is situated in the lower building and currently there are 6 students. Mrs. Maria Sofo is the teacher of the unit and Ms Leonie Jenvy the Learning Support Assistant. The class name of the LSU is Golden Fleece. The children are settling in and it is wonderful to have the unit at Mawson.

Afternoon Tea
The Pre School will be conducting an afternoon tea on Thursday March 26 at 3pm, for parents of students in the preschool. The main business of the function is to discuss possible fundraising ideas for 2015.

Thank You
To all the parents and carers who attended the Parent Information evening, completed the “Getting to Know You” document about their child and or attended an interview with the class teacher. Building positive relationships between teachers and parents is beneficial for all, but especially the student.

At Mawson we believe parents play a critical role in their child's learning. Research shows that the most effective strategies for family-led learning include:

Believing in children's potential – The most powerful thing parents can do is to show children they believe in them and believe in their ability to be successful.

Reading together - Reading together helps children to develop and practise their reading, writing and language skills. Telling stories and talking about things that children are interested in helps them enjoy learning.

Talking with children - Conversations are an important contributor to children's learning and development. Just spending time talking with children helps them to learn and grow. Simple ways to do this include talking about what they're learning at school and what they enjoy or find difficult.

Supporting children to develop positive relationship with others - Parents play an important role in supporting these relationships by helping children to build and maintain a positive relationship with their teacher, helping them negotiate with peers and respond appropriately to negative experiences they may encounter.

Learning together – Engagement in everyday activities at home like cooking or grocery shopping, or going to community events, museums or libraries or just spending time learning with the family provides children with the opportunity to be exposed to new things, explore new areas of passion or interest and learn about their family and culture.

Creating a positive homework environment – It is important to provide a dedicated space and time for homework, have the same rules as the school about homework and ensure parent-child interactions about homework are positive. (http://www.det.act.gov.au/teaching_and_learning/parental-engagement/progressing-parental-engagement)

Next Monday is Canberra Day and a public holiday for all people in the ACT.

Trish Ghirardello
Executive Teacher
ENERGY SAVING TIP

Lighting

By replacing incandescent lights with standard compact fluorescent tubes, you can save up to 75 per cent of your lighting energy dollars (lighting makes up about four per cent of your electricity account). This is especially true for high-use areas such as kitchen, lounge and living areas.

Incandescent globes are the most common form of household lighting. They are cheap to replace and come in a wide variety of shapes and forms. They can be dimmed only and have an average life span of 1000 hours. They are the least efficient as 95% of energy consumed is given off as heat.

Quartz halogen lights are twice as efficient as incandescent globes. They have a life span of around 2000 to 4000 hours and come in a wide selection of wattages. They cost more to replace than incandescent globes.

Fluorescent lights are the most energy efficient of all light sources and are ideal for areas where lighting is required for long periods. Fluorescent lights fall into two categories tubular and compact fluorescent (CFLs). CFLs use only 25% of energy to produce the same amount of light as incandescent lights and last up to eight times longer than other conventional heating. Switching on and off reduces the expected life of the tube.


4/5M front office display

MONDAY 27 APRIL
IS A HOLIDAY
TERM 2 COMMENCES
TUESDAY 28 APRIL 2015

Messages from the Front Office

- Office hours are from 8.30am to 3.30pm.
- AUTHORITY TO USE PHOTOGRAPHS FORM WAS SENT HOME WITH YOUR CHILD PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO THE FRONT OFFICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
- Money must be given to the class teacher first thing in the morning in an envelope, labelled with name, class and payment purpose.
- Student mobile phones are to be left at the front office until the end of the school day.
- Permission notes must be returned to the teacher by due dates to ensure that children can participate in activities. These notes are part of the organisation for activities and excursions and teachers require both numbers and time to coordinate the programs.
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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies</td>
<td>$ 8.00</td>
<td>19 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>$ 8.00</td>
<td>3 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
<td>15-19 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
<td>16 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>$ 8.00</td>
<td>28 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>$ 8.00</td>
<td>11 August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All of the above</td>
<td>$62.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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:

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<tr>
<td>All of the above</td>
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</table>

Please find enclosed $_____________________ entry fee Parent/Guardian ______________________ Date __________

P&C AGM MEETING
TONIGHT 6:30PM
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.

Congratulations to TRYathletes from Mawson Primary School.

5 students from Mawson Primary School (Mawson) took part in the Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon at the Australian Institute of Sport, Canberra on the 15th of February 2015.

- Pitkin, Angus
- Pitkin, Lillian
- Van Dooren, Kyla
- Van Dooren, Lucy
- Van Dooren, Sam

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES 2015
International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)
 Term 1 - Easter Extravaganza
This term CEIS will present ‘Easter Extravaganza’ at our school. Students will move through interactive stations to explore the events of Easter and discuss any questions. Only students with permission will attend.

This term’s date: 2 April 2014

Christian Education In Schools (CEIS) occurs because parents request it for their children, under ACT legislation. Sessions are coordinated by the CEIS project, using approved resources and volunteers. If you would like to add your child to the existing attendance list print off the section below and return it to the school or go to www.ceis.org.au/yes

PLEASE RETURN THIS SECTION TO THE SCHOOL TO ADD YOUR CHILD TO THE EXISTING LIST

YES, I request that my child/ren listed below participate in the CEIS sessions offered at school.

Child: ________________________________ Parent name: ________________________________

Child: ________________________________ Parent signature: ________________________________

Child: ________________________________ Date: ________________________________

Advertisements are included in Community News as a community service. The inclusion of an advertisement does not imply endorsement by either the school or the ACT Department of Education and Training.
Mawson Primary School strives to provide a challenging and caring educational environment for all students. The Mawson Primary School community and P&C association generate additional funds through services provided by the school’s network of volunteers and fundraising activities. A significant form of additional funding is raised through Voluntary Financial Contributions that are used to provide valuable resources to support a rich learning environment for your child.

Due to Australian Taxation Office requirements we no longer have a P & C Library Trust Fund where donations were tax deductible. The School Board has been looking into an alternate arrangement and we will advise you of the outcome in due course.

Monies raised through voluntary contributions are used to purchase curriculum support materials, such as, readers, maths resources, construction materials, sports gear, musical instruments and computer equipment. Voluntary Contributions may be paid in full, in part or by instalment. Payment can be made at the front office or by being forwarded to the school in an envelope clearly marked with your child’s name and class.

For 2015 Voluntary Financial Contributions have been set as follows:

- $100.00 per child for the full year or $25.00 per child per term
- This works out at $2.50 per school week or 50 cents per school day.

The Education Act (2004) provides for the school board of a government school to ask parents of a child enrolled at the school, or anyone else, to make a voluntary financial contribution to the school. The regulatory principles state that:
- Each contribution is to be voluntary
- A child at the school is not to be refused benefits or services because the child’s parent do not make a contribution
- A child is not to be harassed for contributions
- Any record of contributions is confidential

Yours sincerely

Amanda Andrews  
School Principal

Scott Gurney  
Board Chair

5 March 2015

Payment slip for Voluntary Financial Contributions

Student’s name:____________________ Class:______  
Student’s name:____________________ Class:______

Payment options - please tick one:

- CASH ( )  
- CHEQUE ( )  
- MASTERCARD ( )  
- VISA ( )  
- ON-LINE PAYMENT ( )

Bank account details for on-line payments: WESTPAC Woden  
BSB: 032777  Account no: 001623

NB: Please quote Student name & VC when making payments on-line

Voluntary Contribution (VC) Amount  $ ............

Full Payment $100.00  OR  Part Payment: $__________ Term________

Please make cheques out to Mawson Primary School

Card Details

Card Number: ___________ ___________ ___________

Name on Card: _____________________  Signature: ___________________________ Expiry: ___________/__________