



IPECS INFORMER



Welcome to all our new and returning families. We have been delighted to see the smiles on the faces of the children as they enter the classrooms and hear the stories of their holiday times with family and friends. The year has begun smoothly and everyone has very quickly settled in to their new learning spaces and made connections with their educators and classmates. We look forward to spending more time getting to know the children and their extended families through the Welcome BBQ next week and the Getting to Know you interviews (K-2) in week 3.



This year we introduce a new Strategic Plan for 2018 through to 2022. The two key priorities within the strategic plan are:

1. Maximise growth in learning for all students
2. Maximise growth for all students in learning assets, skills and dispositions required for 21st century global citizens

The draft strategic plan incorporating all the key improvement strategies will be shared with the School Board and GEMS P&C during their first meetings for the year. We encourage parents to nominate for one of two parent positions available on the school board. A nomination form was set home earlier in the week to ensure that everyone has the information to nominate for these positions should they wish. If we have enough people apply we will run an election. This is a fantastic opportunity to get involved with setting the strategic direction and having a voice on the expenditure of funds. The commitment is minimal with only one meeting per term. If the school board doesn't take your fancy, how about signing up to take on a role on the GEMS P&C this year.

All parents should by now have received an invitation to join their child's digital portfolio and class blog. If you need any help with Seesaw, we will have a station at the welcome BBQ to help you get connected and you can ask at reception at any time. All requests to join the class will need to be approved by the class teacher. If you wish to join a grandparent or another family member to your child's seesaw portfolio you will be required to share their names with the class teacher to enable them to be connected.

We have been able to negotiate the use of the hall for Before and After school care on certain days of the week which allow for an increase in capacity and ensure that more of our families are able to access this important service. Please contact Jason if you are still seeking before or after school care in 2018.

As a 5 star accredited sustainable school we make every effort to minimise our impact on the environment and reduce our carbon footprint. Beyond the first week, all communication is done through digital means and via our school notice boards. Please ensure that you are connected to our digital communication systems and that your email address is current with the school. Our communication policy provides all the information you need about how we communicate.

Here's to a fabulous 10th year of operation at IPECS!

Kate

*Here is the land, and here is the sky;
You are my friends, and here am I.
Thank you to the Ngunnawal people for looking after the land in which we play on.*

Mission Statement

To engage and equip children as lifelong learners and empower families as partners in education and care.

IPECS PRIDE

- Play
- Resilience
- Integrity
- Diversity
- Effort

Principal, Kate Woods.

Deputy Principal, Katie Brown.

Business Manager, Trish Coughlan.

Board Chair, Alison Yialeloglou.

GEMS President, Michelle Ayers



Keep your eye out for a naming competition for our IPECS PRIDE bear!

Like and follow us for regular up-dates



Facebook—Isabella Plains Early Childhood School

Webpage-
www.ipecs.act.edu.au

It's about you. Always!
Communities@Work

From our birth to five team...

There has been a lot going on during our summer break here at IPECS. We have welcomed a lot of new faces around the service this year as we farewelled both families and educators who were moving on to new horizons at the end of 2017. We continue to welcome new families to the service as the school year begins this week and you can expect to meet new members of our educational team who will be coming on board over the coming weeks.

The School Holiday Program hosted loads of different activities over the break! Swimming and Movie excursions were a great way to beat the heat of summer and Robotics, Magicians, Jedi Training, and Music incursions (to name a few) provided fun and exciting learning opportunities for our children throughout the holidays.

This year is shaping up well. Before School Care and After School Care programs have kicked off this week. Our Diamonds and Topaz rooms are looking forward to shared learning with the preschool classes in our outdoor learning environments. And our Jade and Pearls rooms are discovering new things every day.

There are still spaces available in our Before School Care and After School Care programs and while term 1 has just begun, plans are already underway for the next School Holiday Program. If you want to find out more, please speak to someone from the team and if they cannot answer all of your questions, they will help you find someone who can.

Happy 2018!

Jason

*2018 Welcome BBQ and information night
For all Preschool -Year 2 Families.
Tuesday 13 February*



Come along and enjoy a relaxing BBQ and meet other families from your child's class.

See your child's learning space and listen to the educators explain what and how they will be teaching your children this year.

Find out about the class connect program and our GEMS parent committee.

New to Seesaw or having trouble using it? We'll show you how to sign up and why it's so important that you do.

Timetable

5.30 - 5.50 Preschool information session in the Preschool rooms

6.15 - 6.45 Kinder & Yr 1/2 info sessions In their respective buildings.

Welcome BBQ and picnic will run in the preschool yard 5.45 - 6.45 (BYO picnic and drinks, non alcoholic only please)



Isabella Plains
Early Childhood School





GEMS PARENT ASSOCIATION UPDATE

GEMS Meeting

GEMS meetings are a formal part of our community but we run them as efficiently as possible. So come along and join in the discussions, usually the 3rd and 7th week of the term. Here we make plans, discuss issues within the school and meet some wonderful people.

We have to elect a new committee soon and if you want to become part of the committee then please let us know as we would love to have some new parents involved.

We will be continuing our Mother's day and Father's day stalls, a school disco in term 1 and also some 10 year anniversary activities! So plenty of opportunities to get involved.

Keep an eye on our [Facebook](#) for our AGM and please come along.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday 21 February

Time: 7pm - 8:30pm

Place: Family room at IPECS

Families welcome including children.

GEMS Committee Roles:

There are several positions and they will all be open for nominations

- President
- Vice-President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Delegates to ACT P&C
- Returning Officer

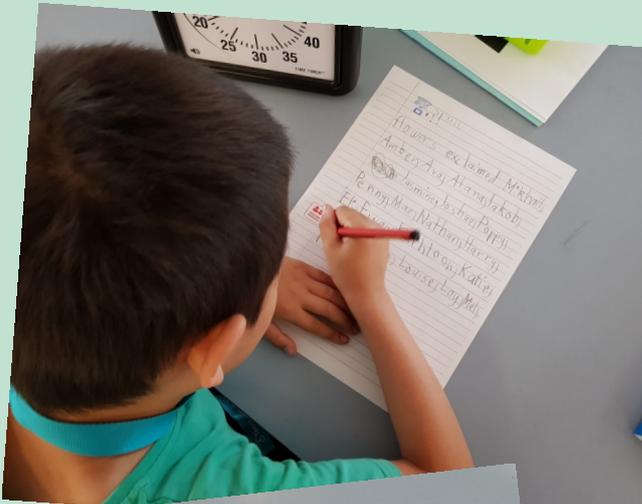
Future Activities

We will be announcing our calendar of events soon so keep an eye on the newsletters and Facebook pages!

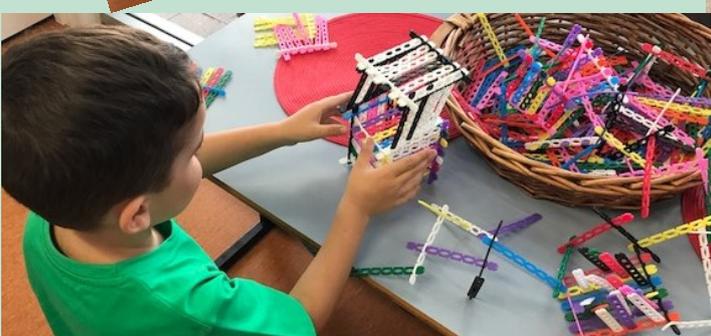
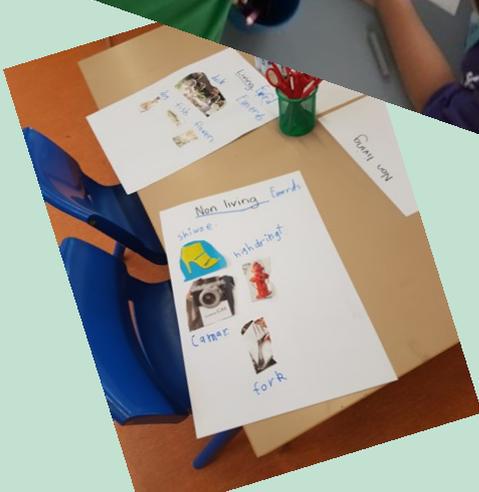
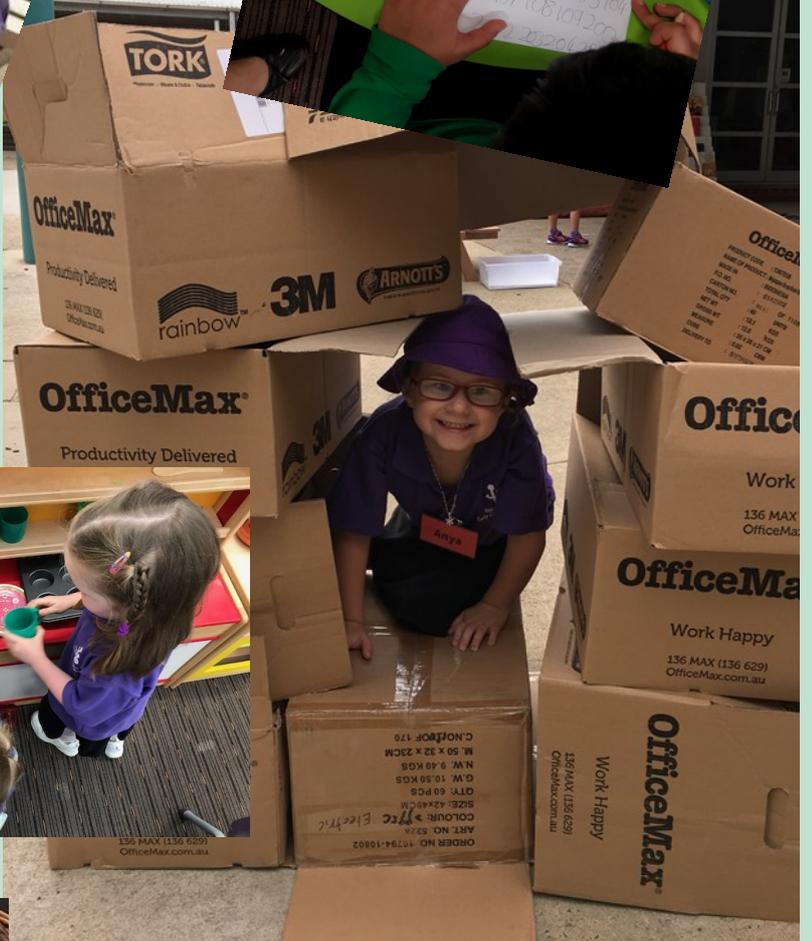
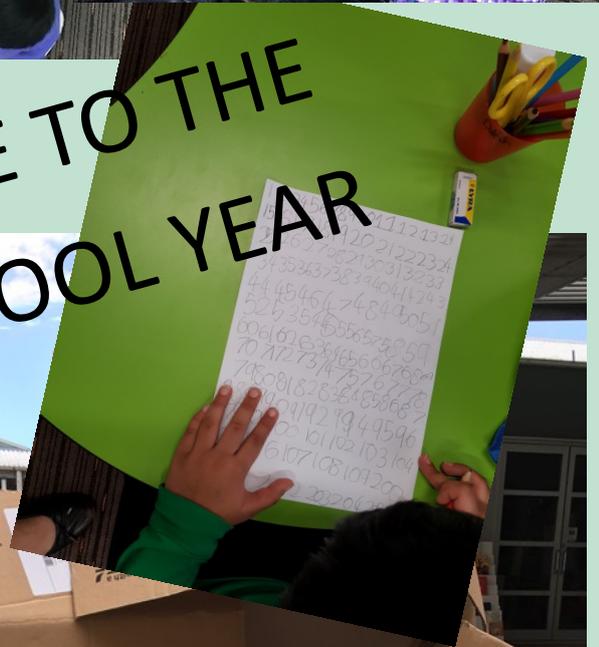
Stuck on You Fundraiser

Order personalised labels, drink bottles, school bags, bento boxes, calendars, Christmas sacks, decorations, clothing and so much more through Stuck on You. Perfect for school and every purchase helps our school upgrade our playgrounds.

Please share this link and code with your friends and families – www.stuckonyou.com.au/affiliate/fundraiser/IPECS and use the code IPECS when you purchase your goodies. Think birthdays, Christmas or getting your family organised for the new school year!



WELCOME TO THE 2018 SCHOOL YEAR



Calendar of Celebrations and Events 2018

The IPECS community is wonderfully diverse. As a community we are rich in culture, language, family structure, religion, interests and ways of being. It is important that our community celebrations are reflective of the diversity of our school community. The schedule of events and celebrations highlights many opportunities for us to come together and celebrate the things that make us unique and wonderful just as we are.

FEBRUARY

Chinese New Year Friday 16 February
Multicultural Day Friday 16 February

MARCH

Holi Colour Festival Friday 2 March
Clean Up Australia Day Monday 5 March
Whole School Working Bee Saturday 17 March
Harmony Day Wednesday 21 March

APRIL

Isabella Gardens Excursion Wednesday 11 April
Earth Day Monday 23 April
ANZAC Day Tuesday 25 April

MAY

Mother's Day Breakfast Wednesday 9 May
P-2 Bridge Walk (National Sorry Day) Friday 25 May
National Simultaneous Story time

JUNE

Isabella Gardens Excursion Wednesday 20 June

JULY

Stomp out the Gap Cathy Freeman Fundraiser
NAIDOC week celebrations

AUGUST

Isabella Gardens Excursion Wednesday 19 September
Book Week Parade Friday 24 August
Father's Day Breakfast Friday 29 August

SEPTEMBER

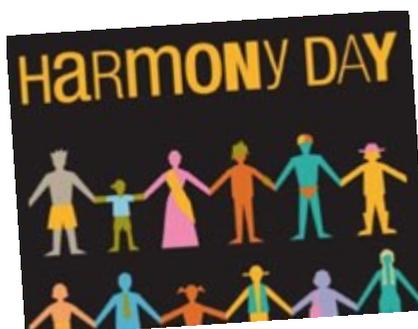
National Wattle Day Monday 3 September
Early Childhood Educator Day Wednesday 5 September

OCTOBER

World Animal Day Thursday 4 October
Children's Week Celebrations Monday 22 October – Friday 26 October

NOVEMBER

Diwali Wednesday 7 November
Whole School Working Bee 14 November
Isabella Gardens Excursion World Kindness Day Monday 13 November
Remembrance Day Friday 10 November



Term 1 Calendar for the Fridge

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1	5 February Preschool & Kindergarten start	6 February Yr 1 & 2 start	7 February Rubies/Amethysts	8 February Jets & Corals Preschool starts	9 February
Week 2	12 February	13 February 5:30 – 7:00 Welcome BBQ & information session	14 February Jets/Corals	15 February	16 February
Week 3 Getting to know you interview PIPS	19 February	20 February	21 February Rubies/Amethysts	22 February	23 February
Week 4 PIPS	26 February	27 February 9:15 Whole School Gathering	28 February Jets/Corals	1 March	2 March
Week 5	5 March	6 March Reading information session 9:15 and 3:15	7 March School photos Rubies/Amethysts	8 March School photos	9 March School photos
Week 6 Year 2 aqua safe (1 hour lessons 1:00-2:00)	12 March Canberra Day Public Holiday	13 March 10 – 11 Constable Kenny Preschool	14 March Jets/Corals	15 March 9:30 – 10:30 Constable Kenny Preschool	16 March 9:30 - 11 Constable Kenny Kindergarten K-2 Gymnastics
Week 7	19 March Aqua safe final lesson	20 March St Johns First Aid Kindergarten	21 March Rubies/Amethysts Harmony Day St Johns First Aid Yr 1 / 2	22 March 9:15 Whole School Gathering	23 March K-2 Gymnastics
Week 8	26 March	27 March	28 March Jets/Corals	29 March	30 March Good Friday
Week 9	2 April Easter Monday	3 April	4 April Rubies/Amethysts	5 April	6 April Christian education (selected students) K-2 Gymnastics
Week 10	9 April	10 April 9:15 Whole School Gathering	11 April Jets/Corals	12 April	13 April K-2 Gymnastics