

IPECS INFORMER



*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
on which we play.*

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2019

Friday 1 February	Front office open
Monday 4 February	First day for all kindy children (all day) Rubies & Amethysts preschool (full day) New children in years 1 & 2 (9.00—10.30am)
Tuesday 5 February	First day for years 1 & 2
Thursday 7 February	First day for Jets & Corals preschool
11—15 February	Getting to know you yarns with your child's teacher
Wednesday 13 February	Welcome BBQ and information session

Dear Children and Families,

Thank you

Can you believe that we have almost reached the end of another wonderful year at IPECS? There have been so many significant achievements and people to acknowledge that have made IPECS a place of learning where all learners can thrive. Firstly, I would like to acknowledge the GEMS P&C for their outstanding efforts in not only fundraising for our school but also building our school community. Last week's mini-fete was testament to that. I would particularly like to acknowledge our GEMS representatives who will be leaving IPECS along with their year 2 children at the end of this year: Michelle Ayers, Liz Lindbeck, Caroline Loffler and Courtney Bryant. I would also like to give special thanks to Alison Yialeoglou who has made significant contributions to our school over years as both an active member of the GEMS P&C and as previous school Board Chair. I also extend thanks to our School Board members - Ewan Stewart our Board Chair, Ursula Hawkins, Alyssa Owen, Melissa Moore and Suzanne Vincent. While I have only worked with the Board for a short amount of time, the strategic direction and commitment from all members has ensured the effective governance and improvement of the school.

I would also to thank each parent/carer that has volunteered time to support our school community through a variety of ways whether it be listening to children read, helping on excursions or taking on the class coordinator role. Collectively, each of your individual contributions has had a significant impact on our school. I'm sure you will also join me in thanking the team of dedicated staff at IPECS. Each staff member plays a key role in supporting children's learning and development and each day put in 110% to their roles. Lastly and most importantly, I would like to thank the children of IPECS. Each and every day you all strive to achieve your personal best and demonstrate our PRIDE school values. You make our school a positive and vibrant place for everyone.

IPECS PRIDE

- Play
- Resilience
- Integrity
- Diversity

Mission Statement

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

- A/g Principal, Simon Parker**
- Deputy Principal, Katie Brown**
- Business Manager, Trish Coughlan**
- Board Chair, Ewan Stewart**
- GEMS President, Michelle Ayers**

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Facebook—Isabella Plains Early Childhood School

Webpage-
www.ipecs.act.edu.au

Farewell Year 2

A special mention to our year 2 children who we will say goodbye to next Friday. Thank you for being outstanding leaders of our school. We wish you all well at your next school and ask that you please visit from time to time. We know that you will continue to grow and learn at your next school, continue making new friends and show to other schools what amazing graduates from IPECS you all are. To celebrate the end of year 2 at IPECS, today our year 2 children enjoyed a special lunch and extra time with the magician. Our special year 2 farewell gathering will take place on Friday 14 December beginning at 9.15am.

Reports

All children received their reports today (end of week preschool groups will receive theirs tomorrow). Please take time to read your child's report, particularly the comments, and discuss with your child. The comments are written in a way that outline your child's strengths, areas for development and strategies to support learning. The kindergarten reports also contain your child's PIPS report. PIPS stands for Performance Indicators in Primary School and provides an overview of your child's growth in reading and numeracy across 2019. If you would like to speak to your child's teacher about your child's progress in 2018, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher to make an appointment time for next week.

Staffing

Next year will see some significant changes to our staffing at IPECS. Some of our teachers who have worked at IPECS for the last 5 years (or more) will be moving to different schools in 2019. Next week, we will say farewell to Penny Jackson, Hannah Eversham, Olivia Maidment, Kathryn Withers and Lavy Oruganti. We will also say farewell to two of our learning supports assistants, Suraya Fahiz and Birgit Jahnke. Last week we also said farewell to Lami Maniti, our school chaplain. All of these staff members have made significant contributions to our school and we wish them the best of luck in their new positions. I would also like to congratulate and farewell Melissa Chadwick who has been appointed to an executive teacher position at Margaret Hendry School. As one of our school leaders, Mel has made significant contributions to teaching and learning programs at IPECS, in particular the Makerspace. An announcement will be made regarding Mel's replacement in the new year.

In 2019 we will welcome several new faces to our school. Kathryn Hope, Priscilla Reyenga-Holborow and Emma Durward will join our teaching team and Sarah Krelle will join us as a preschool assistant. All of our new staff members are very much looking forward to meeting you in 2019. We are still currently recruiting additional staff members for 2019. In regards to the Principal position, an email was sent to the community today. I am very much looking forward to continuing to lead IPECS in term 1 2019 while the selection process for the substantive Principal continues.

Letters to children

Unfortunately, this year, we are not able to provide an opportunity to meet the 2019 teachers before the end of the school year. Instead, each child will receive a letter from their 2019 teacher during the holiday break. This letter will introduce the teacher and provide important information about the arrangements for the first few days of the school year. Please look out for this important letter in your mailbox. Next year we will have 4 preschool groups, 3 kindergarten groups and 3 year 1/2 groups.

Community Consultation

On Monday, a note was sent home to all families with information about how to vote for the next stage of the masterplan. We ask that all families return the voting slip by next Wednesday 19 December so that the results can be tallied and an announcement made before the school holidays. Please contact the front office if you have not received this note.

Please be sure to check the information on the first page of the newsletter for important dates in 2019. You may like to stick this on your fridge at home. On behalf of all the staff at IPECS, I would wish all of our families a very happy and relaxing break. We look forward to another exciting year of learning in 2019.

Take care,

Simon

It's about you. Always!
Communities@Work

What an exciting 2018 we have had in Birth-5. We have enjoyed lots of exciting events, such as whole school gatherings, breakfasts, the Walk-A-Thon, the Art Show and Fete, and in our Diamonds room, trips to the theatre and the Action Bus Wash. We have one more event for the year: our end of year disco this Friday from 2-2:45pm in the school hall. This is a great opportunity for families to join us to celebrate our year in a fun and casual way, by sharing some of our favourite songs and dances and enjoying a light, summery afternoon tea.

Thank you to all families who joined us for the Art Show and Fete, and who have purchased their child's artworks. Remember, if you have not already done so, you can purchase your art work from your child's room.

Look out for some feedback opportunities in the coming weeks - we would love to have your input on the next steps in our quality improvement plan!

Emma Jayne

Limelight Art Exhibition

Congratulations to Louis, Penny, Stephanie, Emily, Benjamin, Jasmine & Maddock who received a certificate today for their participation in the Limelight Art Exhibition. These children were selected to enter the Art Exhibition because of the photographs they took of their favourite places to play at school. Their stunning photographs are now on display in the Leadership office. Stephanie & Benjamin will receive their certificate from Tanya when they return to preschool on Monday. Congratulation children, the IPECS community are very proud of you!



GEMS

PARENT ASSOCIATION

Yay for another successful Mini Fete and Art Show!

WOW!!! Thank you everyone for your help, to each class connector and their volunteers for the awesome stalls; our lovely school staff for their amazing BBQ and drinks provision skills and of course our community for coming and supporting the Mini Fete and Art Show!

Together we raised over \$3,000 from the raffle and mini fete!!! All this would not be possible without the hard work and perseverance from our much revered President Michelle Ayers – nothing like finishing the year with a bang!



Thank you for your assistance and support throughout the year, We hope you all have a great festive season and we look forward to seeing you in GEMS in 2019!

For a preview of what we can work on together next year – here's [a link](#) to have a sneak peek at the [draft proposed](#) 2019 calendar:



Thank you for making this year's Fundraiser Mango-nificent!

How amazing is our IPECS community? We sold almost 200 trays of mangoes through this year's Mango Fundraiser and raised \$1,152 for the school!

Well hasn't this year just been MAGIC?

We hope you enjoyed our final act for 2018!



HEADS UP:

Next GEMS meeting!
NEXT YEAR - TERM 1 WEEK 3
Wed, 7pm, 20 February 2019
at the Family Room

KEEP UP TO DATE & IN TOUCH WITH GEMS!



Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/IPECS.GEMS/>



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