

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 in which we play on.*

Save the Date

GEMS meeting Wed 16 May, 7pm

Whole school gathering Thur 17 May, 9.15

Cross Country Mon 21 May

National Simultaneous Storytime Wed May 23

Notes sent home

Voluntary Contributions

Cross Country (emailed, info only)

Notes due back

Voluntary Contributions (if making a
contribution)

Wk 4	Monday 21/05 Cross Country	Tuesday 22/05	Wednesday 23/05 National Simultaneous Storytime	Thursday 24/05	Friday 25/05
Wk 5	Monday 28/05 Reconciliation Day Public Holiday	Tuesday 29/05 Sorry Day In-class response to aboriginal art Damper making B-5	Wednesday 30/05 Stomp Out the Gap day. Wear red and bring a gold coin	Thursday 31/05 In-class response to aboriginal art	Friday 01/06 Kadul with Ryka Ali performance
		NATIONAL	RECONCILIATION	WEEK	
Wk 6	Monday 04/06 Whole school gathering hosted by Alyssa and the Sapphires	Tuesday 05/06	Wednesday 06/06	Thursday 07/06	Friday 08/06

IPECS PRIDE

Play
Resilience
Integrity
Diversity
Effort

Mission Statement

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

Principal, Kate Woods.

Deputy Principal, Katie Brown.

**Business Manager, Trish
Coughlan.**

Board Chair, Ewan Stewart.

GEMS President, Michelle Ayers.

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for regular updates**



Facebook—Isabella
Plains Early Childhood School

Webpage-
www.ipecs.act.edu.au

From our Principal

We recognise creativity and innovation to be part of the essential skill sets for future citizens. At IPECS, we take our role very seriously in providing children with the necessary skills and thinking approaches needed to thrive in the 21st century.

As you would be aware, we have introduced an inquiry approach to learning across the school. Our inquiry approach across all learning areas ensures that we look at learning with a curious mindset. Kath Murdoch, a respected author who will continue to work with many of our staff this year and into the future, sees curiosity as helping to “grease the wheel of inquiry.” Students are encouraged to develop dispositions and skills to be able to think, question and research as they wonder about their world. At IPECS, our 7Cs are our learning dispositions and skills —Collaboration, Creativity, Commitment, Craftsmanship, Curiosity, Confidence and Communication.

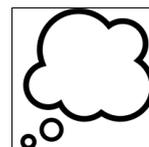
Some ways we support the development of creativity and curiosity is to allow children time to explore and question, challenge and to think deeply about things. This means that we don't just look for a quick answer, 'Google it' should not always be the first response. Some questions are understood more deeply by thinking about them in different ways. Thinking about mistakes and misconceptions is also a great way to think deeply.

On Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday of this week, I will be joined by Alyssa Owen and Mel Chadwick in Melbourne to attend the Thinking and Learning conference and will be attending sessions on cultivating creativity. On Thursday we will be attending Mother Theresa School along with staff from Bonython Primary School to learn more from a high performing Inquiry school that has worked in partnership with Kath Murdoch for many years. During this time, Jenny Faul from Gordon Primary School will be leading the school. Please say hello and make her feel welcome if you see her at the School Gathering on Thursday.

Kate

What can you do to nurture curiosity in your children?

- Spend time talking and wondering. Using question stems like... 'I wonder..., what makes you think that?, that is an interesting thought... where might you take that?, how is your thinking changing?' Encourage your child to ask questions too.
- Visit different places like museums, galleries, parks, the bush
- Invent, build something or create something together
- Play games.... Try to play a game and then invent a new game by changing a rule together
- Spend time reading, reading, reading
- Include time for children to relax, to have some unstructured time exploring and playing.



A wonderful website to prompt curiosity in children is <https://wonderopolis.org/>

'Creativity is at the heart of problem-solving... students will always have problems to solve, both in their personal lives and work lives. If you help them to develop creative competencies, they will be better equipped for the world.'

- Dr Robert Epstein.

Appointments

I am pleased to announce that **Mel Chadwick** has been appointed to the substantive position of SLC at IPECS. This promotion appointment recognises the substantial work that Mel has undertaken to lead and embed digital technology use across the school including implementing Seesaw as the platform for sharing learning with families, designing and developing the Makerspace, coaching and mentoring staff and creating digital data tools to analyse student outcomes and target teaching. Mel is an exemplary classroom teacher and brings expertise in curriculum implementation, assessing against the achievement standards, developing relationships with community and sharing practice at a system level. Please join me in congratulating Mel on this appointment.

Congratulations to **Ewan Stewart** who was appointed to the position of Board Chair at the first Board Meeting for 2018 with the new delegates. His first role in this position will be to attend the GEMS P&C meeting to share information on the role of the school board and how this differs to the role of the P&C. I look forward to working with Ewan in this role.

News from the Makerspace

This term the children from K-2 will be participating in Digital Technology lessons in the Makerspace with Mel C. During these lessons they will be learning 21st century learning skills such as critical thinking, collaboration, communication and creativity.

The Makerspace is a purpose built space for children to play, innovate and exercise their creativity. It provides children with opportunities to pursue their own interests and therefore to create their own learning pathways. It uses materials that are enticing, evocative, inspiring, exciting and sparks student's curiosity and interest. The Makerspace enables children to engage in a physical, generative process of making something physical using tools and materials. It is designed so that learners can negotiate their own goals, pursue and express their individual interests and engage in activities that are personally meaningful to them.

This term children will also be learning the principles of coding, working towards a basic understanding of algorithms and how to create precise instructions for visual working programs. They will develop skills such as creating, debugging and logical reasoning.

Mel



Cross Country News

Monday 21 May is set to be a sunny day with mid-morning temperatures around 12 degrees for our IPECS Cross Country run. Classes will gather at 9.30am on the back grassed area outside of the gates behind the kindergarten playground. The children will run a set course in year level groups throughout the morning. Races will commence at approximately 9.40am. The order for the morning is as follows:

Year 2 - Boys

Year 2 - Girls

Preschool / Diamonds - will be run in small groups

Kindergarten - Boys

Kindergarten - Girls

Year 1 - Boys

Year 1 - Girls

Preschool / Diamonds and Kindergarten will run a 500m track with Year 2 children running a 1km track. The first three 8 year old boy and girl finishers in the 1km race will be eligible to compete in the Tuggeranong Zone Cross Country Carnival on 29 May 2018 at Stromlo Park.

We hope you can join us to cheer on your children. We anticipate this event should run no longer than 40 minutes. Please remember to pack your child plenty to drink on the day and to send them in comfortable clothing and running shoes.

Thanks

Mel



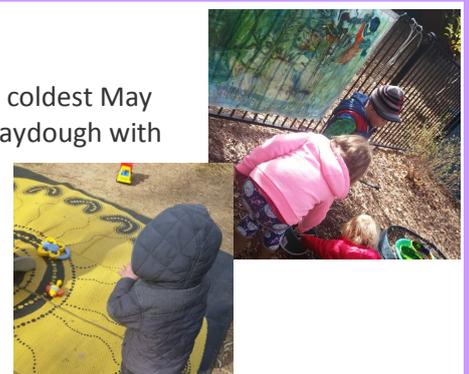
Backyard Rangers

There were many families at Backyard Rangers last week. Braving the wind and the coldest May day since 1970 (before most of you were born!) Activities included grain pouring, playdough with treasure and musical instruments. We mostly chased the sun and chatted.

My motto is: There is no inappropriate weather just inappropriate clothing, so rug up and join us for some fun.

Warm Regards

Sue Pye



Communities@Work

Hi, Families!

What a busy few weeks we have had at Comms@Work Isabella Plains Early Childhood Service! The painters visited over the school holidays and have done a wonderful job freshening up the foyer for us. Thank you!

This week we are celebrating National Families Week with a family fun morning on Friday, from 10-11am. We will be enjoying some games, arts/crafts and music together and welcome all families to come along. Please just email the centre so that we can make sure we have enough morning tea.

The week after next we will be celebrating Reconciliation Week with the school and will be engaging in a number of shared experiences. We will also be engaging in some arts, crafts, music, and cooking to support our relationship with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, families, friends and community. On Wednesday 20 May we will be holding a fundraiser for Stomp Out The Gap: wear red and bring in a gold coin donation to support this worthy cause.

We hope that you are enjoying the changes we are making: we are always keen for feedback and ideas from families and the community.

Emma Jayne

Second Hand Uniform Shop

The second hand uniform shop is now open on Wednesdays from 9 - 9.30am during school term. It is located in the small meeting room opposite reception at the front office. Please feel free to drop by and see what is available.

Dresses are \$10, jumpers are \$5 and T-shirts, polo shirts, long sleeve T-shirts, shorts, skirts and pants are all \$2. To access the second hand uniform shop outside these hours, please see reception

We have a limited number of new dresses, these are \$40.

Any questions or for further information call Julie on 0479 049 719.



Rose's recipe for homemade custard

Ingredients:

4 whole eggs
1/3 cup cornflour
1.7 Lt Milk, quite warm
1/4 cup sugar *to taste
1 tablespoon vanilla extract



Method:

1. Whisk eggs, cornflour and milk together in a saucepan until smooth.
2. Continue whisking on stove top until custard becomes thick and creamy.
3. Remove from heat, then whisk in sugar and vanilla.

*Do not add sugar whilst on heat as it will stick to the pan.

Make variations by adding some cocoa for chocolate custard or add some cinnamon/nutmeg for spiced custard.

Serve with fresh berries or over fruit salad.



VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Voluntary Contributions form an integral part of the annual school budget used to resource educational programs for children. While voluntary contributions are optional, we strongly encourage parents to pay the full amount, or any amount that they can comfortably afford to assist the school. At Isabella Plains Early Childhood School, families also have the option of paying into a tax deductible Library fund.

Why does the School Board request Voluntary Contributions?

Each school is given an allocation of money from the Government linked to enrolment numbers. This money is carefully budgeted by the School Board to pay the costs of running the school such as the cleaning contract, electricity, water, sewerage, and maintenance, resources for all classes, photocopying, postage and all operating costs. While funding is adequate for the school's needs, there are always other things that are needed to enhance the learning programs. From time to time there are also unexpected expenses that need to be met from other sources.

How much in 2018?

For 2018 the School Board has suggested voluntary contributions of \$65 per student, or \$95 per family where more than one child attends. This amount is a suggestion not a set amount. You may wish to contribute this amount, more or less. You may not wish to contribute anything at all.

School Library Fund

The school also has an Isabella Plains Early Childhood School Library fund. Funds in this account can only be used for purchasing resources for the library and donations are tax deductible. **Please note contributions to the Library fund must be separate to any other payment to be tax deductible.**

Why a Library Fund?

The money contributed into the library fund **MUST** be spent on resources for the library. We have big plans for our library! We want to transform it into the hub of the school, a space that is welcoming, inviting, and cosy where children are drawn to. This is going to take not only time and energy and a quality plan, but also some targeted funds. We have allocated funds in the school budget, but will need more to make this dream a reality. Businesses are able to make tax free donations so if you own a business or have friends or family with a business, encourage them to donate to something that will impact positively on your child's educational outcomes and wellbeing, instilling a lifelong love of reading. Think new books, accessible shelving, comfy reading areas, an area that flows indoors and outdoors and incorporates the family room. Help us realise our dream, contribute now.

Kate Woods
Principal

PLEASE NOTE: All information regarding payment of voluntary contributions is strictly confidential.
If you have any questions, concerns or comments please contact a member of the school board or leadership team.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION FORM

Suggested Yearly Contribution is \$65 per child or \$95 per family.

(Please circle one) Voluntary Contribution / Library Fund (Please ensure donations to the Library Fund are not combined with other payments)

Please circle the appropriate amount. Child \$65, Family \$95 or another voluntary amount \$

Family Name:.....

Child's Name:..... Class:.....

Child's Name:..... Class:.....

Payment Options (Please circle one): Direct Deposit / Quickweb / Credit Card & Eftpos at reception/ Cash

Quickweb: Go to the school website page <http://www.ipecs.act.edu.au/payment>

Direct Deposit Details: Westpac BSB: 032 777 Account No: 001439

Name: Isabella Plains Early Childhood School Management Acc

Details: Volcon and family surname OR Library and family surname



We hope you had a lovely Mother's Day!

We saw a lot of excited faces at the Mother's Day Market Stall last Tuesday and Friday. What thoughtful little individuals!

We hope the recipients like their presents as much as the children enjoyed choosing them for their special significant females!

Thanks to the school community for participating and contributing presents, to the teachers for sparing us some class time and our good little shoppers. Special thanks to Liz Lindbeck for her amazing efforts in making the market possible (and her GEM shop assistants too, of course!).



BBQ FUNDRAISER!

**SATURDAY
MAY 26TH**

Email ipecs.gems@gmail.com to volunteer
or sign up at the link below
www.volunteersignup.org/7FBDP



Come and show support by helping us cook up some snags!

Helping hands are surely appreciated from when we start set up at 8:30am until we close at 2:30pm.

Cook & serve shifts are 1 to 1.5 hours long (though any length of time is welcome)

CLICK HERE NOW TO VOLUNTEER FOR THE TIME THAT SUITS YOU BEST [volunteer sign up](#)

Of course, everyone is also welcome to come and buy a quick lunch or mini munch from our stall! The more the merrier!

~ Thank you in advance for your support! ~

HEADS UP!

GEMS MEETING TONIGHT!

7pm, Wednesday
16 May(Term 2, Week 3) IPECS Family
Room

TOPIC:
Allocation of Funds Raised

COMING UP:

Wed, 13 June
Next GEMS meeting

Fri, 15 June
IPECS Buddy Day

Friday, 6 July
End of Term Crazy Hair &
Mufti Day



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Gmail Address
ipecs.gems@gmail.com

IPECS Families Business Directory

If you would like to advertise your business, send your the details to
trish.coughlan@ed.act.edu.au

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**THAT PLASTER
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Ray Murrell

0416 099 246

thatplasterguy@gmail.com

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- Water Damage
- Sagging Ceilings
- Fixing
- and Sheeting



positive partnerships

Working together to support school-aged students on the autism spectrum

Free Two Day Workshop for Parents and Carers

Canberra
22 & 23 May 2018

Positive Partnerships is coming to a location near you!

Join us for 2 days of learning with other parents and carers of school aged children on the autism spectrum, designed to help you foster productive school, family and community relationships to provide the best kind of support for your child. Our workshops are for parents, carers and grandparents wanting to understand more about autism and learn practical strategies using evidence based resources to help maximise their young person's learning.

What will you gain by attending this workshop?

- An increased understanding of the impact of autism
- Further knowledge about how to develop effective partnerships with your school
- Information to help you access further support both inside and outside of school
- An opportunity to be part of a support network where you can share strategies and experiences with other parents/carers
- An understanding of a planning tool that can be used to share key information related to your child

Workshop details

Venue: Pavilion on Northbourne
242 Northbourne Avenue
Dickson ACT 2602

When: Tuesday 22 & Wednesday 23 May 2018
9.30 am – 2.30 pm (Registration from 8.45 am)

Catering: Morning tea and lunch is provided. Please advise any dietary requirements upon registration.

Register Online: positivepartnerships.com.au Registrations open Tuesday 27 March 2018 and close one business day prior to the workshop. Register early as places are limited!

Questions? If you are not able to register online please call the Positive Partnerships Infoline : 1300 881 971 or email parentcarer@autismspectrum.org.au

The Positive Partnerships initiative is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education and Training through the Helping Children with Autism package and is delivered by Autism Spectrum Australia. The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government or the Department of Education and Training.

