FOR YOUR DIARY

Term 2 Week 2

Monday, 4 May
- Mufti Day - Nepal fundraiser
- 08:30 Uniform Store Open

Tuesday, 5 May
- Yr 7-10 Camp
- PreKinder Nature Excursion

Wednesday, 6 May
- Yr 7-10 Camp
- 14:30 Uniform Store Open

Thursday, 7 May
- Yr 7-10 Camp
- 09:00 Primary State Swimming: ACT 12 Years and Under
- 09:00 Soccer Clinic K-6
- 09:00 Parent’s Prayer Group
- Yr3 SOSE Excursion

Friday, 8 May
- Yr 7-10 Camp
- 09:00 Secondary Swimming - ACT 13 Years and Over
- 14:20 Primary School Assembly (Yr3 hosting)
- 17:30 PreSchool Mothers Day Disco

PRINCIPAL MATTERS

Parent Engagement in Education

Emmaus Christian School was set up by parents who wanted a specific kind of school for their children. Parents have always been a big part of our school, and not just because of PIP hours!

Recently, the ACT Department of Education, along with the Association of Independent Schools and the Catholic Education Office, published some interesting research into how parents’ engagement in school work supports academic achievement for students. This is the first in a short series of “Principal Matters” columns on how parents can support their kids at school.

Many of our parents are already very involved in our school. You come to working bees, attend assemblies to applaud every merit certificate, you support the fun days, run stalls at the Food and Chocolate Fairs, and send in extra boxes of tissues every winter. Many of you cover books and help with sports carnivals. As a school, we are immensely grateful for your involvement. Those things build positive relationships between families and between parents and teachers. They also help your child to know that school is important, but they aren’t the kinds of engagement that directly support academic success.

Parental engagement that supports academic achievement happens at home.

The good news is that the research shows great long term benefits for students whose parents are engaged with their learning: improved academic outcomes, more motivation to do well and improved behavior, just to name a few. The bad news is that parental engagement requires time. In a time- poor city full of dual-income families (mine included!), being engaged with your child’s school work, as well as their sport, music and social commitments, is an extra demand on limited resources of time, but it’s worth it!

Fortunately, the tips from this research are refreshingly simple ideas for home:

- Believe in your child’s potential
- Read together
- Talk together
- Support children to develop positive relationships
- Learn together
- Create a positive homework environment

I’ll be covering one or two of these in more depth in each of the next few “Principal Matters” columns.

ALL SCHOOL NEWS

School Pick Up Up/Drop Off Zone

Let’s Keep it Safe for Parents and Students

The pick up/drop off zone in our main car park is just for … you guessed it: picking up and dropping off ONLY.

- Please DO NOT park your cars in this zone or leave your car – drivers must stay in the car, so they can drive away if required to minimise long queues.
- Please note that 1 minute should be the longest time you stop in this zone, in order to keep traffic flowing and allow other parents to use the zone.
- Please DO NOT block the Davenport entry point, when trying to squeeze your car in at the end of the zone – this could cause accidents, traffic jams, and very grumpy drivers in our car park and on Davenport Street. It is not a safe thing to do! Consideration for other parents and drivers is greatly appreciated.

We’d like to keep traffic flowing through this zone during peak times as quickly and safely as possible. Also for safety reasons, there should be NO CARS PARKED ON THE NATURE STRIP on Bancroft Street (near the pedestrian crossing).

Changes to your Dedicated School Bus Services from 18 May 2015

Message from ACTION Buses:

On Monday 18 May 2015, ACTION will be introducing a revised timetable for all normal weekday route services and some dedicated school services. This is part of our commitment to continually revising and improving our current timetable.

Since September 2014, we have been monitoring the network using performance data and identifying areas for improvement. We have been able to address issues such as on time running and service reliability.

Your current dedicated school services have been reviewed and improvements have been made. Affected routes include 457, 574, 813, 575, 684.

A detailed list of these changes is available on the ACTION website.

Students that use regular route services will need to check timetable information as many services in the regular weekday network have undergone timing adjustments. These will be available on the ACTION website.

Should you have any queries regarding your school service please call 13 17 10.

School Fee Reminder

A reminder that fee payments were due by the end of Week 1 (unless you are on a direct debit plan.)

Kind Regards
Rachel McClure
Acting Principal
Meet a Staff Member
This week hear from Caroline Orr our
Primary School Coordinator.
I am originally from Parkes, NSW and
have one sister (whose name is an
anagram of mange – see if you can
work out her real name! I love teaching
at Emmaus, helping students work out
problems and puns. I think they are ‘orr’-some!

• Place of birth – Parkes NSW
• Hobbies – collecting rocks (I have more than 600),
doing up furniture, painting... drawing... creating
• Favourite bible verse – Psalm 19:14 – May the
words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart
be pleasing in your sight, Oh Lord my rock and my
Redeemer.
• Worst habit – telling puns lots
• Best thing about Emmaus – the people

Fundraiser for Nepal
MUFTI DAY Mon 4 May
We will be holding a mufti day
(out of uniform) to raise funds to
support families who have been
devastated recently by the
earthquake in Nepal. We ask that
students dress in the red, white and blue of the
Nepalese Flag, and bring a gold coin donation. You
are very welcome to donate more than this.
Please help us support this worthy cause, and
continue to pray for those caught up in the
devastation and for the aid workers.
Please note appropriate footwear must still be used for
practical classes eg Science, Woodwork, Food Tech
due to safety regulations.

AFTER SCHOOL NEWS
After School Language Groups
Our fun French language learning group on Thursday
afternoons after school is looking for a few extra
students. Please contact Laurel on 0421858937 or
stelladasah@gmail.com. We also have Italian on
Tuesdays and German on Wednesdays.

Emmaus Dance Crew Is Back!
Term 2 is about to begin for our awesome dance crew
run by two Year 10 students, Lara and Clare. We will
be embarking on a new adventure and will be doing
contemporary dance. The term will start Wednesday of
Week 3 and will continue each Wed from 3:15–4:15
in the Secondary Music Room. It’s an awesome way
to exercise and have fun! To enrol please contact
0447651974.

Chess Club
Contact Mr Miller (Year 4 Teacher), if you wish to join
the junior chess club. See our After School Activities
page for details.

After School Care NEW Mobile Number
Please note that the After School Care program has a new mobile number - 0452 195 046.

SPORTS NEWS
Cross Country Report
The Cross-country was held on the 9 April at Mt
Ainslie. After some rainy days it turned out to be a
beautiful and sunny autumn day.
There was great House spirit with wonderful cheering,
props and costumes. Well done to all the runners who
competed. Some ran further than they had before and
whilst some were rewarded with ribbons, everyone
who ran should be proud that they did their best and
helped their House. A big thank you to the wonderful
parent volunteers and staff who made the day a
success. Results announced at next Whole School
Assembly!

SECONDARY NEWS
Student Assessment Grid
All student will receive their Term 2 Assessment grid at
the end of week 1. These are great tools to help
students know when major items are due throughout
the term and a great help in planning their workloads.
Please contact your child’s homeroom teacher if you
have not received this.

Science Competition- Judges Needed
The Emmaus Secondary Science Competition is
taking place this year on Thursday 13 August (Term 3,
Week 4), from 9.20am – 1pm.
We would like you to consider accepting our invitation to be one of the
judges for the morning.
As a matter of policy,
all judges will be required to have a Working With
Vulnerable People card (see the link below). To
consider accepting our invitation to be one of the
judges for the morning.
Please contact Peter Willis via email.

Yours Sincerely
Secondary Science Team
James Lutalo, Michelle Barfield,
Godfrey Muthomi & Peter Willis

Contact: peterw@emmaus.act.edu.au
(http://www.emmaus.act.edu.au/wwvp--working-with-
vulnerable-people-card.html)