

Tuesday 3rd March 2009

Week 5 Term 1

From the Principal.....

FIRSTLY I would like to thank you all for waiting patiently for the first bulletin of 2009. I have been settling into the role of New Principal of Canberra Montessori School over the last 4 weeks and now have so much to share with you.

It was lovely meeting so many of you at the Meet & Greet on Wednesday 11th February. I had a great opportunity to introduce myself and talk to many parents on this night. Thank you for your attendance. We were able to share with you some of the plans for Canberra Montessori School this year as well as invite you to join our Parent Committees – Learnscope Committee and Fundraising Committee.

There has been a New Parents Morning Tea where I was again able to meet many of you and to formally welcome you to the new school year. Thank you to the Class Parents who attended and shared important information with our New Families.

Welcome to our new staff member for Cycle 1 Banksia – **Leanne Van der Merwe**. Leanne has come all the way from South Africa and has shared many wonderful experiences with the children in Banksia over the last 4 weeks.

Tonia Lewis is our new classroom assistant for Dryandra and **Tomomi Ohasihi** is new classroom assistant for Grevillea. **Alison Waddell** continues to be the Music Directress and a big

WELCOME BACK to **Zoe Clark** our Directress in Cycle 3 Karri.

Welcome also to **Bob Dent** our new Business Manager. Thank you also for your patience as Bob has been settling into the new role over the last 4 school weeks.

A sad farewell to **Sonya Jolic** who has left our Afternoon Programme and a big thank you for all that you have done with the children! We are in the process of recruiting a new staff member for this position.

Over the next 5 weeks I am sure that we will be extremely busy keeping our ears to the ground and getting wheels in motion in regards to the 'Building Education Revolution'. We shall keep you updated with any new developments once all has been confirmed.

I shall continue to publish fortnightly Bulletins in order to keep you all updated with new events, school information and above all the Montessori Pedagogy.

Tina Forsyth
Principal

**Drop off time: BETWEEN
8.30am-8.45am.**

Upcoming Dates

TERM 1 2008

Mar 04	Canteen Day
Mar 09	Public Holiday – Canberra Day
Mar 17	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING CMS 6pm
Mar 30 – Apr 3	Karri Camp
Apr 8	Canteen Day
Apr 10	Public Holiday – Good Friday
Apr 13	Easter Monday
Apr 09	Last Day Term 1

Please see School Calendar for events during Terms 2-4 and check Bulletin regularly for changes to published events.

Term Dates for 2009

Term 1:	4 February – 9 April
Term 2:	28 April – 3 July
Term 3:	21 July – 25 September
Term 4:	12 October – 16 December

Public Holidays 2009

Monday 9 March	Canberra Day
Friday 10 April	Good Friday
Saturday 11 April	Easter Saturday
Monday 13 April	Easter Monday
Friday 27 April	Anzac Day
Monday 8 June	Queen's Birthday Holiday
Monday 5 Oct	Labour Day
Tuesday 3 Nov	Family & Community Day (to be confirmed)

Term Dates for 2010

Term 1:	3 February – 9 April
Term 2:	27 April – 2 July
Term 3:	21 July – 24 September
Term 4:	11 October – 15 December

A "Green" Bulletin

In an effort to assist with our environmental sustainability drive, we send out the Bulletin to families by email. If you are one of the few families who do not have email, we will have a couple of Bulletins available for pick up at the office it is also located on our school Website www.canberramontessori.com. Let's save a few trees and print cartridges!

CMS School Board

A reminder that the Chair's Chat has recommenced and will continue to be held 30 minutes before every board meeting at 6pm. Check the bulletin for future times & dates.

The **Annual General Meeting** has been set for 17th March and nomination forms will be available for Board positions shortly. Please consider whether you are able to contribute your skills to assist in the strategic management of the school. In particular, **financial management or accounting, project management, legal and educational qualifications, communication and human resource management skills** are valuable as well as a desire to have a significant participation in the future of the school.

Drop off Time

The reason we are particular about the students being at school by 8.45am is because the children's presentations have commenced by that time. It can be very unsettling for students who arrive later than 8.45am as they have to enter the classroom by themselves, seeing that everyone is already settled. Also they may miss out on lessons already started if they arrive late. Arrivals after 8.45am can also be disruptive to students already in the class, especially in Cycle 1 – their concentration is broken by their friend entering the class after they have settled.

**Please ensure that drop off is before 8.45am. This means that students are settled and in lessons at 8.45am.
Thank you for your co-operation.**

WORKING BEE THANK YOU!

On behalf of the Students and Staff THANK YOU to all the parents who attended our last 2 Working Bees! We achieved a great deal towards continuing to develop and implement the Concept Plan for Canberra Montessori School's educational environment. Your time and efforts are greatly appreciated!

AFTERNOON PROGRAMME

Lunches

Please note that if your child is attending the Afternoon programme **their lunches need to remain in their school bags**. Please provide an ice block/pack for refrigeration of their lunches.

SIGN IN

If you wish for your child to attend the afternoon programme please ensure that you sign them in for the programme on the sign in book at your classroom door. Place an AP if your child requires the programme. This enables us to effectively collect the children who are attending the programme for that particular day and ensures that the correct sign in process is being adhered to. Thank you.

PLAYGROUND AREA

It is important that the playground area of Cycle 1 is vacated immediately at pick up. This enables the Afternoon Programme to access the playground for play and ensures that during lunchtime play we have effective security with the opening and closing of the playground gates. In order to maintain our Community spirit please make use of the picnic tables made available in the Casuarina Grove if required. Once again supervision needs to be maintained. Thank you for your co-operation.

MONTESSORI QUOTES:

'The adult ought never to mould the child after himself, but should leave him alone and work always from the deepest comprehension of the child himself'.

'Any child who is self-sufficient, who can tie his shoes, dress or undress himself, reflects in his joy and sense of achievement the image of human dignity, which is derived from a sense of independence'.

'Respect all the REASONABLE forms of activity in which the child engages and try to understand them'.

(More Montessori articles forthcoming in next Bulletin.)