



# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

**FRIDAY, 30 APRIL 2021**

## NEW ENROLMENTS

We are taking new enrolments for Charles Conder Preschool (including Tharwa) for 2022. These enrolments opened this week, and you can apply online via; <https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/enrolling-in-a-public-school/enrolling-in-preschool>.

In the ACT, if your child turns four on or before 30 April, they can start preschool the first day of term 1 that year. Every four-year-old is guaranteed 15 hours of high-quality preschool education a week. Apply to enrol by 4 June to get an offer from 26 July. Applications made after 4 June will receive an offer later in the year.

## KINDERGARTEN CENSUS

### What is the AEDC?

The Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) is a nationwide data collection of early childhood development at the time children commence their first year of full-time school. The AEDC highlights what is working well and what needs to be improved or developed to support children and their families by providing evidence to support health, education and community policy and planning. The AEDC is held every three years, with the 2018 AEDC data collection being the fourth collection. The census involves teachers of children in their first year of full-time school completing a research tool, the Australian version of the Early Development Instrument. The Instrument consist of about 100 questions and collects data relating to five key areas of early childhood development referred to as 'domains', these include:

Physical health and well being

Social competence

Emotional maturity

Language and cognitive skills (school-based)

Communication skills and general knowledge

Data is collected for individual children and reported for groups of children at a community, state/territory and national level.

### Why is the AEDC important?

The AEDC provides a national measure to monitor Australian children's development.

It provides information for schools, communities and government to pinpoint the services, resources and support needed for children and families to help shape the future and wellbeing of Australian children. If you would like more information, please visit online at <https://www.aedc.gov.au/> or speak with Mr Walmsley. The community that children grow up in, the education or care before school, school and other health services they interact with play a key role in supporting optimal development. When schools, communities and governments invest resources during these early years, it brings life-long benefits to children and the whole community. With four sets of AEDC national

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data collected in 2009, 2012, 2015 and 2018, we now have an indication of the national progress towards improving the development of Australian children. With each successive wave of data collected, the AEDC will provide a more comprehensive understanding of the state and progress of early childhood development in Australia.

**The Kindergarten children will sit with their teacher and complete the online questionnaire from Monday, 10 May through that week.**

### CROSS COUNTRY – FRIDAY, 7 MAY 2021

We are looking forward to hosting the 2021 Cross Country Carnival. This is a free event that will be held at the school and all families are welcome to attend on the day. Students are encouraged to wear their House Colours on the day. All children will go to their classes and teachers will bring them to the oval. There will be the traditional family races first thing. Please see the schedule attached in this message. **The canteen will be open but there will be no special lunches.**

### P&C INFORMATION

#### Mother's Day

Mother's Day Stall this coming Monday, 3 May for all Junior classes (Kindy, Years 1 & 2) and Tuesday, 4 May for all Senior classes (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6). There will be a wonderful variety of gifts for students to buy for their mums, carers, grandmothers and other special loved ones, ranging in price from: **0.50 cents (cards only) with gifts from \$1 through to \$8.00.** We also encourage students to bring a bag to keep their gifts safe and a surprise! A table will be near the reading café for all students to make any extra purchases straight after school on Tuesday. Any remaining gifts will then be available at the front office on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday for students who missed out on their day. The P&C relies on volunteers and we would greatly appreciate any help that parents and carers can give on either day. If you have some spare time, no matter how long or short to help sell items on the Monday or Tuesday, please get in touch via the P&C email or sign up on the volunteer roster on our Charles Conder Primary School P&C Facebook page.

#### Canteen

We are excited to announce we have a new menu starting this term, some new items are homemade mini pizzas, corn on a cob and homemade soup. We are also phasing out single use plastic items in the canteen and encouraging families to bring their own cutlery from home. More information can be found on the new menu, or by visiting our Canteen Manager Mel on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays in the canteen and more information will be on our Facebook page soon.

Our Canteen Crew needs *YOU* ... Volunteers are needed to prep and pack lunch orders and assist with counter sales at recess and lunch. It's a great opportunity to make new friends, help your school and we know your kids will be so excited to see you behind the counter. Please feel free to pop in and see our Canteen Manager Mel on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday from 9.30am or sign up on the volunteer roster on our Charles Conder Primary School P&C Facebook page.



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### Fete

Our annual fete is just around the corner, so don't forget to save the date Saturday, 5 June 2021 11am-3pm. We have our popular unlimited ride wristbands for sale on Flexischools, in the front office via Eftpos and can be purchased via cash (correct amount please) by placing an envelope with your child's name, class and number of wristbands purchased in the red P&C box located in the front office. These are at the pre-sale price of \$25 for 4 hours of unlimited rides brought to us by Camelot Amusements. Otherwise, they can be purchased on the day for \$30 or \$6 per ride. These are also available to family members and friends who do not attend Charles Conder Primary, so don't forget to share this great value with them.

The P&C relies on volunteers and we would greatly appreciate any help that parents and carers can give on the day.

### Bookclub

Issue 3 is out now, and all orders are due by Monday, 3 May. Orders can be placed online via loop or by placing the correct cash in an envelope with the order form in the red P&C box at the front office.

### School Banking

Don't forget to pack your banking books on... Tuesday for early week preschool classes Friday for late week preschool and K-6 classes.

### Positions Vacant

The P&C are still looking for a Treasurer and Fundraising Officer to join the committee this year. If you would like any further information, please get in touch with us via the P&C email.

To keep up to date with all our P&C news and upcoming events like and follow us on Facebook Charles Conder Primary School P&C or you can contact us via the P&C email: [ccspandc@yahoo.com.au](mailto:ccspandc@yahoo.com.au)

## THANK YOU FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD

Thank you to those who completed the Charles Conder Primary School Board survey earlier in Term 1. Fourteen responses were received, and the responses helped the Board to get a clear picture of what some of our families were looking for in the 2021 school year including growing confidence, growth in education, social emotional growth and to create and grow relationships and join groups within the school. There was also a general interest in learning more about the Board and its operations.

The Board met on Monday, 29 March for the first meeting of the 2021 year and discussed the survey results, committing to exploring additional ways to share more from the Board and opportunities to share more generally with the broader school community. At the meeting, Mr Walmsley also confirmed that Ellen Samuels has been re-elected to the Board as a parent/carer representative. Ellen will also continue in the role of Chair.



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During the meeting we also considered and reviewed some important planning documents for the school including the Annual Action Plan and Pedagogical Framework and understand how this will guide teaching and learning focus for the remainder of the year.

Financially, the school is doing well despite a drop in income resulting from the ACT Government's freeze on charging hirers to use our hall and other areas for community use during COVID and some big-ticket expenses including furnishing our two new classrooms in the senior end of the school and cabinetry and carpeting in Tanner. We appreciate those families who have paid for student Book Packs and Voluntary Contributions so far this year and encourage families to make these payments as soon as possible to assist with funding our programs for the rest of the year.

As always, please reach out if you have any questions of the Board or wish to raise any issues. Email [charlesconderps.schoolboard@act.edu.au](mailto:charlesconderps.schoolboard@act.edu.au) or speak to a Board member.

Kind regards,

**Charles Conder Primary School Board Members**

Ellen Samuels (Chair), Michael Sutton and Julie Gnjec – Parent and Carer Representatives,

Jane McAlpine and Sheree O'Donnell – Teacher Representatives

Jason Walmsley – Principal

Haley Websdane – Business Manager and Secretariat

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