

SOUTHERN CROSS EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOOL

9 SEPTEMBER, 2024

ISSUE: 14



Respect | Resilience | Kindness | Creativity



ARTICLES OF INTEREST –

SCIENCE AT SOUTHERN CROSS

Read below to see how kindergarten to year 2 have been exploring Science this term.

From [page 3](#).

CRAZY COLOUR RUN HAPPENINGS

Looking forward to the craziness of Colour Run? More information can be found on pages 7 & 8 of this newsletter.

Click here to go to [page 7](#).

IMPORTANT DATES

- Monday 9 September
P&C Meeting
6.00–8.00pm
- Tuesday 10 September
Guginya & Wamburrang
CMAG Excursion
- Thursday 12 September
Bunduluk & Dnnawan
CMAG Excursion
- Wednesday 18 September
Learning Journey
Preschool – Year 2
- Friday 20 September
Learning Journey
Bunduluk & Dnnawan

Southern Cross Early Childhood School
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ACT
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Education

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to week 8.

Spring is here and how lovely it has been in the warmer weather. We have had many flowers, trees and plants grow and bloom very quickly over the past few weeks - what a wonderful time to live in Canberra.



HATS – PLEASE PACK A SUNSMART HAT EACH DAY

A reminder for all families to please support their child to bring a SunSmart hat to school each day.

During playtimes, the children will be asked to play under the COLA (covered outdoor learning area) if they do not have a hat. We do have a limited number of spare hats for those children who forget their hat and at the moment there are far too many children without a hat to offer a spare.

We appreciate your support as we ensure the children are playing safely during playtimes.

LEARNING JOURNEY – WEEK 9 (NEXT WEEK)

Learning Journey is an opportunity for families to spend time in the classrooms and to engage in learning experiences with their child. Families will be invited to spend time in their child's classroom and the outdoor learning environment. You may like to stay for the session, or you may choose to stay for as long as you can.

The dates and times for Learning Journey are below:

Kindergarten, Year 1-2, Guginya and Wamburrang -

Wednesday 18 September 8:30-10am

Bunduluk and Dnnawan -

Friday 20 September 8:30-9:30am

The children cannot wait to share their learning!



2023 YEAR 2 ALUMNI

Last week we held our annual Alumni Session for those children who graduated from Southern Cross in 2023. Many families and children enjoyed the opportunity to reunite and reconnect and I would like to thank everyone for making the effort to attend. Our current year 2 children had the opportunity to hear all about the new schools and what the transition was like. It is so lovely to hear about the positive transitions and how well the children are all doing in their new schools, and it has given our current year 2 children the confidence to know that it will be an exciting time.



SCHOOL PHOTOS

I would like to thank the team at Authentic School Portraits for their time in week 6 and the wonderful, creative ways they capture the children's school photos. Anyone who pre-registered should have now received a link to the photo gallery online where there are multi-options for families to purchase. If you require any assistance, please get in touch: admin@authenticschoolportraits.com.

Have a lovely week,

Kelly

FROM SOUTHERN CROSS



STRONG FOUNDATIONS – YEAR 1 PHONICS CHECK

As part of the Strong Foundations reform program, ACT public schools will begin a phased introduction of the Year 1 Phonics Check starting with 26 schools this term. Our school has been selected to participate.

The Phonics Check is a quick and easy way for teachers to gauge the phonics knowledge of Year 1 students. It is designed to help teachers identify students who may need more help learning to read.

The first schools selected to participate were chosen based on demographic, location and size to provide a broad sample from across the ACT public school system. Insights from this first group of schools will inform a rollout of the Year 1 Phonics Check to all ACT public schools in 2025.

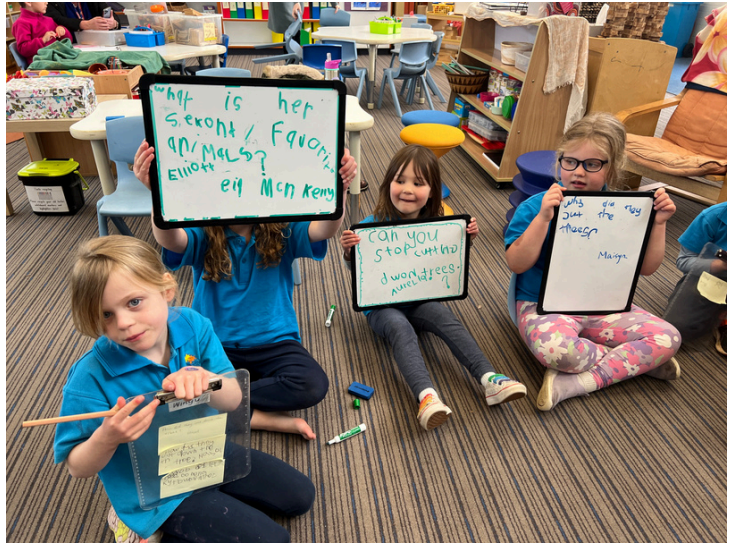
This is an important milestone as part of the Strong Foundations program designed to strengthen literacy and numeracy outcomes for all students. You can read more on the Education Directorate website.

KINDERGARTEN SCIENCE – INVESTIGATING MOTION

In Kindergarten science, our young learners have been busy exploring the fascinating world of motion. From rolling and sliding to bouncing and spinning, they experimented with different objects and surfaces to see how movement changes. Through playful inquiry, they asked questions, made predictions, and tested their ideas with hands-on activities.

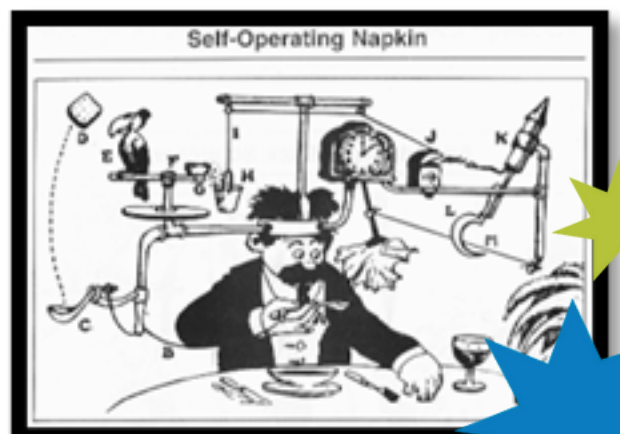


For example, our kindy scientists filmed slow-motion videos to compare how a tennis ball bounces on a smooth, flat surface versus a carpeted area, counting the number of bounces. They challenged themselves building a ramp and bouncing a pingpong ball with books. They also had a lot of fun creating art by painting on a lazy-Susan and making their own spinning tops.



YEAR 1 SCIENCE – RUBE GOLDBERG MACHINES

To conclude our Physics learning, our year 1 scientists explored the ideas behind Rube Goldberg Machines. These are complex machines that carry out a simple task, as seen in this black and white image. There is currently a corridor display set up where you and your child can play with the provided resources to explore this concept. More photos are also on show below.



The year 1 children worked in small teams to create their inventions while also focusing on being collaborative team members.

Here is what they know about being a collaborator-

Lachlan - "Helping your team. Ask them what to do."

Esca - "It means where you talk to someone and find out the problem. Try to help them understand what you need."

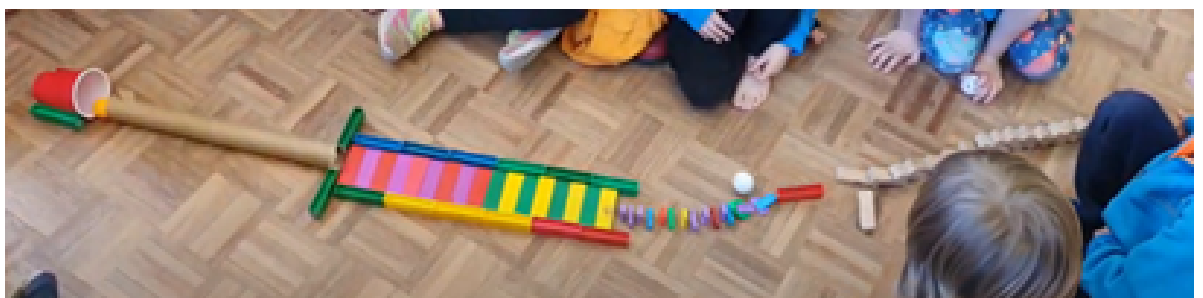
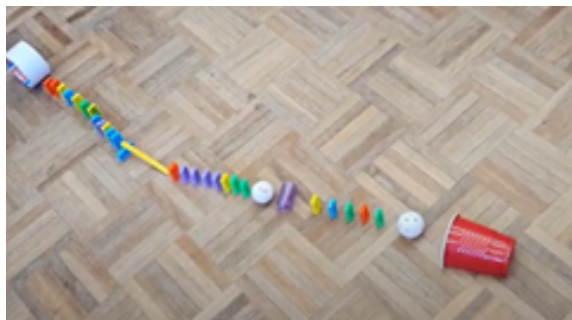
Ollie - "Working as a team and helping each other."

Hadlee - "You tell your group what to do and collaborate to see if it's good."

Felix - "You ask your team."

Zahara - "You have to work together and agree."

"Let's do it this way first, then we can do yours."



Our next focus for learning is the science of Earth and Space, where we will be looking to identify daily and seasonal changes and describe ways these changes affect everyday life.



YEAR 2 SCIENCE – SOUND

Year 2 recently wrapped up their unit on sound. It included lots of fun explorations into different types of sound, how we hear, and the ways we can “see” sound.

To demonstrate their learning, children created their own instruments, and they turned out great! They thought carefully about what kind of sound their instrument would make, considering both the pitch and volume.

It was great to see the variation in designs – we had instruments you strike, shake, pluck, scrape and blow.

Take a look at just a few of our finished products!



Year 2 have now moved onto learning about the Earth and its place in the solar system. They are exploring patterns in the changing positions of the sun, moon and stars and investigating why and how these occur.

Lots of great learning happening... watch this space!



YEAR 2 – PHYSICAL EDUCATION

In physical education, year 2 continue to work on their fundamental movement skills. Leaping and skipping were fun favourites that got everyone’s heart rates up! They are currently working on strengthening their underarm and overarm throwing.



SAVE THE DATE!

Athletics Carnival : Wednesday 16 October

Grandparents/Friends Day (details TBC):

- Friday 25 October 2024- K-2 Grandparents/friends event and end of the week preschool
- Monday 28 October 2024- Beginning of the week preschool Grandparents/friends event

Twilight Community Gathering: Friday 25 October 4:30-6:30pm

FROM THE P&C

P&C MEETING TONIGHT!

Please join us at 6pm at Southern Cross Club Jamison, kids welcome.
We can sign non members in!



CRAZY COLOUR DAY LAUNCH!

Crazy Colour Day has launched!!! We will host a school colour run on Thursday 7 November 2024.

A special colour run event will be held on Tuesday 5 November for beginning of the week preschool.

This fun and exciting day is all about engaging the school community in a fun way to raise funds for the school- we have a target of \$10,000! We have already raised over \$3000, what a great start!

So far 39% of our enrolled students have set up a profile. Please set one up here if you have not yet! schoolfunrun.com.au



Prize for the most class profiles!

The class with the most online profiles for the colour run and winners of icy poles for the class is Year 1/2 Gudamang!

CONGRATULATIONS GUDAMANG! Over 65% of the class have set up their profile!

We have also decided to extend this award to the classes with the highest profiles in Kindergarten and Preschool.

Congratulations to-

Kabbadang (kindergarten)- 43% of the class have profiles.

Dnnawan (preschool)- 41% of the class have profiles.

Icy poles will be delivered to your classrooms this week!
Well done!!



Next fun run milestone - Friday 20 September

Every child who has raised over \$10 by the 20 September will go into a random draw to win a colour run prize pack!!

We'll also be having a Colour Run colouring competition- colouring will come home with kids to work on during the school holidays! There will be prizes for the winners in each class!



ELECTION DAY 19 OCTOBER – DEMOCRACY SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Southern Cross Early Childhood School will once again be a polling place for the upcoming ACT election.

The P&C will hold a Democracy Sausages Sizzle for the ACT Election on Saturday 19 October.

We'd love for you to help out on the day if you can. If you can't help out on the day, please choose something from our shopping list to donate instead.

Throwing an extra bottle of sauce in the trolley during your weekly shop will mean more money from our fundraiser can go directly to the school.

To sign up to donate an item, sign up here- <https://signup.com/go/bmrpNCy>

Stay tuned for further information for how you can volunteer at the BBQ on the day.

Kind regards

The Southern Cross P&C



COMMUNITY INFO

FAMILY PORTRAIT OPPORTUNITY

We're excited to share that Authentic School Portraits, the photographers who recently captured your children's school portraits, are offering a fantastic opportunity for family photos just in time for the holiday season!

Upcoming Family Photo Fundraising Events:

- Sunday, September 22nd, 2024
- Sunday, November 3rd, 2024
- Sunday, November 17th, 2024

What: Join us for a fun and relaxed family photo session at a beautiful outdoor location that highlights the charm of spring. It's the perfect chance for parents to step in front of the camera with their little ones and create cherished memories that will last a lifetime.

Bonus: Not only will you receive stunning family photos, but 10% of all sales and session fees will go directly back to our school as a fundraiser. It's a great way to support our community while capturing special moments!

Interested in joining in the fun?

Sign up here:

<https://www.authenticschoolportraits.com/familyphotofundraising>

Feel free to reach out if you have any questions or need further details. We're looking forward to seeing all those smiling faces again and making this a memorable event for everyone!

Warm regards,
The Authentic School Portraits Team

NATIONAL FILM AND SOUND ARCHIVE – UPCOMING EVENTS

Pizza & Pyjamas | [Toy Story](#) | 6 pm, Fri 13 Sep

The 1990s Pixar animated classic that introduced Woody, Buzz and their talking toy friends to the world. Come in your comfiest PJs, bring your favourite teddy or blanket, and enjoy this extra-cosy, Friday night family special with pizza on arrival (included with ticket).

School Holidays at NFSA Acton | 2–9 Oct

Babe, Peter Rabbit, Red Dog and the musical fairies of FernGully return to the big screen in October for NFSA Acton's school holiday matinee screening program.

[Browse all family-friendly events](#)

School Holidays | [FernGully: The Last Rainforest](#) | 1 pm, Wed 2 Oct
The magical rainforest of FernGully faces a logging threat in this beautiful 1992 musical animation with a strong environmental message.



School Holidays | [Babe](#) | 1 pm, Fri 4 Oct
Orphaned pig Babe finds himself on the Hoggett farm where he is adopted into an eccentric community of talking animals. Australia's highest grossing children's film, Babe is a timeless, uplifting classic.



School Holidays | [Peter Rabbit](#) | 1 pm, Tue 8 Oct
This contemporary adaptation brings Beatrix Potter's beloved storybook characters to life for a new generation.

School Holidays | [Red Dog](#) | 1 pm, Wed 9 Oct
Australian kelpie Koko stars as Red in this iconic Australian family film about a stray dog who wins the hearts of a remote mining community.

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS™



The next Holiday Happenings edition is now available online.

To see the *Programs, Activities & Events* happening these holidays go to:

www.holidayhappenings.com.au/online-booklet

