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**HARMONY EXCELLENCE RESPECT OPTIMISM**

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# NEWSLETTER

31 July 2020 - Term 3 Week 2

## Principal's Report

Welcome back to another term of learning and celebration. I trust you have all had a great break and hope you have recharged ready for the busy term ahead.

Firstly some bad news is that the recent spread of COVI-19 in Victoria and NSW has put on hold the planned easing of restrictions for ACT schools. Hopefully you would have received a letter from me last week explaining this in more detail. For Kingsford Smith School it means we will continue with virtual assemblies and phone or teleconference parent / teacher / student interviews as well as limited pre-booked parent access to school buildings. In other words adults from the community are not to enter school buildings and will only be able to attend the school for pre-arranged meetings.

Sporting teams are starting back up again with some limitations and we can do some day trips within the ACT again with limitations. Lastly, at the moment school camps either the ACT or outside the ACT are not allowed. We have several camps arranged for late this term and you will be getting further information about arrangements for these soon for specific groups affected.

As I have mentioned previously I have been holding parent focus groups around the experiences and lessons to learn, as well as opportunities for the future, the learning from home period provided. I will be producing a short video on this

topic once I have had a chance to get some feedback from students and staff as well and what the likely actions will be for us this term. I want to thank all the families who took part in these focus groups and welcome any further feedback families can provide.

Lastly next Friday is Primary School Principal's Day and we had the chance to have our year 5 school leaders videoed sending a message to the media team from ACT Education. Check out the ACT Education facebook page next week to see our students and how well they represented themselves and our school.



Till next time, stay healthy and stay safe.

Paul

## Deputy's Report

Welcome to Term 3. It has been great to be able to resume the school term with everyone back on site. Students have settled well into school routines and there is a noticeable sense of calm and productivity across the school.

This week Year Group assemblies were held to acknowledge our PBL High Flyers. High Flyer points are awarded to students who demonstrate the expected behaviours of being Safe, Respectful, Learners in the classroom or on the playground. Students who have accumulated enough PBL points earn certificates and/or experiences. This week we handed out 51 Bronze Certificates and 14 Silver Certificates across the school. Congratulations to those students who have achieved these milestones!

On August 28th KSS will be celebrating Wear it Purple Day. Wear it Purple Days fosters supportive, safe, empowering and inclusive environments for rainbow young people and their families. This year there will be bake sales, literacy displays and activities happening for students during break times and we will begin the day with a breakfast for our rainbow youth, their families and allies. Our breakfast will be held outside to assist us in ensuring appropriate social distancing. Due to COVID restrictions and contact tracing requirements we require an RSVP from all families who are intending to attend. If you are interested in coming along, please RSVP using the link below.

<https://forms.gle/1HgMaWk9XYn9CBuR7>

Student health and wellbeing is a key priority at KSS, and we strive to work closely with families and caregivers in this space. Since returning from remote learning we have noticed that more and more students are choosing to contact parents and caregivers when they are finding the school day challenging or feeling unwell, rather than letting someone at school know about any issues. It is vitally important that students let someone at school know about these problems too - as soon as possible. If your son or daughter does call you because they are feeling sick or finding situations at school challenging, please encourage them to talk to a member of staff. If a staff member has not contacted you about your child's concern, please call the school to inform us that you have heard from your son/daughter. Until we know what is happening for them, we are not able to put measures in place to support them.

Enjoy your weekend

Kate Greeney

## School Satisfaction and Climate Survey

As part of our continuous effort to improve ACT schools, each year the Education Directorate invites all parents, school staff and students in Years 4 to 12 to give feedback through the School Satisfaction & Climate Survey. Your responses will help the school to identify what we do well and how we can improve. The data will also be used to underpin school improvement practices and inform government priorities, as well as in research projects and longitudinal studies aimed at improving the quality of education services in the ACT. This year, the survey also includes questions about your experiences of Learning at Home during Term 2.

The survey is administered via Qualtrics, an online survey platform, and is accessible on any mobile device. The parent survey should take 5-10 minutes to complete. The survey will open on Monday 10 August and closes Monday 31 August.

Your participation is entirely voluntary, but we do hope you will help. It is important that as many parents, staff and students complete the survey as possible to ensure the results accurately reflect the views and experiences of our whole school community. Parents can opt-out of emails about the survey by clicking on the link at the bottom of their survey invitation.

Parents who do not want their child to complete the student survey should use the link below to withdraw their child/ren or contact the front office by Friday 9 August so that their child can be excluded.

<https://forms.gle/VGMEWQ4VpvYcNMDz9>

## Year 7 Health Check Survey

Year 7 represents a time of significant change in young people's lives; for many they face a new school, study schedules and social life while navigating the developmental

changes of adolescence. The Year 7 Health Check is being implemented to monitor the health and wellbeing of year 7 students during this time of change and to help us design better health programs and initiatives for Canberra's young people.

participation is entirely voluntary, but we do hope you will help. It is important that as many students complete the survey as possible to ensure the results accurately reflect a wide range of views and experiences.

Parents who do not want their child to complete the student survey should use the link below to withdraw their child/ren or contact the front office by Friday 9 August so that their child can be excluded.

<https://forms.gle/C3uThUFjbixMbscf9>



## For Parents/Carers of students in Years 4 to 12

Dear Parent/Carers,

### 2020 School Satisfaction & Climate Survey

Each year, the Directorate surveys all parents/carers, school staff and students in Years 4 to 12 about their satisfaction with public education. The 2020 surveys will be available online from 10 to 31 August.

I am writing to ask for your help by allowing your child/ren to participate in the **student survey**. Parents of Year 7 students will also be asked to allow their child/ren to participate in the *2020 Year 7 Health Check* (see overleaf).

#### Why are we doing the survey?

The data are used to inform government policy and underpin school improvement practices. The results will also help us to identify what we do well as a school and where we can improve.

#### What is involved?

The **student survey** is administered as a classroom task and takes 15-20 minutes to complete. In addition to items developed to measure satisfaction, the survey includes a school climate module that forms part of a longitudinal study being conducted in partnership with researchers at the Australian National University (ANU).

Key elements of school climate include school identification (a sense of belonging and connection to school), academic emphasis (support and encouragement of learning and success), relationships (feeling valued and respected in dealings with others) and a sense of shared mission, rules and processes in the school, which are important indicators

of educational outcomes and quality of the learning environment.

### How will privacy be managed?

At the start of the survey, student identification numbers will be used to confirm the identity of students and enable survey responses to be linked over time and with administrative and performance data. Linking data in this way will help researchers to assess relationships between improvements in school climate and educational outcomes and enable a better understanding of patterns over time.

All personal information will be handled in accordance with the *Information Privacy Act 2014*. Details about how personal information is stored and used are available in our *Privacy Policy* (available at <http://education.act.gov.au>). No personal identifying information will be provided to any school or college.

### What do I do now?

If, after reading this letter, you do not want your child to do the survey, please use the link below or contact the front office by Friday 9 August so that your child can be excluded.

Schools Satisfaction and Climate Survey Withdrawal  
<https://forms.gle/fhZoersorXRhRpAKA>

Thank you for considering this request. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Paul Branson



For Parents/Carers of students in Year 7

## YEAR 7 HEALTH CHECK (Y7HC) 2020

Health and wellbeing are important for effective learning. As such, the ACT Health Directorate is pleased to let you know about an annual health survey – the Year 7 Health Check (Y7HC) - which will be made available to all Year 7 students in ACT Government schools from 2020.

### WHAT IS THE Y7HC SURVEY?

Year 7 represents a time of significant change in young people's lives: they face a new school, study schedules and social life while navigating the developmental changes of adolescence. The Y7HC is being implemented to monitor the health and wellbeing of Year 7 students during this time of change and to help us design better health programs and initiatives for Canberra's young people.

Ethics approval for the Y7HC has been provided by the ACT Health Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC), which has been accepted by the ACT Government Education Directorate.

### WHAT IS INVOLVED?

The Education Directorate is administering the 2020 Y7HC on behalf of ACT Health. Year 7 students will complete the survey in class at the same time they complete the *School Satisfaction & Climate Survey*. The Y7HC will collect information on the nutrition, hydration, physical activity, sedentary behaviour, sleep and emotional wellbeing of Year 7 students and takes 5-10 minutes to complete. If you do not agree to your child participating in the Y7HC, please use the link below or contact your school's front office by Friday 9 August so that your child can be excluded.

Year 7 Health Check Survey Withdrawal  
<https://forms.gle/CYzh49U9qgZ92D8r9>

### WHAT WILL WE DO WITH THE RESULTS?

No personal identifying information will be provided to ACT Health or to any school. In the future, survey responses may be linked over time through a process of encryption used by the Centre for Health Record Linkage to protect confidentiality and gain a better understanding of survey result patterns. More information about data linkage is at <https://www.cherel.org.au/how-record-linkage-works>

Analyses of the Y7HC responses will be reported at a population level; individual, school, regional, and sector-based results will not be identified. ACT Health and the Education Directorate will handle all personal information in accordance with the Territory Privacy Principles set out in the *Information Privacy Act 2014*. Details about how personal information is stored and used are available at <https://www.education.act.gov.au/functions/privacy#act>. A brief report of the population-level Y7HC results will be made available from the ACT Health website (<https://www.health.act.gov.au/about-our-health-system/population-health/epidemiology/year-7-health-check-survey>).

### WHO SHOULD I CONTACT IF I HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?

More information about the Y7HC can be found on the ACT Health website or by emailing the project team at [Y7HC@act.gov.au](mailto:Y7HC@act.gov.au). For concerns about how the Y7HC is conducted, contact the HREC by email to [ethics@act.gov.au](mailto:ethics@act.gov.au) or by phoning (02) 6174 7968.

Thank you for helping us to improve the health and wellbeing of ACT children and young people.

Yours sincerely,

*Alan Philp*

*Executive Group Manager,*

## Year 1

Year 1 children are busy with all the new Term 3 learning! During reading the students use comprehension strategies such as making connections to find meaning which connects to their own background. Our children participate in reading group rotations to support each other with decoding new words or discussing the characters and plot. The group who works with their teacher learns targeted strategies to improve their reading skills. In maths lessons, we learn to count on and recall number bonds to 10 to apply to number operations. Our students learn to tell the time on an analogue clock to the hour and half hour. Our Inquiry unit is 'Now and Then'. We investigate the ways people's lives have changed since our grandparents and even parents were young. During art, students explore what art is and who can be an artist. The Taipans were also very lucky to host a preservice student teacher, Tameeka who taught the students during Week 1. Meg and the students were sad to see her go, however wish her the best for her teaching career.

## Year 3

It has been a wonderful start to the term after the mid-year break. We are looking forward to learning about many interesting topics this term. In Literacy we continue to read, write and spell every day. We will be looking closely at information texts and creating our own factual text about an animal.

Make sure that you check your watch because we are starting off by learning about the time in Maths. In year 3, students learn to read time to the minute. At home support your child by reading the time at every opportunity on a

digital and analogue clock. We will also be focusing on multiplication and division this term. Remember, multiplication is counting groups and division is sharing groups equally.

In Science we will be looking at heat and heat transfer. The children will join 'Chef Pierre' in learning about heat in the kitchen and participating in lots of hands-on experiments.

In Geography we will be looking at the different climates of Australia and around the world. Go onto google classroom with your child to find out more.

Welcome back to Term 3

## Year 10 HaSS

Students in Year 10 HaSS are learning about human wellbeing around the world and how and why it differs. To help them build a general understanding of the current state of wellbeing around the world, they completed an activity called "If the world was 100 people". It gave students insight into the wellbeing of people around the world in regards to aspects such as education, location, health, wealth and standards of living. They then wrote a reflection on what they learnt from the activity and made conclusions about the current state of wellbeing around the world.

Wellbeing is the fundamental overall health of one individual enabling them to live healthy and happy lives. In the 'if the world was 100 people' activity we represented the world's population as 100 people. In this activity, it showed us that the numbers of people struggling around the world with things like education, standards of living and food are way higher than what we think as we have the advantage of living in a county with great wellbeing. Since the population of the world is represented in smaller numbers we are able to analyse the data better. This activity gave a clear understanding to us that human wellbeing around the world is not in good shape

at all as we tend to think it is a lot better than what the 'if the world was 100 people' activity represented. – Sheida

There were surprising findings while completing the 'if the world was 100 people' activity, conclusions can be made about human well being from this activity. If the world was 100 people only 7 people would have university degrees, 80 people would live in substandard housing as well as only 40 would have an internet connection. If the world was 100 people a majority of the population would be asian, the most common religion would be christian, only 5 people would speak english, 14 would not be able to read or write, 11 people would be malnourished and 1 would die from starvation. Completing this task has shown how much people living in developed countries take for granted such as having clean drinking water and fresh air. A point that could be made from this activity is that english speaking white people are actually more of a minority then people think. On the other hand white countries are more developed and more privileged then the majority of the world. The 'if the world was 100 people' activity helped show the amount of people that have to work hard for what some people get handed and that a developed and rich country is a minority. – Chelsea

The results that were obtained from the activity differed from what others had predicted, they were able to show how people can under or overestimate the state of the world. It was able to show in some areas that Humans had a higher wellbeing than expected, while in others it was a surprising amount less, usually in some form of poverty or lacking access to something essential to survive. These results show where a majority of people come from (61 Asia), what essentials they have access to (80 live in substandard housing, 43 lack basic sanitation), what their religions are (33 Christian), and what education and technologies they have access to (12 unable to read and own a computer). These factors all chain together to form a picture, one that paints

the views on Humanity's wellbeing, how some people are struggling in the world, with no means of picking themselves up. After this it shows that action needs to be taken, and it can't be done alone, this is something that can no longer be ignored, people need to band together to help fix Humanity. - Theo

## Dragon Boat Festival - 端午节 - Duānwǔ jié

The sport of Dragon Boating has grown enormously in Canberra over recent years. There are over 600 paddlers of all ages who regularly take part in regattas in the ACT. In China, racing builds up to the Dragon Boat festival, celebrated every year on the fifth day of the fifth lunar month.



With the festival taking place on 25 June this year, Mandarin students at KSS have been exploring it's ancient origins which stretch back over 2,300 years.

This description was provided by year 8 student Amelie Grobler.

### Origins of Dragon Boat Festival

The Dragon Boat festival is a tradition in remembrance of Qu Yuan, a poet and a great counsellor in the state of Chu during the Warring States period in China who lived from 340 to 278BCE. He had warned King Chu of threats from the rival Qin kingdom but the King ignored and then exiled Qu Yuan who was proved right when the Qin conquered his homeland and let the king die in prison. Qu Yuan was also killed by drowning in Mi



Lou river on the fifth day of the fifth Lunar month. The locals rushed around the river in boats to find his body, decorating them as dragons and beating drums to scare away evil spirits. To make sure the fish didn't eat him they threw rice

balls wrapped in bamboo leaves. Nowadays in China, people celebrate Qu Yuan by racing dragon boats, eating rice balls and drinking a special type of wine on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of the 5<sup>th</sup> lunar month.

Amelie Grobler – Year 8

## Carers ACT





**What Is Telehealth?**  
Telehealth is a new way to attend a specialist medical appointment with the Canberra Hospital or the University of Canberra Hospital by using video conference from your own home.  
It is a convenient way to see your specialist without the hassle of transport, parking or physical distancing concerns.

**Try Telehealth**  
If you want to have your appointment from the comfort of your home, we can help you understand how to connect with your doctor and provide technical support to you before and during your appointment.

**First Step**  
Next time you are booking a medical appointment at Canberra Hospital or the University of Canberra Hospital, ask the clinic if you can have the appointment by video-conference. The clinic staff will let you know if this is a good option for you.

**Need Help?**  
If you don't have a computer, or internet in your home, or you are just not confident using the technology, Carers ACT is able to provide the resources and support to you. Our service can be either over the phone, or in your own home depending on your preference.

**Telehealth Support**

- Talk to your practitioner at the Canberra Hospital or Canberra University Hospital about attending your next appointment by Telehealth.
- Contact Carers ACT on 6296 9928 and arrange for our team to come to your home to help you attend your appointment by video-conference. If you prefer, we can provide support over the phone. Please contact us at least one week prior to your medical appointment.

**Telehealth Support**

At Carers ACT, we understand that technology can be confusing and can feel all too hard. Our Telehealth Support Program is designed to help patients and carers use video-conferencing at home to attend specialist medical appointments.



**How We Can Help**

If you don't have a computer, access to the internet, or if you just don't feel confident, we can come to your home with the resources to connect you for your appointment.




**Carers ACT**

**TELEHEALTH**

Do you need help to use video technology to attend a medical appointment?

**CARERS ACT**  
02 6296 9928  
telehealth@carersact.org.au




**Do you need help to attend a specialist medical appointment via Video-Conference?**

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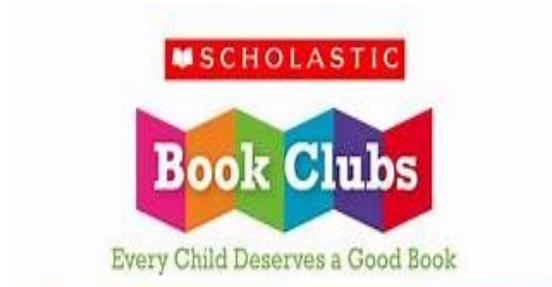
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**Need Assistance?**  
If you don't have a computer, or internet in your home, or you are just not confident using the technology, Carers ACT are able to provide the resources and support to you.

Our service can be either over the phone, or in your own home depending on your preference.

Contact the Telehealth support team to access the service.

**CONTACT CARERS ACT**  
02 6296 9928  
telehealth@carersact.org.au



## Bookclub

Dear Families,  
Issue #5 of Book Club has just come home. Please have all orders to the front office (cash) or entered via the LOOP app (online payments) by **Friday 7th August 2020**.

Many thanks,  
Leigh Andreatta and Harleen Kaur  
Book Club Coordinators

## PBL Report

Welcome to Term 3! This week a number of our students will receive their Bronze PBL Certificates. This is very exciting and congratulations to those students. We know that there are also a number of students who are very close to receiving certificates. Keep up the good work of being a Safe, Respectful, Learner at KSS! The teachers will be acknowledging and re-teaching the safe and respectful behaviors of keeping our hands and feet to ourselves and following the instructions of teachers. We started this focus at the end of last term and will continue for the next fortnight.

