Dear Malkara families

Let’s start this newsletter by welcoming all our new children and their families to the Malkara School community:

Mikhail, Liam and Zac in Teal 1
Deklyn and Eva in Teal 2
Linkin, Jaxon and Abby in Lime
Juan and Tristan in Pink
Nikola (Niki) in White

We trust our new families feel warmly welcomed and right at home at our school.

Classes have had a good week this week considering the many changes the students have needed to accommodate. For many there were new classrooms and toilets, new class mates, new staff and a new playground. We work hard to support students as they adapt to new routines and environments. The first few weeks can be tricky.  Please let us know if there is anything extra we can do to support your child at this time.

I returned from my year in Central Office in time to join the three days of professional learning before the 2015 school year began. It is terrific to be back! My sincere thanks go to Kylie, Pam and Dagmar for taking on acting leadership roles for 2014. The school is in excellent shape due to their work and commitment.

Meanwhile, I’m getting my head around the changes that occurred in my absence such as the NDIS, the loss of the out-posted units and the discussions about HAAS, including the withdrawal of the school nurses. Big changes indeed. Should anyone wish to discuss these matters and their impact on your family, don’t hesitate to phone.

I hope to catch up with many of you at the Parent Morning Tea on Wednesday 18 February, 9am in the staffroom. Other opportunities to chat are the ILP meetings on 2 and 5 March and after Friday afternoon assemblies. A schedule of which class is leading the assembly is included in this newsletter for your information.

Here’s to another great year!

Jennie
The Aqua Astronauts have settled into their new class and are busy learning already. We have been reading a book about Space and have started our Literacy and Maths sessions. Have a look at what we have been up to:

Kim has ‘more to say’ when he uses the PODD.

Mufrad is making words with Darren.

Georgina has a turn on the tornado swing with Heather.

Addison is ‘signing on’ for the day.

Sophie and Kim are playing a coin game with the class in Maths.

Sophie is making the letter ‘S’ from play dough.
'What number do you have?’ Kim asks Georgina.

Kim is making a sentence about the moon.

Mufrad is reading a book about what we do at home.

Addison is completing his Maths worksheet.

We are lucky to use the Art room with Margie on Wednesdays for Art and Music.

We are busy creating a book about ‘Space’.
A Note from the Nurse

Having informed you I was leaving Malkara at the end of last year, I am really happy to say I am back again! Health and Education decided on the last day of term four to put the changeover to HAAS on hold for the time being. Rita is covering Cranleigh and I am remaining here.

I think parents and students are all happy to have school resume. A few things to be mindful of:

- Please fill out and return the medical forms which have been sent home so that we are able to take the best possible care of your child.
- Remember hats because sunscreen can only protect so much and children’s skin is particularly delicate.
- Keep children home if they have a cough or cold or any illness which might be passed on to others.
- Keep fingernails as short as possible to avoid scratching others in play.

Please feel free to ring me on the school number if you have any concerns regarding your child’s health or wellbeing.

Di Davies
Malkara School Nurse.

All Malkara parents and carers are invited to join us for croissants and coffee to welcome in the New Year. This will be an opportunity for you to meet new parents as well as others you haven’t met before.

When: Wednesday 18th February (Week 3)
Where: Staff room
Time: After drop off in the morning

To assist with catering please return the following slip if you plan to attend.

I will be able to attend the morning tea on Wednesday 18th February.

Name: ..............................  No of people attending: ..........................
Capacity Building Workshops
for families of primary school aged children living with a disability
Developed by JFA Purple Orange, delivered by ADACAS and Imagine More

7 consecutive Wednesdays beginning on 25th February 2015
6.00pm-9.15pm
at Belconnen Community Centre

- Week 1 – 25/2/15 You and Your Life
- Week 2 – 4/3/15 Making a Plan
- Week 3 – 11/3/15 Choices and Voices
- Week 4 – 18/3/15 Connected
- Week 5 – 25/3/15 Choosing Your Personal Assistance
- Week 6 – 1/4/15 My Home, My Castle
- Week 7 – 8/4/15 Safeguarding For a Good Life

Primary school aged children begin entering the NDIS from April 2015. These free workshops will help you to think about the future and plan for the NDIS.

Register by completing the form on the back of this flyer (places are limited)

OR

For further information:
Phone ADACAS on 02 62425060
Or visit either of the following websites:

This project was made possible with assistance from Disability ACT and the ACT NDIS Taskforce with funding from the Commonwealth Government NDIS sector development fund.
# Capacity Building Workshops Registration Form

Series 1 (families of primary school aged children living with a disability)

Complete this form to register for the following 7 workshops, and return to:

Scan and Email adacas@adacas.org.au.
Or Fax 02 6242 5063
Or Phone to register on 02 6242 5060
Or SMS to 0423 624 932

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Phone:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Address:

Email:

Dietary Requirements:

Additional Needs/Requirements:

- By completing this registration form, I understand I am committing to attend a total of 7 workshops.
- In the event that I am unable to attend a session, I agree to provide a minimum of 24 hours notice.
- I acknowledge I will be charged a $20 cancellation fee if I fail to provide 24 hours notice and fail to attend.
- I understand sessions will commence promptly at 6.00pm and that I need to arrive by 5.45.

Signature: ____________________________  Date: ____________

This project was made possible with assistance from Disability ACT and the ACT NDIS Taskforce with funding from the Commonwealth Government NDIS sector development fund.
SKILLS FOR LIFE
looking ahead

How can we support children with vision impairment to become socially competent, confident and independent?

How can we help children with vision impairment to make the transition from school to the workplace and the wider world?

Where would you like your child or student to be in ten years time?

Guide Dogs NSW are pleased to present this seminar for parents and professionals.
Dr Karen Wolfe is widely published and recognised as an expert in the areas of career education, social skills development, transition issues, and employment opportunities for people with vision impairment.

Dr Wolfe will talk about the importance of social interaction and engagement, activities of daily living, and orientation and mobility skills in the lives of children and youth with vision impairment.

The need for these life skills in transitioning from school to work will be emphasised. Dr Wolfe will also discuss the importance of teaching disability specific skills, and the need for parents and concerned professionals to advocate for these essential components of the Expanded Core Curriculum.

Dates
4th – 12th March

Locations
Chatswood, Blacktown, Coffs Harbour, Orange, Canberra & Newcastle

Fees
Parents are admitted free. Other service providers $25.

Light refreshments will be served.

Contact your local Guide Dogs office on 1800 484 333 for details.
JUNIOR DREAM TEAM
CLASSES - We are starting a new class at Legs Dance Studio this year for younger students with Down Syndrome or Special Needs. Please let anyone you know who has children aged 8 - 12 years that we are running this class on Saturdays from 12.15 to 1.00pm starting from February 7th.

This is a link to the post on their Facebook wall

https://www.facebook.com/groups/140811928580/permalink/10152671608143581/

SAVE THE DATE

A fun, family friendly festival themed around Gungahlin Town Park's iconic Bunyip sculpture, Celebrate Gungahlin will host a variety of experiences and attractions featuring a birthday cake as part of the official proceedings.

✅ Participate as a stallholder
✅ Come along on the day

CELEBRATE GUNGAHLIN
2015

SATURDAY 11 APRIL
GUNGAHLIN TOWN PARK

For further information phone 6293 6500
or visit www.celebrategungahlin.org.au
Brick Expo and Competition supporting Muscular Dystrophy and students with special needs.

SAT/SUN MARCH 14-15TH 2015
9AM-4PM

For competition details go to
http://www.thewodens.act.edu.au

“Bricks @ The Woden School” is a Canberra Brick Expo event organised in association with the Canberra Lego User Group and the Woden School.

This event is not affiliated with The LEGO Group. LEGO and the LEGO logo are trademarks of The LEGO Group. © 2014 The LEGO Group.

SPONSORED BY:
The ACT Down Syndrome Association
in association with Key Word Sign NSW proudly presents a

**Key Word Sign Basic Workshop**

Presented by: Mary-Ann Kal, Key Word Sign Presenter

Friday 6 March 2015

9.30am to 4:00pm

Cost: ACTDSA members $140, non-members $160
Includes lunch and a package of resources.


For more information please contact: workshopsactdsa@gmail.com or phone 0421109686

Enrolments close Wednesday, the 25th February, 2015

*Places are limited and may fill before the closing date.*

Come along and learn how to use Key Word Sign, natural gesture and other strategies to communicate with your children/clients. Each participant will receive a Basic Workshop Certificate from Key Word Sign NSW

ACTDSA

Key Word Sign NSW
Playing to their strengths

Presented by
Catherine Pedler
NSW Down Syndrome Association

Thursday, 12th March, 2015
7pm - 4pm

This workshop is for teachers and professionals who work with school aged children with Down syndrome.

Workshop content:
- The potential impact of Down syndrome on school aged children - What does the developmental profile look like?
- How a child's communication and language can be impacted by Down syndrome
- The link between communication and behaviour
- How you can support and encourage a child with DS's language and communication
- Practical strategies to support behaviour management
- Short term auditory memory impairment – day-to-day management
- Using visual tools to support learning, communication and behaviour
- The range of excellent resources available to you as professionals working with children with Down syndrome


For more information please contact the ACT DSA on workshopsactdsa@gmail.com or phone 0421109686

Catherine Pedler has been part of the Information, Training & Support team at Down Syndrome NSW for the past 2 years, delivering professional education to teachers and health professionals, as well as conducting information sessions for families.
Catherine also has a 13 year old daughter with Down syndrome.

The ACT Down Syndrome Association
2015 Workshop Series
STUDENT NAME: .............................................................. CLASSROOM:.................................

PARENT NAME: .......................................................... CONTACT No.:.................................

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>Available sizes</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
<th>Size required</th>
<th>Quantity required</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>Order received</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Polo Shirt – short sleeve with logo</td>
<td>4 - 16</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Kelly green)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fleece Hood Top</td>
<td>4 - 16</td>
<td>$29</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Long sleeve with logo</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Navy Blue with green stripe)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fleece zip up jacket with logo</td>
<td>4 - 16</td>
<td>$23</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Navy Blue)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knit shorts – with drawstring</td>
<td>4 - 16</td>
<td>$17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Navy Blue)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skorts (Navy Blue)</td>
<td>4 - 16</td>
<td>$17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL AMOUNT $

PLEASE ENCLOSE PAYMENT WITH YOUR ORDER FORM.

☐ Cash enclosed ☐ Cheque enclosed (please make payable to Malkara P & C)

Please do not deposit uniform money into the school account. All uniform orders are mad through the P&C

To place an order please complete the required item and quantity above and send to the Front Office

Savvy Tuggeranong also stock a limited supply of our uniform.