Dear Malkara families

NDIS Information sessions
Many thanks to the large number of parents who were able to attend the initial information session on the NDIS. There were a number of questions raised and more session have been organised at Malkara to assist families. We have three sessions planned on Wednesdays until the remainder of term in the school foyer from 9.30-11.30am. Members from the P&C and School Board will also be available to talk to you during these times.

These sessions will focus on:
- how to access the NDIS
- assist with the NDIS Access request forms
- prepare for NDIS planning

Southern Cross Club donation
With heartfelt gratitude, I recently accepted a cheque for $1515.00 from the staff of Woden Southern Cross Club. This amount will fund the purchase of a new school camera.

Consultant visit in the school
Jane Farrall (AAC/Literacy) spent four days last week in the school working with staff and students. The coaching, modelling and professional expertise she shares with us is changing and consolidating our practice, making classroom programs and communication with AAC and PODD more meaningful for our students.

School Governance
We had a better than average turn out for the P&C AGM. All parents, caregivers and friends of Malkara families are warmly invited to come along and add their voice and energy to this important group who supports our school with uniforms, fund raising, special events and support and guidance with NDIS.
School Board members
Our new School Board was finalised.

The composition is:

Parent representatives: Nicole Mackey, George Tremopoulos and Deborah Eades (all returning members)
Community representative: Olwyn Munro (returning).
Staff representatives: Charmayne Tinkler (returning), Lachlan Ellis (newly-appointed)
Executive Officer: Michelle Fitzgibbon
Principal: Kylie Croke

Volunteers for the pool
There are many ways to support Malkara students, through fundraising with the P&C or perhaps through offering to support a class or a student in their regular hydrotherapy sessions in our new pool. Please call the front office if you are willing to hop in the water and help with hydro.

www.malkara.act.edu.au
Did you know you can go on the schools website to find out what’s been happening at Malkara, term and holiday dates, learn about our curriculum, philosophy and who the staff are? We update our website regularly so that it carries topical, relevant information for existing and prospective families. Would love your feedback and suggestions for making it more interesting and user-friendly!

ILPs
Your child’s ILP will be sent home to you for to review and sign. Once received, please indicate your agreement of the goals and priorities by signing and returning to school.

Hope everyone enjoys a happy Easter break with a more relaxed pace of life for a few days.

Kylie

The school phone number is changing from term 2, the office number will be 6142 0266
News from Blue Butterflies
Students in Blue are working hard this year. Each day is spent completing a range of activities including fine motor literacy and numeracy. We look forward to beginning our Inclusion Program with Red Hill Primary School.

Yianni enjoys reading a book in class.

Callum and Cooper are choosing letters to write their name on the SMARTBoard.

Chloe is listening to a story on the iPad.

Sam, Callum and Cooper are reading a book.

Yianni is making his name using magnetic letters.
These are some of the activities that keep us busy at school.

Cooper is using a PODD to ask for the computer.

Cooper was the writer of the week in Week 7.
Hydrotherapy

Hydrotherapy is back again for 2015

Over the first four weeks of term, Michelle Elmitt assessed the students to set up the new hydrotherapy programs. All of the programs have now been written and implemented in classes.

- Laura is in the pool from Monday to Thursday and Fiona on Friday.

A big thankyou to all of the volunteers that come and help out at Hydro, we are always looking for more help so if you would like to participate.
P&C News

The Malkara P&C Committee AGM was held on the 11th March.

A big thank you to everyone who attended and elected to be part of the 2015 committee. Congratulations and welcome to the following office bearers.

President: Wendy Alder (Mum to Sophie)
Vice President: Paul Hyauiason (Dad to Nikola)
Treasurer: Sandra Pymont (Mum to Dean)
Secretary: Kylie Arora (Mum to Dylan)
Second Secretary: Lesley Avery (Mum to Kim)
Public Officer: Snez Stekovic (Mum to Niki)
P&C Delegate: Gai Brown (Nan to Tristyn)
School Uniform Officer: Lesley Avery

Fundraising Sub Committee: Snez Stekovic, Kylie Brown (Mum to Tristyn), Nicole Mackey (Mum to Andrew), Kylie Arora, Leslie Avery

We would also like to thank the outgoing committee for their ongoing hard work and support.

Playground Update:
At the end of last year the P&C Committee were very happy to be able to donate $90,000 to the school which was then matched by the ACT Education and Training Directorate as a part of the Joint Infrastructure Program. This now means it won’t be long before stage 1 of the playground upgrade will commence! We know the entire school community will be excited to see the progress. Thank you to everyone who has supported the fundraising efforts to make this happen.

MRE:
As preparations for the annual MRE begin we would love to see some new faces come along to help out with all the planning and preparation that it takes to make this event the success it is. We have begun to fill some key positions but many hands make for light work.

Please remember that although fundraising is an important part of the P&C we also aim to provide a communication gateway between the school and our families. So if at any time you have any questions, concerns, feedback or would like more information on school programmes please do not hesitate to get in touch with the committee.

We invite all parents and family members to come along to our next P&C Meeting on Wednesday 1st April at 7pm.
A Note from the Nurse

**Head Lice**

We have had some cases of head lice at school this term. Parents are notified if a student in their child’s class is involved and are asked to check their child’s hair and treat if necessary. **Chemical treatments** are available from your supermarket or chemist and instructions must be followed carefully. The treatment needs to be repeated in 7 days and again 14 days later. If a **non-chemical treatment** is preferred it needs to be carried out every second day til no live lice are found for 10 consecutive days.

We are all susceptible to head lice and clean hair does not give immunity. At home pillowcases, hats and hair brushes need to be washed but lice cannot survive for more than 24 hours away from the head so other bedding and furniture does not need to be treated. It is wise to check the hair of siblings as they may need treating as well. Head lice can be difficult to eradicate so do call if you would like further advice or support. Additional information is available if needed.

Thanks  
Di

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**Death Cap Mushrooms**

**Amanita Phalloides**

The Death Cap Mushroom (Amanita Phalloides) is a deadly poisonous fungus. They often grow near established oak trees, and are found when there is warm, wet weather. In Canberra this usually occurs in autumn but there is no specific mushroom season. There have been multiple incidents and fatalities associated with Death cap Mushrooms.

It can be extremely difficult for even experienced collectors to distinguish Death Cap Mushrooms from an edible mushroom. **People should not pick or eat wild mushrooms**, and should talk to their families, friends and neighbours about the dangers of Death Cap Mushrooms. Cooking Death Cap Mushrooms does not make the safe.

**Symptoms**

Symptoms of Death cap Mushroom poisoning generally occur 6-24 hours or more after ingestion of mushrooms and include stomach pains, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea.

Symptoms may subside for 1-2 days giving a false impression of recovery. However, by this stage the toxin will have already caused serious liver damage. Liver failure and death occur.

**Medical Treatment**

Anyone who suspects that they might have eaten Death Cap Mushrooms should seek urgent medical attention at a hospital emergency department. Where possible take a whole mushroom sample for identification. The sooner the treatment begins, the better the chances of survival.

Further information and assistance if poisoning is suspected can be sought by calling the Poisons Information Centre on 13 11 26 (24 hours a day, seven days a week)

**Do not pick or eat any wild mushrooms**
Many classes at Malkara participate in our Friday school shop program, practising their communication skills, turn taking and maths skills. Here is a list of what is available to purchase.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chips</td>
<td>30c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fries</td>
<td>50c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twisties</td>
<td>50c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sesame snaps</td>
<td>25c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jelly Snake</td>
<td>10c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smarties</td>
<td>40c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freddo Frog</td>
<td>25c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice Crackers</td>
<td>60c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apricot delight</td>
<td>30c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiny Teddies</td>
<td>30c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Popcorn</td>
<td>30c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juice box</td>
<td>50c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bubbles</td>
<td>30c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Party whistle</td>
<td>25c</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Voluntary Contributions 2015

Voluntary Contributions assist the school to purchase supplementary resources and specialised equipment for you child/children. The Voluntary Contribution rates are outlined below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preschool</th>
<th>$60</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary School</td>
<td>$80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Should parents wish to make an additional donation to the school, you can do so by making a separate payment, clearly identified as a donation, to Malkara School. **These donations are tax deductible.**

Your Voluntary Contribution can be made by sending cash/cheque to the school, by credit card from the ‘payment’ tab on Malkara School website, or by direct deposit – see bank details below.

We appreciate and thank you for your support.

Bank       Westpac
Name       Malkara School
BSB        032777
Account No 001607

Please reference your payment as one of the following:

- John Smith Vol Cons
- John Smith Donation
- John Smith Vol Cons and Donation

If paying by direct deposit or credit card it would be appreciated if you could return the slip below.

[Signature]

Child’s Name: _______________________
Class: ______________________________
Payment Date: _______________________
Payment referenced with the following:
## Program for Flexible Respite
### School Holidays April 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Times</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 03/04</td>
<td></td>
<td>Good Friday—Closed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 04/04</td>
<td></td>
<td>Easter Saturday—Closed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 05/04</td>
<td></td>
<td>Easter Sunday—Closed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 06/04</td>
<td></td>
<td>Easter Monday—Closed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 10/04</td>
<td>3.30 to 8.00pm</td>
<td>Nacho’s for dinner Movie Night</td>
<td>$7.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 11/04</td>
<td>9am to 4.30pm</td>
<td>Fadden Pines Playground</td>
<td>$7.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 12/04</td>
<td>9am to 4.30pm</td>
<td>Activities at Stoke St Visit playground</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 13/04</td>
<td>8.30am to 5.30pm</td>
<td>Questacon</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 14/04</td>
<td>8.30am to 5.30pm</td>
<td>Stokes St Games &amp; Activities</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 15/04</td>
<td>8.30am to 5.30pm</td>
<td>Stokes St Cook barbeque lunch</td>
<td>$7.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 16/04</td>
<td>8.30am to 5.30pm</td>
<td>Swim at Gungahlin Leisure Centre BBQ lunch Movie / Free play at Stokes St</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 17/04</td>
<td>8.30am to 5.30pm</td>
<td>Weston Park Playground &amp; Miniature Railway</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 18/04</td>
<td>9am to 4.30pm</td>
<td>Weston Heyday Family Festival Hume’s Cottage, Yass (part of ACT Heritage Festival)</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Program
There have been no movie nights booked during the April School holidays. There is an option to offer the Friday night movie if there is demand for this. If you would like your child to attend a Friday night session, please telephone me.

Also note there will be no service over the Easter weekend. If there is an urgent need, please contact Ann.

Flexible Respite offers a range of activities for children aged 5 to 12 years, living with a disability, that provide new social experiences, opportunities for personal growth and fun with peers. It is not intended to be an alternative to residential respite, but rather to compliment what is available for children, who might be also accessing residential respite.

For children not accessing residential respite, flexible respite offers the same opportunities for social interaction and fun with peers.

To book your child into any one of the above activities, please contact Ann Baker, Community Development Officer, at Marymead Ph 6162 5800.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 19/04</td>
<td>9am to 4.30pm</td>
<td>Visit Old Bus Markets Jerrabomberra</td>
<td>$7.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 20/04</td>
<td>8.30am to 5.30pm</td>
<td>Swimming at Gungahlin Leisure Centre</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Picnic lunch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Activities at Stokes St</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 21/04</td>
<td>8.30am to 5.30pm</td>
<td>Stokes St</td>
<td>$5.00 plus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Walk to McDonalds at Manuka for Lunch</td>
<td>money for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 22/04</td>
<td>8.30am to 5.30pm</td>
<td>Stokes St</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Games &amp; Activities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 23/04</td>
<td>8.30am to 5.30pm</td>
<td>Olden Day Children’s games</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tidbinbilla</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(part of ACT Heritage Festival)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 24/04</td>
<td>8.30am to 5.30pm</td>
<td>Movie at Limelight Cinema</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tuggeranong</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 25/04</td>
<td>9am to 4.30pm</td>
<td>PODS Playground</td>
<td>$7.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 26/04</td>
<td>9am to 4.30pm</td>
<td>Fadden Pines Playground</td>
<td>$7.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Picnic Lunch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Do you work with children and families in the ACT as an early intervention provider or an early childhood educator?

ECIA (ACT) invites all professionals working with children and their families to:

An Early Intervention Networking Forum

All early intervention providers - individuals and organisations - are invited to attend

ECEC Educators working with early intervention services/providers are also encouraged to attend

- This is an opportunity to foster professional relationships and to build a strong and responsive early intervention sector in the ACT
- Participants are welcome to bring program information/brochures to share
- There will be an opportunity for providers to briefly discuss their program/services
- Time will be provided for informal networking
- A light supper will be provided

VENUE: SHOUT Office, Collett Place (Opposite Pearce Shops)
DATE: Tuesday 5th May 2015
TIME: 7.30 – 9:30pm

The presentation is fully sponsored by ECI ACT Inc.

To help us cater, please register your intention to attend the evening by COB Tuesday 28th April 2015

Register to SHOUT office by phone: 6290 1984, email: admin@shout.org.au or fax: 62864475
This festival in Gungahlin will have something for everyone. It is taking place on April 11, 2015, from 11 am until 4 pm at Gungahlin Town Park, corner of Gozzard and Hibberson Street, Gungahlin.

The day will be full of live entertainment on stage, a book signing by Michael Salmon (author of “The Monster Who Ate Canberra”), interesting stalls, engaging activities, opportunities to win prizes and an entire section just for kids!

**Celebrate Gungahlin passport competition**

One fun activity Communities@Work will be running is a passport which you will be given at the Communities@Work stall. As you go around Celebrate Gungahlin stalls you can get your passport stamped and once you have 16 stamps, bring it back to the Communities@Work stall to go in the draw for a great prize.

**Bring your friends and family to this fun event! Saturday April 11, 2015 from 11 am until 4 pm. For more information visit [http://celebrategungahlin.org.au](http://celebrategungahlin.org.au) or email events@commsatwork.org.au**
DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE TYPE 2 DIABETES?

Your child may be eligible for the Type 2 Diabetes Study

Helping your child manage their type 2 diabetes can be difficult. It requires a lot of attention. If diet, exercise and medication are not working well enough for your child, you may be wondering what to do next. It may be time to consider a different approach.

Please contact the Paediatric Research and Clinical Trials Unit at The Canberra Hospital on 61747600 for more information.

This study has been approved by the ACT Health Human Research Ethics Committee.

DIABETES TYPE 1 STUDY

- Do you have a relative with Diabetes Type 1?
- Are you 1-45 years of age?
- Are you generally healthy?

You may be eligible for the Type 1 Diabetes (T1D) Prevention Trial

If you have a relative with Type 1 Diabetes, you could be at risk for this disease. Paediatric Research at Canberra Hospital is participating in studies monitoring the risk of Diabetes in relatives of T1D individuals and is offering an opportunity for you or your child to participate.

Please contact the Paediatric Research and Clinical Trials Unit at The Canberra Hospital on 61747600 for more information.

This study has been approved by the ACT Health Human Research Ethics Committee.