



# The Blue and White Armidale City Public School

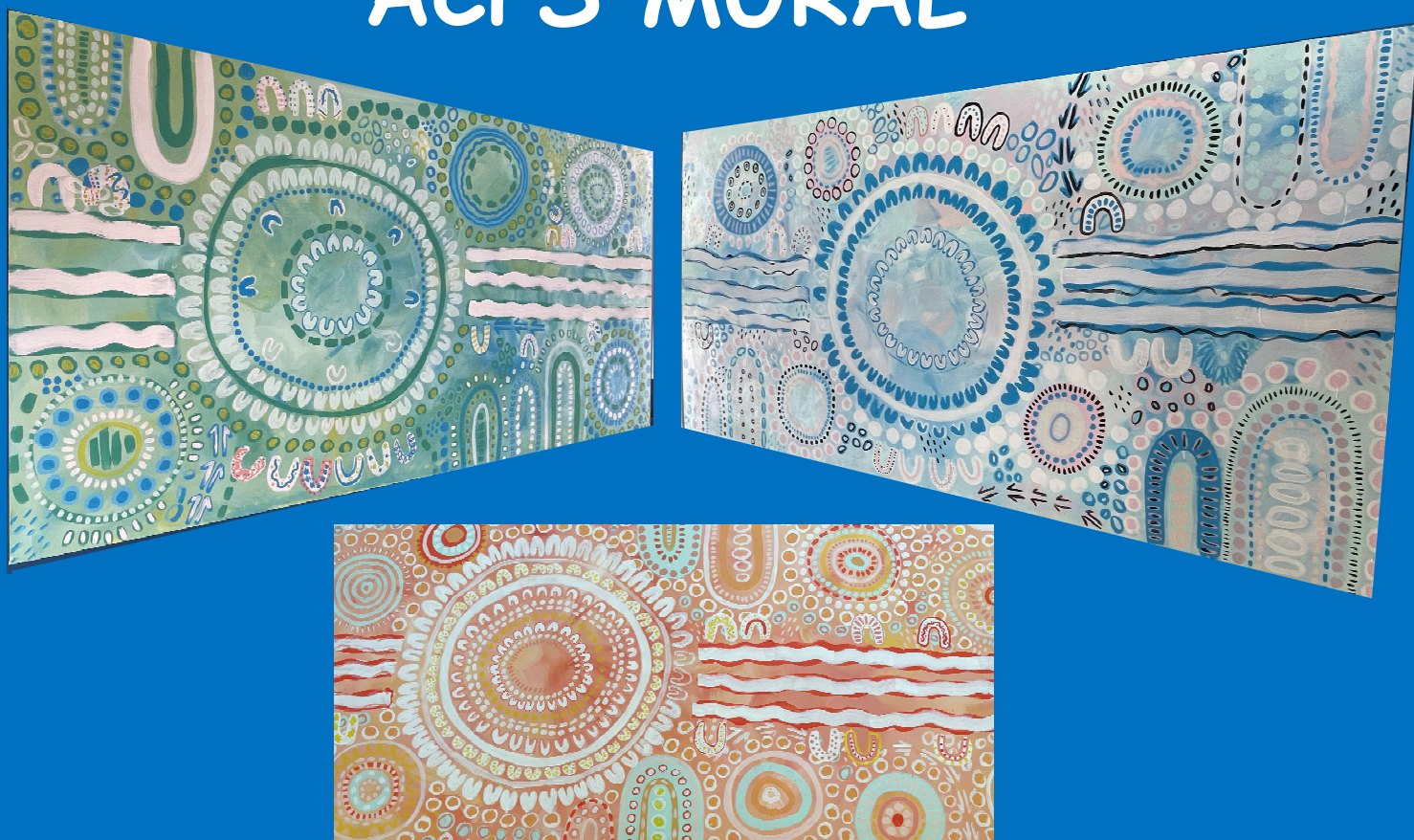
the heart of Armidale

*Quality teaching since 1861*



**7 December 2022**

## ACPS MURAL



The artwork tells a story of the continuous path throughout all three of the pieces & a large circle representing every stage of attending school at ACPS (the journey from Kindergarten to Year 6 & beyond). The path starts before the circle representing ES1 & S1 and continues beyond the circle representing S3, as a child's learning journey begins before life at ACPS and will continue for a long time afterwards. The little arches around the outside of the circles represent people.

All the children and staff have contributed to the pieces under the guidance of Liv Joyce and will be hung on the outer building wall along Dangar Street.

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# Calendar

7 Dec	Matinee and Night Performance of School Play
13 Dec	Presentation Day—ASC
16 Dec	Last Day of Term 4
31 Jan	First Day of Term 1 2023 Years 1—6
3 Feb	First Day Kindergarten 2023

## P&C NEWS

Thanks to everyone who came down to the Mall last Thursday evening and bought a sausage sandwich. In spite of the weather we enjoyed being part of the community and having a presence at the event.

We do, however, have quite a few sausages left over, so next Monday 12 December is.....

### **Sausage Sandwich and Zooper Dooper Meal Deal Day!!**

No pre-orders, so bring your money on the day - **\$3 sausage sandwich and \$1 Zooper Doopers.** Only one of each item per student.

We hope you enjoy the last P&C Meal Deal for 2022.



## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Today, we have seen the return of a matinee and an evening performance to celebrate the end of the year. "Where is the Green Sheep?" has been made possible through the dedication of student and staff to rehearsing their presentations which were skilfully woven together with the wonderful writing of **Mrs MacGregor**. The evening performance will be held tonight. To ensure that this evening's audience experience the full effect, we ask that all students are at school by 5.30pm to be ready to perform.

This is the first opportunity for all parents to come back into the school hall. We have tried a new system of ticketing this year in an effort to allow all parents to access tickets, other than coming into the office. Restrictions on numbers of tickets per family were in place to ensure that as many families as possible could attend. Unfortunately, there are no tickets available at the door for the night performance.

### Step Up Day

To prepare students for the new academic year, we are planning to hold a transition day for students across our school on Wednesday, 13 December 2022.

This will allow our students to meet with teachers who will be working on their stage in 2023 with at least one of these people likely to be your child's teacher.

### Presentation Day

Presentation Day will be held at the Armidale Secondary College multipurpose centre next Tuesday. The names of the 2023 school captains will be announced on this day. All parents who are well will have the opportunity to attend in person. Parking is available in the staff car park on the day. Students will be bused, free of charge, to the venue due to the generosity of our P&C.

### End of Year Reports

Student reports will be provided to student next Wednesday, 14 December 2022. Parents are reminded that a student working at the expected level for their grade will receive a C grade, which is sound. Students who need more support to achieve grade outcomes may be allocated a D grade. Students who are able to apply their knowledge and skills across other subject areas may be awarded a B or an A grade. It is important to read the description of each grade on the front of the reports. Unfortunately, English is no longer broken into three areas for awarding of grades. As such, a student who works at a B grade level in one area but a C grade level in other areas may receive an overall C grade. Reading the comments may enlighten you around the areas in which your child is stronger than other areas.

### Dates for the Calendar

Holidays commence on Friday, 16 December. Students going into Years 1 - 6 will return to school on Tuesday, 31 January 2023. Kindergarten will start on Friday, 3 February 2023 after participating in Best Start assessments. More information to be provided to parents of enrolled Kinder students before the end of this year.

### Director, Educational Leadership

It is my honour to congratulate **Mr Hobbs**, previous principal of Armidale City Public School, on his recent substantive appointment to the position of Director, Educational Leadership for the Armidale network. Mr Hobbs has been relieving in the Armidale position since Mr Cavanagh went on leave, pending retirement a couple of years ago. He had previously been the substantive Director for the Northern Tablelands network of schools.

Take care,

**Deborah Nay**  
Principal

**Word of the Week**  
**Akimbo (uh-KIM-boh)**



## News from 3/4J

This term is flying by!!! There is so much happening around the school it is hard to keep up. We continue to explore our poetry unit, with students creating calligrams and building ideas around colour. The school performance is coming up and our rehearsals have begun, we have been having the best time getting ready to perform in front of a live audience. We have been participating in tennis and swim school, so our days have been busy, busy, busy.

Ms Joyce and 3/4J

## LOWES WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN THE... **NSW BACK TO SCHOOL VOUCHER PROGRAM**

### What is covered by NSW back to school program?

#### 3 x \$50 Vouchers

Eligible purchases are limited to the following

##### School uniforms (K-12)

- Your complete school uniform
- Hats
- Socks
- Shoes
- Umbrellas
- Raincoats

##### Trade Schools (pathway program)

- High Vis Polo Tops and Shirts
- Industrial Pants and Shorts
- Steel Cap Boots
- Socks Protectors
- Safety Equipments

\*T&Cs Apply. No returns, exchanges in accordance with our returns policy



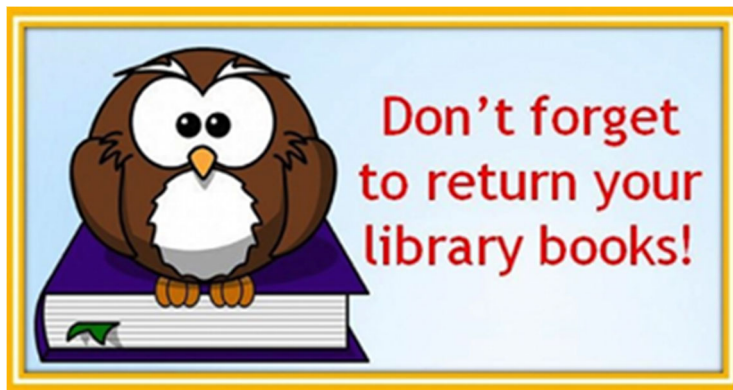
## STAY TUNED!

ONCE THE NSW SERVICES APP  
RELEASES THE PROGRAM, REDEEM  
YOUR VOUCHERS INSTORE OR ONLINE

## News from 3/4M

We have just said goodbye to Mr Hayward who has spent 4 weeks with us on university placement. The students have particularly enjoyed challenging him in chess and on the basketball court. There continue to be many fun and exciting things happening this term. We have been busily preparing for the school play performance and attending lifesaving. The students demonstrated resilience and persistence on their excursions to Lake Keepit and Thalgarrah with many funny and exciting stories shared. We are farewelling some of our friends and wish them the best for their new adventures. Have a safe and happy holiday break and see you in 2023!

Mrs Carson and 3/4M



## News from K1G

WOW!! We are almost there, and we are not sure where the year has gone!! K-1 Green have had a fantastic Term 4. We have been on a wonderful trip to Thalgarrah where we had so much fun! We enjoyed watching the movie 'Oddball' and completing mini research tasks using laptops to create a travel brochure and learn loads of interesting facts about fairy penguins, Maremma dogs and the town of Warrnambool. We were very interested to learn that the movie is based on a true story and that the Maremma dogs still protect the penguins today. We have been busy practicing for the end of year concert, and we can't wait for you to see it! It has been a great year in K-1 Green and I will be sad to see the students move onto their new classes next year. Have a safe and wonderful holiday

Mrs Druit and K1Green



**FREE** Christmas movie event held on the Booloominbah Lawns

THIS HOLIDAY, DISCOVER YOUR INNER ELF.



Entertainment by  
**Fergus Lupton +  
Food Trucks + Stalls**

**'Elf' starts from 8pm**

Bring the family and a picnic blanket!  
Gates open at 6pm.

ltne  
LIFE Theatre  
New England

Discovery

ltne  
LIFE Theatre  
New England

life

Belgrave  
cinema



## Unspoiling Your Kids This Christmas

Even in homes where getting by is a bit of a struggle, Christmas is generally a time of indulgence for most families. We might be fighting inflation, increased rent and mortgage payments, and rising fuel and food costs, but it's Christmas! We want to make it memorable, and spending seems to be the default to make that happen.

Yet, at the same time that we spoil ourselves and our loved ones, we often bemoan the ingratitude of our children. We feel that they're spoiled. We wish they'd look beyond themselves and stop making Christmas all about me, me, me. And apart from that, it's expensive!

With this in mind, here are 10 tips for unspoiling your children this Christmas.

First, focus on others!

### 1. Focus on Service

This year, one family I know is baking cookies and visiting the local police station, ambulance station, and fire station to drop off some Christmas cheer. They take the time to thank the people who work to keep us safe. Others I know visit the local RSPCA with supplies or donations, drop food, books, and toys at a women's shelter, or donate food (or money for a well) to one of the many overseas charities that help those who are impoverished and in need.

### 2. Focus on Your Neighbourhood

Who are the people in your neighbourhood? Perhaps an elderly widow could do with a hand in her yard. 'Tis the season for fast-growing grass and gardens. Perhaps someone has just gone through a tough separation and could do with a Christmas basket to ease the pain (financial and emotional) that Christmas might bring.

One of our favourite things to do is to host a neighbourhood Christmas party. We invite all of our neighbours for a barbecue and to sing carols. Every year, we are asked for the date in advance, so people can be available!

### 3. Try a Secret Santa Drop

Our children's favourite Christmas activity is playing knock and run. We select a handful of people we want to give something to each year. It might be a teacher, a friend, a coach, or a church leader. We wrap their parcels (often home-made treats), write thank you cards, and drive to their home. After parking out of sight, we sneak to their door, place their gift on the doorstep, and bang on the door before sprinting for a hiding place. Then we watch with delight as someone gets an unexpected, anonymous Christmas surprise. (It can be hard to do this well with six children, and we've often been caught but it's always fun.)

Next focus on the children.

### 4. Give Something Exciting

The reality is that our children DO want to get something exciting at Christmas. So, pick something great for them (within your budget) and help them enjoy it. A decision to not get anything can leave them feeling resentful, particularly when they see everyone else "getting."

### 5. Reduce the Number of Gifts They Receive

Some children receive gifts from everyone. Grandparents, aunts, uncles, parents, and even siblings are all expected to buy for everyone. This not only costs a fortune, but it can overwhelm children and leave them expecting more and more. Invite your extended family to contribute to one meaningful gift, rather than lots of bits and pieces.

### 6. When Opening Gifts, Take Time to Savour Them

Savouring is the magnifying, or amplifying, of a positive experience. When the children open a gift, give them time to savour it. Encourage them to play with it. Let them breathe in the excitement of the moment, rather than ripping into the next package and flinging their gifts aside.

### 7. Experiences Are Better Than Things

One of the most remarkable findings from positive psychology research is that spending money on experiences brings more happiness than spending money on stuff. Perhaps a family trip will be more memorable than more toys?

In a similar vein, gifts that encourage relationships are better than gifts that promote isolation. A new game console might be fun, but it may lead to withdrawal (and fights). It might be better to purchase some games that bring the family together.

### 8. Rather Than Gifts, Give Letters

One year for Christmas, I contacted my siblings and asked them to give me 10 memories of special times with Dad. With six children, we had a total of 60 memories, each written on separate pieces of coloured paper and rolled up into mini-scrolls and placed into a jar. Dad opened the jar and looked at us, perplexed. He reached in and pulled out the first note. He read it and chuckled. Then it dawned on him that there were 60 notes from his children. He dipped his hand in again and read. Then he began to weep. The rest of that Christmas morning, he read, cried, laughed, and reminisced. It was a meaningful, wonderful gift that cost nothing but meant the world.

### 9. Encourage the Children to Write Thank You Notes

Christmas break is a great time to take stock of gifts and say thank you. Invite your children to write thank you notes to those who gave to them, saying specifically why they're grateful. Sincere thanks takes time but it is a wonderful way to help the children show appreciation.

Finally, give the most valuable gift you can: time.

### 10. Give the Gift of Time

There may be no gift more appreciated by our children than your time. It costs so little yet is so hard to give generously. But when we give of our time generously, all the material desires our children have will fade away.

This Christmas, unspoil your child by reducing the emphasis on materialism, crowding out the crass commercialism of getting with sincere, compassionate giving. It can make your Christmas truly memorable.

How are you planning to make this Christmas one to remember?



## Word of the Week

Dictionary meaning	Did You know?
Akimbo means "having the hand on the hip and the elbow turned outward." It is also used in the broader sense of "set in a bent position."	It's akimbo nowadays, but in Middle English, the adverbial phrase in kenebowe was used for the bent, hand-on-hip arm (or later, for any bent position). Originally, the term was fairly neutral, but now saying that a person is standing with "arms akimbo" implies a posture that communicates defiance, confidence, aggressiveness, or arrogance.