



Term 3 Week 4 Newsletter 2023

Principal's Report



Dear Parents & Carers,

Semester two 2023 is only four weeks old but already so many exciting events and activities have been undertaken in the life of UCHSK. A visit from Tomorrow Man & Tomorrow Women (who delivered powerful workshops to our year ten students), the annual Outdoor Education trip to the snow and our semester one awards ceremony, to name just a few of the happenings thus far. All the different term 3 happenings can be found on the school calendar, located on our website, [here](#).

Unfortunately, due to personal circumstances, I couldn't attend the awards ceremony, so I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all those who received awards for their efforts in semester one. Sometimes the view of those students who do not receive awards is that they will never be one of those "smart kids" who is always recognised. If I was at the ceremony, my message to all those who did not receive awards would have been, that the evidence is very clear. The human brain grows and adapts, and with hard work and practice new neural pathways are constantly being formed. So, **every student** can learn and grow and achieve great things, and the staff at UCHSK are committed to doing all that it takes to support them throughout this journey. I encourage all families to have a conversation with their children about their semester one results and what this means for continued growth in semester two this year.

It was wonderful to see that a number of our students were awarded PBL Achievement Awards in the week one ceremony. PBL (Positive Behaviours for Learning) plays a significant role in the creation of a safe and supportive learning environment for UCHSK students. A PBL Achievement award goes

to a student who has accumulated 50 KARE cards over the course of the semester. Teachers award KARE cards to students who demonstrate positive behaviours, reinforcing the school values of **Kindness, Achievement, Respect and Endeavour** and the behavioural expectations that exist at UCHSK. My message to all families is, keep encouraging your child to always display these positive behaviours, they don't go unnoticed. With your support, I look forward to celebrating many more Achievement Awards at the end of the year.



The start of every new semester is a great opportunity to remind the UCHSK community of the systems and structures in place at UCHSK to support their child to feel safe and connected to our school. This is where every child's Pastoral Care (PC) teacher plays a vital role. Your child's PC teacher is the person they see every day, the person on staff who, over time, will know your child best and the logical first point of contact should you have any concerns. If you have any questions or concerns that have arisen with the start of the new semester, I encourage you to reach out to your child's PC teacher either by phone or email.

Teaching teenagers is a rewarding but challenging role under any circumstance and I am extremely proud of the UCHSK team for all their hard work to ensure that all our students achieve success. I also know, that the UCHSK community is extremely grateful for the efforts of our teachers and support staff. At every opportunity I like to acknowledge the hard work of our team. If you are particularly grateful for the efforts of one or a team of staff, I encourage you to let me know with a short email. I will ensure that your message of thanks is passed on and celebrate these individuals for all their hard work. I'll look forward to hearing from you.

Lastly, I would like to welcome a couple of new teachers to the UCHSK team for the start of Semester two.

- Sophie Burns joined the PE team for small chunks of term two but is now with us for the remainder of the year in a more permanent capacity, welcome Sophie.
- Aron Lyon, our much loved Rock Band tutor, is making the transition from music tutor to music teacher here at UCHSK this term. We are thrilled to have music back in the elective curriculum at UCHSK and it is wonderful to have Aron leading this program. Welcome Aron.

Kind Regards,

Daniel Mowbray

Principal

What's happening at UC High School

Sports Update

The 7 & 8 Boys and Girls Football (Soccer) teams have their competition this week, Tuesday 10th August (week 4), I will let you know how they went in the next Newsletter. With the teams that we will send out, I'm positive that the teams will be successful in winning a number of games.

The 9 & 10 boys Football team will be heading out on Wednesday 16th August (week 5), just like our 7 & 8 teams, we have another team packed with a squad of talented athletes. We wish them the best of luck.

Secondary North Girls Netball is heading out on Thursday 24th August (week 6). To register your interest please put your name on the sign up sheets on the board outside PE and google form on the sports google classroom. Students who have signed up, please pay attention to the notices for trial dates and training times.

On Friday 1st September (week 7) we will be sending a couple of teams to the ACT Mountain Bike Championships. This will be the first time in a couple years that we have been able to send teams to the competition. Information about the championships will be going out to families soon.

In week 8 on Thursday 7th September, there will be an opportunity for boys to test their skills in Netball. Those that are interested in this opportunity, sign up sheets have been placed on the board outside of the PE staffroom and on the Sports google classroom page.

Students that finished top two in the UCHSK Athletics carnival and are interested in competing at the regional Athletics carnival in week 8, please register with Mr Passier or Mr Seitz by the end of week 5. For those that have qualified there is training for the regional carnival on Monday and Wednesday lunch times in the lead up to the carnival.

ACT representatives

Grady (yr10) competed as part of the ACT Squash team at Green shields- Grady had a tough couple of matches with one win narrowly going down in the other 2 matches. Great work Grady.

Over the recent holidays Bayden (yr9) competed as part of the U15 ACT Dolphins team (water polo) in Melbourne at the East Coast Challenge. Bayden's ACT team ended up with a 8 all draw for the bronze medal.

Bayden has also been selected to represent ACT at the Australian U15 Water Polo Nationals in the September holidays.



Skylla (yr7) has been selected in the ACT U14 girls Volleyball side to head off to Australian youth volleyball championships in September, congratulations Skylla.

William (yr9) and Luca (yr9) have been selected in the U15 ACT school Boys Rugby League team. They will be competing in the National titles in September, congratulations Will and Luca

If your child is competing at ACT level or higher in sporting activities outside of school please let us know. Our PE team would love to give those students doing exceptional work the recognition of their achievements throughout the school. Please email Mr Passier or anyone of the PE team, and we will endeavour to get the message out school wide.

Teaching and Learning

IMP - Music program

Members of our school concert band have been very privileged to enjoy the experienced leadership of Naida Blackley, the Principal of IMP. The Instrumental Music Program has been operating in smooth cooperation with ACT schools for over 50 years! They hold a special place in our hearts, as they have shared space onsite at UC High School for many years. This photo was published in the Canberra Times on June 17 in a story by Sarah Lansdown. Pictured are some of our wonderfully talented musicians: Parker, Isabel, Rosie, Jacob and Luka. Our school music program has continued to grow and we look forward to performing in many contexts in second semester.



2023 Computational and Algorithmic Thinking Competition (CAT)

On the 2nd of May, 56 enthusiastic UCHSK students participated in the 2023 Computational and Algorithmic Thinking Competition (CAT). It was the first of two events offered by the Mathematics Faculty and the school board generously covered the cost for participation. The CAT competition is a one-hour problem-solving competition designed to encourage student curiosity and promote multiple modes of thinking that helps identify students' computer programming potential. We are proud of all participants, and are excited to announce that 20 students earned a credit with another 5 earning a distinction.

Special congratulations to Quan (7), Samuel (8), Connor (8), Philip (8) and Sofia (8) who all received a distinction!

The top results in each year group go to:

7 – Quan

8 – the following student were not only highest in their year group but were tied equal best for UCHSK.

Samuel

Connor

9 – Noah

10 – Daniel



Tech Showcase at Parliament House

An Enthralling Journey into Innovation: Students Immerse Themselves in the Tech Showcase at Parliament House.

A cohort of Year 9 & 10 students had an enriching and eye-opening experience visiting the Parliament House's Innovative Tech Showcase on 1 August 2023.

This unique opportunity allowed our students to delve into the fascinating world of emerging technologies. The Showcase featured exhibits from nearly 40 leading tech companies and startups, displaying everything from AI-driven tools and Quantum Technologies to advanced robotics, green

technology, 3D tissue printing technologies, AI-aided Imaging Technologies, and other technologies of the 21st century. Our students got to observe and interact with these exhibits, allowing them to experience the transformations in the tech world.

One of the day's highlights was interacting with innovators behind these ground-breaking technologies. Our students engaged in thoughtful and stimulating discussions, asking insightful questions about the future of technology and its societal impacts. Seeing our students' curiosity and enthusiasm was an absolute delight, proving that we have budding technologists and innovators amongst us!

Education extends beyond the four walls of the classroom, and this excursion was a testament to that. It allowed our students to understand the real-world applications of what they learn at school and appreciate technological advancements.

We are proud of our students for their exemplary behaviour and inquisitiveness displayed throughout the excursion. As we continue to empower our students with diverse learning experiences, we look forward to further opportunities to venture outside the traditional classroom setting.

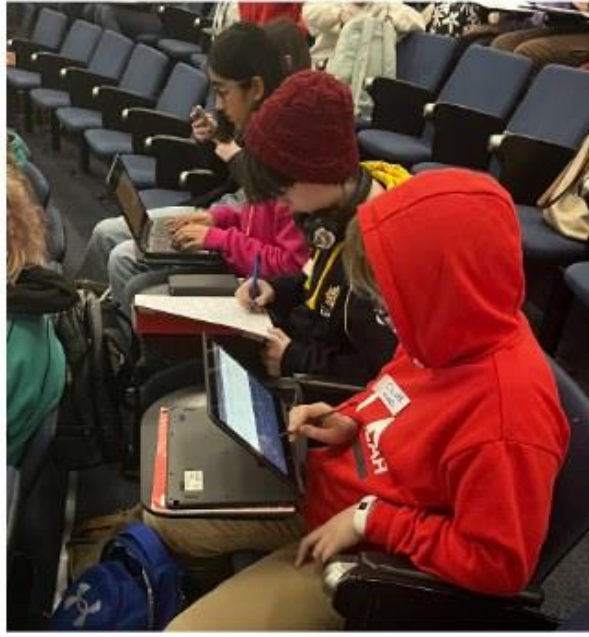
Thank you to our staff for their dedication and support, ensuring a safe and smooth journey. A special thank you to the parents who made this excursion possible. Your continued support enriches the educational journey of our students.



Creative writing excursion

In week one of this term, a select group of five students attended the *UWrite@UC! Writing Workshop* at the University of Canberra. This workshop was run by Lili Wilkinson - a published, Young Adult Fiction writer. Lili took the students through a number of writing activities designed to help build better characters, worlds and plotlines. She gave insight into her own writing process and some tips on how to publish work. Everyone left the workshop filled with writing inspiration, and we look forward to the next *UWrite@UC!* excursion coming up in November.

Lucy , Anaya, Comet, Oliver & Charlie (not pictured) attended the Writing Workshop at University of Canberra



Club Roster

Get involved in one of, or several of the school clubs running during breaks, before and after school.

School clubs are a great way to have fun and build a connection to the school.

Even better, all participation earns points for your house.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School	Ag Club	Ag Club	Ag Club	Ag Club	Ag Club
Recess	Ag Club	Basketball (Gym) Book Club (English Open Area)		Rainbow Connection 9/10 (Room 30)	Futsal (Gym)
Lunch	Rainbow Connection 9/10 (Room 30) Ladies Yoga (Room 29) Game Development (Room 2)	Volleyball (Gym) Dungeons & Dragons (English Open Area) Stitches (Textiles Room)	Volleyball (Gym) Prayer Group (Room 29)	Art Club (Art Room) Gridiron (oval)	Tabletop & Card Games (Room 22)
After School	Ag Club	Ag Club	Ag Club	Ag Club	Ag Club

P&C News

Hello UCHSK Parents/Carers!

While the P&C provides significant contributions to the school, it also is a wonderful opportunity to work with fantastic people in the community. Here's a snapshot of what has happened so far in 2023:

Fundraising:

We want to say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported our BBQs this year at Train Expo and Bunnings Sausage Sizzle. In July, the Bunnings BBQ was well staffed and several people donated to the costs of the BBQ. Overall, Bunnings BBQ raised \$2365- \$2000 from the BBQ and

\$365 in donations. \$6000 will be given to the school and please watch this space to see how it is used in the school.

Student and staff wellbeing:

Mindfulness and Muffins program is continuing to be well received and aligns well with the P&C's objective of supporting the school's student and staff wellbeing. Next times this term for students are **Wk6 Aug 25 and Wk9 Sep. 15 at 8:30 am** on both days.

Roundabout Canberra Winter appeal donations:

All of the goods donated to Roundabout Canberra Winter appeal are much appreciated. The bins are located in the school entry so you can drop off and go. Besides warm kid's clothing, nappies, wipes and toiletries will be most welcome. To find out more about Roundabout Canberra, go to:

<https://roundaboutcanberra.org/winteressentials/>

Meetings: when and where

The P&C meets twice a term, on Wednesdays of Week 3 and Week 8, at 5:45 pm in the school library. All members of the school community are welcome to attend the meetings. You can get in touch with us at any time at uchskpnc@gmail.com.

Need to Know

2024 school year enrolments are open!!



Enrolments for the 2024 school year for students transitioning schools or starting at a school are open. Visit education.act.gov.au for the online application link and information about the school in your child's Priority Enrolment Area. Alternately, visit school websites to find out more or contact the school directly. Bulk round has now closed any applications received after June 2nd will receive a response by August 21st.

2023 School Satisfaction and Climate Survey

Each year, the Directorate surveys all parents and carers, school staff and students in Years 4 to 12 about their experience of public education. The *2023 School Satisfaction & Climate Survey* will be available online from **18 August to 8 September**. The survey results will help us to continue to make quality informed decisions about how to improve our school. No personal identifying information will be provided to any school or college.

For each child in their family who attends an ACT public school, parents and carers will receive:

- A letter about the **student survey** outlining the reasons for collection and privacy provision for the data; and
- An email about the **parent survey**, including a unique link to access the survey. **Genuine survey invitation emails will have the title "The 2023 School Satisfaction & Climate Survey is now open!" and will be sent from EDU Surveys & Evaluation with 'from' address EDU@qualtrics-survey.com.**

If you do not receive the survey invitation, please check your Junk email folder; if it is not there, please contact your school. If you do not have an email listed with the school, please let the school know so it can be rectified.

The Parents and Carers Survey will be available online in other languages: Arabic, Burmese, Chinese, Hindi, Korean, Urdu, Vietnamese, Punjabi, Bengali, Spanish, Telugu, French and Italian. Respondents can select their preferred language when they start the survey. A shortened paper-version of the Parents and Carers Survey is also available in the following 5 languages: Dari, Dinka, Farsi, Karen and Mon. These surveys are available at the Front Office.

For the results to reflect the opinions of our whole school community, we need as many parents and carers, staff and students as possible to complete the survey. Your feedback is important, and we hope you will take part.

For more information, visit: <https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/school-satisfaction-and-climate-survey>

Family Contributions

Dear Parents and Carers,

Each year UC High School Kaleen Board requests voluntary contributions from families to help support and enrich learning throughout our school.

Contributions for Subject contributions and General contribution are now due.

These contributions support learning opportunities through the purchase of:

- Subject consumables across all faculties.
- Essential materials for core classes

The requested contributions for 2023 are:

General Contribution

\$170 for the first child

\$110 for subsequent children

Subject Contribution

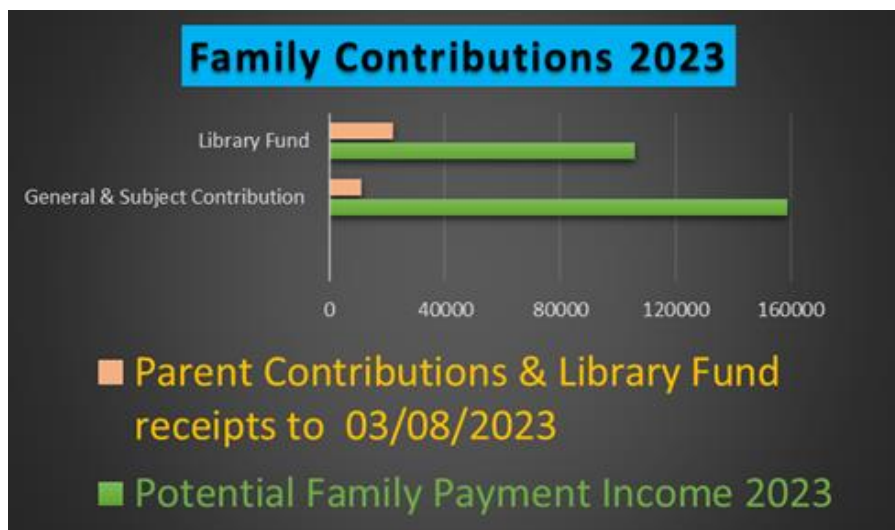
\$130 for the first child

\$100 for subsequent children

The **green bar** on the graph below shows the financial benefit to the school if every parent/carer paid the full amount for:

- Library Fund – Tax deductible
- Subject Contribution
- General Contribution

The **orange bar** on the graph below indicates the amount the school has received so far in 2023 from Parent / Carer contributions.



Cumulative Library Fund & Voluntary Contributions		Completed 2023 Learning Program Investment	
\$70 000	Subject & General Contributions	Playground enhancements (fitness equipment, student playground furniture, additional bubblers)	Proposed Future Investment
\$60 000			
\$50 000		Necessary resourcing upgrades for new and existing elective classes (Music, Robotics & Mechatronics, Sculpture)	Investment to date
\$40 000			
\$30 000	Library Trust Fund Contributions	Guest speakers and presentations enriching core curriculum (Tomorrow Man, Courage to Care, Trouble)	
\$25 000			
\$20 000		Online subscriptions to support student learning (Mathspace, Stile & Education Perfect)	
\$15 000			
\$10 000	New textbooks & class novels		
\$5000			

Payment Details:

Our preferred payment method is QuickWeb, the Westpac secure online payment system.

QuickWeb can be accessed on our [website](#).

Fee code / payment description: For what is being paid, Eg Library fund, General Contribution, Subject Contribution

Alternatively, payment can be made to the front office.

General & Subject contributions (\$300) will be due in week 2 of term 3.

Your contribution is greatly valued and enables our school to deliver high quality educational programs for all students. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Please note: The payment of all contributions is voluntary. The Education Act 2004 states that your child will not be refused benefits or services if you choose not to contribute. Individual records of contributions are confidential.

Careers EXPO

Helping Your Teenager with Career Planning



PARENTS AND CARERS CAN HAVE AN ENORMOUS INFLUENCE ON THEIR CHILD'S CAREER DECISIONS AND PATHWAY PLANNING, BUT IT'S NOT ALWAYS EASY TO KNOW WHERE TO START.

The ACT Education Directorate will present workshops for parents and carers to support National Skills Weeks in August, as part of the Canberra CareersXpo.

During this workshop, experienced career practitioners will present useful career information, resources and strategies to start career conversations with your young person including:

UP-TO-DATE
INFORMATION ON
DIFFERENT PATHWAYS

COMMUNICATION
STRATEGIES

LEADING BY
EXAMPLE

SEEKING
SUPPORT

Choose one of these sessions.

CANBERRA CAREERSXPO
WEDNESDAY 9 AUGUST 2023
BUDAWANG AND COORONG
BUILDINGS
5:30-7PM

To register go to our [Eventbrite page](#).

WEBINAR
TUESDAY 23 AUGUST
5:30-6:30PM

To register go to our [Eventbrite page](#).

Warehouse circus



Online Safety Webinars - 2023

Parent & Carer Online Safety Webinars - 2023

Help your family be more confident and safe online

All parents and carers of an ACT public school student are invited to attend an online safety (eSafety) information session designed to develop your knowledge and skills in supporting your child with digital technologies. This webinar will look at understanding the current eSafety issues children and young people are experiencing, how to support your child to be safe online, resources for preventing and responding to online issues, and where to go for further support.

Families are invited to attend one or more of the following sessions held online from 6.00-7.00pm:

New recorded content available now!

	Primary	Secondary
Term 3	1/8 or 31/8	3/8 or 29/8
Term 4	17/10, 14/11 or 16/11	19/10, 14/11 or 16/11

bit.ly/3TyRaZx

Scan the QR Code or type in the web address for more information, to register for one or more parent and carer online safety webinars, and to get access to recorded content.

Australian Government School Student Broadband Initiative

The Australian Government has established the School Student Broadband Initiative to provide free home Internet for one year for up to 244 unconnected families with school students in the ACT.

To be eligible, families must:

- have a school student at home;
- not have an NBN connection and
- live at an address with access to a standard NBN connection. For more information see www.infrastructure.gov.au/SSBI To nominate, please fill in this form: <https://forms.office.com/r/kHUG92YZaR>

Covid Smart reminder



As you may be aware, there has been an increase in COVID-19 cases across ACT public schools in recent weeks.

To help stop the further spread of COVID-19 in our school, we are encouraging and implementing the following measures:

- Students who are COVID-19 positive or displaying symptoms (including a runny nose, sore throat, cough, fever) should test and must not attend school while unwell.
- Parents and carers must inform schools if their child is COVID-positive.
- Keep up to date with vaccinations.
- Families can access a free rapid antigen test (RAT) from the front office of their school. Nasal and saliva tests are available. Test when symptomatic or as a precaution.
- Practise good hand and respiratory hygiene.

· Distance where possible.

For the latest COVID-19 advice please visit the [ACT's COVID-19 website](#).

Advertising

PARENTLINEACT.ORG.AU
TELEPHONE PARENTING COUNSELLING
Professional Counsellors are now just a phone call away!
(02) 6287 3833

parentline

Stop influenza before it hits

It's important to vaccinate your child - they're at a higher risk of serious complications if they get sick and also more likely to spread it to others.

The best way to help protect you and your family this winter is to get the flu vaccine.

Get your flu vaccine at:

- ▶ your GP
- ▶ Early Childhood Immunisation Clinics at ACT Government Community Health Centres (free for children aged six months to under five years)
- ▶ pharmacies that provide flu vaccination services (for anyone 5 years and older)

Help fight the spread of illness this winter.

Stay home if you're sick, wash your hands regularly, wear a face mask when you can't distance from others and get tested if you have any COVID symptoms.

For more information talk to your health care professional and visit health.act.gov.au/flu

ACT Government | ACT Health

MARIE

netball

LITTLE SHIELD

**BE A PART OF THE ACT MLS NETBALL TEAM
FOR 2023!**

**Come & Try Sessions will
be held at the SolarHub
ACT Netball Centre:**

Wednesday 12th July
4:30-6pm
Sunday 16th July
1:30-3pm

Wednesday 19th July
4:30-6pm
Sunday 23rd July
1:30-3pm

The Marie Little Shield is an annual event for netballers over the age of 16 with an intellectual disability to represent their state in a national competition.

The team will undertake a 12 week preseason of training, match play and fundraising, before we travel to partake in the 3 day 2023 MLS National Competition.

This year's team staff include coaches and managers that hold a range of qualifications and experience in Special Needs teaching, Disability support and Netball Coaching credentials so each athlete will get the most out of this experience.

**For any information please
contact Participation and
Umpire Coordinator Emma Brear
at
emma.brear@netballact.com.au**



FREE Come & Try BLV Tennis

**COME AND PLAY WITH SOME AUSTRALIAN
BLV TENNIS PLAYERS AND COACHES**

When: 4th & 5th August

**Where: Tennis World Canberra
3 Riggall Pl Lyneham ACT 2602**

**Times: Friday 4th @ 9am-3pm
(coaches and schools)**

Saturday 5th @ 1pm-5pm (all ages)

**ALL AGES WELCOME
NO EQUIPMENT NEEDED**

**Contact: Jason Stubbs
0478177842**





Contact Us

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