



NEWSLETTER



Number 1 | 8 February 2020

Macarthur Polish Saturday School

Robert Townson Public School

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Welcome to the new 2020 school year!

We are starting another school year in just a few days. I hope that everyone rested well during the holidays, gained strength and enthusiasm for the work that awaits us. A warm welcome to everyone especially the youngest children who for the first time will become part of the Polish Saturday School in Macarthur. I warmly welcome all new students and their families. I am deeply convinced that you will feel welcomed and safe here and that your new school friends will offer you their friendship and care. I am looking forward to the moment when once again on Saturday morning I will hear the cheerful sound of the school bell calling us to start classes. Returning to classrooms, you will remember past holidays, visited places and new friends that you have made. Let our school become for you a place of great adventure where you learn the Polish language and the history, geography and culture of the country where your parents and grandparents come from. Be ready and open to another fascinating trip to the unknown. I wish all the **students** of our school that Saturday mornings of the 2020 school year are filled with enthusiasm, joy and hard-work. Consistency and hard work will lead you to success. Also remember that the real **"human wealth is a smile, a friendly gesture, a kind word"**. Dear **teachers**, I wish that this year would bring lots of success in your Saturday work at Polish School and that the progress and achievements of your students would give you much pride and satisfaction, that our mission would be filled and made us richer people. Let every day bring you joy and optimism, zero stress or disappointment. Dear **parents** - our efforts would not make any sense without your support and help. In our school, the role of parents is enormous, and your help is essential. That is why we wish you to be proud of your children, and we hope that our cooperation aimed at providing our children with the Polish language, Polish tradition and culture will bring the expected results. **Dear all!** Let's make sure that at the end of the year everyone reaches the goal and feels the joy of a job well done!

IMPORTANT DATES IN TERM 1

- ♦ **08/02** Start of school year
- ♦ **22/02** Parents Assembly—
Elections to the Parent's
Committee
- ♦ **04/04** Easter Assembly
- ♦ **04/04** Last Saturday in
Term 1

CURRENT INFORMATION

Warm weather

We are experiencing very hot weather this Summer.

I am asking all parents to make sure that their child has a **hat** on each Saturday together with a **bottle of water** and a **sun protection cream**.



Food Allergies

A student currently enrolled at our school has been diagnosed with food allergies. This student is allergic to **eggs, soy and nuts** products. We ask all parents to make sure that these products are excluded from your childrens' lunchboxes.

For now these are the only food restrictions that apply to our students. If these circumstances change and we will find out about any more allergies that affect our children we will immediately notify you via email. Safety of our children is most important. Thank you for your cooperation.



CURRENT INFORMATION

Security in the Car Park

As usual, I would like to ask all parents to keep the car park safe. Please remember; there may be children about. As you leave the school, please remember to keep a watchful eye, and **hold your child's hand whenever in the presence of vehicles.**



On Saturday, 22 February 2020 at 9.15am we have scheduled a meeting for all parents, during which the elections to the **Parental Committee for 2020** will be held. During the meeting, a financial summary for 2019 will be presented. We look forward to your presence, along with new energy and ideas for the coming year and the good of the children and the whole school!

As always we encourage you to buy fresh **Polish bread, donuts (pączki) and pastries.** Thank you to our beloved mothers, for their help in selling these delicacies



"Creative Kids" Program

With pleasure and real joy I would like to inform all of you that at the beginning of February last year our school was registered as a Creative Kids Provider. Thanks to this, each parent or legal guardian can apply for a \$ 100 voucher for a child being a pupil of our school. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me or your child's teacher.



Contact Number for Teachers:

Grażyna Pakulska
Class 4, 5, 6

Mobile: 0416911818 ;
Email: grazkap@hotmail.com

Malgorzata Jagodzińska
Class 3 & 4

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Preschool, Group B

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Bernadeta Kawa
Kindergarten & Class 1

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Małgorzata Helwani
Teacher's Aide

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Email: mlyzczarz@gmail.com

Urszula Kościńska
Teacher's Aide

Mobile: 0432158033 ;
Email: ulaula1177@hotmail.com

Student/Teacher ID Card

We will accept applications for the issue or renewal of student/teacher ID's card. The ID entitles students or teachers from our school to

discounted transport in Poland as well as discounts on entry tickets to museums and parks. If you are planning a trip to Poland and are interested, please contact me or your child's teacher. Do not miss this opportunity!



Ingleburn Specsavers

If you need a professional **optometrist**, with a good knowledge of the Polish language, I strongly urge you to visit the office of **Mr Mark Pochanke**. The tests are "BULK BILLED". If you would like the consultations to be carried out in Polish please report it at the reception or

over the phone:
(02) 9605 5751



Address:
30/32 Oxford Road,
Ingleburn NSW 2565

CURRENT INFORMATION

Bunnings Fundraiser

We received a proposal to organize another fundraiser for the school. As we are a young Institution, we use every available opportunity to gain financial resources for the school which are fundamental to its functioning.

Date: Sunday 22/03/20

Time: 9:00–4:00

Location: Bunnings @ Gregory Hills

Together, we can do a lot. We ask everyone who can help in organizing this undertaking to do so. Even the smallest help will be appreciated :)

Division of the Preschool Group

Due to the fact that the Preschool Group in our school has been growing so beautifully, after consulting the other teachers, we decided to divide Preschoolers into **Group A** and **Group B**. Therefore, we welcome a new teacher to our Teaching Team; this is **Mrs Ewelina Cini**, who is completing her Teaching Degree here in Australia. Mrs Cini has been successfully involved in assisting our Preschool Teacher Mrs Ela since the beginning of 2019. I am sure that the decision to divide preschoolers is by all means correct and will bring many benefits to our children. The division of all other classes will be kept in the current order. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school's coordinator.

SUMMARY OF TERM 4 2019

Cooperation with the „Bemolki” Musical Kindergarten in Tychy-Poland

We would like to share this joyful information with everyone :)

Last year, Mrs. Ania Marczak from the "YAMAHA" Private Music Kindergarten in Tychy made contact with our school. Ania, together with her friend - also Ania - runs a preschool group under the name Bemolki. Ania offered us an international postcard exchange. Together with the other teachers, we came to the common conclusion that in the era of madness associated with various types of electronic gadgets, exchanging traditional postcards is a real hit. And so began our adventure with postcards. Preschoolers from Tychy were the first to send us postcards. Kids from Tychy prepared Easter cards for us, which we received a week before Easter. Along with the Easter card they have prepared themselves, we also received the traditional postcards illustrating the city of Tychy and the surrounding area. The package also included coloring books and other gifts.

In turn, the students of our school, under the watchful eye of Mrs. Grazynka Pakulska, who manages the "postcard" project, have prepared for preschoolers in Tychy a huge A3 card with warm Christmas wishes. Three days before Christmas, I received a joyful message from Mrs. Ania Marczak that our package arrived on time. Along with the huge Christmas card we have sent to "Bemolki" postcards from Sydney, Christmas stickers, the calendar for 2020 and some other nice surprises.

Last week Mrs. Ania sent us a very warm e-mail assuring us of the memory, in such a difficult time for Australia. Because of the terrible drought and bushfires, many people lost their entire life achievements ... Our hearts are experiencing the tragedy of families whose relatives lost their lives in the struggle with these horrible fires - we think of the sadness that these families are going through...

Postcard exchange and more will continue in the

current school year. We are deeply convinced that this initiative will bring many benefits to our school students and our teachers.



SUMMARY OF TERM 4 2019

The Consul General Award for Julia Koscianska



On Monday, October 28, at the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in Sydney, the top students from Polish Saturday Schools were awarded prizes for outstanding results in learning the Polish language. Macarthur Polish Saturday School nominated Julia Koscianska from 6th class for this award in the current school year. Julia started learning Polish 6 years ago. I had the joy and the privilege of being her first teacher at Polish school. I remember this quiet, calm, beautiful little girl who has never come to school without completed homework - always prepared, always ready to learn. Together we have learned the first letters from the Polish alphabet, together we have read the first simple texts in Polish. With that pride and satisfaction I looked at Julia's smiling face when she was receiving her well-deserved award from Mrs. Consul General Monika Konczyk. Moments like this are the most meaningful moments of every teacher's life and career and give a sense of a job well done. Julia's success is also, and perhaps above all, the success of her parents, whom we congratulate with all our heart for raising such a wonderful girl. Without your sacrifice, without your hard work, a day like this would never become a reality. Dearest Julia, congratulations once again from our entire school community! We wish you nothing but success in the future!

Annual Galla Dinner

On Saturday, 23 November 2019 the Annual Dinner of the New South Wales Federation of Community Languages was held. We were extremely impressed by the energy of this event, in which, representatives of almost all ethnic schools from all over the state were represented. Congratulations to the President - Mrs. Lucia Johns and the entire Organization Committee on their huge success. We bow our heads low to you for the work and effort involved in the preparation of this celebration, as well as many other events aimed at supporting community language schools in NSW. The following ladies represented our school in this important event: Dominika Smutek and Urszula Kościńska. On behalf of the ladies present at the Annual Dinner and the entire community of the Macarthur Polish Saturday School, we thank the Federation Committee and all those involved in the preparation of the event for the opportunity to be part of it and wish you further successes in the future!



CUV Ilongan Slovak SANSKRIT ITALIAN Serbian Filipino Macedonia
Pulaar Khmer Amharic Telugu Bangla Filipino Sanskrit U
Khmer Hindi Cook Islands Maori Farsi/Persian UKRAINIAN
Latvian Malay Croatian Nepalese Finnish CZECH Spanish SI
Maori Romanian MANDAEN LAO Indonesian Russian Finnish
Slovak BULGARIAN Hungarian Kannada Aramaic/Syriac Dinka D
Turkish Filipino Hebrew SERBIAN
French Swahili Maltese Korean Edo Bulgarian Pukapuka Ni
SWEDISH Punjabi Bosnian Armenian Thai ASSYRIAN KOREA
German Assyrian Hungarian Arabic Chaldean Portuguese
Sinhala Ilongan VIETNAMESE Chinese Samoan Thai



SUMMARY OF TERM 4 2019

National Reading at Macarthur Polish Saturday School

Co-financed by the "Freedom and Democracy" Foundation at the Senate of the Republic of Poland as part of the "Supporting Polish Education in the World" initiative.

On Saturday September 19, our school took part in an initiative by the Polish Presidential Couple: The National Reading project. This year, the list of suggested texts for national reading has been enriched by Polish novels, including the following titles:

- **Dobra pani** – Eliza Orzeszkowa;
- **Dym** – Maria Konopnicka
- **Katarynka** – Bolesław Prus
- **Mój ojciec wstępuje do strażaków** (ze zbioru: Sanatorium pod Klepsydrą) – Bruno Schulz
- **Orka** – Władysław Stanisław Reymont
- **Rozdzióbą nas kruki, wrony...** – Stefan Żeromski
- **Sachem** – Henryk Sienkiewicz
- **Sawa** (z cyklu: Pamiątki Soplicy) – Henryk Rzewuski

At 10:30, students from all classes gathered in one of the classrooms, and attentively listened to the texts read to them.

The readers were dancers from "Kujawy" Song and Dance Ensemble. Two young people dressed in national costumes devoted their free time and came to visit our school to present the aforementioned texts to our students. Monika Potaczala and Jakub Kawa read beautifully in Polish to children who, sitting on the carpet, listened to novellas surrounding the readers in a semicircle.

On behalf of myself and the Macarthur Polish School community, I'd like to thank these two wonderful young people for their enthusiasm and time. We wish you, many future successes. We hope you can pay us another visit in the near future.



SUMMARY OF TERM 4 2019

The best ways to save up money

On Saturday, October 26, Mr. Michal Brandt (Senior Financial Planner, APT Wealth Partners), paid us a visit the main purpose of which was to give answers to two important questions: "how and why should we save up money?" Mr. Brandt shared with us his deep knowledge and experience in his area of expertise.

During the morning session addressed to parents of our school, Mr. Brandt recalled key points from all financial topics. He presented important nuances that are worth knowing about and whose existence we are often not aware of due to lack of time and

extremely busy life style... After the presentation Mr. Brandt was answering specific questions from individual participants. I am deeply convinced that every person present at the presentation has found at least one thing for themselves.

At 11:45 Mr. Brandt met with the students of our school. Several young girls and boys of the Polish Liverpool High School have also accepted the invitation to the presentation. Mr. Brandt, who made his debut as a lecturer for school aged children, proved himself excellent in his new role. He explained to the gathered boys and girls what saving money was about in a very matter-of-fact way. The presentation was interactive - the children would answer Mr. Brandt's questions, and their answers were written on the white board. We learned that each of us, without exception, must choose each day whether, for example, should we pay bills first or buy a new phone, and how much depends on our financial priorities. Mr. Brandt explained to our pupils how one, bad and reckless decision can get us into serious financial trouble.

After the presentation, the children presented Mr. Brandt with cards they had prepared themselves.

In the summary, it needs to be added that there are priceless things in this world that money can never buy and that there are people ready to help others selflessly - people with a heart open to the needs of other people and hands stretched out to comfort and support. These values are priceless, and Mr. Michal Brandt has proved to us that, despite the fact that he is an excellent expert in many areas related to finance, he can at the same time offer his valuable time, enthusiasm and dedication to share his knowledge and experience with others. The only payment he received was the smile of our children and the cards they made themselves with the simplest and at the same time one of the most beautiful words in our Polish language "thank you" :)



SUMMARY OF TERM 4 2019

11 November–Poland's Independence Day Celebrations



On Saturday, November 9, students and teachers from Macarthur Polish Saturday School celebrated the 101st anniversary of Poland regaining her independence.

As every year around this time, the lessons were aimed at familiarising children with the Polish national symbols such as flag, national colours, national emblem and anthem. These activities were aimed at forming and developing national identity in children who are students of our school. When conducting classes, teachers of individual classes used methods suitable to age and cognitive abilities of a given age group.

Last Saturday both students and teachers were asked to bring to school - souvenirs brought or received from Poland, with which we then decorated tables and made a mini exhibition for everyone to admire. The students from the oldest class had to additionally say a few words about the items they brought and justify why they chose such a souvenir. On the map of Poland purchased by the school last year, students glued tiny flags, marking the place of origin of their families. We also practiced the Polish national anthem, in each of our classes without exception. Class I students, under the guidance of the teacher, arranged educational puzzles, the subject of which was the map of Poland. They liked this game so much that they did it three times in a row - of course, each time they would finish in less and less time. The children were also colouring the Polish national emblem – White Eagle, after they got familiarised with the legend of Lech, Czech and Rus.

At 11.00 we all gathered in the school yard to sing the Polish national anthem. For the needs of the school a huge white and red flag was sewn. Each participant of this event was holding it in his or hers hands while singing the anthem.

SUMMARY OF TERM 4 2019

The end of 2019 school year celebrations

On Saturday, December 7, the end of 2019 school year celebrations were held at the Macarthur Polish Saturday School. We started the day with a Mass celebrated in the Mary Immaculate Catholic Church at Eagle Vale. The Mass was presided over by the priest of the local Australian parish - Father Slawek Plonka. Father Slawek, who is an extremely warm and open person and very respected by his Australian parishioners, has been supporting our school ever since the school was first established in February 2017. During the Mass, we sang several well-known Polish and English religious songs. We are extremely grateful to Father Slawek for his kindness and hope that this cooperation will continue in the future. After the Mass, we went to the Robert Townson Public School, where official end of the school year celebrations were held. We started by reading a congratulatory letter addressed to us by Consul General Monika Konczyk. Mrs. Consul General, who due to the sheer volume of duties could not be present at the ceremony rewarded us with a beautiful



letter, which was addressed to teachers, the student community and also, and perhaps above all, to our dear parents.

The next point of the day were the performances presented by students of each class. The first to perform on the stage were our sweet pre-schoolers. They performed the song "They call me poleczka." It was an extremely charming and sweet presentation :) Then the combined classes of Mrs. Malgosia and Mrs. Bernadka were presenting. The students sang the song "Kukułeczka". The last to perform were the students of our oldest class, who, under the watchful eye of Mr. Michal Macioch, presented the puppet theatre, based on the well-known poem by Jan Brzechwa entitled "On the market stall." Our young artists were rewarded with huge applause, which they undoubtedly deserved not only by the beautiful declamation of the poem, but also with the beautifully made puppets they created themselves. The background to all of the performances was a beautiful Christmas decoration prepared by Mrs. Krysia Morawski, who traditionally enriched the day with a Christmas tree brought from home and a beautifully decorated table. The items displayed on it evoked memories of white, snow and Christmas. It was a visual lesson of Polish traditions and customs related to Christmas celebrations.

The end of the school year is always an opportunity to summarise the year-round work of teachers and students. After the student's performances, each student was awarded a school certificate. Awards for the best Library user and prizes for exemplary attendance were also given out. In a special way, with a tear in our eyes, but also with undoubted pride we said goodbye to the students of our oldest class. The following girls said goodbye to us: Gabriella Helwani, Julia Koscianska, Malwina Lesniewicz and Anya Bienkowska. We wish our dear graduates all successes in the following years of learning the Polish language.

The day ended with a surprise visit from Santa. How much joy this extraordinary and long-awaited guest brought with him! And the gifts he brought were really wonderful. These were: a ticket to Taronga Zoo for each of our students, a book from the series "I love Poland" entitled: "80 Anniversary of the outbreak of World War II". Among the gifts was also a toy and something sweet for our little ones.

2019 was a year of beautiful anniversaries and of hard work in classrooms. Both teachers, students and their parents have earned themselves a wonderful summer holiday. Have a good rest everyone and come back to us with a supply of fresh energy and enthusiasm in the new 2020 school year :)

School Fees

Our treasurer Mrs. Hania Beshai will be accepting school fee payments, each Saturday between 8.50 and 9.30 as well as between 12.00 and 12.30. The term fees are as follows: \$100 for the first child, \$100 for the second child. Term fees for third and consecutive children are not required. If you prefer paying via direct deposit our bank details are as follows:

BSB 062-340

Account Number: 1064 1428

If you choose the electronic form of payment we kindly ask you email the treasurer and inform her of your payment so she can verify. In the subject line of the email please mark "School Fees", and in the email please provide the name of the child, the term you are paying for, the amount paid and reference used in your payment.

School Email: macarthurpolsatschool@outlook.com

Polish Sunday Mass Times:

- **10:15—Church of the Holy Trinity;**
57 Guernsey Ave, Minto NSW 2566
- **18:30—All Saints Catholic Church**
George St. Liverpool NSW 2170
- **11:30—Sacred Heart Catholic Church;**
13 Park Rd. Cabramatta NSW 2166



ZWIAZEK HARCERSTWA POLSKIEGO

We **WELCOME** all youth to our scouting association. Using our principles of the Scouting movement via camping, hiking and bushcraft we aim to develop in the youth physical, intellectual and moral strength, values embodying good citizenship, love of the environment, initiative, self reliance and organisational skills and knowledge of the Polish culture, history and language.

For more information call:

0425275541 (Druhna Danusia)

0433051481 (Druh Janusz)

Website: <http://www.zhp.org.au/>

Folclore Ensembles in Sydney

Polish Song and Dance Ensemble *Kujawy*



INVITES

For more information:

Jola: 0400 689 379

Ela: 0438 458 715

Polish Song and Dance Ensemble *Podhale*



INVITES

For more information:

Daniel: 0418 996 671

Ania: 0422 409 908

Polish Song and Dance Ensemble *Lajkonik*



INVITES

For more information:

Marzena: 0433 779 941

Polish Song and Dance Ensemble *Syrenka*



INVITES

For more information:

Teresa: 0414 605 110

SPONSORS

