



Newsletter

Assembly Term 1

Week 2	Junior - Yr 2JD and 2ED
Week 3	Senior - Yrs 5/6
Week 4	Whole School - Yr 3

Dates to Remember

	Date
P&C Meeting	21 February
Kindy Reading	27 February
Info night	
School Photos	5 March
Swimming	6 March
Carnival	
Harmony Day	21 March
Year 5/6 Camp	19 / 21 March
Year 4 Camp	26 / 28 March
Year 3 Camp	27 /28 March

Notes Home Due Back

Senior Choir	23 February
Years 3 to 6	
Junior Choir	23 February
Kindy to Year 2	
Swimming	23 February
Carnival	
Family Photo	28 February
School Photos	28 February
Year 6 Shirts	9 March
Year 5/6 Camp	9 March
Year 4 Camp	16 March
Year 3 Camp	16 March
Preschool	21 March
Photo	
Seesaw digital Portfolio	Info Only

Executive Report

Dear Aranda School Community,

There is a lovely buzz around the school this week with so many parents and families in the corridors attending this week's *Getting to Know You Interviews*.

Getting To Know You Interviews

Our *Getting To Know You Interviews* are our first set of interviews for the school year and are a vital way of gathering student information from the sources that know them best. Those special pieces of information gathered from parents and families allow our teachers to piece together an early profile of their students and begin to successfully build a positive teacher / student relationship.

At the 'Getting to Know You Interviews' this week, teachers in Years K-6 have been distributing the Seesaw consent forms. Once this has been signed you will be provided with a letter to access Seesaw. Please see the Front Office if you have not received an invitation.

SeeSaw

This year SeeSaw will be introduced to all classes from Preschool to Year 6. SeeSaw is a web based platform allowing teachers and students to share learning with parents, carers and family members. In 2016, we trialled SeeSaw in Years P to Kindergarten and feedback from teachers and parents was extremely positive.

We hope that this will build a greater connection between home and school and allow parents and carers the opportunity to have a greater understanding of the learning that is taking place in the classroom.

Teachers and students will be able to post work samples, photos, videos and voice recordings to their personal portfolio so that you are able to see their work throughout the year and comment on their progress. Information posted by your child is accessible by you only unless they have worked in collaboration with other students on a piece. In this instance, parents of all the students involved in the piece of work will have access and be able to comment. This is a forum for positive feedback and will be closely monitored by the teacher moderator. We recommend that you take a few moments to familiarise yourself with the parent tutorial provided by SeeSaw (see link below).

<https://web.seesaw.me/parents/>



CAMP Notes

Camp notes will be distributed to families of students in years 3-6 with this newsletter. We ask parents to complete the documentation and return it to school as soon as possible. Copies of all notes can also be found on the [school website](#). Camps are such an exciting element of the school year and a unique learning opportunity. The paper work is vital to ensure the successful running of the camps and most importantly to ensure the care of our students. Please check that the medical information returned to the school is accurate and thorough as well as having correct contact details of parents and caregivers.

Medical Plans

A reminder that if your child has been diagnosed with Asthma or severe allergy (anaphylaxis) the school requires a medical action plan formulated by a medical practitioner updated annually. Reminder notes have been sent to families. If you are yet to provide this information I urge you to forward it to the front office as soon as possible. Please remember we are allergy aware and ask families to avoid packing foods with egg or nuts. We send a strong message to our students to avoid sharing or trading food.

Have a great week,

Lisa Kingham

Deputy Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

In 2018, we are planning to provide all correspondence with parents and carers via email. This is in an attempt to improve our communication with you all and to reduce our environmental impact. In order for you to receive all communication, we need to make sure we have your current email address on our system.

Please email info@arandaps.act.edu.au if you need to update your email address.

We will send another reminder to all families early in 2018.

Many thanks,
Phil Gray



Important Messages

Medication at School

All student medication must be signed in by a parent/carer at the front office on arrival at school. Medication must be clearly labelled with the child's name and class. No medication is to be left in school bags during the day.

2018 Backpack Lists

Book packs can still be ordered via OfficeMax. All information is available on the Notes Home section of the school website.

Late Arrivals and Early Leavers

If your child is late to school (arrives after 9.10am) or leaving prior to 3pm please ensure you sign them in/out at the front office on arrival or before leaving.

Newsletter Publication Deadline

Items for inclusion in the fortnightly newsletter must be emailed to info@arandaps.act.edu.au by 3.30pm every odd week on a Tuesday.

Notes Home

All notes are distributed to students through the classroom every Thursday. All notes are also available for download from the Notes Home section of the school website, and spare copies available outside the front office. Please make it part of your routine to check the school web site regularly to ensure you don't miss out on any important school information.

2018 Grandfriends Day

Place this date in your calendars now. Grandfriend's Day in 2018 will be held on 14 September at 11am.

Anaphylaxis

Aranda Primary School is an ANAPHYLAXIS AWARE SCHOOL avoiding eggs and all nuts. Our policy is available on the website.

Students who have Mobile Phones

Any students who have a mobile phone should drop it to the Front Office before school and collect it at 3pm. No mobile phones are to be kept in bags or classrooms. They will be securely stored in the Front Office during the day.



New School Administration System

From the start of 2018, our school will be in phase one of the new School Administration System (SAS) announced by the Minister last year. An important part of our transition into the new system is a new process for signing in students who arrive at school after 9.10am, signing out students who are leaving the school prior to 3pm and/or leaving the school for a short period to attend an appointment.

Late arrivals (after 9.10am) – parents/carers must sign students in at the Front Office counter

Early Leavers (before 3pm) – parents/carers need to collect their child from their classroom and sign them out at the Front Office counter

Attending an appointment – parents/carers need to collect their child from their classroom and sign them out at the Front Office counter. On their return to school parents/carers need to sign the child back in at the Front Office counter

A reminder that student absences need to be advised to the school by the following methods:

- Downloading 'Aranda Primary School' App from either the Apple App Store or Android Play Store.
- Emailing the child's name, reason for absence and dates of absences info@arandaps.ed.act.edu.au
- Calling 6142 3030 between 8.30am and 3.30pm Monday to Friday



NAPLAN will be online from 15-25 May 2018.

NAPLAN Online:

- is more engaging and adjusts questions to meet your child's achievement level.
- delivers more precise literacy and numeracy achievement results to schools and parents more quickly.
- supports school improvement by enabling teachers to monitor student progress over time and to identify areas of strength and development.

Our school encourages all eligible students to participate in NAPLAN. Visit www.nap.edu.au to see how the test works and for more information.



EAL/D News

Welcome to all our new and returning families. Our English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EAL/D) Program continues to be a constantly changing one. This year we are starting with 133 families who nominate as speaking a language other than English in their homes. The specialist EAL/D teachers are currently monitoring over 170 students from Preschool to Year 6. This is 28% of the total Aranda PS population and represents 38 countries and 44 languages. We also have a total of nine students at Introductory English Centres who will join us later in the year. The aim of the EAL/D Program is to support those students in need to develop their English language proficiency. We are currently assessing new students for the purposes of the DET's February census. Once completed, we will start working with teachers and students to best support their learning.

We are putting together a display in our corridor that includes many different ways to say 'hello' in another language. Some students have been given a piece of card on which to write the word 'hello' in their home language. We will put the cards up for everyone to see so we can all have a go at greeting people in a different language. If you know a language that is not represented, please come and see either Sandra Kelly or Kellie Nissen. The more languages, the merrier the display.

Happy Chinese New Year! 2018 represents the Year of the Dog. There are many opportunities to participate in events across Canberra this coming weekend.

We look forward to hosting activities throughout the year that highlight the cultural and linguistic diversity of our community. This week's *Getting to Know You interviews* have been a great opportunity to introduce ourselves to new families and catch up with familiar faces.

Our annual EAL/D Breakfast and Harmony Day Celebrations will happen in March - watch this space for more information.

We welcome communication from families at any time to liaise and share important information. Sometimes we are hard to locate in person so we can be contacted via the front office, by phone (through the front office 6142 3030) or via email: sandra.kelly@ed.act.edu.au or kellie.nissen@ed.act.edu.au.

The EAL/D Team
Sandra Kelly and Kellie Nissen

Sports News

On 10-11 February, Angus participated in the ACT Track Championship. Angus has been training hard at Velodrome three times a week for the past 6 months and was successful in winning the Bronze medal for his age group, Under 13's. This is an enormous achievement for his first season.

Angus raced in 6 velodrome races including:

- Flying 200
- The time trail
- The Keirin
- Two Scratch races
- And an elimination race

Angus has found that sport and the love of sport is a shared understanding across the school, which I think is fantastic.

Thank you for all of your hard work!





2018 School Board Nominations

If you are interested in contributing to the governance of Aranda Primary School, please consider nominating for a position on the Aranda Primary School Board.

Available Positions

Two (2) Parent and Citizen Member Position

Two (2) Staff Member Position

These positions are for a two (2) year period commencing 1 April 2018.

Nominations

Open – 11am on Monday, 5 February 2018

Nomination forms are only available from the Front Office in hard copy form. Online or electronic nomination facilities will not be available.

Close – 11am on Monday, 19 February 2018

All nomination forms must be submitted in hard copy form and placed in the ballot box at the Front Office. All nominees will be required to submit a short piece about them for the school newsletter. The piece will be published on Thursday, 1 March 2018.

Further Information

For additional information, please contact the Assistant Returning Officer, Alex Wrigley on 6142 3030 or info@arandaps.act.edu.au

Aranda Music and Arts Program

IMPORTANT: No lessons will be held in Week 2.

Enrolment

If you are interested in enrolling in lessons please send an email inquiry to info@arandamusicprogram.org or submit an enrolment form, and we can advise whether there are vacancies or a waiting list.

To enrol please complete and submit your details at the AMA website: www.arandamusicprogram.org.

Aranda Music and Arts Program is a sub-committee of the Aranda Primary Parents and Citizens Association. It's run by a committee of volunteer parents. The Program incorporates music, drama and art lessons. If you have any questions about the program or would like to be part of this fun and productive committee please contact your AMA tutor coordinator, contact us at info@arandamusicprogram.org or go to our website at www.arandamusicprogram.org.

Vacancies

We have the following vacancies for individual lessons (30 minute lessons):

Instrument	Day/Time of Vacancy
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P and C News

P&C Meeting – 6.30pm on Wednesday, 21 February 2018

The next P&C meeting is on Wednesday 21, February at 6.30pm in the Resource Centre. If you're unable to come but do have something you'd like discussed please email arandapandc@gmail.com and we'll make sure it gets added to the agenda.

This is our first meeting of the year - we traditionally hold meetings in Week 3 and 8 of each term - and all parents and carers are welcome.

Hope to see you there.

CLASS PARENT REPS

The P&C's Class Parent Representative Program is a great way to find out what's happening, both in a specific class and in the wider school community.

Being a class parent rep doesn't take up much time so can be an easy way to make a big difference. If you'd like to find out more, or would like to nominate yourself as a class parent rep, please email Paula at classrepsarandapandc@gmail.com.

Canteen News

In 2018 we welcome a new Canteen Manager to Aranda. Helen McBean is an Aranda parent who has previously volunteered her time to help out in our canteen. She has run a baking business from home and has worked in the restaurant and service industry. We are very lucky to have Natalie continuing in the Canteen in 2018, and are happy to welcome Helen to our team.

The Canteen will be closed in Week 1 but will open from Wednesday 14th February. The Aranda Canteen operates from Wednesday to Friday, so please remember to put your lunch orders in through Flexischools from Week 2. Orders can be placed at www.flexischools.com.au. If you're new to Aranda, you can create an account by clicking on the 'register' link. Online orders for recess or lunch can be placed any time before 9:15am on the day the food is required.



Community Information

Think before you park...and keep our kids safe!

With school now back for the year we are encouraging all parents to make parking safety a priority!

This means:

- keep clear of 'no stopping' and 'no parking' zones
- don't park in bus zones on school crossings, across footpaths or driveways; and
- don't double (or triple) park!

Remember - it's okay to park a little further away from the school and walk the rest of the way!

Consider - having a pre-determined meeting spot agreed with your kids. That way if you are a little late, they know where to wait.

Think – visibility around schools and if your car may be blocking the view of crossings for other motorists. Also be mindful when entering or leaving parking spots – look twice!

Be kind – to other road users and pedestrians and also if you see any parking officers in the area – they are doing their job and working to keep our kids safe!

Note - licence Plate Recognition (or electronic chalking) vans are now actively monitoring schools. Penalties range from \$114 upwards to \$600. Details at www.act.gov.au/accessCBR



Stressed about back to school costs? Make next year different.



Saver Plus will match your savings for school costs, dollar for dollar, up to \$500.

To join Saver Plus, you must have a Centrelink Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, be at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner), and have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself.

-  laptops & tablets
-  camps & excursions
-  uniforms & shoes
-  lessons & activities
-  sports fees & gear
-  books & supplies



Contact

Kathleen Watson
your local Saver Plus
Coordinator

Phone
0448 730 305
02 6283 7606

Email
kathleen.watson@
thesmithfamily.com.au

Web
www.saverplus.org.au



Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.dss.gov.au for more information.



6287 3833

Being a parent is the hardest job we'll ever have. All parents at some time experience difficulties and stress.

Parentline ACT

is a confidential and free telephone and face-to-face counselling and information service.

Phone Parentline if you would you like:

- To talk with someone about those parenting issues.
- Help with some ideas on raising children.
- Support in the important job you are doing.
- To know what is available for parents, teenagers and children.
- To build better relationships in your family.
- Help to understand your child or teenager's behaviour.
- Make an appointment for a counselling session.

Parentline ACT.

Monday to Friday (except on public holidays), 9am to 5pm.

Phone: 6287 3833



Attention Kindergarten Parents!

Kindergarten Health Checks are happening this year!

All kindergarten students in the ACT are eligible to receive a FREE health check



VISION CHECK



HEARING CHECK



HEIGHT, WEIGHT AND
BODY MASS INDEX (BMI)



If you have not returned your child's Kindergarten Health Check Consent and Questionnaire



FIND – Information packs will be sent home early in Term 1



SIGN – Complete The Kindergarten Health Check Consent And Questionnaire



RETURN – To your school by 7th March 2018

Your school can provide you with the date of the health check.



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www.health.act.gov.au | www.act.gov.au | Enquiries: Canberra 13ACT1 or 132281