Dear Aranda Community,

The school has certainly been buzzing with excitement this week, mostly centred on our visiting Chinese students and teachers. I have been particularly impressed with the hospitality and genuine willingness to help out that has been demonstrated by the Aranda students. Each day the Chinese students feel more comfortable in our environment and more willing to utilise the English they know.

Getting to know their Chinese students and a little more about Chinese culture has been a wonderful learning experience for host families. My family have greatly enjoyed hosting two Chinese students. We have all become skilled at using the Google Translator app along with a little basic sign language to assist with communication. We were surprised by the willingness of our guests to try western food, such as tacos, and also their love of fresh fruit, particularly mango.

We enjoyed showing our students the fun you can have with a sprinkler and Totem Tennis in your backyard.

Gum Trees
Due to weather damage and borer activity in our gum trees, we have had to section off the area next to the multipurpose court after a branch fell from one of the trees on Tuesday afternoon around 4:30 pm. After investigation by an arborist yesterday, it is likely two of the trees will need to be removed to keep this area safe for our children.

Kindergarten and Year 1/2 Playground
At the beginning of each year the Kindergarten and Junior playgrounds are kept solely for the Kindergarten students. This is just for two weeks to allow our new Kindergarten children time to explore the playground and get to know the equipment with fewer children. The 1/2 students have been very understanding and supportive of this; I guess because they remember how useful it was for them. Please assure your children they will be able to play on the equipment from next week.

Thank you

Kim McCormack
Deputy Principal
Board Nominations

If you are interested in contributing to the governance of the Aranda Primary School, please consider nominating for a position on the Aranda Primary School Board. No prior experience is necessary.

The nomination period is now open for the two parent and citizens positions on the Aranda Primary School Board. Nomination forms are available at the front office. Nominations must be made by 11:00am next Monday, 17 February by completing a nomination form and placing it in the secure box at Front Office. Nominees will be asked to submit a short piece introducing themselves to the school community in the school newsletter. If there are more than two nominees, voting will open at 11:00 am on Monday, 24 February.

For more information, please contact the Assistant Returning Officer, Suzanne Vincent on 6142 3030 or Suzanne.Vincent@ed.act.edu.au.

House Sports Leaders

Congratulations to our new House Sports Captains:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Captains</th>
<th>Vice Captains</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kukatja</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mia Atwood (5/6PD)</td>
<td>Claire Roberts (5/6AW)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dimitri Bezos (5/6TB)</td>
<td>Lucah Conlan (5/6JH)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ngalia</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juliet Sykes (5/6TB)</td>
<td>Elaine Choi (5/6LG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James La Vella (5/6PD)</td>
<td>Austin Turnbull (5/6LG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Iliara</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giselle Thorley (5/6TB)</td>
<td>Olivia Gray (5/6PD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan Mackay (5/6LG)</td>
<td>Elijah Witchalls (5/6LG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Untmajarra</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Pease (5/6JH)</td>
<td>Isobel James (5/6LG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ede Warneke (5/6JH)</td>
<td>Xander Martin (5/6TB)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Kindy Team Report

The first week at school was very busy (and often hot) for Kindergarten! We spent a lot of time getting to know each other as well as the routines of the school day.

We went for a walk around the school and found the Music Room as well as the Library, the Canteen and the Front Office. In between our tours we enjoyed lots of lovely stories, including Wembley Worries and The Rainbow Fish. Then we created some beautiful artwork. You will find our masterpieces on display in the corridors.

On Friday we got to work with some of the other fabulous teachers at Aranda Primary. Can you remember who they all are?

Sue Whitney
Kindergarten Team Leader
Music Overview

The Music program this term will initially focus on music room etiquette and safety, familiarising the children with my conducting gestures, promoting the idea that music can be produced individually, as an ensemble, as part of a large community and so forth and what it means to be able to succeed in differing settings.

We will learn whole school songs to be sung during assembly, discover the Curwen hand signs and how they connect to Solfa (do re me fa so la ti do) and the ability to sight read music. The children will analyse songs to explore music theory and sing, move, listen, write and view so that they can understand how music is part of our daily life. The children will get to know me and together we can be clear about how to learn in the music room.

The children will establish an identity in the music room through the use of class theory books and by creating a small piece of work to put on display in the newly created music room. Relationships with each other, including myself, will grow through the use of games and dancing to encourage participation and to develop their performance skills.

I look forward to meeting your child and joining with them to sing and play music.

Rehearsal for Senior choir for children in Years 3 to 6, will commence in the music room this Friday. This will be a non-auditioned choir.

Melissa Alexander
Music Teacher

From the Counsellor

Tips for Parents of Kids Starting School

For most children, starting back at school is a smooth process. For some children, the new school year may start with tears and they may appear a little unsettled whilst they are adjusting to the changes. Some of the new challenges your child may be facing are new classroom routines, a new teacher, being with new children as well as some familiar friends, and a new classroom environment.

It can be helpful to talk about some of the differences from last year that your child is experiencing as well as some positive things about the new class. Be encouraged that most children settle quickly into the new routines, and classroom teachers are experienced at handling any upsets. Give positive messages to your child about how they will manage.

It is important for parents to stay informed about what is happening at school and consequently you are able to prepare your child for any changes along the way. Remember that children respond well to routines and structure.

Keep an eye out for information about items your child needs to bring to school so that a written list or a pictorial list for students can be displayed at home. Encourage your child to check this daily as part of their morning routine and to build their independence.

A good night’s sleep is important for your child to function well at school as starting a new school year can be very tiring. Don’t expect too much too soon!

Please let your child’s teacher know if you have any concerns or there are any major family changes at home that may impact on your child’s

In 2013 P&C social and fundraising events included a welcome picnic, school socials, the school fete and a Bunnings BBQ fundraiser.

The funds raised last year went towards:
- School Vegetable Garden program
- Funding and supporting the ‘Just 50 Words’ competition
- Literacy and Maths Resources
- ICT Equipment
- Sports Equipment

If you would like to find out more about what is involved contact:

The P&C President, Matt Stocks
Email: arandapandc@gmail.com

P&C Matters

Aranda Primary P&C Annual General Meeting

Thursday 20th February at 7:00 pm in the Resource Centre

Come along to the Aranda P&C AGM and meet some other parents, have your say and get involved in your school community. The P&C is always looking for new members and ideas!

What does the P&C do?

- promotes community participation in school activities
- manages the Canteen
- coordinates the After School Music program
- runs the Uniform Shop (new and 2nd hand clothes)
- coordinates a Class Parent Representative for each class
- organises social and fundraising activities

In 2013 P&C social and fundraising events included a welcome picnic, school socials, the school fete and a Bunnings BBQ fundraiser.

The funds raised last year went towards:
- School Vegetable Garden program
- Funding and supporting the ‘Just 50 Words’ competition
- Literacy and Maths Resources
- ICT Equipment
- Sports Equipment

If you would like to find out more about what is involved contact:

The P&C President, Matt Stocks
Email: arandapandc@gmail.com
emotional and academic wellbeing. These may include things such as a major family illness, moving house, a new baby or separation.

If there are any continuing concerns please contact the teacher and be an active partner with the school in meeting your child’s needs.

Sheri Bottomley  
School Counsellor/Psychologist  
Mon/Wed/ Thursdays

Aranda Community Choir

Aranda Community Choir (children, parents, grandparents and families)

Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:30 pm in the Gymnasium at Aranda Primary School during school term.

Come and join us! No experience needed just an enjoyment of singing.

Cost: $150 per family per term or $100 per individual

For more information contact: Nicki Taws  
nptaws@bigpond.com  ph. 0408 210736

Otherwise, just come along!

Liz Gregory Irish Dance Academy

ENROL in your Irish Dance Class NOW for 2014!

BEGINNERS: Classes for girls and boys from 4 to 12 years. Beginners Classes are held after school Tuesday and Thursday at our fully equipped dance Studio in Aranda at the former Aranda Scout Hall, Kubura Place, Aranda.

From the 1st lesson children will learn “Riverdance” style and Traditional and energetic Irish Dancing. Children are taught dance for public performances, competitions and local and international championships.

Hurry! Classes are filling quickly!

Enrolments will be accepted at any time during the Term

For further enquiries please contact Liz T.C.R.G.,  
A.D.C.R.G – 0419 225195  
Ph: 0419225195  
www.lizgregoryida.com email:  
lgida52@hotmail.com

Piano Lessons

Over 14 years’ experience in successfully teaching piano playing and theory

– Canberra School of Music (ANU) trained teacher
– All ages welcome, from beginners to experienced
– Preparation of all levels of practical and theory exams
– Teaching from Classical to Modern styles
– For students wanting to learn for fun, AMEB or other exams, performance or for school are welcome
– $30 per half hour

If you are interested, please call Diane on 0414788380

Community News

To view or download flyers for the following community events, please see our Community Bulletin Board at:
http://www.arandaps.act.edu.au/our_school/community_news

Dyslexia Information Session, Radford College – 18 February
Canberra Model Train Expo, Kaleen High School, 29 to 30 March
Canberra Toy and Hobby Fair, Kaleen High School, 6 April 2014
Heat Cheerleading
Junior Volleyball
Starts Friday WEEK 3

3:00 to 4:00 pm in the Gym

This week, all children in Years 3 to 6 have been participating in volleyball lessons from Olympic volleyballer Rachel Uren.

Rachel will be offering weekly volleyball lessons for children in Years 3 to 6 every Friday after school (3:00 to 4:00 pm in the gym). Lessons start Friday 21st February and the cost is $70 per term.

If you haven’t already done so and your child would like to play, please fill in a registration form (available from the front office or by emailing Rachel on racheluren@grapevine.com.au) and hand it to your child’s teacher by Friday 14th February.

Limited number of players per session so get your registration forms in quickly!

The Aranda App Codes

Want to learn to sing or play a musical instrument?

Support Your Local Sports

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Ages</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belsouth JSC</td>
<td>Registration Day</td>
<td>4 – 17</td>
<td>Sunday, 16 February, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm</td>
<td>Or Register online at <a href="http://www.belsouth.netspeed.com.au">www.belsouth.netspeed.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Belconnen Soccer Club, Springvale Road, Hawker</td>
<td>For further information contact us at <a href="mailto:belsouthjsc@gmail.com">belsouthjsc@gmail.com</a> or <a href="mailto:jodiehardiman@gmail.com">jodiehardiman@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belnorth Football</td>
<td>Registration Day</td>
<td>4 to U-17</td>
<td>Saturday 1 March – Rebel Sport, Westfield Belconnen. 10:00 am to 1:00pm</td>
<td>Register to play with Belnorth now. You can register online at <a href="http://www.myfootballclub.com.au/">http://www.myfootballclub.com.au/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>For more information about the club and registration visit <a href="http://www.belnorth.org">www.belnorth.org</a> or email us at <a href="mailto:admin@belnorth.org">admin@belnorth.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belconnen Sharks</td>
<td>Sunday 16th January</td>
<td>6 to U-16</td>
<td>Sunday 16 February 10.00am to 2.00pm at McDonald’s Charnwood</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rugby League</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>