Dear Aranda Community

3 Way Conferences

3 Way Conferences are a wonderful opportunity for parents/carers, students and teachers to work together to achieve high outcomes for students. 3 Way Conferences have a focus on setting individual goals for student learning during the year and provide opportunity for discussion. Goals are student, parent and teacher generated. Your child will speak about the goals they would like to achieve and why they have chosen them. Students are encouraged to set themselves “SMART” goals. “SMART” stands for “Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic and Timely”. Student reflection of goals will occur during 3 Way Conferences in Term 3.

If you have not already booked a time slot with your child’s teacher, please do so using the School Online Booking System (SOBS). A note came home recently with instructions about how to do this. A copy of the note is available on the school website for your convenience. If you need assistance or access to the internet, please speak with your child’s teacher.

We encourage all parents and carers to meet with the classroom teacher. This is an important part of your child’s learning and we look forward to meeting with you.

First Prize – ACT Office for Aging “Life’s Reflections” – Photographic Competition

Congratulations to Owen Eveston in Year 1!!!!

Owen has won first prize in the primary school division of the ACT Office for Aging “Life’s Reflections” photographic competition. His photograph will be displayed as part of a photographic exhibition in the Canberra Centre during ACT Seniors Week in March 2014, at the 2014 Retirement and Lifestyle Expo at EPIC in May 2014 and in ACT Libraries, at a later date.
School Social
The first school social of the year will be held this evening. The SRC has chosen a theme of “The Beach”. Let’s hope the weather is great for dressing up in beach attire. It’s time for kids to don their boardies, grab a favourite hat or look cool in a pair of sunnies.

Times are:
Kindergarten to Year 2 from 5:30 to 6:45 pm
Years 3 to 6 from 7:00 to 8:30 pm

Kinder Parents’ Reading Workshop
While the Junior Social is raging away, Kinder parents, don’t forget you are invited to the Resource Centre for a “Reading with Your Child” workshop which is planned for a 5:45 pm start and will finish in plenty of time for you to collect your child from the Social.

Learning Time – Get the Most Out of It
To gain the most out of school, it is important to ensure your children are in the classroom to start the day with their peers at 9:00 am. It is difficult for children to feel relaxed and know what is happening in their room when they arrive after 9 o’clock. Children may arrive at school from 8:40 am. A teacher is on duty from this time and interact with others or just have some quiet time, on the covered multi-purpose court.

Colette Brown
Executive Teacher

The Swimming Carnival

“On behalf of Iliaura, we declare that this year’s swimming carnival one of the best days in the year.” – Iliaura House representatives Ryan, Giselle, Olivia & Elijah.

“Everyone at the swimming carnival had fun racing, playing with their friends and cheering on their team mates. It was pleasing to see everyone have a go and try their best.” – Unmatjarra House representatives Emily, Ede, Isobel & Xander

“The swimming carnival went very smoothly. Ngalia hoped that they could break their losing drought. Maybe in the future this will happen. Everyone tried their best at one of the schools most well-known events!” – Ngalia House representative James, Juliet, Elaine C & Austin.

“Everyone who participated in the swimming carnival tried their best and had a great time. Everyone who was in Kukatja cheered their lungs out and the swimming carnival ran smoothly.” – Kukatja House Representatives Claire R, Mia, Dimitri & Lucah.

The school swimming carnival was held last Thursday February 20. It was a great success. The committee would like to thank all OF the parents who volunteered their time to help us on the day to ensure it ran smoothly. It was pleasing to see all students supporting each other, whether they came first or last. We loved to see such team spirit with everyone participating in their team chants.

Mrs Jones & the Miss Fords
School Board Election

Voting is now open for the School Board

Each family received a set of voting instructions and ballot papers last Friday afternoon. So please vote for your choice of the three nominations for the two Parent and Citizen member positions. Additional copies are available from the Front Office. It is important to note the following:

- In order for your vote to be valid, please read and follow the instructions provided with the ballot paper.
- Voting closes at 11:00am on Monday 3 March 2014.

Your candidates are:

**RICHARD SABERTON**
Hi and thank you in advance for taking the time to read my short introduction.

Both of my parents were teachers, good ones by all accounts, and they were surprised when I became one; I taught English in Japan. They were even more surprised when I became a mature age student at a Japanese University, graduating four years later with a Bachelor of Commerce. My Japanese mentor ran a large ‘cram school’ that was listed on the Osaka stock exchange, and I was a teacher there for a time after I finished university.

After that I ran my own consulting business in Japan and China from 1993 to 2008, and have seen the light and dark sides of these Asian Tigers, so when my son Carl was born my wife Tina and I did not want to bring him up any place but Canberra, the city where I grew up. Carl has been at Aranda since preschool and we are exceedingly happy with the education he is receiving at Aranda Primary.

I have put my name forward as a nominee for the Board so that I can contribute to the school, and hopefully what I have learnt by being a student and teacher in adulthood and as a businessperson in Asia will be of use to the school community.

Thank you again for reading my submission, and I would very much appreciate your support for my nomination.

**JIM COTTER**
I am a composer with over 30 year’s professional experience. Most recently I held the position of Head of Composition at the ANU School of Music before returning to a creative life.

My son Miles is in Year 4. Throughout my working life I have participated in education at all levels as a teacher, tutor, and artist-in-residence. I have a long interest in the benefits of musical education to enhance broader learning skills.

I welcome this opportunity to support the work of the school as it implements its new vision.

**PETER SHAW**
I am a father of two students at Aranda Primary with Murphy in Year 6 and Kiara in Year 5. Aranda has been a great school for our family for many reasons. Aside from our children receiving a high quality of education, we have also found that the support network within the Aranda School community has been exceptional and has contributed greatly not only to our children’s’ experiences, but to our experience as parents as well. I seek your support in electing me to the team that will ensure that these core qualities continue to be enhanced and promoted within the school, and to continue the high regard of Aranda Primary held within the broader community.

I am a management professional by day and am looking forward to the challenges that may arise in being a member of the school board. I am committed to acting as a point of contact and representative for all Aranda parents’ views on the Board. To this end, I will seek to actively engage and communicate with parents and provide timely feedback on the rationale of the board decisions.
The Library Shelf

Book Fair 2014
The ‘Carnival Book Fair’ is coming early this year! We are having it in Week 9 (31 March to 4 April). Please write that date in your diaries.

As in the past few years The Book Fair will be held in the Resource Centre from 8:30 to 9:30 am and 3:00 to 4:00 pm each day. The selection of books at our Book Fair will include a wide range of quality books from the best Australian and overseas authors and illustrators. All books are discounted. Don’t forget the school benefits from all book sales by receiving a commission which we can then use to add to our library resources.

Assistance from parents has been key to successful Book Fairs in the past. Anyone with a spare one hour to help with the selling of books would be greatly appreciated. Please drop by the Library and see me.

Catherine Gilbert
Library Assistant

From the Counsellor

Developing Friendships
Making friends is important in the social development of children. Many children are naturally outgoing and are never short of someone to play with. For other children who are shy, or who do not join in as easily, they may find it more difficult to engage in and initiate play.

Some ideas to teach children are:

☐ Encourage them to seek out friendly looking people.
☐ Smile and make good eye contact.
☐ Teach them about simple greetings eg ‘Hello can I play with you?’ What is your name? etc.
☐ Talk about what to say after you have said ‘Hello’.
☐ Find out if they share any interests and what they have in common.
☐ Make a positive comment about someone or their game.
☐ Take turns when choosing what to play.
☐ Organise where to meet when they go outside to play.

Children need to understand that sometimes others may not want to play with them and can feel upset and left out. They need to know what to do next. (Remember it may be about the other person, not that they are unlikable.). Children often turn to adults to assist them in problem solving and developing an understanding about friendships.

Some things to talk with your child about might include:

☐ How to find someone else to play with.
☐ What sort of qualities are they looking for in a friend?
☐ How to invite other children home.
☐ Encouraging your child to have a plan to make and keep friends and strategies to use.
☐ Look for when a strategy is working for them not just when they are not.
☐ Encourage positive thinking about being a good friend.

Building the necessary social skills in making friendships develops over many years for children and involves learning many skills. Many children will change their friendship groups regularly over time, even over days and weeks and this is a normal part of growing up.

Sheri Bottomley
School Counsellor/Psychologist

P&C Matters

Aranda P&C had its AGM last Thursday. This meeting celebrated a successful 2013 including highlights such as:

- Review of the canteen with plans to maintain five days per week operation and improve the quality of our menu offerings
- Launch of the Parent Class Representative program to help improve social and other connections between class parents
- Another great fundraising year including contributions from the Fete, election and Bunnings barbeques, socials and the uniform shop. Over $40,000 was delivered to the school to support landscaping, resources for ICT, sport, literacy, maths and chess club, professional development (Blue Earth and teacher quality fund) and special programs such as the Just 50 Words Competition and Teachers Day.

Thanks to all those who have taken on roles for 2014. Focus for this year will be to continue to improve the canteen and to consider a potential merger with Aranda Afters.

President Matt Stocks
Vice President Petrina Cole
Secretary Jo James (acting – anyone interested???)
Treasurer Michael Wright
ACT P&C Council Geoff Mether
Delegate
Public Officer Andrew Johnson
Aranda New Family Network

$1463

Is the amount it has cost to have the Aranda P & C books audited last year. This is more than half the earnings of the Bunnings BBQ Fundraiser. It takes a lot of time and effort to fundraise this amount of money.

In previous years we have had suitably qualified members of the school community volunteer to be the P&C Auditor. Hence the money fundraised was spent resourcing our children's learning environment.

Currently we have great treasurers and computerised records. We would be grateful if we could get a volunteer to audit the books. Surely, in a school of over 500 students there is someone who can contribute. If you or someone you know could assist as Auditor and keep the money in the school then please contact Michael Wright, Treasurer (mmwright@homemail.com.au) or Matt Stocks, President (arandapandc@gmail.com) ASAP.

Aranda Music and Arts Program

There are currently a limited number of vacancies for piano or violin. If you are interested in having your child learn either of these instruments, please contact info@arandamusicprogram.org.

There are also places available for Year 1 or 2 children in the Continuing Music class run by Michael Sollis. This class is lots of fun and a fantastic general introduction to music for this age group. The class is from 3:00 to 4:00 pm on Wednesday. For more information please contact Jane Atchison (parent coordinator for this class) on 0415 293 757 or janeatchison@grapevine.com.au

Emma Cole
Aranda Arts and Music Program

Lost and Found

Has your child lost this toy?
If you would like it back please call 0450 962 709.

Natalie Drummond
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.

There is a cost of $150 per family per term or $100 per individual

For more information contact: Nicki Taws
ntaws@bigpond.com ph. 0408 210736
Otherwise, just come along!

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

Canberra Model Train Expo, Kaleen High School 29 to 30 March
Canberra Toy and Hobby Fair, Kaleen High School 6 April 2014

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

(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

Women and Girls' Fun Run/Walk

The Women and Girls’ Fun Run/Walk is on again this year, 9:00 am Sunday 6 April. Last year Aranda Primary won the prize for the most participants for a primary school –let’s see if we can do it again. Students, teachers and parents are eligible to join our team.

For information and online registration go to http://www.canberra.ymca.org.au/runnersclub/events/Pages/Women-and-Girls-Fun-Run.aspx
To register as part of the Aranda Primary School team:
Click on the online registration button on the YMCA WGFR homepage. Select I am a participant
Select yes for the question “are you part of a team” then click continue. Enter the team name of the team you wish to join then click the search button. When your team is listed click join. You may be asked this twice. Fill in your details and pay. As the team already has 3 members registered you will get the discounted fee (the discount doesn’t show up until you reach the ‘make a payment’ page).

Early bird entries close 16 March, standard entries close 3 April.

Cheers
Nicki Taws
0408 210736
## Support Your Local Sports

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<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> 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>
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<tr>
<td>Belconnen United Sharks Jr Rugby League</td>
<td>Registration Day</td>
<td>u6 to – u16</td>
<td>Sunday 2 March, from 11.00am till 2.00pm at Melba District Playing Fields on Verbrugghen Street, affectionately known as ‘Shark Park’.</td>
<td>Peter McCook on 6595281 or 0403 310 084. (<a href="mailto:peterandsharon@iinet.com.au">peterandsharon@iinet.com.au</a>)</td>
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## The Aranda App Codes

![QR Code for iPhone](image1) ![QR Code for Android](image2)