Dear Aranda Community,

The past two weeks have been such a positive start to the school year. While the students have been back almost two weeks, our teachers have been back three.

January Professional Learning
As teachers our learning is never done. We plan and seek professional learning throughout every year. In January 2017 before our students arrived back, every staff member took part in three full days of Professional Learning. This learning was targeted. On Tuesday January 24 we engaged in learning focusing on the teaching of writing and grammar. We examined the difference between language and literacy. We looked at writing samples critically and examined the use of language knowledge to make meaning in different contexts and for different purposes. We engaged with Misty Adoniou from the University of Canberra. Misty is an educational expert in this field and we are lucky enough to have an ongoing partnership with her. On Wednesday January 25 our focus was Visible Learning and the teaching of Science. The science afternoon was particularly practical hands-on session with lots engaging activities and much laughter. Learning is, after all, meant to be FUN! Our final day of PL was very student based. The three days were extremely valuable.

Janine Collins: “I know I am the Earth but which way I am spinning.”

Executive Report

Aranda in Action…..

Our beautiful Nature Path coming to life for all our students to enjoy.

Important Messages

Copies of Notes

Never miss a note. All notes that are sent home are made available on the Notes Home section of the school website every Thursday.

Change of Date – P&C Meeting

Please note a change of date. The next P&C meeting will be held on 21 February at 7pm in the multipurpose room in corridor 1.
Continued from page 1……

**Camp Notes**
Notes for all three up and coming camps will be sent home within the next fortnight. March is camp month for Aranda students this year.

Year 3 Camp: March 14 & 15.
Year 4 Camp: March 27-29.
Year 5/6 Camp: March 22-24.

It is imperative that all student camp notes are completed and accurate. We take our duty of care extremely seriously and all medical forms are followed to the letter. Please be sure all information is up to date and Medicare numbers are added to your child’s documentation. Prompt return of camp notes aids our camp preparation enormously.

**Student Safety**
Student drop off and pick up are peak times for all of us to take extra care. Student safety is paramount and simple cannot be compromised. We thank you families for slowing down and taking extra care in and around our car parks. Our Stop and Drop Zone is just that. It is a zone for drivers to stop and passengers to exit or enter the vehicle swiftly and safely. It has been installed to aide congestion and keeps the pick-up and drop off flowing. When people use this zone to park, the whole system breaks down, visibility is hampered and student safety is compromised. If you must leave your vehicle please utilize the long stay car parks.

**Getting To Know You Interviews**
Our Getting to Know You Interviews will take place next week (Week 3). These interviews are your chance to tell us important information about your child. You know them best and can give us vital information that can assist us support your child and maximise every opportunity to achieve growth. Notes with log on instructions were sent home last week to each family. If you haven’t already done so please access the SOBS link on the school website to make a booking with your child’s teacher.

I look forward to seeing our families in and around the school next week.

**Calling on Local Residents**
We are calling on local residents to keep an eye out for unwanted visitors to our school. A recent spate of vandalism comes at a significant cost to the school. This is just a small example of the damage that has been done to our Junior Playground softfall.

Regards

Lisa Kingham
Acting Deputy Principal
EALD Report

Welcome to all our new English as an Additional Language or Dialect families as well as our returning students. From Preschool to Year 6 we represent over 180 students from 40 countries, speaking 43 different languages in addition to English.

To show you our diversity:

Countries: Bangladesh, Brazil, Burma, Cambodia, Chile, China, Cyprus, El Salvador, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Myanmar, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Russia, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, The Netherlands, The Philippines, Tibet, Timor, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates and Vietnam.


We are planning our annual EAL/D Breakfast to coincide with Harmony Day on Tuesday March 21. A note has been sent home today asking for expressions of interest to join us in talking with the children about different countries and cultures.

We are looking forward to supporting students who need additional assistance to develop their English listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. A note will be sent home shortly to advise parents of their child’s inclusion in the EAL/D program.

We can be contacted via the Front Office on 6142 3030 or via email at sandra.kelly@ed.act.edu.au or kellie.nissen@ed.act.edu.au or alison.reid@ed.act.edu.au

Sandra Kelly, Kellie Nissen and Alison Reid

School Board Report

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
One (1) Parent and Citizen Member Position
One (1) Staff Member Position

Both positions are for a two (2) year period commencing 1 April 2017.

Nominations
Open – 11am on Monday, 30 January 2017
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, 13 February 2017
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, 16 February 2017.

Further Information
For additional information, please contact the Assistant Returning Officer, Alex Wrigley on 6142 3030 or info@arandaps.act.edu.au
Parents & Citizens Association Report

Next P&C Meeting

7pm, Tuesday 21 February (NOTE new date!)

The next P&C meeting is on Tuesday 21 February at 7pm in the school’s small meeting room. All are welcome.

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.

We’ll be discussing school space issues and voluntary contributions amongst other things - hope to see you there!

Aranda School Family Picnic

To be held on Sunday, 5 March 2017 from 2-4pm near the Kindy Playground (if the weather is fine) and on the basketball court if it is raining. Please BYO picnic afternoon tea. Come and meet other Aranda families. All welcome Preschool to Year 6.

Canteen News

Canteen is open, with healthy new items to beat the heat! The Canteen is open and ready to keep kids cool over summer! We’re serving fresh berry smoothies, tasty banana pops – banana rolled in yoghurt and dipped in rice bubbles or coconut – frozen juice sticks and Sippah straws to drink with icy cold milk. Sippah straws hold tapioca beads that flavour milk as you suck through them. We have them on our menu because they’re low in sugar and have a 4.5 Australian Health Star rating. To learn more about this rating system, visit: http://healthstarrating.gov.au/

Also new to the menu are homemade Popcorn Balls, a combination of popcorn, dried apricots and honey. Kids can practice their counting and money handling skills by purchasing these, smoothies and banana pops over the counter, but please remember to make lunch and recess orders via Flexischools!

Aranda Music and Arts Program

Important: Lessons commence in Week 4.

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.

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

Waiting Lists

Please note that we have very long waiting lists for piano and art. There are also wait lists for drama and introduction to music.

Offering Places

Tutor coordinators are currently offering places for the music and arts program, so you should hear about the status of your child’s enrolment over the next week or so.
Aranda Afters Association Report

Dreaming of a date night......?

Does your child attend Aranda Primary School?

Aranda Afters can help!

For one night only, we would love to give all parents and carers a night to themselves and celebrate Valentine’s Day!

The night will consist of a pizza dinner, card making, biscuit decorating, a movie, and more!

When: Tuesday 14th Feb, 6:15pm - 9:00pm
Where: Aranda Primary School Hall
Cost: $15 per child

RSVP by Tuesday 7th February to admin@arandafters.com

Community Notices

BELSOUTH
Online registrations are now open
Belsouth cater for all ages from 5 yrs to adults

- Get Fit
- Have Fun
- Make Friends

Go online and register today at
belsouthfootball.club
Community Notices continued

Learning Chinese with the FCCCI Chinese School

FCCCI Chinese School ([http://www.fccchineseschool.act.edu.au](http://www.fccchineseschool.act.edu.au)) is a community based and non-profit Chinese language school with very strong spirit of community and volunteering. It provides a fun and stimulating learning environment to children and help them to achieve a certain level of proficiency in Chinese reading, writing and speaking. The School runs two streams of Chinese classes - Ma Liping Chinese and Jinan Chinese, to cater for different needs of the students. The School also runs Chinese painting, Chinese calligraphy, Chinese folk dance, drawing and violin classes, as well as After School Chinese programs.

Tuition fees: $75 per term (weekend Chinese); $150 per term (After School Chinese).

Venues: Saturday 10am-1pm Lake Ginninderra College; Sunday 1-4pm Canberra College; Monday to Friday 3-5.45pm St Vincent's primary School (Aranda Primary School students will be picked up from the school), Turner primary school, Garran primary school.

Contacts:

Weekend Chinese program: admin@fccchineseschool.act.edu.au or 0413 288 021 (Lin)

After School Chinese program: afters@fccchineseschool.act.edu.au or 0450 453 365 (Lynz)