Parents Please note: We have had a confirmed case of Chicken Pox in a Year 3/4 class this week.

Welcome Picnic
Come and celebrate the beginning of the new school year at the Aranda Primary WELCOME PICNIC Wednesday, 25 February 2015
Time: 5:30 pm
Place: Grass between Junior playground and 3/4 playground
BYO picnic and rug

From the Principal
Dear Aranda Primary School community,

I must share this story with you from a few years ago.

I love my rugby union and I am a big fan of Brumby Jack so the following incident really made me laugh. Some of the Brumbies squad and Brumby Jack joined us for some sports clinics.

Brumby Jack called in for a visit with the Kindys and during question time one of our bright sparks told Brumby Jack that his mother told him: ‘only ballerinas play rugby’. It made me laugh because it reminded me of how children simply say it how it is. Children love to tell us at school what mum and dad say or think. Don’t worry, we take it with a grain of salt, as I know you do when they tell you wild stories about what happens at school.
Last week, plenty of children told me they were thrilled to meet new friends and the majority had a beaming smile on their face as they entered class each morning. As parents we all need to remember that there will be bumps along the road for our children. No matter how much we are compelled to jump in, it is often best to let our children try to sort out their own problems and develop a strong sense of independence and resilience. Children who are supported to develop these traits are the ones who I witness taking considered risks and becoming confident, successful young people.

**Food Allergies at Aranda School**

Several children in our primary and reschool classes have allergies to a variety of foods including nuts and eggs. We ask for your assistance in keeping all children safe by:

- Assisting your child to wash their hands thoroughly before or on arrival
- Where possible, minimising the inclusion of these foods in your child’s lunchbox (especially nuts)
- Talking to your child about not sharing food with others.

If your child has an allergy, please:

- Provide a copy of your child’s allergy action plan to the school
- Send antihistamines and epipens (if prescribed) to school/preschool each day. Alternatively, one may be left in the medication cupboard or at the front office.

Everyone in our school community appreciates your cooperation in this area.

**Keeping Our Roads Safe**

It was great to see a couple of police officers outside Aranda School with their speed guns last Tuesday. We can do with all the help we can get to keep our children safe in school zones.

Have a great week,
Phil Gray

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**Time is Running Out to Nominate for the School Board!**

Nominations **must** be made by 11:00 am next Monday, 16 February 2015

For more information, contact the Assistant Returning Officer, Suzanne Vincent on 6142 3030 or Suzanne.Vincent@ed.act.edu.au
P&C Matters
Welcome to school year 2015!

Are you looking for another way of connecting with the school community? Getting involved with Aranda Primary School’s Parent’s and Citizen’s Association might be it. Every parent in the school is automatically a member of our P&C. The P&C runs a number of services for the school including the Music and Arts program, the Canteen and the Uniform Shop. In addition, this year we are also organising our biannual fete in Term 4 which is a major fundraiser for the school. The P&C is also a forum for parents to discuss and share ideas.

The P&C is holding its first meeting for the year at 7:00 pm Thursday 19 February in the Resource Building. Our meetings occur regularly on Thursday nights in Week 3 and Week 8 of each term. Come along and find out what we do and if there is somewhere you would like to contribute or just to chat with some fellow school parents.

Hope to see you there,
Matt Stocks
P&C President
Email - arandapandc@gmail.com

Kindergarten Parents and Carers – Become a Canteen Volunteer

Want to meet new people in the school community? Keen to give back but only have few hours to spare? Become a canteen volunteer.

Every Friday in Term 1, Kindergarten mums, dads and carers will be covering canteen duty. You can pick from one of two shifts – 9:00 to 11:00 am or 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Whether you are able to volunteer for just one week – or more – the P&C Canteen Committee would love to hear from you.

From Term 2 onwards, mums, dads and carers from other class groups will be asked to volunteer for Friday canteen duties – so don’t panic, you won’t miss out!

Please email Tiffany Bonasera at arandacanteen@gmail.com to let us know if we can count you in.

Thank you for your support of the Canteen.
Aranda P&C
Tiffany Bonasera
Aranda P&C Canteen Committee

Aranda Music and Arts Program

The 2015 Aranda Music and Arts (AMA) Program kicked off this week.

Thanks to all the parents who have been very patient and understanding while the committee worked out the coordinated maze of after-school lessons. Thanks also to the school and to Afters for helping us make it all work. AMA is run by a sub-committee of the P&C, so this program relies on the strong support of the whole school community to run smoothly.

If anyone has questions about the program, please contact your AMA coordinator or see the website at www.arandamusicprogram.org.

In Week 3 (16 to 20 February) there will be some disruption to rooms due to the Getting to Know You Interviews. Tutor coordinators will contact families affected with any room change details.

The AMA Program is proposing a new group lesson - Beginning Recorder on Tuesday afternoons from 3:15 to 4:15 pm at $20 per lesson. We are currently taking expressions of interest to determine if it is a viable class. Please email info@arandamusicprogram.org with your child's name and year level if your child would be interested or you would like more information.

Places are currently available in Introduction to Music (for Kindergarten/Year 1 students on Wednesdays from 3:00 to 4:00 pm) and general music (for Years 3 to 5 students on Wednesdays from 4:00 to 5:00 pm).

There are also vacancies for 30 minute individual lessons in:
- violin or piano on Friday between 3.45 and 5.45pm
- flute or recorder on Tuesday between 4.15pm and 5.45pm and Wednesday at 5.15pm
- singing at 3:30pm on Tuesday.

Tracey Martin
Aranda Music and Arts Program
Community News
To view or download flyers for the following community events, see our Community Bulletin Board at:
http://www.arandaps.act.edu.au/our_school/community_news

Please be aware that this is a community service and that the school is not endorsing individual activities.

Get Active Sports Weetangera Aussie Rules for Juniors starts Sunday, 15 February 2015
Parent Effectiveness Training, Weston, starts Thursday 12 February
Elements Rhythmic Gymnastics, Belconnen Community Centre, Term 1
Families@ Work Family Day Care Scheme
Ice Hockey Junior Come and Try Day, Phillip Ice Skating Centre, - Sunday, 22 February
Model Train Expo, University of Canberra High School, 28-29 March

Liz Gregory Irish Dance Academy

www.lizgregoryida.com email: lgida52@hotmail.com Ph: 0419225195

Enrol in your Irish Dance Class NOW for 2015

Beginners classes for Girls and Boys from 4 to 12 years
Beginners Classes are held after school Tuesday and Thursdays at our fully equipped dance studio in Aranda from 4pm
(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.

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 or 62627678

SCOUTS = Adventure + Life Skills

Scouting is for boys and girls aged 6-25. Scouts participate in programs that encourage them to grow through adventure by experiencing new challenges, making new friends, building confidence, taking responsibility for themselves, and being provided with opportunities to explore their own abilities and interests. Come and try Scouts today and take advantage of our 3 week FREE trial.

Visit scoutsact.com.au to find your closest Scout Group or call 1800 SCOUTS

YMCA Women and Girls Fun Run/Walk Sunday 1 March 2015
All women and girls are invited to join in this 5km scenic run/walk through Commonwealth Park. Money raised from this event goes to support OvCan and the YMCA of Canberra Runners Club.

There is a school team category again and we have an “Aranda Primary School” team which can include students, staff and family associated with the school. There is a prize for the Primary School with the most participants (as a percentage of enrolments). Aranda Primary won in 2013 but placed second in 2014 behind Maribyrnong Primary. As the school keeps growing we need more participants to increase our participation percentage and reclaim the crown.

The good news this year is that you can be a part of a school team AND a family team.

Early bird entries end on 17 February. To enter go to:

Scroll down and click on the red tag with “Early Bird Registration”.

On the second page of the registration instructions there are 3 Registration Types.

If you are entering an individual but you want to join the Aranda team -
“I’m a Participant” will ask “Are you part of a Team?”. Click yes and enter Aranda Primary School, then you can join the team.

If you are entering a family team -
“Create a Family”, give your team a unique family name, then enter the “Family Type”.

THEN at Additional Question #1 you can enter the Aranda Primary School team.

Cheers
Nicki Taws
0408 210736
CLUB: Belsouth JSC

What: Junior Grading Days

Who: **U10 Mixed** Wed 18/2 4:15 – 6:00 pm; Sun 22/2 9am - 10:45 am; Wed 25/2 4:15 – 6:00 pm

**U11-U12 Mixed** Wed 18/2 5:45 - 7:30 pm, Sun 22/2 10:30am - 12:15 pm, Wed 25/2 5:45 – 7:00 pm

Where: Hawker Soccer Fields

Who: **U10/U11 Girls** Mon 16/2 from 4:15 – 6:00 pm. Please check website for location

**U12/U13 Girls** Mon 16/2 from 5:45 – 7:30 pm. Please check website for location.

**U10/U11 Girls** Mon 23/2 from 4:15 – 6:00 pm, Aranda Ovals

**U12/U13 Girls** Mon 23/2 from 5:45 – 7:00 pm, Aranda Ovals

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**Junior Volleyball**

**Spaces available**

We have some limited spaces available in the 4-5pm session on Friday afternoons and we’d love to see some new players join the Aranda Volleyball Team.

Junior Volleyball is aimed at teaching children in Years 3-6 how to play volleyball in a fun and friendly environment. We use lower nets, softer and lighter balls and a smaller court.

If you would like your child to play or would like more information please contact Rachel Uren by email (racheluren@grapevine.com.au) or phone (0412 014 280) by Monday 16th February.

When: Friday afternoons 4-5pm starting in Week 3
Where: Aranda Gymnasium
Cost: $80 per term

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**AUDITIONS**

**Canberra Children’s Choir**

Music for Canberra runs 3 community-based choirs for boys & girls, and we are auditioning for our Youth & Children’s choirs on **Thursday 12th February 2015** from 6-7pm at the ANU School of Music’s Band Room.

Call 6230 7190 or email INFO@MUSICFORCANBERRA.ORG.AU

to book a 5-minute audition time, then head to our website to download the audition music & audio to prepare for your audition. Auditions are free, and are in a relaxed & friendly environment - so no need to feel nervous!

Visit the ‘Choirs’ page (under Ensembles) for more info: www.canberrayouthmusic.asn.au

Choirs rehearse Thursdays mornings during school terms at ANU. We also have a non-auditioned Training Choir for children 4-8 years - come for a free trial!

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**Music for Canberra**
Free workshop for parents & carers of children with autism!

North Canberra Gungahlin - March 18

Register your place:
positivepartnerships.com.au

Looking for quality Child Care?

If you value quality, flexible and affordable child care, Communities@Work’s Family Day Care Scheme can provide you with innovative options.

Family Day Care provides a safe, secure and stimulating home environment for children, with care being provided for small groups in an approved Educator’s own home.

The Family Day Care Educators are trained, resourced and provided with up-to-date information on child care practices by a qualified team of Child Development Officers.

With more than 35 years experience, we understand your needs and expectations.

You have the option of full-time or part-time care, including casual, weekend, before/after school, school holiday and overnight care.

Contact Communities@Work today!

Call 6293 6590 or visit www.commsatwork.org

The Aranda App Codes

Newsletter Publication Deadline
Items to be considered for inclusion in the newsletter must be emailed to info@arandaps.ed.act.edu before 12:00 noon on the Wednesday before desired publication.