Public Health Breaking News
Please note: The school has had a confirmed case of chicken pox in Year 1/2

From the Executive

Upcoming Events

There are lots of events happening this term, including the two information evenings that will be held over the next two weeks. Remember to keep your Parent Term Planner (Calendar) somewhere handy. Many families tell me they keep it on the fridge, so they don’t miss events they are interested in.

Of course, you can always keep updated by downloading the Aranda School App (for iPhone or Android), accessing the website or downloading online newsletters.

Children’s Week

It’s Children’s Week this week!

Children’s Week is a national annual event dedicated to celebrating children and highlighting their achievements. It aims to raise awareness of Children’s Rights as proclaimed in 1954 by the United Nations and to remind us of our community responsibility to advocate for children as citizens, to value our
relationships by listening to children and acting genuinely and honestly in response to their needs, ideas and development.

The theme for this year is based on Article 12 from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child – “you have the right to speak and be heard”.

This week, every class will be doing an activity, appropriate to their age group, based on developing understanding and skills in speaking and their right to be heard.

Walkathon
We are all looking forward to the Walkathon on Friday next week, 31 October. The P & C are running the event and it sounds fantastic. There will be music and challenges with fun and laughter guaranteed for all.

The Walkathon is a major fundraiser for the P & C this year, so keep gathering those sponsors and get ready for a great time.

3/4 Girls’ Cricket Gala Day
We are excited to have 26 year 3/4 girls playing in the non-competitive Cricket Gala Day, being held at Aranda, today. Teams in the event are from Aranda, St. Vincents, Macgregor, Weetangera, Macquarie and Maribyrnong Primary Schools. It is a fun day which aims to provide opportunity to practise skills in a non-competitive environment. We would like to thank ACT Cricket for their support and Anastasia O’Donnell for organising the event.

Colette Brown
Executive Teacher

EALD News
The English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EALD) Program continues to provide extra assistance to those students who need support with their English literacy learning. We have 127 students at Aranda from Preschool to Year 6 who are part of our EALD Program. We represent 40 countries and speak 36 languages.

In Canberra, we are also very lucky to have Introductory English Centres (IECs) designed to best support students newly arrived to the English language so that they can develop the required skills to participate fully in a mainstream school setting. After two school terms in a small class setting they are then ready to return to Aranda Primary. We have welcomed a number of students through the IEC this year and we expect some of our current preschool students will take this route before joining us for the second half of the year in Kindergarten in 2015.

We are often asked by parents about how best they can support their child/ren at home with their reading practice. We encourage parents to not only listen to their child read aloud but also to regularly encourage them to retell a text. This support in gaining oral language skills is important as a child builds their English language vocabulary, ability to sequence events, recall details from memory and reinforces the idea of using their own words rather than remembering the author’s exact wording. We also encourage discussing a text and asking questions that challenge a child to think beyond the literal level and delve into inferred meaning and building up opinions that relate to the world we live in. Both these activities could be done in English or your home language.

Our latest Professional Teachers’ Forum gave us the opportunity to hear Glenn Flanagan from Companion House speak about how to best support refugee students. We also looked at a variety of different EALD models and shared ideas and resources with our colleagues from other schools. Here are some interesting statistics about language:

- Number of living languages: 6912
- Number of those languages that are nearly extinct: 516
- Language with the greatest number of native speakers: Mandarin Chinese
- Language spoken by the greatest number of non-native speakers: English (250 million to 350 million non-native speakers)
- Country with the most languages spoken: Papua New Guinea has 820 living languages.
- How long have languages existed: Since about 100,000 BC
First language ever written: Sumerian or Egyptian (about 3200 BC)
Oldest written language still in existence: Chinese or Greek (about 1500 BC)
Language with the most words: English, approx. 250,000 distinct words
Language with the largest alphabet: Khmer (74 letters). This Austro-Asiatic language is the official language of Cambodia, where approximately 12 million people speak it. Minority speakers live in a handful of other countries.
Language with the shortest alphabet: Rotokas (12 letters). Approximately 4300 people speak this East Papuan language. They live primarily in the Bougainville Province of Papua New Guinea.
The most widely published language: English
The most translated document: Universal Declaration Of Human Rights, written by the United Nations in 1948, has been translated into 321 languages and dialects.

At this time of the year some of our EALD families head off overseas to visit family in other parts of the world. If this is relevant to you, please email info@arandaps.act.edu.au and state your child/ren’s last day at Aranda PS this year and if and when you expect to return in 2015.

All the very best for a fun and productive term ahead.

The EALD Team
Denise Bennett, Emily Clarke, Janine Collins, Sandra Kelly, Kim McCormack and Alison Reid

G Force
The G-force wishes to welcome you all back to Term 4. Now that the weather is warming up, remember to check the lost property for your jumpers or jackets from last term.

Over the next few weeks, we will be auditing lights, water and energy usage in our school using an energy audit kit lent to us by ACT Smart Government. We will share our findings at an assembly later on in the term.

Did you know that November is Nude Food Month? To celebrate that, we will attempt to reduce our rubbish at lunch time. More information will be given shortly.

We have had several entries for the Recycling Competition that celebrates recycling week. Thank you and good luck to the participants. Have a great week.

Jessica (5/6AW), Elaine (5/6JH) and Jenny (5/6AW) G-Force

Junior Choir
If your child is in the Junior Choir, please email me on the following contact address: Melissa.alexander@ed.act.edu.au so that I may begin an email group to distribute information and alerts when necessary. There are some planned events that will need coordinating. Simply put “Junior Choir” in the subject box and I will add your details to a group email.

Cheers,
Melissa Alexander
Music Teacher

From the Counsellor
Children Have the Right To Be Heard

This is the theme for Children’s Week 2014. It comes from the United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child. The Canadian Childcare Federation suggests that “children learn and grow through engaging with others in their environment.” The way children communicate and seek to be heard and valued changes over time. Parents need to show children that they are being heard and that they have the opportunity to speak, participate and be a part of decision making. This must be appropriate to their stage of development and age and maturity.

When something challenging happens to children it is important that they can talk about anything and

Running Club
Due to the brilliant weather we are experiencing, Running Club will be on the playing fields across from the school. Everyone is welcome to participate. If you would like to be part of Running Club, please meet Mrs Collins on the oval at 8:30 am Monday and Friday mornings.

Please note there will be no running club in Week 4 or Week 10.

Janine Collins
PE Teacher
that they will be believed. If children learn from a young age to speak up for themselves and speak out they are more likely to set up good help seeking behaviours that will endure across their life span. Set regular times for your children to have conversations about what really matters to them and really listen to their concerns. Listening well is a great skill to develop as we are often keen to make time for our own ideas and thoughts. When we are really heard by someone we feel that we matter and this is an important part of a great parent child relationship.

Sheri Bottomley
School Psychologist

The Library Shelf

For the past two terms I have had a crew of very helpful library monitors. They have been learning to master the intricacies of Dewey Decimal system and spend parts of their lunch hours shelving the returned books. As you can guess, these kids really love books.

I was hoping that they would be able to submit book reviews in the online part of our library. This has proved a bit tricky to set up, so instead I have promised them that we could put their reviews into the newsletter.

The Impossible Quest: Escape from Wolfhaven castle by Kate Forsyth

This story is about four children who need to find magical animals to save Wolfhaven Castle. Like all of Kate Forsyth’s books, it is about some unlikely heroes and an impossible quest. The first book of a series of five books, is a fast and quick read with easy language. The story is however very entertaining and a good read for Year 3/4s. The Impossible Quest series draws you into this fantasy world with unicorns and wolves. You can never leave this enchanted world. A perfect read for any fantasy lover. 4 out of 5 stars

By Elizabeth Drew (5/6LG)

The Forgotten Map by Cameron Stelzer

The Forgotten Map is a book about pirate rats or the Pierats who want to find a map that will lead them to great treasure. The Pierat captain and his crew meet Rat Bait and try to get the map. But will they get it? I really liked this book because it is really enjoyable to read. It had lots of amazing details. I recommend this book for children in Years 3 to 6.

By Miranda (5/6JH)

Yours in reading
Catherine Gilbert
Library Assistant

P&C Matters

Walkathon 2014

Don't forget the walkathon next week. At the last walkathon the students raised over $6000!!! Every single cent went towards science resources for the school. So go get some sponsors and make this walkathon even better.

There will be lots of fun activities on the day as well as some spot prizes.

For parents and siblings who would like to come along, the walkathon will begin at 11:30 am. The kids will walk as many laps as possible before stopping for lunch at 12:30 pm. It would be great if parents could come along and help out as well. We will need people for setting up and cooking the sausage sizzle as well as helping down on the oval during the walkathon.

I, along with a few others, will be down on the oval from 9:30 am getting the course ready and more helpers would be lovely.

Don't forget that all sausage sizzle lunch orders are due by next Tuesday, 28 October. You can pay cash or online using flexischools.

If you would like to help out, my contact details are below.

Tracey Voss
tvoss@mcneils.net
041927395
tvoss@mcneils.net

Are you interested in our canteen?
The school canteen is looking towards 2015 and we are keen to add some more parents to our P&C canteen subcommittee. If you might be interested in joining, please contact Fiona (via arandacanteen@gmail.com) who will be happy to answer your questions.

Chris Stocks
Canteen Treasurer

Bank on It

Last Day for Banking in 2014

As we are in Term 4 and it is a short term (only 9 ½ weeks), our last school banking day will be Week 9, Wednesday 10 December. The last day to put in for rewards will be Week 8, Wednesday 3 December.

Sharon Hewett
School Banking Co-ordinator
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.

Queanbeyan Players: “Sound of Music” – 1 to 15 November
Scale ACT Model Show Kaleen High 15 to 16 November

Does your child have a medical condition?

With a genuine MedicAlert® ID your child’s medical information and special needs can be quickly identified in an emergency.

SAVE $15 with our school code: ARAZKY

Join online at medicalert.org.au, enter our school code at the checkout and the $15 registration fee will be waived.

Liz Gregory Irish Dance Academy
www.lizgregoryida.com email: lgida52@hotmail.com Ph: 0419225195

FREE INTRODUCTORY DANCE CLASS

To coincide with Bring a Friend for Free LGA is offering a free trial lesson to any child from the age of 4 years to 12 years

At one of the Beginner Grade 1 Classes on Tuesday 21st October & 28th October Thursday 23rd & 30th October 4pm

ENROLMENT FOR THIS INTRO LESSON only by Email lgida52@hotmail.com or phone/message Liz 0419225195

Beginners Classes are held 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.

Normal 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

The Aranda App Codes

WULD YOU LIKE TO HOST AN OVERSEAS STUDENT?
Experience another culture, make new friends and improve your language studies at home
Hosting – An Experience for Life
Student Exchange is looking for host families across Australia to welcome overseas students into their home

www.studentexchange.org.au
1300 135 331 (cost of local call)
Case file:
Arts and Technology Showcase

Scene of crime:
Canberra High School Hall
Thursday 6th November 2014

Time of crime:
Suspects began arriving at 6pm for pre-show viewing & canapes. All suspects had arrived by 6.30pm

Proceeds of crime:
Adults paid $10, Children paid $5 or Families paid $20

What did I witness:
I saw the suspects enjoying a fashion parade, an art exhibition, jewellery, woodwork, metalwork, cake decorating, photography, films, dance, music, graphic design & textiles.

The suspects also enjoyed a performance by the Canberra High School Concert Band, prior to watching the amazing drama production “Love me for me” written and directed by Nathalie Cerritelli.