**Welcome Picnic**

Come and celebrate the beginning of the new school year at the Aranda Primary WELCOME PICNIC on next Wednesday, 25 February 2015

Time: 5:30 pm  
Place: Grass between Junior playground and 3/4 playground  
BYO picnic and rug

---

**From the Deputy**

Dear Aranda School Community,

**Getting to Know You Interviews**

This week teachers have met with parents and children for three way interviews. This is an excellent example of fostering home/school partnerships. Parents are given the opportunity early in the school year to talk to teachers about what is important to their child. In the senior school this process also involves goal setting.

**Catering for the Needs of All Children**

At Aranda Primary School we plan and program with differentiation at the forefront of our thoughts. Differentiation is modified instruction that assists children of varying needs and abilities to further their understandings on interrelated topics and work at a pace that meets their individual needs and abilities. At Aranda we do not plan and deliver one lesson for all children, we carefully program to ensure that lesson content and pace are appropriate for the needs of the children within the cohort. This means children requiring extension and assistance are catered for throughout the day. Actually, it means we are catering to the needs of children rather than following a prescriptive approach to simply teach grade
appropriate content. Extension at Aranda does not simply mean children are withdrawn from their class to receive specialised tuition. This specialised extension takes place in every class.

**Kindergarten**

A big congratulations to our 2015 Kindergarten children for a fantastic transition into the Primary School. The children have settled extremely well into school routines and are eager to be a part of whole school activities including assemblies, buddy programs and, of course, recess and lunchtime on the playground. The close links between the preschool and primary school have assisted greatly in the transition process with many children already familiar with several staff members and senior children.

**Parent Contact Details**

If any of your contact details have changed can you please update these with the front office. It is important that we have accurate contact details for parents/carers so we are able to contact you if we need to.

**School Counsellor**

Aranda Primary would like to welcome to the school Shireen Manocha, our new school counsellor. If you would like to contact Shireen, please call the Front Office on 6142 3030.

**Kim McCormack**
**Deputy Principal**

---

**Year 1**

Year 1 have started the year off well!

Each morning we enjoy reading with our carers in the classroom, from 9:00 until 9:15 am. We love seeing new faces and we appreciate parents helping children with their reading.

Talk time has begun, with students preparing talks about some of their favourite things.

In maths, we love playing games to help consolidate our learning.

We are looking forward to learning more about minibeasts when we go on a Schoolyard Safari later in the week. We wonder what we will find?!

**The Year 1 Team**
Aranda Primary School Board Elections 2015

We received 3 nominations for the one (1) Parent and Citizen member position on the Aranda Primary School Board. Voting will open at 11:00am on Monday 23 February 2015. A set of voting instructions and ballot papers will be sent home on Monday afternoon to each family. Additional copies will be available from the Front Office.

Your candidates are:

FAYE LIU
I am returning to the Aranda School community – my daughter Mila has started Kindergarten this year. Earlier I grew up in the Aranda area and my younger sister and many friends attended the school. Since coming back, Mila and I have found Aranda to be warm and welcoming, exciting and challenging. We feel privileged to be here.

I see the School Board position as a unique opportunity to gain insight into the school and to support and influence its strategic direction. As a P&C member of the board, I would seek to be available and responsive to you, to represent your views and share information on Board actions and decisions.

In terms of my perspective, I am entrusting Aranda with a big piece of Mila’s nurture and growth. I look to it to help me build a confident, resilient person who has the skills to work things out.

I also think that I have something to offer. I work in strategy, now in the development of public policy and earlier with businesses. Until recently, I was on the committee for Mila’s preschool, the German Australian Playschool.

MICHAEL MUNRO-MOBBs
I’ve been serving on the Board now for four years. It’s been a privilege to work with our talented teachers, parents, the P&C and the other members of the Board to progress a shared vision for the school. I want to continue this work.

My wife Tara and I have lived in Aranda for 15 years and have two girls at the school - Sophie, who is in sixth grade, and Poppy, who has just started fourth grade.

We believe in the school and the local community and we’ve been active volunteers, since our days at the Koalas playschool and the preschool.

We all know Aranda’s a good school. The challenge is to make it even better, for our kids. That’s what I’m committed to.

REBECCA DREW
I've had the great pleasure of being involved with the Aranda Primary School community since 2007 when my daughter started preschool. I've enjoyed many different opportunities to contribute to Aranda, from volunteering in the canteen and with fetes, through to my current role as Secretary of the Aranda Afters Committee.

With children now in Year 5 and Year 7 (at Canberra High), I am keen to build on my previous roles and contribute to the strategic direction of the school as a Board member.

My paid work involves strategic policy, with a strong focus on stakeholder engagement and building productive relationships. I believe this experience, together with my roles with the school to date, will assist me in working with the school, families and the community for the benefit of Aranda Primary if elected to the Board.

---

School Board Voting

It is important to note the following:

- **In order for your vote to be valid**, please read and follow the instructions
- Please place completed ballot papers inside the envelope, seal it and sign the declaration on the front of the envelope
- Ballots cannot be accepted prior to 11:00 am on Monday 23 February 2014.
- Voting closes at 11:00 am on Monday 2 March 2015.
This year, Aranda Primary School is using Bokashi bins to help reduce our waste and create compost. Bokashi bins utilise food waste to produce a nourishing compost juice that can be used in gardens.

In order to collect the juice from the Bokashi bins, we are looking for donations of 600ml plastic bottles (washed, with their lids). Parents will then have the opportunity to pick up some bottled Bokashi juice for a gold coin donation on Fridays after school (3:00 to 3:30 pm) near the Front Office.

Could you please start bringing your plastic bottles (600ml only please) soon, so we can start promptly. Please note that the juice will need to be diluted before use, as it will be highly concentrated.

Madame Davies
On behalf of G-Force

Could you please start bringing your plastic bottles (600ml only please) soon, so we can start promptly. Please note that the juice will need to be diluted before use, as it will be highly concentrated.

Madame Davies
On behalf of G-Force

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 tonight in the Resource Centre. Our meetings occur regularly on Thursday nights in Week 3 and Week 8 of each term. Come along and find out what we do, 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

Canteen

Simplify your morning – order lunch online!

Last Friday, a record 41 orders were purchased through the Flexischools website. The feedback we are receiving from parents and carers who are already using this service is extremely positive.

Of course, we still welcome hand-written canteen orders – the idea is to give families more choice in the way they can access our fantastic canteen.

Thank you for your support of the Canteen.

Tiffany Bonasera
Aranda P&C Canteen Subcommittee

Thank you shoppers:

Many thanks to everyone who waited patiently in the long queues over the previous two Fridays for the extremely busy Uniform Shop. Allison, Jane, Bron and I were definitely run off our feet. Many thanks also to those parents who left their contact details for items which sold out and those who gave us change! We have sold out of size 6 and size 10 short sleeved red polo shirts and legionnaires caps. I am expecting more of these items in Week 3, hopefully by Friday. In the meantime, if you need these urgently, please visit McDonalds at Jamison.

Opening hours: The Uniform Shop is open from 8:30 to 9:30 am every Friday. We only take cash or cheques. This term we plan to be up and running on Flexischools, so stay tuned. To stay in touch with us, don’t forget to visit the website at: http://www.arandaps.act.edu.au/p_and_c/uniform_shop

Volunteers: As you know, the Shop is staffed by parent volunteers. At least two of our hardworking volunteers, Chris and Lisa are retiring from the Uniform Shop and in addition to paid employment, they are both moving into other volunteer positions at the school and in the community. Many thanks to you both for all your work over the last few years.

The Uniform Shop needs new volunteers. Please let me know if you are interested in volunteering for 2 hours per term on a Friday morning. My phone number is below.

Second-hand clothes: There are children (and parents) at our school who rely on second-hand clothes to help with their wardrobe. Please consider donating your children’s clothes that are too small for them to our Uniform Shop. We especially need small size polo shirts for all the new Kindergarten and Year 1 children. You can leave all donated items at the Front Office any time during the week or visit us on Friday. We will help find all donated items a great home.

Tara Munro-Mobbs
Uniform Shop coordinator
ph: 0411 518 998
Library Shelf
Welcome back to a new year of library borrowing!

During Term 4 2014, the library made a number of book purchases that should excite our patrons. Some of these were replacements such as the Harry Potter and the Unfortunate Events Series (which sadly had ‘disappeared’ from the collection). We also repurchased the Tin-Tin and Asterix comic books. However, we wanted some newer books for the students to get excited over and we now have such new titles Percy Jackson and Alice Miranda books. For the younger readers we have more Star Wars and Lego readers for them to enjoy. These books are being introduced into the library on a weekly basis. Keep a look out for them when they come home.

This term is also the Carnival Book Fair in Week 9 from March 30 to April 3. This may seem like very advanced notice but I need your help. Last year as a neophyte I told the Carnival Books to send me what they thought was best. While I was not disappointed, this year I want a better selection that will reflect the tastes of the school. So I need parent feedback. So please feel free to send me suggestions of books that you would like to see on sale at the fair. To help with this I have downloaded Carnival Fair catalogue onto the Notes Home page of the school website for parents to browse. Don’t delay though, we need to tailor our order by 27 February.

Catherine Gilbert
Library Assistant

Aranda Music and Arts Program

Places are currently available in Continuing Music (on Mondays from 3:00 to 4:00 pm for Years 1 and 2 students), Beginning Recorder (on Tuesday afternoons from 3:15 to 4:15 pm), Introduction to Music (on Wednesdays from 3:00 to 4:00 pm for Kindergarten and Year 1 students) and General Music (on Wednesdays from 4:00 to 5:00 pm for Years 3 to 5 students). There are also vacancies for 30 minute individual lessons in:

- violin or piano on Friday between 3:45 and 5:45 pm
- singing at 3:30 pm on Tuesday

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

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.

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
Bricks at the Woden School, the Woden School, Saturday, 14 and Sunday, 15 March
Archives after Dark, National Archives Friday, 27 – Saturday, 28 February and Friday, 6 and Saturday, 7 March
Hockey Come and Try Carnival, Hockey ACT – Saturday, 21 March

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
- $31 per half hour
- Please call 0414788380

Diane London

On Sunday, 1 March, 2015, the Aranda-Cook Neighbourhood Watch group will again be coordinating a Clean Up Australia Day event.

We will be setting up a site from 9:00 am at the Aranda Playing Fields, off Banambila Street, behind Aranda Public School.

You just need to turn up, with a hat, as bags and gloves will be provided on the day. Everyone is most welcome to participate in this event to help tidy up our neighbourhood.

For more information on this event don’t hesitate to contact:

Suzanne Tatam (Aranda-Cook area coordinator) on 6253 0801.
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.