



Newsletter

Dates to Remember:

1 st April	Cross Country
8 April	Last day of Term 1

Scan the below QR codes for:

School Calendar



Parent Resource Folder



Known Medical Conditions

If your child has a known medical condition, please ensure you have completed/updated the relevant forms. This must be done at the commencement of each school year.



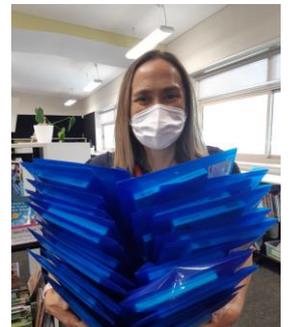
**If your child is sick,
they should not
come to school.**



Executive Report

Dear Aranda community,

I would like to thank you for your continued consideration and support this term. Thanks to the help of our school administration team, we've been able to successfully send home Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs). Please remember to return the blue folders so they can be reused. Please keep an eye out in your email for further information regarding RAT distribution for weeks 9 and 10.



Kindness @ Aranda



As a part of our Mental Health and Wellbeing program, students from K-6 are participating in a 20-week Kindness Challenge. Each child is encouraged to perform the act of kindness as many times as they can. This week students K-2 are challenged to play with someone new at recess or lunch, while students in 3-6 are focusing on being kind to their bodies by including fresh fruit and vegetables in their lunchboxes.



Important Messages

Current, up-to-date information

Updated information for the education sector and other public sectors can be found on the Education Directorate's website

(<https://www.education.act.gov.au>) and ACT Health (<https://www.health.act.gov.au>)

Seesaw

If you are unable to access Seesaw, or do not receive communications from the school to connect your child, please contact the Front Office with your updated email address.

Uniform Shop

The uniform shop is open for Flexischools orders only. If you have any questions, please email apsuniformshop@gmail.com.

Canteen

The Canteen operates from Wednesday to Friday. The Canteen can be contacted via email on arandacanteen@gmail.com or phone on 0459 599 114.

Known Medical Conditions

If your child has a known medical condition, please ensure you have completed/updated the relevant forms. This must be done at the commencement of each school year.



Medication at School

All student medication must be signed in by a parent/carer at the Front Office on arrival at school. Medication must be clearly labelled with the child's name and class. No medication is to be left in school bags during the day.

Newsletter Publication Deadline

Items for inclusion in the fortnightly newsletter must be emailed to info@arandaps.act.edu.au by 3.30 pm every odd week on a Tuesday.

Anaphylaxis

Aranda Primary School is an ANAPHYLAXIS AWARE SCHOOL avoiding eggs and all nuts. Our policy is available on the website.



Last year Aranda Primary participated in the Plastic Oceans Australasia Picnics Unwrapped Competition. As a result of our students' commitment to sustainable practices and their efforts towards the unwrapped picnic, we finished in first place! The winning prize is a picnic bench produced by Replas Environmental Centre made from recyclable materials. We were very lucky to have input into the design and look forward to seeing the bench in the playground later this year.

NAPLAN

This week students in Years 3 and 5 had the opportunity to participate in a NAPLAN practice test. This allows them to become familiar with the types of questions and tools available in the NAPLAN Online tests.

NAPLAN is planned to be conducted from Tuesday, 10 May to Thursday, 12 May. The information brochure for parents and carers addresses common questions about NAPLAN Online testing. If you would like to withdraw your child from NAPLAN please contact James Harrison via info@arandaps.act.edu.au.

All Around Aranda

School assemblies are one of the highlights of the week for the whole school community. Unfortunately, due to current restrictions, our assemblies look very different this year. Whilst we wait for the time when parents and carers can attend the school in person, we are very excited to introduce the 'All Around Aranda' news! Mr Ryan Ferdinand, with the help of the 5/6 media team, have been working hard to set up a news program. This will allow each cohort to showcase their learning and is a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the achievements of our students. All students in 5/6 participated in a competition, using their creative and imaginative skills, to name the news program and design a unique logo. Congratulations to Lincoln Newell who is the winner of the competition. We look forward to sharing our first 'All Around Aranda' production with you, created by the Kindergarten cohort.





Cross Country

We are fortunate to be holding our school Cross Country Carnival on Friday 1, April, Week 9. Students in Preschool, Kindergarten and Year1 will participate from 9:15 am to 10:00 am. Students who are 8 - 12 years old will compete from 11:20 am until approximately 1:00 pm. All students are encouraged to wear their house colours, running shoes, a SunSmart hat and sunscreen and bring a drink bottle. As this is an outdoor event, parents and carers are welcome to attend on the oval. Please remember to remain socially distanced and be respectful of staff and students.

Tombi Update

Tombi is spending more and more time away from Sepilok as he explores the surrounding forest and finds his independence. As a result, he sometimes misses 'weigh-in' day at the centre because he would rather be out discovering new things and fending for himself – the perfect behaviour for a successfully rehabilitated orangutan!

During the more active times of the day, Tombi is mostly found with best friend Selamat. They are quite a sight sometimes, as they walk around the centre together, often arm in arm or hand in hand. Tombi and Selamat also spend a lot of time in the forest together, foraging for their own meals rather than relying on the centre for food. This display of independence is fantastic, not just because it shows they can look after themselves, but also because it helps with seed dispersal through the jungle. Often dubbed as the 'gardeners of the forest' orangutans are essential for the health of the plants that grow there.

With each passing month, it is becoming clearer that Tombi is capable of taking care of himself and we're confident that he will soon be ready to start living independently in the wild!

[If you are interested in reading Tombi's full update click here.](#)



Kind regards,

Jessie Wilson

Executive Teacher



EAL/D News

Our Harmony Day event this week was a great success because of the amazing spirit of celebration demonstrated by all participants. Thanks to all the Mums, Dads and Carers who helped their child/ren get ready for the day. The slogan 'Everyone Belongs' was truly evident in our classrooms. We are definitely a proud, inclusive and diverse community. A special thank you to those students who dressed up in traditional dress or who wore orange. Orange is such a wonderful colour choice for Harmony Day celebrations. It traditionally signifies social communication and meaningful conversations. It also relates to the freedom of ideas and encouragement of mutual respect.



We looked spectacular as you can see by some of the photos here and on Seesaw. Well done to all those students who volunteered to design a presentation and share their cultural knowledge. Both junior and senior classes had great fun, respectfully listening to and learning from each other.

We have updated our world map display, showing the students' ties to other countries around the world.





Reflections on Harmony Day:

- Ethan W and Abigail (KCW) We liked speaking Chinese to our class.
- Jannat (1TF) I liked dressing up in clothes from Pakistan.
- Ethan (1MD) I liked wearing my orange India clothes.
- Yasshvitha (2AW) I liked seeing people in their beautiful clothes and dresses.
- Nea (2EH) I liked how I learned where everyone was from.
- Yile (3CA) I like representing my country and sharing my presentation in a slideshow. I learned lots and spent a long time loading the icons onto slides.
- Yetsho (3MH) I liked learning about different cultures from my classmates.
- Hasher (4BS) I liked presenting about Pakistan to my class. I told them about the Inland Taipan, the Marble Snail, the Deathstalker Scorpion, the King Cobra, a Stone Fish, a Box Jellyfish and the Blue-ringed Octopus.
- Nimra (5CT) I liked presenting to my class about Imran Khan from Pakistan and seeing everyone's traditional clothes.
- Rachana (6CT) I liked presenting to my class about Arn Chorn-Pond from Cambodia. He is a musician and a human rights activist.

We also acknowledge, Persian New Year was observed on March 21. Happy New Year to all our celebrating families.

With Ramadan on April 2, if you have a child who is doing anything different as part of beginning to observe Ramadan while at school, please let the school know so we are aware and can best support them by contacting your child's teacher or Sandy on andra.kelly@ed.act.edu.au.

Sandy

Aranda Multipurpose Track – Working Bee

Thank you to all those that showed up to the working bee on the Multipurpose Track. All your hard work has paid off and the track has been dramatically transformed. There is still quite a bit of work to do to finesse and refine the track so we will be holding another working bee on Sat the 9th of April. This is a fantastic community project in collaboration between the school and P&C. Many hands make light work, so we hope to see a large turnout for what will be another really productive morning.

What: Multipurpose Track Working Bee

Where: Meet at the school near the underpass on Bandjalong Cres

When: 9:00am on Saturday 9 April

What to bring: Wheelbarrow, shovel, rake (if you have one). We will have plenty of tools for those of you that don't have one on the day.





Aranda Music and Arts (AMA) Update

Aranda Music and Arts (AMA) is a volunteer-run program offering music and art tuition after hours at the school or in nearby teaching spaces. Unfortunately, due to the restrictions in place at the school in term 1, AMA will not be operating in-person lessons until further notice. We hope to be able to resume lessons soon. Please see our website <https://www.arandamusicprogram.org> for more information regarding AMA.