



## Newsletter

### Dates to Remember:

11-21 May	NAPLAN Years 3 & 5
18 May	Yr 6 Canberra High Visit
26 May	Belconnen Cross Country

### Friendly reminder:

**If you are sending cash with your child to pay for an excursion/activity, please ensure the cash is clearly labelled in an envelope or zip lock bag.**

Scan the below QR codes for:

### School Calendar



### Parent Resource Folder



## Executive Report

Dear Aranda community,

As you are all aware, one of our school priorities is to improve the reading outcomes for all students. The teaching and learning environment at Aranda most certainly impacts the reading development of your children but some of you may not be aware just how much of what you do at home with your children can also impact their growth in reading. Recently, the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research conducted a study (*Reading to Young Children: A Head-Start in Life*) to explore the connections between parents reading to and with their children and their child's later cognitive development. The research found that the frequency of reading to children at a young age has a direct effect on their schooling outcomes, regardless of their family background and home environment.

### Key Findings

- Reading with children at ages 4 or 5 every day has a significant positive effect on their reading skills and cognitive skills (i.e. language and literacy, numeracy and cognition) later in life.
  - Reading with children 3–5 days per week (compared with 2 or less) has the same effect on the child's reading skills at age 4–5 as being six months older.
  - Reading with them 6–7 days per week has the same effect as the child being almost 12 months older.
- Children who are read with more frequently at 4 or 5 years of age achieve higher scores on the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests for both Reading and Numeracy in Year 3 (ages 8 to 9).
- These differences in reading and cognitive skills are not related to the child's family background or home environment but are the direct result of how frequently they have been read to.

This research also suggests we should not stop reading with our children just because they have learned to read independently. It is worth the effort to find time to share this experience with our children in the early years and beyond.

**Our target for all children from Preschool to Year 2 is that they read at home with an adult every day of the week.**



**For children in Years 3 to 6, our target is for them to read at home every day, either with an adult or independently.**



## 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](mailto:apsuniformshop@gmail.com).

### Canteen

The Canteen operates from Wednesday to Friday. The Canteen can be contacted via email on [arandacanteen@gmail.com](mailto:arandacanteen@gmail.com) or phone on 0459 599 114.

### 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.

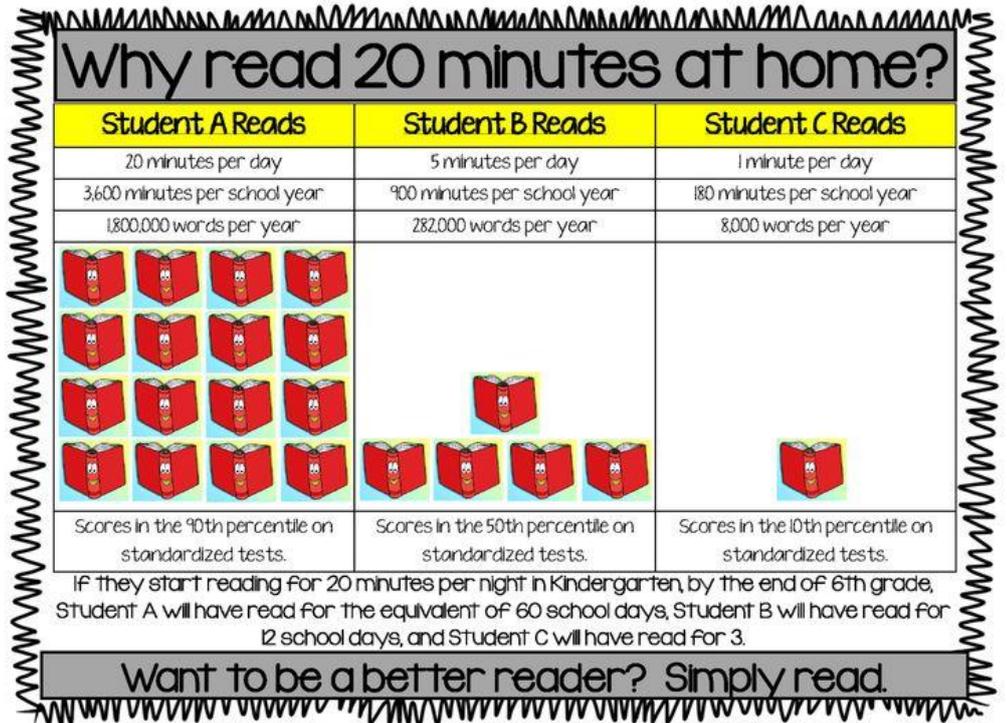
### Newsletter Publication Deadline

Items for inclusion in the fortnightly newsletter must be emailed to [info@arandaps.act.edu.au](mailto:info@arandaps.act.edu.au) by 3.30pm 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.

Each week, class teachers send home levelled readers for students in Years K-2. You may wish to read these every night with your child or alternate between these and other books you have at home. Every student also has the opportunity to borrow books from our wonderful library. Please don't hesitate to contact your child's class teacher if you would like more ideas or suggestions for how to read with your child at home.



## Cyber Safety

We regularly teach Cyber Safety to all our students, particularly those in the senior years.

Our students are exposed to an open and collaborative online social culture, which enables increasing access to information and opportunities to maintain critical connections with friends and family. However, they are at a dynamic stage of development in which risk-taking behaviours and decision-making capacities can sometimes lead to negative outcomes. This is evident in the growing recognition and consequences of cyberbullying, grooming, exposure to harmful online content, image-based abuse and other negative online activities.

Our intent at Aranda is to equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to successfully and confidently operate in an information-rich digital world. We know that whilst many of you are proficient in navigating the digital world, you still have concerns and questions about what this means for your children. As we have done for many years now, we are planning to offer a Parent/Carer information session on cyber safety. We are currently looking for a provider who can offer a remote solution for the presentation. This will allow you the opportunity to learn about how to support your children and ask any questions you may have.

Keep an eye out for more information over the coming weeks.

Kind regards,  
Scott Pearce



## Aranda Music and Art Program Update

The Aranda Music and Arts program is a volunteer-run program offering music and arts (including art, dance and drama) tuition outside school hours in the school or and nearby Illeso studio.

If you wish to enrol your child in the program, please submit an enrolment via our website <https://www.arandamusicprogram.org/how-to-join>

If your child attends Aranda Afters on the day of their lesson, please ensure you complete and return to Afters an Extracurricular Activities Form available on the [Aranda Afters website](#).

For more information, please see [our website](#) or email [info@arandamusicprogram.org](mailto:info@arandamusicprogram.org).

### AMA program current vacancies:

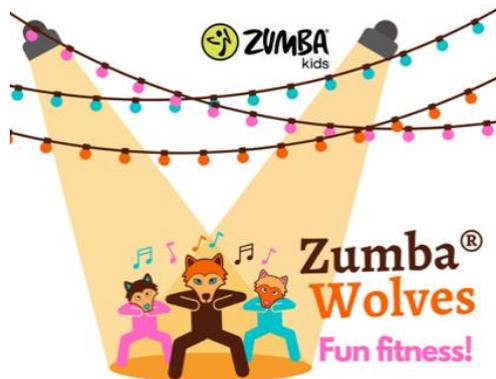
Classes	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<i>Continuing Music</i> <i>(Group classes for Year 1 and Year 2)</i>		3-4pm			
<i>Drama (Years 2-6)</i>	3-4:30pm				
<i>Flute, Clarinet, Oboe or Recorder</i>					
<i>Guitar</i>	2x 5:30pm			4.30pm, 5pm and 5.30pm	3.30pm, 2x 4pm, 2x 4:30pm, 2x 5pm and 2x 5.30pm
<i>Piano</i>					
<i>Introduction to Music</i> <i>(Group classes for Kindy and Year 1)</i>			3-4pm		
<i>Violin</i>	All times				
<i>Irish Dance</i>	Years K-6, expressions of interest, day TBC				
<i>Zumba Kids (see info below)</i>				3-4:30pm	

To enquire about vacancies, please email [info@arandamusicprogram.org](mailto:info@arandamusicprogram.org)



## Zumba® Kids

Zumba® Kids is a new after school care opportunity supported by the Aranda Music and Arts Program. Help your child discover just how much fun fitness can be!



Zumba® Kids classes feature easy dance routines and games to a variety of world music. Your child will learn some French and Spanish language, and world geography and culture elements too!

Classes are delivered by Zumba®-enthusiast siblings, Adrian and Naomi Wolfe (aka the Zumba® Wolves), parents of 3 boys at Aranda Primary. Both are licensed Zumba® instructors with specialised Zumba® Kids training.

Classes are only available on Thurs afternoons (but a second before or after school session could be considered. Express your interest via email below). Your child will be met at 3 pm inside the school, walked to Illeso Studio at Aranda Shops via the underpass, and returned to school by 4.30 pm. Cost is \$22 per week and the first week is free. So come try it out!

Join up any time at [www.arandamusicprogram.org/how-to-join](http://www.arandamusicprogram.org/how-to-join)

For more info contact Naomi on 0410 269 070 or [zumbawolves@gmail.com](mailto:zumbawolves@gmail.com)

## Preschool Bridge

The preschool team would like to thank Patrick Grahame for volunteering his time and resources over the weekend to update our wooden play equipment.





Aranda Primary School



Canberra High School  
— ESTABLISHED 1938



6.00 - 8.00PM

INFORMATION  
NIGHT

THURSDAY  
20 MAY 2021

COMMUNITY

ATTITUDE

RESPECT

EXCELLENCE

SAFETY



ACT  
Government  
Education

Phone 02 6142 0800

Address Bindubi Street  
Macquarie ACT 2614

Email [info@canberraahs.act.edu.au](mailto:info@canberraahs.act.edu.au)

Web [www.canberraahs.act.edu.au](http://www.canberraahs.act.edu.au)