



## The Ainslie School Newsletter

Monday, 10 August 2020

### Office Hours

Monday — Friday  
8.30am — 3.30pm

### 2020 Dates to Remember

Wednesday, 12 August	Walk in Wednesday (walk, skate, scoot or ride)
Mon—Fri, 17—21 August	Science Week
Wednesday, 19 August	Understanding Autism: A Forum for Families and Staff from 7:30—8:30pm

## From our Principal

Dear Families and Friends,

### TERM LETTER FORUMS

How special it was to be part of conversations last week as 55 families engaged remotely with staff in an exploration of term overviews and class routines. Feedback is reflecting the benefit and potential of these virtual gatherings to support connections between home and school. I thank you for sharing your interest in the work we do with the children of Ainslie. How wonderful they are!

The questions families asked were wide ranging and are helping us to frame a series of follow up conversations. We look forward to diving more deeply into the following areas through forums this semester:

- Supporting diverse needs;
- Home learning;
- Supporting readers;
- Online safety;
- Human development and change;
- Walking and Riding safely to school; and
- School Houses and Cross Age collaboration.

We look forward to seeing your faces on the screen.

### UNPACKING YOUR CHILD'S DAY

The forums reflected our families' appetite for learning more about how children spend their time at school. We know that after a busy day children can find it hard to share exactly what they have achieved. Conversely, as they relax they sometimes remember events with intensity. This often occurs when they are cosy and ready for bed.

Reflecting on the day together can be a positive way to explore our children's perceptions and support their emerging knowledge about how the world works. There are a range of ways families have end-of-day 'check ins'. Guiding a balanced conversation is important for productive reflection and questions along the lines of

- What made you sparkle today?
- What made you feel grateful today?
- What challenged you today?

may stretch a rich response.

Teachers at Ainslie are interested in supporting these important conversations between families and our collaboration is at the heart of the achievement of Ainslie's young people. Please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher at any time if you have thoughts to share, or if you require further information about your child's school day. Our office team is always happy to facilitate a connection.

### SCHOOL CLIMATE AND SATISFACTION SURVEY

Students at Ainslie School learn and grow in a place that nurtures belonging and supports the social, emotional and academic success of every learner every day. They benefit from the commitment staff bring to empowering them to solve problems and navigate uncertainty. Engagement with experts, learning throughout the neighbourhood and rich experiences in the arts contribute to their positive experience at Ainslie. Values of kindness, respect, responsibility, excellence and community are embedded in traditions, artefacts and actions. They are explored and celebrated in the culture we enjoy each day.

## From our Principal continued ...

This week marks the opening of the 2020 *School Satisfaction & Climate Survey*. The survey offers parents, school staff and students in Years 4—12 an opportunity to share perspectives and inform the continuous improvement of the ACT's system of public schools.

The 2020 survey will be available online from today until 31 August and while your participation is voluntary we hope you will consider taking part. The perspectives you share are so important and the more responses we receive, the more useful the data will be.

A survey invitation, including a unique survey link has been emailed to families today. If you have trouble accessing the survey, please contact our school office team, or email [EDUSurveys@act.gov.au](mailto:EDUSurveys@act.gov.au). A shortened paper version of the parent survey is available in Arabic, Burmese, Chinese, Dari, Dinka, Farsi, Hindi, Karen, Korean, Mon, Urdu and Vietnamese. To request one, families are encouraged to email [EDUSurveys@act.gov.au](mailto:EDUSurveys@act.gov.au).

The perceptions of our senior students will be captured through this survey over the coming weeks. We are also gathering information from year groups across the whole school in ways that meet the developmental needs of our young people. Watch Seesaw pages for more information.

### MASTERPLAN UPDATE

Last week's *Masterplan Community Conversation* took a blended format, with some participants joining on line and others on site. Once again, I thank Chris Jacobi (ACTED Infrastructure and Capital Works), Ainslie staff and parents who are gently guiding the continuous development of the Ainslie School precinct.

Recent work towards the Masterplan has involved a preliminary 'block and stack' analysis, which will assist us to accommodate an increasing number of families and activities at our site. The directorate is mindful of the high level of community interest and activity in sustainability initiatives, which are supported by staff and community leaders. Continuing discussions with solar energy providers are underway.

While we await finalisation of the *Heritage Conservation Management Plan for Ainslie*, the report is already informing change. The relocation of some professional spaces and progress towards co-tenancy of the Ainslie Arts Centre are recent developments. Meeting professional obligations for education, safety and wellbeing whilst honouring the site's heritage and social value continue to be a focus. With this in mind, the group explored the potential impact of extending the low fencing and hedging around the precinct.

### GROUNDS IMPROVEMENTS

Our interest and increasing need for court resurfacing took three School Captains and I over to the Braddon Tennis Club for a meeting last Wednesday with coach Myles Emery. With over 70 students engaged in out of school tennis lessons this year, we think it might be fitting to pick up on this theme for some fundraising fun.

So far, we have a range of quotes for resurfacing coming in, and many students who are motivated to make a start on raising funds. There are ideas afloat about an Ainslie Open and an assortment of activities involving tennis balls, racquets and movement. Please feel free to contact me at school if you would like to join us in this evolving activity.

### COVID-19 EASING OF RESTRICTIONS

Last week we learned that Canberra will move to a new Stage 3.1 of its recovery plan. This does not impact on current restrictions in ACT schools and we are still required to limit the number of adults on school grounds. For scheduled events and small assemblies of less than 100 people, parents can attend the school.

We thank you for supporting physical distancing during drop off and pick up times and helping us to maintain accurate records by signing in when you visit the school. We will be sure to keep you informed of any future changes to restrictions in public schools.

### THIS WEEK WE WELCOME

Students of Initial Teacher Education:

- Vanefsha Crook from the University of New England to the Year 5/6 Team; and
- Sarah Lowe from the ACU to the 3/4 Team.

We look forward to working with them!

**Wendy Cave**  
**Principal**

### This week we have seen special effort from:

Ryan      3/4W      Being focused and putting lots of effort into his work.



## WELCOME ...

... to the world baby Jack Campbell and congratulations to Bobby and family.

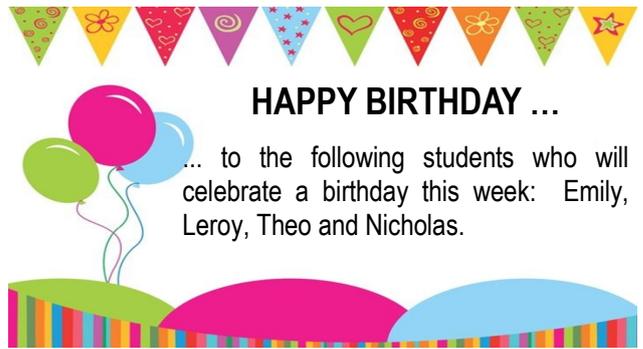


This year our school is participating in Jump Rope for Heart - a fantastic physical activity and fundraising program by the Heart Foundation that has been running for over 36 years. Our school House Captains are building momentum towards many opportunities for students to get involved, as are teachers and their classes across Ainslie School.

Jump Rope for Heart is a great way for your child to keep fit and learn new skills, and it also helps raise funds for vital heart research and education programs.

Sign up to share your child's progress. Your child can earn virtual badges along the way and your page will highlight the prizes up for grabs.

Sign up here today: [www.jumprope.org.au/parents](http://www.jumprope.org.au/parents)



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY ...

... to the following students who will celebrate a birthday this week: Emily, Leroy, Theo and Nicholas.

## PLEASE WELCOME ...

... Tori from Canberra College who has joined us this week in the Front Office for work experience.



AINSLIE SCHOOL  
P&C ASSOCIATION

We acknowledge that our beloved canteen is operated on land, traditionally nurtured by the Ngunnawal people. Also connected to this land are the Gundungurra, Ngarigo, Yuin and the Wiradjuri peoples. We acknowledge their mothers, teachers and children. Their elders past, present and emerging. We bow to their superior knowledge of sustaining the land that sustains our life and recognise that sovereignty of this land was never ceded.

## STUDENT VOLUNTEERS ARE BACK

We are pleased to welcome Year 5/6 students back to the Oishii canteen after a pause for a while due to Covid-19.

During recess and lunchtime, students will help serve food to our customers; utilising their communication and mathematics skills, and learn how we operate the canteen, including food handling and food hygiene. On top of that, they will taste some of our yummy food when they finish their session. We know they are as excited as we are.

## DENTAL HEALTH

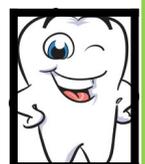
Last week the Australian Dental Association (ADA) held their annual oral health campaign to educate Australians about the importance of maintaining good oral health. There are four key messages:

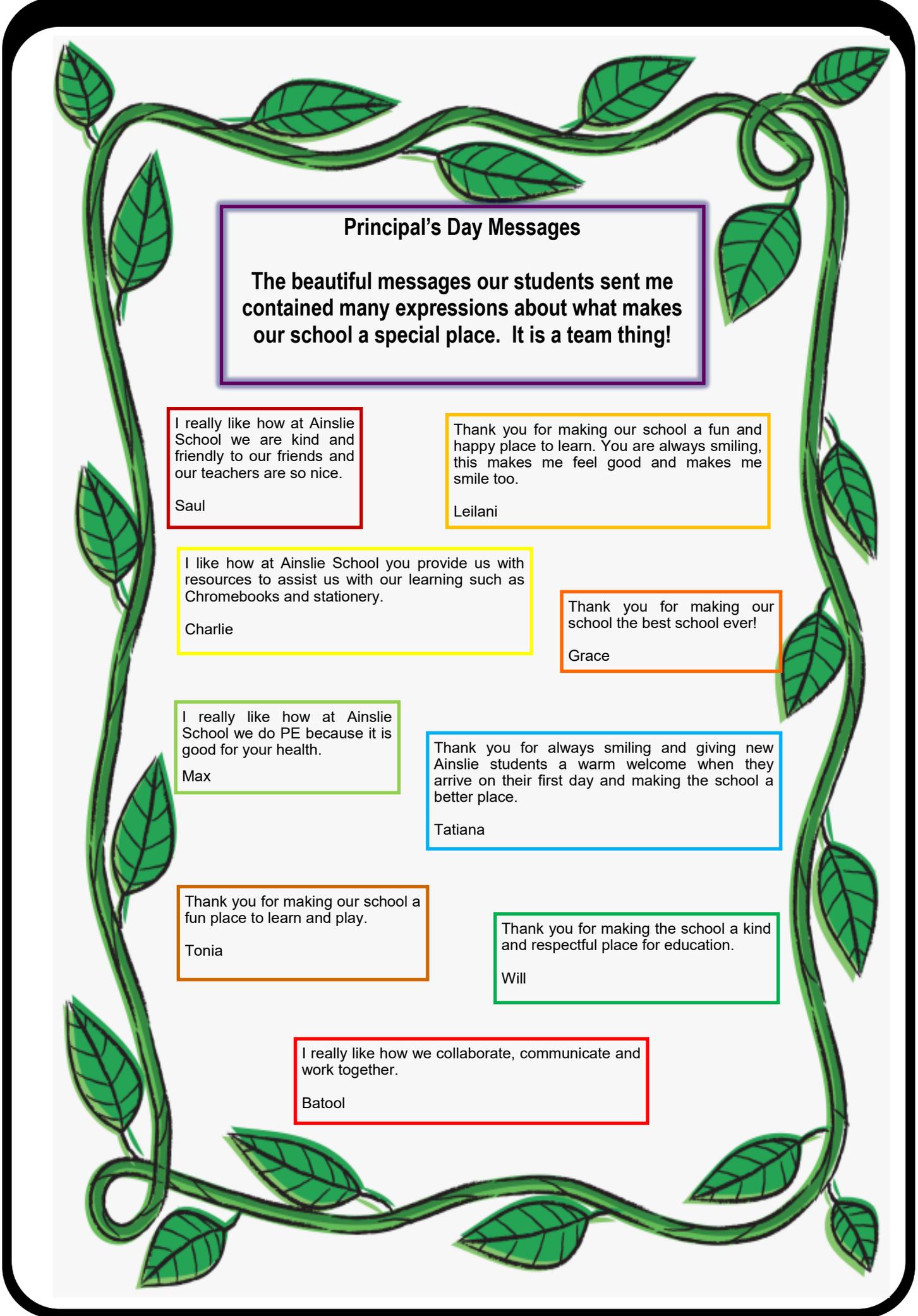
- Brush twice a day with fluoride toothpaste.
- Clean between your teeth daily using floss or interdental brushes.
- Eat a healthy, balanced diet and limit sugar intake.
- Visit the dentist regularly for check-ups and preventive care (check with your dentist if your children are eligible for 'Child Dental Benefit').

The focus of this year's campaign is on the harm sugar does to oral health. They recommended daily sugar consumption levels, advice on reading food labels and explain the effect sugar has on our teeth. This information is reinforced with three main messages:

- Consume no more than 6 teaspoons (24 grams) of free sugar per day as recommended by the World Health Organisation (WHO).
- Choose foods with less than 10 grams of sugar per 100 grams.
- Look out for hidden sugars when purchasing foods and drinks.

For more information visit the link: <https://www.ada.org.au/Dental-Health-Week-2020/About>





## Principal's Day Messages

**The beautiful messages our students sent me contained many expressions about what makes our school a special place. It is a team thing!**

I really like how at Ainslie School we are kind and friendly to our friends and our teachers are so nice.

Saul

Thank you for making our school a fun and happy place to learn. You are always smiling, this makes me feel good and makes me smile too.

Leilani

I like how at Ainslie School you provide us with resources to assist us with our learning such as Chromebooks and stationery.

Charlie

Thank you for making our school the best school ever!

Grace

I really like how at Ainslie School we do PE because it is good for your health.

Max

Thank you for always smiling and giving new Ainslie students a warm welcome when they arrive on their first day and making the school a better place.

Tatiana

Thank you for making our school a fun place to learn and play.

Tonia

Thank you for making the school a kind and respectful place for education.

Will

I really like how we collaborate, communicate and work together.

Batool