

ALTIORA



The Ainslie School Newsletter



Thursday 26 February 2018
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2018 Dates to Remember

2 March	12 noon	Senior Assembly hosted by year 6
8 March	9:15 -2:15	Year 5 Excursion to Tidbinbilla Space Tracking Station
9 March	12 Noon	Hinamatsuri Whole School Assembly
12 March	Public Holiday	CANBERRA DAY
13 March	9:15-2:30pm	Swimming carnival @ Big Splash Macquarie
14- 16 March		Year 6 Camp @ Long Beach
16 March	12 noon	Junior Assembly hosted by Year 1

Dear Families and Friends,

It was nice to meet so many of you moving to and from our *Parent Information Sessions* last week, and I thank you, along with the members of our education team, for engaging as we set the scene for the year. Please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher, or the front office team, if you missed this opportunity and require further information about the classroom organisation and structures they shared.

The next step in Ainslie School's start up routine is the opportunity to consider goals for your child for the year ahead. This rests with the principle that no two learners are exactly the same, and we recognise that each of our students brings a unique background and combination of strengths, talents and learning preferences. Personalising the school experience for our students is an area of ongoing interest for teachers and *Goal Setting Interviews* are an important opportunity for parents and students to contribute to this process. We look forward to learning more about your children in the coming weeks.

While there is a strong focus on parent/teacher communication as part of our start up to the year, our teachers are only too happy to make a time to talk with you about your child's learning and social success at any time.

University Connections

Last week I enjoyed a visit from the University of Canberra's Dean, Professor Geoff Riordan, and Senior Lecturer, Chris Morrissey. It was a pleasure to show them around Ainslie School, and to learn about some of the developments in Teacher Education at the University.

Ainslie teachers have enjoyed a connection with the UC for many years. This engagement supports the development of high quality professionals, through their studies in Initial Teacher Education. The experience of a placement at Ainslie School is wonderful for Pre Service teachers, providing them with the opportunity to work alongside a team of committed and skilful professionals. While Pre Service Teachers benefit from working with our staff, we are well aware of the importance of working alongside people entering the profession who bring different perspectives and closeness to research. Through

examining and asking questions about our work, Pre Service teachers keep us consciously skilled. They contribute immensely to the culture of inquiry that is so important in today's schools.

Ainslie's Executive Teacher Professional Practice, Greg Taylor plays a key role in the design and coordination of this valuable connection with the UC in Initial Teacher Education, and placements at Ainslie are currently being arranged for 2018. I thank you in anticipation of welcoming our Preservice Teacher team throughout the year.

Active Streets Reminder

As we encourage physical activity around our grounds and streets, families are reminded that walking to school – even part way - promotes healthy habits. Our local footpaths adorn bright markings that indicate 800m drop off points from school, and may support families to help our students explore and grow confident around our neighbourhood.

We thank you for reducing traffic congestion through promoting physical activity.

Instrumental Music Program: Year 5 Band Selection

This week, 25 of Macquarie's Year 5 students will receive offers to join the *ACTETD Instrumental Music Program (IMP)*. This program compliments the performing arts curriculum, which provides musical experience to students from Preschool to Year 6 at Ainslie. Brass band offers are based on a process of musical aptitude assessment, which is conducted through the IMP. These students will be working with our visiting music specialist teacher, Shoshanna Honey-Erlandson, and Ms Catherine Dillon. Our Year 6 band will work with Ms Jess Copeman.

We look forward to sharing more information about the program with new band members and their families.

If you would like to know a little more about the band program, please don't hesitate to contact Ainslie's front office team.

School Board Update

With a single nomination for the school board vacancy, we do not require an election this week. The announcement of the successful appointments will be made in March 2018, at the conclusion of the school board election timeframe.

We look forward to announcing the membership of Ainslie's School Board as notification is received from the ACT Education Directorate in March.

Once again, I thank the 2017 School Board for engaging in this important forum, which has so positively influenced and supported the quality of teaching and learning Ainslie students, staff and families enjoy.

Supporting Student Engagement

Ainslie School students are provided many opportunities throughout the year that enhance our curriculum. These activities include excursions, visits from performing artists and camps. With our strong philosophy of inclusion, it is our aim to ensure that **all** students have access to these events. Please be mindful that funding is available to ensure no child misses out on the experiences enjoyed by their classes. If you require financial assistance for your child's participation at school, please contact me through our front office team.

All the best for the week ahead,

Wendy Cave



Reminder: Emergency Treatment Plans

Students who have medical conditions including asthma, diabetes and severe allergies (anaphylaxis) are required to have an Emergency Treatment Plan at Ainslie. These plans are a way to support student safety and wellbeing. Emergency Treatment Plans should be updated annually. If the school has medication on hand for your child (Epipens, Ventolin and the like) please check in with the front office to ensure that their medication is still current.

If your child needs to have medication for temporary ailments (e.g. eye drops, cough medicine etc.) parents are required to sign a form giving staff permission to administer the medication. Please see the front office team if you need any further assistance.

This week we have seen examples of special effort from:

Arthur	K	For drawing the continents on a map
Frankie	K	For excellent writing
Sophie	K	For writing about hospital
Ainslie's Year 2 classes		For hosting the first of our Junior Assemblies with confidence!
Hannah, Nina & Abbie		Griffith House captains for demonstrating leadership whilst considering an idea

Many thanks

to Michael, Christopher, Nathan and Danielle Jackson and Antonio for building the Reid Preschool Chicken Coop.



Curriculum Highlights: English as an Additional Language or Dialect

At Ainslie School, we are fortunate to have a diverse, multicultural community. 131 of our 434 students bring English as an additional language or dialect, and approximately 40 languages are spoken by our families.

EAL/D teaching is a specialised field of education and recognises that learners are learning cultural information as well as new language. Not every student who has another language is identified as an EAL/D learner because he/she may be proficient when using English.

The ACT Education Directorate's English as an Additional Language or Dialect Census supports the allocation of resources across the system to enable all students to access a quality education in our schools. Each February and August, EALD learners are assessed and evaluated to identify literacy and learning outcomes. Where additional support is required, Ainslie School provides targeted intervention and adjustments for learning.

If you would like to learn a little more about Ainslie's approach to supporting EALD learners, please don't hesitate to contact our EALD Specialist, Dawn Maree Dunn dawnmaree.dunn@ed.act.edu.au or your child's teacher.

This Week's Notes

- **Swimming Carnival Note – including the medical form and remember to use the google form to download entries and permission**
<http://bit.ly/AinslieSwim18> . Any family that has difficulty with this please see the front office. Entries close 1 March 2018
- **Year 6 T-shirt Order form – again please use the google form to download your order**
- **Year 6 Camp Permission forms (Payment by 9 March 2018)**
- **Kindy Health Check Forms** (please put them in the envelope provided) (by 2 March)
- **Year 5 Tidbinbilla Space Tracking Station Excursion (payment by 8 March)**
- **Club permission Forms and money as required – please note for some clubs you have to enrol and pay online**
- **Stationary packs** - only if you haven't already paid

Housekeeping

Student Information Check

All parents will shortly be receiving a form titled A detailed student information by student key. Please return this form to the school ONLY if there is INCORRECT contact information on the form. We are endeavouring to ensure all parents are contactable by both email and phone.

Managing Student Attendance

Please remember to communicate with us when your child is absent. We ask parents to make contact with the school's office team by phone or email on the day of the absence.

The Education directorate has introduced a new system of managing student attendance and you will soon start receiving SMS messages if your student has unexplained absences from school. Students who arrive late are asked to come to the front office to check in. The admin staff will change their attendance status on the system and give the student a card to take to their teacher.

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We would love your help collecting Coles Sports for Schools for our school. Tell your friends and family to get involved as well, because the more vouchers we collect, the more sports gear our school will receive.

CANBERRA
ACADEMY OF CHESS

Canberra Academy of Chess is a team of people who have one passion in common: teaching chess to others. We've been doing so in the ACT for over 8 years. Canberra Academy works closely with Sydney Academy of Chess.

11 MARCH 2018	Schools Chess Challenge at Woden
1 APRIL 2018	Canberra Chess Challenge 16
2 JUNE 2018	Woden Saturday Fun Tournament
4 AUGUST 2018	Woden Saturday Fun Tournament
6 OCTOBER 2018	Woden Saturday Fun Tournament
14 OCTOBER 2018	Canberra Chess Challenge 17
2 DECEMBER 2018	Canberra Xmas Swiss Chess Challenge

STALLS
FROM
\$25



AINSLIE SCHOOL

Donaldson St, Braddon

CAR BOOT SALE
9AM - 12:30PM
SUNDAY 25 MARCH

STALL HOLDERS WELCOME
BBQ - DRINKS - CAKES

**A GREAT DAY OUT AND A CHANCE TO MAKE SOME
EXTRA CASH FROM THOSE UNWANTED ITEMS...**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT MICHAEL SNAPE ON
0418729662 OR MICHAELSNAPE73@GMAIL.COM**