

ALTIORA



The Ainslie School Newsletter



Monday 5 March 2018
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2018 Dates to Remember

7 March (WED)	12 Noon	Hinamatsuri Whole School Assembly
8 March	9:15 -2:15	Year 5 Excursion to Tidbinbilla Space Tracking Station International Women's day
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,

We are looking forward to next week's Swimming Carnival, and preparations are well underway. Our Sports Captains stepped up to the challenge of motivating teams in house meetings this afternoon, as we shared logistical information with our Year 3-6 students, and those swimmers in year 2 who will be competing in races on the day. Please remember to revisit carnival notes to ensure our swimmers are well prepared for a successful event at Big Splash in Macquarie on Tuesday 13 March.

I know that our early years and junior primary students will enjoy the water play activities their teachers have in store.

Spectators, supporters and volunteers are very welcome at the event. Please contact your child's teacher, or the front office team, if you would like to lend a hand.

Celebrating Women and Girls

Saturday marked Hina Matusri. The Doll (or Girl) Festival is a time when people across Japan pray for the happiness and healthy growth of girls. Just as families with young daughters mark this day by setting up a display of dolls inside their houses, Ainslie School acknowledges this special cultural event with our own doll display.

Ainslie's Japanese doll collection was a gift from Soroptimist International of Nara-Heijo to mark the 40th anniversary of Soroptimist International of Canberra. Soroptimist clubs around the world work to further the advancement of women and girls, and the Canberra group was founded in 1955.

It was so nice to have the opportunity to connect with Margaret Smith in the lead up to Hina Matusri, to learn more about our precious dolls. Margaret explained that when the Soroptimist International of Canberra club received the original dolls, their first concern was their preservation and storage. Member Carol Grout-Smith, who was the Principal of Taylor Primary School at the time, knew of Ainslie's Japanese program and suggested the dolls might find a home and special place its program. They have been displayed on Girls Day and enriched the curriculum at Ainslie ever since.

We are delighted to learn that new Emperor and Empress dolls will be making their way to Ainslie this week. I thank Mrs Smith and the Soroptimist International of Canberra for their kind donation, and continuing connection with Ainslie School. We look forward to meeting Mrs Smith at a special assembly next term.

I hope you enjoy the opportunity to visit this exquisite collection in the entry hall this week. For more information about this Japanese celebration, you may like to explore

www.web-japan.org

Hina Matusri provides a fitting prelude to International Women’s Day, which is recognised around the world each year on the 8 March. I encourage Ainslie School families to take a little time this Thursday to reflect on and celebrate the social, cultural and political achievements of women in our community and around the world and consider actions we can take to ensure the full participation of women and girls in all aspects of society. I would love to hear your thoughts.

Grounds Enhancement Update

One of the highlights of my first weeks at Ainslie has been connecting with a team of parents who have played a significant role in the development of the P&C’s masterplan for a playground upgrade. I thank Nova Inkpen, Damien Ellwood and Michael Snape for helping me to learn about the intent of this work and the process that has shaped it so far.

Last week, we were delighted to finalise the design concept for an extension to the canteen area. We have welcomed the Education Directorate’s support in this venture and look forward to the benefits that new decking, seating and seamless flow between indoor and outdoor spaces will add to this special meeting place. Watch this space for news of pending construction.

The Master Plan continues to be a source of interest within our community and the Education Directorate. Next steps will involve the development of a funding proposal, and attaining appropriate approvals for the work. Once again, I thank Ainslie’s P&C for bringing thought, commitment and diligence to this project.

In associated work, we have enjoyed engaging with the Directorate in planning to strengthen the habit of walking and riding to school. Ainslie has been part of the ACT Government’s Walk or Ride to School initiative for a number of years. A current aspect of this program is the construction of new (or improved) bike storage facilities for participating schools. We look forward to sharing progress around this work, and the ideas that some of our students are growing to support healthy lifestyles.

All the best for the week ahead,

Wendy Cave



Reminders:

This week we have seen examples of special effort from:

Our sports Captains	Ode & Hannah Olivia & Finn Reilly & Phoebe Arvinth & Chelsea A	Lead meetings and initiatives to support our students in the lead up to the Swimming Carnival
Mikie and Ava	Year 3	Thinking about bikes on the playground
Oscar	2LR	Representing numbers with accuracy
Bella	2LR	Representing numbers with accuracy
Zimi	KJ	Writing creatively and thoughtfully about Wombat Stew
Jo	KJ	Writing creatively and thoughtfully about Wombat Stew
Mina and Tia		Creating highly entertaining stories

Notes from Kindy

Ainslie's kindergarten students have quickly settled into school life and their daily routines. We are sure you have heard some wonderful stories of the children's adventures exploring the logs, trees for climbing, the vegetable gardens, chickens and pod equipment.

Home reading commences in week 5, which the children are excitedly anticipating. If you require further information about this process or how you can further assist your child with reading, please see your child's classroom teacher.

Thank you to all of the families who have returned their child's health check forms. If you have not returned this to school as yet, could you please do so in the next few days? Also, a quick reminder of the importance of school hats and the need to label all items. It can be useful to stitch a quickly identifiable button or patch on the top of your child's hat for easy identification.

Sascha, Susan and Janelle

Ainslie School Board

The 2017 Board met for the final time last week. We discussed a number of issues including:

- A homework policy - further discussions will take place later in the year with information sessions being made available and feedback requested.
- A communication policy - which includes streamlining methods of communication so parents receive timely and accurate information.
- Security cameras in schools - this has been an ongoing discussion in the context of deterring vandalism, the Education Directorate is currently drafting a policy and other initiatives to deter vandalism in our school are being considered.
- The Education Directorate is drafting a new strategic plan for which the Board will provide feedback.
- Our Principal, Wendy Cave, provided some insight into her perspectives on education and her enthusiasm for encouraging a love of learning in children and empowering them with the skills they need to make things happen.

We also discussed the role of the Board members and how, as parent representatives, we are there to provide a parent's perspective on the future direction of the school.

As always, feel free to get in touch with us if you would like to discuss any of this further, or wish to discuss any other aspect of our school.

Regards,

Mel McDonald (mel@meltin.net or 0416 191 812)

Sarah Safransky (ssafransky@hotmail.com or 0413 831 546)

Chris Price (christophermprice79@gmail.com or 0418 954 093)

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 Camp Permission forms (Payment by 9 March 2018)**
- **Kindy Health Check Forms** (please put them in the envelope provided)
We still have a number outstanding forms. The Health Department will be in later this week to collect them your assistance with this is appreciated.
- **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.

STALLS FROM \$25

Car Boot Sale

AINSIE 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

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL AND GET COLLECTING

coles

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 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



Term 1 Donation Wishlist



- KC: Spaghetti
- KCS: Spaghetti
- 1IS: Tinned kidney beans
- ICS: Tinned kidney beans
- 1/2DW: Corn puff (brand: abundant earth, available in the supermarket health aisle)
- 2LT: Tinned chickpeas
- 2ZW: Tinned chickpeas
- 3CC: LNG long life custard
- 3LC: LNG long life custard
- 4W: Nutrigrain
- 4A: Nutrigrain
- 4C: Tinned tomatoes
- 5SB: Tinned tomatoes
- 5HS: Pad thai noodles
- 5F: Pad thai noodles
- 6M: Milo cereal
- 6H: Milo cereal



CLASSROOM NON-PERISHABLE DONATIONS HELP OISHII PROVIDE DELICIOUS HEALTHY FOOD OPTIONS 5 DAYS A WEEK

A PRIZE FOR THE CLASS WITH THE MOST DONATIONS!