



The Ainslie School Newsletter

Monday, 11 May 2020

Office Hours
Monday — Friday
8.30am — 3.30pm

Monday, 11 May
Monday, 18 May

Monday, 25 May
Tuesday, 2 June

2020 Dates to Remember

Board Check-in @ **5.30pm**
Return of Preschool, Kindergarten and Year 1/ 2 students and those from *Safe and Supervised School Sites*
Return of Year 3/4 students
Return of Year 5/6 students

From our Principal

Dear Families and Friends,

How beautiful the weather was for us yesterday. I trust Ainslie's families enjoyed celebrating and spoiling the mothers, grandmothers and significant carers who help us in so many ways.

OUR RETURN TO ON CAMPUS LEARNING

Last Thursday brought the announcement of plans from the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Development, Yvette Berry MLA that will see the staged return of students to the ACT's system of public schools commencing next week.

Monday, 18 May	Return of Preschool, Kindergarten and Year 1/ 2 students and those who are attending <i>Safe and Supervised School Sites</i>
Monday, 25 May	Return of Year 3/4
Tuesday, 2 June	Return of Year 5/6

In keeping with advice from the ACT's Chief Health Officer our teams are creating developmentally appropriate hygiene management plans that include a focus on hand sanitising and washing. Visitors to Ainslie will notice an emphasis on physical distancing of adults throughout the school. You will find information about health and safety arrangements on our website and SeeSaw pages in the lead up to each cohort's return.

We are ever mindful of the disruption COVID-19 has created for our families and so grateful for the support you have shown staff at this time. While plans for our return bring an element of certainty, we recognise it is unlikely classes will resume business exactly as it was prior to 23 March. Ainslie, like other schools and communities, will continue to navigate the potential impact of COVID-19 throughout the coming months.

We are aware of circumstances and vulnerabilities that members of our community bring and know that this will continue to impact attendance of students for some time. Similarly, staff have individual circumstances that may see the continuation of some work-from-home arrangements, and we thank you in anticipation of your ongoing support, flexibility and empathy along the journey that's yet to come. Rest assured safety, security and meeting students at their point of need will continue to be the highest priorities of our team.

As we look forward to the transition of our community back to school I am excited to see how our students will benefit from continuing partnerships between teachers and families. Please don't hesitate to contact the school if you require further information about the staged return of classes.

REMOTE LEARNING UPDATE

Ainslie's teachers and support staff have continued to focus on each child's emotional, physical and academic growth and achievement through the programs we are delivering remotely. Staying safe and connected have been our goals and we have experienced how technology can foster a learner's sense of autonomy, competence and belonging. We are enjoying feedback in many forms affirming that online practices have planted seeds of independence, helped link curriculum to children's lives, and allowed teachers to access the deep funds of knowledge and experiences that our families bring.

From our Principal continued ...

Last week we reflected on our own learning and considered practices that we plan to grow and maintain. We are particularly interested in increasing opportunities for digitally supported home-school connections, and using technology to provide students with combinations of 'real time' and 'asynchronous' learning.

We know these new ways of working will contribute to Ainslie's continuous improvement and delivery of playful and sophisticated education services.

STAFFING NEWS

This Friday we will say goodbye, for now, to Chantelle Stewart of the Year 1/2 team. I know Chantelle's students are eagerly awaiting news of the arrival of her baby and we wish her well throughout her period of leave.

Ms Rebecca Palethorpe will be replacing Chantelle for the remainder of 2020. Beck has enjoyed her work so far supporting a smooth transition for 1/2SB and we welcome her back to Ainslie.

MASTERPLAN UPDATE

The management of safety at this time has activated plans for the expansion of our Kindergarten learning spaces. The development of the Yerra's multipurpose space over the coming weeks will ensure parents and staff can more easily meet physical distancing requirements. Our aim is to support engagement during drop off and pick up time, as we value this connection for our learners.

We thank Gemma, Austin, Nadia and the Ainslie Out of School Hours Care team for their support in reimagining the use of spaces across our school.

All the best for the week ahead.

Wendy Cave
Principal

RECORDING STUDENT ATTENDANCE DURING THE PERIOD OF REMOTE LEARNING

At Ainslie, we know that regular contact between school and home supports student wellbeing and learning.

Throughout the period of remote learning for our students, daily attendance is defined **as contact established between school and the student or parent/carer**. Attendance does not require the student to be physically at our school site or actively engaging in the full learning program.

HOW WE ARE STAYING IN CONTACT?

Teachers have established routines involving a combination of the following modes. Please contact Ainslie's office team, or your child's teacher if you would like to know more about our attendance tracking processes.

	Student check in through a conferencing platform (i.e. Google Hangouts or Classroom), participating in a chat, accessing learning or submitting a task.
	Staff member has verbal response from a parent/carer or independent student. This can include a phone call, voicemail or video conference.
	An email has been received from parent/carer or independent student.
	Parent/carer has sent an SMS message to designated school phone/service (can include a response to school SMS alert).

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ...



... to the following students who will celebrate a birthday this week: Lucinda, Nicole, Benny, Owen, Katie, Lyndsae, Charlie, Sacha & Toby.

AINSLIE STAFF FUN FACT

Guess which staff member has a snake as a pet?

Sarah Sparks



SCHOOL SPORT ACT VIRTUAL CROSS COUNTRY

With all school, regional, state and national School Sport Cross Country events cancelled for Term 2 and 3 in 2020, SSACT would like to offer the opportunity for schools to enter their students into a Virtual Cross Country. **Students are encouraged to run their own virtual cross country 1—2 times a week over the next 4 weeks (Weeks 3,4,5 and 6).**

The results will not be seen as official performances nor used for representative selection. The goal is participation encouraging students to get outside, be active and challenge themselves to improve.

To participate in this virtual event, students select the correct distance according to their age group, (refer to the table on the next page) and run the following courses.

- ⇒ The Stromlo Park courses, with loops and maps (provided over the page).
- ⇒ The Ainslie School cross country course, with map (provided over the page).
- ⇒ A course the student has devised in their neighbourhood with the distance confirmed by a Fitbit or Garmin device.

Note: Whatever course is selected by the student please remember to follow social distancing protocols.

Timed results will need to be sent to Mel Cummins (Melanie.Cummins@ed.act.edu.au) by 3pm each Friday. The top performances will be shared on the SSACT Facebook page with their school, first name, surname initial, age group and time. The most improved runners will also be acknowledged within each age group.

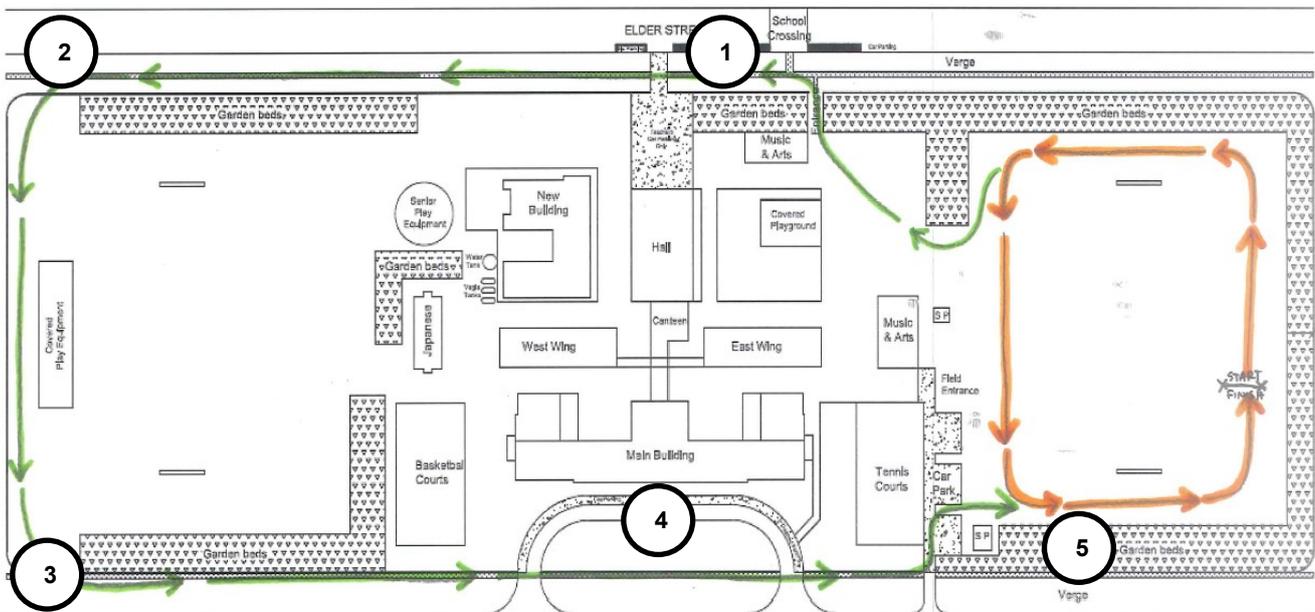
If you would like to take part and you don't have access to a timing device, please contact me and we will arrange for you to be timed on the Ainslie School course.

To register your interest and/or if you have any questions please email me. Good luck and start running!

Mel Cummins

Age group	Distance	Ainslie School	Mt Stromlo
8 years - 2012	1km	1 lap of the senior course	1 x 1km (Short Circuit)
9 years - 2011	1.5km	1 lap of the senior course and 2 laps of the junior course	1 x 1.5km (Hill Loop and Short Circuit)
10 years - 2010	2km	2 laps of the senior course	2 x 1km (Short Circuit)
11 years - 2009	3km	1 lap of junior course + 3 laps of the senior course	2 x 1.5km (Hill Loop and Short Circuit)
12 years - 2008	3km	1 lap of junior course + 3 laps of the senior course	2 x 1.5km (Hill Loop and Short Circuit)
13 years - 2007	3km	1 lap of junior course + 3 laps of the senior course	2 x 1.5km (Hill Loop and Short Circuit)

AINSLIE SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY MAP
The orange course is the junior course and the green is the senior course



Mt Stromlo Forest Park Course Map and Distance Loops



Deek's Track – 1km Loop Only



Deek's Track 1.5km Loop