Dear families

**Welcome or welcome back**

It was a rather energetic start to the year and, despite the excitement of our first assembly, our students have settled straight back into the routine of learning. The rumour that I required oxygen is completely untrue. Kindergarten children were especially impressive in their confident approach to going to full-time school for the first time. I want to thank the P&C for providing tea and tissues on days one and two, although the tissue boxes were largely untouched. Hardy lot, our parents (and none looked inappropriately joyful)!

I am always looking for ways to improve our processes and you are welcome to provide feedback on those relating to the start of the year. Call me or email kate.chapman@ed.act.edu.au.

I also want to thank the P&C for providing the welcome bags for our kindergarten and preschool students. These bags contain items for the students but there are also useful resources for the parents, such as a guide to letter formation in the kindergarten bag. This is a barely concealed hint to remind parents that we are joined in partnership, with our shared goal the education of your children.

How can you best support your child/ren’s learning? The Altiora will provide information about what they are doing in class and I encourage you to talk to them about it. Talking to children about just about anything is very beneficial to their learning. We always did it around the dinner table and, even when my children became smarter than me, which didn’t take long, I consoled myself with the knowledge that I had more worldly wisdom.

**Welcome to new staff**

This year we are excited to welcome four new teaching staff to Ainslie School. Sergine Zeferino, who has come to us from Calwell Primary, is teaching year 2. Sergine has a wealth of experience in teaching literacy. Janelle Jack is taking the year one class. Janelle is a new teaching graduate but is highly experienced in the child care field. According to Sascha, Janelle was the best preservice teacher she has ever had. Jess Copeman is a highly experienced music teacher who won the position from a very strong field. She is very capable of filling Julie’s big shoes. Susan Camden-Smith is also a highly experienced teacher, but her expertise is in early childhood. Susan is teaching at Ainslie Baker Gardens preschool. Many of you will remember Angela Burroughs, who has returned from spending more than a year at Jervis Bay Primary School. Angela, a mathematics specialist, is teaching year 3.

As well as new teachers we welcome back Rohan Hyslop, who will be taking a PE and Sport program across the school. New support staff are: Sam Pighin, working in Kindergarten and Harry Muir, Emma Harding and Sarah Sparks who are in various roles across the school.

**Expenses**

When my husband and I were SILKs (Single Income Lots of Kids) and had four at school we used to find the beginning of the year tough, laden with expenses. If you are having difficulty with costs associated with the
Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school! We have experienced a great start with the children settling into classrooms and commencing their learning programs. As we are a school of high reliability that is engaged in continual improvement, again this year we have a number of new initiatives that I have outlined below:

Building Quality Relationships

We have a focus (within each classroom, year level and team) on the building of quality relationships between children and children as well as teachers and children. Wellbeing is both central to learning and an outcome of learning. It is multi-dimensional and characterised by feeling well and functioning well. We believe that when teachers create environments in which children experience mutually enjoyable, caring and respectful relationships with people and the environment, children respond accordingly. Therefore, there is also a focus across the school on teachers leading and creating positive, personalised and organised classroom environments. We will focus on kindness and each child being a leader by acting in kindness towards others, across the school in 2017. We have started a ‘single simultaneous clap’ as a signature community building activity. The children will know when to clap because they will be cued by the words...Because at this school we...share the love (everyone does a single clap simultaneously on the word ‘love’).

Growth Mindset

This year, the children will be regularly writing learning goals in classrooms and we will be promoting a positive discourse regarding mindsets. Recent advances in neuroscience have shown us that the brain is far more malleable than we ever knew. Connectivity between neurons can change with experience. With practice, neural networks grow new connections, strengthen existing ones, and build insulation that speeds transmission of impulses. There is a strong link between mindsets and achievement. It turns out, if
you believe your brain can grow, you behave differently. We will be exploring this concept with the children throughout this year and using the language of a growth mindset. For example:

- rather than saying this is too hard...try saying I’m going to keep practising
- rather than saying I can’t do it...try saying I can’t do it ...yet
- rather than saying I made a mistake... try saying mistakes help me to learn
- rather than saying this work is ‘good enough’ ...ask is this my best work?
- rather than saying I give up....say I’ll use a different strategy

**Back to School Bash**

Our ‘Back to School Bash’ was well received by teachers, families and children – this special beginning of the school year assembly assisted us to set the tone for the 2017 school year and welcome the youngest members to the primary school campus community (kindergarten) plus... it was great to see Kate working the room with her happy dancing! The children very quickly taught her how to do the ‘Mandoza’ dance from South Africa. And how great was it that the teachers put some choreography to the 2017 Ainslie School signature song? This song (Can’t Stop The Feeling) will be used at all the end of term ‘shout out’ assemblies...so now we will be able to sing and dance (using the choreography) to this song as a school community. The messages we provided the children will be a focus throughout this year as we build quality relationships across the school. Of particular note, the difference between being ‘friendly’ and a ‘friend’ was explained and described, I promoted the concept of everyone being a leader and provided examples of how a growth mindset sounds. Of particular importance, I advocated that it’s OK to disagree with another person, but it is not OK to disagree in a *mean* way. This is a concept that I see adults (both staff and community members) within our school community model in an expert way every day and at every meeting. If you would like to review Kid President’s key message with your child, you can access the video at this website address:

Kid President – ‘How To Disagree’ [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ghkJnDJB3Tk&sns=em](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ghkJnDJB3Tk&sns=em)

**Music in the mornings**

To start each school day in a fun and energising way, last year we introduced music being played over the school’s boom box in the mornings from 8.45am. Feedback describes this initiative as being well received by the children with ‘Classical Wednesday’ being surprisingly well accepted by the kids. This year we will be exploring other ways to incorporate music into the school day and some of the children have been providing their ideas about this. For example, Anushka in year 3 would like to hear music rather than bells at our school. We may not have the technology to make all the ideas happen, but we are certainly exploring each concept seriously and enthusiastically.

**Values Assemblies**

This year we will again have a fun filled assembly every term with ‘take-away messages’ for the children about our Ainslie Values. The children responded well last year to this approach. The potential of this initiative to nurture a positive school ethos that stresses care for self, others and the pursuit of all forms of excellence cannot be underestimated. We are powerfully nurturing the development of intrapersonal intelligence (self-efficacy and getting along skills).

**‘No Direction’ Rock Band**

Although there is ‘some’ musical talent within the membership of the staff rock band ‘No Direction’, the purpose of this band is really to build school spirit through goofing-around, have fun and model risk taking to the children. It is often hard for kids to ‘have a go’ and adults modelling this can support the children to also ‘have a go’. We could talk with kids about ‘having a go’ as a skill for hours, but modelling it to them regularly will probably achieve more traction. This year, No Direction band members are aiming to have a practice or two 😊
STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)

During 2017, and in response to parental feedback collated from the 2016 satisfaction survey, Ainslie School will be focused on creating opportunities for children to participate in STEM activities. As part of this initiative, we welcome Dr Kirsten Verburg to Ainslie School. Kirsten is a scientist with CSIRO who has experience and skill in providing enrichment opportunities for children in mathematics. Kirsten will be working with selected students from years 5 & 6 every Friday morning. Greg Taylor, teacher of year 3 and mathematician, will be facilitating enrichment opportunities for students in years 3 & 4 every Monday morning. We will again be hosting Robogals from ANU as a club opportunity. In addition, Jess Copeman will be working with teachers in classroom to deliver coding lessons and Steve Clarke will host a lunchtime coding club.

These activities support our commitment in 2017 to provide wider learning opportunities for students who are identified as being gifted and talented. We will also be developing processes around how we manage Gifted and Talented education at Ainslie School.

Feathered and canine friends

Ainslie’s Baker Gardens Preschool will have a chicken coop erected this year and hens will call the Baker Gardens site home. We would like to share the fun and joy (as well as fresh eggs) that our chickens at Donaldson Street and Reid Preschool bring, into Baker Gardens Preschool as well.

Our assistance dog, Molly Polly, has been at Ainslie School now for nearly two years. The ‘work’ that she does every day is highly valued with other educational institutions wanting to implement assistance dogs into their settings. We have at times reflected that we could use Molly Polly’s calming skills many times throughout the day for more children – a job that is not possible for one dog to do. Therefore, we will be welcoming another assistance dog to Ainslie school during 2017. We’ll let you know when this new calming friend will be introduced.

Play – our pods and weather

Our play pods are stocked with Sascha Colley leading their use during 2017. Both the senior and junior pods will be open every day with a focus on loose parts play. We are opening half the junior oval at recess and lunchtime to support our play approach. We have plans to enhance the eating area opposite the Oishi canteen as a Kidsmatter initiative and have a fun design to add some ‘high’ interest to our marvellous established shade trees in the junior playground inspired by the well-known drive to the coast using the Kings Highway.

In preschool, in addition to loose parts play, the children will have outdoor play opportunities during inclement weather. This initiative is based on the premise that... there is no such thing as bad weather, just inappropriate clothing. The Preschool Parents Association is supporting this initiative by funding the purchase of raincoats and gumboots. Oh happy days!

Acknowledging and celebrating achievements

We will be trialling a range of initiatives to acknowledge and celebrate achievements across the school. The first initiative (Norman from Year 4 provided this idea) is the establishment of an Ainslie School Post Office in the school’s front foyer. Teachers, children, parents or carers can stop by and write a letter, note or card for another member of the school community. Simply address the envelope with a name (and class if known) and the correspondence will be delivered. Simple!

Music tutors

Bellchambers Music School is offering tutorage in piano again during 2017. In addition, Music for Canberra from the Ainslie Arts Centre is offering string lessons and ensemble opportunities. One of Ainslie School’s parents, Steve Webber, is currently reviewing the violins owned by Ainslie School/Ainslie School’s P&C
Association and will be making them available for loan again. We believe that 10 years ago there were over forty students learning strings and we would like to grow this program again. Further information about this initiative is advertised in this edition of Altiora.

**WIN (What I Need) 8am Learning Academy**

Over the past two years, the 8am WIN Academy has been successful in improving literacy outcomes for selected students. During 2017, the 8am WIN Academy (taught by Dawn-Maree Dunn and myself) will operate with a focus on reading, writing and spelling in addition to support being provided to children during the school day. Families will be contacted shortly to arrange attendance at this program for the first round.

**Lunchtime Clubs**

Teachers and parents from Ainslie School’s P&C Association have been working together over the last two years to provide a strong lunchtime club program. This year, we will be offering a range of activities including pottery, dance, Chess, science, Lego, robotics, coding, sports, fabrics and big band. Information regarding term 1 clubs accompanies this newsletter.

**Year 1 and 2 Prep Choir**

As there is a growing body of research suggesting that a good time to teach a child vocal pitch is at age 6 years, our music specialist teacher Jess Copeman, will this year provide children in both year 1 and 2 with a weekly group vocal lesson. This lesson is in addition to a weekly specialist music lesson.

**Facebook, Instagram, Google Apps and Storypark – online communities**

During 2016, our use of social media and online communities as tools to build connectedness and enhance communication was explored. We are planning for our school to expand our range of online communities during 2017 including a teacher online community and Oishii canteen using the Ainslie School Instagram account. Watch this space…

**Playgroup – ‘stay and play’ 9.30am every Tuesday**

Ainslie School will again be providing programs for children from birth to 12 years in 2017! Families residing in the suburbs of (Action, Reid, Braddon and Ainslie to Wakefield Ave) with children (birth to 5 years) are invited to come along to Ainslie School’s Reid Preschool setting (Dirrawan Gardens, Reid) to participate in an organised playgroup run by Danielle Jackson, our early childhood team leader. The playgroup aims to build community connections, explore the beautiful outdoor learning environments, provide for participation in child centred activities including (oral language, pre literacy, pre numeracy, gross motor, fine motor and the creative arts) and meet new families from the local community. ‘Stay and Play’ will operate from 9:30—11:30am on Tuesdays during school terms. The venue will remain the same every Tuesday throughout the school year.

**ICT**

Last year we made a lot of progress in developing a vision for Ainslie School and purchasing equipment with the School Board reserving funds to support the roll-out of that vision. We are currently purchasing a further 65 Chromebooks. In 2017, our ICT equipment will include every learning space having an interactive whiteboard (IWB) and students having daily access to the following equipment:

- Preschool – ipads
- Kindergarten – ipads
- Year 1 – ipads
- Year 2 – ipads
- Year 3 – netbooks
- Year 4 – 1:1 Chromebooks
Year 5 – 1:1 Chromebooks
Year 6 – 1:1 Chromebooks
See you at the Welcome Picnic Tea on Friday 17 February (I’ll bring my extra-long skipping ropes and boom box again – they are always a hit!).

Catherine

### 2017 Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 Feb</td>
<td>5:00-7:00</td>
<td>K-6 Class Information Sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Feb</td>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly Apology day</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 Feb</td>
<td>5:30</td>
<td>Pre-school Information Night &amp; AGM to be held at Reid</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6:00</td>
<td>Kindergarten/Year 1 Home Reading Information Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 Feb</td>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>Assembly K-2 hosted by year 2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:00-8:00</td>
<td>Family Picnic (bring a rug &amp; picnic basket and enjoy the atmosphere)</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 Feb</td>
<td>7:30pm</td>
<td>P&amp;C 90th Birthday Committee meeting in the staff room</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 Feb</td>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>Ride or walk to School day departing from Corroboree Park</td>
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### Housekeeping

**Welcome back to school**

Every year we have masses of lost clothing (we already have quite a collection of hats), which a huge expense to families, so do yourself a favour and save some money at the same time by naming ALL articles of clothing (especially hats and jumpers), lunch boxes and drink bottles. It is a time consuming exercise but well worth it.

**School parking**

Parking is always an issue at Ainslie. We do ask parents NOT to park in staff parking areas or the circular drive at the front of school when picking up and dropping off children. Some school staff have staggered starts throughout the day and Parking operations have been booking staff who were unable to park in designated parking bays for the school.

Stationery packs are a huge job so thank you to the P & C for all their work over the holidays and at the beginning of the school year. Your work was much appreciated.

### It’s a tradition!

Ainslie School has a team for the Mother’s Day Classic


Can’t come? You can still contribute to our fund-raising effort. To be part of Ainslie School’s fund-raising effort. More information about how to do that will be in a later Altiora.
Play group

Come along to Ainslie School playgroup catering for children and their families from birth to five years, starting next week. Ainslie School Playgroup will run on a Tuesday morning from 9:30 till 11:30 during school terms. Playgroup will run out of our Reid Preschool, Dirrawan Gardens. The playgroup aims to build community connections, explore the beautiful outdoor learning environments, provide for participation in child centred activities including oral language, pre literacy, pre-numeracy, gross motor, fine motor and creative arts. Meet new families from the local community. We look forward to seeing the first Ainslie School playgroup commencing next week, week 3.

Danielle Jackson

Preschool

It has been wonderful getting to know the preschool children and their families. We have been focussing on familiarising the children with each other and their environment. This includes learning the names of both children and educators, developing new relationships, establishing expectations, settling into routines, and exploring our stimulating environment. It has been delightful seeing the children construct, create artworks, ride bicycles and engage in dramatic play. We look forward to seeing you at our Preschool Information Night and Preschool Parents’ Association AGM at Reid Preschool on Wednesday 15 February at 5.30pm. We would also love to see you at our Combined Preschool Welcome Picnic at Ainslie Baker Gardens Preschool on Thursday 23 February from 5.00pm. We are anticipating a fantastic year ahead, and we are very excited to be sharing this preschool journey with you.

Danielle, Stacey and Susan

Kindy

It is hard to believe that we are already 2 weeks into our first year of school. We have been busy setting our class expectations, learning about our school values and establishing our daily routines. In the next 2 weeks we will begin PIPS (Performance Indicators in Primary School) testing with the children and beginning our inquiry unit. Don’t forget to check out our inclusive newsletter which is attached to the Altiora and see what your child had to say about their upcoming year at school. We hope to see you at our Parent Information session tonight at 6pm in the KS classroom. Also, next Wednesday 15 February at 6pm we will hold a Home Reading Information session in the KC classroom and provide families with valuable insight on how to help support your child as they learn to read.

Isobel, Clair and Sascha

Year 1

It has been an enjoyable first two weeks of school getting to know the children in Year One. Students have had fun participating in reading, writing, mathematics and of course investigations (a favourite learning experience it seems), along with other parts of the curriculum. We have been assisting children in establishing positive relationships with each other and getting into the swing of things with a new
Year 2

We have had the pleasure of starting to get to know your children over the past two weeks and we look forward to meeting you at tonight’s Year 2 Parent Information Session (5.30-6pm in the 2DR classroom). For year 2 students, reading at home is a valuable experience and we encourage you to continue to inspire a love of reading. Students have been given a home reading folder and we will remind them to change books regularly. We have also provided students with log on details and a password for the Reading Eggs/Reading Eggspress Program. We also remind students to wear appropriate footwear every day for PE and outdoor play and, while it is hot, to bring a labelled drink bottle. **Save the date:** Year 2 is hosting the first Junior Assembly for the year next Friday 17 February from 12-12.30. We hope to see you there.

Cathy, Sergine, Emily, Michelle and Jamie

Year 3

Welcome to 2017! Year 3 students have settled in well to the New Year and enjoying the challenges of the middle school. Both classes are establishing routines and expectations and are about to begin a unit of work on ‘Day and Night’ as voted for by the students. With the hot weather please ensure water bottles are brought to school.

Greg and Angela

Year 4

It has been lovely to welcome all the new year 4 students. We have hit the ground running with mathematics and spelling assessments, as well as working to get to know each other. Please consider joining the classroom carer network, as it is a great way to keep in touch with what is happening in the classroom. We look forward to a fun and industrious year!

Jo, Steve, Cat and Pauline

Year 5

We have had a wonderful start to what promises to be an excellent year. Our students have been very quick to adapt to new routines and are already rising to the challenges of the senior school. We have a cohort of children who are very keen to learn and are going to keep us very busy! We are looking forward to meeting parents and carers at the information session on Thursday night. If you can’t attend on Thursday night an overview will be sent home with your child. Please feel free to contact us if you have any queries about any aspect of your child’s schooling.

Jo and Vicky

Year 6

Welcome to year 6 2017. We have started our term settling into being the senior students of the school. Already our school captains have welcomed the school community to the new school year and other students have commenced assisting Clair and Ari in the canteen. In the classroom, we have been completing activities and games that have focussed on demonstrating our skills and character. Last week we selected the design for the year 6 shirt that will be ordered soon. The students have borrowed their own netbook for use in the classroom and are enjoying posting documents.

Alison and Laurence
On the first day of school we asked the children some questions about their first year of school and what their grown up might be up to while they are at school. Here is what they told us.

**What will your grown ups be doing while you are at school?**

- Playing computer games. Amelia
- Working. Halcyon
- Having work. Nara
- Eat chocolate. Gennavieve
- Go to work. My balloon is my favourite colour! Alex
- Go to work. Addison
- My sister has a play date at 10. Seamus
- Go to work. Daddy doesn't like work. Esther
- Being lazy. William E
- Mum stays at home and cleans up and dad has to work until midnight. Tatiana
WHAT IS THE BEST THING ABOUT COMING TO SCHOOL?

Playing.  Zaydan

Starting school and riding bikes.  Lily

Making new friends.  Cooper

I am finally here!  Laura

Learning.  Anna

Playing.  Chan

Well, I kind of really want to play at school.  Zlata

Playing hide and seek.  Anshika

Meeting my friends again.  Maia

Playing.  Jack

Dancing.  Sarah

Playing.  April

Balloons.  James

Eat and sleep.  Michael

I think wearing my school uniform.  Grace
What do you want to learn about at school?

- Animals. I know lots of stuff already. Perry
- Nature. Actually I know quite a bit about nature already. William N
- Handwriting. Katherine
- The playground and the tree stumps in the playground. Aristotle
- Dinosaurs. Ava-Leigh
- Snow. Jax
- Dolphins. Bindi
- I don't know. I'll learn everything. Magnus
- Everything. Jenny
- Maths. Harry
- How to take photos. Cylus
- How teachers do all this work. Lily R
- Drawing. Enola
Oshii Canteen

We are very excited that on Wednesday 15 February Mina’s mum and grandmother Ozge and Gulgun will make our lunch special! They are making Izmir Kofte, a dish from their home region of Turkey. If you would like to share your family’s favourite recipe with us get in touch with the canteen staff.

Ari and Clair

From the P&C

Hi Everyone! Welcome and welcome back! We hope you and your littles are settling back into school.

The P&C have certainly hit the ground running with the canteen back in full swing, two morning teas (Tea and Tissues) completed and over $8000 worth of uniforms sold (well done Lee and our tired Albert machine)! For some of us the holidays were our busiest period with a well subscribed and successful holiday program run by Dani and her team.

The PC is looking forward to connecting with our returning families and welcoming the new families to the school. As many of you are aware the Ainslie P&C Committee runs a range of great programs and fund raising committees to support the school. We always value any time you can spare to help make our school great!

The P&C programs are:

- Oishii canteen – run 5 days a week with help from you our school community. Please come along and help our lovely canteen managers Ari and Clair serve your children beautiful healthy food 6142 3070.
- Afters - that includes an After School Care Program, a Before School program and a Holiday program. Please talk to the lovely Dani and her staff about how your children can enjoy this great school service 6249 1740.
- Uniform shop – open on Tuesday mornings from 8:45-9:30am and Wednesday afternoons from 3:15 to 4:00pm. You can also contact the lovely Lee and order your uniforms and she will deliver them to your child who brings them home to you! ainslieuniformshop@hotmail.com

The P&C also run a range of fund raising events including the annual school fete to be held this year on Saturday 16 September and all things related to the Ainslie School’s 90th birthday! We are going to have a big party! We are also going to be enlightened – yes we are lighting up our beautiful school. We have partnered with the School of Art and they are busy producing a magnificent projection to put on the front of our school building. More information on the 90th birthday is below.

We would love your support of these great services and fund raising events.

This year we will also be implementing Flexischools in the canteen and it will be helping us all with the Uniform Shop. Our P&C will also continue to progress our Outdoor Grounds Project and the process of upgrading the AV system in the hall. Please contact me if you would like to help with these projects!

We will also continue to celebrate our great school community project – the Ainslie School cookbook called Ainslie Food.
Ainslie Food celebrates the rich and diverse community that supports Ainslie School – its children, parents and carers, teachers and staff. It is a major fund raising project led by Ainslie School’s Parents and Citizens Association. The proceeds from Ainslie Food will enable us to develop our outdoor grounds as great gathering and learning spaces. We will also direct the proceeds to further enhancing the learning environment that our passionate and skilful teachers can provide in our classrooms.

You can buy a copy for $35 from the Canteen. For more information e-mail nova@homemail.com.au

Information sessions and classroom carers
Tonight at the information sessions we are keen to provide you with more information about the P&C and what we are doing this year. One of the things we coordinate is the classroom carer role. The whole idea is for the parents and carers of a specific class to get targeted emailed information about what that class is learning and how parents can support this learning. It may be reminders about notes, excursions, assemblies or the chance to catch up on playdates outside of school. It’s really up to you and your classroom carer.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mel McDonald our Classroom Carer coordinator and those carers who put their hand up to take on the role again this year (thank you). I would also like to thank those of you who have decided to support this communication channel and become classroom carers in 2017. We really appreciate your support. For those parents and carers who want to be part of this communication channel and who can’t make it to the information night please send Mel an e-mail (mel@meltin.net) including your child’s name and class and she will pass your details onto the classroom carer.
Oishii News, Feb 2017

IN JAPANESE, OISHII MEANS BOTH DELICIOUS AND A POSITIVE EATING EXPERIENCE

Oishii Canteen strives to create a positive eating experience with fresh tastes and a welcoming space for students, parents, volunteers, and staff.

Welcome back everyone! 2017 will be a great year of continued fresh yummy food, health promotion, fun and laughs, sharing of ideas and welcoming new faces and learning from each other.

Ari and Clair are all ready to welcome new students and their families to Ainslie School. Please drop by to say hi and check out the best school canteen EVER!

Check out our new menu!! It looks great.
New items, old favourites, and some price changes.

3 EASY WAYS TO HELP:

- Volunteer! WE LOVE and need our Volunteers:
  An hour every school morning doing cooking and food prep greatly assists the Managers. Helping at lunchtimes to serve or with cleanup is also helpful!
  Here is the link to let us know when and how you can help us in the canteen: www.volunteersignup.org/34MEA

- Donating nonperishable items each term. Our wish list is available at the canteen.
- Assisting the canteen can also be achieved by contributing an amount of money each term. The amount is up to you. This is used to offset the cost of an assistant to help on the busiest days and when there are no volunteers available.

Payment: Direct deposit
Account: Ainslie Primary School P&C Assoc Canteen
BSB: 062-919
Account No: 00901030 Reference Code: KDZ
ABN: 72 169 605 708.
Email: ainsliekidzbar@gmail.com for any queries

Family picnic Friday 17 February: We will be there. Come and say Hi and chat with Ari and Clair about the great Oishii canteen food and how you can help.

Garden produce: If you are struggling at home with too many zucchinis or herbs or not sure what to do with the extra corn? Drop them into Oishii canteen. We will cook and serve them in fantastic delicious ways!
Family picnic
This year’s Welcome Family Picnic is on next week, Friday 17 February from 5-8pm. Just come along and bring a picnic dinner and something for the share table and you can catch up with old friends, meet some new ones and learn more about the school and the P&C. See you there!

Uniform Shop
Thank you to all the parents who came into the Uniform Shop or submitted orders via email before the start of the school year. It was extremely busy and wonderful to meet so many new families joining us at Ainslie!! Your continued support has allowed us to make the uniform shop successful and ensure that we can continue to provide you with the best possible value. Due to strong demand in January we have run out of short sleeve polo shirts and smaller sizes in the Micro Fibre Shorts. These have been ordered and we will notify you as soon as they are back in stock. In the meantime, believe it or not Autumn/winter is just around the corner, so it will be a busy time in the uniform shop to ensure that we stock up on your winter uniform requirements.

90th birthday activities
This year our school turns 90 and there are a range of plans in place to help us all celebrate this special milestone. If you, your extended family or friends have any connection to Ainslie School please make contact with us as we would love to make you part of our Oral History Project or share your experiences at our Open Day and School Fete on Saturday 16 September.

To help us celebrate this special year please come along to the Trivia night planned in the first half of this year to help raise funds to support the Open Day and School Fete and the school’s actual birthday on Tuesday 19 September.

As mentioned above our school will also be lit up like the Enlighten Festival in September 2017. Stay tuned for more details.

We will also have a range of special merchandise for you to purchase to help celebrate this great year.

The next meeting about the 90th birthday will be on 22nd February at 7:30pm in school Staff Room.

All are welcome.

Upcoming meetings
The next meeting is the P&C Annual General Meeting. It will be held on Wednesday, 23 March at 7:30pm. At this meeting all the positions on the committee are opened up to be filled by anyone who may be...
interested. We have a range of positions that you may wish to consider from positions called Office Bearers to general committee members. Just contact any of the current people on the P&C to talk about getting involved.

Here is a description of the positions on the P&C Committee and the contact details for the current committee members:

**P&C Office Bearers**

**President**
- Provides leadership
- Acts as spokesperson for the P&C
- Chairs monthly meetings
*Current office holder: Nova Inkpen*
P: 0407 959 077
E: nova@homemail.com.au

**Vice President**
- Preside as chair as required
- Assist President where necessary
*Current office holder: Rochelle von Berger*
P: 0408 023 702
E: vonberger@iinet.net.au

**Treasurer**
- Responsibility for all funds received and expended by the P&C
- Prepares regular financial reports to P&C
- Co-ordinates year end financial audits
*Current office holder: Sharon Hourigan*
P: 0409 479 069
E: shourigan12@icloud.com

**Secretary**
- Draws up meeting agendas
- Records and keeps minutes of meetings
- Attends to P&C correspondence
*Current office holder: Mel McDonald*
P: 0416 191 812
E: mel@melting.net

**Sub-committees**

**Afters Sub-committee**

**Convenor**
- Convene the sub-committee
- Liaise between the sub-committee and the P&C
*Current Office holder: Sophie Cartwright*
E: cartwright01@gmail.com

**Treasurer**
- Responsibility for all funds received and expended by Afters
*Current Office holder: Samantha Montenegro*
E: samantha.montenegro@gmail.com

**Canteen Sub-committee**

**Convenor**
- Convene the sub-committee
- Liaise between the sub-committee and the P&C
*Current Office holder: Tania Sylvestro*
E: salfarrars@gmail.com

**Treasurer**
- Responsibility for all funds received and expended by the Canteen
*Current Officer holder: Karina Bruce*
E: akbruce@optusnet.com.au
Other positions

1. Fundraising Co-ordinator
- Oversees co-ordination of all fundraising activities including (but not limited to) the School Fete, DTGP, Parties at the shops, sausage sizzles, cake stalls, raffles and crazy camel
- Co-ordinates donations and sponsorship

4. Uniform shop co-ordinator
- Manages the uniform shop including ordering and stock control
- Liaises with clients wishing to purchase uniforms
- Makes recommendations regarding pricing and suppliers

2. Outdoor grounds Co-ordinator
- Co-ordinates outdoor grounds projects including (but not limited to)
  Space Pods, Japanese Garden

5. 90th birthday events co-ordinator
- Liaises with the School and the P&C with regard to planning activities for the Schools 90th birthday celebrations in 2017

3. Science & Arts Co-ordinator
- Liaises with the School to co-ordinate Science and Arts programs held within the school
- Organises presenters/"experts" to teach classes
- Makes recommendations for purchases/expenditure with regard to the Science and Arts programs

6. Grants co-ordinator
- Co-ordinates grant applications

I have been involved with the P&C for over 5 years and for three of those years I have been the P&C President. I can confirm we have a motivated, resourceful, committed and fun committee that is supported by a great school community. At the end of last year I shared with the school my need to step down from the role of P&C President for 2017. As I explained at the end of 2016, I will remain on the committee and help with the 90th birthday celebrations but I have some big milestones due next year in my job and I need to give it all my attention. If you think you want to get involved with the P&C, and this very motivated and generous group of people, please feel free to contact me and discuss what’s involved.

Best wishes
Nova: nova@homemail.com.au  0407 959 077

Music For Canberra

Are you interested in music? Music For Canberra offers music lessons for all levels and ages, in group or individual lessons, at the Ainslie Arts Centre – just next door!
Lessons are available in:
- Recorder
- Choir
- Drum kit
- Brass
- Ukulele
- Strings
- Woodwind
- Guitar

Attend a free trial in the next week in one of our group or ensemble classes. You will need to bring your instrument with you as well as a display folder for music and pen/pencil. Visit our website www.musicforcanberra.org.au for more information and to register.
Jenny Brain
Christian Education In Schools

Christian Education is available as a curriculum option at your child’s school because parents have requested it. This is based on provisions in the Education Act 2004. The Christian Education In Schools (CEIS) project provides a coordinated service to fulfil such requests. This service includes four modern and interactive sessions each year (one per term and varied each year), prepared professionally and delivered by trained and endorsed volunteers. The one-hour sessions are designed for groups of students to discuss and explore the topics outlined on the attached postcard.

Parent permission is essential for children to participate in CEIS. Please use the section below to indicate your preference for your children. Requests will remain in effect while your child is at their school, but can be changed by contacting the front office. Each CEIS session will be advertised in the school newsletter.

For further information please contact your child’s school or visit www.ceis.org.au

Regards
Karen Baron
CEIS Coordinator

☐ Please return this section to the school front office

☐ YES, I request that my child/ren listed below participate in the CEIS sessions offered at school.

☐ NO, I do not want my child/ren listed below to participate in CEIS.

CHILD: ________________________________ Class: __________

CHILD: ________________________________ Class: __________

CHILD: ________________________________ Class: __________

Parent/Carer signature ______________________________________   Date________________
Dear Parents,

Our school is participating in Redgum Book Club this term. The catalogues will be sent home this week.

To view the current catalogue, please open the link [Redgum Book Club Term 1 2017](http://www.redgumbookclub.com.au). You will find many more great titles on their website that you can order this term, with books starting from $2.00.

The catalogue is now open and closes on 6th March. Ordered books will be delivered free to the school week commencing 20th March. Every book order will earn resources and books for our school.

Redgum Book Club newly released books for term 1:

- **Lion: A Long Way Home (Young Readers Edition)** - A true story of survival and triumph against incredible odds, now a major motion Australian film starring Nicole Kidman
- **Alice Miranda Holds the Key** - From Australian best-selling and multi-award winning author, Jacqueline Harvey
- **Red Dog: True Blue** - A charming story of a young boy and his dog adventuring through the outback
- **Middle School: Word of Mouse** - James Patterson’s newest illustrated story follows the illuminating journey of a very special mouse
- **There’s a Snake in my School** - From Number One bestselling author David Walliams, comes this spectacularly funny picture book
- **Mr Romanov’s Garden in the Sky** - Heartfelt, evocative and compelling – another masterpiece from the award-winning Australian Robert Newton

How to place an order:
- Order and pay online by credit card or PayPal at [www.redgumbookclub.com.au](http://www.redgumbookclub.com.au)
- Email your order with your credit card details to: orders@redgumbookclub.com.au
- Fill out the order form on the back of the catalogue and post it with a cheque.

If you have any questions about Redgum Book Club orders, please contact Lesley at [schools@redgumbookclub.com.au](mailto:schools@redgumbookclub.com.au)

Thank you
Saturday 18th February 2.30pm Majura Road (rego from 2pm)

In conjunction with a MTB race being run by COGS we hold a kids participation race beforehand to encourage those to take advantage of the wonderful riding facilities we have here in the ACT. The event is kindly sponsored by both COGS and Monkey Wrench Cycles at Hackett shops who provide giveaway prizes.

Cost is only $5 but for this COGS covers ride insurance for the day ($7) through MTBA, provides a sausage sandwich and drink and there’s an even chance kids walk away with a prize.

The course is below and depending on age (and ability) under 5’s ride 1 lap, U8’s ride 2 and U12’s ride 3. There are no prizes for coming first just satisfaction of the achievement. (Parents can run behind)

We just require kids to come with a suitably approved and in excellent condition Helmet and any sort of off road bike is recommended (including balance bikes)

This is NOT a mass run event with marshals’ running around everywhere like a Weetabix triathlon – but an event for like-minded families who want to see each other ride and have an enjoyable time – (we had between 10-20 kids each race last year) – Most of us are in the Majura Pines Trail Alliance

Lastly we run an event for adults afterwards (3pm start – cost $10 + $10 Rec Permit if not a MTBA member) which include refreshments involving the ingredient of hops but we encourage families to come out and stay as the kids can safely ride around their track whilst the adults do their thing – check out the details on our:

Website: http://www.canberraonegearsociety.com/

Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/groups/cogss/