



The Ainslie School Newsletter

Monday, 30 March 2020

Library

Open for families
 Each weekday
 8.40am — 9am

Office Hours

Monday — Friday
 8.30am — 3.30pm

2020 Dates to Remember

Tuesday, 24 March—Thursday, 9 April	Pupil free days
Wednesday, 8 April	P&C AGM (6.30pm online)
Thursday, 9 April	End of Term 1
Tuesday, 27 April	First day of Term 2

From our Principal

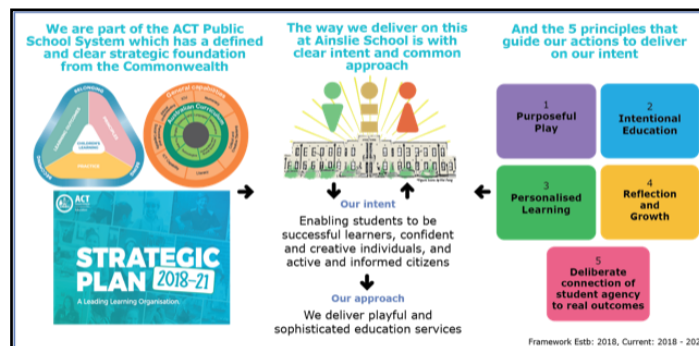
Dear Families and Friends,

Once again I extend my gratitude to you for supporting arrangements at school that are allowing us to transition to alternative methods of delivering education. The pupil free period continues this week and will extend until school holidays commence on Friday, 10 April. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you are engaged in essential services and unable to care for your children at home during this time. Rest assured they will not be turned away from school.

The experience of testing new ways of working has been a unifying one for teachers, school support staff, students and many families. Establishing routines, reshaping approaches and forming new habits can take time and energy, and we are finding that kindness, respect, patience and encouragement go a long way. I thank our community for sharing questions and ideas during the past week as we reimagine our work.

While the world order seems to have shifted dramatically, in many ways it is business as usual for staff at Ainslie. Enabling students to be successful learners, confident and creative individuals, and active and informed citizens is at the heart of our work. We approach the delivery of our education services in a playful and sophisticated way and possibilities abound as we navigate these extraordinary times. Creatively connecting people, places and priorities continues to be a focus.

As we transition to online and blended education models, the principles that guide learning design remain at the forefront of our mind. *Purposeful play, intentional education, personalised learning and deliberate connection of student agency to real outcomes* will be continuing drivers as we work with families to support reflection and growth.



KEEPING CONNECTED: HOW IT WORKS

Maintaining connections between parents, teachers and our students as partners in learning supports the young people of our community to feel secure. Our evolving practices in this area will also lay foundations for new ways of engaging with school. During the next two weeks, Ainslie School's families can expect teachers to communicate with them personally and as part of a class. Whole school messages will continue to be available via Facebook and the weekly Altiora.

In turn we trust that you will share any questions and thoughts you have as they emerge. Teachers can be contacted via email and our Front Office team is always happy to support your needs. As always, I am available. My email address is Wendy.Cave@ed.act.edu.au

From our Principal continued ...

Again, we extend our gratitude to families for working with us as we shape the curriculum plans and delivery models that will support continuity of learning and your child's engagement with the Australian Curriculum from the commencement of Term 2.

HOME LEARNING: RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

As you know, a Learning Resource Library was made available to support parents and children learning from home during pupil free days. The ACT Education Directorate has been working hard to ensure this resource is as engaging and useful as possible. You can access the updated webpage at [Home Learning: Resources for students and families](#) or via the ACT Education website. Check back regularly for updates.

We will be showcasing these resources through Facebook each day and welcome your feedback.

KEEPING STUDENTS SAFE IN AN ONLINE WORLD

Our focus on the values of kindness, responsibility and respect, along with the *General Capabilities identified in the Australian Curriculum* <https://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/f-10-curriculum/general-capabilities/> supports our students as citizens in an increasingly digital world. With an abundance of information at their fingertips, encouraging them to transfer habits of responsibility and respect as they read and create text supports their online safety.

As we venture into the partnership that will support home learning, we encourage you to explore the Family Guide section in the Learning Resource Library <https://www.education.act.gov.au/schooling/learning-resource-library>

All the best for the week ahead.

Wendy Cave
Principal

BOARD REPORT

What extraordinary times these are. The Board discussed the school's transition to online learning for the immediate future. These are such uncertain times and it is not clear how long these arrangements will apply, but the school and teachers have been working really hard to make the transition for students and their families as easy as possible.

Look after yourselves and others in your community by observing safe practices. The school is on hand if extra assistance is required.

Ainslie School Board

To stay up to date on the latest information on COVID-19 relating to students and families, check the [ACT Education](#) website.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ...



... to the following students who will celebrate a birthday this week: Rachel & Tommy, Aarya and Nellie.

P&C UPDATE

The Ainslie School P&C AGM will now be held electronically at 6:30pm on Wednesday, 8 April.

Please find a poster attached to this newsletter with all the details.

Local Psychologist, Rohan Schlesinger will give a talk about self care and how to talk to our kids about challenging events such as fires/smoke and COVID-19.

A new P&C Committee needs to be elected and all office bearers are stepping down in 2020. Please consider nominating for a position - it can be fun and very rewarding!

Nominations should be forwarded to Mel (mel@meltin.net) by COB Tuesday, 7 April. If you would like any further information about any position, please contact Mel (mel@meltin.net) or Damien (damienbeth@tpg.com.au).

Damien Ellwood (damienbeth@tpg.com.au)

Ainslie School Parents & Citizen's Association President | <https://ainsliepandc.com.au>