



The Ainslie School Newsletter

Monday, 15 March 2021

Office Hours
Monday — Friday
8.30am — 3.30pm

2021 Dates to Remember

Wednesday, 17 March	Masterplan Community Conversation @ 5:30—6:00pm (staff lounge)
Thursday, 18 March	Swimming Carnival: Years 3—6 @ 9.30am—3.00pm (Dickson Pool)
Friday, 19 March	National Ride2School Day Harmony Day (wear something orange)
Wednesday, 24 March	Year 3/4 Netball Gala Day (Lyneham Indoor Netball Centre)
Thursday, 25 March	Year 5/6 Netball Gala Day (Belconnen Netball Centre, Charnwood) E-Safety Forum @ 7pm (online)
Friday, 26 March	Assembly hosted by Kindergarten @ 12.15pm (Hall)

From our Principal

Dear Families and Friends,

Week 7 brings so many of Ainslie School's people, places and priorities together as national events highlight kindness, respect, responsibility and the strength of diversity in the Australian community.

NATIONAL RIDE2SCHOOL: THIS FRIDAY

Ride2School Day is an annual event that encourages students to be physically active on their journey to school. We'll be joining the fun on Friday, 19 March.

Riding or walking to school provides many benefits to school communities. Through active travel habits we experience healthier and more attentive students, reduced traffic congestion, safer school environments and lower carbon emissions. While walking or riding to school is business as usual for many of Ainslie's families, Friday's National Ride2School Day is an opportunity to test active travel arrangements if you are considering a new habit.

Once again, we will acknowledge the day at Ainslie School with walks from gathering places at Gorman House and Corroboree Park, and raffle tickets for riders. We thank Ms Bentley, Wayde and team for making the morning a celebration.

CELEBRATING KINDNESS AND HARMONY

Harmony Week (15—21 March) is a significant one on the Australian calendar, as communities recognise diversity and inclusion. We encourage students to wear a splash of orange, national dress or sporting team colours to celebrate this Friday.

The week also holds the *National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence* on 20 March. In 2019, Ainslie School's Vice Captain Skye Whitney-Nash initiated a celebration of kindness to mark this occasion, and Skye's legacy lives on as we focus on this value at this time of year. We look forward to sharing experiences of kindness, respect and responsibility in classrooms, on the playground and around our neighbourhood. Please feel free to share examples you notice to add to our acknowledgement of students.

E-SAFETY

In the contemporary communications environment, online interactions can impact wellbeing significantly. Next Thursday, 25 March from 7:00pm—8:00pm we will be hosting an online forum for families exploring how we can support children to be safe and responsible when engaging with digital platforms. The forum will be facilitated by the Assistant Director - eSafety from the Education Directorate and staff from Ainslie School. If you are interested in attending the forum please RSVP to sophie.bissell@ed.act.edu.au. A link for the forum will be provided next week.

From our Principal continued ...

CARING FOR OUR FACILITIES

We thank Ainslie School's Office team and Building Services Officer, Paul Wilcott for helping to make our facilities look and feel as great as the people inside.

We place a strong emphasis on ensuring our grounds and buildings are safe and well maintained. Staff are always on the lookout for potential problems and repairs are made as quickly as possible. Please remember to let the front office team know of any problems you may notice as you walk around our school. You may see things we grow used to through familiarity with our workplace.

MASTERPLAN COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

Parents, neighbours and students have been informing the continuous development of Ainslie School, as we prepare for future site planning. Over the past three years, a highlight has been consideration of the Ainslie School precinct in its entirety, and opportunities for community engagement in leisure and learning in its spaces well beyond the hours of 9 and 3. I look forward to sharing how this is progressing on Wednesday evening.

We are delighted to offer the return of face to face Masterplan conversations, with this week's in the staff lounge from 5:30-6:00pm. We welcome back Chris Jacobi, our ED project officer and Meetu Sharma, Heritage Consultant who have provided valuable input towards our vision. Mr Andrew Parkinson, Executive Branch Manager, Infrastructure and Capital Works will also be joining us.

Masterplan Community Conversations are informal and are generally held monthly. Please let the school office know if you would like to join us, or to learn a little more.

TERM 1 SCHOOL CLIMATE AND SATISFACTION SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

Last year we introduced the routine of surveying our students, parents and staff each term. This complements the system wide School Climate and Satisfaction Survey which is distributed annually. Our aim is to gather and act on information in a timely way.

The feedback we received from over 200 of our students reflected very high levels of engagement, strong perceptions of safety and connectedness between staff and students.

The uptake of this offer for feedback from parents and carers was limited, with 6 responses. This sample provided interesting insight nonetheless and we look forward to strengthening conversations about the academic focus we have at Ainslie School as a direct result.

PI COMPETITION

We have been impressed by the commitment and persistence of students who have shown learning to recite digits of Pi. Mrs Palethorpe has enjoyed weekly recess meetings with Leon, Dion, Alex, Khani, Tabi, Bella, Lizzie, Eva, Faheem and Samantha at which they supported one another to gradually increase their confidence in reeling off these digits out loud with an audience.

Last Friday's competition was held at Dickson College after school. It was wonderful to see our team engaging with this challenge and the community of Pi enthusiasts they are part of. We thank families and friends for supporting our children in this activity.

All the best for the week ahead.

Wendy Cave
Principal

This week we have seen special effort from:

Eden (1/2Z) Impressive comprehensive writing



FACEBOOK

We are currently experiencing technical difficulties with the Ainslie School Facebook page.

We will be staying in contact with families via email, the Altiora and your child's Seesaw page.

DID YOU KNOW

Orange is the colour chosen to represent Harmony Week. Traditionally, orange signifies social communication and meaningful conversations. It also relates to the freedom of ideas and encouragement of mutual respect. Australians can choose to wear something orange during Harmony Week to show their support for cultural diversity and an inclusive Australia.

HOUSE MEETINGS

Last Friday afternoon the Year 3—6 students gathered in house groups to inform them about the swimming carnival and practise house chants. Rupert-Smith met on the eastern oval, Griffith met at the amphitheatre, Goodwin on The Deck and Gillard on the Yerra steps. Each house played different games to develop team spirit. We let everyone know about the Proficiency Test, blue and yellow wrist bands and the importance of bringing a hat, sunscreen and lots of healthy food! We also practised our chants and two houses, Rupert-Smith and Griffith, who could hear each other, even had a chant battle. Some new chants were created and Griffith did a 'walking chant'. We are looking forward to a fun day on Thursday.

Let's try to bring food in containers as it is more sustainable!

NATIONAL RIDE2SCHOOL DAY

Friday 19 March 2021



Join more than 350,000 students across Australia who will ride, walk, scoot and skate to school.

Register your school at ride2school.com.au



NOTES HOME

EVENT DETAILS	YR GROUP	DATE DUE BACK
Netball Gala Day	Yr 3/4	\$8 & perm note ASAP
Netball Gala Day	Yr 5/6	\$8 & perm note ASAP
Swimming & Aquatic Carnival	Yrs 3—6	\$13, perm & medical notes ASAP

PLEASE WELCOME ...

... Quinn who commenced in 1/2H last week and pre service teachers James Urwin, Pei Sang Tan and Emily Robson who join us for 2 weeks.

**Ainslie School is an
ANAPHYLAXIS AWARE SCHOOL**

Avoiding all nuts

Reminder

Have you returned your swimming carnival note?

HARMONY DAY

This year at Ainslie we will celebrate Harmony Day on Friday, 19 March.

We invite students and teachers to come dressed in something orange, traditional dress or something representing individual cultural heritage. Harmony Week celebrates Australian multiculturalism, inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians regardless of cultural or linguistic background.

