



The Ainslie School Newsletter

Tuesday, 28 April 2020

Office Hours

Monday — Friday
8.30am — 3.30pm

2020 Dates to Remember

Tuesday, 28 April

First day of Term 2

Tuesday, 12 May

Enrolments open for Preschool 2021
Board Meeting (via voice conference)

From our Principal

Dear Families and Friends,

When the 2020 school year began, I am sure no-one could have predicted that we would have to transform the delivery of education – virtual and online – in a matter of days, but we have. From today most of our students will undertake their learning from home and those who cannot stay at home will be supervised at a small number of school sites across the ACT.

Consistent with the request for ACT residents to stay at home where possible, Ainslie's teachers will deliver learning remotely with families able to access this flexibly while continuing to focus on their children's well-being and household needs.

We have worked hard to ensure students, teachers and families stay connected with access to the internet and devices at home. Please let us know if you find you need materials to support your child's engagement with the learning experiences we are providing as the term progresses.

While this is a rapid and significant change in the delivery of education, what we have designed is a robust delivery model, dynamic and flexible enough to provide high quality learning for our students. Support mechanisms will be in place to support those who may require extra assistance. Our approach also puts the safety and wellbeing of staff, students and families at the centre.

More information about how this model works is available on our website and I will keep you updated with significant announcements and developments over the coming weeks.

We are mindful of the disruption the COVID-19 pandemic has brought to our community and others around the world and are so grateful for the expressions of positivity, goodwill and support that have come our way. Please don't hesitate to contact our school office team at any time should you require support as we work through this extraordinary time. We are here to help.

MASTERPLAN UPDATE

During the term break, we were informed that the Education Directorate has sought a proposal to begin the master planning of the corridor school sites, including Ainslie School. We look forward to ongoing engagement with lead project officer Chris Jacobi this term, as we focus on the first stage of a desktop analysis. I thank the families and friends of Ainslie who have shared thoughts, aspirations and expertise over many months and am confident that we are well equipped for this phase of the project.

Our Heritage Conservation Management Plan will be finalised very soon and will provide a valuable context for the next phase of this work. We look forward to progressing this interesting strategic work and invite families and friends of Ainslie to engage in the conversations that will resume throughout the term. For further information, please don't hesitate to contact our school office team.

From our Principal continued ...

BASE REPORTING

Typically, towards the end of Term 1, we would have been able to provide student-level reports to the parents/carers of our Kindergarten students. 'BASE Reports' (previously known as PIPS reports) were due to be issued at around this time, however due to the global issues caused by COVID-19, we have yet to receive the dataset needed in order to produce these reports. As soon as it is received and our Directorate's quality assurance processes are complete, this feedback will be made available to us for distribution.

As is the case with any aspect of your child's education, should you have any concerns, please discuss with the school/classroom teacher as they are best placed to provide quality feedback.

Wishing you a happy week. Stay safe and enjoy the time together the universe has sent our way.

Wendy Cave
Principal



HAPPY BIRTHDAY ...



... to the following students who will celebrate a birthday this week: Quinn, Aryan & Rehan, Dylan, Marcus, Moonie, Theo, Jenny, Clementine and Adam.

We also hope the following students enjoyed their birthday during the school holidays: Josephine, Tegas, Hangyeol, Bella, Owen, Aaron, Otis and Esme.

COVID-19 MANAGEMENT: OUR FACILITIES

Community use of our facilities has been suspended other than for activities that comply with social distancing and any other (current or future) restrictions imposed by the ACT or Federal Government to assist with the management of COVID-19.

For community safety, the playground is only for supervised use by school and OSHC groups.

LIBRARY SERVICES

[Libraries ACT](#) has an abundance of free online services you can access from home. You can get the little ones singing and dancing with Giggle and Wiggle, enjoying story time with Australian picture books, or learning new skills like how to code. For the adults, there are thousands of eBooks, audio books, digital magazines, movies and music to download. You can also learn a new language or explore Canberra's history through the ACT Heritage Library's photograph collection. To check out these great online programs and resources, join [Libraries ACT](#) online or visit their [At Home Brain & Boredom Busters list](#)

DEATH CAP MUSHROOM ALERT

Do not touch or eat wild mushrooms

As their name suggests, death cap mushrooms can be lethal. They grow in many parts of the ACT and are often found near established oak trees.

The Chief Health Officer, Dr Kerryn Coleman is urging Canberrans not to pick or eat any wild mushrooms and to purchase all mushrooms from a reputable supplier.

Even experienced collectors can find it hard to tell the difference between poisonous and safe wild mushrooms. Cooking does not make death caps safe.

If you think you have seen a death cap mushroom in a public place, please contact Access Canberra on 13 22 81. Keep children and animals away from it, as it is dangerous to even touch the mushroom with bare hands.

If you find wild mushrooms at home, it is best to use disposable gloves to put the whole mushroom into a plastic bag, then into a rubbish bin, then wash your hands.

For more information about Death Cap mushrooms, including important health advice, visit: <https://www.health.act.gov.au/about-our-health-system/population-health/fact-sheets>



AINSLIE SCHOOL P&C ASSOCIATION

Introducing the 2020 P&C Association Committee:

President: Rob Harrison

robert.a.e.harrison@gmail.com or 0411 111 566

Vice President: Judith Blake

judejohnathome@gmail.com or 0424 711 406

Treasurer: Alessandra Whiting

ainsliepandctreasurer@gmail.com or 0418 577 638

Interim Secretary*: Mel McDonald

mel@meltin.net or 0416 191 812

Administration Committee:

Canteen Convenor: Kerryn Wagg

Afters Convenor: Ingrid Butterfield

Uniform shop co-ordinator: Christina Pilkington

Other members:

Laural Cyr

Rose Santos

Rebecca Stewart

Danny Jowers

Jaci Lane

Jess Haas

The new
committee is looking
forward to planning some
fun events when life
returns to 'normal'

*** The P&C needs a new Secretary - is it you?**