



## The Ainslie School Newsletter

Monday, 3 May 2021

**Office Hours**  
Monday — Friday  
8.30am — 3.30pm

### 2021 Dates to Remember

Monday, 3 May	Online Parent Forum @ 7.00pm (Year 3/4) <a href="https://meet.google.com/ikw-baer-pix">meet.google.com/ikw-baer-pix</a>
Tues & Wed 4—5 May	Fuel for Thought (Year 3/4)
Thursday, 6 May	Board Meeting @ 7.30am Online Forum @ 7.30pm (Kindergarten)
Monday, 10 May	Cross Country Carnival @ 9am (K—Year 6) Campbell High School Information Evening @ 5.30pm
Friday, 14 May	National Walk or Ride to School Day Assembly @ 12.15pm Hosted by Year 1/2
Monday, 17 May	IDAHOBIT Day

## From our Principal

Dear Families and Friends,

The importance of home/school connection cannot be underestimated when it comes to supporting students' success. The range of ways we connect with families of Ainslie is as diverse as our community.

Through the early weeks of term, we have resumed communication routines including cohort gatherings each Monday morning and fortnightly whole school assemblies. We thank the families who offered questions and feedback during forums exploring term plans for Year 1/2 and 5/6 classes last week. Families will be offered the opportunity to hear from our Kindergarten and Year 3/4 teams this week.

The Altiora provides general information about whole school activities, with snapshots of class and individual pursuits. These complement the information about people, places and programs that are communicated through each class' online Seesaw platform.

Families are always welcome to visit our classrooms, and we make time each term for you to explore learning progress and celebrate the achievement of goals. Open classroom and showcase events are scheduled as learning programs unfold, and families are reminded to watch the Altiora, Seesaw pages and email inboxes for invitations throughout the term. The Year 1/2 *Museum of Me Exhibition* during Week 1 was a stunning example.

Please remember to contact your child's teacher, by email or through the school office team at any time with feedback or questions about your child's experience at school.

### BASE REPORTS

BASE is a tool we use to assess reading, phonics and numeracy skills of students in their first year of school. It assists teachers and families to gain insight and monitor each child's ongoing growth. Our Kindergarten students engage in BASE assessments in Terms 1 and 4 each year.

Kindergarten families will receive their child's Term 1 results this week. We encourage parents to consider this report alongside other information that our Early Years team provides informally and through monitoring personalised plans. Please don't hesitate to make contact with Janelle Jack, Sue Corrigan or Claire Rummery if you would like further information.

### JAPANESE LANGUAGE LEARNING

During the period of remote learning in 2020 we used technology to foster each learner's sense of autonomy, competence and belonging. We continue to receive feedback affirming that online practices are developing independence, linking curriculum to children's lives and allowing teachers to access the funds of knowledge our families bring.

As we continue to build digitally supported home-school connections, we are using technology more frequently to provide students with combinations of face to face and 'asynchronous' learning. The delivery of our Japanese program is highlighting the impact of this innovation. While you'll generally find Sensei Mel Cummins attached to our middle primary team, classes and teachers across the school are benefiting from her expertise in planning and program delivery in a range of ways. Mel is always interested in connecting with families and can be contacted by email ([Melanie.Cummins@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Melanie.Cummins@ed.act.edu.au)) or through the school office team.

## From our Principal continued ...

### STAFFING NEWS

It is a very great pleasure to introduce Ms Hayley Grant to the Ainslie School community this week. Hayley will be working with classes across the school throughout the term as our teachers engage in planning and coaching experiences that are supporting the literacy and numeracy priorities of the school.

We welcome Hayley and look forward to the contributions she will bring given her recent experience in implementing inquiry based learning at Red Hill Primary School.

We also welcome Ms Florence Wellfare to our Initial Teacher Education team. Florence, who will be a familiar face to students who attend Ainslie's Out of Hours School Care program, is in her final professional placement for her studies through Charles Darwin University.

### MASTERPLAN UPDATE

It was so nice to introduce Mr Dylan Blom from the ACTED Infrastructure and Capital Works Team at last Wednesday's Masterplan Community Conversation. Dylan provided an update on Business Case planning that supports the development of school infrastructure in the ACT. This is a point of interest for us given the recent expansion of Ainslie School's Priority Enrolment Area.

With the pending release of the Heritage Conservation Management Plan, we look forward to progressing consultation around boundary fencing with our community and Heritage ACT. This exploration is inseparable from road safety and we look forward to engaging with the Transport Canberra City Services team throughout the next term as we assess current and future needs of road users around the precinct.

The group shared and acknowledged the considerable efforts of Board and P&C members, and community interest groups in developing a funding submission for mobile chicken coops. We look forward to bringing nature to the city and exploring the possibilities of horticulture and agriculture for enriching learning and lives at Ainslie School.

### LIVING RESPONSIBLY WITH OUR PLANET

Our community's commitment to environmental responsibility is a feature of conversations as we guide the development of Ainslie School.

Last week the ACT Legislative Assembly passed the *Plastic Reduction Bill 2020*, which will phase out certain plastic products. From 1 July 2021, the following three items will be prohibited from sale, supply or distribution in the ACT:

- Single-use plastic cutlery (including bioplastic and PLA – ACT polylactic acids);
- Single-use plastic drink stirrers (including bioplastic and PLA – ACT polylactic acids); and
- Expanded polystyrene takeaway food and beverage containers.

News of this decision was a reminder of how advanced our work in this area is, driven largely by students. Ainslie's Oishii Canteen is a leader in sustainable food service, and for many years, we have provided reusable cutlery and containers. The *Fuel for Thought* initiative, now in the fourth week of its pilot phase, is showing evidence of further waste reduction as our students engage in menu planning, food preparation, meal service and eating together. We are very proud of this pioneering effort.

### HOUSE TEAM NEWS

We congratulate Ainslie's House Captains on their leadership of another entertaining whole school assembly last week. These student leaders are taking their responsibility for building community seriously through challenges that stretch and acknowledge talents and passions across many areas of human endeavour.

On Friday, they announced a Spelling Bee and we look forward to identifying some more House and School champions this term.

Our Captains are also playing a key part in planning and preparation for next week's Cross Country Carnival. This includes some consideration of gender inclusive scheduling, which has been a point of interest for some years at Ainslie School. We thank these students for their contributions to this important conversation.

All the best for the week ahead.

**Wendy Cave**  
**Principal**

### PLEASE WELCOME ...

... Hannah and Aldan and their families who joined Reid Preschool recently.

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

**ACT Together**  
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## SUBARU Southern NSW/ACT Interschools Snowsport Championships

Perisher - July 20 - 23



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### WHAT IS INTERSCHOOLS?

The Interschool Snowsport Championships provides an opportunity for Australian school students of all ages to experience snowsport and to participate at either a recreational or competitive level. Students from Kindergarten—Year 12 compete for their school as part of a team or an individual in any of our nine discipline events.

**Parents are responsible for all payments, transportation and supervision of their child.**

**Discipline Events:** Alpine GS, Ski Cross, Freestyle Moguls, Snowboard GS, Snowboard Cross, Cross Country Freestyle, Cross Country Relay, Ski Slopestyle and Snowboard Slopestyle.

**When:** Tuesday, 20 July—Friday, 23 July at Perisher

**Cost:** There is a once-only annual registration fee of \$30 which is invoiced at the Regional Championships. The fee includes event insurance and administration costs to run the event. The registration fee is non-refundable. The 2021 race entry fees are \$49 per race, per competitor at each Championship. Please note that the entry fees do not include your lift ticket.

**Please see the Interschools Snow Australia website**  
<https://www.interschools.com.au/home/>

**If interested in registering, please contact Mel Cummins at**  
[Melanie.Cummins@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Melanie.Cummins@ed.act.edu.au)