

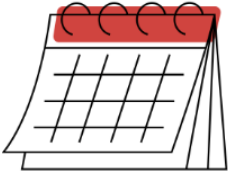


Newsletter

Dates to Remember:

14 th May	Belconnen AFL Y5/6
16 th May	3/4 Girls Basketball
17 th May	Athletics Carnival
22 nd May	Y6 Canberra High Visit
23 rd May	Belconnen Cross Country
27 th May	Public Holiday
29 th May	Y4 Qwestacon Excursion
30 th May	3/4 Boys Basketball
10 th June	King's Birthday
12 th June	5/6 Tennis
14 th June	ACT Cross Country
18 th June	Y3 Geoscience Excursion
20 th June	5/6 Netball Gala Day
25 th June	3/4 Basketball Finals
27 th June	3/4 Netball Gala Day
27 th June	5/6 AFL Finals
28 th June	Just 50 Words

2024 Aranda Calendar



Click this link <https://bit.ly/31hH976> on any device to view the calendar in your browser.

Parent Portal:

If you already have a Parent Portal account, use this [Parent Portal access](#) link to start using the great features. You can't access Parent Portal directly through the ACT Digital Account website, you need to use the link above.

When you are logged into Parent Portal, we recommend saving the browser as a favourite or to the homepage on your mobile phone for quick access in the future. The website can only be viewed using a web browser on your computer, mobile phone or tablet. An app is not available at this time.

Executive Report

Dear Aranda School community,

Welcome back to Term 2. You may have noticed the maintenance work carried out at the school during the recent holidays. It's amazing how a few coats of paint can transform our aging school. We constructed a new bin shelter and upgraded some of the school learning spaces. Thank you to Sam for organising and project managing the works. The school looks great! Not all upgrades were completed, and we intend to finish painting and some other structural works soon.

Cross Country

We began the term with an assembly to acknowledge the fantastic participation and effort that our children demonstrated at the recent Cross-Country carnival. I was very impressed by the high participation rate for an event that is not always everyone's favourite. Long distance running was something I enjoyed (many moons ago) but many of my friends did all that they could to avoid the Cross-Country carnivals. I talked to many children after the event and once they had recovered, in general they felt good about taking on a tough task and giving it their best shot.



New School Sign

Our new electronic sign should be up and running soon. I apologise for the long-standing message on the old sign that does not seem to have changed for a very long time. The old sign is broken and is dangerous to adjust.

Walk and Ride to School

Physical fitness is crucial for all of us and our student and staff participation last week in our *Walk and Ride to School Day* was great to see. Regular exercise and physical activity can boost energy levels and promote a positive mindset and I am proud that our staff view days like these as additional opportunities to engage with their students and our families in a positive community building way.

Safe driving

As we navigate the busy schedules of our school drop-off and pick-up times, I urge each of us to prioritise patience and respectful behavior when driving in and around the school grounds. These moments are crucial for the safety of our children, teachers, and fellow parents. Let's remember that rushing or displaying aggressive driving habits not only endangers lives but also sets a poor example for our young ones. By adhering to speed limits, using designated drop-off zones, and giving way to pedestrians, we contribute to a safer and more pleasant environment for everyone. Let's work together to make our school community a model of responsible and considerate driving.



Important Messages

Uniform Shop

The shop will open three times a term, with our first sessions scheduled for 8.15 - 9.00 am on the Fridays of Weeks 1, 5, and 10 of Term 2. Payments will remain cashless, and we'll continue offering second-hand items for a gold coin donation as availability allows.

Current, up-to-date information

Updated information for the education sector and other public sectors can be found on the Education Directorate's website (<https://www.education.act.gov.au>) and ACT Health (<https://www.health.act.gov.au>)

Seesaw

If you are unable to access Seesaw, or do not receive communications from the school to connect your child, please contact the Front Office with your updated email address.

Canteen

The Canteen operates from Wednesday to Friday. The Canteen can be contacted via email on arandacanteen@gmail.com or phone on 0459 599 114.

Medication at School

All student medication must be signed in by a parent/carer at the Front Office on arrival at school. Medication must be clearly labelled with the child's name and class. No medication is to be left in school bags during the day.

Newsletter Publication Deadline

Items for inclusion in the fortnightly newsletter must be emailed to info@arandaps.act.edu.au by 3.30pm every week on a Tuesday.

Anaphylaxis

Aranda Primary School is an ANAPHYLAXIS AWARE SCHOOL avoiding eggs and all nuts. Our policy is available on the website.

Student-Centred Improvement Framework

During Week 4, our school is participating in the trial of the new Student-Centred Improvement Framework. The school will be hosting a morning tea between 10:30 am and 11:15am on Wednesday, May 22. We are offering places for members of our school community to come along and have a cuppa and chat with the panel. If you are interested in attending, please get in touch with James Harrison via james.harrison@ed.act.edu.au before COB Thursday, May 17.

SRC News

Our Student Representative Council have been busy and dedicated. They have been engaged in conversations and thinking around student voice and student agency. The student reps have gone back to class meetings leading discussions around student opinions, perspectives, and ideas as well as taking initiative, making choices, and contributing to the direction of one's own learning experiences. These concepts are generating some rich discussions.

The SRC have nominated the RSPCA as their choice of charity to support this term.

2025 Enrolments

Enrolments for the 2025 school year have opened. Please note, if your child is already attending in K-6 you do not need to submit a new enrolment form.

Children turning 4 by the 30th of April 2025 are eligible for preschool enrolment. Children turning 5 by the 30th of April 2025 are eligible for kindergarten enrolment. Year 7 enrolments are also open for our year 6 families to complete. **Please submit your enrolment form prior to June 7th to be included for a first-round offer.**

Preschool families who are required to submit a new enrolment form for kindergarten will be contacted individually. Preschool families who live in the PEA or are siblings of current students will automatically have their enrolment roll over for kindergarten.

If your family will not be returning to Aranda Primary School for 2025, please email arandaps.enrolments@ed.act.edu.au.

School Board Update

The ballot for the vacant positions on the School Board has been finalised. Congratulations to Elizabeth Allen who has won the P&C Member position and Jonathan Dampney who has won the Parent Member position.

Here is to an exciting Term 2.

Phil Gray
Principal



Aranda Science Fair

It's Science Fair time again!

The Aranda Science Fair is an amazing opportunity for students to explore ideas and answer all those burning questions they may have. It allows students to research, test ideas and grapple with the scientific method - just like real scientists!

We are very excited to announce that the Science Fair will again be conducted in Term 3. If your child plans to enter a project this year please complete the proposal form by Week 5 (Friday 31st May). Look out for a seesaw post with a link to the PDF slideshow which outlines the timeframe, presentation protocols, and explains the expectations of the Science Fair Projects. The students will present their investigations in poster format only which will be displayed for public viewing at Aranda Primary School on Wednesday August 14th.

Projects will be due on Friday Week 3 Term 3. (Friday 9th August)

Can't wait to see the investigations!
Aranda Science Fair Committee 2024



Community Information



Want \$500 to help you with school costs?



Saver Plus is a financial education program for families and individuals on a tight budget to develop life-long savings habits.

To join Saver Plus, you must:

- ✓ Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card **AND** an eligible Centrelink payment*
- ✓ Be studying yourself **OR** have a child in school (can be starting school next year)
- ✓ Have regular income from work (either yourself or your partner)*
- ✓ Be 18+ years old

*Many types of income and Centrelink payments are eligible

Here are some of the school costs the \$500 can be used for:



laptops & tablets



uniforms & shoes



books & supplies



sports fees & gear






lessons & activities



camps & excursion

For more information, please contact your local Saver Plus coordinator:

-  NSW/Act - Saver Plus Team
-  SaverPlusNSWACT@thesmithfamily.com.au
-  1300 610 355

DELIVERED BY



Find out more at saverplus.org.au

Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ and delivered in partnership with local community organisations. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services.