



Weetangera School

'Our vision, as a community, is to inspire
a passion for learning'



ACT
Government
Education

Weetangera School is an
ANAPHYLAXIS AWARE SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers,

'Thousands of candles can be lighted from a single candle. Happiness never decreases by being shared' (Gautama Buddha)

This quote reflects the affect in our school community of welcoming back last week our Preschool to Year 2 students and most recently over the past couple of days, our Year 3 and 4 students and families. The reoccurring theme from my time visiting and talking with students in the playground and classrooms, welcoming, talking and listening to parents and families before or after school. Is the theme of genuine happiness, care and kindness for each other.

It has been overwhelming the support and genuine gratefulness for how we have, as a community, supported each other and managed to discover the opportunities that have been presented for each of our own unique circumstances. I do wonder what we will each choose to keep and hold onto, and I wonder what we will choose to let go of, as we continue to transition into a new way of life during our present times.

The happiness shared at each persons' return to Weetangera School really is just contagious. Lighting someone's candle can be very simple to do. It can be done by complimenting someone, helping someone, or by doing something as simple and effortless as giving someone a friendly smile.

This is what we have experienced particularly over the past 2 weeks with staggered return of our students and families. I sincerely thank our community for your understanding, unwavering support and genuine gratefulness of the challenges we have all endured over these past months. To me, lighting someone's candle is done by doing anything that makes that person's life a little brighter and a little bit better. Our community has certainly delivered in this aspect. Thank you.

It's a win-win situation for all of us, everyone gets to feel slightly better and more assured and so do the people around you. We lose nothing from spreading happiness. It is infinite and can go on forever no matter how much we use it up or pass on to others.

National Reconciliation Week - 27 May 2020 to 3 June 2020

A time for all of us to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. The theme for National Reconciliation Week 2020, '*In this together*', is currently resonating in ways that we could not have foreseen, reminding us whether in a crisis or in reconciliation, we are all in this together. This year Reconciliation Australia is hosting virtual events that you can participate in via its [website](#). The ACT is celebrating Reconciliation Day on Monday 1 June 2020. Reflecting the theme of '*Together in your home*'. Events ACT is hosting free, family-friendly online activities to promote conversation and foster a deeper understanding of our national story and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture. These activities include a postcard pledge, create and connect experiences and share, learn and grow video workshops.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Parent Reps. Yehuwdiy Dillon - 0458 866 937, Amy Begley - 0403 498 397, Vijaya Porwal

Principal - James Barnett 61422600; **Teacher Reps.** - Natarsha van den Boogaard;

- Virginia Hamblly

Newsletter No. 15

28 May 2020

Week 5

COMMUNITY DIARY

Inclusions may be added in the diary at the front office.

June

1 Public Holiday -

ASSEMBLIES 9:15 am

**ALL ASSEMBLIES
POSTPONED
UNTIL FURTHER
NOTICE**



Attachments

Managing Student
Illness

Weetangera School
Southwell Street
Weetangera ACT 2614

Telephone: 6142 2600
Canteen: 6142 2621

Please read our web site:

PS... Creative expression

Weetangera School is committed to reconciliation through the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Agreement 2019-2028. As you celebrate Reconciliation Day on the public holiday Monday 1 June 2020, we encourage you to take some time to think about what achieving reconciliation means to you.

Yours faithfully

James M. Barnett
Principal

Creative expression

As a famous person once said, '*Most modern calendars mar the sweet simplicity of our lives by reminding us that each day that passes is the anniversary of some perfectly uninteresting event.*' In each newsletter this term we will include a perfectly interesting event to expand everyone's mind and take an imaginative leap to stimulate creative expression to encourage our students to respond.

Today in 1977

Anton Christy of Sri Lanka stopped balancing on one foot!

- He started some 32 hours before.
- The inner ear is responsible for maintaining your sense of balance (or equilibrium)

The record time more than doubled Amresh Kumar Jah of India in 1995, with a time of almost 72 hours.

Word of the day

'*Equilibrium*' – a state of balance. From Latin 'equi' (equal) and 'libra' (balance).

Imagine...

An unusual sight greets you this frosty morning as you peer out from your bedroom window. It's the sight of every person in the street hopping on one foot or standing balancing on one foot. As you rub your disbelieving eyes you realise it's not just the humans – it's the animals too (although they're standing on two legs). What's going on? Is it April Fool's Day? A new fad? A medical disorder? Write a story about '*The Day of Balancing*'. Send your response to Mr Barnett james.barnett@ed.act.edu.au and Ms Hoogland danielle.hoogland@ed.act.edu.au

Pps... How does your garden grow

We have had an amazing crop from our tomato jungle this year. This is the last of the harvest. Lots of the tomatoes did not ripen so we took advantage and made Green Tomato Chutney. You may have lots of green tomatoes at your house. We have included a recipe that you might like to try so those little green guys don't go to waste! The last of our onions also went to the chutney makers.



GREEN TOMATO CHUTNEY

Ingredients:

1.8kg of green tomatoes roughly chopped

450g cooking apples, peeled, cored and chopped

1 cup sultanas

450g onions chopped

2 large garlic cloves crushed

1 tbsp salt

600ml cider vinegar

450g sugar

3 tbsp pickling spice (1 tbsp black peppercorns, 1 cinnamon stick, 1 tbsp mustard seeds, 2 teas coriander seeds, 1 teas chilli flakes, 5 bay leaves crushed – tied in muslin)

1. Place the tomatoes, apples, sultanas, onion, garlic in a large pan and add the salt.
2. Tie the pickling spice in muslin and add to the pan.
3. Add half the vinegar to the pan and bring to the boil. Reduce the heat and simmer for 1 hour, or until the chutney is reduced and thick, stirring frequently.
4. Put the sugar and remaining vinegar in a separate pan and heat gently until the sugar has dissolved, then add to the chutney. Simmer for 1 ½ hours or until the chutney is thick, stirring occasionally.
5. Remove the muslin bag from the chutney. Spoon the chutney into warmed sterilised jars. Cover and seal immediately.

Allow the chutney to mature for at least one month before using

Ppps...

School Banking

We have been continually monitoring the situation with Coronavirus in each state and territory, with regards to the easing of restrictions. The health and safety of communities and people remain our priority. While School Banking is still paused, we are now considering how best we can deliver the program in a Coronavirus-safe environment.

To assist us, we are keen to understand the impacts of School Banking in your school community, specifically around external visitors to your school.

Please click on the link [here](#), which will be available between 25 May 2020 and 29 May 2020. After we receive survey results we will look to communicate with all parties. Until that time, the School Banking program will remain on pause.

In the meantime, Start Smart Parent Resources have been created to assist parents and carers in improving their children's money management skills. These free, short videos and worksheets can be accessed from home and are designed to give students the confidence and skills to make smart decisions about money. To find out more, visit commbank.com.au/parent

For ongoing support, our School Banking Helpdesk remains available on 1800 674 496, Monday - Friday 9am-5pm Sydney time.

Best Wishes

Returning to School

To support the safety of staff and students at Weetangera School, parent/carers are encouraged to drop off and collect their children ***WITHOUT*** entering the school building, noting that some children may require additional support.

For any inquiries, please report to the front office ***via*** the main entrance.

Embrace the Journey

"I, Samantha Mein, am a former Weetangera School student and currently in Year 11, have created a community newsletter with some peers. We are trying to share hope and happiness during this time of change. Our newsletter aims to lighten the mood, provide study tips for students, and suggest recipes, entertainment, science, art activities, and more! We intend to release one on the first day of each month for the foreseeable future.

Our website, where we will post all the newsletters, is <https://embracethejourneyn.wixsite.com/mysite>. We would welcome any contributions to the newsletter, such as stories or artworks. If you would like to contact us or receive the newsletter by email, we can be found at embracethejourneynewsletter@gmail.com."

Pppps...

Change to Primary Schools Central Placement Panel date for small group programs (LSU, LSU-A, LSC) and specialist school placement

The 2020 school year has started unlike any other, and this has caused significant disruption to usual routines for students, families, and schools. As we welcome students back into our schools, planning is underway to minimise long term impacts of these unprecedented times on our students and their ongoing schooling. In line with this, the date for Primary Schools Central Placement Panel (where small group program placements for LSU, LSU-A, LSC and Specialist Schools are determined) has been changed, with applications now due in Week 6, Term 3 and letters of offer sent to parents in time for schools and parents to develop a transition plan together in Term 4.

[The Secondary Central Placement Panel will proceed as anticipated with outcome letters for Year 6 student applications for high school placements in 2021, sent to parents early in Term 3.](#)

If you would like to access more information regarding the Disability Education Central Placement Panel and process, please see the [Students with Disability](#) webpage on the Education Directorate website or speak to school staff. If you need further information, you can email your query to DisabilityEducation@act.gov.au.



West's Junior Hockey Starting Soon West's is your local Belconnen Hockey Club.

Registrations are open for West's Junior Hockey. We are looking for players in the following age groups for the winter season starting on the last weekend in April:

Hook in2 Hockey Ages 5-9 (registration via www.hookin2hockey.com.au)

Saturday mornings 9-10am at Weetangera Primary School (Turf Pitch) starting July 24

Hook in2 Hockey is modified hockey with 40 minutes coaching followed by mini games. The cost is \$85 (including equipment). A carnival is held during the season.

Juniors Ages 9-18 (registration via <https://www.westshockeyact.org/registration/>)

U11 Boys and Girls – Saturday mornings at ANU (Willows). U11's is also a modified half-field 9-a-side game.

U13-U18 Girls – U13 Saturday and U15 Sunday mornings, U18 Thursday evening

U13-U18 Boys – as above at Lyneham or Tuggeranong Hockey Centre

Training for Juniors is held on Tuesdays 6-7 at Lyneham Hockey Centre

Please contact Lynne Whitehead lynne.whitehead@anu.edu.au

We are also looking for players for our senior teams for men & women at all levels of experience and skills.

DOGS

Under ACT Government policies, dogs are not permitted on school grounds.

READING AT THE TANG

Due to the current environment there will be NO morning reading in the library. However the library will be open for returning books.