



Weetangera School

Successful Learning Through Caring and Sharing



ACT
Government
Education

Weetangera School is an
ANAPHYLAXIS AWARE SCHOOL
Avoiding eggs and all nuts

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome back to you all. With a range of challenges from the bushfires, smoke, Coronavirus and storms, it has no doubt been an eventful summer break for many of our families. I am hoping that to at least some extent you were able to enjoy some time as a family and are feeling energised for the year.

Given the events of the past seven weeks, I thought it was important to inform you of our plans and contingencies for the start of the school year. One of the things we stressed to staff was the importance of assisting students and families who have either been directly or indirectly affected by the fires over the summer period. It is important that the school is made aware of any student who has experienced a traumatic or difficult incident over the holidays, in order for us to make the appropriate adjustments.

Last week and this week we sent out to all families ACT Health advice for schools on Novel Coronavirus. Current advice from the ACT Chief Health Officer is on 1 February, there was an important addition to the measures the Australian government is taking to protect the community against Novel Coronavirus. There is new evidence that there are now an increasing (but still relatively small) number of cases in provinces in mainland China, outside of Hubei Province. For this reason, from the time of 1 February announcement. Students returning from mainland China (excluding Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan) must isolate themselves at home for 14 days after leaving China. This also applies to those who have transited through mainland China. For people who travelled from China prior to the 1 February announcement, who returned from Hubei Province must isolate themselves at home for 14 days after leaving Hubei Province. Students who returned from mainland China (excluding Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan) can attend school and do not need to be isolated at home. The risk of infection is very low. Students who have had contact with a confirmed case of Novel Coronavirus need to isolate themselves for 14 days from the date of last exposure to the case. Being isolated at home means that you need to stay at home for the full period, except if you are unwell and need medical attention. You cannot go to school, or public areas, and should not use public transportation, ride share or taxis. Visitors to the home should be discouraged.

We will be closely monitoring heat and air quality on a daily basis, taking action when required. The school will be guided by the published ACT Health air quality levels and their recommendations at our local site in Weetangera. We will also be using the ETD Government Risk Management and Implementation Frameworks to guide us in the types of activities the students can be engaged in and our responses to heat and poor air quality. This may include restricting physical activity, keeping students indoors, cancelling external sporting events and carnivals, and cancelling excursions which require outdoor activity.

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

Newsletter No. 1
6 February 2020
Term 1 Week 1

COMMUNITY DIARY

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

February

18 P&C AGM 7pm - 9pm

March

- 6 Swimming Carnival
- 10 No Way Bulling Day
- 11 School Photo Day
- 13 Year 3 Camp - Warrambui
- 18-20 Year 4 Camp - Birrigai
- Year 5/6 Camp - Borambola

ASSEMBLIES 9:15 am

7 February
No Assembly

14 February
Whole School Assembly
Hosted by Year 2

Attachments

Chess Club information

Adventures Club (Religious Education) information and permission note

Weetangera School
Southwell Street
Weetangera ACT 2614

Telephone: 6142 2600
Canteen: 6142 2621

Please read our web site:
weetangeraps.act.edu.au

Given the summer of bushfires we are experiencing, I am aware that some parents may have concerns about our camps which are planned to start in a little less than five weeks' time. Please be assured we are having regular communication with ETD and our camp providers, carefully assessing their risk management plans and monitoring the climatic conditions. We will not allow the camps to proceed if we feel that it would not be safe to do so. However, at this stage we are still making plans for the camps to go ahead.

As this school year begins, we as educators and parents, have an enormous gift to give. The gift of enhancing the lives of our students. The gift of teaching the children of Weetangera community, helping them grow and succeed. We all know that what we give, extends so much further.

It is our duty to serve as role models. But more than that, it is our responsibility to make a positive and lasting difference to our students.

As we begin this year, let us approach it with boldness and courage. We must all draw from our past experiences and learn to make positive changes. We must all acknowledge that change is inevitable and necessary for us to keep improving. We should embrace change without forsaking our traditions. We will continue to ignite passion in what we do, guided by our commitment to excellence, to drive and sustain the quality of our learning and for us as a community to seek ways of how we can improve.

I thank in advance our parents and carers for your unwavering support that you continue to give to the school. We have been able to grow as a school community because of the opportunities that you have given us as well as the affirmation and feedback that has allowed the school to progress. I look forward to our continued partnership as we work together to realise the potential of each child at Weetangera PS.

I trust the year of 2020 will truly be one of fresh visions and great breakthroughs as we work together in partnership to soar to great heights. Together, let's create a vision for ourselves as educators and parents, for our children, and for every individual student to *'Inspire a Passion for Learning'* and develop and deliver an education empowering each person at Weetangera School to be a successful learner, a confident and creative individual, and an active and informed globally minded citizen.

Small steps can dramatically enhance a child's learning experience. And when we do this, we will be doing all that we can to make a positive difference. Today, let's take the small steps needed to make our school and our community an even better place to learn, to work, and thrive.

Getting To Know You Interviews

In Week 2, we will be holding *Getting To Know*

You Interviews from Monday 10 February to Friday 14 February. These interviews are a conversation between you and your child's teacher, and are an opportunity for teachers to receive as much information, from you. Interviews are expected to take approximately 10 minutes. Each teacher will roster their available days and times on the website. For these interviews we are using an internet-based booking system called Parent Teacher On-Line (PTO). Using this system you will be able to book the interview times that suit you best. Please contact the school if you need access to a computer. Please access the system as follows:

- go to the school's home page and newsletter page www.weetangeraps.act.edu.au
- click the PTO icon as shown here ...



- enter your surname and PIN, provided on the attached slip

Full instructions are provided after you log in.

Communication

For all new parents and anyone who has changed their email address from last year, please send in your email address for receiving school information. If you no longer require the newsletter to be sent to you please let us know and we will remove you from the list. If you did not receive your newsletter today by email and were expecting to, please send your details to info@weetangeraps.act.edu.au

Regards

James Barnett
Principal

P&C MEETING

P&C's Annual General Meeting on
Tuesday, 18 February at 7pm, in the
school staff room.
All are welcome.

READING AT THE TANG 8:30am to 8:55am

The library is open every morning for
students with accompanying parents/carers
to sit quietly and share a book.

ALL WELCOME