

OUR CANBERRA

BELCONNEN EDITION

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2016



EARTH MOVES FOR CANBERRA'S NEWEST PUBLIC HOSPITAL

Work will soon begin on Canberra's newest public hospital - the **University of Canberra Public Hospital** set to open in 2018.

Brookfield Multiplex, a highly-regarded national company with extensive experience in designing and building health care facilities, has been chosen to design and build the \$139 million project. The final design will include convenient underground parking.

Over time, Canberra's newest and third public hospital is expected to support and lighten the load of Calvary and Canberra Hospitals by taking on more patients requiring sub-acute services, such as rehabilitation from illness or injuries, or those recovering from surgery.

 For more information visit health.act.gov.au

BELCONNEN GETS ITS FIRST BREAST SCREENING CLINIC



Open now is **Belconnen's first new state-of-the-art breast screening clinic for women**, conveniently located at the Belconnen Community Health Centre.

The ACT participates in the national breast screening program, which actively encourages women between 50 and 74 to have a free breast screen every two years. The ACT Government is committed to achieving the national breast screening target of 70% participation. Offering more choice of screening locations for Canberra's women will help achieve this goal.

 To book in for a breast screening, call **13 20 50**

 **Now open** at Calvary Hospital. A new multi-storey **car park** offering an additional **515 spaces** 



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF MINISTER, ANDREW BARR

I hope you are all refreshed after the summer break. I'm sure, like me, you have a busy year ahead of you.

The ACT Government has a **big agenda** for 2016 including major investments in new health, education and transport infrastructure. We are targeting reductions in waiting times in our emergency departments and faster access to elective surgery. New schools and TAFE facilities are being constructed in Gungahlin, Tuggeranong and the Molonglo Valley. New roads, cyclepaths and footpaths are being built right across the city.

I look forward to updating you through future editions of **Our Canberra**.



For more stories and information from across Canberra, visit act.gov.au/ourcanberra or follow us on social media.





GET OFF TO A GREAT START THIS NEW SCHOOL YEAR



1. GET *involved* IN YOUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Getting involved in your school is a great way for the whole family to **engage and stay connected with your school's community**. This year get to know your child's teacher and other families, attend events or volunteer, and if you can, take part in school committees.

2. GET *online* FOR TIPS AND RESOURCES

To help make the 2016 school year a good one for your children, **take a look at some of the fact sheets and resources available online**. These include tips and advice on supporting and encouraging learning, and how to build confidence.

 For details visit edu.act.gov.au

3. GET *engaged* WITH YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING

Children do better and learn more when families and teachers work together.

Take some time to explore the range of publications available on parental engagement, why it matters, how it works and how best to foster it.

 For details on parental engagement visit edu.act.gov.au

4. GET *talking* COMMUNICATION IS KEY

Good communication between parents and teachers ensures everyone is on the same page.



HEALTHY CANTEEN GRUB

Canberra school canteens will be offered the opportunity to trial in a new online ordering service for healthy home-made lunches and snacks this school year.

 canberra.ymca.org.au
or act.gov.au/ourcanberra



Term 1 for all Canberra Public Schools **starts:**


Monday 1 February
for new students or

Tuesday 2 February
for continuing students.

 Look up all 2016 term dates at edu.act.gov.au

SUNSMART AT SCHOOL


From 11 am - 3 pm between September and April, UV levels are at their highest. Ensure your child takes a broad-brimmed or legionnaire style hat to school every day and a 30+ broad spectrum and water repellent sunscreen. Contact your child's school for further information on their sun protection guidelines.

 Get more back to school tips at act.gov.au/ourcanberra



RIDE OR WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL IN 2016

Road safety improvements around Macquarie, Macgregor, Latham and Mount Rogers primary schools will make it **safer for kids to ride their bike or walk to school** more often this year. Road network changes around these schools will **slow traffic down** and alert drivers to children in the area.

 For more information visit act.gov.au/ourcanberra

TOP NAPLAN RESULTS

Great news. Compared to other jurisdictions, NAPLAN mean scores of **ACT students were top or equal top across 19 of the 20 areas tested in 2015**. NAPLAN test results are a great starting point for parents to understand how their children are performing at school.

 Have a conversation about your child's literacy and numeracy with their teacher in 2016

TRY CBRfree WI-FI ON THE BUS

Passengers can now be connected on the bus thanks to a **12-month 'CBRfree Wi-Fi trial' on five ACTION buses**.

The buses selected for this trial will be clearly identified and available across several routes and services.



 For more information visit action.act.gov.au

PARTIES & EXCURSIONS AT THE ARBORETUM

The National Arboretum will soon be the place to go for school excursions and birthday celebrations.

This popular and loved Canberra attraction **now offers birthday parties and school excursions** with a fun and educational twist. Your child can celebrate their birthday with kite-making or a forest adventure party.

 For more information and bookings, call **6207 8484**

 email arboretum@act.gov.au

 or visit nationalarboretum.act.gov.au

WEETANGERA NEIGHBOURHOOD OVAL UPGRADE



Weetangera has a **new and improved neighbourhood oval** with restoration works now complete. Upgrades include resurfacing of the oval, irrigation, new goals posts, cricket pitch and nets, floodlighting and a new pavilion with change rooms, toilet and canteen facilities.

Weetangera Place, Weetangera





60%
of the ACT's
electricity
will be renewable by
2017

100%
renewable by
2025

i For more information on renewable energy programs visit environment.act.gov.au/energy

Leading the nation on climate change action.

**GET
RE-PSYCHED
ABOUT
RECYCLING**

TAKE YOUR TOPS OFF!
Remove lids from containers.

SET YOUR RECYCLING FREE!
Don't put it in a plastic bag.

EMPTY SPRAY? A-OK!
Empty aerosol cans are recyclable.

DON'T SEND FOIL TO THE SOIL!
All aluminium foil is recyclable.

FIRM & FLEXY IS SEXY!
If plastic is flexible but firm, like ice cream containers, it's recyclable.

i For more information visit act.gov.au/recycling

20 YEARS CELEBRATING CANBERRA'S DIVERSITY

Canberra's biggest, loudest and much loved celebration of diversity is back. The **National Multicultural Festival** runs from **12-14 February** and is celebrating its 20th anniversary.

This year's headline act will be **The Black Sorrows** with lead singer Joe Camilleri. Also new in 2016 is the **'Bellydance Spectacular Showcase'**, held as part of the Saturday Carnival Parade.

i For more information on the festival visit multiculturalfestival.com.au

t follow **@NatMultiFest** on Twitter or

f **National Multicultural Festival** on Facebook

CULTURE & CREATIVITY COLLIDE
FOR **ENLIGHTEN 2016**

Autumnal landscapes and childhood dreams will breathe life into Canberra after dark as **Enlighten** returns from **4-12 March**.

The national capital's Parliamentary Triangle will again be transformed into a vibrant arts precinct with a range of free and ticketed events – all set against a stunning backdrop. **The Enlighten Night Noodle Markets** also return this year, offering Asian eats, themed bars and live music.

i For program details visit enlightencanberra.com

f or follow **Enlighten** on Facebook



For more stories and information from across Canberra, visit act.gov.au/ourcanberra or follow us on social media.

