OUR CANBERRA



WODEN, WESTON CREEK & MOLONGLO EDITION

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2016



Up to I.100 ACT Government Health and Access Canberra workers will move to the Woden Town Centre this year, bringing new customers to restaurants, cafes and other businesses.

The Government will go to tender in early 2016 for up to 15,500 square metres of office space. The space will also provide an improved southside presence for Access Canberra, with a new shopfront making it easier for Canberrans to connect with ACT Government services.

Moving workers to the town centre will also ensure that more space on the Canberra Hospital campus is freed up for public health and clinical services







Canberra has a **brand new school opening its doors in 2016**, for preschool to Year 6 students from the suburbs of **Coombs** and **Wright** in the **Molonglo Valley**.



Meet the principal and see what's on offer at **charlesweston.act.edu.au**



For more information visit act.gov.au/ourcanberra

Above: Principal of Charles Weston School, Kate McMahon



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**.













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

HEALTHY Canberra school canteens will be offered the opportunity to trial in a **CANTEEN GRUB** new online ordering service for healthy home-made lunches and snacks this school year. canberra.ymca.org.au or **act.gov.au/** ourcanberra

3. GET engaged WITH YOUR CHILD'S

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.



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



From II 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



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TRY CBRfree WI-FI ON THE BUS

Passengers can now be connected on the bus thanks to a I2-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

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







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.



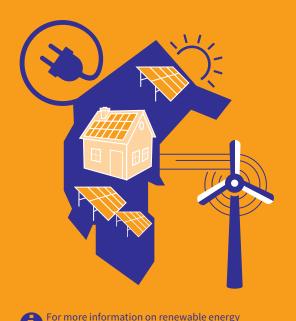
For more information and bookings, call **6207 8484**



email arboretum@act.gov.au



or visit $\ national arboretum.act.gov.au$



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

2017

100% renewable by 2025

Leading the nation on climate change action.



TAKE YOUR TOPS OFF!
Remove lids from containers.

SET YOUR RECYCLING FREE!

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.



For more information visit act.gov.au/recycling





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.

For program details visit enlightencanberra.com

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or follow **Enlighten** on Facebook









