

NEWSROUND

Principals Message

Dear Parents and Community Members,

Welcome to the week 3 edition of the weekly newsletter. As of today, Friday the 22nd of October, students of all year levels are back to on site learning full time which is just fantastic!

Please know that we value the effort you have put in to supporting your children and teachers during the past months in particular remote learning.

Can I also please remind you all to log onto uEducateUs now and then and to make links with announcements that are posted so to keep up to date on the COVID- 19 information and advice as notified by DET.

This is our main link for communications and one where we will provide more detailed information about COVID safe practices that will be used to help keep all students, staff and family members safe. It will be important that everyone is aware of and complies with these procedures at all times. Many thanks for your support.

THANK YOU MRS COSGRIFF

A huge thank you to Mrs Cosgriff who has finished up with us for the year as our Tutor Learning Initiative tutor! Ever since she has been involved with us for the TLI program we have seen tremendous amount of growth within our students who are a part of the TLI program!

We can't thank Mrs Cosgriff enough for all of her great work throughout the year!

As Mrs Cosgriff goes on leave we also welcome Mrs O'Connell to team as she takes over for Mrs Cosgriff as the TLI tutor on a Friday.

NEW FLAG POLE GRANT APPLICATION

Many thanks to Mr Tunks who has placed an application for additional Flag poles to be funded for our school. These flag poles would be advance on what presently exists and if successful will replace the pole presented by the local men's group many long years ago which was recently removed.

We certainly are hoping that we are successful Mr Tunks!

HOME READING

All of our students are eager to learn and a reminder to encourage and continually praise them for their reading daily at home. We are keen to extend even further each and every student pre the end of the year and with this guidance and support at home the limitations of growth are endless.

Inside:

- Weekly Information
- Classroom Reports
- Covid 19 Safety Protocols



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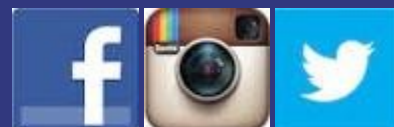
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NEWSROUND CONTINUED

BOOKS IN HOMES

This term we are fortunate enough to once again have the Kensington Gardens Craft Group support our wonderful school by donating books to our students for the third time this year! We can't thank the ladies from the crafts group enough for their donations as well as the support of the Books in Homes program!

Our students started the selection process throughout the week with the next step being to send the list of students selections back to books in homes ready for our order to be processed. All of our students are once again as eager as ever to receive their books already at the book giving assembly to be released at a later date.

SUN SMART

A reminder that hats are compulsory during this term. Please ensure that you supply your child with theirs or take advantage of purchasing a new one from the school from Mr Turner at a cost of \$15 each.

ATTENDANCE

Staff are directed to continually maintain daily connections via telephone contact or via learning platforms to contact families in support of student learning and attendance. Please inform your child's teacher of your child being absence. Attendance and daily check ins with staff are essential in supporting your child's learning at school and also when completing remote work on any occasion at home.

BUDDIES PROGRAM- TRANSITION INTO FOUNDATION YEAR OF LEARNING.

The Peer Support Program involves Kinder students making links with Foundation students and their grades 4/5/6 buddies to meet and participate in activities and make buddies and friends together during transition. This year with restrictions in place and our transition Kinder to school program on hold senior Buddies shall be allocated to new students when they enrol and shall contact new students (Pre-school/Kindergarten) via letter writing so to draw connections and helping them transition into our school.
Fantastic work from our student leaders.

2022 DOXA CAMP

Doxa camp is set for June 2022 thus whilst early in our news please consider that payment plans can be put into place so to accommodate our Melbourne campers with the anticipated cost approximately \$160 per student. Feel free to have a chat if it is the case.

TRANSITION AND NEW ENROLMENTS IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS IN 2021-22.

A reminder that many parents will still need to make decisions regarding their child's education for 2022 and beyond. To assist in their decision, attached our Facebook is the Step into Prep Transition Booklet and Enrolment Flyer providing information on transition days to take place commencing term 4.
Please pass this onto any new or incumbent enrolments for their information.

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COMPLIANCE WITH DIRECTIONS FROM THE CHIEF HEALTH MINISTER.

Essentially, we are operating under the direct guidelines from the health minister in terms of the pandemic and in support of student, staff and community health and safety the following continues to apply for all Victorian schools.

QR CODE REQUIREMENTS IN SCHOOLS

The use of Service Victoria QR codes for electronic record keeping is mandatory for all workplaces to enable the effective contact tracing of any COVID-19 cases. This now includes schools. The public health intent of including schools in the QR code check in system for workplaces is to capture those visitors accessing school buildings or indoor facilities, but not those entering the school grounds for reasons such as school pick up.

QR CODES WILL BE REQUIRED TO BE USED BY

- all visitors, including contractors, external Department staff and building and maintenance staff
- all parents who enter buildings when on the school site QR code check ins will not be required for staff or students, or parents who come onto school grounds for drop off or pick up, that do not enter buildings. Schools can permit parents to enter buildings onsite for student pick up and drop off providing sufficient QR code locations can be identified and utilised to ensure parents are able to check in.

LOCATIONS SHOULD INCLUDE

- Site entry and exit points
- Building entrances already have in place existing sign in and out processes.

It is important for all visitors to sign in on the register also located in the office foyer.

FACE MASKS IN SCHOOLS

A reminder that all visitors must continue to wear face masks while in the school grounds regardless of whether it is inside or outside unless an exemption applies.



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Grade 4—6 Classroom News

Welcome to week 3 everyone! As of next week our senior class will be back full time which is fantastic!

In literacy this week we have been looking at summarizing our books and finding the main ideas from texts. In writing we have been working on persuasive letter writing. I am really impressed with our student's persuasive writing skills, there is some great language being used in writing!

In numeracy this week we have been working on reading timetables and measuring elapsed time.

In art we have created plasticine animals and dioramas for these.

In the next few weeks we will be focusing on getting back into the routine of school and also assessing students in literacy and numeracy ready for end of year reports.

Stay tuned for next week's newsletter as Star of the Week returns when our class is back full time!

Mr Tunks



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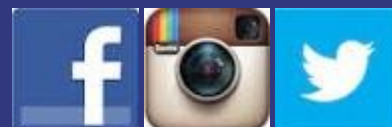
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**How is YOUR head today?
What THOUGHTS are taking
up most of your
headspace?
It's okay not to be OKAY.
Remember, HELP is just a
phone call away.**



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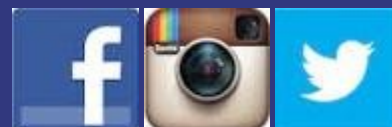
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Supporting young children during COVID-19

What is COVID-19?

COVID-19 novel coronavirus is a worldwide pandemic. Luckily few young children have fallen ill. Most of the sick children have had mild cases. However, young children are highly affected by the isolation and the anxiety of their parents, carers and other adults.

Adults may think that children will not notice all the changes and stress, but they are very sensitive to what is going on. This info sheet describes some ways children react to stress and some things you can do to help them.

Common Emotional Reactions in Young Children

- Crying
- Restlessness
- Sleep problems
- Nightmares
- Being clingy
- Fear of being alone
- Easily upset or angered
- Withdrawn

They may also engage in repetitive play activities with themes about fear and protective behaviours, such as caring for dolls and toy animals.

You may also see behaviours such as bed wetting and thumb sucking in children who had previously outgrown these activities.

Concerns for family

If you're a parent or primary carer for a child or children and need to be separated for any length of time during the pandemic, talk to the children using electronic means as often as possible during the day and at bedtime. If possible, do this via Skype, Messenger, Zoom or Facetime so they can see you.

Children in care may have additional concerns about family members, or their past trauma may be triggered (e.g. food uncertainty). They may need additional regulating activities (physical and sensory).

ROUTINES are very important for young children.

Creating new routines or re-establishing usual routines can help children feel safe. Keeping regular mealtimes and bedtimes, setting a daily time to play games together, read to them, or singing songs together all help.

SUPPORT from parents or caregivers is very important during periods of stress. Parents may be physically present but not available emotionally because they are so stressed themselves. It's important to make time to reassure young children and spend time with them. Even young children can benefit from seeing playmates or family members on video conferencing.

How you can help

EXPLAIN why things are different. Young children may not understand why things have changed (like why they cannot go outside or play with other children) but talking with them will help them feel supported by you. Keep explanations simple.

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

This is very important. Even if young children are not directly exposed to the trauma, they can recognize stress and worry in older children and adults in the house. Reach out to your support network and remember social distancing and even physical self-isolation does not mean social isolation.

This information sheet has been derived from: Joy D. Osofsky, Ph.D. Paul J. Ramsey Chair of Psychiatry Barbara Lemann Professor of Child Welfare LSU Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, LA and Howard J. Osofsky, M.D., Ph.D. Kathleen and John Bricker Chair of Psychiatry.

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