



Dear Parents and Guardians,

We hope you are finding week 3 of remote learning easier than week 2, which was easier than the first week. I know this will get easier as you, our staff and the children settle into a 'new' routine, our new normal. Our teachers have told us that most children completing their work with a device are really engaged and enjoying it and uploading their work on a regular basis.

Whilst we know most of you are not 'teachers' in the traditional sense, please don't forget you are, and always will be, your child's first teacher. You taught them to speak, you encouraged them to walk, you taught them manners as well as how to use the toilet. You can do it. Remember the words of encouragement you gave them as they toddled their first steps, remember how you gently or jokingly corrected their grammar or mispronunciation as they started to speak. Remember how proud you were of them when they finally used the toilet correctly.

Any positive interaction you have with your children in this very different learning environment WILL help them, WILL support them and WILL encourage them. They WILL learn. And when they return to school nurtured and full of positive experiences, their readiness to learn will be ENORMOUS and that is how you can help them the most.

Whilst you continue to support them to do the tasks set by their teacher, please DON'T be too hard on your child or YOURSELF. It is NOT an expectation that they complete 6 hours of learning a day. Do what you can. Praise their effort. We will pick up where you, and us, left off as soon as they are back on board.

Webex: This week we are attempting to get all classes connected to their teacher in a face-to-face meeting online. Please follow the instructions listed in Dojo so your child can 'see' their teachers and school friends through their device.

Breakfast Club Items: We have a cupboard full of food. If you would like a pack made up for you, please call the office and ask to speak to Mrs Costa or Mrs Cvitkovic and we will arrange for a pack to be picked up that your family can enjoy whilst at home.

Classroom Materials: If you are finding it difficult to provide your child with materials they need for their learning such as pencils, rulers, rubbers etc, please call the office and ask to speak to Mrs Costa or Mrs Cvitkovic and we will organise a pack for you to collect.

Take Home Reading Books: If you are finding it hard to provide reading material for your child, we are happy for you to bring them to school once a week to choose 5 new books they can practice over the week. Again please call the school and ask to speak to Mrs Costa or Mrs Cvitkovic and we will arrange a time to come up and collect/change your child's books.

Year 5/6 Canberra Camp: Please note we have secured a booking for another date. The camp will run from 30th November 2020 to 4th December 2020. If your child is attending and you would like to continue to make regular payments you can do this over the phone or come into the office. We will send out an updated payment schedule for those still owing money at the beginning of term 4 so if you prefer to wait to make further payments that's ok too.

Year 6/7 Transition Forms (Secondary School Placements): We have sent out messages about the process for completing forms for a place for Year 6 students at secondary schools next year. We posted a complete pack to every family early this week, so this should arrive in your letterbox by the END of next week AT THE VERY LATEST. We know Australia Post has reduced their service and mail is taking longer than usual. Alternatively, the forms are available on Class Dojo, Showbie and our Facebook page for you to print off and complete also. Please ensure your form is returned to us by MAY 29th 2020 AT THE VERY LATEST. If you have any questions about the form or information concerning this process, please call the office and ask to speak to Mrs Cvitkovic or Mrs Costa and we can reassure you. You can return the forms via post, hand deliver or via email melton.west.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Year Prep 2021: We are accepting enrolments for Prep 2021 children from now. We will re-instate tours once school comes back fulltime, however if you are an existing family with a younger sibling who you wish to enrol and don't feel you need a tour, you can complete an enrolment form and return to office as soon as you like. These are available on the school website. Again any questions please call the office and ask to speak to Mrs Costa or Mrs O'Connor.

Please remember when you are at school, we have social distancing protocols in place, so please read the signs to keep everyone safe.

Please remember we are only a phone call away. If you have a question, please call and we will do our best to answer it. Teachers are available to support your child with their learning from 9.00am – 1.00pm daily so contact them as necessary as well. We are here to help and support. Just ask.

High Levels of Learning for All

Michelle Costa
Principal



Department of Education and Training

Office of the Secretary

2 Treasury Place
East Melbourne Victoria 3002
Telephone: 03 9637 2000
DX210083

Dear parents and carers

The Victorian Government has advised new arrangements for school education for Term 2, 2020.

All children who can learn from home must learn from home.

This course of action has been determined to help slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19), based on the advice of the Victorian Chief Health Officer.

Our schools have been re-oriented to support learning from home.

Principals and teachers have put in place plans to provide a learning from home program for all year levels. This includes provision by the Department of Education and Training through your school of laptops or tablets and network access, if required.

In order to protect the health and safety of your children, your family, your teachers and the whole community, it is important that you follow the Victorian Government's direction and keep your child learning at home this term.

On-site school attendance is available as a last resort where parents and carers are not able to put in place arrangements to supervise children at home. Your school will have provided you with further information about this.

Information for parents and carers to support you supervise your children at home can be found here:
<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/department/Pages/coronavirus.aspx>

If you have any questions or would like to discuss your own circumstances, please talk to your school or phone the Department of Education and Training parents' and carers' hotline on 1800 338 663.

Thank you for your cooperation and your support for our teachers, schools and community.

Yours sincerely

Jenny Atta
Secretary
Department of Education and Training

Melton South's got Talent

WHAT'S YOUR TALENT? SHARE AND WIN

Visit the Linking Melton South facebook page to take part in the Melton South's Got Talent online video contest!

Submit your video entry by the 12th of May and if your video gets the most votes you could win \$200 in gift cards! See the competition page for details.

 www.facebook.com/linkingmeltonsouth

