

From the Principal



Daniel Frew

Smooth Return to On-site Learning

I would like to begin by thanking both staff and parents for the wonderful support that has been extended to students over the last week to ensure the smooth transition back to on-site learning. On the whole, students have enthusiastically embraced the return to the routines of their classrooms and have certainly relished the renewed connectedness with their peers.

Our hard working teachers have a busy end to the term as they undertake extended assessment tasks for students to ascertain their overall progress for first semester. From our observations and discussions with parents, most students engaged strongly with their remote learning during lockdown. Thankyou for your support during this time particularly in making sure that students were ready to attend their webex meeting in the morning.

In support of the extended analysis of student achievement being undertaken by teachers at present, please note that mid-year student reports will now be available to parents on Compass from Wednesday 23rd June at 4:00pm. We will be arranging for student led conferences in Term 3.

End of Term 2 Arrangements

Please note that Term Two concludes on Friday 25th June. Students will be dismissed at 2:30pm on Friday 25th June to begin their midyear break.

Unfortunately, we are still unable to host assemblies at this stage due to the current operational guidelines from the Department of Education & Training (DET). We hope to have school assemblies operating again next term. Please note that Term 3 will begin on Monday 12th July for all students.

Curriculum Day – 30th July

We have rescheduled the curriculum day to Friday 30th July. The school will be working with Education Changemakers to develop a new direction, vision, mission and values for the school. We are hoping to get community involvement in this.

During the morning, our staff and educators from our kindergartens will be working together to frame our direction. In the afternoon we will then be engaging with selected families and community members for input.

After this has occurred we will then be running a series of focus groups with families and parents to seek more input and ensure that the school has a clear direction and path forward.

Prep Enrolments

Enrolments for next year are the life blood of the school. If you know of any families looking to enrol for 2021 please encourage them to book in for a school tour.

Grounds and Facilities

There continues to be ongoing work at the school, in particular:

- The work for the inclusive school's garden project has begun, this does mean that I have had to close off the double gate entrance to the school. This will remain closed while it is a work site.
- We have repaired the gutters and leaks that were affecting the hall.
- James and Katrina have cleaned up the canteen and we will begin getting quotes to see if we can get it refurbished.
- The wall near the entrance of the school has been rendered.
- Surprisingly the downpipe near the grade 5/6 room had never been connected to storm water, so would always overflow. This has now been fixed.
- We have lots of weeding to do, if anyone feels like they would like to come in at any time, the gate is always open.

Book Drive

Over the last few weeks Michelle has organised a book drive for the school. While I don't have exact numbers, the last time I checked it was well over 600 books. A huge thankyou to Michelle and her efforts in coordinating this. The books will go into a combination of the school library as well as classroom libraries to support independent reading.

School Rules and Consequences

Throughout the term teachers have been working on developing a school wide consistent approach to student behaviour. As a result of this work we have identified seven rules that are in place in every class.

1. Treat others kindly
2. Tell the truth
3. Keep our hands and feet to ourselves
4. Include others
5. Follow instructions
6. Care for our school and belongings
7. Move around the school safely

Teachers have spent time modelling and demonstrating the behaviours that we want to see from students. The rules provide an opportunity for teachers to teach what it is that we need to see from students. As well as teaching behavioural expectations we are also doing weekly lessons as a school on how to respect others and ourselves, as well as strategies to regulate and identify our emotions.

With the rules, we have a set of consequences that move from three stages.

Stage 1: Students are given a warning where they are calmly told the rule and behaviour that they are not following.

Stage 2: Students are given a time out within the classroom. They are not removed from the class as this would prevent them from learning. When in timeout they are still expected to listen and complete their work. After the 12 minute time out the teacher will ask them if they are ready to return to the class.

Stage 3: If a behaviour is repeated a third time then parents will be notified via a note that will be sent home. We will implement this in Term 3.

It is important for you to know that if your child gets a note that you do not need to provide any additional discipline or discussion with your child. The consequence for them is that they have to give you the note and let you know why they received it. We do this also because I believe that parents need to be made aware of if their child is repeatedly not following the school rules.

For primary aged children telling their parent is enough of a consequence. We also need them to learn that every day we can start afresh and that they are still learning to regulate and manage their responses. The key is to see that every mistake is a way learning how to do things better. This is the message that if you do talk to them about their behaviour, that I would like you to give.

Dates

Term 2		Term 3	
23 rd Jun	Reports on Compass	12 th Jul	First day of term 3
25 th Jun	Last day of term: 2:30pm finish	19 th Jul	Edendale Farm Excursion
		27 th Jul	F/1 100 Days of School
		30 th Jul	Curriculum Day
		12 th Aug	P-6 Cultural Dance Incursion
		20 th Aug	Trivia night
		23 rd to 27 th Aug	Book Week
		1 st to 3 rd Sep	Grade 3 to 6 Camp
		31 st Aug	Father's Day Stall
		7 th Sep	Student Led Conferences
		17 th Sep	Last day of term: 2:30pm finish
		25 th Sep	Richmond Grand Final