

# PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter No. 5 ~ 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

**DIARY DATES** 

<u>Today</u> 2021 Year 7 Transition information and Application Forms emailed to Grade 6 parents

<u>30<sup>th</sup> April to 8<sup>th</sup> May</u> Mothers' Day Stall – please refer to the newsletter for details

<u>Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> May</u> Last day to submit 2021 Applications for Year 7 Placements

# **Principal Pen**

I would like to congratulate our parent community for working closely with teachers over the last week and a half in these precedented times to ensure that your children are able to learn successfully at home. I know that the teachers have 'met' with students on line through Zoom (5/6), Skype and Google Meet a number of times and have also, in addition to posting work each day and commenting/giving feedback on students' submitted work in Google Classroom, contacted individual parents and children whenever necessary. If you are struggling at home with your children our teachers are available to assist you. Contact them via email and they will organise to call you or your child via phone, Skype, Zoom or Google Meet – whatever works for you.

Students are expected to check in with teachers daily. It has been terrific to hear that this is occurring on a daily basis. Followup by schools is a requirement if this does not occur. f your child is sick and cannot learn on a particular day please let the classroom teacher know. This will be recorded at school as an absence.

During the last 2 weeks it has been important that the students learn how to use the IT for remote learning. Over the next few weeks as the teachers and children become

more confident in using IT, teachers will be planning work for students based on individual needs. This will include streaming for Mathematics (Gr1-6) where a teacher other than your classroom teacher may set learning activities for students, CAFÉ reading groups via Zoom/Google Meet, and intervention/extension activities set by teachers. Already the Prep teachers have prepared individual activities for some particular students in Prep, including videoing themselves teaching, so that they don't fall behind and Ms Smith has organsied 1-1 learning of children on the intervention program with our wonderful aides.

From next week teachers will be unavailable to students at the following times so that they can plan for differentiation of student work. When we are normally at school teachers have time during the day to plan together.

- Grade Prep Wednesday 12.20-1.20pm and
- Grade 1/2 Monday 2.30-3.30pm and Tuesdsy 12-1pm
- Grade 3/4 Tuesday 10-11am and Wednesdsy 2.30-3.30pm
- Grade 5/6 Wednesday 10-11am and

I would like to thank the parents for their overwhelmingly positive feedback. I have Included some of this feedback in the newsletter, taking out names for privacy reasons. All feedback that has been emailed to the school has been shared with the staff. It is very much welcomed at this difficult time.

If you have **Facebook** and haven't 'liked' our school's page yet, this is the time to do it. As well as information, every day teachers and parents have emailed photos of their children learning remotely and/or have sent in photos of student work to share with our school community.

If you would like to post your remote learning photos to our page email photos with a short blurb to <u>ms v@narrewarrennorthps.vic.edu.au</u> or to your classroom teacher. Any photos sent to other email addresses or on Messenger will not be posted as it is too difficult to keep track.

## **Chromebooks and IT support**

We had over 90 requests to borrow the school chromebooks last week. If any parents are finding that the device your children are using isn't working that well, please contact the school and we will organise a time for you to collect your child's allocated chromebook (Gr 1-6).

If there is an issue with the chromebook please contact Adam, our school's technician via email at <u>helpdesk@narrewarrennorthps.vic.edu.au</u> and he will contact you directly.

School Website: <u>www.narrewarrennorthps.vic.edu.au</u> Phone: 9796 8261 Email: narre.warren.north.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au Instead of cancelling activities we would normally have been doing we are 'thinking outside the box' to find new ways to implement things. During the last week Ben Zimmerle conducted 'virtual school tours' for 2021 Prep enrolments. Information about **enrolments for Prep 2021** was placed on flexibuzz and Facebook last Friday.

Just a reminder that parents are unable to borrow Library or CAFÉ books as we are only using a small area of the school which is being frequently sanitised during the day.

#### Privacy

Any material produced by the school, <u>MUST NOT</u> be shared, reproduced or published in any other way, without the written consent from the school. I ask that you consider our staff in this context. The learning tasks developed, accompanied by the videos is work that we have put a great deal of effort into. We do not post this work in the online environment for praise or public scrutiny – the only purpose is to educate your children. You can imagine how vulnerable and exposed our staff will feel if videos of themselves are shared (even if the intentions are to highlight how wonderful our lessons are) – just as your professional documents and files are not for public display, neither are our teachers – please privilege them their privacy.

## Mothers' Day – 10<sup>th</sup> May

Mothers' Day is fast approaching. Last term Lorraine Woordward and I organised some beautiful gifts for your children to purchase for Mothers' Day. Even though we cannot have our normal Mothers' Day stall we would still like to offer this activity to students.

A timetable has been organised for your children to come to school to purchase Mothers' Day gifts via a Google sheet (link below). This will occur between 30<sup>th</sup> April and the 8<sup>th</sup> May for anyone interested. Your children will be allowed to come into the building to select and purchase gifts. We ask that parents stay in or by their cars O.

If interested, please add in your details to the timetable (see tabs for dates) where there are gaps and take note of the time you are coming to school/ or a screen shot so we can keep the social distancing rule in place. Cut off will be <u>the day</u> <u>before at 3.30pm</u> so the schedule and gifts can be organised for the following day. Only families who have booked in will be able to purchase gifts.

Photos of the items for purchase are attached (last page). It is important that you bring a bag and small change with you rather than large notes as we do not have any cash onsite. Please be on time or you will miss out on your timeslot and will need to book for a later date.

#### Mothers' Day Timetable 2020

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1jsXM4bYxp87VJNUVpdsvTlALdloBlkkXwiC0CziwvOY/edit?usp=sharing

Connie vanderVoort Principal

#### School Photos/Scholastic books

The school photos will not be delivered until towards the end of Term 2 in readiness for distribution when the students return to school. Scholastic books can be collected during your visit to the Mothers' Day stall.

One on one learning with Mrs K



3/4 Team meeting



5/6 Zoom check in



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### Parent feedback on remote learning:

Just wanted to send through an email to say a huge thank you for all the work you have so far done and continue to do to help our kids continue their learning through these trying times. I can't even image the amount of work you are all putting in, please know your efforts aren't going unnoticed and you are incredibly appreciated by the kids and all of us parents.

I think you are all doing an amazing job in a very abnormal environment. Thank you all for your hard work, dedication and resourcefulness. I for one am extremely grateful.

Thanks for everything you and everyone at the school are doing to help support us parents and the students during this very weird time. You have done nothing but let us know information timely and also very clear. Thank you from us.

You all deserve a huge pat on your backs.

We are grateful for all the hard work and efforts behind the scenes given such extreme and unpredictable circumstances we are all facing. Thanks so much!

I just wanted to touch base and let u know that all the information that I have been given from all my 3 teachers have been fantastic.

Just some positive feedback, I looked over the google classroom today and I think they've done a fantastic job getting the class work sorted for online learning in such a short time. All very easy to understand and use. Well done NWNPS!

We are both thrilled with the level of communication and support thus far. We can not even begin to understand what the teachers have been putting together and the work that has gone on behind the scenes. I have just been into the kids google classrooms and can see the work that is already there and the kids are excited to be learning in a new way.

All I can say is I'm so grateful for the hard work you're all doing. Sending my kids back to school is very hard but we have no choice. We are so grateful. Thank you

I am just wanting to send through a thanks and a shout out to all of the team at Narre North PS, the delivery, the attitudes and the clear communications around each step of the continuity plan has been truly amazing.

A special call out to my daughter's teacher. Her proactive communication, instructions and check ins have been fantastic! It's made it really easy to transition to school from home.

Having you available to chat to the kids in the meeting room was such a fantastic idea. It really reassured my daughter that everyone was going through the same things as her and that you were there if she needed. Even just that social connection with her classmates had made a massive difference.

Today showed just how prepared and dedicated the staff at Narre North are. For us it was seamless. My child logged on at 9am, showed me how to use google classroom as the teacher had showed him, then worked through each task without much assistance and really engaged in it.

The tasks were interesting- he especially loved the science tasks this week- long enough to keep his interest and we found sticking to the same fruit and recess and lunch breaks worked really well.

He loves you can comment and read the class comments- made him feel connected to his peers (Gr 2)

I just wanted to write a quick note to say how exceptionally the teaching teams did this week. The communication has been clear and timely for us and I have to mention that the setup of his classroom and communication with the kids has made this situation all the better to navigate for my child.

Thanks for a great first day.

I'm not going to lie it wasn't easy, I'm trying to juggle working from home as well. Let's just say I didn't get any work at all done during the school day but it's new and it's all about finding our feet and the best routine to work for us all. It will take a few days but we will get there and hopefully my daughter still loves me at the end of it...haha

You have done brilliantly with the lesson plans and making it so simple, so I thank you for that. I can only imagine how much time it's taken you.

My son had a wonderful first day and so did we. He was a little stressed as we spent a lot of time doing the wrong maths class lol so he missed out on a few tasks. But I assured him that it was ok and not to worry. I was extremely proud of him with the maths task he acknowledged that this was hard and new time but kept going and started to grasp what I was explaining ....

I just wanted to drop you a quick email to say we appreciate everything you are doing to make sure the kids get a good education in these circumstances. My son was pleased to see you in your video and while this is not ideal we are extremely grateful for all of your effort.

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21/04/2020

Dear School Community,

We would like to inform you that in response to the Covid-19 crisis, we have chosen to temporarily reduce the days of operation for our retail stores. Please note that your local store will now open at the following times, until further notice:

## <u>Beleza Hallam</u>

- Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from 12pm to 5pm.
- Saturday, from 10am to 1pm.

Our stores' opening hours are subject to change as the situation develops, but we will continue to keep you updated as changes occur. We apologise for any inconvenience that these changes may cause and appreciate your understanding as we continue to assess the situation.

All the best, and stay safe Beleza School Uniforms

## 3/4 Camp to Manyung

At this stage we do not know if this camp is going ahead in June.

We have contacted Manyung and they will not be making a decision until next month. If children do not return to school this term the camp will be cancelled. If it goes ahead children of parents who didn't pay a deposit will still have the opportunity to attend. A question has been asked if there is no camp can it be rescheduled for later this year? This is also unknown because camps are booked well in advance by schools so we may not be able to get into any. Stay tuned.



#### We're here for you, as you're here for us.

Welcome back to everyone after a well-deserved term break. Whether you're learning from home, or here at school, we look forward to a new and improved Term 2. We thank you for all your continued support and patience through these challenging times.

We understand Outside School Hours Care is vital for many parents that are not able to work from home, so that you can continue to provide essential work for the nation. Our OSHC service is open and operating for those that need our care, and will provide your children with much-needed familiarity and continuity through our engaging programs that have an increased focus on hygiene and social distancing. We offer a safe environment at your school for children to get active, try new things, connect with friends and relax.

As per the recent State Government advice, from the start of Term 2 all students who can learn from home must learn at home. This means our service is open to all children of parents who cannot work from home, vulnerable children, or children that are not able to be supervised at home on certain days and no other arrangements can be made. For these families, childcare will be provided free of charge until 30th June as per the Federal Government's announcement on the 2nd April.

Whilst care is free, we still need to know if you are coming. We ask that you get your bookings in as soon as you can, so that we can staff and resource the service appropriately, to best care for your children.



It's FREE to Register. (and if you want to use OSHC, you first need to register). Register at pp.campaustralia.com.au/account/login. Once registered, it's easy to make and manage your bookings online via our Parent Portal.

#### Visit our blog for helpful information and fun activities.

New articles are added each week for parents and cover various topics to help families. This month we are focusing on all things COVID-19. We talk about how to adjust to the changes you've made in your household, including fun activity ideas to entertain your child at home. Visit the blog here: <a href="https://campaustralia.com.au/blog">https://campaustralia.com.au/blog</a>

