

Things which matter most

Must never be at the mercy of things which matter least.

Goethe

1 April 2020

Principal's Report

Dear Parents and Guardians

I am looking forward to seeing a sea of rainbows around our suburb. Rainbows have always been a symbol of hope and a new beginning. I would like to acknowledge and give our appreciation for the support of all our families.

We are in such unusual and different times that is immensely challenging for each one of us. We know that you are equally challenged at home as we are, in trying to provide solutions to looking after the children in our community. We are fully aware of the difficulties that you are presented with in endeavouring to maintain your children's interest and engagement in learning. Our aim has from the beginning, been to support all our families and maintain the children's strong connection with their teachers and the school. At this time connection to significant others for our children and families is paramount and is very much at the top of the Maslow's hierarchy of human needs.

With this said I need to stress that the work that has been provided in substance and quantity has been carefully considered by the Teaching and Learning Teams. Research on students who are home schooled shows that children perform in terms of completing tasks the same as if they were at school. Hence each child will require different time periods to complete tasks. If the child finishes quickly and it is correct, their reward and recognition for that is to have more work. This I have to say is a recipe for turning them off learning. Education is not about how much work is done but how much they learn and developing each child's curiosity.

If they finish early, reward them with an enjoyable activity, this will help them to develop the mindset around efficiency. If they request further activities over and above the ones we have provided, direct them to the Home Learning activities on the Department website (link below) which has been put together. There is a range of resources for parents, aligned to the curriculum.

<https://www.education.wa.edu.au/learning-at-home/learning-resources-by-year-level>

End of School.

School holidays for children begin this Friday. The school will be open next week till Thursday 9 April for staff to plan for Term 2. Families who need to send their children to school to be supervised because they belong to the groups listed below, need to let me know that they fall in one of those groups by this Friday.

- Children of parents and carers who need their children to attend school to maintain employment
- Children where it is safer for them to be at school
- Children whose only option is being cared for by aged persons

Students who come to school will only be supervised. There will be no teaching or work provided. I stress this is a genuine need situation.

Thank you from all the staff for your ongoing support.

Kind regards

Simon Reid
Principal



WISDOM RESPECT COURAGE

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