



Newsletter

Week 4 Term 2, 2020

DATES TO REMEMBER	
Tuesday 28 April – Friday 5 June	Enrolments for 2021 open
Friday 22 May	Yr 3 hosting MFPS virtual assembly – link to be advised
Monday 25 May	Yr 3 & 4 return to school
Monday 1 June	Public Holiday
Tuesday 2 June	Yr 5 & 6 return to school
Term 2	School Sport ACT Virtual Cross Country

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Transitioning back to school

It has been an amazing week! We are so happy to be seeing our children again with children back from Preschool through to Year Two. On average, one child in each of those classes has not returned at this point which shows around 95%+ of those children that have. Thank you for the confidence you have shown in us - we are doing everything we can to ensure the safety and wellbeing of staff, children and the community. We thank you for the overwhelming support of the measures we have put in place and the lovely cookies, slices, cupcakes, muffins and snacks that parents brought in on Monday to welcome us all back - it was overwhelming and we are all truly grateful for every kind word, smile and thanks we've received!

Children in Years Three to Six are welcome to return as the children of essential workers and those with younger siblings who are coming anyway. However, as we have planned for remote learning, they will be engaging in remote learning from here until it is their week to return to face to face teaching. Those who have already returned are really enjoying the increased social contact with peers, time to talk with their teachers and getting back into routines.

The following is a reminder of what we are doing and how you can help us. The concrete areas are for children and staff, parents to stay on the grassed areas please. This is working quite well, only a few parents are forgetting, the vast majority are not coming on to the playground area and we are grateful for your support. However, with the walkway between Preschool and the main school admin area by the side of Mark's shed, some parents seem to be dropping their children off and then turning around again in the morning. Please continue on behind the library and then come back around preschool to the carpark please - or drop your child off at the front office.

If it is raining, the following adjustments are made (please remember social distancing):

Preschool - wait under the veranda, children will be sent out to you when staff see you

Kindergarten - wait under the area between Kindergarten and the library, children will be sent out to you when staff see you

Purple, Yellow and Blue Tunnels - wait under the veranda by the classroom doors

Big and Small portables - wait under the COLA

We are looking at how parents can continue to be volunteers although it is still unlikely volunteers will come into the classrooms. However, we are looking at how home readers can be changed, preschool laundry can be done, laminating etc. We know you love to help if you can, we are just processing how best to do it.

Children are very good at using the hand sanitiser although they really don't like the smell of the ones we have currently. Neither do the staff...! However, we have over 200 bottles (in the younger grades we are getting through almost one a day per year group) so it will be a couple of weeks before we get to change them. Please reinforce with your children the need to do so regardless.

Birthday cupcakes are still fine; evidence shows the virus is unstable on food, doesn't last as long as on other surfaces and we will use gloves or tongs to hand out the cupcakes, using wipes on the container when it comes into the classroom etc. Children are still children and we don't want to take the joy out of their lives! I fully understand there's a risk in everything we do but we take precautions to manage these. I don't see myself as being any more susceptible to this than anyone else, but knowing we have staff, children and parents in the community with susceptibilities I follow the same precautions as everyone else. We thank you for doing the same.

Chris

Library News

OVERDUE BOOKS

Please assist your children to return all their library books as soon as possible. Please let me know if you have any issues with lost or damaged books.

Thank you

Vicki

Ukulele Group

As we start to have more students back at school, ukulele group sessions will be resuming.

For those children who are wanting to attend, your teachers look forward to seeing you from this week onwards.

There will be some changes. The most significant being that parents will no longer be able to attend the group and the change of venue.

When: Thursday mornings at 8:30

Where: Big Portable

Thank you!

Ms Marshall & Mrs McNamara



2021 school enrolments now open



ACT
Government

Education

1. Go to **education.act.gov.au** for information on your local school and to enrol online.
2. Apply before **5 June 2020** to receive an offer from 27 July 2020. This means there is ample time to submit your application to be included in the initial round of offers.



Enrolling in Preschool in 2021



ACT
Government

Education

If your child turns four on or before 30 April 2020, they were able to start preschool in Term 1, 2020. **If your child turns four after 30 April 2020, they can start preschool in 2021**

All four year old ACT children are guaranteed a place in a public preschool. However, you are not guaranteed a place at the preschool site of your preference, due to capacity constraints at some sites. All preschools offer a high-quality early childhood education.

Enrolments for 2021 open from 6am on Tuesday 28 April. Apply before 5 June 2020 to receive an offer from 27 July 2020. Apply online at **education.act.gov.au**

Returning to classroom learning in ACT public schools

When we return to classroom learning, there will be some changes to the way schools operate to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

What you can expect from us

- Clear communication about arrangements at our school.
- Increased cleaning focused on high touch surfaces across the school.
- Soap and hand sanitiser available for everyone in prominent areas of our school.
- Regular reminders for staff and students to wash hands throughout the day.
- Posters and signage in our school about practising good hygiene.
- Minimising the number of adults and visitors to our school.
- No events that bring groups of adults together in our school (eg. assemblies, fetes, open nights).

What we need from students

- Do not come to school if you are sick.
- Wash hands before arriving at school, before food breaks, and regularly through the day.
- Follow instructions from teachers and school staff.
- Be respectful of teachers, school staff and your fellow students.

What we need from parents and carers

- Don't send your children to school if they are unwell.
- Follow our drop-off and pick-up instructions.
- Avoid coming onto school grounds unless absolutely necessary.
- Call or email ahead if you need to visit us.
- If onsite, practise good social distancing with other adults.



**Miles Franklin PS
Back to School Transitions**

Parents/carers to stay outside the red line (on grass/green areas only please)

Meeting spot for Kinder at 9am and 3pm

Gate to be kept locked at pick-up and drop-off times

One way traffic only
Morning out, Afternoon in

Gate to be kept locked

One way traffic only
Morning in, Afternoon out

After School Care students to enter and exit through the external Hall door

Students requiring support: please wait outside the front office with your parents for staff to arrive

Rongton Buddhist Training College

Alderman St

Alderman

