



Newsletter

Week 3 Term 2

DATES TO REMEMBER	
Tuesday 28 April - Friday 5 June	Enrolments for 2021 open
Monday 18 May	P - Yr 2 return to school
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

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Mother's Day Stall

A huge thank you to Leesa and the volunteers who helped at last week's Mother's Day stall - it was a great success, there were lovely gifts and people queueing to get in! An amazing result considering the difficulties everyone is going through now.

Transitioning back to school

We are so excited to be back next week, doing what we love and know how to do best - face to face teaching with your children! We are taking all reasonable precautions for the safety and welfare of you, your children and staff equally. Please understand that very little is still known of this virus (we are only in the 5th month of knowing it exists) and one person's 'overly cautious' is another person's 'reasonable'. My family were surprised we were going back 'so soon' but then my sister lives in Iowa, USA, where they've had over 280 deaths and in Norfolk, UK, they are on the same sort of numbers. These are not exactly highly populated, over-touristed areas... So we have been lucky or responsive (or both) here but we need to maintain this vigilance.

Tomorrow we will not be monitoring home learning. Staff need some time and space to transition back into face to face teaching, various meetings and ensuring they have everything ready. Preschool to Year Two teachers will respond to any issues in person on Monday and Years Three to Six teachers will do that remotely.

Children in Years Three to Six are welcome to return next week 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.

Our expectation is that all children will return to school

I understand this is not possible for all children due to health factors in the family. For those we will be able to provide access to online resources for children but we will not be able to do individual online 'meets' once teachers are teaching face to face or set and assess individual tasks each day for children learning from home. We can continue with learning grids with some generic activities for the children and will be doing our best to support them. However, we do not have the staff to continue what we have been providing once the majority of children are back in school.

Years 2-6 who are learning from home will be able to keep their Chromebook at home until they return and in the older years will be able to follow the learning their classmates have been doing on Google classroom. I would suggest this is on the following day so the children can see what the teacher has actually done rather than what was planned due to any changes throughout the day.

Here are some things we are doing to protect everyone:

School pick-up and drop off

- A map of the school is attached with the newsletter. This details entry and exit points to different parts of the school. Basically I'm trying to create a bubble where parents won't go unless absolutely necessary. This is strange to all of us. I've always been happy to invite parents in but for the time being we have to be very cautious about this. In simple terms, concrete areas are for children and staff, parents to stay on the grassed areas please
- There is a walkway between Preschool and the main school admin area by the side of Mark's shed. This is one way in, in the morning, one way out in the afternoon. Siblings with preschoolers can walk in this way from the carpark and say goodbye to their parents at the preschool gate and come into school by the library whilst the parents take pre-schoolers into the preschool and then exit through the other gate by Denise's classroom. Parents who want to drop their child off by the library (without a preschool child) can do so and take the path away from this area to the rear of the library. The path behind the library will remain one-way at all times of the day (from the courtyard moving down towards the oval)
- This process is reversed in the afternoon- please come into the preschool near Denise's class, exit by Rachel's door and collect siblings from the tanbark area opposite the library door
- The courtyard is closed to parents - please walk around the outside of the buildings
- There is a door at the back of the hall (where parents came in to collect chromebooks, resource packs and for the Mother's Day stalls. This will be the drop off and pick up door for Before and After school care. If you are waiting to drop off or pick up, please maintain social distancing
- The front office is where there is a meet and greet service for families who might need some help to transition in
- The front office glass is likely to remain closed for the time being
- The library will be closed to parents

Health and hygiene and cleaning

- Hand sanitiser will be placed at the entry points of buildings. Children will be required to hand sanitise when they come into the building in the morning, after lunch, recess and going to the toilet. This way teachers can monitor this has occurred whereas we cannot monitor that effectively if we are asking children to wash their hands in the toilets. Consequently, we will be making minor adjustments in the classroom - pencils and other resources will continue to be shared. This relates to the 'bubble' process: if we are clean coming in, children can continue to learn and interact more naturally once inside. Some of you might think it would be best for children to bring their own pencil cases in
- This won't solve the problem - children touch everything! That's why we have an 'outer ring' around the school and an 'inner ring' within the buildings to stop transmission
- We have adequate supplies of everything we need, including spray disinfectant, tissues, toilet paper and disinfectant wipes. The school is spotless right now
- Playground equipment will be cleaned between breaks and touch points around the school throughout the day. However, my advice will remain: if you don't need to touch the handrail, for example, please don't

If your child is sick

- Children who present with an illness will need to be collected, not because we are cruel and unloving but because we need to do this for the health and wellbeing of all in the community. On a further point, I have enough staff working face to face to manage this but there was already a shortage of teachers in Canberra before coronavirus. I don't want them getting sick now

Physical distancing

- Parent volunteers in the classrooms will be stopped for the time being
- Assemblies will need to change for the foreseeable future. We will continue with online assemblies for weeks four and six and then review

- In limiting the number of adults on site, we encourage you to contact us via e-mail or telephone before visiting. If a face-to-face meeting is required, we ask you to book a time so that physical distancing can be planned

Wellbeing is still paramount

- Many of your children will be anxious and many adults are fatigued. All indications are that it will be a long time before we get back to the 'normal' before coronavirus. We just need to remind ourselves that things will be OK, your children will be well cared for, some adjustments will need to be made in all areas but we will get to a 'new normal' we're comfortable with soon

Where can I find out more?

- To help you, we have produced a video for parents. You will find it in the Dropbox on our website and is also accessed from this link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zidkbypmT5M&feature=youtu.be>
- We have also done a welcome back video for children. That is also accessible from the Dropbox and from this link:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mRLVFtlkD_OdmeLnVqGdLFj2B6CWJDRY/view?usp=sharing
- ACT Education Directorate website:
<https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/remote-learning-in-term-2-2020>

The above is not an exhaustive list - I could write pages of all the things we are doing but it would be overwhelming and this is probably too long in any case! Again, thank you for your kind words, support, trust, commitment and resilience. Continue to take care and look after yourselves.

Chris

IB Learner Profiles

Congratulations to the following students who will be receiving IB Learner Profile certificates at our virtual assembly on Friday 22nd May.

Well done!

Classes	Students		
K Davis	Nathaniel O	Sienna F	Lillie G
K McGarity	Angus M	Abby F	Eli B
K Stewart	Xavier I	Lucas S	Kane O
1 Bourne	Lucy L	Tanisha P	Imaniyat A
1 Packard	Saoirse D	Carter R	Gozie D
1 Prunster	Kyran R	Eva B	Xavier A
2 Holland	Finn M	Reyansh C	Matthew D
2 McGruer	Jonty S	Terry C	
2 Morris	Lucy H	Kira D	Oscar P
3 Marshall	Zach B	Zoe P	William H-F
3 Nuttall	Edith O	Madison L	Sammy B
3 Bullock	Samuel F	Rylee F	Charlotte P
4 Brennan	Hannah V	Peter V-K	Liam P
4 Fletcher	Isaac B	Ivan C	
4 Malusa	Jesse K	Lucas M	Lilly S
5 Dorsett	Luke C	Kaisei D	Juliet P
5 Sybert	Edward S	Imogen R	
5 Dykes	Zac C	Taylah B	Eva L
6 Sweeney	Eden M	Ruby T	Kira S

6 Johnston	Sam M	Harper H	Kane S
6 Maxwell	Jaeda N	Halle N	Michael P
EALD Hudson	Johann M	Justin R	Salam Q

COMMUNITY NEWS

Kindergarten Health Checks

Due to the redeployment of Registered Nurses during the COVID-19 pandemic response and the closure of schools, the 2020 physical component of the Kindergarten Health Check has been cancelled. The Academic Unit of General Practice questionnaire data, completed by parents at the beginning of the 2020 school year, has been collected as usual. The results of the questionnaire will be sent to the GP if consent has been given to do so. If parents have concerns regarding the physical check we recommend they see their GP for assessment. For more information please contact the School Health Team on 5124 1585.

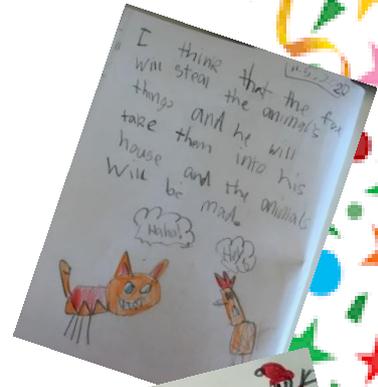
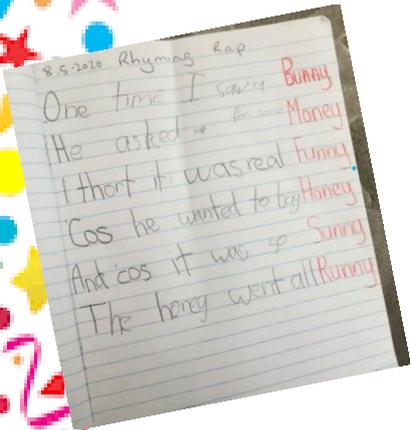
Enrolments for 2021

New enrolments are now being processed. Please see the education web site: education.act.gov.au for more information.

Year One

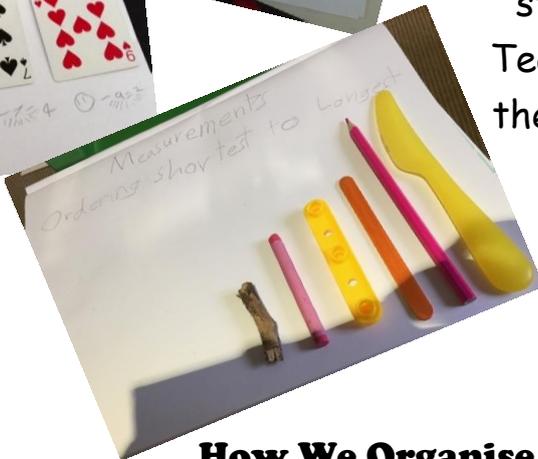
English

Over the last three weeks we have been reading books by the author Jill Eggleton. Teachers have enjoyed listening to your expressive reading and rhyming raps. We were also impressed with the responses to other writing challenges.



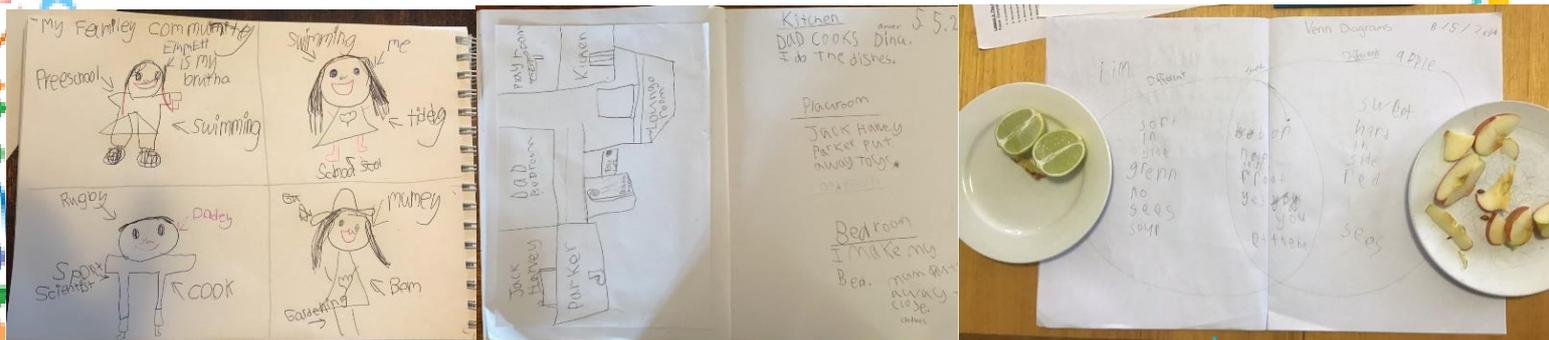
Mathematics

Year One have been learning about measurement and the counting strategy "Think big, count small." Teacher's have been impressed with the careful measuring of length and capacity we have seen.

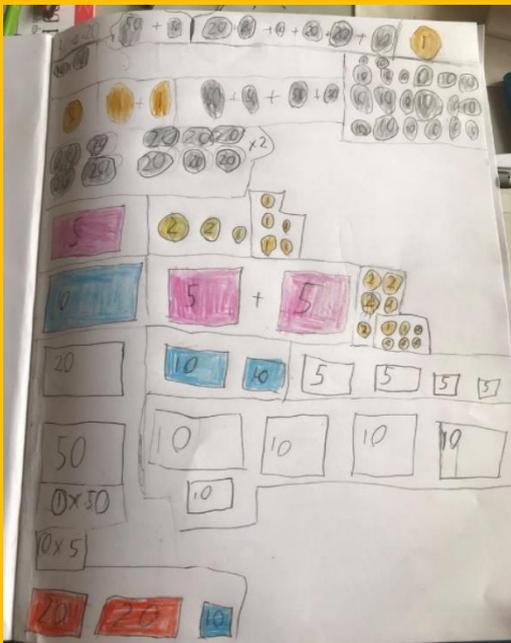


How We Organise Ourselves

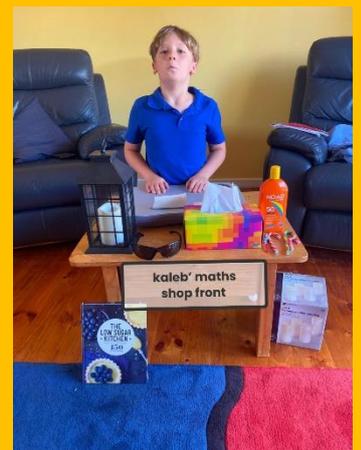
We have been inquiring into communities and how they are changing over time. Teachers have enjoyed learning about your family and broader community.



Thanks for reading!



In Year 2 this term we are learning all about the features and value of Australian notes and coins. We have been creating our own shops and have practiced buying and selling items in our house. We are using our addition and subtraction skills.



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

