



28th May 2020

JUMBUNNA

Welcome back to our Year Prep - 2s

It was fantastic to see so many smiling faces on Tuesday morning as our Year Prep-2 students came through the gates in the morning. There were also many parents smiling and sighing with relief as they said goodbye to their children! We are very impressed with how our junior students have settled back into school and school routines. We are continuing to have a focus on social skills, our Positive Behaviour for Learning expectations and, of course, safe hygiene. Thank you to all our families for your assistance with the drop off and pick up plan. While it is very different to what you are used to, we want to make sure that our community is safe and we appreciate your support with this.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held in the last week of this term, week beginning Monday 22nd June. As we are unable to offer face to face interviews, we will be conducting these via Google Meet. This is the same platform that students were using to meet with their class during remote learning. After bookings for interviews have been made, class teachers will be sending you an invite to the Google Meet at your selected time via email. Could all families please make sure that we have your up to date email address on file? If you have changed your email address recently, please contact the office to update this so we send the invite to the correct address. Bookings will be open in Compass at the end of next week.

Office Procedures

A reminder of the office procedures we have in place for the remainder of the term:

- If your child arrives to school late, they are to present to the office via the main door. They will be signed in manually (no use of the iPad). Their teacher will be contacted to inform them that they are on their way as we will not be using the late arrival passes.
- If you need to pick your child up early, please come into the office via the main door. Your child will be signed out manually. The office staff will then contact the grade and ask for your child to come up to the office with their bag to meet you.
- Please be aware that there will be no second hand uniform shop.
- A reminder that a maximum of three people can be in the office. We ask you to wait outside if there are already three people waiting.

Successfully transitioning students back to school

by Michael Grose

The recent home-schooling experience of Australian students is about to end with most states and territories transitioning kids back to school. For parents, many of whom have discovered just how complex teaching can be, the return to school will be a welcome relief. For children, going back to school may bring a mixed bag of feelings. Eager anticipation about reconnecting with friends and teachers will probably be accompanied by a level of anxiety about what school may be like upon return.

School undoubtedly will be a different experience for students post COVID-19. For a start they've just experienced a prolonged period of remote learning and an absence from their friends, which will take time to process when they return to school.

With organised extra-curricular activities put on hold most children have had a great deal of free time, which has placed the locus of control firmly in their hands. I suspect many kids will grieve their lack of freedom, as they've had a glorious glimpse of what an unstructured life is like. It may take some time for them to get back into the swing of school life.

With the return to school imminent here are some sensible strategies to make adjustment easier for students.

Get ready for a return

Worriers and anxious types in particular like to know what's ahead so your approach will make a difference. Prepare your child for a return by discussing the safety procedures the school will be implementing. Let young children know that an adult won't be accompanying them past the school gate. Ask your child what they are looking forward to and check in with how they are feeling about a return. Validate any fears and apprehensions and correct any misconceptions.

Go slowly

This period will mirror the start of the school year when your child had to adjust to new teachers, different classmates and a new year level. Adjusting to change takes a great deal of personal energy, so your child or young person may become tired, grumpy, even moody at home. Make allowances for these personal changes and make sure they have plenty of free time to unwind after school.

Focus on reconnection

Make reconnection the theme for your child's return to school. He or she will have to reconnect with friends, teachers and learning, which takes time. In all likelihood, your child's teachers will use many strategies to help your child connect with their friends, reflect on their time at home and move them back into full-time learning mode. Support these activities and keep your learning expectations for your child in check.

It may take the rest of the term for some children to adjust to their life back at school.

Stay calm

Anxiety is very contagious, so it's easy for us as parents to take on our children's worries and fears. The reverse is true, and kids can pick up our worries, taking them on as their own. As a buffer against anxiety ensure you do something each day that brings you some joy, whether it's listening to music, going for a walk or having a coffee with a friend.

Look after yourself

In recent months parents and teachers have been doing significant emotional labour. The learning and adjustment curves have been massive, with little time to relax and take a break. Consider your own emotional resources and make your wellbeing a priority, which will make it easier for you to stay calm if your child experiences difficulties.

Communicate confidence

It's a fine line that many parents walk between being flippant ('you'll be right') and showing confidence ('you'll do okay') when kids struggle to adjust to change. My research into childhood anxiety reveals that children and young people want parents and teachers to understand their fears and anxieties, and to coach them to negotiate difficulties including adjusting to change. You can support your child through sharing stories of resilience, focusing on the positives and letting them know that will eventually adjust.

The COVID-19 pandemic has thrown up many difficulties requiring us all to quickly adapt to new situations. Flexibility is a prime characteristic of resilient people, so if nothing else, getting through these challenging times will make us all more resilient.

Regards,

Ken and Lisa

**Applications for Enrolment to
Year 7 2021 forms must be
returned to the school office or
email by this Friday 29th
May 2020.**

Dates to remember

Term 2

Fri 5/6	Grade 3-Grade 6 return loaned devices to school
Tues 9/6	Grade3-6 return to school
Thurs 11/6	Education Sub Committee Meeting 5:30pm
Wed 17/6	School Council Meeting 6pm
Fri 26/6	Last day of Term 2. Students dismissed at 2:30pm

Term 3

Thurs 16/7	Education Sub Committee Meeting 5:30pm
Wed 22/7	School Council Meeting 6pm
Thurs 6/8	House Athletics Day
Mon 10/8	Year 3/4 Swimming Lessons
Tues 11/8	Year 3/4 Swimming Lessons
Wed 12/8	Year 3/4 Swimming Lessons
Thurs 13/8	Education Sub Committee Meeting 5:30pm
Thurs 13/8	Year 3/4 Swimming Lessons
Fri 14/8	Year 3/4 Swimming Lessons
Mon 17/8	Year 3/4 Swimming Lessons
Tues 18/8	Year 3/4 Swimming Lessons
Wed 19/8	Year 3/4 Swimming Lessons
Wed 19/8	School Council Meeting 6pm
Fri 28/8	District Athletics
Mon 7/9	Prep Swimming Lessons
Tues 8/9	Prep Swimming Lessons
Wed 9/9	Prep Swimming Lessons
Thurs 10/9	Prep Swimming Lessons
Thurs 10/9	Education Sub Committee Meeting 5:30pm
Fri 11/9	Prep Swimming Lessons
Mon 14/9	Prep Swimming Lessons
Tues 15/9	Prep Swimming Lessons
Wed 16/9	Prep Swimming Lessons
Wed 16/9	School Council Meeting 6pm



Term 4

Thurs 15/10	Education Sub Committee Meeting 5:30pm
Wed 21/10	School Council Meeting 6pm
Mon 2/11	Curriculum Day –student free day
Thurs 12/11	Education Sub Committee Meeting 5:30pm
Wed 18/11	School Council Meeting 6pm
Thurs 3/12	Education Sub Committee Meeting 5:30pm (if required)
Wed 9/12	School Council Meeting 6pm

7 WAYS PARENTS CAN HELP THEIR KIDS WITH MATHS

FROM ONE MEDDLING, MATHS-MAD MOTHER TO ANOTHER *By Danijela Draskovic*

I'm a mother of a cheeky, curious and gorgeous 1-year old boy. Naturally, his first toy was a wooden abacus much to his mummy's delight. At the moment, he picks up his abacus, rattles it around, and throws it onto the floor with a shriek of delight when it makes the crashing sound. I have to practice my patience with my desire to show him the beauty in mathematics, as perhaps he's just a little bit too young.

However, I have been thinking about it for a while now. A lot of the time parents assume that their children will learn mathematics almost exclusively from school. I completely disagree and, in fact, wholeheartedly believe that both school and home learning are equally as important and should complement each other as best as possible.

Now you don't need to be 'good at maths' yourself to foster mathematical thinking in your children. In fact, you don't even need to have any of the answers. Parents need to just recognise opportunities for mathematical exploration and need to practice asking good questions. It is up to the child to discover the answers.

So here are my tips for parents. Parents should try to involve their children in as many life decisions and day-to-day 'adult' tasks as possible. Notice, throughout helping them with their mathematical reasoning, parents will be simultaneously helping their children with life skills. Surprise surprise! Maths really is all around us.

1 Give your young children some pocket money and encourage them to manage it. You may even lend them some support in creating a budget. Do they have a goal to purchase a certain item? Let them save for it! How much should they put aside each week so they can buy their item in 3 months' time? How much general spending money do they need? The discussions around their budget could be very powerful and could reveal some interesting areas for exploration. If the child is a bit older, you may discuss with them budgeting for a household. Perhaps let them create a weekly or monthly budget for running the entire house based on what they think

the expenditures are. Then reconvene and have a discussion once they have finished. You may be surprised as how much they underestimate, and they may need to readjust the figures. A teenager may also be ready to consider borrowing or investing. This is a wonderful opportunity to discuss interest rates and make comparisons between different types of loans or savings accounts.

2 Cook with your children. Cooking, as well as being an enjoyable and creative activity, also involves a variety of maths skills. Ask your child to amend the quantities of that pancake recipe that serves 6. How much flour would they now need for 3 servings? Or 2 servings? How about a tricky 7 servings? Through cooking we are forced to consider ratio and proportion, fractions, volume, time, addition, division and many more. Added bonus: your children will also appreciate meals more if they have been actively involved in creating them! Budgeting can also overlap wonderfully with cooking and parents are encouraged to take their children grocery shopping as well.

3 Grocery shopping. The shops are filled with opportunities to ask your children important mathematical questions such as comparing the value of buying items in smaller amounts to items in bulk. For example, which product offers best value for money: 250mL of yogurt for \$1.95 or 1L of yogurt for \$7.50? How much will an entire meal of Pad Thai cost to prepare? What will be the cost per portion? Is it financially more efficient to buy ingredients and cook this meal at home, or is it more economical to have that same meal from a restaurant?

4 Meaningfully involve children in planning for a holiday. Vacations offer rich opportunities to explore mathematical concepts such as distance, time, changing time zones, currency exchange rates, budgeting (again), purchasing travel insurance (comparing different policies), comparing costs of rent-a-car companies etc. Road-trips are great for estimating the time it will take to get from A to B. Do your kids understand the unit of km/h?



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NATALIE SANDERS

at **eview** | Chelsea
GROUP

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It's important you trust your agent will be honest, reliable, hard working as well as compassionate. You can be assured Natalie is your go to agent.





Virtual Open Morning

Friday 12 June • Commencing 9:00am

Applications for Year 7, 2022

close Friday 21 August 2020

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