

News from The Garden

Welcome to Week 10 Term 1 2020

Wednesday 8th April 2020

What has been happening in school this week?

We have been very busy preparing your children's learning for Term 2. As a principal it is times like these when you see the personal qualities of your staff and I do have to say my staff have shown great resilience and innovation. They are team players and they are working together to make the best of a very challenging situation.

This week they have worked collaboratively to develop learning packages for next term that will be delivered through Connect. We are hoping these packages will engage students in their learning and not cause you too many headaches. We are trying to be very realistic with our expectations and we will need your feedback as we go along this journey.



So what will Term 2 look like ?

That is a really good question! **At present the communication from the Department of Education is asking us to proceed on the basis that all public schools will remain open and all parents are encouraged to keep their children home.**

Those who need to send their children to school to maintain employment and do not have access to alternative child care may choose to do so. So we imagine Term 2 will look a lot like this week except those students who have to attend will be taught not

just supervised using the same online learning packages that will be sent home to the children learning from home.

Of course we all know that with COVID 19 it is a dynamic situation and things could always change. I will communicate with you through the holidays if the situation changes.



When does Term 2 start?

As you know the first day of term is always a pupil free day at Baldivis Gardens. Next term Tuesday 28th April is the pupil free day so the term begins on Wednesday 29th April. On Tuesday 28th April we will publish on Connect three days of learning for Week 1 Term 2. If everything remains the same we will publish the next week's learning each Friday afternoon.



What will my children's learning look like?

Your child's teacher will publish a weekly planner in Connect and it will be broken up into days and subject areas. In each subject area on each day there will be a link that will take you to the learning for that subject for that day. Each link will take you to several modules that may include a video or a slide or written task.

Your first planner will only be for three days. An example is below but the links are not live.

	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Mathematics	Writing numbers in tally form: https://bit.ly/3cYUg7W	Numbers before and after: https://bit.ly/2yJcOYd	Counting in twos: https://bit.ly/2Xic4i6
Fitness	https://vimeo.com/405261626/936121189e	https://vimeo.com/405261626/936121189e	https://vimeo.com/405261626/936121189e
English	Reading: making connections and comprehension: https://bit.ly/3a1x1v1	Writing a Letter: https://bit.ly/2Xic1W5	Reading: writing and drawing your favourite part: https://bit.ly/34kFdxI
Specialist	Physical Education: Workout: https://vimeo.com/405262822/d971720968	Science: https://bit.ly/2yA8ZTu	Physical Education Challenge: Skills challenge: https://vimeo.com/405267846/d7c07ba48a
Integrated subject	Health - Designing a healthy lunch or dinner: https://bit.ly/3e4Ym1e	History - Past and present technology: https://bit.ly/2URjmu7	Art: ANZAC Day https://bit.ly/3PNc1Rb
Tasks around the house	Have a go at tying your shoelaces.	Could you help bring in the washing?	Have a go at cleaning up after breakfast.

What can I do to prepare for Day 1 learning at home?

- Have the technology available. We understand those of you with more than one child may need to share a device. That's OK! One child can be completing an activity while another is using the device.
- Know how to access Connect.
- Allocate a space for learning in your home.
- Ensure your child has access to pencils, paper and other basic stationary items. Please call us if you need help with these.
- Think about what your daily routine will be. You can work your school learning around your individual home routines. The learning we send home will not take six hours so there will be time for you to create learning experiences at home around your family life.

How will our school stay connected?

I will continue to communicate with the school community through Connect News from the Garden and if needed by text message. Our Facebook page is another way we can celebrate what is happening at home and school.

How will your teacher stay connected?

Your teacher will communicate with you via Connect and early next term they will commence connecting with their students through Webex. This is a secure

video conferencing platform provided via the Department of Education. A few of our teachers in the upper years have trialled this platform this week to ensure it is reliable. We will provide more details for you early next term.

Thank you!

I would like to thank our school community for the support you have shown us through the COVID-19 journey. Our community's health is what matters more than anything and I thank you sincerely for keeping your children home where you can. May I assure you my staff and I are committed to making the best of a very challenging situation. My staff and I have identified some 'silver linings' in a very black cloud and encourage you and your children to look for the 'silver linings' in their new world. For our own mental health it is important to continue to be thankful for the good things that have come out of this COVID-19 experience.

Some of the 'silver linings' we have identified are:

- We have been reminded how much we love teaching children. We miss the joy the children bring us every day!
- We know we don't want a desk job where you just look at a screen all day.
- We have an opportunity to learn and grow professionally. We are experiencing much professional growth in the area of technology.
- We are also growing personally as we learn to cope with uncertainty and change. What will our job look like in Term 2 and beyond?
- We are honing our team work skills as we work collaboratively across year levels to prepare the online learning for Term 2. You can't teach team work if you can't be a team player.
- We didn't know how much our students and parents appreciated us. Thanks for the messages! We feel loved!

What are your silver linings in the COVID 19 black cloud? Your family may like to share them with us. We would love to hear from you.

May you treasure times with your family this Easter and I will be in touch before the new term begins to clarify the Term 2 situation.

Jayne Ebsworthy

Principal

Jayne.ebsworthy@education.wa.edu.au

