

## Welcome to Week 4 Term 2 2020

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2020

### *It is great to have everyone back!*

Last Monday nearly all of our students had returned to school. Classrooms were full and teachers were able to focus on their face to face teaching. Without additional extra curricular activities this term including excursions, swimming lessons and interschool sport our teachers will have uninterrupted teaching time where they can explicitly teach the curriculum. Yes, we will miss these additional learning opportunities, however, 'every cloud has a silver lining' and our teachers will make the most of this situation, maximising the additional time in the classroom.

Please note your end of semester reports will not have a grade but rather comments to reflect their progress this year. This is due to the COVID-19 interruptions to both Term 1 and Term 2.

### *Attendance*

Yes, the learning has been interrupted by COVID-19 so now is the time to make sure your child is present every day unless they are sick. We definitely do want you to keep your sick children home but all well children must be present. Our teachers have some 'lost ground' to cover, and if your child is not here every day it will be very hard for your child to catch up.

Some families have very poor attendance and we are concerned about this. This term classroom teachers, Mrs Stewart, Mr Batt and myself will be making some phone calls to families who have poor attendance. If you miss one day each couple of weeks, and some children are missing far more than this, they are going to miss over a year of schooling by the time they finish school in Year 12. A child who misses that much school cannot achieve to their potential, and every parent wants their child to achieve to the best of their ability.

### *Drop Off and Pick Up*

Wow your children are so independent and the morning classroom routines are working particularly well. Thank you for your continued co operation both before and after school.



Can I please ask parents not to park on the verges around our school. The Council will be sending parking inspectors to monitor this situation. Also our bollards in the front staff car park are there for a reason. Please don't park in front of them as this creates a very dangerous situation for children leaving the school via Nadine Promenade. Let's work together to keep your children safe.

### *Lost Jackets*

With the cool weather comes lost jackets. With cross country running happening on the oval we have had a few jackets mixed up and a few jackets go missing. Please check your child has brought the right jacket home and PLEASE NAME ALL JACKETS CLEARLY. Remember a plain navy jacket can be worn instead of our uniform jacket. Please avoid other colours and hooded jackets.

### Our Fences and Gates

You would have noticed that our gates and fences have been replaced and we now have silver fences and gates. This happened due to the black fences not wearing as well as expected and the builder was required to replace them. This was not a cost incurred by the school.



### Community Assembly Tomorrow

Thanks to Mr R and his team of Year 6 leaders we will have a digital community assembly tomorrow morning. Our students will watch from their classrooms and I will send the link home in a Connect notice for parents to watch at home. Mrs B's class will be the focus class and we will announce GROW awards during the assembly. The GROW award recipients will be presented their award in their classroom by Mr Batt, Mrs Stewart or myself.



### Our Lunch Boxes

Unfortunately, we haven't been able to have our healthy sandwich making days this year due to COVID. We are wondering if parents could remind our older students that they can make their own healthy lunch. We are noticing many of our students, in particular our senior students are eating all the snack packs they have in their lunch box at recess and they have nothing substantial to eat at lunchtime. Growing children and young people need plenty of healthy food to sustain them through a busy school day. We will have a healthy sandwich day as soon as we can, but in the mean time please encourage your children to get involved in making healthy sandwiches at home.

### Coffee Van

Judy and the Nourish Coffee Van will be in the front car park outside the office **TOMORROW Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May before school**. Her van has moved to this new position to allow a greater capacity for social distancing. Judy supports our P and C with every coffee bought and we thank her sincerely.

### Kindergarten Enrolments

We are currently taking enrolments for Kindergarten at Baldvis Gardens in 2021. If you have a child commencing Kindergarten in 2021 please complete Part A of the enrolment form and return to our front office. This can be found on our website

<https://baldvisgardensps.wa.edu.au/enrolments>

or you can call in to the office and pick up an enrolment form. If you know someone in the area who is planning to enrol please let them know enrolments are open.

### Subway Orders

Subway is happening on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June so please get your orders in as soon as possible.

### Teacher Connect Notices

Teachers are sending out Connect notices to help you keep in touch with school and what is happening in your child's class. Please take the time to read these and always contact your classroom teacher if you are unsure about anything. You may be dropping off and picking up at the gate, but your child's teacher is always available to talk to you via phone or email.

### ***Additional Pupil Free Day***

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April was one of our designated pupil free days. As this day became a pupil free day for all students across the state to allow staff to prepare online learning, we are now permitted to select another pupil free day in addition to our Term 3 (July 20<sup>th</sup>) and Term 4 (12<sup>th</sup> October) dates. I will discuss this with our school board at tomorrow evening's meeting. I will then inform you of the additional pupil free date in next week's newsletter. I do understand this year has been very different and you have had your children home for extended periods, however, these days are very valuable for staff professional learning. As you know our staff are very professional people and keen to have opportunities to grow professionally.

As the restrictions ease, like you, I look forward to life in school returning to what we know as 'normal'. At this stage it is very hard to plan for future events, excursions or 'in school' celebrations like 'healthy breakfasts' but as the year unfolds and the restrictions ease, we will plan accordingly. Let us dwell on all we have learned from COVID 19 and focus on the positive taking one week at a time. The Baldivis Gardens school community has negotiated this challenging time very well and I thank you sincerely for your ongoing support and co operation.

Kind regards

Jayne

***Jayne Ebsworthy***  
***Principal***