



Principal's News

Purpose

At White Hills Primary School we provide students with skills to be lifelong learners. We are a community which caters for academic, physical, social and emotional needs, preparing our students to contribute productively to an increasingly globalised world.

Calendar of Events

Term 2 2020: Wednesday 15 April – Friday 26 June

Week 3

Friday 1 May **G5 & G6 Camp Deposit Due 4.00pm**

Week 4

Friday 8 May **Mother's Day Stall - cancelled**

Sunday 10 May **Mother's Day**

Week 5

Tues 12- Thurs 14 May **NAPLAN Testing Cancelled**

Week 6

Mon 18 – Fri 22 May **Education Week Online**

Friday 29 May **G3 Camp Deposit Due 4.00pm**

Monday 8 June **Queen's Birthday Holiday**

Friday 26 June **Last Day Term 2**

Term 3 2020: Monday 13 July – Friday 18 September

Term 4 2020: Monday 5 October – Friday 18 December

Hi everyone,

Remote Learning Week 3 Update

Transition to the new portal for Grades P-3 and specialist learning tasks has been seamless with very few issues reported by staff, parents or students. Thanks again to Mr James Sait, Mr Ash Day and Mr Kaine Marsh for their background work in getting our portal up and running in a timely manner.

This week all Grades P-3 and Specialist (Music, Art, PE and Chinese) learning tasks for students are accessible via the Remote Learning Portal rather than Dojo. We will continue to use ClassDojo for messaging, uploading work to Student Portfolios, attendance and other forms of communication. Please ensure you check ClassDojo each day for announcements and attendance.

You will receive a post on ClassDojo on Tuesdays at 4.00pm with the link to the new week's tasks. This will allow families and students time to read through the planner and feel comfortable with the tasks to begin on Wednesday. The Week 3 content is ready to go now.

Please click on the link below and it will take you to the website. Once there, you can click on the Grade Tab and there you will find the planner for the week.

<https://sites.google.com/whitehillsp.com/remotlearning>

Please note: the portal will have the weekly overview of tasks for Grades 4-6 so that parents can view the activities the students are doing, however the students will continue to access their tasks through Google Classrooms.

Building Upgrade

Building works are moving rapidly and they have started framing. A couple of photos below to update the school community.



Prep 2021 Information Sessions

This year we will be unable to conduct information sessions for perspective 2021 prep parents here at school during Education Week as we had planned. However, we will be uploading videos on the school's website on Monday 18th May under the Parent tab and Transition at

<https://www.whitehillsp.vic.edu.au/page/70/School-Transition>.

The videos will discuss enrolment, wellbeing and the reasons why families should select WHPS for their child.

2021 Enrolment

Any current school families with a 2021 Prep child are encouraged to enrol as soon as possible. Please complete a full enrolment form and return to the office with copies of your child's immunisation records and birth certificate. Knowing how many sibling enrolments the school will have next year will assist us to know how many places may be available for families who reside outside the school's neighbourhood.

School ANZAC Day Service

Thanks to the families who went on to YouTube last Friday to watch the school's ANZAC Day Commemorative Service. Thanks also to Mr Roger Byron and Mr Daniel Wridgway for their coordination of this activity and to our student leader volunteers. We will also upload a video onto the school website in 'Latest News', of two Grade 6 students making banana bread. Great job Lahni and Axel!

Marking Attendance

Thanks to the majority of students/families who have been following our process to record daily attendance. To reiterate, classroom teachers will post the following message every morning "Good morning Parents and Carers, please 'Like' this post to indicate your child's attendance in remote learning today by 11:00am."

The teachers will be using this as a means of checking who has read the message and marking the roll accordingly.

If you are collecting a hard pack of work rather than your child accessing the work online, follow the same process as above.

Students Onsite

To reiterate, **all students who can learn at home must learn from home**. This is a very clear directive by the Victorian Government based on the advice of the Chief Health Officer.

The view is that social distancing and health and safety are the key priorities. We have a few students attending each day. As staff are working from home also, **the application form for required days/times the following week must be completed by 3.00pm every THURSDAY**. We have to determine attendance in advance each week to support adequate staffing.

Students are doing the same tasks at school that they would be at home either with the hard pack they have collected for the week or via the online tasks. If you haven't contacted me regarding your child's attendance this week, then your child will be unable to attend as staffing has been allocated. Please ensure your child brings their own drink bottle to school if they are attending, as well as their school device (if they have one) or hard pack.

Camping Program

We have had a number of enquiries regarding camp deposits that are due early this term given to the current situation. We are confident that the camps program will continue as usual. If the camps do not proceed due to the current COVID-19, parents will be refunded camp deposits. If the camps do go ahead as scheduled, and a family pay a deposit and then decide their child will not be attending the camp, the deposit would be forfeited, consistent with the current process in place.

REPEAT MESSAGES

Remote Learning

We have had some positive comments and feedback from parents acknowledging the work staff are contributing to supporting your children with their learning during this difficult period. Staff have been most impressed with many families who have embraced this unique situation and are giving the remote learning a good go!

This is clearly going to be a challenging time for all of us. It's going to be critically important that we work very closely together to ensure that we provide the very best possible support for the ongoing wellbeing and learning of our students and your children.

Staff are strongly encouraging students/families to access their school work online where this is practical, as content is more interactive and engaging. We understand that in some circumstances and for some students and families it will be necessary to access the hard pack of work.

The most important message is that we want every student to access one or the other!

Camp Australia-Before and After School Care

Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) reopened its service from Wednesday 15th April at White Hills PS.

As per the recent State Government advice, from the start of Term 2, all students who can learn from home must learn at home. Complying with this direction, only children of parents who cannot work from home, vulnerable children, or children that are not able to be supervised at home on certain days and no other arrangements can be made, should access this service.

To ensure everyone understands the important message of staying at home as much as possible, OSHC have made the decision to cancel all previously made bookings for Term 2, except for bookings made within the last 7 days. They have directed families that should they meet the above criteria, they must register their status in their system and rebook their care as needed. For all families that attend, childcare will be provided free of charge until 30th June as per the Federal Government's announcement on the 2nd April.

Please let us know if there's anything we can do to support you here at WHPS.

*Andrew Schaeche,
Principal*

Vision for new Botanic Gardens hub released



The City has released its vision for a new central hub precinct at the Bendigo Botanic Gardens, White Hills.

The central hub will be constructed on vacant land located at the bottom of Hamelin Street, between the heritage gardens and the new Garden for the Future to provide a connection between both gardens.

It will provide a visitor centre, café, amenities, wetlands/ponds and landscaped gardens, and areas where people can gather.

Construction for the central hub is currently unfunded but the City will be seeking funding from both the Victorian and Australian Governments to undertake this project, which we hope to have completed by June 2024.

See <https://www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/BBGHubVision>

Coping guide

Even without the extraordinary pressures of COVID-19, kids typically face many hardships, frustrations and difficulties as they go through different stages of development. This guide contains 12 broad coping strategies parents can develop in their children to help them deal with normal, developmental hardships, frustrations and difficulties. These include loss, disappointment, change, rejection, failure and conflict.

Keep an eye out for strategies in next week's News!



Now ONLINE!!

PIANO | DRUMS
GUITAR | BASS | UKULELE
SINGING | WOODWIND | BRASS | STRINGS
BANJO | MANDOLIN | MARIMBA
HARMONICA | MUSIC THEORY

0407 502 438
drewthorpemusic@gmail.com
www.dtmaustralia.com.au



The Camp Australia Blog: Advice, Activities and Articles!

Our OSHC service is open and operating for those that need our care, with engaging programs that have an increased focus on hygiene and social distancing.

For families who require care, childcare will be provided free of charge until 30th June as per the Federal Government's announcement on the 2nd April. Whilst care is free, we still need to know if you are coming. We ask that you get your bookings in as soon as you can.

It's FREE to Register. (and if you want to use OSHC, you first need to register).

Register at pp.campastralia.com.au/account/login. Once registered, it's easy to make and manage your bookings online via our Parent Portal.

Visit the Camp Australia blog for some inspiration when it comes to finding fun activities for children during COVID-19. New articles are added each week to provide ideas for parents, and advice too. Go to the blog: <https://www.campastralia.com.au/blog>.

Here are our top picks:

Keeping the Family Active in Isolation



Great ways for parents and children to keep moving and maintain their fitness. Give it your best shot at the 7 minute workout and more!

[Take me to the article!](#)

Healthy Eating for Children



Staying healthy is extra important during the COVID-19 outbreak. With the children at home, it's important you know how to support their nutrition.

[Take me to the article!](#)

8 Autumn Activities for Children



Don't rely on the same activities each day. Bring in some fun activities this autumn to keep your children entertained at home all day long.

[Take me to the article!](#)

How to Remain Calm During Coronavirus



Remaining calm during coronavirus times is challenging. We've collaborated with Andrew Fuller, leading child psychologist for some advice and reassurance.

[Take me to the article!](#)