



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 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**

Week 7

Friday 29 May **G3 Camp Deposit Due 4.00pm**
Yr 6-7 Transition Forms Due

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

Friday 26 June **Last Day Term 2**

Term 3 2020: Monday 13 July – Friday 18 September

Mon 17 – Fri 23 Oct **Book Week**

Term 4 2020: Monday 5 October – Friday 18 December

Tuesday 17 November **G5 Camp Balance Due 4.00pm**
Wed 25 – Fri 27 Dec **G6 Camp**
Wed 2 – Fri 4 Dec **G5 Camp**

Remote Learning Week 4 Update

A reminder that Grades P-3 and Specialist (Music, Art, PE and Chinese) learning tasks for students are now 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 4pm with the link to the 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 4 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/whitehillpsps.com/remotelearning>

Principal's News

Hi everyone,

Prep 2021 Enrolment

This year we will be unable to conduct information sessions for prospective 2021 prep parents here at school during Education Week as we had planned. However, we have uploaded videos on the school's website. Visit the Enrolment tab on the landing page at

<https://www.whitehillpsps.vic.edu.au/page/70>

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

As our school has an enrolment ceiling, the school has to manage enrolments. To do this, we follow the state-wide guidelines and a copy of the school's enrolment policy can be found on the website outlining these. The school enrolls approximately 85 Foundation (prep) students each year and they are divided into four classrooms.

In summary places are allocated in the following order:

1. Any family who resides within the school neighbourhood can enrol their child in the school (this applies to all schools)
2. Students with a sibling currently in the school
3. Students who reside outside the school neighbourhood in order of closeness from their home to the school (in a straight line)

So if you fit into one of the first two categories above 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 students in the neighbourhood and sibling enrolments the school will have next year will assist us to know how many places will then be available for families who reside outside the school's neighbourhood.

If you are not sure if you live within or outside the school's catchment please visit www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au and enter your home address.

If you reside outside the neighbourhood, please complete an interim enrolment form and drop this at the office.

Enrolment has been extended to Friday 31st July and school tours can be conducted once restrictions have been lifted.

Full and interim enrolment forms are available from the school office and interim enrolment forms can also be accessed via the school's website.

Year 6-7 Transition Forms

Earlier this week, Year 6 families should have received a pre-populated application form. We ask that **families please complete sections 4B to 6 within the form and return to White Hills PS by Friday, 29 May.**

Building Upgrade

Building works are moving rapidly and they have started framing. I have included some more photos on Page 2 this week to update the school community.

Mother's Day this Sunday

Happy Mother's Day on Sunday 10th May to all the mums associated with our school community. I hope your child/ren and family spoil you by doing something special for you within the restricted guidelines we are currently following. You all deserve it!!!

Building Upgrade



WHITE HILLS PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Respect



Aspire



Resilience



Responsibility

INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS

Normally, the school conducts onsite information sessions during Education Week. Due to the current circumstances, the school has uploaded videos onto its website under the enrolment tab on the landing page.

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

The three videos explain enrolment, wellbeing and provide reasons why you should consider White Hills as a school for your child.

Families who reside within the school's neighbourhood or with a current sibling at the school can complete a full enrolment form. Contact the office to collect this.

Families who live outside the school's neighbourhood – 2021 Foundation (Prep) interim enrolment forms can be collected from the school office or downloaded from the website. The return date has been extended until Friday 31st July. School tours can be arranged once restrictions have been lifted.



REPEAT MESSAGES

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 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.

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

*Andrew Schaeche,
Principal*



PFG News

Mother's Day this Sunday

Wishing all the school Mum's and special female person's for this weekend, a Happy Mother's Day! We hope you, your children and your extended families are all well. Have a very special, and what may be, a very different Mother's Day. We hope it is an innovative and positive day, and your loved ones find new and different ways to make contact and share their thoughts with you. Take care.

From all PFG members

MATHS AT HOME

TOP 5 TIPS FOR PARENTS

Helping your kids to do maths at home can be a positive experience.

Here are our top five tips to help you stay calm and carry on!

1. LEARNING MATHS IS ABOUT STRATEGIES

Much of the actual maths is the same as what you may have learnt. Although learning maths is becoming more about understanding the reasoning and using a variety of different strategies to do maths.



The strategies you learnt at school are still valid too!

Teachers value students using many strategies to solve problems and develop thinking.

2. ASK QUESTIONS



You don't have to know the answers! Nor do you have to know how to get there. Just ask questions and let your child think it through. Here are some of our favourites:

- What thinking did you use to get this far?
- What else could you try, is there another way?
- What could a next step be?
- How could you find out more about what to do?
- Do you think others may do something different?

3. BE PERSISTENT, LEARN TOGETHER



Maths can be challenging. Rather than saying 'I can't do that', or 'It's too hard', say 'I can't do that yet,' or 'We will work it out together'. Research shows parental support is a major factor

for student success at school. Celebrate achieving small steps in solving a problem.

Persist, be supportive and remember to focus on the thinking, not getting answers.

4. SEE MATHS EVERYDAY

There is plenty of maths around you to develop numeracy skills, such as calculating, measuring, using numbers, interpreting data and graphs, recognising patterns, and using language to develop mathematical understanding. Ask questions about the maths in activities like cooking, exercise, sport, budgeting and shopping. Playing games is also a fun way to practice and experience maths.



5. STAY POSITIVE, KEEP CALM

Don't pass on your baggage, this is not about you! Let your children experience maths positively, we need maths for everyday life, and maths graduates have excellent career opportunities.

Don't say 'I was never good at maths' or 'I never liked maths'. Maths can, and should be, really fun!



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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. **Here's two strategies!**

STRATEGY 1

LAUGH ABOUT IT

Help your child see a lighter or funny side of a situation.

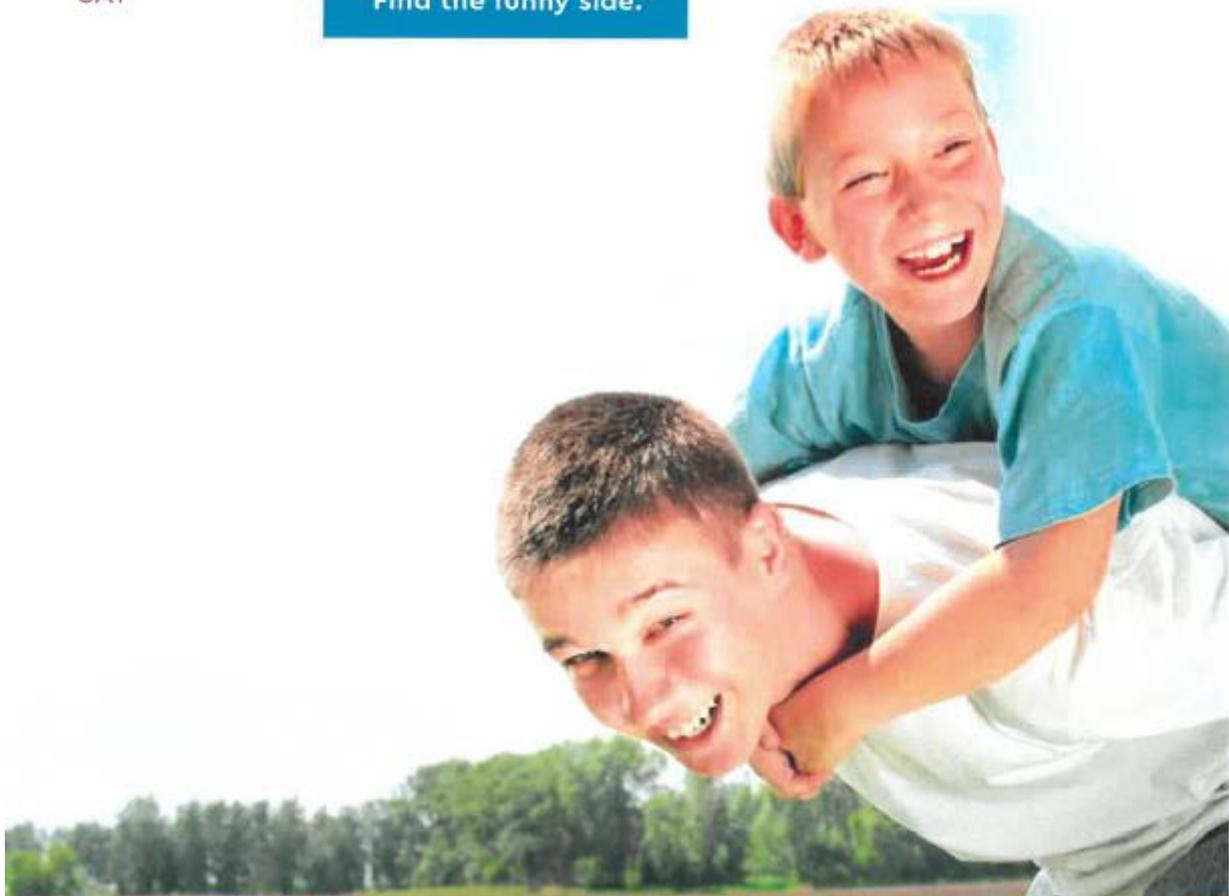
Have you ever noticed that when there is a major world crisis or tragedy that there is soon a spate of jokes in the public arena about the issue? It didn't take long for September 11 jokes to spread through the Internet. These jokes help people deal with the anxiety caused by the situation.

We are less likely to become depressed or feel helpless when we can laugh at a situation. Humour is a great coping strategy. Encourage your kids to stand back and find a funny side to the situation they may be in. I am not suggesting that we trivialize situations, rather develop the ability to find some humour and hope in adversity. Humour is a powerful tool for resilience as it heightens feelings of control. It helps kids reframe a situation and gain some perspective.

THIS STRATEGY REQUIRES KIDS TO LOOK FOR A FUNNY SIDE AND NOT TAKE THEMSELVES TOO SERIOUSLY.

WHAT TO
SAY

"Come on, laugh it off."
"Find the funny side."



DON'T LET IT SPOIL EVERYTHING

Help your child to park his or her bad thoughts somewhere.

The ability to compartmentalize bad events and keep them from affecting all areas of life is a powerful coping skill. Resilient sports people such as golfer Greg Norman and former cricketer Shane Warne have the ability to segment their lives and prevent disappointment (in the case of Norman) or personal issues (in Warne's case) from impacting on their sporting performance. Somehow they park their HFD's for a time, and they revisit these issues when they choose.

Similarly, kids can be encouraged to park their HFD's for a time so that they can function normally and then revisit them when it suits. For instance, if something negative happens at recess at school they need to make sure that it doesn't spoil their whole day. They need to think about something else when they are in class and revisit their issue later on.

THIS STRATEGY REQUIRES KIDS TO DISTRACT THEMSELVES, THINK ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE AND FOCUS ON THE JOB AT HAND.

WHAT TO
SAY

"Park your problems for a while."
"Don't let this wreck your day."

