



CARE.....PERSISTENCE.....PRIDE.....RESPECT

TERM 1-Week 9 Newsletter

Dear Families of Wallaroo Primary School,

Yesterday our Minister announced 4 pupil free days before Easter (6, 7, 8 and 9 April) for all of our schools and preschools. This will give our staff some time to focus on transitioning to flexible teaching and learning ready for term 2. As parents and carers are supported in their choice to keep their children home this time will allow teachers to prepare.

These pupil free days will create some space to help us plan and prepare for new models of learning that can be delivered consistently to students at home and at school.

The <https://www.education.sa.gov.au/our-learning-sa> curriculum portal went live on Tuesday 24th March. It's an excellent start, and more resources will be added to it every day. This is a public platform that parents are encouraged to access.

The advice from national Public Health Officials remains clear- schools, preschools and early childhood services are safe to remain open, and will continue to operate.

Our schools, preschools and early childhood services must remain open for our students who aren't able to continue their learning at home. These are likely to be the children of our essential workers and the children in our community for whom school is the best option.

No child will be turned away.

OSHC and vacation care are continuing to operate for students who need it during the pupil free days and school holidays.

During the 26th and 27th March all families were phoned to check student home learning environments eg if there is wi-fi, stationary, books, iPads etc. This information will be crucial in supporting teachers to plan future learning opportunities for home learning if/when required.

On Tues the 31st March, a learning pack for week 10 and 11 will be ready to be collected from the front office. Parents are asked that if they prefer not to come onto school grounds, please phone and we will bring the packs to the school fence.

Our staff have been given release this week to provide a spelling, maths and general learning pack for weeks 10 and 11. This is not something they have been asked to do. It is also not required by the department at this stage. The decision to do this was made by all teachers collaboratively to support parents to keep routine and learning occurring for our students. Each school will be different in this and it will be largely down to if they can give teachers the time. We were lucky in that this was possible for us this week.

Although it would be great if parents could look for opportunities to connect learning to real life through avenues such as cooking, gardening, shopping lists etc we also want to make sure that at this time, parents feel comfortable to include some fun and down time during the day. There are many resources being developed daily and put on the <https://www.education.sa.gov.au/our-learning-sa> (look for tasks signed 'family focused').

Other ideas for downtime include:

- Blanket forts
- Lego building
- Kitchen utensils/pots to create a band
- Colouring in, make playdough
- Dress up and put on a show, sock puppets

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the teachers and support staff at Wallaroo Primary who have continued to put our students first.

Warm regards.

Dom Thomson

Coming Events: PUPIL FREE DAYS WEEK
11 :

Mon 6th, Tues 7th, Wed 8th and Thur 9th



SCHOOL CARD AND SCHOOL FEES

For those parents/carers who have not put in their application for School Card at this point in time please ensure that you do so as soon as possible.

If you are able to do this on line – here's how you go about it.

Type in <http://edi.sa.edu.au/finance/school-and-preschool-income/school-card> into the search bar.

Click on the link sa.gov.au/education/schoolcard

Then click on Applications.

Then click on

School Card A – apply on-line (follow the prompts)

OR

School Card A – download form

OR

Ring Sandy at school (88232190) and she will send home a paper copy.

Thank you to those families who have either paid the school fees or have arranged a payment plan.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to the following students on demonstrating one or more of our school values. The students were presented with their awards today in their classes.

Alyssa Wall, Lexi Geldart, Georgia Moyle, Leann Turner, Samara Frick, Imogen Warren, Ruben Toribio, Joel Bates, Emily Ramsey and Nathan Fletcher.

Extra Library Book Borrowing

To support reading, the library has extended the number of books students can borrow from five to twenty. These books are currently due back on Wednesday 3rd June. Some students have already taken up this offer; they were very excited to be allowed to borrow up to twenty books! I have been telling the students that they are also responsible for all of the books to be returned later. Also a reminder that if they become lost or damaged, parents will need to pay for the replacement of those books.



We are lucky that for a third year, Ashton Scholastic are providing us with their 'Star Reader' initiative, and have given our school prizes and certificates to be handed out throughout the year.

Each assembly one student from each class will receive a certificate, bookmark and sticker from their teacher in recognition of reading success. Also at each assembly Mrs Seddon will award one student from the school a gift bag and certificate for their reading efforts.

Term 1 Week 9 winners

Room 1 - Maci Miles

Room 3 - Rhys O'Donohoe

Room 6 - Layla Harland

Room 8 - Taylor Piscioneri

Room 9 - Marnie Dempster

Mrs Seddon - Hanna Secker

Congratulations to these students and thanks to Ashton Scholastic for their generosity.



Your actions will save lives

