

Newsletter 23 October, 2020

Term 4 has started very well with all the children returning refreshed from a well-deserved two week break. This term will see the increase in temperatures as we enter the summer months. We are seeing many of the children coming to school with sunscreen already applied, which is fabulous, and I would encourage all children to do this if possible.

The state government has recently announced the extension of the Phase 4 restrictions for a further two months. This means that our school operations will continue as they currently are until the end of the year.

Currently we are still planning to hold an end of year function/concert on December 16. With the government's extension of phase 4 restrictions, we are looking at how this can occur. The most likely scenario will be an outdoor event in the early evening after school. More information will be forwarded as soon as possible if the event is to go ahead.

Faction athletics carnival – All the information for the carnival has been made available via Connect and our school website. It is exciting to be able to have this event in light of all the restrictions placed on the school with the response to COVID-19. It is very important that everyone understands that the carnival is a fun event and all the children are encouraged to give it a go. It doesn't matter if they come first or last, as long as they do their best. Parents and families are encouraged to support and cheer, and always promote our values of care and respect. Please be aware that the decisions of the judges are final and they will not be changed. Please take this opportunity to get together as a school community and enjoy the event. At the end of each day's events, children will return to their classrooms. If you make the decision to take your child home early, we ask that you collect them from their classroom so their teacher can enter this on the attendance roll.

Families leaving at the end of 2020 (not Year 6 children) – If your child is leaving at the end of the year could you please inform the school if you haven't already. This is critical information which allows the school to set its budget and class structures.

Class structures – It is very difficult for the school to set our 2021 class structures. This is mainly due to the continued development of houses in our intake area. My aim is to send out proposed class lists (via Connect) just before the beginning of the summer holidays. By sending the lists out at this time it has the tendency to remove some of the anxieties that children and parents have about the following year. However, as we are a fast growing community, there is always a strong possibility that the classes might change over the holidays. Parents will be provided with more information closer to the end of the year.

Class placement requests – Occasionally parents are in a position where they would like to make specific requests on their child's class placement. These requests will be considered, however there is no obligation for the school to meet a request, nor is there a guarantee that a request will be reflected in class lists.

As principal I will consider the following requests:



- Court orders that are in place and need to be met
- Family dispute issues
- Placement of twins (keeping them in the same class, or separated)
- Identified learning difficulties
- Identified additional learning needs

The following requests will not be considered:

- To have a specific teacher
- To be with specific friends
- To not be in a composite (split class)

If you do have an acceptable request for class placement, please send a letter addressed to myself (George Craig, Principal, Caversham Valley PS), no later than Friday 20 November.

Evacuation practice – On Friday 23 October we conducted a school evacuation practice. This was overseen by Craig McGuinness from CMG Fire. These drills are important to ensure that all staff and children are familiar with what is required in the very unlikely case of the school needing to be evacuated.

Susan Luelf – This term Mrs Susan Luelf will be joining us at Caversham Valley PS. She will be working with certain students in the Djaril and Wornt classrooms.

Transportable buildings – Over the next month, two transportable buildings will be placed on our school site. These buildings will be used to cater for the growth of Kindy and Pre-primary enrolments. They will be placed on the grassed area in between the Balga and Djaril classrooms. This area has been fenced off. Disruptions should be kept to a minimum, however there might be the occasional day where certain carparks or entrances will not be accessible. As the installation dates become available, more information will be sent to parents via Connect.

School surveys – Every two years all schools are required to complete a Parent School Survey. This year the survey will be a very short and simple one. Shortly families will be sent a request via email to participate in the survey. The survey will be open from November 2 and close on November 24. These surveys provide valuable feedback to the school and will help with future direction. Please note that all surveys are anonymous and it will only take a few minutes to complete.

2021 Booklists - The 2021 Booklists will be sent to parents shortly for ordering and purchasing ahead of next year.

Voluntary Contributions and Charges – The 2021 Voluntary Contributions and Charges will be sent to parents shortly. Please note that payment for the 2021 Voluntary Contributions and Charges can only be made next year (2021). We can't take payment ahead of time. If you have any queries when you receive these please contact our front office.

VacSwim swimming lessons - Enrolments are now open for VacSwim swimming lessons during the summer school holidays.

VacSwim in January offers fun lessons at beach or pool locations during the long break. Not only are they a great school holiday activity, they teach valuable safety skills to help keep your child safe in the water.

Your children can start as young as five years old. Don't wait! Enrol your children in VacSwim now at education.wa.edu.au/vacswim

Thanking you

Craig George
PRINCIPAL