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Respect Responsibility
Persistence Confidence
Care Honesty

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Term 2, Week 4 – Wednesday 20th May 2020

No 8

DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday 21 May	Last day to submit online high school enrolment form
Friday 5 June	Student Free Day
Monday 8 June	Public Holiday

Future dates

Term 3 Week 4 Tuesday 11 August	School Photo Day
Term 3 Week 6 Friday 28 August	Student Free Day – Berry Street training
Term 3 Week 9 Friday 18 September	Sorts day
Term 4 Week 4 Friday 6 November	Student Free Day

Principal

Slowly we are returning to some normal school procedures. This week home readers have started going home. In the latest information from the Department it was stated that:

We are waiting for updated advice from our Chief Public Health Officer Nicola Spurrier.

We've asked her for school and preschool specific advice on camps and excursions, school based sports competitions, large gatherings within schools (such as student assemblies), operation of community/school libraries, and visitors to schools. We'll get this information to you as soon as we receive it. In the meantime, we ask that you maintain current arrangements.

Anne Millard

Executive Director, Partnerships, Schools and Preschools

While we have been supporting parent choice during this pandemic, it is now expected all public school students who are well and not considered vulnerable to COVID-19 to attend school or preschool.

Students are required to attend school unless they are:

- Feeling unwell
- Have a chronic medical condition or compromised immune system and are not able to attend school on advice from their medical practitioner
- Live in a household with others that are deemed vulnerable to COVID-19 and are not able to attend school on advice of their medical practitioner
- Have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or have been required to self-isolate by SA Health

Student semester one reports will be sent home in the last week of this term. Receptions and new students will be issued with a report folder, could other students please return their folder to the classroom teacher as soon as possible. We are yet to confirm when teacher/parent/student 3 Way Discussions will be held. If at any time you have any questions about your child's learning progress or any other matter please don't hesitate to contact them for a telephone conversation.

Even though Government restrictions have started to ease we are still practicing the physical distancing and ask that parents do not enter corridors or classrooms. Parents should maintain the 1.5m physical distance between themselves and other adults (parents and teachers) at all times, including school drop off and pick up.

We encourage our students to be independent and unpack and complete their morning and afternoon routines by themselves.

Last Friday Alison Pietsch organised school assembly using Microsoft Teams. Each class viewed the school leaders and leadership team on their classroom TVs and whiteboards. We were able to announce the Visible Learner and Values awards, upcoming events and House Cup scores.

On Friday 5 June we are having our Student Free day so we can get back on track with our goals on the School Improvement Plan. A large portion of this day will be dedicated to our goal to increase student achievement in Numeracy by intentionally designing maths learning that follows the sequence of Big Ideas in Number (BIN).

These are the six 'Big Ideas' that develop a strong number sense. Understanding and skill in these concepts is what underpins sound mathematical thinking and supports students' development of numeracy. These 'Big Ideas' are what learners need to know and understand to progress in their learning about number.

In week two we put information in the newsletter on whether shot put and discus should continue at the school sports day or should we replace them with alternative events. Please provide feedback via dl.0456.info@schools.sa.edu.au or note to the office.

Deputy Principal



This week is National Volunteer Week! And we want to say a huge thank you to all of the parent and community helpers who support the children and teachers in our school. We look forward to when we are able to welcome you back on site to continue to support student learning and help with school events. We will inform you as soon as this is possible and thank you for your patience and understanding. We also look forward to holding a Volunteer's Morning Tea to say THANKS!

Coming Soon – we will be running a school book fair through Carnival Fairs which will include a link



to a Virtual Book Fair. Students will have the opportunity to visit the library to view the books available and create a wish list to take home. The selection of books at our Book Fair will include a wide range of quality books from the best Australian and overseas authors & illustrators. This is often a great opportunity to purchase books for your child to enjoy reading at home or school and books also make great gift ideas. Every purchase from the Book Fair earns free books and resources for our school. Details will be in the next newsletter.

Megan

URGENT REMINDER to parents of year 7 students

On-line High School enrolment forms are to be completed by this Thursday 21st May

After this date the on line portal will be closed.

Student Voice – Casual/Dress Up Day!

Student Voice are hosting a casual/dress up day on **Friday 29th May** (next Friday!). This is just for fun! Students may come to school dressed in casual clothes or dress up in a favourite costume! Please ensure clothes are appropriate for school – eg: suitable footwear for outdoor play.

We look forward to seeing some fun and fancy outfits!

Waikerie Primary School Wellbeing Approach

Our Waikerie Primary School wellbeing approach is driven by the *The Berry Street Education Model* (BSEM) which is a trauma-sensitive approach to teaching and learning that supports all learners to be ready to learn. Last Thursday, staff had a ‘refresher’ session to revise concepts from the day 1 training that took place last year. Our day 2 training was postponed due to the Covid-19 situation, however the online refresher gave us some great tools in supporting our students during this stressful time in life!

Some of the practices that our school has adopted since our first training day are:

- Brain Breaks (providing a quick movement or mindfulness break to allow students to re-focus. Movement and mindfulness increase oxygen to the brain and calm or energise the nervous system)
- “Ready to Learn” – defining what it means to be ready to learn and providing strategies to become ready to learn if students are not in the right frame of mind
- Teaching about how the brain works and the concept of “Flipping the Lid” as a tool to manage emotions
- Morning circles – to promote belonging, connection, routine and positive emotion to start the day
- Co-regulation – this is a concept that staff have learnt as a practice to support students to self-regulate. Parents/carers can co-regulate with their child too in times of distress! See below!

>>>Parent/Carer TIP!<<< What is ‘Co-regulation’:

- The process of helping others self-regulate (calm themselves)
- Children cannot learn to self-regulate without experiencing co-regulation first
- Co-regulation happens when we lend our sense of calm in the chaos:
 - Through our tone of voice – soft and calm
 - body language – non-threatening, side-by-side is best, get down on their level but not too close or in their face
 - Environment – Consistent, predictable routines!
 - Teaching/coaching self-regulation strategies – giving children coping strategies such as structured breaks from a task, taking a short walk, getting a drink, talking to a trusted adult or teacher, asking for help, taking slow breaths, mindfulness, fidget toys, calm corner, walking away, reading a book, colouring in, exercising (patterned, repetitive activities)!

Over time, as we co-regulate with children, they develop the skills and strategies to self-regulate!

Alison Pietsch ☺