

BULLETIN



East Bentleigh
Primary School

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Term 2 / Week 5 : 14th May 2020

SCHOOL VISION: East Bentleigh Primary School provides a rich, inviting, child-focused environment ensuring that all students feel safe and stimulated. Our students are able to achieve their full academic, creative and social potential, equipped for the challenges of lifelong learning. Students develop into healthy and confident individuals, actively contributing to the world in which they live.

At East Bentleigh Primary School we are committed to child safety.

Hello everyone,

COVID-19- Return to On-site teaching

As you will know, following advice from the Chief Health Officer (CHO), the Victorian Government has advised that schools can begin a phased return to on-site schooling.

In the first stage, students in Prep, Grade 1 and Grade 2, senior secondary (Year 11 and 12 VCAL and VCE) students and all students in specialist schools will return to school from **Tuesday 26 May**. To support all school staff to prepare for this transition, Monday 25 May will be a pupil-free day.

In the second stage of our return to on-site schooling, all other year levels will return to school from **Tuesday 9 June**. For those students who cannot be supervised at home and vulnerable children, the existing model of on-site schooling will remain in place during the two-week period from Tuesday 26 May to Tuesday 9 June.

The current process that we are using to enable parents and carers to indicate the days or part-days for which on-site schooling is required will continue for this two-week period. Please remember that this form must be received no later than the Friday of the previous week. All other students in these grades and year levels will continue learning from home until Tuesday 9 June.

Once a year level has returned, all students will be expected to attend school as normal. This means if you choose to keep your child/children home after their year level has returned to on-site schooling, we can no longer support their learning from home. This does not apply to children who need to be absent for health or medical reasons. For those families, please contact us so we can make an appropriate plan. This same approach is being taken by all government schools in Victoria.

To support the health and wellbeing of all our students and staff, our school will continue an enhanced cleaning routine and will encourage frequent hand washing. **If your child is ill or is feeling unwell, they must not attend school. They must remain home and seek medical advice.** While the CHO has advised that students will not be required to maintain physical distancing at school, there will be a number of important changes to our school operations, consistent with available health advice. These changes will apply until further notice.

We are currently working on the logistics and detail about what this will look like at our school, but what I can tell you is that these changes will include:

- * **adjusted arrangements for drop off and pick up, including staggered school start and finish times;**
- * **restrictions on access to the school site for anyone other than immediate school staff and students;**
- * **restrictions to play areas and drinking troughs;**
- * **the way we conduct parent-teacher meetings and interviews.**

Rest assured that we will give you plenty of notice about these new requirements. It will definitely not be business as usual and will no doubt feel strange at first. I ask that you bear with us as we work our way through this transition period safely.

In order to inform our planning, I would appreciate you all completing a short survey in regards to your intention to resume on site learning. Please see link below.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc8nUaEcXw5iNn1vsLKbuJmWMFbJBd5bdP8W1RVMUzVjlk2Q/viewform?usp=sf_link

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I fully understand that some families may feel anxious about this move back to classroom teaching and learning. I can assure you that this decision has been taken on the basis of the best health advice available to our state. More information about the return to school and coronavirus (COVID-19) can be found on the Department's website, which will continue to be updated:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/department/Pages/coronavirus.aspx>

I know all of our staff are looking forward to welcoming our students back to the classroom.

Specific information about what the school day will look like from Tuesday 26th May will come to you soon.

Bentleigh Farmers' Market - Thank You

In order to support our Victorian primary producers, school council agreed to the proposal that we hold an 'extra' market in between our usual 4th Saturday of the month markets. This market was held last Saturday and I'm sure I won't need to remind you what a wet morning that was.

My sincere gratitude to the following hardy souls who battled the weather gods to support our shoppers, farmers and ultimately our school. Despite the very unfriendly weather we still had 500 customers through our soggy gates and our stallholders left wet but very happy.

Thank you to set up and pack up crews Denise McDonough, Pete Moore, Jenn Baumgartner, Italo Paiva, Sarah Bowes, Amy & George Holden, Renee, Paul & Balty, Carolina & Fabian and Heidi. Also to our gate keepers giving our shoppers a warm smile on a cold and wet day, Miyuki, Samuel and Charlie, Candy, Bastian, Zara and Kaia and last but definitely not least Lisa Vance. THANK YOU.

Reminder 'Turn-off Thursday' - Thursday 21st May will be a day when your child will not have to be online for school. 'Turn-off Thursday' is designed to give your child a break from being constantly connected, under pressure to complete tasks and spending more than the recommended daily time on a screen. On Wednesday, teachers will be either sharing new offline tasks or directing students to the 'Offline and Optional' that can be completed on Thursday. There is no obligation to complete them all or to submit anything. Students will instead be encouraged to share what they did come Friday morning.

Teachers will be using this time to continue planning, assessing and collaborating but will not be online providing support or synchronous learning experiences. I hope that you find this an opportunity to recharge and partake in some more relaxed learning experiences.

Remote Teaching and Learning

Who says that instrumental lessons can't be taught remotely?? Whilst face to face is what we would all prefer, Jonathan's lessons in any way are worth having. Thanks Lauretta for sending us this great shot of Duke and Floyd having a joint lesson this week.



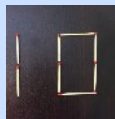
P.S. If parents who are essential workers require on-site supervision for their child/(ren), - please ensure you email in your application form by the Friday of the week before - so that the necessary arrangements can be made. The On-Site Attendance Form can be found on the school website in - 'RESOURCES' - 'Policies, Forms and Documents'.

Until next time..... Maria Shearn - Principal 😊

CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Riddle of the week

Grades P-2. Move only one matchstick to make the number 5.



Grade 3&4. Move only two matchsticks to make two houses.



Grades 5&6. Move only three matchsticks to make 3 squares.



By: Samuel

Free sustainable living webinars

Looking for some green living inspo? We've got a bunch of free webinars lined up for you throughout May and June on chook keeping, natural pest control, nature play, preparing your home for winter, community climate action and more.

These webinars are part of an online series to support you to live more sustainably. They are brought to you by Glen Eira City Council, City of Port Phillip, City of Stonnington and the City of Yarra.

Bookings are essential. To book, please click on the link for the Glen Eira City Council webinars.

<https://www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/services/sustainable-living/sustainable-living-webinar-series>