

East Bentleigh Primary School

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www.eastbentleighps.vic.edu.au Phone 9570 3525 Email: east.bentleigh.ps@education.vic.gov.au Term 3 / Week 9 : 9th Sept 2021

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,

I hope that this communication finds you all as well as possible. These beautiful sunny days lately have been an absolute blessing haven't they. There's nothing like a bit of sunshine to lift our spirits. We are really missing the children at school and are all hopeful that we will be able to return to onsite learning in Term 4, although I have not had any information yet as to what Term 4 will look like. I will of course advise you when I hear anything.

I have had several enquiries about children having to wear masks at school when we do return onsite and the latest advice is, that they are recommended, but not mandatory. I will keep you informed about this as information unfolds. In terms of vaccinations, my understanding is that there is no information regarding any program for children under 12. Should this ever happen I remind all parents that any vaccination program, should it begin in primary schools will require parental consent. As always, please contact us if there is anything at all that we can do to support you.

I have heard from a number of our parents in the last few days who whilst acknowledging that this lockdown has been particularly difficult, have noted that it has also provided new opportunities for their children to develop their 'soft skills', such as time management, organisation, accountability, dealing with disappointments therefore expanding resilience) and thinking creatively.

It is recognised that these soft skills strengthen other skills and abilities, and that students with these skills will be equipped to adapt more quickly and easily as their educational and work futures continues to evolve.

Please keep checking in with your child.....

As parents, we all know that our little ones need our support and monitoring, because they are constantly at our feet. As the child grows older though, it's easy to assume that because your child does well at school, they will be fine doing their schoolwork independently at home.

When there are younger siblings, parents find themselves playing a juggling act, endeavouring to manage work commitments, assisting the younger siblings with remote learning and leaving our responsible and easy-going older children to work on their own. Older children still need you, even when they act like they're fine.

Here are some simple things you can do to support and encourage them:

* Ask your child how they are 'mapping out their day' to balance school and leisure (this could be a discussion first thing in the morning or the night before).

* Ask your child to share with you one piece of schoolwork they are proud of, or the piece of work they are scheduled to upload for the day.

* Friend Connections – help your child to connect with friends or classmates (eg. phone call, meet up for a walk etc).

* Balance screen time and time outdoors.

* Ask your child if there is anything they need help with. (They may appear to be on top of it all but need strategies to maintain motivation and purpose.)

* Home Chores - give them chores to do (gardening, vacuuming etc). The old saying 'idle hands are the devil's work' results from too much 'free time'.

When this pandemic is over and our lives get busy again, we may look back at this time and wonder why we didn't appreciate the slower pace with our children. Remember that even when your child is playing, they are developing lifelong skills in mathematics, science, creative arts, emotional learning, language and literacy.

Continued next page.....

East Bentleigh Primary School acknowledges Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognises the continuing connection to lands, waters and communities. We pay our respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and to Elders both past and present.



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Onsite Attendance

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A reminder that requests from eligible families (see eligibility below), for onsite supervision in Week 10, the final week of this term, must be in by 3:00pm tomorrow.

A) Children where both parents and/or carers are considered authorised workers who cannot work from home, work for an authorised provider and where no other supervision arrangements can be made:

* Where there are two parents/carers, both must be authorised workers, working outside the home in order for their children to be eligible for on-site provision.

* For single parents/carers, the authorised worker must be working outside the home in order for their children to be eligible for on-site provision.

A copy of an authorised worker permit must be submitted to the school as soon as practicable after it is issued for those seeking Category A on-site supervision.

In rare circumstances, a parent/carer does not need a worker permit. This includes law enforcement, emergency services or health care workers who carry employer-issued photographic identification. More information is available at Authorised provider and Authorised worker permit. <u>https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/authorised-provider-and-authorised-worker-permit</u>

B) Children experiencing vulnerability, including:

* in out-of-home care

* deemed vulnerable by a government agency, funded family or family violence service, and assessed as requiring education and care outside the family home.

*children identified by a school as vulnerable, including via referral from a government agency, or funded family or family violence service, homeless or youth justice service or mental health or other health service.

*Where a parent/carer indicates that a student with a <u>disability</u> is vulnerable because they cannot learn from home, and/or informs the school the student is vulnerable due to family stress, the school must provide on-site supervision for that student. This may apply to students enrolled in specialist schools and students with a disability enrolled in mainstream schools.

To ensure appropriate staffing arrangements, all requests for onsite supervision must be received by 3.00pm the Friday of the previous week after which time lists will be closed.

Please refer below to a FREE public Facebook live event by the Royal Children's Hospital, which I came across, for those interested.



Please also view on the next pages - some lovely work our students have completed recently

Until next timeMaria Shearn - Principal 🙂

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CRAFT AT EAST BENTLEIGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Congratulations to those children who have embraced the online craft activities. I have loved looking at your work and are so proud of all of your efforts. Looking forward to Craft in term 4. *Leanne Jacobs*



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