

# MURRABIT GROUP SCHOOL



Telephone: 5457 2284

Fax 5457 2417

Email: [murrabit.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:murrabit.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au)

Website: [www.murrabitps.vic.edu.au](http://www.murrabitps.vic.edu.au)

## NEWSLETTER

- 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2020

### School Values:

- Respect
- Honesty
- Teamwork
- Learning
- Persistence

*Murrabit Group School respectfully acknowledges  
the traditional custodians of the land.*

*We pay respect to their ongoing living culture.*

### Dates to Remember:

25 <sup>th</sup> May	Pupil Free Day
26 <sup>th</sup> May	Prep/1/2 & Staff Return
3 <sup>rd</sup> June	School Council Meeting
8 <sup>th</sup> June	Queen's Birthday Holiday
9 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 3 to 6 Return

Hello Everybody,

Thank you for your continued support with Flexible and Remote Learning. This week we enter week 6 but it was great news to get definite dates about when the students will be returning to school. Staff are looking forward to seeing the children's smiling faces, interacting with them on a daily basis face to face and enjoying their company in the classroom. As a school we can't thank parents and students enough for their support over the last 5 weeks. We ask that you keep going if you are in Grade 3 – 6 as there is light at the end of the tunnel.

We now have the following guidelines from the Department of Education from the **Return to School Operations Guide** which was released late last week.

Some of the information from this guide is:

- **staged return for students** commencing Tuesday 26 May 2020 – P-2 on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May
- all **school staff** to work from the school site from Monday 25 May 2020
- enhanced **hygiene practice and cleaning** on school sites will take place.

- **physical distancing**, in particular for adults, should be adhered to.

-**signage** has been posted in the school to remind staff, students and families of the need for changed behaviours. Please take note of these behaviours as you enter the school.

- students **must** bring their own **water bottles**. Students will not be drinking directly from the drinking fountains.

- **School Bus** – the usual timetable will apply. Students can sit as per normal on the bus. However, students should practise hand hygiene before and after catching school transport (ie: prior to leaving home and at the end of the school day) and practise physical distancing at bus stops.

- **Unwell staff and children to remain at home**. This is one of the most important actions and will be strictly enforced.

- Activities that involve on site attendance from students from other schools (eg: interschool sport) should not take place or be replaced.

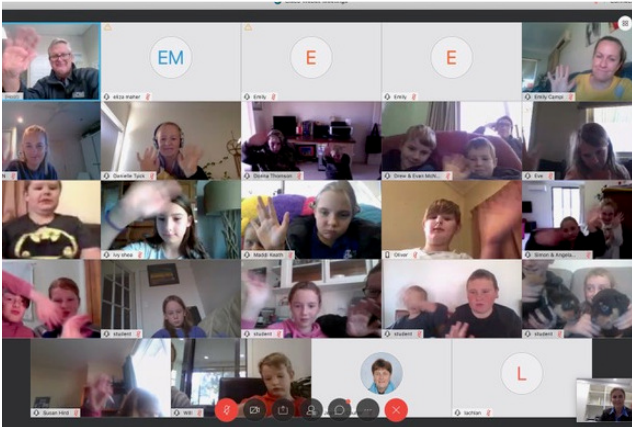
- **Excursions, camps** and other non-essential large gatherings must be postponed.

- Parents and staff to observe physical distancing measures by not congregating in areas inside or around the school.

If you have any questions please contact me to discuss them further.

## Assembly

We had a fantastic assembly on Friday morning with many students and parents joining us via Webex. It was great to see so many Murrabit faces and hear so many Murrabit voices in the one place at the same time. Isn't technology wonderful? A big thank you to Lachlan Maher who spent many hours putting together the slideshow of what home and flexible learning has looked like for Murrabit Group School over the last 5 weeks. It was very entertaining. It will be on our Facebook page shortly.



## Packages

Be in contact with your class teacher to organise the pick-up and dropping off of packages.

## Attendance

A reminder about that each class teacher will have set up a method to record their class attendance. Also a routine should be put in place to help your child.

Have a great week, **Greg**



## Prep/One/Two Home Learning



## Student of the Week



**Claire Edgley** – for being well organised

## Parents & Friends

Hope all the Mum's had a lovely Mother's Day and enjoyed their special gifts from our Lucky Dip last week. Hopefully the kids had some fun and excitement in selecting and sharing the surprise present with Mum on Sunday!!

We have our Murrabit Group School calendar at the printers, thanks to those families and businesses that made contributions to make this calendar special. This should be back in our hands and ready for distribution before the end of Term 2.

It is very exciting that the Prep, 1 and 2 children get to return to the class room next week and that the 3, 4, 5 and 6 classes get to join them in coming weeks. We have no immediate fundraisers or events planned at this time and with heavy Covid-19 restrictions still in place we are unable to meet or plan for events. We hope to reconnect soon so that we can continue to support the children's learning and school experiences into the future.

Kind regards, Michelle 😊


## Curators

**May - 2<sup>nd</sup> Half – Murray**

**June – 1<sup>st</sup> Half – Lacey**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Half – Heritage





### Transitioning Back to School

**Anxiety:** It is normal to be anxious or worried about children going back to school – for both children and parents. Let your children know that there are lots of health professionals working hard to make sure that it is safe for them to return. Health professionals are monitoring schools and the current situation.

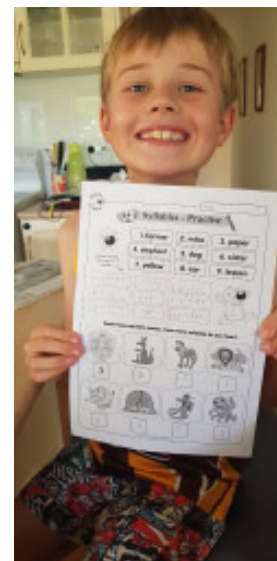
**Feelings:** Ask your children how they are feeling about returning to school. Check in each day, as their feelings can change. We know that some children will not want to go back and it may be hard for some parents. Let them know that it will also be a time that they can see their friends. Your school will be able to support you.

**Connect:** Talk to other parents. Check in on how they are feeling. Let them know how you are feeling. We are all in this together, but each of us have our own situation and feelings too – remember to be kind to others. Try to support and care for each other during this time.

**Routine:** Try to start getting back into routine – or into a new routine. For example, going to sleep earlier, waking up earlier, getting dressed, not staying in pajamas all day. This will be different for everyone. If you start now, it will be easier next week – but know that not every day will go to plan, be kind to yourself and your family.

**Take Care:** Remember to take care of your own and your children's mental health. There have been many changes during this time – going back to school is another big change. Find something that works for you and your family. For example, still do things you enjoy, take deep breaths when you feel anxious, practice mindfulness using the SmilingMind app, go for a walk, talk to friends and family.

[www.ndch.org.au](http://www.ndch.org.au)



## More Home Learning



## Simultaneous Storytime

The Gannawarra Library Service is supporting the Australian Library and Information Association's National Simultaneous Storytime initiative, which aims to promote the value of reading and literacy.

Families throughout the Gannawarra are encouraged to share the story of two performing chickens with children nationally on 27 May. At 11am on Wednesday 27 May, children across Australia will read simultaneously Lucina Gifford's book *Whitney and Britney Chicken Divas*, which tells the story of two chickens and what they get up to each night.

"Now in its 20<sup>th</sup> year, National Simultaneous Storytime is a colourful, vibrant, fun event that aims to promote the value of reading and literacy; using an Australian children's book that explores age-appropriate themes, and addresses key learning areas of the National Curriculum for Foundation to Year 6," "More than 1.1 million people took part in last year's event, including children throughout the Gannawarra, and it is anticipated this number will be exceeded this year." Although face-to-face events will not proceed this year due to Coronavirus social distancing measures, there are many ways families can take part on the day.

"Families are encouraged to sign up by visiting [www.alia.org.au/nss](http://www.alia.org.au/nss), with those who register to receive a number of electronic resources including videos and audio recordings allowing everyone to participate regardless of where they are." "Story Box Library is also supporting the event, with a streaming of Emma Watkins from *The Wiggles* reading the book to occur at [www.storyboxlibrary.com.au](http://www.storyboxlibrary.com.au). This service is free to all Gannawarra Library Service members.

"For those at home on the day, Denise Scott will be reading the book during a special *Play School* broadcast occurring at 11am on 27 May on ABC Kids and the ABC Kids iView app."

Visit [www.alia.org.au/nss](http://www.alia.org.au/nss) for more info.

## CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) | RESTRICTIONS REMAIN IN PLACE

If you are unwell, please stay at home.

The greatest risk of transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19) is between adults. Please follow these physical distancing measures:

- avoid gathering in a group inside or around the school
- keep 1.5m between yourself and other adults



- avoid handshakes and hugs
- wash your hands regularly.



VICTORIA  
State Government  
Education and Training



## COVID-19

### Screening and Assessment Clinic

Help us flatten the curve. Please give us a call and book in to be swabbed.

#### STEP 1 – PHONE FIRST

Please contact the Triage Clinic by phone to discuss your symptoms.

This service is available Monday to Friday – 9.00am to 12 Noon

03 5451 0200



#### STEP 2 – SWABBING CLINIC

This service is available by appointment only, in Kerang, Cohuna, Boort, Pyramid Hill and Koondrook.

Monday to Friday – In the afternoon

This is NOT a standard Medical Clinic service. Walk up appointments are NOT available. You must phone first.

Anyone who has any symptoms, no matter how mild, such as a runny nose or scratchy throat, is encouraged to get a test.

#### Common Symptoms of Coronavirus are:

Temperature  
Including fever or chills



Breathing Difficulties  
Including breathlessness or sore throat



Fatigue or Tiredness



Cough or Runny/Stuffy Nose



Headache or Body Aches and Pains



Lack of Taste, Nausea, Vomiting, Diarrhoea

