

Weld Square Primary School Newsletter



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MISSION STATEMENT:

To develop, within a caring environment, the cognitive, social, physical and creative abilities of all children to enable them to realise their full potential and to maximise future opportunities as members of the community.

Dear Readers

What an amazing couple of weeks it has been. I don't think many people could have predicted the changes that have been happening in our society with the rise of COVID-19. It is a testament to us all how well our students have accepted and embraced their learning during such a time.

Firstly, I want to acknowledge the staff at Weld Square Primary School. What a steep learning curve they have undertaken over the last couple of weeks. I literally threw them in at the deep end, suggesting we start trialling online learning in our classes. Not only have the staff trialled online learning, they have exceeded all expectations and blossomed in this environment. There is a buzz around the place as teachers are learning all sorts of new skills, such as creating a YouTube video, hosting a Webex meeting, uploading media onto Connect, creating submissions for student work and hyperlinks to appropriate learning resources. I am so proud of each and every staff member with the way they have accepted this challenge and embraced the learning with such a positive can-do attitude. So thank you to the staff at Weld Square Primary School for all that you do to ensure our children have continuity of teaching and learning during these times.

This week we will continue to trial our online learning platform so that we can perfect it for if and when we need to move to distance education. We encourage all parents to provide us with feedback as to how things are going at home so that we can be sure our model is appropriate for our students and their families. In the final week of term, we will stop our teaching and learning programs to allow staff to prepare for Term Two however we continue to provide supervision for the children who attend school.

Our goal with our learning from home program is to provide continuity of education and structure for

students working at home. We do not want this to be stressful or impact on the health and well-being of any family member so please keep this in mind when students are engaging in learning. You as parents know your children and what works best for them so please use our work as a guideline and complete it at the best time for them. Make sure you allow time to have fun and spend time together as a family as well as doing school work as this is equally as, if not more, important.

Over the next two weeks your classroom teacher will phone you to touch base with how you are going at home. They will provide some feedback on where your child is at academically and socially from what they had observed at the beginning of the school year. Please ask any questions you have about learning at home and allow us to help. Social connection is going to be important moving forward and we are here to help.

Additionally, we are trialling having every classroom set up on Webex so that we have the opportunity to talk with the children online, potentially delivering some lessons on this platform. We will be publishing the links on Connect class pages over the next two weeks to iron out any difficulties we may have. As you can imagine, this is more difficult with younger children so your feedback on this process is important to us.

Most importantly we wish everyone to stay safe during this time. We already miss having all the smiling, friendly faces around the school. A school is a lonely place without children but we must remember that education is not about the bricks and mortar that are the buildings, it is about the community and we are open for business as a school community at Weld Square.

Take care.

Asher Dragan
Principal



DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday 3 April: Learning Programs cease for students
Monday 6 April
- Thursday 9 April: Students will be supervised while teachers prepare teaching programs for Term 2.
Friday 10 April: Good Friday - start of school holidays.

Voluntary Contributions

Thank you to the families that have already paid their 2020 Voluntary Contributions. These are \$60 per child from K-6 and at the moment can only be paid to the account below:
Account Name: Weld Square Primary School
BSB No: 016 363
Account No: 3409 59672
Reference: Child's name and what the funds are for.