

# GLENELG PRIMARY SCHOOL

Diagonal Road Glenelg East SA 5045

T: 8295 3943 F: 8295 2390

E: [DL.1017.info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:DL.1017.info@schools.sa.edu.au)

W: [www.glenelgps.sa.edu.au](http://www.glenelgps.sa.edu.au)



9-4-2020

Dear families,

Hopefully, this is the final GPS COVID-19 update for Term 1. There is a small chance I may need to send out a further update near the end of the holidays, otherwise the next update will be at the start of Term 2. This update, as with all updates, contains some information that is relevant for all families, some information that is relevant just for Learning at Home families, and some information that is relevant just for Learning at School families.

## The go-kart is ready

Staff at GPS this week have completely re-invented the way our school will operate. I am so impressed with their creativity and tireless dedication to 'turn lemons into lemonade'. They have worked so well during these terribly uncertain times to create our go-kart. No doubt there will still be tweaks and changes to the go-kart along the way in Term 2. I sincerely thank all families for your patience, and I know we can count on continued close relationships between home and school - at appropriate distances! We all have a shared understanding that everyone – you, your children, school staff, everyone! – is doing their best during COVID-19.

## Teaching teams for Term 2

As mentioned earlier this week, teachers will be working very closely as 'Year level teams'. This will look slightly different in various year levels, but each teacher of a year level will be on a 'rotating roster' where they teach/set work for each group at that year level, whether at school or at home.

Reception team: Miss Alex, Miss Jas, Miss Jess, Ms Sharnie, Miss Sally

Year 1 team: Mrs Baldwin, Miss Kate, Miss Searle, Miss Carolyne, Ms Sandra, Mr Steve

Year 2 team: Jules, Ms B, Sharon, Ms Robinson, Ms Woodbridge, Mr B

Year 3 team: Miss Tash, Miss Rivett, Mrs Schetter, Mrs Burns, Ms Urmila, Mrs O'Neill, Mr Milne

Year 4 team: Miss Nat, Miss Sara, Mrs Lindegreen, Mr (M) Rose, Mr Bice

Year 5 team: Ms Larkin, Ms Jenkins, Mr (J) Rose, Mr Cresswell, Ben sensei

Year 6 team: Miss Julie, Ms Veroude, Miss Eden, Ms Booth, Mr P

Year 7 team: Mrs Dillon, Mrs Moir, Ms Beth, Ms Arnold, Mr Gale

Specialists, librarians and Inclusive Education team: Kerry, Miss Sally, Ms Robinson, Ms Brus, Jess sensei, Ms Steyn, Ms Arnold, Mrs Gale, Corina, Ben sensei

## Learning at Home packs

The way your child engages in school will look very different in Term 2, however we are committed to ensuring each child remains connected with our school in a range of ways. We are still finishing making the many hundreds of "Learning at Home" packs needed. In the first week of Term 2, these packs will be available on Tuesday of week 1 – 28th April. The pack will have lots of information and resources for the first 2 weeks.

On Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April, to limit the number of people being in the same area at the same time, we ask:-

- Families with surnames A – G come to the COLA between 9:30am and 10:30am
- Families with surnames H – P come to the COLA between 11:40am and 12:40pm
- Families with surnames Q – Z come to the COLA between 2pm and 3pm.

There will be a method to record who has collected the Learning at Home pack. We will provide further details in the first Learning at Home packs about the way families can return packs to the school and collect the new 2-week pack for the following two weeks. If you are unable to collect your initial pack on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April at the above time, you are able to

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come to the Learning at Home collection door (special library door – see photo below) **after** Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April to collect your child/ren's Learning at Home pack. I understand there will be a doorbell at that door for people to use by the start of Term 2.



## **Term 2, Day 1 for Learning at School children**

All children attending school in Term 2 need to go to their ordinary 'Term 1 classroom' on Monday 27th April. Their 'Term 1 teacher' will meet children in the 'Term 1 classroom'. From there, teachers will take the roll and then assist children to find their new classroom area. From Tuesday 28th April onwards, children will go directly to their 'Term 2 classroom'.

Classes have been re-named into Year 7 Class A, Year 7 Class B etc. Please do not read anything into whether a child is in Call A, Class B, Class C or whatever – this is simply a way for children and teachers to have a consistent way to refer to the new class structure. There is definitely no 'streaming' of children.

## **Maximising social distancing at school**

We are keen for as many parents as possible to say farewell to children in the morning at the various school boundaries. The same applies to afternoon pick-up arrangements. Most parents were really organised with this in late Term 1, which was highly appreciated, and we strongly encourage these drop-off/pick-up arrangements to continue. We do understand that occasionally there may be a special situation requiring a parent to accompany children into the school grounds, but we are still needing parents to not come into classroom buildings with children, thank you.

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## Attendance

The Department for Education have given us the following direction:

***From the beginning of term 2 all schools will be required to report on student attendance via EDSAS (that's our administration computer system) daily. This includes a requirement for schools to check on and report attendance for students learning from home.***

What this means is that, although it may sound a little strange, school staff need to record each day whether each Learning at Home student is learning at home that day (nearly always the case of course) or unwell (for instance). Students need to Log into Seesaw and select 'daily attendance task' – choose the applicable option and submit by 9am each school day (instructions are provided in the Learning at Home packs, too).

If you do not have internet/Seesaw access, then you will need to phone or email the school to let us know whether your child is learning at home or if they are unwell and not completing tasks that day.

In the same way as when all children are at school in 'non-COVID-19 times', parents will receive a text later in the morning asking about their learning at home child/ren if the Seesaw login hasn't taken place on any school day.

## Staff on a break

All staff have been directed by me to take a much needed break to focus on their own health and wellbeing, and that of their families. As a result, please note that our front office will be unattended during the first week of the holidays. There may be times during the second week also (Mon 20th April – Fri 24th April) that the front office will be unattended. Any general inquiries during the school holidays can be emailed to

dl.1017.info@schools.sa.edu.au

but please understand that replies will not be as timely as during school weeks. I intend to take my own advice about taking a break, too. 😊

Kind regards,  
Anthony Fischer  
Principal