



Macarthur Street Primary School
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Remote and Flexible Learning at Macarthur Street Primary School.

April 11 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for collecting the learning packs from school over the last two days of term 1. These will be used to start off our remote learning model next Wednesday April 15. On Tuesday April 14 your children's teachers will contact you and your child by email to outline the program for the week.

Part of the remote learning model will be via the use of technology. This may be through existing online learning such as Reading Eggs and Mathletics. Email, Dojo and Webex (video conferencing) will be used to communicate with you and your children and we will be careful not to overload you with these platforms and will roll them out sensitively.

Given the need for technology in the learning model, if you feel you do not have adequate access to technology, I ask you to contact Jenny or myself and we will organise a computer loan from the school. The Minister for Education has stated that every child will have access to a computer so if you feel you require one from school, please make contact. As we do not know what the response to this will be, it may take a little while to organise this if the school's resources are not adequate to cover the need. If you need assistance with internet access, please contact us on Tuesday.

Teachers will be available to you during work hours of 9:00am to 3:30pm each school day via their email addresses in the first instance. Telephone conversations may need to be scheduled as would normally be the case for parent teacher meetings. Staff work emails are included at the end of this letter. You will not be able to contact staff outside these hours during Term 2.

Premier Andrews has stated *"As we act to slow the spread of coronavirus, the message to students and parents of government schools is clear: all children who **can** learn from home **must** learn from home – with exceptions only in extremely limited circumstances."*

Given this, schools are still required to provide on-site supervision. Students attending will be completing the work their class teachers have set. Attending school on-site will remain available in limited circumstances for a) students on days or part-days when they are not able to be supervised at home and no other arrangements can be made. This will be available for children of parents who cannot work from home and b) vulnerable students.

An On-site Attendance Application Form will be required to be completed prior to a student attending on-site. For next week, these will need to be emailed to me by 9:00am on Tuesday April 14. During the term, the forms will need to be emailed to me by 3:00pm on Thursdays.

Confirmed arrangements for the following week will be made with parents by 4:30pm on Fridays. Students who attend on-site will be undertaking work as set by their teachers. There will be no playground access and social distancing rules will be applied in the classroom and outside.

In the meantime, you might find it useful to look at the Department's Learning from Home website. It provides resources and guidance for teachers and parents and carers.

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

I have attempted to keep this letter to you as brief as possible. I know there is more that I need to tell you and I will do so in the coming days and weeks. I hope what I am sending you is enough to get us underway. I am also aware that you will have numerous questions and invite you to contact me at school (not between 9:30am and 10:30am) on Tuesday 5332 4746 and at any time between 9:00am and 3:30pm on school days during the term

I have attached the DET parent advice to the email that contains this letter as well a copy of the on-site attendance form. Staff emails are listed below.

I look forward to working with you in progressing your children's learning albeit in a very different manner.

With kind regards,



Andy Backwell ~ Principal.

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