



# Bulletin - Learning From Home

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

### Lock Down & Learning from Home

As we continue to live in Lock Down at least until the end of Week 9 (10/9/21), thank you to parents who have continued to assist their children with learning from home. As you know, only the children of essential workers and where there is no other alternative supervision in the home, should be attending school. It is a challenging task, especially when parents have their own work to complete but we are grateful for all their efforts. The Public Health Order is so much stricter this year and it's designed specifically to keep us all safe. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school.

I would like to commend the staff for ensuring that each and every student has engaging and interesting learning from home activities. Our students have made such good progress this year, especially with our Reading Blitz and we want to keep this momentum happening.

### Stages 2 & 3

The Stage 2 and 3 students are actively engaged in Google classroom and every class have been able to meet up during their very own zoom session. This is such an important part of learning from home, as the teachers certainly miss their students and the students miss face to face interaction with their teachers and their mates. The children of essential workers who are at school on the days their parents are at work, are completing the very same Google classroom work with minimal supervision (a COVID restriction). They too have been able to join into the class zoom sessions.

### Early Stage 1 & Stage 1

Our younger students continue to engage in daily zoom meetings with Initial Lit for Stage 1 and Jolly Phonics for Early Stage 1. The Early Stage 1 Zooms (Kinder) have become quite a colourful affair with the teachers dressing up for different themes. The five Initial Lit Zooms for Years 1 and 2 are individualised and intensive tuition aimed at each group's level. Technology is always a precarious method of delivery but the feedback from staff, students and parents is very

positive. I would like to congratulate all staff for their commitment to ensuring these lessons continue despite the challenges of Learning from Home. Thank you again to parents for supporting this work.

### New Packages

New packages for Stage 2 and 3 (only) will be ready for collection on Monday from our White Ave Car Park. Thank you so much to parents for abiding by the COVID restrictions using masks, keeping their distance and not lingering around the school.

### Reading Blitz Reward

Prior to our Lock Down our students K-6 were busy reading each night in order to reach their 40 nights in order to be eligible for the Reading Blitz Reward. We had a large number of students enjoy the reward of going to the movies last term and our classes did surveys to see what the reward should be this term. While Lock Down has certainly limited our options, the students who have met the Reading Blitz challenge will most certainly be rewarded. The most popular option was a disco (in school time) with



takeaway food, followed by some free time. Please be assured this reward will happen as soon as we are no longer in Lock Down and we have all students returned to school. So I would ask parents to keep encouraging their children to read and keep a log on the Reading Blitz proforma. If you have questions please contact your child's teacher.

### Father's Day

Unfortunately with COVID restrictions the P&C have been unable to hold our usual Father's Day Stall. So we would like to say now more than ever, thank you to the dads, grandfathers, uncles and any other carers for helping your children with their learning, reading to them, playing with them and encouraging them. We know what a difference this makes to children's lives so take the time to have a happy day.

## Book Week

We are excited to confirm that Sturt will be celebrating Book Week next week. This will involve a virtual Book Parade, which means all students will be able to send in their photos as they dress up in their Book Parade outfits. Miss Wood is coordinating this event and will have further details on our Facebook and app.

## School Administrative and Support Staff Recognition Week

Next week is School Administrative and Support Staff Recognition Week.

Our SAS staff play an important role in the school community. They are often the first people you see when you enter a school and are essential to maintaining positive relationships with students, parents and the community.

SAS staff work in school offices and libraries and maintain and care for the school grounds and buildings. They include our SLSOs who normally work in classrooms, but are now ringing students and doing zoom sessions with them each day, as they learn from home. SAS staff are often the ones to tend to students when they are unwell. They also ensure the efficient management of school financial and administration functions. So we say thank you to all our SAS staff, we couldn't do it without you!



## Premier's Announcement

As you know we have been given a time line for students to return to school dependent upon when we come out of lock down. At this stage the return date is 25/10 for Kinders and Year 1, 1/11 for Years 2 and 6 and 8/11 for Years 3, 4 and 5. Naturally we hope to be out of Lock Down before this time, however we will have to wait and see. We will keep parents updated on our school website, Facebook and app. as soon as we have any further information.

## Available Support

During our Lock Down, a little worry and distress, although unpleasant to experience, is not something to worry about. However, if you find that for you, or for children in your care, experience a level of distress that is becoming all-consuming or is preventing normal functioning, you might want to consider the following services:

- Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800
- 1300 22 4636 or online [beyondblue.org.au](http://beyondblue.org.au)
- Lifeline 13114
- QLife 1800 184 527 or online [qlife.org.au](http://qlife.org.au)
- Open Arms 1800 011 046
- MensLine 1800 78 99 78
- Parentline 1300 30 1300
- Mental Health Line 1800 011 511
- eHeadspace [headspace.org.au/eheadspace/](http://headspace.org.au/eheadspace/)

In the case of an emergency, call 000.

Your children still have access to support through the school counsellor service in all NSW Public Schools during this time. Contact your school for details of how to access the school counsellor.

Stay Safe  
**Kerry Barker**  
Principal

**MIGRATION COUNCIL OF  
AUSTRALIA  
COVID-19 App**

[MyAusCovid-19 app](#) - Migration Council Australia (MCA) has developed a Government sponsored multilingual resource for Australia's culturally and linguistically diverse communities about COVID-19, its impact and available support.

