



Koondrook Primary School
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Learning from Home

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As we have been enjoying our Easter break there are certainly many other things occupying our minds at the moment. One of these is the commencement of Second Term at school and what this might entail for your family.

We understand that for the vast majority of our families and students starting the school term off from home is a new way of learning. It is for our staff too. We have spent time working to provide engaging and challenging learning opportunities for all students. We are very aware that we cannot expect children to be working from a computer at home for extended periods, parents cannot dedicate all their time to working with children and that parents who are required to work from home must see this as their priority. We are confident that we have planned well and as this new way of being develops, so too will our understandings. We have heard many times in the media over recent weeks that "We are all in this together", and so we will continue to learn from and with each other over time.

Our learning schedule has been organized so that we have a consistent whole school approach. This means that families with more than one child learning from home will be working on the same type of task at the same time no matter what the year level of their child. Our staff will be online and available through a variety of mediums from 8:30-1:00 pm each day. They will use the time from 1:45-3:45 for planning of lessons and organisation of online resources, videoing explicit teaching segments for children and their families to watch to support the learning, attending PD and meetings to develop their own skills to deliver learning in an online environment and to assess and provide feedback on your child's work. The Education Department has provided guidelines for home based learning.

Our schedule is following the recommended guidelines for home based learning which are as follows:

For students in Foundation to Year 2, schools should provide learning programs that include the following:

- literacy activities that take a total of about 45–60 minutes
- numeracy activities of around 30–45 minutes
- additional learning areas, play-based learning and physical activity of about 30–45 minutes.

For students in Years 3 to 6, schools should provide learning programs allocated as follows:

- literacy: 45–60 minutes
- numeracy: 30–45 minutes
- physical activities: 30 minutes
- additional curriculum areas: 90 minutes.

Students are asked to commence the learning activities provided in the Take Home Learning Pack 1 on Wednesday 15th April. Teachers have attached detailed information on how to use the pack.

Email and Webex-Video Conferencing

Included with this email are the instructions and password for the students to be able to access email and webex. Teachers will be holding daily check in sessions with the students. I will be calling each family to help with the set up. Teachers will be trialling this during the week with a few families. We hope that next week we are able to start each day with a class webex session.

Borrowing of ICT Equipment

If you have asked to borrow an iPad, could you please over the next 3 days organise a time to visit the school to pick up the device. Please call or text me on 0429329183.

Ipads and Tablets

If you have your own ipad or tablet could you please download

Year 3/4

- Showbie App
- Webex Meeting App

Prep/1/2

- Dojo App
- Webex Meeting App

Year 5/6

- Webex Meeting App

If the students are using computers webex meetings can be downloaded.

Dojo and Showbie can be accessed through the web browser.

Collection of additional books and learning materials

Now that it has been clarified that all schools will be operating remotely for the term, we ask families to visit the school each Friday to collect additional books and learning resources to support learning at home for the following week. We have set up tubs on the BV (Back veranda) for each family. Work can also be dropped off into the boxes for teachers to check. Lakes Buslines have offered to drop off and collect work packs when they do the bus run. Please call Amanda to arrange.

Discuss remote learning as a family

Chat with your children about why they are attending school in a different way and re-assure them that the staff are looking forward to seeing them again when government restrictions are lifted and they are able to return to school with their friends and classmates.

Onsite supervision details

Families of essential care workers who are both required to work away from home and those who are eligible under the government guidelines for vulnerable families may apply to attend school. You are required to complete a form by Thursday at 3:00pm the week before students need to attend school. These forms can be obtained from the office. Students will need to bring their remote learning tasks to school with them. They will also need their own headphones. The school bus will be operating as normal each day. All children on site are expected to be in school uniform.

I hope that all families are able to embrace this new way of learning. From adversity grows new opportunities and in the weeks ahead I am sure that we will all be on a steep learning curve. In the meantime, please keep a look out for our school newsletter each week, updates on our school Facebook page, texts and emails from the school which will keep you informed about school life this term.

Sincerely,

Amanda Bradford

Principal