



TAROONA PRIMARY SCHOOL
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18 March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

UPDATE RE: COVID 19

Thank you for your ongoing support during these difficult and uncertain times.

On Monday I sent a letter to all families explaining the preventative measures we are taking to reduce exposure to Covid-19 and have continued to update our Facebook page with helpful resources and information.

Our students and staff are to be commended for their calm, sensible and dedicated approach to learning this week. We have actively focused on healthy habits, including teaching the children appropriate handwashing and greetings, and are providing calm, open, reassuring and factual school and classroom environments to support emotional wellbeing.

It has been wonderful to see the creative ways in which our school has “socialised together”, whilst maintaining physical / social distancing, for example using Skype on Monday afternoon to ‘live stream’ the 2020 Tarooma Primary School Student Parliament election results.

We acknowledge that each day brings new information and developments, and I can confirm that the school library is closed and the following programs have now ceased until further notice: Band Programs at THS, Year 4-6 Choir and Year 1-2 Story Dogs.

Our focus on using digital technologies to solve authentic problems will certainly be put to the test over the coming days and weeks, as we navigate the social distancing directive. We will identify new ways for buddy classes to “meet”, for continuing band students to document their practice sessions, and for our Launching into Learning Families to stay connected with the school. Teachers will collaborate with parents / carers to find new ways to “connect” and discuss issues of concern without relying on face-to-face meetings, and we will work towards running a whole of school assembly for the classes in an online space later this week.

A reminder that it is expected that children who are well attend school. Please note that, whilst a school is open, teachers are expected to plan and deliver face-to-face classes, therefore will not have the capacity to provide alternative learning programs for families who choose not to send their children to school during this period.

Some Good News: Harmony Day will still be celebrated on Friday (children to dress in orange), the **K-6 Growing Up Program** will begin next Tuesday and **Sushi Friday** orders are still being delivered – all orders (and any cancellations for absent students) by 12pm Wednesday.

Parents are welcome to contact me directly for any further information.

Yours sincerely,

Danielle Bresnehan
PRINCIPAL