

NEWSLETTER



Wembley Downs Primary School

From the Principal

2 JUNE, 2020

All Parents,

I trust everyone had an enjoyable long weekend and got to spend some time with family and friends.

The easing of restrictions across the state is a very encouraging sign that life in W.A. is beginning to resemble regular family routines that existed prior to the COVID – 19 pandemic.

As from 8 June 2020, the Department of Education has announced that parents can return to school sites. This news has been welcomed by all concerned.

In the previous newsletter, I noted that the staggered starts and dropping students at the front gate seemed to have produced many benefits for all students as well as the staff. Some of the benefits that we have noticed are;

- Separation anxiety has been less (nearly non-existent) than previously experienced.
- Student behaviour in the mornings has improved across the school. Specifically, the students are 'code switching' (behaviourally, socially and emotionally) far better between home and school as they enter through the school gates. It is much easier for the students to 'code switch' when they have that artificial boundary.
- The Kindy students are walking from the gate and into their classroom ready to start their day without any great degree of assistance. Miss Palmer is super impressed with their ability to unpack their bags and transition to begin their day!
- The students arrive every morning 'ready to learn'. They use the 10 minutes between the gates opening and the start of the day to interact and setup for the day.
- It is very encouraging to see older students escorting their younger siblings to class.
- The administration team have the opportunity to welcome the students into school each day.
- The teachers use the time between when they arrive at school (~7.30am onwards) and 8.40am to set up their classroom for the day and engage in planning discussions with their colleagues. Prior to the changes brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, some students were arriving at school as early as 7.45am.
- Many parents have also commented upon the benefits for their children under the current arrangements.



From the Principal Cont'd

To better understand the dynamics around our observations we intend to implement the following opening and closing times until, at least, the conclusion of this term.

The school gates will open at 8.40am with classes commencing at 8.50am. Where possible we encourage all parents to drop their child(ren) at either of the two school gates. The children who are dropped at the gates will continue to be greeted by the school administration and pre-primary teachers. Also, the present arrangements for the Kindy students will continue.

In the morning, the focus of all of our teachers is upon greeting their students and preparing the class and learning activities for the day ahead. This will provide the students with every opportunity to develop their self-reliance, independence and resilience.

To facilitate time for incidental contact between parents and teachers, we will close the school gates at 3.30pm (the school day concludes at 3.10pm). The time between 3.10pm and 3.30pm provides a suitable 'window' for some parents to meet very briefly with their child's teacher.

Clearly, if there is a matter that requires a longer discussion then an appointment with your child's teacher should be made.

School Times

School Gates Open (all students) 8.40am

Classes Commence 8.50am

Classes Finish 3.10pm

School Gates Close 3.30pm

The school gates will be closed between 9.00am and 3.00pm. This will ensure that all visitors to the school site during the school day must enter the school through the administration.

We thank everyone for their continued support and look forward to encouraging the students to become independent learners.

Mr Lincoln Day—Principal



Deputy's Desk

The procedure we are sharing this fortnight is about moving around the school.

The procedures provide guidance to all members of our school community, assisting us to develop and maintain an orderly learning environment. Many of the procedure charts will soon be on display around the school to help prompt our students with the expected behaviours to demonstrate:-

being safe and caring
being responsible
being respectful
being their best.



WEMBLEY DOWNS PRIMARY SCHOOL

MOVING AROUND THE SCHOOL PROCEDURE

With my class:

- We follow the person in front of us.
- We walk in straight lines and keep left.
- We walk quietly through the school.
- We keep pace with our group.



**BE RESPECTFUL
BE RESPONSIBLE
BE YOUR BEST
BE CARING AND SAFE**

Our Kookaburras will be making a return to classes this week with the specialist teachers awarding them to a class each fortnight for demonstrating our key expectations.



Mrs Michelle Leeming—Deputy

School Office

2021 Kindy Enrolments

We are now taking enrolments for Kindergarten 2021. Application Forms can be found on the school website <https://www.wembleydownsps.wa.edu.au/enrolments> . Once completed with all relevant documentation, you can email, post or drop forms off at School Office—entrance on Bournemouth Street side of school. Closing Date is 24th July 2020.

Thank you to the Parents who have returned their applications for Pre Primary 2021

Collecting Students during school hours

Due to parents not able to come onto school grounds, please phone the office and advise the teacher of when you need to collect your student. We will endeavour to have them waiting for you in the office.

Kindy Kids at work



Kindy Kids at work cont'd



Mixing primary colours



Kindy Kids at work cont'd



Patterns in Maths



Room 12 Work



Our students have been looking at different types of line for art.

Hunta and Ella have created a Crazy Hair Line Drawing for their art-work.



Drama News



This class of Year 6 drama students enjoying the challenge of performing.



Apply now to enrol your child in Kindergarten.

If your child is four years old by 30 June 2021 you can apply to enrol them in Kindergarten for 2021.

Contact your public school or community kindergarten by 24 July 2020 to apply.

At the time of enrolment your child will need to have an 'up to date' AIR immunisation history statement.

Every day of a child's education matters.



To find a public school in your area visit
education.wa.edu.au/schoolsonline