



# WAVERLEY MEADOWS PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue 6 - April 2020

"To learn is to grow"

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### MAY

1<sup>st</sup> Continuation of Remote Learning

5<sup>th</sup> School Council

10<sup>th</sup> Mother's Day

17<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Education Week

### JUNE

8<sup>th</sup> – Public Holiday  
(Queen's Birthday)

27<sup>th</sup> School  
Holidays

### JULY

13<sup>th</sup> Term 3 Begins



## SPECIAL REMOTE LEARNING EDITION

### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

I have had the pleasure of being the principal of Waverley Meadows Primary School for three weeks now. It has not been the start I would have hoped for in terms of connecting with my school community, but I know that will come in time. I just have to be patient!



I am truly grateful for the time and effort our staff and parents have put in to make this term of remote learning as 'normal' as possible for the sake of our students. Thank you. Please remember to continue encouraging your children to connect with their teacher and their learning tasks to the best of their ability. That is all we can ask. Mrs Wells shared a great catch phrase for remote learning with me today **"do your best, forget the rest"**. I really like the sentiment. It's all we can ask of anyone in such unprecedented times. It doesn't mean give up and it doesn't mean don't put any effort in, but once you have given it all you can, that is enough. I do not wish for anyone – student, parent, or teacher, to feel they are under so much pressure that it all gets too much. If you need a break, take a break. I am available to chat with anyone who needs support with the task of remote learning and the added pressure that it is placing on all of us. Feel free to call the school office to chat to me, or send me an email and I can give you a call or email you back. I hope you enjoy this special remote learning edition of the newsletter.

*Alison Lough*

### What is remote learning?

Remote learning occurs when the learner and teacher are separated by time and distance and therefore cannot meet in a traditional classroom setting. For us, this means teachers and students working from their own homes, or some working at school and some working at home. It also means students are unable to collaborate with their peers and develop their social skills in the ways they normally would in the team environment of a classroom or school yard.



## WMPS REMOTE LEARNING SUPERSTARS



### What if the technology just won't work?

With so many people working remotely, internet and wifi services can go through significant periods of service interruption and slow connection. This can cause some angst for students and parents when Google Meets are scheduled or instructional videos are required to complete a task. This happens to the staff as well! We know it's frustrating but there are lots of other options for learning at home when you can't get online. Teachers understand that when you have connection issues, work may not be handed in when requested or something different may be done instead. That is okay! So long as students are doing some form of learning, teachers can see how they are applying their skills in different ways and provide feedback.

### Technology Free Learning Ideas:

- Physical Education Tasks
- Painting or drawing
- Cut and paste – make a collage
- Cooking or cleaning
- Jigsaw, cards or board game
- Help wash the dog, or baby
- Write a story – imaginative or informative
- Write a letter, or make a card
- Go for a bike ride, scooter or walk
- Practise spelling words
- Chalk drawings on the footpath
- Read, read and read some more
- Do some gardening – planting, weeding, pruning
- Practise times-table or counting – use pegs, marbles
- Build something – with lego or boxes



## How do I keep my child motivated?

Teachers are experts at keeping a room full of students engaged and on-task (most of the time)! This takes a lot of planning, tailoring of tasks and personalising of the curriculum. They also know how to keep things moving with regular 'brain breaks', varied learning tools and teaching styles along with a mix of independent, small group and whole class activities.



It is important that while students are learning from home, they are still connecting with others (phone, Google Meets, facetime), changing activities regularly (if it's not finished that's ok you can come back to it later), spending time doing device-free tasks, and taking time out to relax or just play!



A big part of motivation to learn, is in the conversations we have and the way we communicate about learning. Use encouragement, talk about everything – the tasks, their interests, the world around them and beyond!

## HOME LEARNING EXPERIENCES



# Having fun with remote learning!

Prep  
Pyjama  
Party on  
Google  
Meets



Staff getting some  
expert advice from  
their pets!



Just another  
average staff  
meeting!!



**Coming Soon...**

**See the staff as you've never seen them before!**

**Soon to be released on Facebook – staff performance extravaganza!** If you aren't on Facebook, why not sign up and like our page – we'll be showcasing our school upgrades and student achievements on a regular basis.

**We are also in the process of re-designing our school Website. Stay tuned for information on the launch!**

