

NEWSLETTER

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Return to school (finally😊)

Back to school again....for the 3rd time in 2020! It's been a great week and we've been very lucky with some nice, sunny days which have allowed classes to get outside and play and run around with their friends. Parents may find that their child has been tired after school and perhaps even a bit grumpy. This is totally normal, with such a long break from school, a big change to usual routines and most likely no more weekday sleep-ins! Hopefully, your child has enjoyed the week back at school and will return to their routines without too many hassles.

Although coronavirus cases in the community are gradually dropping and restrictions will hopefully begin to ease in the next week or two, Term 4 will still operate with much differently to usual. For the rest of the year, these activities will not be taking place;

- School assemblies
- Parent classroom helpers
- Interschool sports activities
- Rosewood Readers/Musos/Playgroup
- Excursions
- Swimming Program
- School events with parent participation
- Incursions

The Department guidelines for Term 4 operations continue to focus on a range of measures that minimise the risk of potential virus transmission. The remaining nine weeks of school will no doubt present challenges here and there, but all our staff are working incredibly hard to support our students and finish the year on a positive note. Thank you to all families for your ongoing support and understanding.

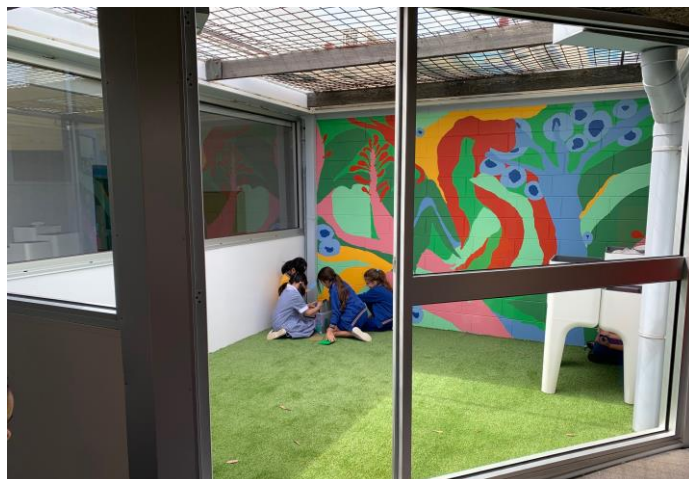
Return of loaned laptops and iPads

As we have now returned to onsite learning, could you please return any laptop or iPad you may have borrowed during the remote learning period. These devices are used in our classrooms and we would like to have them available for our students in class as soon as possible.

Grounds and facilities upgrades

It has been really exciting to welcome our students back to school and unveil some of the improvements and upgrades that have taken place in their absence. The students have really appreciated and enjoyed the new facilities. Below are some photos of the completed projects;

- Front garden landscaping
- Redesign and upgrade of Unit C kitchen garden (featuring new trees and new chickens)
- New signage
- Renovated courtyard areas
- Window replacements



There are still a number of projects to complete including the installation of new seating, construction of a walk-in greenhouse in our kitchen garden and the replacement of more windows.

2021 Prep enrolments

With the current restrictions in place, we have been unable to conduct school tours or run our usual Prep transition sessions. We are running some online Webex sessions for parents during the term and our Prep teachers will be visiting our local kinders to meet our Prep students for 2021. In the meantime, we have a video on our website which provides a virtual tour of Rosewood Downs. We also have a number of Prep transition videos that you may like to watch with your Prep child. If you would like to watch the tour, please open the camera on your phone and hold it up to the QR code on the right which will take you to our homepage with the videos.



If you are reading this newsletter on your phone, then click [here](#) to go to our homepage.

If you are a parent with a child at home who will be beginning Prep in 2021 and are yet to enrol, please get in touch so that we can get the process underway. If you know of any families who have a child ready to start Prep in 2021 but are yet to decide on a school, please encourage them to give us a call or feel free to share the virtual tour video with them.

I understand that some parents are worried that their child who is due to begin Prep in 2021 may not be ready or prepared because of the disruption to this kinder year. Some parents are considering having their child repeat the year of kinder rather than begin their primary schooling. I would like to assure parents that we are very well-prepared to support our new Prep students next year and have a range of strategies and programs ready to help our new Preps get the best start to schooling and catch up with anything that may have been missed during their interrupted pre-schooling this year. Keeping them with their current, age-related peer group is nearly always in the best interest of every child.

'Team Colours Day' on Thursday

On Thursday, we are going to have a special free dress day where we are asking all students to wear their favourite team colours for the day. This is a double celebration of our return to school along with the upcoming long weekend and the AFL Grand Final.

Birthdays!!

We've had a number of birthdays that have been celebrated this week. Just so all parents are aware, COVID-Safe practices mean that we're unfortunately unable to share or distribute cakes or lolly bags for students' birthdays. This will continue for the remainder of the term. In better news, we **are** allowed to sing Happy Birthday to children on their special day!

Our birthdays this week are; **Miela** from Prep, **Minqi** from Grade 3, **Brianna** from Grade 5 and **Jovan** from Grade 6.

Enjoy your weekend,
Julian

