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Term 1, Week 8

17 March 2020

Value Awards – Week 6 & 7

K/1KJ – Jansen L /Oscar M	KE – Mia G/Alex N	KG – Iris Z/Renee M	KJ – Oscar G/Felicity C
1S – Caleb D	1J – Giovanna G	1W – Caelin Y /Adam D	2G – Eliana L/David T
2B – Jiya N/Harvey U	2A – Madison L/Harry B	2F – Jesse W/Sofia T	3H – Armando P /Kirrily S /Charlie E /Anthony K
3P – Lilly O/Jessica Z	3/4G – Betsy P/Justin L /Matthew L/Sophia B	4FE – Jayden M/Eric P	4N – Mia B/Clara S /Eva M /Jaicob H
5A – Freya D/Saul E	5M – Christina L /Alejandro P/Josie B	6S –	6G – Ruby M/Mikaeel R /Alex F/Kate M
6R – Charlie S /Georgia S			

COVID-19 Update

As outlined in the update distributed to parents yesterday, please see information below about changes to routine, cancellations and postponed activities as a result of the NSW Department of Education's social distancing strategy. I appreciate the community support as we work together to implement actions to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our students, staff and community.

Key reminders about personal hygiene are central to our practices during the COVID-19 situation. Please continue to reinforce and practice these strategies at home.

These key messages are:

- 1. Wash your hands regularly and thoroughly.
- 2. Sneeze into your elbow or a tissue, disposing of the tissue straight away and then washing your hands.
- 3. Stay home if you are unwell and in schools, send home staff or students who show signs of being unwell through the day.

These strategies are supported by the following hygiene practices across the school.



The following will be practised for good hand hygiene.







- Delivering explicit lessons in hand washing etiquette
- Promoting cough and sneeze etiquette
- Gamifying hygiene rules such as using songs to teach handwashing etiquette
- Introducing regular hand washing schedules throughout the school day
- Regularly checking that soap dispensers are full in all bathroom facilities

In the school environment, the following will occur.

- Introduction of regular and enhanced cleaning for high touch surfaces
- Use of outdoor settings where possible
- Increasing ventilation in classrooms





Updated international travel restrictions

On 15 March, the Government put in place new measures for people arriving in Australia.

Individuals must self-isolate for a period of 14 days on arrival to Australia, including returning Australian citizens and residents. You are also required to self-isolate if you have been diagnosed with the COVID-19 or if you have had close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 infection.

The Australian Government now advises all Australians reconsider the need for overseas travel at this time. Regardless of the destination, your age or health, if overseas travel is not essential, you should consider carefully whether now is the right time to travel.

Social Distancing

A phased social distancing strategy will be implemented from, Monday 16 March 2020, to support ongoing school operations. As a school, we will be implementing the following to support the wider NSW Health containment strategies.

SRE and SEE Class Cancellation

Please note that in addition to the information about cancellations, all Wednesday morning Scripture and Ethics classes have been cancelled until further notice in line with social distancing procedures.

Daily routine

Routine	Changes/ Modifications	
Before School-8.40am	Students will be separated into four areas, Kindergarten at the hall COLA, Stage 1 in the top playground, Years 3-4 on the blue court and Years 5-6 under the Fed Shed. Students will be supervised by members of the staff executive team. Please ensure that you discuss this with your child/children before drop off each day.	
Wet weather – Before	If it is raining, from 8:40 am, students will go into their	
School	classrooms.	
Recess and Lunch	Students will be separated at break times into different areas. Handwashing will occur at the start and end of each break.	

School Assemblies

From Monday 16 March 2020, the following school assemblies are cancelled until further notice. Urgent information that would have been addressed at these assemblies will be shared on our online platforms for parents. Teachers will notify students about such matters in the classroom.



Advice	Assemblies
Cancelled	 Harmony Day Assembly (Thursday 19 March) - Students can still come to school in their traditional dress or orange. Teaching and learning activities will continue in classrooms. K-2 and 3-6 Assemblies (Monday 16, 23 and 30) - Those classes who have been assigned to present the assemblies in the coming weeks of Term 1 will be rescheduled. Awards will be handed out in class. Friday morning Values Awards Assemblies (Friday 20, 27 and 3) - Awards will be handed out in class.

School Excursions

All school excursions outside of our school's local community are cancelled until further notice. All overnight excursions and school camps are cancelled until further notice.

Advice	Event
Cancelled	 Stage 3 Canberra Excursion (March 30-April 1) - We are currently working with the company who is managing our booking to consider rebooking options as well as reimbursement if required. Leadership Camp (April 28-29) – TBC This event may be rescheduled but no information at this stage.

Activities and events

All major arts, sports and initiative activities and events will temporarily be ceased until further notice. This includes whole school sporting events and inter-school events involving three or more schools.

Advice	Sporting Event/Activity	
Cancelled	 All Zone, Sydney North, NSWPSSA and NSWCHSSA activities will be 'temporarily ceased until further notice'. This includes all NSWPSSA Knockout competitions and all draws and matches of the NSWCHS Statewide Competitions (formerly NSWCHS Knockout). Summer PSSA - Week 8 cancelled. No PSSA in Weeks 9 and 10 as planned. 	
Continuing as planned or modified	 SISA (Monday 16, 23, 30 and 6) Class sport Extra precautions will be in place including modifying activities to avoid unnecessary contact and extra opportunities to wash hands for all of the above activities. 	



Advice	Other Events	
	K-6 SRE and SEE classes	
	• Harmony Day Dinner P&C Event (March 19)	
	Hands on Science Transition Program (Friday 20	
	March). Refunds are currently being processed by HHHS.	
	Easter Hat Parade (April 8)	
Cancelled	Combined Easter Scripture Service (April 8)	
	Anzac Day Assembly (April 9) - One minute of silence will	
	be respected by students in their classrooms along with	
	teaching and learning activities.	
	Birthday treats – Please refrain from sending in birthday	
	treats during this period.	
	 School Photos (April 6) - We have rescheduled our photo 	
	day to Wednesday 16 September .	
	• Three Way Interviews (April 7) - These will be rescheduled.	
Postponed	Any urgent matters will be discussed over the phone.	
	Teachers will be in contact as soon as possible if this is the	
	case.	
	Multicultural Speaking Competition (March 17)	
Continuing as planned	 SEAL Program K-2- we are working closely with the 	
or modified	Drama Toolbox to ensure that the program is delivered	
	safely.	

NAPLAN Practice Tests 2020 March 23 - April 9

NSW schools participating in NAPLAN Online will participate in practice tests starting from March 23. The practice test is a trial-run and key preparation activity for NAPLAN Online in May. It is not an assessment of student ability. Participation in the practice tests is highly beneficial as it provides an opportunity for staff and students to become familiar with the functionalities of the online platform and the test format students will experience in May.

Adjustments are available to assist students with a disability to participate on the same basis as other students. The adjustments to conditions should reflect the normal support a student receives in classroom assessments. The first step is to discuss possible adjustments with our Deputy Principal, Alicia Elsinga who will be in contact with parents over the coming week.

Voluntary Contribution and P&C Donation

Voluntary contributions and voluntary P&C donation will be will be issued this week. Payment via the school's website would be highly appreciated, however if you do pay by cheque, please make out one cheque for all students in the family. Payment by instalments is available.



Notes and Payments

Absence notes and permission notes should be given to the class teacher by students. Students who arrive at the school after the 9:10 am bell must collect a late note from the office before going to class. To collect a student before the 3.10pm bell, parents/carers must collect an early leaver's note from the office.

Cash and cheque payments may be deposited in the chute near the office (envelopes for this purpose are located at the chute).

Harmony Day

Harmony Day celebrations will go ahead in classrooms this year on Thursday 19 March 2020. Students can still come to school dressed in their National Costume or



orange coloured clothes (the representative colour of Harmony day). The students and teachers will also be immersed in cultural awareness and inclusiveness activities, throughout the day.

SRC News - Mogo Public School Fundraiser

The SRC is excited to be holding their first school fundraiser for Mogo PS on Thursday 2nd April 2020 (week 10).

As you are aware, Gladesville Public School has been paired with Mogo Public School as part of the 'Adopt a School' program. In communication with the Principal, the SRC will begin raising money in order to provide a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) learning opportunity for the school.

Students are invited to dress up in the theme of 'Sport' and bring a gold coin donation that will be collected on the day. Students could dress as a sports star, wear their favourite team jersey or dress up in clothing for a particular sport. Please note that students should not bring any heavy sports equipment e.g. bats, studded shoes or helmets.

We look forward to seeing everyone dressed up on the day to show our support for Mogo PS.







National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence

What is the National Day Against Bullying and Violence?

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At Gladesville Public School we aim to create a safe and supportive school community for everyone.

We will be joining thousands of schools in a nationwide movement by taking action on the National Day Against Bullying and Violence on Friday 27 March 2020. The NDA is an important day to mark Australians standing united to say Bullying. No Way! The NDA is an opportunity to reignite the national conversation about working together to address bullying. *Everyone has a role to play. Together, we can deliver a powerful message that bullying and violence are never okay.*

The theme of the 2020 NDA is Bullying. No Way! Take Action Together.

What is happening on the NDA at Gladesville Public school?

To support this important initiative students will be involved in a number of activities on the day and in coming weeks including:

- Students are asked to wear odd socks to school with their uniform on **Friday 27** to symbolise that everyone is unique and the importance of celebrating and respecting individual differences.

- Wearing NDA official wristbands which will be handed out at the school gate as students come to school on **Friday 27**

- Explicit lessons focused on what is bullying and what to do if being bullied

- Creation of awareness posters and displays to spread the message to the community

- Pocket cards from Bullying. No Way! will be sent home with students with tips on what to do if your child talks to you about bullying

Where can parents find more information about the NDA or bullying?

If parents/caregivers are looking for support to deal with a bullying situation, ideas can be found on the Bullying. No Way! Website <u>https://bullyingnoway.gov.au</u>. Please feel free to contact the school if you would like to discuss any aspect of our approach to preventing bullying.









Parents/Caregivers know their children best and know the best way to tailor communication to their needs. Adapt these tips to what works for you and your child.

If your child talks to you about bullying:

1. Listen calmly and get the full story. Your calm response is important to allow your child to tell you all about the situation. After they've told you their story, ask questions to get more details if you need: who, what, where, when. Although you may feel some strong emotions about your child's experience, try to keep calm to avoid more distress to your child.

2. Reassure your child they are not to blame. Many children blame themselves and this may make them feel even worse. You could say things like, 'That sounds really hard to deal with. No one should have to put up with that.' or 'I'm so glad you told me. You should be able to feel safe at school; that's not fair at all'.

3. Ask your child what they want to do and what they want you to do. A critical part of your response is to avoid jumping in to solve the problem. While it is natural to want to protect your child, helping them to find their own solution is a better option. It helps them feel they have some power in the situation.

4. Visit <u>www.bullyingnoway.gov.au</u> to find some strategies. The website has tips and ideas for different bullying situations. One idea is to practise strategies at home to help your child feel more confident.

5. Contact the school. Your child may be reluctant for you to do this, so discuss the idea and reassure them that the school would want to know and is able to help. Make an appointment to meet with your child's teacher and, if you need to, ask to talk with the principal. Contact the school immediately if you have a concern about your child's safety.
6. Check in regularly with your child. Keep the conversation going. It can take time to resolve issues, so check in regularly with your child about their experiences and their feelings. Your ongoing support is important.





News from your P&C

Harmony Day

After much consideration, the P&C have decided to postpone our Harmony Day Feast that was scheduled to be held on the evening of Thursday 19 March. Due to the nature of the event being centred on the sharing of food and in light of the current COVID-19 situation, we feel it is in the best interests of all our families to postpone at this stage. All school Harmony Day activities will continue as planned, however this after school evening event is postponed until further notice. A new date will be announced soon.

The Harmony Day Feast is a wonderful evening celebrating both the diversity and unity our school community. We thank you for your understanding and we look forward to hosting you all later in the year.

P&C Meeting Cancelled

In light of the current situation unfolding around Covid 19 and social distancing rules already in place, we will be postponing our second P&C meeting of the year, which was due to be held on 25 March. This meeting will instead be held next term on a date that will be notified to the community closer to the time. In line with the P&C Constitution and Rules our Second Meeting for 2020 will allow members to discuss and vote on budget items for the year. Thank you for your ongoing support and we look forward to meeting with the community in Term 2.

Calling all Eco-warriors!

Would you like to make GPS a more sustainable environment by joining the P&C's exciting new Sustainability Committee? We are looking for new members to join our new team lead by Inbal Luft. You can help make a real difference to how sustainability is managed at our school by working closely within the P&C and specialist teachers at our school. For more information contact Inbal Luft at <u>inbal.luft@gmail.com</u>.

Soft Plastics Recycling Roster

To further support sustainability at GPS, Inbal has designed a new roster for the weekly management of recycling soft plastics at GPS. We are looking for volunteers to collect and drop off the soft plastics bag at Coles once per week. Please follow the link to add your name in a week that suits if you are able to help out with this important job.

Thank you for your contribution to our school.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1kXrMT6oSIDsg2kVbgLNZ_uBjGx_MCbYNtZon4b8sw0/edit#gid=0





We are now taking enrolments for Term 2. If you would like your child to learn an instrument please contact us at <u>info@bennelongmusic.com.au</u> or check out our website at <u>www.bennelongmusic.com.au</u> for more information on what we offer.

<u>City of Ryde Events – Cancelled</u>

The following events have been cancelled following advice from the Federal Government.

- Harmony Day Sat 21 March
- West Ryde Easter Parade and Fair Sat 4 April
- ANZAC services

This is a precautionary measure for community safety.