

Nathalia Primary School Newsletter

April 15th, 2020

Remote Learning

Welcome back to Nathalia Primary School families for the start of term 2. As all families will know, this term we have moved to the remote learning platform for our students. The Education Department's position on this is that because of the COVID-19 pandemic, all students who can learn from home, must learn from home. Nathalia Primary School will follow the advice provided by the Education Department which has set as a priority the welfare and safety of the students and staff in schools.

The teachers have provided remote learning packs for all students that covers the work for the next fortnight. The packs deliver the curriculum that the students would be following if they were attending school and working in their regular classrooms. It is impossible to duplicate everything that happens in a school into your home so the packs provide material that is simplified and familiar to the students.

I would like to acknowledge the work of parents and carers through this process. This is a difficult time for everyone including the children and parents. Most parents are not classroom teachers but you should remember how much you have taught your own children since their birth. This has been achieved by providing love, care, compassion and a safe home environment. Anxiety levels are high in the community but by providing a relaxed environment the children will learn a great deal from this experience.

The children are familiar with many of the learning tools in the packs. Parents are asked to provide a learning space and continue with a learning routine that begins at 9.00am. The students are expected to complete 45—60 minutes of literacy, 45—60 minutes of maths and a further 30—45 minutes of another subject such as science, art or PE. Parents should feel free to include other aspects of learning such as gardening or cooking together. Don't forget the school barbecue design competition is still open and this might be a great family learning opportunity. This time of learning at home can be turned into a positive experience for both parents and children.

The school can provide laptop computers for families that don't have access to this technology. Please contact the school to arrange to sign out a computer if you need it. The school is open from 8.30am—4.30pm daily during the term and teachers can be contacted during these times either at school or via Compass.

Teachers will be checking in with families regularly. This will happen via email or telephone. Teachers using their own phones will have "No Caller ID" enabled. We are exploring options of connecting with students through Zoom or other similar platforms.

All indications are that we will be teaching via remote learning for the foreseeable future. New learning packs will be developed by teachers over the next week and delivered to families by Friday the 24th of April. For families who live in the Nathalia township the packs will be delivered to your home and for bus families they will be delivered on the Thursday afternoon bus run. Parents will need to be at their regular bus stop to collect the remote learning packs.

We have had some feedback from parents about the remote learning packs. The format in future packs will be more simple and easy to follow and the content will reflect 2—3 hours of work daily.

Some children are attending school because they are unable to be supervised at home. The children need to bring their remote learning packs to school daily and also bring morning snacks and lunch. An On-Site Attendance Application form is attached to this newsletter and must be returned to the school if you intend sending your child to school next week. This is an Education Department requirement.

I appreciate the feedback that I have had from families during this time. Please remember that the school is here to support all children and families and I welcome you to call if you have any concerns. Your child's teacher will make contact with you regularly to make sure everything is going as smoothly as possible.

Best wishes, Chris McCallum—Principal

ON-SITE ATTENDANCE APPLICATION FORM

*This form must be returned to nathalia.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au by **Friday 17th April.**

Student/s name:

Student/s date of birth:

Student/s year level:

*The Victorian Government has stated that all students who **can** learn from home **must** learn from home.*

I am requesting that my child/ren attend on-site schooling because my child/ren is/are not able to be supervised at home and no other arrangements can be made.

By submitting this form, I declare that my child/ren is/are well and I will collect my child/ren as soon as is practicable upon the request of the school if my child becomes unwell.

Dates required: **For the week commencing Monday 20th April**

***Please note you need to complete this process weekly to ensure adequate staffing on-site.**

Day	Date	AM, PM or ALL DAY
Monday	20/04/2020	
Tuesday	21/04/2020	
Wednesday	22/04/2020	
Thursday	23/04/2020	
Friday	24/04/2020	

Additional information to support application:

Emergency contact details:

Parent/Guardian name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____