

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

KINDNESS

WELLBEING

INTEGRITY

RESILIENCE

Hi Everyone,

This week has been fantastic as we welcomed back our Year 3 to Year 6 students! It was wonderful to see so many students with huge smiles on their face as they arrived back at school. It's great to finally have ALL our students back at school! A huge thank you to our wonderful parents for all your ongoing support with the 'drop off' and 'pick up' arrangements. These arrangements will continue until further noticed. Please find attached to the newsletter a letter of thanks to parents and carers for their support during remote learning from the Secretary of the Department of Education and Training, Jenny Atta.

Devices

During remote learning a number of students have borrowed school devices to support their learning. Due to the return of all students to face-to-face teaching, it's important that all devices be returned to the school. If you still have a device, please contact the office to arrange a time to return the device back to school.

STUDENTS RETURNING BACK TO SCHOOL



A huge thank you to **Teagan Crane** and her family for decorating the school with gorgeous 'rainbows' to celebrate the return of the Year 3-6 students!

Here a few photos showing our happy students returning back to school:





ATTENDANCE

All students are expected to attend school as normal. This means if you choose to keep your child/children home, we can no longer support their learning from home. It's important that ALL students attend school as teachers are going to be undertaking assessments to identify where each child is at with their learning. Its vital students attend school every day so they can re-establish routine and structure.

Remember, every day counts!

This does not apply to children who need to be absent for health or medical reasons. For those families, please contact us so we can make an appropriate plan.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Our school photo day has been rescheduled and will now take place on **Tuesday 21st July**. Please feel free to order the school photos online: www.advancedlife.com.au using our school code: **3ZB YDE ZFF**. If you would like to order a sibling photo, you must do this by the **Monday 20th July**. If you prefer to order using the school photo envelope, please contact the office.

ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

The Department of Education and Training has adjusted the expectations of Student Reports for Semester 1 in recognition of the transition to remote and flexible learning during Term 2.

While our school has continued to deliver its teaching and learning program and monitor the achievement and progress of each student, there have been some unprecedented changes to our usual program. We know it is vital to involve students and their parents/carers in learning. This process includes providing reports on student learning.



With guidance and support from the DET, classroom teachers will be reporting on three areas: English, Mathematics, Personal and Social Capabilities. In addition to this, our specialist teachers will also be providing a modified version of their usual reporting.

Student reports will be sent home to families on **Friday 17th July** (Week 1, Term 3).

Parent/Teacher/Student conferences will also look different as the conferences will be held remotely through Google Meet and will occur on **Wednesday 22nd July**. You will be notified via Compass once the booking system is open for you to access and book in your meeting times.

BUILDING UPDATE

During the week, the Leadership Team met with the Architects to finalise the building plans for the upgrade to the junior wing of the school. The next stage of the process is that it will now go to tender. We have been informed that the upgrade will commence in September. I will give you more updates as we receive them.

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

Last week, our school migrated across to a new email system, which is being rolled out across Victoria by DET. While the old email addresses are still active and all mail will be redirected, please take note of the school's new email address: gladstone.views.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Please make sure we have your current email address on our system. Please contact the office if you need us to update your details.

GOODBYE REMOTE LEARNING

Also attached to the newsletter is a few photos from students from Grade 4AB celebrating the end of Remote Learning!

Hope everyone has a great weekend!

Belinda Karlsson
Acting Principal

School Diary

Last Day of Term 2-Friday 26th June at 2:30pm

First Day of Term 3-Monday 13th July

Reports Sent Home-Friday 17th July

Pupil Free Day-Wednesday 22nd July-Student Conferences (online)

School Photo Day-Tuesday 21st July

Pupil Free Day-Friday September 4th-Writing-Professional Learning

4AB's Last Day of Online Learning





Department of Education and Training

Office of the Secretary

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Dear parents and carers,

Term 2 in 2020 has been like no other school term in Victoria's history, and so I am writing to thank you for your support.

As you know, this week Grade 3 to Year 10 students joined Prep to Grade 2, VCE and specialist school students in face to face learning. It is great to see our school communities come together again.

In responding to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic over the past few months, the Department of Education and Training has asked a lot of our teachers and schools, and we have also required your support as parents and carers.

I want to acknowledge the extraordinary effort you have all made in working in partnership with your teachers and schools to support your children while they have been learning from home.

When I wrote to you a few months ago as we transitioned to remote and flexible learning, I acknowledged that it would be a challenging time for everyone, but that it was important to work closely together to provide the best possible support for students.

Many of you have since told me that there have been difficult, rewarding and challenging experiences during this unique and uncertain time that we have been through together. I thank you for your support, commitment, patience and perseverance.

But despite difficulties, I've been impressed to hear inspiring stories of education innovation. The innovative and creative approaches adopted during remote and flexible learning have been outstanding, and many schools will bring new approaches with them to on-site schooling.

Many school communities have forged even stronger relationships and partnerships — with families and teachers gaining a greater mutual appreciation of their shared contributions to school education.

Our schools now have a range of precautionary measures to protect the health and safety of your children, your family, teachers and staff, and your local community.

I hope these measures, along with the knowledge that the Victorian Chief Health Officer and Victorian Government have approached the return to on-site schooling with the utmost precaution and careful planning, have helped ease any anxiety about the return to on-site schooling.

The changes at your school are consistent with health advice, including enhanced cleaning in schools and frequent handwashing. Your school has also asked you to practice physical distancing during drop-off and pick-up times.

Your children may be feeling anxious about returning to school. Reassure your child that it's safe for them to go back to school and reinforce what they've been practicing at home around hand hygiene

and coughing and sneezing. Reassure them that extensive cleaning is being carried out in schools and public transport to keep them safe.

Please remember the health advice: if you or your child is unwell, please stay at home. This is vital to ensuring the effective management of the pandemic.

Information about how to speak to your child about coronavirus (COVID-19) can be found here:
<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/parents/Pages/talkingtoyourchildaboutcoronavirus.aspx>

Visit the Department's website for the latest information about coronavirus (COVID-19) at:
<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/department/Pages/coronavirus.aspx>

Thank you once again for working with your schools to support your children while they were learning at home and for your patience during the staged return to on-site schooling.

Yours sincerely,



Jenny Atta
Secretary
Department of Education and Training