

20 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

It's Friday and we have made it to the end of a demanding week. I would like to thank our parent community for trusting the school and staff during this time.

Whilst Monday was a difficult day and wet weather always bring some challenges, the sun shiny days of the last few days have been magical.

Melrose Park PS is blessed with a beautiful parklike environment and we have taken advantage of this with classes being held outside, working in the garden and having the opportunity to run and play. Our students are happy, smiling and they are learning. I would like to acknowledge the wonderful teachers that work at Melrose. They are professional, collaborative and mindful of the needs of all students. They are working under intense social pressure and championing their work as public school teachers. I wish them a peaceful weekend.

The amazing office staff have managed communications, manned the phones and rang many families to enquire about absent students. They have followed up rumours, supported families with concerns and managed the dispatch needs of the department.

One very important staff member, Damien, needs special mention. Damien is our cleaner, working tirelessly early morning and evening to keep the school in tip – top shape. The quality of cleaning is outstanding and this gives us reassurance that toilets and surfaces are as clean as possible. Remember parents to keep modelling good hygiene to your child.

This time of year is normal for seasonal asthma, coughs and colds. If a student come to the office sick, we will call for you to come and pick your child up. We appreciate your emails and calls letting us know of the health of your children. Kids get sick and get better quickly as well.

There are practices that we are implementing to help support everyone on site. In the morning, please drop your child and leave. We do not need you to hang out. There is no assembly in the morning. Teachers collect their class as soon as the morning bell rings and head off to the classroom for their learning session. At dismissal time, we ask you again to stand away from the classrooms and the student walk areas. Make a meeting place in the playground and your child will find you.

As a school we are working on developing home learning activities. Teachers are preparing for a home learning package that suits the needs of their class. When, or if, the school becomes non-operational, this information will be available on the school's website. In the meantime, students are practising their logging on procedures, email skills and google classroom access. Notifications will continue to be pushed via Skoolbag and viewed on the website.

I wish every member of the Melrose Park PS school community a quiet and calm weekend. Try and turn off the news and enjoy the time with your wonderful children. We hope that we get to see all students again come Monday morning.

Regards  
Clare Kristensen  
Principal