



Warrenheip Primary School Newsletter

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DATES TO REMEMBER

August

Mon 30 School Council meeting 6pm

September

Wed 8 Grade 4 – 6 camp (*till Friday 10)

Fri 17 End of term 2.30pm finish

Thought for the Day

*I am prepared for the worst,
but hope for the best.*

Benjamin Disraeli

Dear Parents and Community Members,

Well, term 3 has certainly not delivered what we expected from it! Another period of remote learning was not on my mind at all as we came towards the end of term 2 and yet here we are back into our second lock-down of the term.

It is easy to forget just how disruptive these lock-downs are for the children when we see them running around and playing, but we have certainly noticed at school this time how unsettled they are. I know that many of you have noticed at home also that the kids are really out of sorts at the moment.

We had barely come back from the term break when we had to stay at home again, at short notice and with no idea of how long it would last for. Now we are at the end of week 4 and we are once again in the position of trying to settle the children back into a routine.

This has not been helped by the dreadful weather which has turned large areas of the school grounds into a swamp, with the oval out of bounds and everywhere wet and

muddy underfoot. That restricts the places and ways that the children can play while they are here and adds to the feelings of uncertainty and apprehensiveness.

It is really hard for all of us, but particularly the children, to settle back in to school routines when in the back of their minds will naturally be a wondering about when we will be locked down again, and how long for.

All of this has led to a period this week and last week of quite unsettled behaviours from the kids, including some poor choices in playtime, difficulty settling down to learning in the classroom and unwillingness to come to school.

This sort of thing is hard for all of us to deal with both at home and at school. There is a heap of great advice on the internet for helping kids navigate this difficult time – I found this today:

Create space for talking in different ways, such as going on a walk together or baking together – there may be less pressure in these circumstances than when sitting face-to-

face. Check in with them periodically. Don't assume they're ok because they seem it. Ask the young person how things are going. Ask them questions like: what have they enjoyed about being back? Any worries or challenges?

It might be helpful to talk with your child about the things they have enjoyed during the (lock-down) and what they may be looking forward to.

This came from a UK website about returning to school after lock-downs but there were loads of other good sites including from here in Australia. A quick search would give you loads of choices.

We very much hope that we will be back to onsite learning this time next week. I am very grateful to all of you for the work that you do to keep the children going. I am also grateful for the efforts of our teachers here at Warrenheip in keeping the learning going whether at school or at home, and on such short notice. Thank you all!

*Have a great weekend,
Arthur Lane*