

The Wheeler Word



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Term 1 Week 10

Thursday 2 April 2020



And to all our terrific mums, dads and carers...

We think you're **AWESOME!**

Thank you once again to our parent community for your understanding and support during this incredibly challenging time.

This week we have had over 92% of our student population participating in Online learning from home.

As you may be aware, the Online Learning which all students (at school and at home) are participating in is currently prepared for this week and next week; that is up to the Easter school holiday break.

Our school was very quick to have the Online learning ready last week and we have received many positive comments from parents about the resources provided. We decided to produce material that hopefully was not too onerous for parents to complete with their children. Also, we ensured that no work sheets needed to be saved and printed and that work was not required to be submitted to a teacher. Many schools also followed such procedures. Other schools have trialled different methods, particularly high schools where more interactive learning has been favoured.

From the feedback I have received from many school families, I believe that our approach has been successful; in that students and parents/carers have been able to learn and study online in a positive way...without causing too much stress and discomfort for students, parents and families alike.

The staff at our school and all other schools are now working on preparing Online resources for next term if school does not re-commence after the Easter Holiday break. The Department of Education are developing programs & strategies to ensure that all necessary curriculums are covered and that the duty of care of all students is taken into account in regard to online learning and online communication.

At present, we do not know if we will be back to school as scheduled for Term 2 on Tuesday 28 April or if online learning is to continue. Therefore, the teachers are working on planning a series of online lessons for Term 2 and also preparing normal face to face lessons. If online lessons continue, these lessons will provide some opportunities for students to communicate with their teacher. We also plan to organise some cooperative, interactive sessions involving the community in hands on practical activities or events.

KINDERGARTEN SIGHT WORD PACKS

The Kindergarten Sight word packs will be posted to all Kindy families next week. Please be sure to inform the school office if your mailing address has changed.

TOLERANCE, UNDERSTANDING AND EMPATHY

At this incredibly challenging time it is always so gratifying to hear the positive, caring reports from our school and local community. There have been so many random acts and thoughts of kindness and compassion from young children, mums and dads, grandparents and carers, teachers and community members, politicians and all manner of people in our society and world.

Sadly, I have been informed of a few instances where people have been less than friendly and have made negative references to parents and children regarding their attendance at school. Please do not address anyone in this way.

SCHOOL ABSENCES

Please be sure to report all student absences to school through the normal processes. If you have informed the school of a long absence (till the end of term) then this will be on the school system and a note each day is not necessary.

ROTARY RAFFLE TICKETS

As we mentioned last week, due to the onset of the COVID 19 virus and related logistical restrictions, the Rotary Club of Upper Northern Beaches has decided to cancel the 2020 Rotary Car Raffle. In these unprecedented times, it was not appropriate to conduct ticket sales and incur significant financial expenses.

The school can reimburse the full cost of each ticket that you have purchased or sold, provided you return the tickets to us.

Obviously, a number of school families have already returned their tickets and money. We have discussed the possibility of having a School Draw with the tickets already sold and returned. We would also then make a donation to Rotary who have absorbed all the costs associated with the raffle. We could also make a donation to a suitable charity like the current COVID 19 crisis or the Bushfire appeal.

Please let us know your thoughts and any specific instructions in regard to your own tickets. A final decision will be made in consultation with the P&C next term.

BOOK CLUB ORDERS

Most of the latest Book Club Orders have arrived. If you would like to collect these books please contact the school office to ensure that your order has arrived.

SCHOOL CANTEEN

Please be advised that the School Canteen will be closed until further notice.

Mr David Scotter
Principal

****ALL Covid-19 UPDATES are located on the school Website under 'Covid-19 Information' for easy access****

POSTER COMPETITION

Thank you to all the students who entered the annual Interrelate Say No To Bullying Poster Competition for Australian Primary Schools. The entries were fantastic.

At the moment we will not be holding the weekly SRC meeting but I'm looking forward to resuming our meetings and having some special events next term.

Miss Earl
SRC Coordinator



EASTER MESSAGE FOR CATHOLIC SRE STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

Please go to the home page on Lakes Catholic Parish Website and click on the link <https://www.lakesparish.org.au/>

SCHOOL HOLIDAY CARE

As we move toward the Term 1 vacation period the Department's Before and After School Care (BASC) team has committed to collecting and collating vital information regarding vacation care.

To support this process, we are asking that all families who require care for their children complete a survey regarding care arrangements for the upcoming holiday period.

The Department is working with vacation care providers to ensure that the needs of all families are met during the Term 1 holiday period.

Please complete the online survey to confirm your child/children's care requirements, which can be found here: <https://surveys.education.nsw.gov.au/s3/school-holiday-care>

For those of you who are using the printed version of this survey, please return the completed survey to the school by COB Friday 3 April 2020.

Thank you

All the staff at Wheeler Heights Public School would like to send a gigantic thank you to our tremendous doctors, exceptional nurses and fabulous health care workers and support staff who are doing an amazing job working under intense pressure.

We would also like to give a shout out to our incredible police force who are working tirelessly in an ever changing role.

Thank you to the amazing shop assistants who are constantly busy serving our community. Whilst they may be wearing face masks we know the local IGA staff are all still smiling.

To all the other incredible workers on the 'frontline' thank you!

If you have a 'frontline' worker in your family, please pass on our thanks and gratitude for their effort and tireless work to support everyone during this unprecedented time.



NSW Department of Education

Vacation Care

Survey for primary school parents and caregivers

With the Term 1 vacation period approaching, we ask that you confirm whether your child/ren will require care and supervision during school holidays.

Please return the information in the form below by Friday 3 April 2020.

1. Enter the name of the school where your child / children are enrolled.

**2. How many children require care during Week 1 of the holiday period?
Please indicate how many are enrolled in vacation care.**

Enter your answers as numbers in the table below.

Day of the week	How many children need care?	How many children are already enrolled in vacation care?
Friday 10 April (public holiday)		
Monday 13 April (public holiday)		
Tuesday 14 April		
Wednesday 15 April		
Thursday 16 April		
Friday 17 April		



**3. How many children require care during Week 2 of the holiday period?
Please indicate how many are enrolled in vacation care.**

Enter your answers as numbers in the table below.

Day of the week	How many children need care?	How many children are already enrolled in vacation care?
Monday 20 April		
Tuesday 21 April		
Wednesday 22 April		
Thursday 23 April		
Friday 24 April		
Monday 27 April (school development day)		

4. If your child/children are already enrolled in vacation care for the upcoming holiday break, please record the name of the service.

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5. Does your child/ children require care outside of 7am-6pm?

Yes

No