

# Coffs Harbour Public School

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We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we live and work and we pay our respects to the Elders both past and present

16 March, 2020

Dear Parents and Carers.

#### COVID-19

As you are aware the World Health Organisation has declared COVID-19 a pandemic. The situation in regard to COVID-19 continues to evolve with an increasing number of countries having sustained community transmission. In Australia the majority of COVID-19 cases are returning travellers or close contacts of cases, but there is evidence of limited community transmission in some states including NSW. Efforts are now focused on considered actions to slow the spread of COVID-19 in the community and protect those who are likely to experience more severe disease such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions. These steps are also essential to reduce the demands on the health system so that it can function effectively.

Last night, schools have been provided with further information from our Department of Education Secretary, Mark Scott to all staff on additional measures we can all take in our schools to help ' Flatten the Curve ' of COVID-19 transmission in the wider community.

There is understandably concern in both schools and the wider community about whether schools should remain open. In line with what our Secretary has indicated we are following advice from the leading health experts in the country. We will continue to follow this advice. The decision about when and if to close schools is a decision that will be made based on the best health advice.

In today's newsletter I have attached further information from Dr Kerry Chant, Chief Health Officer, NSW Health.

#### Three actions you can take to help manage the spread



1.Wash your hands regularly and thoroughly

2. Sneeze into your elbow or a tissue, disposing of the tissue straight away and then washing your hands.

3. Stay home if you are unwell and in schools, send home staff or students who show signs of being unwell through the day.

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Please be assured that at Coffs Harbour Public School we are taking every precaution to keep our students and staff safe and healthy.

Today each class had lessons on explicit teaching of handwashing and we have included the poster in today's newsletter for your reference. Students were also taught about cough etiquette.

We have checked all soap dispensers are full and will maintain the soap in these throughout the day.

Each class will be receiving hand sanitiser, tissues and a can of Glen 20 to spray laptops and other heavily used items. Classes are being taken to the bathrooms on numerous occasions throughout the day to wash their hands.

We are following the social distancing policy whereby all assemblies and mass gatherings are being cancelled. Morning assemblies and Thursday assemblies will cease until further notice.

Our school will follow the guidelines for sporting events, excursions and other events.

We will also enforce existing policies to exclude staff and students who are unwell, and current policies requiring quarantine for those who have recently travelled overseas. It is also important that the learning needs of students who are excluded from our school are met.

All of these decisions are part of the government's strategy to "flatten the curve" of confirmed cases so that our health services can meet the needs of those who require care when they need it.

#### **Staffing Changes**

Over the last week we have had two new members of staff appointed to our school. Congratulations to Matthew Shaw who will be joining us as Assistant Principal. Matthew will join us in Term 2 this year. He is from Cecil Hills Public School where he has been Assistant Principal for the last ten years. Matthew will be the stage 3 (Years 5 and 6) Assistant Principal.

Congratulations and welcome to Karen Nyhan who will be teaching 3/4K Girriin. Karen will take up her position on Monday 23 March 2020.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank Kelly Hyndman who has been relieving as Assistant Principal stage 3 this year. Kelly has done a magnificent job and she will now resume her role as STEAM/ ICT teacher. Thank you also to Col Trickett who has been working with stage 3 students this year. Mr Shaw will now take over that role.

Thank you also to Carlie King who has been the 3/4K Girriin teacher this year. Carlie will now move into an EALD teaching role.

#### School Photos

This Friday the School Photographer will be here to take school photos. Please ensure that your child is in full school uniform. Normally we encourage students to wear sports uniform on Fridays, however please make sure your child is in school uniform this Friday (not sports uniform)

#### **School Showcase**

Last Wednesday our school hosted a visit from twelve executive and teaching staff from Fairvale Public School. We were asked to showcase some of the exemplary teaching and learning practices taking place in our school. We were very proud and excited to share these with the visiting staff. Our student leaders were terrific tour guides and very capably spoke to the visitors and made them feel very welcome.

#### Lost Property

Please remind your child to collect their lunch box, drink bottle and/ or school jumper. We have had considerable numbers of items handed into lost property recently.

#### **Perimeter Fence**

Last week work started on the perimeter fence for our school. We are very excited for this work to start. Much of the work in Salamander Street and Harbour Drive will be done in the school holidays. Hopefully the fence along Curacoa Street and the laneway will be completed over the next few weeks. Temporary fencing is erected in the work zones. Thanks for your patience during construction.

#### Minor Works

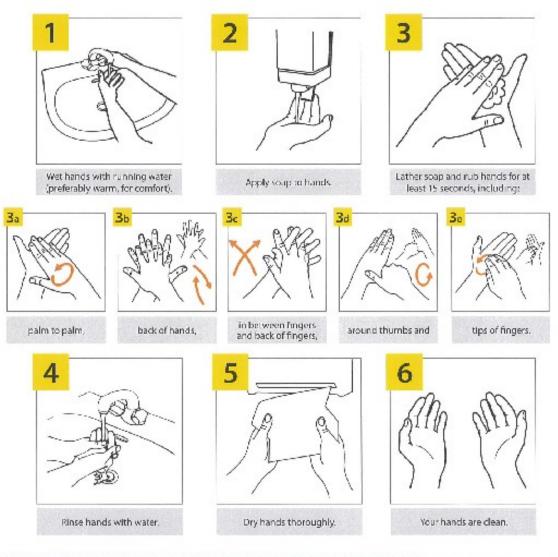
Over the next month our school will be receiving some minor maintenance works. This will include 7 classrooms being painted, hallways and stairwells painted, COLA refurbishment and bollards to replace the fence in the staff carpark. The rainbow room will be set up as a temporary class for students whilst their classrooms are being painted. We apologise for the inconvenience this may cause during this time. The contractors will be working efficiently so that the disruption is minimised.

Have a great fortnight, Leonie





A hand wash should take around 30 seconds.



THIS POSTER REFERENCES THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION'S 'HOW TO HANDWASH?' POSTER INHMPO Ref. CH559 Thined June 2013

Australian Government National Health and Medical Research Council NHMRC



The Australian Health Protection Principal Committee has met to consider the issue of school closures in relation to the community transmission of COVID-19. The Committee's advice is that pre-emptive closures are not likely to be proportionate or effective as a public health intervention to prevent community transmission of COVID-19 at this time.

There is currently limited information on the contribution of children to transmission of COVID-19, with the WHO-China Joint Mission noted the primary role of household transmission and observed that children tended to be infected from adults.

Previous work suggests that the potential reduction in community transmission from preemptive school closures may be offset by the care arrangements that are in place for children who are not at school. Children may require care from vulnerable grandparents or may continue to associate (and transmit infection) outside of school settings.

Broadly, the health advice on school closures from previous respiratory epidemics shows the costs are often underestimated and the benefits are overestimated. https://www1.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/ohp-ahmppi.htm.

This may be even more so in relation to COVID-19 as unlike influenza, the impact on otherwise healthy children has been minimal to date.

School closure is associated with considerable costs. Studies have estimated that around 15% of the workforce and 30% of the healthcare workforce may need to take time off work to care for children. While this effect could be mitigated somewhat, it is likely that this burden will still be significant and will fall disproportionately on those in casual or tenuous work circumstances.

For pre-emptive school closures to be effective, prolonged closure is required and it would be unclear when they could be re-opened. If there were still a large pool of susceptible students when schools are re-opened, there would be likely to be re-emergence of transmission in the community.

School closures may still be considered late in the outbreak in anticipation of a peak in infection rates, for a shorter period of time. Short term reactive school closures may also be warranted to allow cleaning and contact tracing to occur.

At this stage, the spread of COVID-19 in the community is at quite low levels. It may be many months before the level of community infection is again as low as it is at the moment.

> NSW Ministry of Health ABN 92 697 899 630 100 Christie Street, St Leonards NSW 2065 Locked Mail Bag 961, North Sydney NSW 2059 Tel (02) 9391 9000 Fax (02) 9391 9101 Webstle: www.health.nsw.gov.au

## **Caitlin's Community Liaison news**

Welcome to Week 8 parents

I wanted to thank all the parents who have attended our community events over the last few weeks.

We were inspired to hear from Mariam Issa and we appreciated the Zonta Club of Coffs Harbour for bringing her to CHPS. She spoke about coming to Australia as a refugee and feeling like a victim, then angry and finally empowered. This led her to organise and develop community activities and speak professionally on ways to empower people and to encourage each of us to tell our unique story.

On Wednesday we had the first Community Help Parent Share. We were able to share information about guitar lessons, bus passes, school photos, dental visits and lots more and have information translated. All parents are invited to attend the next two sessions on Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> March and April 6<sup>th</sup>. The sessions run at 2.30pm and finish on time so that you can pick up your child.



I am trying to reach all parents to invite them to sign up for Seesaw family so they can see what their child is accomplishing in

class and what they are proud of. Please sign up today and if you need help please see me or the Office staff.

Harmony Day is a wonderful day at our school. Please dress your children for it next Tuesday and reflect on what it means to you.

#### See you around

Caitlin- Community Liaison Officer

# HARMONY DAY

Coffs Harbour Public School will be celebrating Harmony Day on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March. This is an annual event that is celebrated throughout Australia. The message of Harmony Day is that 'Everyone Belongs'it is a day to engage people to participate as a community, to respect cultural and religious diversity and foster a sense of belonging for everyone. It is also a day for everyone to reflect on the values and hopes that we all share as a community. At Coffs Harbour Public School we support all students by respecting cultural differences and promoting inclusivity. CHPS provides a safe learning environment where all students have the opportunity of participating and engaging with each other. Students learn empathy, tolerance and cultural understanding and as a result learn about the world through the ex-



change of views and ideas. Students are asked to show their support of Harmony Day by making a gold coin donation and wearing orange clothing on this day. Students will be involved in activities that promote friendship and cultural respect. All proceeds will be donated to UNICEF to provide for basic needs such as immunisations, fresh water, food and clothing.

# In 2/6 M and 2/6 DE, we have been learning about where products that we eat or use in our daily lives come from



















# School Uniform

Our school takes great pride in our students wearing full school uniform.

<u><b>Girls</b></u> Navy blue 'stubbies' skorts School Polo shirt School Hat Navy socks Black lace up or Velcro shoes	<b>Boys</b> Navy blue 'stubbies' shorts School Polo shirt School Hat Navy socks Black lace up or Velcro shoes			
Winter				
Girls Navy blue stocking tights can worn under skort Navy blue school jumper and/or maroon jacket	Boys Long navy blue cotton pants Navy blue school jumper and/or maroon jacket			
Sport				
<u>Girls and Boys</u> Light blue school sport's polo shirt Maroon Tracksuit pants and jacket Sports shoes	School Maroon mesh shorts Navy hat			

## **Uniform Price List**

Clothing can be purchased from our school uniform shop, see price list below. All other clothing articles are available from Big W or Kmart store. Please ensure your child is always dressed in our full uniform daily and that items are clearly marked.

School Hat	\$12.00
Shirts (School & Sports)	\$24.00
Blue shorts/ skorts	\$19.00
Maroon Sports shorts	\$16.00
Blue Fleecy Jumper	\$18.00
Track Jacket	\$36.00
Track Pants	\$24.00
Sports Set	\$40.00
School Set	\$43.00
Winter Sports Set	\$60.00



#### **Uniform Clothing Pool**

Thanks to many donations received this term our Clothing Pool of second hand uniforms is looking good at the moment. If you would like to purchase any second hand uniform items for a gold coin donation, please see our office staff.

# **School Photos are on this Friday 20 March!**

Please ensure your child is dressed in full school uniform on this day. Spare photo order envelopes for class photos and sibling photos are available at the front office

#### Student of the Week - Term 1 Week 5

Student of the Week certificates are awarded to students who demonstrate behaviour consistent with our school expectations of Excellence, Safety, Respect and Responsibility

Class	Class Name	Student	Presented for:	
KG	K Jiling	Audrey R	A great start to Coffs Harbour Public School	
KJW	K Duna	Elise C Working hard		
KM	K Muluurr	Leila M	Always trying her best	
К 1/В	K1/B Muluurr	Cooper B	Always doing his personal best	
KD	K Girriin	Saniya G	Working hard on tasks during Literacy	
1B	1 Jiling	Bryanna B Using strategies in spelling		
1F	1 Muluurr	Cooper T Seeking feedback to improve work		
1M	1 Duna	Machado M Very detailed planning in writing tasks		
2K	2 Jiling	Nalivea N Beautiful work during writing		
2VB	2 Duna	Junior T Always following school expectations		
2PB	2 Muluurr	Hayley S	Always speaking kindly and actively listening	

## Student of The Week—Term 1 Week 7

KG	K Jiling	Kai-Dee D	Beautiful manners and following instructions	
KJW	K Duna	Dareen	Having a go	
KM	K Muluurr	Lucinda T	Contributing to class discussions	
К1/В	K1/B Muluurr	Mason K	Working hard in all areas	
KD	K Girriin	Miah -Lee O	Her effort and persistence during guided reading	
1B	1 Jiling	Liaf J	Great effort in maths	
1F	1 Muluurr	Brayan M	Taking pride in his work	
1M	1 Duna	Kiko T	Using strategies during maths investigations	
2K	2 Jiling	Hayden O	Great use of adjectives	
2VB	2 Duna	Aiden B	Outstanding Numeracy strategies in Number Talks	
2PB	2 Muluurr	Ahmar N	Consistently doing the 5 L's	







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Wk	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8	16/03 Dental Van Visit	17/03 Dental Van Visit	18/03 Dental Van Visit Student PLP Yarn Ups	19/03 3-6 Assembly 2.15-3pm Performance by 2/6DE Ngarrany & 2/6M Jiling Postponed until further notice	20/03 School Photos
	23/03 EALD Swimming Scheme	24/03 EALD Swimming Scheme	25/03 EALD Swimming Scheme	26/03 EALD Swimming Scheme	27/03 EALD Swimming Scheme
9		Harmony Day	Community -Help - Parent -Share in the Rainbow Room 2.30– 3.15pm	K-2 Assembly 2.15-3pm Performance by 2VB Duna Postponed until further notice	
	30/03 EALD Swimming Scheme	31/03 EALD Swimming Scheme	01/04 EALD Swimming Scheme	02/04 EALD Swimming Scheme	03/04 EALD Swimming Scheme
10				3-6 Assembly 2.15-3pm Performance by 5C Jiling & 5/CB Duna Postponed until further notice	School Cross Country
11	06/04	07/04	08/04 Rewards Day Community -Help - Parent -Share in the Rainbow Room	09/04 Attendance Party Easter Hat Parade Postponed until further notice	10/04 Good Friday Public Holiday
			2.30 – 3.15 pm	PB Assembly 2.15-3pm Last Day of Term 1 Postponed until further notice	