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COVID - 19 Update for Families 24 March 2020

Thank you so much for the messages of support as they mean a great deal to all staff. We very much appreciate the understanding of our community to date with regard to this highly unusual and developing situation, and also the way parents are supporting children to remain calm.

The Department's intention is that we will continue to operate until the School holidays. However, the Premier made it clear that parents can withdraw their children from schooling should they choose to do so.

We continue to follow the advice of the Health Department, which is being contextualised for all schools by the Education Department. Like many organisations, we are taking unprecedented steps to minimise the risk to our staff, students and community members.

In addition to measures introduced in the Update on 18 March 2020, the following is now in place.

Student and Staff Illness

Students and Staff who are unwell are requested to stay away from school. We will require Students who do present at school with cold or flu like symptoms to be collected. Please advise the School of any absence.

Students Working at Home

On Friday we sent out details regarding how Class Dojo can be accessed. This facility will enable teachers, students and their families to stay connected should schools close. We are not using it to 'teach' at this stage, but we are familiarising staff, students and their families with its use. It is a facility which will also be most useful beyond COVID – 19.

We do understand that not all families will have easy access to the facility and encourage those who anticipate difficulties to speak (phone or email please) with class teachers as we are sure we can work something out to suit individual circumstances should the need arise.

The Department has asked teachers not to supply work for those students currently withdrawn as it increases the workload of teachers. The Department has however developed a website which has available an abundance of activities for all year levels and across learning areas. You will find it at:

<https://www.education.wa.edu.au/learning-at-home>

Parents and Families on School Grounds

Parents are reminded that we are requesting you to minimise your time at school. It is expected that the entire site, including playgrounds and carparks will be vacated as soon as is practical at the end of each day.

Face to face parent / teacher meetings will not take place.

Assemblies

All assemblies are cancelled until further notice.

While we acknowledge these steps and those previously implemented are a significant departure from the norm, we are hopeful that the situation will improve rapidly so we can return to life as we know it as soon as possible. It is, however, vitally important that in the interim we as a whole school community do our best to support the broader community effort to slow down the spread and eradicate COVID – 19.