



# Newsletter

## Scott Creek Primary School

*A small dynamic community school*

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### Term 1 Week 9

Date: 26/03/2020

Principal: Kath Ireland

#### IMPORTANT DATES

3 Way Conversations  
Postponed until  
Term 2 Week 2  
4th — 8th May

#### LAST DAY OF TERM

Friday 3rd April 2020

## Pupil Free Days

Monday 6th April 2020  
Tuesday 7th April 2020  
Wednesday 8th 2020  
Thursday 9th 2020

#### GOOD FRIDAY

Friday 10th April 2020

*Enjoy the break and  
stay safe*

Term 2 starts  
Monday 27th April

Next Newsletter:  
Thursday 7th May 2020

# Attention!!

**Today the Minister for Education announced that Monday the 6th, Tuesday the 7th, Wednesday the 8th and Thursday the 9th of April 2020 will be pupil free days for all of our schools and preschools.**

**These pupil free days will be used to focus on transitioning to flexible teaching and learning ready for term 2.**

**We thank you for your understanding.**

#### Photo's from the Juniors, Middles and the Uppers



Working hard in the Uppers class & Juniors Class



Having fun skipping outside



Dear parents and staff,

The past few weeks have seen an increasing response to the growing coronavirus pandemic. The national and state responses have been evolving in the context of increasing infection rates, system limitations and economic impacts. As **we pass Stage 2 of our country's response, many places of social gathering are closing and nonessential activities are ceasing.** Clearly, these are not easy decisions to make.

As of Thursday 26 March 2020, an equally tough decision is being held. As recently stated by the Premier, all schools remain open except where individual sites have had direct contact with COVID-19 carriers. This decision puts teachers on **the front line in our country's response to the coronavirus pandemic.**

First and foremost, the Scott Creek Primary School Governing Council recognises the gravity of this decision. Teachers are mums and dads, brothers and sisters, and grandparents and friends who are experiencing the same stresses we are all feeling at this time. We cannot thank you, our wonderful Scott Creek Primary School teachers and staff, enough for the critical role that you play in supporting our families and helping to develop our children. You do this year-in and year-out with not nearly the recognition that you deserve. And now, amidst the immense challenges presented by the present pandemic, you have not wavered in your dedication to the education of our children and what this means for our community. It is difficult to express our gratitude. You are awesome! Thank you. Thank you. Thank you!

Next, we are lucky that, as a small community-focused school, our teacher-student and teacher-parent relationships run deeper than in many other schools. As parents and fellow community members, please look after our teachers and school **staff. Pass on your gratitude (from a distance). Ask our school staff how they're coping. Listen. Intently. Oh, and if you really want to show our school staff how much you care, especially at this time, please do not ever, EVER send a sick child to school. Please, especially not now!**

For those seeking reassurance on the increased vigilance being exercised by the school in relation to sanitation and other social distancing measures, please note:

- Hygiene supplies are in stock and recommended practices are being employed
- Drinking fountains are closed - students need to bring full water bottles to school and they can refill via a tap
- There are no nonessential visitors on site (NOTE: music lessons continue at this stage)
- Class layouts, lesson designs and school activities have been altered to cater for social distancing rules.

For parents choosing to keep their children home and quarantined, please be aware that this may be required for a considerable period of time. The school does not want students falling behind. As such, teachers are rewriting teaching plans and posting lessons online, using Seesaw apps (Family and Class) and other sites (such as SPELD), and delivering them for students at home as well as for those in class (just in case schools close sometime in the future). This is a HUGE effort! Once again, thank you to all our teachers for putting in the extra hours to get this done for the sake of our kids! And if you or your child are having difficulty in accessing these lessons, their teacher is there to help online via one of the **Seesaw apps, and will remain available to support your child's learning whether there are kids at school or not until** otherwise directed by the Department for Education.

**Now for a 'pause and reflect' moment. Not too long ago I was looking out over Scott Creek at a fire ripping through 20+ metre high pine trees, and the water bomber planes and CFS converged and doused the fire. They saved the day in a blaze of glory. I remember thinking, I've witnessed this event and feel like these people are superheroes but they've been at this for months. I became overwhelmed with gratitude. Our teachers have been going at this for weeks ... it may end up being months ... time will tell. You can see, hear and feel a fire. Trained personnel know how to manage a fire. You can't see this threat and we are clearly not as well prepared as we would like to be. Spare a thought for what it must be like for our heroes fighting this invisible battle.**

Again. THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH!  
Be kind, be generous. Stay safe.

Sincerely,

Ben Fee  
Chair, Scott Creek Primary School Governing Council



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[www.education.sa.gov.au](http://www.education.sa.gov.au)

Dear parents/caregiver

The advice from national Public Health officials remains clear – schools, preschools and early childhood services are safe to remain open, and will continue to operate.

However, COVID-19 is an unprecedented challenge and we understand that many of you would prefer to keep your children at home during this time. We support your choice. Until the end of Term 1, some teachers will have capacity to offer take home work, but others will not. Please continue to support our teachers, as they are doing their very best in this unprecedented situation.

To support our transition to flexible teaching and learning ready for term 2, there will be 4 pupil free days from 6 to 9 April 2020 inclusive.

This time will allow our staff to plan and prepare for new models of learning that can be delivered consistently to students at home and at school.

To support learning at home, the Department for Education has launched Our Learning SA – a curriculum portal where you can access quality learning materials. These resources will be regularly added to. Please visit [www.education.sa.gov.au/ourlearningsa](http://www.education.sa.gov.au/ourlearningsa).

**OSHC and vacation care should continue to operate over the pupil free days and school holidays for children who aren't able to be safely supervised at home, including children of essential workers. Please speak to your child's school or preschool for more information.**

Thank you for being flexible and understanding as we work through a new way of teaching and learning during this extraordinary time.

We are working very hard to support you and ensure that essential school and early childhood services remain available to you.

If you need any more information, please talk to your child's teacher, or visit the Department for Education website – [www.education.sa.gov.au](http://www.education.sa.gov.au).

Yours sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Hon John Gardner MP.

Hon John Gardner MP  
Minister for Education

Handwritten signature of Rick Persse.

Rick Persse  
Chief Executive

26 March 2020

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