



Dear Parents,

I am very pleased to share with you that schools will reopen next Monday 8 February, and our staff are eager to welcome your child back to class.

Please know that you have my continued support. I will provide regular weekly updates (unless otherwise indicated) so that you have a single source of information. This will hopefully lessen any confusion, misinformation, and possible anxiety around what is happening now and in the future.

This is a reasonably large update, so here goes.

The Perth and Peel Region remains in a State of Emergency while the Southwest has returned to Phase 4 recovery. What this means for us is:

- It is safe to return to school.
- School is open for all students.
- Playgrounds will remain open with continuous cleaning throughout the day (just like we have been doing for the past three terms).
- QR codes are not required for parents. Visitors via the Administration will continue to sign in as per usual.
- Parents can be on our school site to drop off and collect children. Maximum of 150 parents at a time. No mass/group gatherings are permitted.
- Parents are asked to be responsible in abiding with the wearing of a face mask (supplied by you as required) and keeping to the new **4 square metre rule** (for the next 5 days).
- If you would like to drop and collect your child in years 1 – 6 at the gate (as many were doing last year) please make any arrangements clear with your child.
- Hand hygiene remains of paramount importance. Please talk with your child about the importance of washing their hands with soap and water after play and using the toilet. We will reinforce this message and we have plenty of hand sanitiser ready as well in each classroom.
- Assemblies will remain for students and staff only at this point in time.
- Staff are required to wear masks (at least for the next 5 days) except when teaching and instructing students in the classroom.
- Students in primary school are not required to wear masks (only high school students)

This link was sent to me from a supportive parent from our school. It has clear photos and offers some suggestions to help young people, and students with disabilities and/or anxiety, understand why teachers are wearing masks at school. A big thanks to Felicity for the slide show. Watch for the smiling eyes! 😊

<https://view.publitas.com/uams-1/my-teacher-wears-a-mask/page/14-15?fbclid=IwAR0Op4w9CXz-kRyhiQMStHMe5Peij0zO1f-dKlr5d46uNSB5vioKnhU1Vyc>

***As shared previously:***

Russell and I will be located between the Administration Office and Library with class lists and a map to welcome and support you should your child not clearly remember their teacher or classroom. Parents are permitted on the grounds and are reminded of the current **4 square metre** required for physical distancing advised by the Department of Health for adults. Following from last year, we will continue to ask that you remain outside the classrooms. Naturally, if you require a meeting with the class teacher this can be arranged outside of classroom teaching and learning times.

On Monday, your children will be bringing their new equipment with them. Can I suggest that the new books and equipment be brought in a labelled bag to make it easier for us to help you get the equipment in to the classroom.

***Arrangements that we help us all:***

Our Pre-primary to year 6 staff will be welcoming you and your child at the door. Have your equipment bagged and labelled to help with the transition to the classroom.

Teachers across years 1-3 will be asking that the bagged equipment be dropped in the student tubs that they will place outside their classroom. These will then be carried in by students.

***ECE area:***

Parents will be asked to remain outside all classrooms. I have employed additional staff to support any little ones who are finding difficulty with detachment. This will occur on the grassed area outside the classrooms.

ECE staff will make arrangements in the future for you to come in and experience the learning environment with your child (no more than 3 at a time). Hopefully, we will be able to get this happening during the first part of the term. Teachers will be in touch with you to communicate the arrangements.

Take care and enjoy the weekend with your family. I look forward to welcoming you on Monday. 😊

Kindest regards,  
Peta

***Peta Lawrence  
School Principal***