

Fairness

Honesty

Enthusiastic



The Rural Review

Respect

Pride

Achievements

Coimadai Primary School

86 Bennetts Lane

Coimadai 3340

Ph: 5367 2907 or 0409 589 888

coimadai.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

www.coimadaips.vic.edu.au

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back everyone (so to speak). I hope you have had an enjoyable and relaxing break from school.

I am quite certain that Australia has made the correct decision to enforce self isolation for all, especially when you see the devastating effects the disease has had on other countries around the world. As we act to slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19), the message to students at government schools and their parents/carers, is clear:

All children who can learn at home must learn from home.

In preparing for this event staff at Coimadai PS have spent many days working over the holidays, planning lessons and trialing on line platforms so that the transition to learning from home can be smooth. In saying that, we are envisaging a few hiccups to happen along the way. The teachers are just as apprehensive towards this new form of teaching as you are. Be patient and be prepared to learn along the way with your children. It is a new journey that staff, students and parents are making together. If you have any problems or concerns over the next few days/weeks do not hesitate to contact the school or your classroom teacher. We are only a 'click away'.

Students from Grades 3-6 have very similar inquiry units of study. This was purposely designed so that siblings could support each other with their work, use the same websites if necessary and help ease the work load and stress for parents. Although students may be doing similar work, the standard of work and expectations will vary for each grade level.

All newsletters and up dates will continue to be sent out using the emails which you supplied at the beginning of the year. If, for any reason, you no longer use this email address please notify me at school during school hours to change your details.

I will be at school each day working with a skeleton staff. I will supervise children whose parents are essential workers and have no one at home to look after them. If you would like to exchange your readers and or Library books please ring me. I will collect levelled readers and where possible requested books from the Library. These books will then be left as a labelled parcel for you outside the

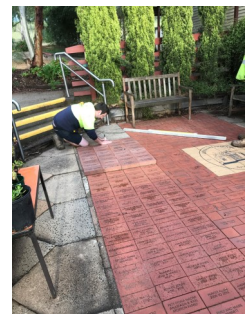
office **the next day**. **Student work packs for weeks 3 & 4 will be ready for picking up on Friday the 24th of April. We ask parents come to school on this day to collect the new packs. These will be outside the office door for collection. If you can not collect the packs please ring the school office and Moira will arrange the delivery.**

Our school will continue to take every measure possible to ensure safety of all and so we will be enforcing **no visitors** into our school unless approved through the principal's authorization. Visitors will include parents, professional therapists such as speech therapists and visiting teachers. Parents will be allowed to drive into the car park to drop off children and collect items from the front office but we ask you not to walk into the school grounds or gather to talk with other parents. If you need to speak to a teacher or visit the office, please ring, email or send a note via Dojo.

School Happenings:

Congratulations to Belinda and Peter Todorov on the safe arrival of little Charlie. Charlie arrived on Friday the 27th April. Both Belinda and Charlie are doing well.

During the holidays landscapers were in and laid the pavers which students purchased last year.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Happy Birthday to the following people who have recently had birthdays:

Mel Knight, Owen, RJ, Chloe Beardsley, Layne and Brooke. We hope you all had a wonderful day.

If you have any news, photos of art work, stories written or work completed which you would like to share with our community please let me know and I can include it in the weekly newsletter.

Thanking you in advance for your patience as we work together on line, Moira Ross

These are the proposed times teacher will zoom your children this week. After this we will re-evaluate:

Monday's Assembly 9:00am

Prep Class: 11:00am

Grade 1/2 9:00am

Grade 3/4 10:00am

Grade 4/5/6 - as per the time table sent home in your child's work pack

Being online at home: tips for parents/carers

Privacy

When supporting your child's education at home, keep their privacy in mind, and help them establish and maintain good privacy practices. Privacy is about protecting your child's identity. This may be their name, age, email, home address or password. It can also be more sensitive information, such as their health, wellbeing or family circumstances.

Read the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#) to understand how schools handle your child's information, and apply similar principles at home. You can request a copy of your school's privacy policy from your school.

[Here are some practical tips to help you and your child maintain good privacy practices:](#)

Ensure your child's **passwords** to any systems they access are secure. Do not have them written down near the computer or device or save them in a document that can be accessed by others.

If your child is using a shared computer or device at home (e.g. a household computer or tablet), ensure that they **log out of all school systems** at the end of each session or day.

Your child may sometimes need to share **sensitive information** with school staff—for example, about their health or wellbeing. Make sure they can do so without being disturbed, and any sensitive documents they create or share are stored somewhere secure, such as a password-protected folder.

Your school will advise what **collaboration platforms or applications** your child may be asked to use to support learning from home. This will include advice on how to set them up to ensure your child's safety and privacy. It is very important that you follow your school's guidance. This will help ensure that the strongest privacy protections are in place at home.

If your school is using **video conferencing**, ensure your child understands how the software works. If possible, your child should participate in videoconferencing in an open place within your home, rather than alone in a private space such as in their bedroom.

Be cautious about downloading **educational software** except what your school has recommended:

If software requires your child's personal information to be entered, make sure you read the company's privacy policy first to find out how that information is stored, and who it is shared with. If you're unsure, **check with your school**.

Be wary of companies and products that:

don't have a privacy policy

ask for more detailed personal information than seems necessary in order to use their product

share user information with third parties for marketing purposes

store your child's information in countries whose privacy legislation is substantially different to Australia's.

Safety

When using Department or school provided equipment, including dongles, devices and laptops, please ensure that these are used for educational purposes only, to help ensure your child's safety and security.

Protecting your child and supporting them to stay safe online is a priority for parents and carers. The [National eSafety Commissioner](#) has developed a range of resources to support parents and carers to ensure their child's safety and privacy online, including:

[parent webinars](#), tips on [how to report cyberbullying](#) and [online safety kit for parents and carers](#).

Security

Make sure you have anti-virus software installed on your computers or devices at home and this software is up to date.

Download and install any updates for other software on your computers or devices at home. These updates often include 'patches' that fix security vulnerabilities and other bugs.

When online, ensure that any links you or your child click on are genuine. 'Phishing' is when someone sends you a link that looks ok, but is actually sending you somewhere dangerous or inappropriate. These links may look like they come from your school, a software provider, the bank, the government or from apps your child uses. More tips can be found on the [ScamWatch website](#) or from the [eSafety Commissioner](#) website.