



Wednesday 1st April, 2020

Term 1 Week 10

Dear Parents/Carers

This is probably the hardest newsletter I have written as we have more children at home than at school. This week our attendance at school has been reduced to approximately 10% and I **thank all parents** following the Prime Minister's instruction and advice to have your children home if possible to assist in social distancing. For those parents who are unable to have their children at home I would also like to thank you for your service as an essential provider. The Covid-19 virus has changed our society at the moment but with a bit of common sense we can reduce its impact by reducing travel and social interaction.

Usually I would be commenting on the vast array of activities and events the school is involved in, so it seems very strange to not have any to mention. However, the school has been busy, as has the entire country adapting to change. We are delighted with the school's introduction to the **Google Classroom** platform for our on-line learning and I would like to thank Mrs Oliver for her work with Mrs Sawyer and Mrs Keegan in assisting parents on the weekend in working through connection issues.

This week has seen the commencement of **changed staffing arrangements** at the school with teachers often working from home. This has enabled staff to reduce our numbers at school in line with social distancing requests from the Department of Education and the Department of Health. Children who do attend the school are placed in grade classes and we endeavour to have small numbers in each class.

All children both at home and at school are completing the same work and the massive undertaking by our wonderful teachers in the provision of quality lessons for online delivery and face to face, has been really impressive. We are aware that not everyone assisting children who are working from home will have the pre-knowledge in each subject area and as such we want parents to be aware to ask for direction if required. We have taken the approach to provide work that is achievable in both learning and instruction to ensure parents manage the load as much as the children. We understand this is a massive undertaking on families that will come across hurdles from time to time and the last thing we want is for families to struggle at the start of this process.

I have asked two students to give feedback on the **experience of home learning** to conclude the newsletter. Both Will and Sophia are students who would rarely be away from school so I was interested to see their take on learning from home. Over the next few weeks I may also get the view point from some parents.



 Respectful
Responsible
Learners 

Weekly
focus:

Offering Help



IMPORTANT NEWS

- April 1st
OPS Athletics
Carnival - **Postponed**
- April 6th - 7th
State Swimming
Carnival - **Postponed**
- April 8th
OPS Cross Country -
Postponed
- April 9th
Easter Hat Parade -
Cancelled

Please remember that the **work packs** are available for the following week each Friday after 2.30pm and that Google Classroom activities are loaded each Friday at approximately the same time. Mrs Dunlop is coordinating a virtual Easter Hat Parade and we are looking forward to seeing some amazing creations with details of the process able to be found on the school's face book site.

Finally, I would again thank our parents and families for their on-going support of the school and our wider community. To think that a country and the world can work collectively is truly inspiring.

Enjoy the week

*Bradley Tom
Principal*

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- 1) Open Safari or Chrome on your device, type in the web address: iphone.schoolenews.com or android.schoolenews.com

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- 2) 1) Open the App Store (iPhone, iPad) or Play Store (Android)
2) Search for "Enews" and download "School Enews" app
3) Open app and search for your school name or postcode

or

- 3)  iPhone  iPad  Android  Web App

We ask all parents to please download our free school app, **School Enews**, to receive information and updates.



I am really enjoying learning from home. I think it is great. Google classroom is easy to find and follow. All of my daily activities are the same as what I would do at school, but now I can do them at the kitchen table or in my room. If I need a break I read a book or try one of Mr Bale's fitness ideas.

I really like the optional activity in Google classroom, the amazing 30day Lego challenge!! It is a fun additional challenge that lets your mind go to rest. The challenges are really hard and tests even the best Lego makers.

Here's a fun activity suggestion if you are bored: cornflour slime. It is amazing slime! When you apply pressure to it turns hard, but with no pressure, it looks and feels like coloured water. The worksheet is from the Wollongong Science Space Museum website.

Will Robinson, 5 Indigo

SCIENCE SPACE

What's happening:

Fluids are things that *flow* and *take the shape of the container they're in*. These can be liquids or gases because the particles in both of these are far enough apart that they can slide past each other.

Generally, solids don't behave like fluids. Their particles are packed too closely together to slide like a liquid or a gas.

This is where cornflour slime comes in. When it's resting, so when you're not playing with it, it behaves like a fluid but when you hit it with something, it behaves like a solid. That's because the particles of cornflour are hanging around in the water - not mixing with the water but kind of just chilling. So when you move it really fast, the particles don't have time to get out of the way.

We call this a "Non-Newtonian Fluid" which is science-speak for "weird".



SCIENCE SPACE

Cornflour slime

Sometimes, science is all about observing things; watching things grow, looking at things under a microscope or looking for stars in the night sky.

Sometimes though, science can be SUPER messy.

To do this experiment, you need to get your hands dirty. Who wouldn't want that?

Materials:

- Cornflour
- Food colouring
- Water
- Bowl
- Wooden mixing spoon

What to do:

- In a large bowl measure out a few cups of cornflour. You really don't need to be accurate for now.
- Mix a few drops of your favourite colour in with a jug of water.
- Start adding the coloured water to the cornflour and mix it together with the wooden spoon.
 - Note - you'll probably want to ditch the spoon after a while. Using your hands is better!
- Mix the cornflour with water until all of the cornflour is wet. The consistency you're after is tricky to describe. This slime behaves in a very weird way. When force is applied, it behaves like a solid, but then if you leave it to sit, it turns into a liquid. You can test this by scooping up a bit of the slime, squeezing it in your hand and watching what happens. If it turns into a solid, then a liquid you've got it right!

Things to do with the slime:

- Play with it. Experiment with its properties. How much force do you need to hit it with to get it to solidify? How long before it starts running through your fingers?
- Make different batches and keep track of the measurements. Can you make the *perfect* slime? Share it with us!

Sophia - working from home

Here's how I'm managing working from home

I'm finding that working from home has become much easier with a routine. This has been very helpful as now I always know I'll have something to do and that I'm always being productive.

I've been breaking up my day by taking breaks at the normal school time (which means I don't have to share the trampoline with my brother).

I've been catching up with my friends through email and phone in the evenings which is important.



OPS - 2020 School Year Dates

April 1	OPS Athletics Carnival - CANCELLED
April 6 & 7	State Swimming Carnival - CANCELLED
April 8	OPS Cross Country - CANCELLED
April 9	Easter Hat Parade - POSTPONED
April 9	Last day for students Term 1
April 27	Staff development day
April 28	First day for students Term 2
May 5	Sydney Writers Festival - CANCELLED
May 7	District Cross Country - CANCELLED
May 8	CWA Entries Due - CANCELLED
May 11	Rugby League PSSA - CANCELLED
May 19	GRIP Leadership day, Year 6 SRC
May 20	Kindergarten 2021, Open Day, 9.30 - 10.30am
May 25	District Athletics Carnival - CANCELLED
June 22	School photos - Infants - New Date
June 23	School photos - Primary - New Date
June 24	School photos - Family and Catch up - New Date



OPS Sport

K-6	Every Friday
Year 2 (Week 3-11)	Every Thursday

OPS Assemblies

Kindergarten	Postponed until further notice
Year 1	Postponed until further notice
Year 2	Postponed until further notice
Year 3 - 6	Postponed until further notice

**SAVE THE DATE
FOR
ORANGE
OPEN GARDENS**

**SATURDAY 7TH
NOVEMBER, 2020**

www.orangeopengardens.org.au



Clothing Pool 2020

Any Donations would be greatly appreciated and can be dropped off at the Primary Office.

**The Clothing Pool is located at the Primary Campus
Sale Street building**

**EFTPOS facilities are now available
at the Clothing Pool on the Primary site.**

**If you are able to volunteer in our Clothing Pool
please call Jane Howell 0414 242 823**

OPS P&C Clothing Pool Dates

Closed until further notice



The P&C in consultation with the Canteen Manager and Brad Tom, have decided to close the OPS canteen for the remainder of the term.

Thank you to all our volunteers for your support. Stay safe and if you have any concerns, please don't hesitate to contact the P&C President.

Closed - for the remainder of Term 1

Easter Raffle

Drawn:- Thursday April 9th

Please return all tickets

sold or unsold

by Friday 3rd April 2020



April P&C Meeting Cancelled

Due to announcements about measures the Federal and State Governments are taking to manage the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19), the P&C have decided to cancel the April P&C meeting.

If you have any concerns or issues that you would like raised, please feel free to send them across to opspnc@gmail.com.

Thank you for your understanding,
OPS P&C Executive