

## Newsletter

### *Respect, Kindness, Best Effort*

Dear families,

We did it! I'm very pleased to confirm that, following the Premier's announcement of the lifting of stay-at-home orders for our region, **we will be welcoming all students back to school from next Monday 13 September.**



Miss Dean, Miss M and I have been in awe of the outstanding effort our students (and parents!) have been putting into learning from home. The teachers eagerly awaited the return of learning packs each Friday to check in on their students' progress and loved staying in touch with them via the morning Zoom session and Google classrooms. Your support in keeping students at home wherever possible has been very much appreciated. Now it is time for us to make plans for a COVID-safe return to school.

#### **COVID-safe Schools**

We will return to school under COVID-safe Level 3 school operations which are summarised below. Comprehensive information for families is available from the Department of Education website. (Information in italics below has come directly from Department of Education 'Advice to Families' for Level 3 operations.)

#### **Lunch Orders**

I'll start with the good news: Friday lunch orders will resume from next week. (Thanks Jude!)

#### **Masks and Hygiene**

Masks will continue to be required for all staff and visitors to schools. You may have seen some information in the media regarding mask recommendations for primary-school aged students. Masks will not be mandatory for our students on return to school, however they are available at school should a child/their parents wish them to wear one.

Students will be supported to practice good hygiene habits at school including frequent hand-washing, use of sanitiser and cough/sneeze hygiene. Enhanced cleaning, including mid-day cleaning of high-touch surfaces, will continue.

#### **Visitors**

Non-essential visitors, including parents, will not be permitted on school grounds. Any visitors entering the site must wear a mask and sign in using the QR code.

#### **School Pick-ups and Drop-offs**

Parents are requested to remain in their cars when dropping students to school and on pick-up wherever it is safely possible to do so. Please wear masks and practice physical distancing near school grounds.

### **Symptoms and Attendance**

*Students must not attend work or school if unwell, even with mild symptoms of COVID-19. Any person with any COVID-19 symptoms must be sent home and not return to school unless:*

- *they have isolated for 10 days, when no medical certificate is available*
- *they have a negative COVID-19 test result and are symptom free.*

*In circumstances where children have other medical reasons for recurrent symptoms, a letter from their GP is sufficient to negate the requirement for a negative test.*

### **Staff Vaccinations**

From 8 November all school staff are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

### **Events and Community Use**

- Community use of school facilities, including P&C meetings, is not currently permitted. (Preschool will continue onsite.)
- We are unable to hold assemblies, presentation nights, etc.
- Excursions, camps and other off-site activities are not permitted.
- If we are still operating under Level 3 restrictions late in Term 4, I will liaise with Year 6 parents to plan a graduation ceremony and celebration within the guidelines.

Please remember that if you have any questions at all we are only a phone call/ email away.

### **Kindergarten Enrolments and Transition to School**

Unfortunately, transition to school arrangements have been postponed until we receive further Departmental advice, however preparations are definitely underway to welcome our new Kindergarten students in 2022.

Parents of students commencing Kindergarten next year are requested to please complete an online enrolment application, by 17 September 2021 if possible.

Online enrolment is available through the school website: <https://rand-p.schools.nsw.gov.au>

### **Thankyou School Administration and Support Staff**

This week was School Administration and Support Staff (SASS) Appreciation Week - an opportunity to recognise the incredible contributions of our non-teaching staff. Few would be aware of the many, varied tasks that Mrs Carole Morey (School Administration Manager), Mr Ken Larkin (General Assistant), Mrs Alison Craft and Mrs Jenny Mueller (School Learning Support Officers) undertake in service to our school, students, teaching staff and community. Their care, dedication and willingness to always go the extra mile make our school the wonderful place it is to work and learn.



Yours in learning,  
Joanne Scherf  
R/Principal



## Scholastic Book Club

Scholastic LOOP orders have now arrived for those families who placed a book club order. They can be collected from the home learning returns table.

## PBL Logo Design

Please see positive behaviour for learning (PBL) information included in this newsletter. Your input would be gratefully received.

## K-2 News

### Fractions

We are learning about fractions in Mathematics. We have been focusing on halves, quarters and eighths. Students have also been learning about fractions of collections. Using fruit, stones, blocks, pencils, pasta, leaves and other objects around home students demonstrated halves and quarters of collections.

#### Half



#### Quarter





### 3-6 News

#### RU OK Day

During our Zoom session today, the primary class were involved in a series of activities revolving around R U OK Day. RU OK Day encourages discussions and enables students to understand what someone looks and feels like when they are feeling worried, sad or anxious. It is also how to be a good friend and to seek help from a trusted adult if a problem is too big to manage.



Students had the opportunity to see Healthy Harold and learn about ALEC. ALEC is an acronym that stands for:

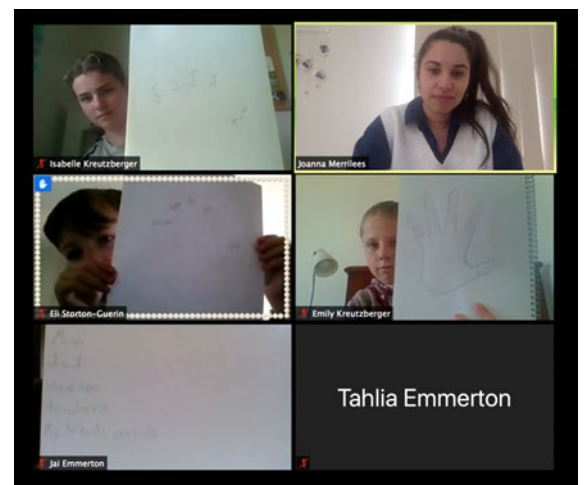
**Ask** - Are you okay?

**Listen**

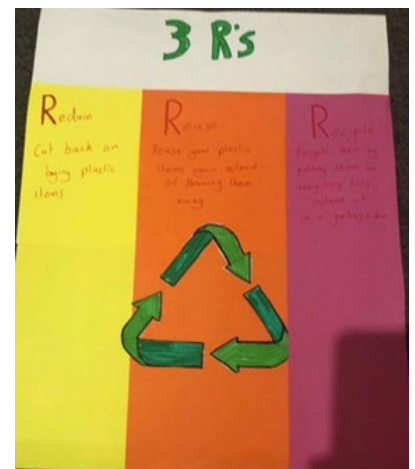
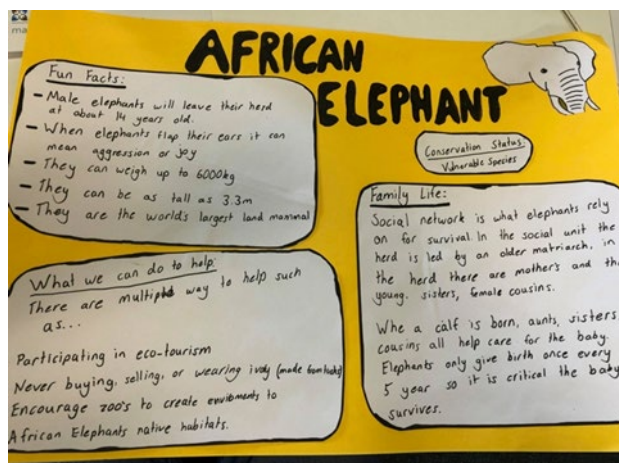
**Encourage Action** – Encourage your friend to talk to a trusted adult

**Check in** – Check in later

Over Zoom, we developed our own Helping Hands to identify who we can talk to when we are feeling worried, sad, anxious or scared. Each student drew their hand and listed their support systems of trusted people. Collectively students came up with parents, uncles, aunties, teachers, grandparents and friends.



#### Home Learning - Mappen Pictures





## PBL Logo Design: Call for Input

A key factor in promoting **positive behaviour for learning** is making our values and behaviour expectations highly visible, in every part of our school and in everything we do. An eye-catching logo and signage can be a very powerful way of promoting 'at-a-glance' recognition of what we stand for at Rand Public School.

The staff PBL team are working with a graphic designer to integrate our PBL values with our school crest in a visually-appealing logo. A number of options will be developed to bring to our school community for discussion. We are seeking input from as many of our families as possible in the concept phase of the logo development. Students will be working on logo proposals in class and we ask that families please complete the form below and return to school (by placing in the PBL feedback box in the entry foyer) by the end of term.



- Please detach and return to school by Friday, 17 September 2021 -

Family name: \_\_\_\_\_

Native birds and animals, local to Rand, that start with:

R - \_\_\_\_\_ K - \_\_\_\_\_

B - \_\_\_\_\_ E: \_\_\_\_\_

Other images/ elements we would like to see our logo incorporate: \_\_\_\_\_

Feel free to include a sketch/sketches on the reverse, or to attach a separate sheet.



**CLEANERS WANTED**

Applicants need to be available to work Monday to Friday between the hours 5:00am-7:00pm.

- Split shifts: 5:00am-9:00am and 2:00pm-7:00pm
- Day shift available from 11:00am-3:00pm

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