



# ABERDEEN PUBLIC SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

20<sup>th</sup> May 2020, Week 4 Term 2

Website <http://aberdeen-p.schools.nsw.gov.au>

### FORTHCOMING DATES

#### May

25<sup>th</sup> All students return to school

### SPOTLIGHT ON THE WEEK AT SCHOOL

We are super excited to have received confirmation from the DoE that all students are to return to face-to-face learning from Monday 25 May. Included in this newsletter is the DoE's parent and carer guidelines. This provides relevant information around school safety and hygiene practices, approved school activities, onsite access to the school and expectations for attendance, among other things.

Please ensure, your child returns to school with a water bottle. Drinking from the bubblers is still not permitted. Children will be able to refill water bottles using the tap in their classroom. Children will also need to ensure they have their pencil case, hat, recess and lunch packed in their bag.

The canteen remains closed for now due to social distancing guidelines and restrictions on volunteers. We hope to soon have systems in place to address these so the canteen can re-open for your family's convenience.

As we move to Phase 3 for school operations, I would like to take this opportunity to again thank our essential workers, including teachers and our support staff for keeping everything afloat in a rapidly changing COVID-19 environment. I also appreciate the efforts of all our families to support their children with remote learning. Your perseverance has been tremendous and I think we have all practised our character strengths of social intelligence, teamwork, gratitude and hope during remote learning.

### SEMESTER 1 REPORTS

In the current climate of remote learning and working online, the DoE has extended the timeline for schools to complete Semester 1 reports. Each school will determine when reports will be sent home, based on their individual circumstances. Report formats will also be simplified and the A-E grading scale is not required for mid-year.

Despite our best efforts at APS to maintain continuity of learning for all students, levels of engagement with the learning packs have varied from household to household and student to student. Contact between the class teacher and the child has been limited in some instances, for a number of reasons. We understand many families had to overcome some hurdles to facilitate remote learning and it has been a challenging journey for many of you. This is why, our procedures for reporting will be different this semester.

Prior to reports going home, you will be asked to complete and return a short survey to help us better understand how remote learning looked in your home. This will help teachers to accurately comment on your child's achievements and progress. Your child's teacher may also contact you to arrange an online meeting or phone conversation as an additional means of collecting information.

At APS, we recognise it may take a little while for students to settle back into routine and teachers and students will be working hard to get through the planned content. For this reason, our Semester 1 reports will go out in Term 3. An exact date is not yet decided, but I anticipate it will be before Week 5. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

**Are you an Upper Hunter resident who has lost income because of COVID-19?**

**We are here to help with financial assistance in a practical way.**

Please call **02 6542 3555** or knock on the door at the QEII Muswellbrook



# You did it! Congratulations

In the absence of our weekly award assembly on Friday, teachers have had the opportunity to give a Merit and PBL award each day to a student who is learning either at home or at school. Last week, these fabulous workers received an award in recognition of their effort, achievement and conduct.

## MERIT AWARDS

Indi B  
Olivia R  
Skye M  
Ciannah S  
Fletcher D  
Deakin B  
Sonny D

## PBL AWARDS

Kierah C	Personal Best
Taylor VH	Respect
Charlie M	Responsibility
Indi B	Personal Best
Lilli W	Responsibility
Oliana L.	Personal Best
Emily S	Personal Best

Your child may have received an Achievement Award from Mr Stutchbury. This is Mr Stutchbury's way of acknowledging students who are working well when he is in their classroom, however, these awards are not part of our school award system and therefore, cannot be counted towards the next level of achievement. We encourage families to celebrate these awards with the child and for your child to feel proud and deserving of this special recognition of a job well done.



Oliana L & Lilli W with their awards

**FOR SALE!**

## BY TENDER

Letters of Tender need to be submitted to the school by Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2020. The highest tender will be accepted. Equipment can be inspected at Aberdeen Public School, please phone 65437271 to make appointment.



Description: Roland KR350E electric piano and stand in fair condition. Pedals require repair. No music stand.



Description: Black UB Drum Kit in good condition as pictured. Drum skins need replacing



Description: Cream Orbit drum kit as pictured. Bass drum pedal and high hat stand need repair. No snare drum stand.

## **Parent & carer guide to NSW school students returning to face-to-face teaching.**

All schools are returning to full on-campus learning from Monday 25 May. All school activities and operations will be in line with Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) and NSW Health guidelines as applicable.

School students do not need to follow physical distancing guidelines, but should follow good hygiene practices like:

- Regularly washing hands
- Avoiding sharing drinks or food
- Coughing or sneezing into your elbow, or a tissue which should be discarded immediately.

### ***School attendance***

All students should be at school unless:

- They have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition
- They are currently unwell.

Students who have a medical certificate to stay at home will be supported to learn from home in line with regular procedures if they are able to. These regular procedures are different to what was offered during the learning from home period. If you require work to be provided to your child whilst they are at home due to an underlying health condition, you should contact the school for assistance.

Please note, students who live with a family member in one of the categories identified as being at increased risk by the AHPPC, should attend school unless a medical practitioner advises otherwise in writing.

If your child is unwell, do not send them to school. If they are unwell at school you or your nominated emergency contact will need to collect them immediately. Please make sure your contact details are up to date.

If a student is absent without a medical reason for more than three days, this will be recorded as an unauthorised absence and followed up by the school.

If you need any support to get your child back to school, please contact your school.

### ***Reporting and assessment***

Your child has been assessed during the learning from home period and will receive additional assessment on their return to school.

You will receive your child's semester 1 report before the end of August (week 6, Term 3).

This may be a simplified version of the report you normally receive. Schools are encouraged to discuss your child's progress with you before the written report is issued.

### ***School activities***

Teachers will continue to follow the same school curriculum with the exception of some activities that can't go ahead for now.

### ***What children can do:***

- Use the school library
- Engage in non-contact sporting activities
- Year 11 and 12 students may attend classes/activities relating to subjects available on other campuses
- VET work placement for Year 12 students is able to proceed from 1 June 2020. Year 10 and 11 work-placement is able to proceed from Term 3 2020.
- School based apprenticeships and traineeships can recommence once the relevant workplaces are back in operation
- Trade Training Centres can operate on school sites.

### ***What students can't do:***

- School assemblies (unless for critical information)
- School incursions and excursions including camps
- Work experience
- Inter-school activities (debating, inter-school sport)
- In-school activities requiring parent or other volunteers
- Use hydrotherapy pools
- Drink from a water bubbler - bring a water bottle instead
- Students cannot attend TAFE for study but may continue to learn online.

### ***School cleaning and hygiene supplies***

Your school will receive additional cleaning in line with the AHPPC guidelines and advice from NSW Health. Targeted areas include high-touch areas and other hard surfaces, door handles, lockers, light switches and handrails in stairways and movement areas. There will also be additional cleaning of toilets and bubblers and topping up of supplies like soap.

Your school has received supplies of soap, hand sanitiser, toilet paper, paper towels, disinfectant wipes and personal protective equipment. The school is able to order more as needed.

### ***School grounds***

There should be no visitors to school sites unless they are essential. Your school can provide guidance as to who is considered essential.

Your school will provide advice on drop off and pick up procedures.

Wherever possible, P&C and parent/carer/teacher meetings should be conducted virtually.

Canteens and uniform shops can open at the discretion of the principal. Out of school hours care can continue to operate.

Community use of school facilities will recommence only for uses that are necessary for continuation of education and with principal's approval.

### ***Responding to COVID-19 cases***

There is a clear plan in place for schools to respond to any suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our schools. We are working closely with NSW Health and will communicate with parents if a situation was to arise.