



STRATHMERTON
PRIMARY SCHOOL

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SUPPORT EACH
OTHER



TRY YOUR
BEST



ACT
SAFELY



RESPECT

Newsletter No.23

July 23rd 2020

2020 Dates to Remember

- ⇒ **Thursday 30th**
Parent teacher interviews via zoom or phone.
- ⇒ **Friday 31st**
Pupil Free day
- ⇒ **Friday 14th August**
School photos

Restrictions on Parents/carers being permitted to come onto school grounds are still in place, and you are still requested to observe social distancing whilst waiting for your children out the front.

HEADLICE

Please check your child's hair as we have those little critters back in the school.



We are an
eSmart
School

Characteristics of "Good Kids."

Characteristics of a good student.

Resilience

Life can be hard, even for kids. Everyone needs some level of resilience to get through the tough times. When children learn to be resilient, they are better able to deal with the traumas and difficulties they will surely face. Many parents understandably try to shield their kids from painful situations, but teaching them resilience will serve them better in the long run. If your child is having a problem in school or with friends, try problem-solving together so he learns how to manage the problem, instead of just running away from it. And parents can help kids put their problems in perspective, so they learn most problems are not as big or as insurmountable as they may first seem.

From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our focus this term has been firmly on re-establishing our classroom routines and expectations following the long period of remote learning and the recent holidays. After so long away many students have forgotten the rules and routines and the behaviours that are acceptable, but after a week-and-a-half of consistent classroom teaching, things are falling into place again.

As parent or carer you can assist this 'normalisation' process by asking them about their school day, when you see them each afternoon, and waiting to get an answer - a mumbled 'Nothin' happened' isn't an acceptable response. When you consistently ask each day, they will see that you really care about their education.

HOME READING

I know I talk about this a lot, but to have your child read at home every school night, is probably the most important thing you can do as a parent or carer to support their learning. When I talk to the students, it appears that many of them have got out of the routine of home-reading following the remote learning and holiday period. It would be great if you re-established this routine at home, to help build the important fluency and comprehension skills that confident readers have.

PARENT - TEACHER INTERVIEWS

It's still not too late to request a parent/teacher interview by phone or Zoom for next **Thursday, 30th July**, commencing from 1:00 pm. Most of our parents/carers have already done so, but if not, I urge you to book an interview time to discuss the progress of your child/ren, particularly in light of the remote and flexible learning period in Term Two.

COVID-19 UPDATE

As you are aware, metropolitan schools and schools in Mitchell Shire commenced another period of Remote and Flexible Learning this week. Luckily for us, Moira Shire still has no identified cases, so like the majority of Regional and Rural schools, we are able to continue to provide on-site learning, albeit with some restrictions. Parents are still not allowed on-site and must observe 'social distancing' at pick up and drop off times. Teachers must also observe social distancing with other staff, and students are not allowed to be in groups larger than class size (this is the reason for our 'Zoom' assemblies). Hand hygiene is still a priority and an additional professional clean of classrooms at recess is still occurring. If everyone in the community plays their part regarding the COVID-19 restrictions, we can hopefully avoid another 'lock down' that everyone dreads. Now is not the time to be complacent.

STUDENT ABSENCES

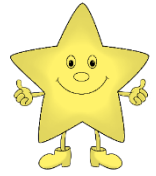
If your child is absent for any reason, you have a duty as a parent/carers to ring us at school to let us know. We do worry when one of our students is away and we don't know why. If we don't receive an explanation that student is then marked as 'Unexplained Absence', which goes on their record. If the number of 'unexplained absences' for a particular student reaches 5 days or more in the year, it raises a 'red flag' with the Regional Office, who may then ask for a 'please explain'.

Have a great weekend,

Geoff Weppner.



STRATHY STARS



Nicholas Brooks, Zayhden Safe, Nicky Phasysoutham, Darci Carmody and Eva Hargreaves



Literacy Award



Harley Hunter, Madison Knight, Mia Tonizzo, Millie Wood and Max Bayne



Maths Award



Brylie Barnes, Ivy Henderson, Brax Hunter, Declan Hughes and Eliza Bouchier



Jayden Lawn and Noah Beurs are our barrel winners this week.