

Dear Parents,

I hope you are all doing okay in these very trying times. Today, there have been further changes to how school will operate in the next fortnight. Please read the Premier's statement and West Leederville Primary School's plans, below.

Premiers Announcement:

"I know the situation around our public schools has been causing angst for parents, teachers, staff and students.

I understand that it may be confusing, but we've kept them open, consistent with the best medical advice at hand through the National Cabinet process.

Today, as the pandemic situation moves forward, we move to the next step.

Firstly, from Monday, March 30, we will now encourage parents to keep children at home if they can, and access the online learning resources we have made available.

However, all children who do attend public schools will continue to be taught.

Where parents need children to attend school to enable them to maintain employment, and for those children in vulnerable families, like children living with grandparents, they are encouraged to continue to attend school.

Public schools will remain open from Monday, March 30 to Friday, April 3.

In addition, formal classes will now finish at the end of Friday, April 3, one week earlier than planned.

Teachers and education assistants will now use this time to plan and prepare for a new way of teaching from the start of Term 2, with work continuing through the school holidays.

However, arrangements will be in place in schools to supervise children who need to attend school on the last four days prior to Easter, where parents require it to maintain their employment, or due to a personal situation.

And thank you to our teachers, education assistants and all school staff for the essential work they do across our State. This is an incredibly difficult situation, thank you for your patience, and we will let you know about plans for Term 2 as soon as possible."

What this means at West Leederville Primary School

<u>This week</u>: As student numbers have decreased across the week, teachers have moved from teaching new curriculum to consolidation work. This will continue tomorrow. Throughout the day (please see schedule below) parents of students who are already learning at home may come and collect pencil cases and resources from outside their classroom. Please have only one family member enter the school facility.

<u>Next week (March 30 to April 3)</u>: The Premier's statement says that during this week "Students will continue to be taught". This is true, however due to the heavily reduced number of students, this will be consolidation work, not new curriculum. Between now and Monday, our teachers will send an email to their classes suggesting a timetable of activities for next week. These activities will be similar to those being offered to the students, who for the reasons stated above, are in attendance. Please note that the provision of home learning guidelines for this week is not a Departmental requirement, but something our teachers are choosing to do. This may vary from teacher to teacher. The Department of Education's Learning from home website is available here.

<u>The following week (April 6 to 9):</u> According to the Premiers statement "arrangements will be in place in schools to supervise children who need to attend school", ie, they will not be taught.

What we intend to do during Week 10 is trial the learning at home plans we have developed over the past two weeks. Ideally, all students will be at home and trialling access to Connect, WebEx, and other platforms the teachers have chosen to use. We believe that this will give us an opportunity to troubleshoot, and/or rethink, strategies that are not working well. During next week you will receive further information regarding this.

The teachers at West Leederville Primary School have many plans in place to support home learning as this situation unfolds and extends in to Term 2. As resources become available from the Department of Education we will adapt our plans to incorporate the new information.

I strongly encourage you to keep your children home as soon as you can. This will keep them and school staff safer. However, I want to emphasise that all children whose parents are in the situation where they must maintain employment outside of the home, will be cared for by our staff.

Please remember that at this point in time, the most important thing is that you and your children are physically and mentally well. If you can stay home, do. If you get some home learning tasks completed, great, if you don't, it's okay. It has been a very stressful few weeks, take some time to recover and have a go another time.

Kind regards,

Fiona Kelly

Schedule for collection of student resources:

Time of collection	Surname starting with:
11am	A,B,C
11:15am	D, E, F
11:30am	G,H, I, J
11:45am	K, L, M
12noon	N, O, P
12:15pm	Q, R, S
1:45pm	T,U,V
2pm	W,X,Y,Z

NB: Students who are currently attending school can bring resources home on their final day. Please let the students themselves, or their teachers know, when this will be.