



Diary Dates 2020

All dates are proposed and subject to pandemic restrictions

TERM 4

Mon 12 Oct	On-site Learning Commences
Sat 17 Oct	Beer & Booch Appreciation Evening
Sun 18 Oct	La Fiesta Siesta (Online Activities)
Tues 20 Oct	Darebin School 's Yarning Conference (Year 5)
Fri 23 Oct	Public Holiday (AFL Grand Final Day)
Mon 2 Nov	Curriculum Day
Tues 3 Nov	Public Holiday (Melbourne Cup)
Tues 24 Nov	New Prep Parents 2021 Webex 7.00pm-8.00pm
Thurs 10 Dec	Year 6 Graduation (TBC)
Fri 18 Dec	Last day of term 4 (1.30pm finish)

Meeting Dates 2020

Finance	Tues 20 October 10am via Webex
School Council	Wed 28 October 7pm via Webex

School Council Sub-Committee dates TBC

*** OSHC services will be available via bookings for all curriculum days/pupil free days and early term dismissals.**



2020 Term Dates

T4 05/10/20 - 18/12/20

2021 Term Dates

T1 28/01/21 - 01/04/21

T2 19/04/21 - 25/06/21

T3 12/07/21 - 17/09/21

T4 04/10/21 - 17/12/21

2020 School Council Dates

Wed 28 Oct

Wed 25 Nov

OSHC

Out of School Hours Care



[OSHC News](#)

COVIDOL Music Pandemic

We must say a huge thank you to Jonny and Caroline Clow for their enormous efforts organising the COVIDOL Music Pandemic. Even in lockdown they have managed to organise another rocking idol event. Thanks also goes out to the Westgarth Primary School community for participating and making it a success. This wonderful event raised over \$5,000 for the school.



Dear parents and carers

On behalf of our school, I want to say a big thank you to all our students, parents and carers for your continued resilience and support throughout this year. I know remote and flexible learning has not always been easy, but through our collective efforts, our students have continued to make valuable progress in their learning. You can be confident that our school will support any student who has fallen behind to catch up.

Term 4 is important for every Victorian student, and our teachers will strive to deliver high-quality learning for everyone. Our focus for Term 4 is on making sure that every student is supported in their wellbeing, learning and transition needs.

The Victorian Government has outlined the staged return to on-site schooling for all students as part of its gradual roadmap towards reopening.

Term 4 on-site schooling arrangements for students

For our school, the following arrangements apply:

From 12 October (second week of Term 4)

- Students in Prep to Grade 6 will return to on-site schooling. The existing remote learning program will not continue for these year levels
- Students with surnames starting with A – K are to arrive at 8.50am and be collected at 3.20pm (NB. Students who make their own way home will be dismissed at 3.30pm).
- Students with surnames starting with L – Z are to arrive at 9am and will be dismissed at 3.30pm.
- When students arrive at school, they should enter the first school gate they come to. This is to make drop off easier for parents for social distancing purposes (this is different to last time when we had designated gates for specific year levels).
- Parents are not able to come onsite at drop off times. Please contact the office via phone or email if you need to access the office.
- At the end of the day, parents will need to go to the external classroom door to collect their child. Please do not congregate outside the classrooms. Let the teacher know you are there and your child will be dismissed into your care. Then you need to leave the school grounds immediately. Unfortunately, we cannot have parents socialising on the school grounds. We ask for your support with this so we do not have to ask you to leave.
- If you need to speak to the teacher please telephone or contact the teacher via Compass. Teachers cannot talk to parents in person at this stage however, you can organise a virtual appointment or phone conversation if needed.

School equipment loans

If your family has borrowed school iPads for learning at home, it is to be returned when your child returns to school on Monday 12 October. Please place the named iPad, charger and charging cable in your child's school bag so that they can return these items to their classroom teacher on this day (please ensure the charger & cable are in the bag as well).

Out-of-school-hours-care

Out-of-school-hours-care will be available to students. Parents will need to book OSHC using My Family Lounge.

Health and safety measures

The Term 3 remote and flexible learning arrangements were put in place to significantly reduce the movement of more than one million students and their families across Victoria, to help slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19). Thanks to you and your family for contributing to this on behalf of our school community.

As on-site schooling resumes, we will continue to have in place strong measures to protect the health and safety of students, staff, families and the community. This includes staggering start and finish times, restricting parent access to school grounds and continued emphasis on hand hygiene and physical distancing where possible. Our staff will wear masks in common staff areas and on yard duty, but are not required to wear one while teaching, however some may choose to. Staff will follow other social distancing and general hygiene practice.

Day cleaning practices and daily deep clean practices of an evening will continue throughout term 4. If your child is ill or is feeling unwell, they must not attend school. They must remain home and seek medical advice.

Please give particular attention to reducing the risks associated with congregation at school gates and taking steps to contribute to physical distancing within the school.

Term four priorities

With students returning to face-to-face learning, please be assured we will be focused on three key priorities in Term 4:

Mental health and wellbeing

Our highest priority will be the wellbeing, particularly the mental health, of every student and member of staff. This means effectively mobilising all available resources to support our most vulnerable students and enabling staff to access the relevant support services.

Learning and excellence

Some of our students have thrived in the remote and flexible learning environment, others have maintained their learning progress, and some have fallen behind, despite their best efforts and those of their families and teachers. Our priority will be supporting both those who need it to catch up and those who have progressed to continue to extend their learning.

Transitions

We will make every effort to ensure successful transitions for children moving from kindergarten into Prep and the Grade 6s moving into Year 7.

We know some families are worried that their child may have to repeat a year due to the disruptions of coronavirus (COVID-19). There is little evidence to support the benefits of repeating a year to catch up. Instead, schools will use teaching strategies that draw on the best evidence available to help students meet their learning needs.

Parents, families and carers can be confident that the best option for almost every child is to stay with their peer group, whether that is moving from kindergarten into Prep, moving from Grade 6 into Year 7 at secondary school, or students moving up any year level in between. We will also ensure our year six students have a wonderful graduation experience.

Our school, working with you, has shown it can be flexible and adaptable in responding to the challenges of coronavirus (COVID-19) and will continue to meet student needs as we look towards the end of the 2020 school year and ahead to 2021.

Kind regards,

Jo Wheeler
Principal

Prep School Nursing Program

A reminder to Prep families that the School Nursing Program forms need to be completed and returned to the school by Monday 12 October.

Please place it in your child's bag for their teacher to bring it to the office.

