



Dear Parents and Carers

I write to you today to thank each and everyone one of our families, for the amazing support we have received during this unprecedented time. I am sure as you continue to make connections in our new virtual world, you will see that our teachers miss seeing your child's smiling face each day and cannot wait to reconnect in a multitude of different ways. As you are aware, we have been working tirelessly, both at school and for some of our staff at home, to ensure your child's learning will continue in a very different learning platform. I wish to publicly acknowledge the amazing dedication of our staff through this period as we have certainly spent this pupil free time challenging our own learning to ensure, as we start term 2, that we are well placed to support you and your child. I have attached for you a letter from our ACT Minister for Education, Yvette Berry, to reassure you of the scope of essential work that is being undertaken to prepare us for a successful remainder to 2020.

At Gold Creek School our priority is to ensure wellbeing is at the forefront of all our planning and preparation. We wish to reassure you that we are still working hard to support our families and have spent considerable time ascertaining the individual needs of both our students and staff. During this week, you will be contacted by your child's teacher/s to undertake a check-in and ensure that all students have continued connectivity to allow online learning to occur. I know already some classes have enjoyed getting together via 'Google Meets' and relished being able to reconnect with friends. We are developing a cascade of platforms to ensure that we continue to maintain supports where needed.

Our Student Services team has developed a list of external services that may support you during this time. I have attached the key contact details of external organisations for your information. Please liaise directly with your child's classroom or PC teacher if you have any concerns in this space as they may be able to direct you to additional external services.

As teachers continue to build their expertise in using online platforms, we wish to begin trials with classes of home learning during Week 10. Your child's teacher/s will be in contact regarding next week's trial. As you can understand, this transitional time allows us to ascertain the level of additional home learning requirements each year level needs and help inform term 2 learning. We welcome feedback during this week via your classroom teacher. Also, a reminder that the ACT Directorate has designed a 'Resource Pack' to support home learning whilst teachers continue to develop term 2 alternative learning at home.



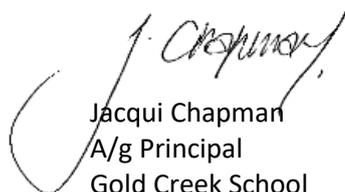
The website is updated regularly so worth visiting often:

<https://sites.google.com/ed.act.edu.au/act-home-learning/resources-to-support-home-learning>. You will also find attached to this email a 'Home Learning Challenge'. This is an optional 'Home Learning Challenge' developed by our ACT Directorate for your child to investigate and respond to.

Finally, I hope that you are safe and well, and enjoying time spent with your family through this challenging time. We will continue to use the Facebook page, and our website to upload recent changes. I remind all our parents, that we have a dedicated page on the school website with all the school letters regarding COVID-19 as well as a website banner that will link you with information from the Education Directorate and ACT Health. As always, we will follow advice by ACT Health in this space.

Thank you again for your support

Regards



Jacqui Chapman
A/g Principal
Gold Creek School

1 April 2020