



Dear parents/carers

There has been a lot of questions about whether our schools should stay open or not, but at this moment in time the government is recommending that it is safe for our children to stay at school. In preparation for possible school closures, our staff are working around the clock, with the support of the Education Directorate, to provide an online learning option or home learning program. As you can imagine, many issues need to be ironed out in order to deliver such an option. We are hopeful that we will be able to continue an education should we be in the position that schools close down.

In the meantime, I ask for your patience and understanding as we prepare this platform of learning. This means, that for now we are unable to provide a learning program at home for those families who are choosing to keep their children at home. If your child is in the secondary school, please have them check that they have all the google classrooms set up for each class as tasks are posted in this platform. Education Perfect is also available for students in the secondary school. In the primary school I ask you to check that your Seesaw permissions and access are up to date and that your child has their log in for Reading Eggs and for accessing our Library Management System Oliver. If you do not have these please contact the class teacher via email for this information. Below is a link of other tasks you may complete with your child if you are keeping them at home.

The week 9 parent teacher conferences will be cancelled in the face to face format, however, we are exploring the possibility of still conducting a conference via phone. Please look out for further information on this matter.

It is really important that we rely on the information provided by the official channels. As such, the school is reporting all ACT Health information via our social media channels. 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. The school is monitoring staff and student absences and cleaning supplies as well as media releases. We are enacting the recommendations, where possible, by the government in terms of cancelling all excursion, cancelling events and assemblies. We are educating students about the importance of good hygiene and social distancing concepts.

Should there be a confirmed case of COVID- 19 in our community, the ACT Health authorities will act accordingly and will advise the school and Education Directorate on the necessary next steps. Until then, assume that our community is still safe to be at school.



It is important that as a community we stick together and support each other through this difficult time. One of our Junior site students told her parents that *'she wasn't scared and that it was our job to do our bit to make sure we do not spread germs so that we can protect people in our community'*.

We are happy to answer any questions you may have.

Regards

Angela
Principal
Gold Creek School

19 March 2020