eastmaddington.ps@education.wa.edu.au



#### Dear Parents / Carers

The Australian Government has announced that all organised, non-essential mass gatherings attended by more than 500 people must be cancelled from Monday 16 March 2020.

The announcement was very clear that there is no need for school closures. However, schools should now review their schedule of activities. In line with this directive our school will be cancelling the following events or non-essential activities:

#### Cancelled:

- Summer Interschool Carnival: 20.3.2020
- Harmony Assembly and Family Picnic: 27.3.2020
- Learning Club Homework classes: Tuesdays until further notice
- Shining Stars Homework classes: Thursdays until further notice
- · All assemblies until further notice
- ANZAC Assembly in Term 2 1.5.2020

## **Closed by Centrecare:**

- Child and Parent Centre closed until further notice.
- Centrecare is developing alternative ways to continue to engage with families who are linked with the Child and Parent Centre.

# Postponed:

- Harmony Incursion: 24.3.2020
- Swimming Lessons in Weeks 9 and 10
- Easter Hat Parade: to be advised.

#### Payments:

Please leave your payments in credit for when these activities are re-scheduled.

### Who cannot attend school - International Travel advice as at 15 March 2020

Families arriving back into Australia must self-isolate for a mandatory 14 days. Please advise the school if you have returned from overseas or are planning to travel.

Also if your child is unwell, please ensure that they stay at home until recovered. We continue to encourage all students to wash their hands before eating and after going to the toilet. Good hygiene practices for coughing and sneezing are also being taught, and posters placed around the school.

### How to minimise the spread of COVID-19

- Frequently washing your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, or using an alcohol based hand gel
- Refraining from touching mouth and nose
- If coughing or sneezing, covering your nose and mouth with a paper tissue or flexed elbow
- Dispose of the tissue immediately after use and perform hand hygiene
- Avoiding close contact with anyone if you, or they, have a cold or flu-like symptoms (maintain a distance of at least 1 metre).

# **COVID-19 symptoms**

People with COVID-19 may experience:

- fever;
- flu-like symptoms such as coughing, sore throat and fatigue; or
- shortness of breath.

For the latest health information and health related enquiries please visit <u>WA Department of Health</u> or access the helpline 1800 020 080.

## **COVID-19 testing**

The WA Chief Health Officer, Dr Andrew Robertson, has advised people should not go to be tested for COVID-19 to either COVID Clinics or GPs unless they are currently experiencing symptoms and meet the testing criteria.

To be eligible for testing people must:

- be currently experiencing symptoms such as fever, cough or sore throat AND have
- returned from overseas travel in the last 14 days
- OR be currently experiencing symptoms, and be a contact of a confirmed case
- OR be currently experiencing symptoms and believe they have been in close contact with a person infected with COVID-19.

Lastly please return Student Update forms as soon as possible to ensure that we can communicate with you. You also need to download and read any messages that come through on Skoolbag.

We will continue to monitor the situation and keep you regularly updated.

Yours sincerely

Principal

Carolyn Lucarelli 17.3.2020

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