



COVID-19 Virus Update – Thursday 9 April 2020

Dear Families,

Hopefully by now you have had the chance to watch our virtual Easter Hat Parade that was sent through SeeSaw. It was great to see so many faces and smiles during the clip. Thank you for sharing – hopefully if we do make another attempt we will have learnt from this experience. Depending upon your device you may be able to watch the clip through the below link

<https://youtu.be/O9iykNvuo8E>

Unfortunately a small number of photos were unable to be included due to formatting issues or being lost in the transfer from one computer to another. We apologise if this has affected your child but our volunteer video producer tried their best to access a number of files.

School holidays & Term 2

Our school will be closing at 3:05pm Thursday 9 April 2020 and resuming on Tuesday 28 April 2020 for Term 2. On-line learning will recommence and work packs will be available in front of the Office from Tuesday 28 April 2020.

At this point of time, NSW schools will be operating under the same conditions as we are currently working at the start of next term. Schools will be available for essential workers and those who have no other alternatives. Flexible learning options, specifically online learning and some work packs will be used to assist home learning programs. At the time of writing this Update, the Government's recommendations on social distancing and isolation remain the same.

Online Learning – Term 2

One of the biggest changes in our delivery method of online learning will be the use of live streaming for teacher – student interaction. It is likely that commencing Week 2 we will be introducing ZOOM sessions on a daily basis for each class. Each class will have a set 30 minute window for teachers to interact with their class each day. This will be a key learning time where teachers will introduce new concepts and explain activities to help students' learning.

We are looking at a timetable which will enable sibling's access at various times throughout the day. Ideally the half hour session for each child's class will be a set time each day for ease of remembering.

It would be worth considering where in your home will be the best place for these sessions to be conducted. One of the big learning factors from early pioneers of this form of teaching is ensuring that you have an appropriate (plain) background behind the participant. There have been cases where private contact details and other information has been inadvertently shared through being seen in backgrounds.

Devices available for loan

For families who have limited access to technology, we have developed a loaning agreement to access one of the school's Chromebooks. At school we have limited numbers of devices which we are able to loan on a **one per family basis**. As you can appreciate, this resource really should only be accessed by families that have no other alternative. If you would like to avail yourself of one of these devices please phone the Office to reserve a device. A formal loan agreement will need to be signed as this will help us track who has which device. Please allow 48 hours for processing.

School Development Day



Gillieston Public School

Creating safe, effective teaching and learning environments.
SAFE, RESPECTFUL LEARNERS



Staff will be engaging in professional learning on Monday 27 April 2020 for the entire day. This will include our administration staff, therefore our phones will not be manned on this day. Please remember to leave a message if you have the option via our answering service as someone will get back to you.

91.7% absent from Gillo PS today!

The past three or so weeks have been very strange for many of us, with a need to adapt to trying circumstances. Hopefully society will continue to remain calm and heed the advice of our Government and medical experts. To successfully overcome COVID-19 will take time and patience. I plan to provide an Update on Monday 27 April 2020 to help keep you informed.

On behalf of all of our staff, I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Easter holiday period. Keep our children healthy and well. We all look forward to when things get back to normal.

Mr David Crowe