



Gillieston PS Update - Monday 11 May 2020

Dear Families,

We have now moved into Phase 1 of the Department's plan to return students back to schools. This means that on top of the families that were already sending their children to school due to work commitments and needs, an additional 25% are expected to be returned. With 42% of our student population attending today (87 enrolments) it is evident that some families are choosing to retain their children at home rather than send them to school. That is perfectly fine, and we will continue to produce work packs and online learning sessions for all of our students.

Our proposed schedule is:

Monday - DAWSON

Tuesday - GILLIES

Wednesday - MAXWELL

Thursday - WALSH

Attendance on these days is voluntary and up to families to determine whether their child attends. If you determine to keep your child at home they should still engage with our online learning programs and work-packs.

It was interesting to read some statistics in the media over the weekend which stated that last week the average return rate across the State was approximately 15%; we averaged just over 30%.

The other interesting item was the increased reporting of the potential of "a second wave" of the cases as the restrictions regarding social distancing and isolation become relaxed. We will continue to follow the safety guidelines and systems that have been implemented at our school including encouraging students to practice good hygiene practices such as using hand sanitizer and soap; increased cleaning of high touch surfaces; visually monitoring students for signs of being unwell and then referral to our sick bay; and where practical social distancing in classes.

We encourage students to bring their own personal refillable drink bottle to school as we are discouraging students from accessing the school bubblers. Like all personal property please ensure that it is clearly labelled with your child's name.

Just a reminder that our home reading program is operating each morning with children able to exchange their readers with Mrs Griffiths in the Library.

Enjoy these warm days and stay safe.

Mr David Crowe