



## **Gillieston PS Update – Thursday 28 May 2020**

Dear Families,

We have almost made it through to the end of our first week of full face-to-face teaching and learning. For the majority of our students, coming back to school has caused no problems at all and they have adapted to the routines of school. There are a small number of children that are finding the morning drop-off challenging however it is really lovely to see friends coming along and offering to hold hands or play as soon as we get through the gates.

Our P&C are preparing for the re-opening of the canteen on Wednesday 3 June 2020 starting with a 'free lunch'. Please ensure that you return the order form tomorrow to assist these volunteers prepare for the day. There appears to be some families a bit confused as we have received multiple orders and orders that are substantially larger than one usual canteen order. One child - one order for one food item, one drink and a randomly selected packet of chips.

Construction work around the school is increasing with various tasks being completed around the Library and hall. I have visited each class separately to reinforce with students the need to stay away from the work sites and not pester the workers with ... "What are you doing?" "Why are you doing that?" Similar messages will be repeated throughout the next few weeks especially with our junior classes.

At the moment, excursions are not permitted as per the Department's COVID-19 guidelines. We can, however, hope and prepare for when the restrictions are lifted. Given the economic impact that the COVID-19 has had on some families, the school has determined to support all families in Stage 2 and Stage 3 to ensure that all students can participate. A separate letter is going home with all Stage 2 and Stage 3 students explaining what is being offered.

Commencing today, the staff responsible for providing routine day-time cleaning of the school as part of the Government's commitment to enhancing school hygiene has been increased from 2 hours to 4 hours. Greater areas of the school will be cleaned as a result, in particular the toilet and sink areas, as well as high touch areas such as handrails and door handles.

Thank you again for assistance during this period of time. Your support is helping to make our jobs easier and allows us to focus on our children.

Regards

Mr David Crowe