

**Principal's Report for the School Board  
Week 9, Term 2, 2020**

**COVID Update**

The students, staff and community have displayed an extraordinary effort last term, working together to maintain the government restrictions and how they have been interpreted for an educational setting. Many of our students have developed a new-found independence in preparing themselves for their school day, through entering the school independently and supporting siblings if necessary through to entering their classrooms, connecting with their classroom teachers and preparing for their school day.

We have maintained the additional cleaners on our school site in Term 2 and 3 throughout the day to ensure a very hygienic school environment with a focus on high contact areas, bathrooms, playgrounds, any common areas and manipulatives that are on high rotation in classrooms. We also celebrated and formally recognised our cleaning staff at the end of last term to thank them for their efforts in keeping our school community clean and safe during such extraordinary times. We hosted a breakfast for our staff and enjoyed spending some time with our staff in a relaxed setting. The staff posted their gratitude to our cleaning staff on Facebook to acknowledge the efforts of our staff to our community.

We are currently not adhering to the Phase 4 requirements that were announced by our government on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June. We are now waiting to see if Phase 5 will be implemented by the state government; however, it has been postponed now on two occasions. The next tentative review date has now been scheduled for Saturday August 15<sup>th</sup>. The department has advised that any changes will be formally outlined to school leaders later after the move to Phase 5 and will then be communicated by me to our community.

**Development of Health and Wellbeing Surveys for Students, Staff and Community**

To determine the effects of COVID on our staff, students and community, we have designed and have now implemented a range of surveys; all of which were closed by the conclusion of Term 2. The analysis of this data will support what strategic direction we need to take, not only to support our community for the remainder of the year, but to also determine what the requirements would be for the school's new business plan.

After extensive research by the Positive Psychology team we have decided to fund and access the AWE (Assessing Wellbeing in Education) assessment for children. This survey, to be completed in Week 10 of Term 2, the week beginning Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June, students in Years 3-6 completed a short, online questionnaire. Well-being assessment scientists and school psychology experts have developed the Assessing Wellbeing in Education (AWE) assessment in consultation with Australian schools. The AWE survey consists of a collection of validated psychometric scales and scientifically informed, age appropriate questions from the psychology literature that assess various aspects of well-being. It covers all major theories of well-being, rather than one particular theory or perspective. We will be providing our families with information from today about the survey and also offering an 'opt out', should they not want their child to participate. The P and C is also requesting some information on how they can support our families, as they have decided as a group that the usual fundraising would not be appropriate this year. The parent and family survey will provide this group some further insight as to how they can support our families emerging from COVID restrictions.

**Security**

Again, we have experienced another major disruption with theft causing damage to our services, external to our school property. On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>, we were given a directive by the Deputy Director to close the school for the day, due to no access to water, after the water meter was damaged and removed, in addition to all of the fire hydrants by vandals. We had temporary reinstalment by lunch and fortunately, due to the very rapid communication sent out to families, only 8 children were required to be supported on the site for the day.

Programmed has contacted me to discuss the installation of another cage to our water meter and we have now also finalised our tender process for additional camera installation to our external boundary to deter vandals. We have captured some footage of possible suspects around the school in the early hours, which has been sent to the WA Police for further examination. Lara Kirkwood, who currently sits on our school board as the community representative, is advocating on our school's behalf to the Cockburn city Council to improve security measures around our school site and across the suburb in general.

**Capital Works and Improvements:**

There are some areas in the school we are looking to upgrade over the next six months:

Year 1 and 2 playground and equipment- This particular phase of the school has not received an upgrade to their play area in some time. With the degeneration of the cubby house which resulted in its removal, we are now currently working with Programmed to tender out an upgrade to the imaginative play aspect of this area. Concept drawings have been created, with a focus on a fort type structure, extra bike tracks and climbing apparatus to develop upper body strength; an area that is not accommodated for in the Spiderman play equipment. The finance committee has also approved the purchase of a variety of equipment items that encourage both passive and imaginative play in the undercover area.

Furniture- upgrades to furniture in the Administration area public entry, IT area for the upper primary (which \$10 000 was funded by the P and C at the conclusion of 2019) and staff professional learning space is currently in the consultation stage which should be finalised by the conclusion of this week. DVA Fabrication is our preferred company to complete these upgrades.

**Mesha Steel  
Principal**