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## Important Dates: Term 1, 2020

### TERM 1

24 March	Modified Harmony Day Celebration No Assembly
2 April	World Autism Day
8 April	Easter Raffle Drawn
9 April	Last Day of Term 1

### This week's update

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I would like to thank you for your ongoing support in this time of challenge. Please be assured that I am doing everything possible to keep children and staff healthy and safe.

The NSW Health and NSW Education have advised the following:

- There is no evidence of school-based COVID-19 outbreaks in Australia and community transmission is limited.
- The rate of infection of children is between 0.9 and 1.2% of cases which is the lowest level of infection of all Australians.
- There is no evidence to suggest proactive school closures limit social contact especially in high school students.
- There is evidence to suggest that proactive school closures are potentially more harmful than good as children interact with the broader population.
- Reactive school closures are effective for outbreak response.
- Schools are asked to promote precautionary measures, to postpone camps and group events such as assemblies.

Thornleigh West Public School is following the advice of experts and will continue to provide learning at school. This, however, is a rapidly evolving situation and I will follow any updated health and medical advice of the government.

Should a student or member staff be tested as positive for COVID-19, the school will follow the directives of the Health Department.

The experience of schools in Sydney to date has demonstrated that this will mean the school will be closed for a short time. Students will be able to access learning from home if this occurs.

Some parents have expressed that they hold different views to those currently being expressed by the Department and Ministry of Health. At this time I ask for your understanding that the school will follow the highly considered advice of these two decision-making bodies.

My staff and I are working really hard to ensure the best possible outcome for all of our students and parents. Please understand that while you are obviously free to make the decisions related to keeping students home to isolate them from others, teachers will not be able to conduct their scheduled lessons and also act as Distance Education providers for students who are not required to self-isolate.

All major Arts, Sports including PSSA and other events have been temporarily ceased until further notice. We are currently modifying drama and Wakakirri. Thank you for your understanding. I will reassess Term 2 events and communicate this in the coming weeks.

I will keep you informed if there are any changes.

### Events

Date	Event	Decision
17 March	Fiver for a Farmer	Proceed
21 March	Bush Dance	Cancelled
24 March	Harmony Day	Modified
31 March	P & C Meeting	Cancelled
7 April	Principals Morning tea	Cancelled
8 April	Year 6 vs Teachers	Cancelled
9 April	ANZAC service Easter Hat Parade	Cancelled

### Fiver for a Farmer

Thank you for everyone's support! We raised \$2,327 that is an amazing result. Check out some of our farmers.



Have a great week,

Chantal Mamo - BTeach BEd MA Creative Arts





# HARMONY DAY

Tuesday 24th March 2020



everyone belongs



- Wear a touch of orange to your school uniform - ribbon, socks, hat etc.... for a gold coin donation.
- All proceeds will go to School Aid.
- Free Bollywood dancers performance.



## Deputy's Message

### Emergency Procedures Drill

#### Lockdown

Lockdown is used when there is an **immediate threat to the school**, e.g. school intruders, sighting in the area of armed persons or the presence of a dangerous animal in the school grounds. Lockdown secures staff and students in rooms, where everyone must remain until the situation has been declared safe.

At times, it may be necessary to have **students return to or remain in classrooms**, e.g. wet weather, vehicles in playground, serious playground incident.

#### Lockdown Procedures

Any person noticing potential dangers in/ or around the school should immediately notify the office. If this occurs during breaks in the school day students should approach the teacher(s) on duty, who should then notify the office immediately. The staff and students will be alerted to follow the Emergency Lock-Down Procedure by the sounding of **lockdown bell**.

Yesterday students practiced the drill in class time. We will also practice the procedures for when a lockdown is called during break times. In such situations practiced procedures will facilitate safety and result in calm, confident responses from staff and students.

As a part of our Emergency procedures we have plans in place for

**EMERGENCY EVACUATION  
BUSHFIRE  
LOCKDOWN / LOCKOUT**

Kind regards,

Julie Granville - Deputy Principal

## Environment Captains News

On Wednesday, March 11 reverse garbage came to TWPS. We did a rubbish sort and realised we can recycle mostly everything except mixed material objects such as poppers (so let's not buy them anymore). Then we had to check all the bins in our school. We added all the rubbish up and in just 3 hours there was 11, 22 Litres of landfill and 360 litres of recycled rubbish in our playground after recess. That is a lot of landfill especially now we know how much of that could be recycled. The environment captains are working to solve this problem. We are going to organise a trash or treasure table and the great emu bob. Watch this space.

Written by:- Chloe Fenton, Elyssa Bolger and Eva Rason.

*Save the environment*





## Wakakirri & Gumnut News

Thank you to the passionate students and amazing parents who have been coming to Waka and Gumnut Auditions for the past few weeks. But time is ticking away. And places are limited. So it is crunch time. Please keep in mind that these are extracurricular activities and not compulsory. But I'm loving students who go the extra mile for their auditions.

Wakakirri Head Office contacted me this week. This may affect some families.

1. Wakakirri Shows will go ahead.
2. The shows may have limited audiences or NO audience.
3. The DATES of shows will change to later in the year.

Gumnut performances will go ahead but may have limited audiences.

I know that this is a classic drama teacher comment but ... it's about the journey. Gumnut and Wakakirri students will still be going on an amazing journey. Where we find ourselves, no one knows.

Please contact me via email with any questions.

Mz. Karyn Johnson - TWPS Drama Teacher & Wakakirri Director.

[drama@drawbridgedrama.com.au](mailto:drama@drawbridgedrama.com.au)

## School Banking News



### Notice from CommBank School Banking

The health, safety and wellbeing of our communities and our people is our first priority. Due to the rapidly developing situation with coronavirus, School Banking has been temporarily paused from **20 March 2020** until the start of **Term 2**. Please do not bring your deposit book with your weekly banking into school and we will notify you when banking will recommence.

## Book Club News

The book club catalogue issue 2 has been distributed and orders are due back by This **Friday 20th March**.

Any questions or inquiry regarding book club and orders, **Please directly contact us** via [twpsbookclub@gmail.com](mailto:twpsbookclub@gmail.com)

Thank you for helping our school.

## TWPS Prayer Groups News

Please join us as we pray for TWPS and our community. All are welcome. We meet on Thursdays at 9am, at the canteen steps, in weeks 2, 6 and 10.

Remaining Date for Term 1 is 2 April.





## Band News

**Band Fees** – invoices have been sent

Band Workshops -14/3 - Our first workshop was last weekend for JCB and SCB, a great afternoon of music! 28/3 -Stage Band Workshop. Thank you to those parents who have volunteered their time for the workshops.

### Dates for your Diary

Stage Band Workshop (afternoon) - Saturday 28th March

Band Camp 2020 – 28th and 29th May

**Ongoing Band Committee Meetings** - Week 2 & 7 Thursdays, 7:30pm in the Staffroom.

Email is Band's primary form of communication so please contact us at [twpsband2011@gmail.com](mailto:twpsband2011@gmail.com) if you are not receiving emails. When emailing the band, please assist the committee by using the subject to address who it is for. E.g. TB Coordinator / Instrument hire / Treasurer.

Further information can also be found at <https://twpsbandc.wordpress.com/band/>

Aimi Forsyth and Carolyn Delapierre (Band Convenors)

## Sport News

### Boys Knockout Cricket

TWPS played against John Purchase in the boys school knockout competition. Unfortunately it was not our day, however the boys played with enthusiasm and a wonderful team spirit. We batted first and made an admirable 106. Although John Purchase were able to match our score with 5 overs remaining it was an exciting game to watch. Many thanks to Mark Bolger who umpired and scored on the day and for giving his time to also coach the boys.

