

COVID-19 UPDATE

Please note, this information relates to those parents/carers of children who work in essential services only, or have a child in Out Of Home Care through DHHS/Child Protection...for everyone else...stay safe and try to enjoy quality time together over the coming weeks.

As of today, the Victorian School Holidays have commenced for all students. Term 2 is scheduled to commence on Wednesday the 15th of April – as Tuesday the 14th has already been advised as a Pupil Free Day for Online Learning Preparation across the State of Victoria – important in case schools were required to move to remote learning arrangements. Today, all children who attended school were sent home with learning packs in the event we went to remote learning at the beginning of Term 2. If you missed your pack, please collect one from the office before Friday the 27th of March.

Tuesday 24 - Friday 27 March

Principals and school leadership teams will be in attendance on site at school this week, where appropriate, observing common-sense social distancing measures. For staff onsite, they will be working on plans to enact should the school have to go to a remote learning arrangement. Staff are not onsite, providing learning programs. Schools are on holidays, staff are working on plans.

Care and supervision program

During this week, we have a responsibility to provide care and supervision programs for primary school students and all students in specialist schools **who are the children (or under the care) of essential services workers**, where those families choose to send their children to school.

Essential services include **health, police, corrections** and **emergency services** workers. If you are a parent/carer of the school (who works in one of these occupations) and require your child to have care provided from the 24th – 27th of March, please email pearce.matthew.d@edumail.vic.gov.au or call 0438 738 788 before 10pm tonight to organise care to be provided. Care is offered in place of education during such times, therefore, an Education Program would not be offered as all other students are currently on school holidays. Care would be in the form of safe supervision with social distancing in place – use of ICT, activities outside, quiet individual activities such as reading, drawing etc.

We also can provide care arrangements for any child from Big Hill who is:

- in out-of-home care (through DHHS/Child Protection)

If you think your family qualifies and you need such care, please email pearce.matthew.d@edumail.vic.gov.au or call 0438 738 788 before 10pm tonight to discuss and organise potential care, if the family is deemed to qualify for such care.

Please note our Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service has been suspended until further notice and will not be available. Care provided by the school will only be within normal school hours from 8.45am – 3.30pm from Tuesday the 24th of March until Friday the 27th of March.

In the event that children of essential service workers require holiday programs over the Term 1 holidays, due to the State of Emergency, please also advise Matt Pearce asap.

Regards,

Matt Pearce
Principal



**LIVING OUR
VALUES
EVERY DAY**



Students, staff and families of the BIG HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL Community acknowledge that we work together on Dja Dja Wurrung Country today; land that the Jaara Jaara People and their ancestors have been custodians of for thousands of years.

