

# Coutts Crossing Public School

# Newsletter



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Week 8– 16th March 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

It has been an anxious time for all Australians as we face the impact of COVID-19 on our local communities. Be assured, the health and safety of our students remains our top priority.

The Department of Education has asked all schools to adopt proactive measures to limit the impact of COVID-19 in our communities, including social distancing, which will mean the cancellation of school events and assemblies. Principals will be provided with regular updates from the NSW Department of Education and NSW Health. This may lead to additional changes to our school routines and operations and we will keep you updated as further information becomes available. Our focus will be making the necessary adjustments with minimal impact on student learning and ensuring the safety of students, families and staff.

Please take note of NSW Health's Health Advice for Schools included in this newsletter.

*Michelle Dalglish*

## Daily Examiner Kindy Photo

Adam Hourigan from the Daily Examiner will visit the school tomorrow to take a photo of our Kindergarten students. The My First Year 2020 lift-out will be published in The Daily Examiner on Wednesday 25th March.

## Important dates

This Week	Next Week	Coming Up
Fri 20 Mar– Harmony Day Action Against Bullying Day Year 7 2021 EOIs due  Waste Free Warrior Day is each Thursday!		Thur 9 Apr– Last day of Term 1

## Cancelled events

Due to new proactive measures to limit the impact of COVID-19 in our school, our Coutts Café planned for this Friday 20/3 has been postponed until further notice. Sorry for any inconvenience and thank you to our parents who had volunteered to assist on Friday. Coutts Café will be rescheduled when possible.

The Easter disco and Easter hat parade have also been cancelled.

The Cross Country events, at both school and small schools levels, have been postponed.

We will keep you up to date with any further cancellations and rescheduling as information is available.

## Immunity Issues

If your child has an immune disorder, we completely understand a parents decision to keep them at home as a preventative measure during these difficult times. If this is the case, please contact the school so work can be organised for your child to complete at home and the appropriate leave will be noted on our attendance system.

## Health Advice for Schools

The best way to protect yourself from COVID-19 is the same way you would protect yourself from catching flu or other respiratory illnesses.

**1. Wash your hands-** Clean your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, or use an alcohol-based sanitiser with at least 60% alcohol.

**2. Cough etiquette-** Cover your sneeze or cough with your elbow or with a tissue (and dispose of it immediately). Avoid close contact with people who are ill. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.

**3. Stay home if you are sick-** If your child is unwell with a respiratory illness they should remain at home until symptoms clear up.

As per this health advice, if students arrive at school with symptoms of any respiratory illness or become unwell at school, parents will be contacted to collect children from school immediately. If your child or a member of your family is being tested for COVID-19, please contact the school so additional preventative measures can be put into place. If your child tests positive for COVID-19, please contact the school immediately.

## Assemblies

Due to our new proactive measures to limit the impact of COVID-19 in our school, there will be no more school assemblies this term. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause for parents who may have already arranged time off work in order to attend. School assemblies will resume on advice from the Department of Education.

Students will continue to line up under the COLA each morning, but any morning messages will be now be delivered by teachers in classrooms until further notice.



## Drink Bottles

We highly recommend sending your child to school with a refillable drink bottle so we can reduce the use of bubblers at school. Students may refill drink bottles in classrooms when required as classroom sinks are regularly hygienically cleaned. Students who don't have a drink bottle will be given a cup to use but we would like to minimise waste and use refillable drink bottles where possible.

## Parent/teacher interviews

Parent/teacher interviews that were due to be held at the end of Term 1 will go ahead in the form of phone interviews. Scheduled times will be organised in the coming weeks.



2020 Student Representative Council

2020 School Captains and House Captains





## Harmony Day & National Day of Action Against Bullying & Violence

Students will be celebrating Harmony Day and National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence this Friday, 20th March, with a range of activities within classrooms K-6.

As part of our focus on promoting harmony, kindness and diversity, students are encouraged to **wear something orange** to school if they have something orange readily available in their wardrobes.

## Long Term Permission Notes

Students have each been given a long term permission note that is updated annually. Please complete and return the note for each child as soon as possible.

## P&C NEWS

### Plant pots

We have a very clever gardening family who are potting succulents to be included in a school fundraiser later in the year.

If you have any small plastic plant pots you are able to donate for use, please drop them into the school office. Thank you.

## Canteen helpers

A roster will now be printed in the newsletter each week. Please contact the school office if you would like your name added to our list of canteen helpers or if you need to make a change to the roster. If you are new to volunteering at the school, please see the volunteer requirements above.

## Easter disco & raffle

Unfortunately the Easter Disco and Easter Hat Parade will not be going ahead. The P&C have decided the Easter raffle will also not go ahead.

All sold tickets and donations will be returned this week. We ask people who have on-sold tickets to ensure money is returned to the purchaser.

Canteen Roster	
Wednesday	Friday
18/3 Shelley & Alexa	20/3 Sue & Fran
25/3 Megan & Karen	27/3 Ryanda, Georgina & Kirsty
1/4 Krystal & Ashleigh	3/4 Sue & Yvonne
8/4 Jenny	