

Coutts Crossing Public School

Newsletter



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Week 5 – 25th May 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

This week, we have all students back on site together and staff couldn't be happier to have school life beginning to return to normal. NSW Health advice assures us that schools are safe for students to attend and we are taking many precautions at our school to minimise any risk as students return to face-to-face learning.

Once again, I'd like to thank our whole community for your ongoing support during this challenging time. With very little notice our families had to become 'teachers' supporting learning as well as their usual duties of parenting, running a household and going to work. It has been an amazing effort and we are incredibly grateful for all your hard work.

As we move through the remainder of this term, restrictions at school may change so please keep a close eye on newsletters and our Facebook page for updates to COVID-19 procedures.

A Parents & Carers guide to NSW school students returning to face-to-face learning will be sent home today and included with the newsletter on the School Website and Facebook page.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding students returning to classrooms, please contact the school.

Michelle Dalgliesh

Drink bottles

As part of the current COVID-19 restrictions, school bubblers are not allowed to be used. Every child must bring a water bottle with them to school every day in order to stay hydrated at school.

This Week	Next Week	Coming Up
All students K-6 return 5 days Wed– National Simultaneous Storytime	Mon-Fri Regular face to face learning	Monday 8th June Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

Pick up and Drop off procedures

Due to current restrictions, there should be no visitors to school sites unless they are essential. Essential visitors include school counsellors and cleaning contractors etc. Unfortunately, this means parents and volunteers are not permitted to enter school grounds at this time.

To meet social distancing expectations, parents are also asked not to gather at school gates or in the car park.

Parents should adopt a 'DROP & GO' policy when dropping students at school each morning and 'PICK UP & GO' when collecting students each afternoon. If you need to speak to staff at the school, please phone the office on 66493225.

Children who are unwell

In an abundance of caution, any student who presents at school with a temperature or cold/flu or respiratory symptoms will be immediately sent home. Please do not send your child to school if they are exhibiting any of these symptoms including a cough, runny noses etc. During this time it is important that you or a designated contact person is available throughout the day in case a child develops symptoms while at school.

Late arrivals/ Early Pick ups

Students arriving late should go directly to the school office to be checked in by administration staff. Parents are NOT required to attend the office with their child. For those students who need to be collected early from school, parents should notify the office by phone and arrangements will be made.

Canteen

As our canteen is run by a variety of wonderful parents and P&C volunteers, the canteen will not be operating until volunteers are permitted to return on site. Families should send their students with Crunch & Sip, recess and lunch everyday.

Resources

In line with current restrictions, we are minimising the sharing of resources at school and have introduced additional hygiene procedures to ensure all resources are safe for students to use. Home readers and library books will be sent home but will spend time in 'book quarantine' upon return to school before being cleaned and redistributed. Shared classroom resources are also being cleaned regularly throughout the day.

Birthdays

Unfortunately, due to current restrictions, we are unable to accept cakes or cupcakes to share in classrooms for student birthdays.

Payments and Orders

We ask that any payments to the school be made online until further notice. This assists us to maintain a safe school environment by reducing the need to handle cash money, banking and minimising non-essential visitors on site.

To pay online, simply click on the 'Make a Payment' tab on the school website:

<https://couttscros-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

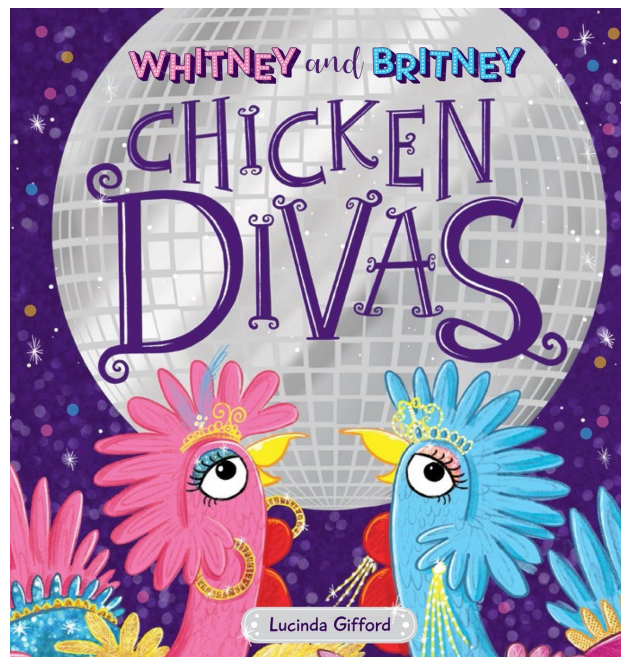
Orders for school uniforms may be made by phoning the school and payments can be made online. When items have been paid for, they will be sent home with students.

School shirt	\$28.00
Jumper/hoodie	\$38.00
Hat	\$8.00

Simultaneous Story time

This Wednesday at 11am, our school will be participating in a virtual National Simultaneous Storytime. Every year a picture book, written and illustrated by an Australian author and illustrator, is read simultaneously in libraries, schools, childcare centres and many other places around the country. Now in its 20th successful year, it is a colourful, vibrant, fun event that aims to promote the value of reading and literacy.

This year, the book selected for Simultaneous Storytime is *Whitney and Britney Chicken Divas*, written and illustrated by Lucinda Gifford. Due to our current restrictions on large gatherings, we will host a virtual Simultaneous Storytime with Mrs Conyard narrating the story, while all classes join in online via Google Hangout.



Clothing/ Lost property

It's that time of the year again, the mornings are cold and the days are warm, so students are often taking off jumpers throughout the day. In order to help ensure misplaced jumpers are returned quickly and easily, please clearly label ALL school clothes. All unlabelled clothing found at school is placed in the lost property box in the office, which students may access at break times to look for belongings. Occasionally, students accidentally take home jumpers or hats which belong to another student. If this occurs, please simply send the item back to school so it can be returned to the correct owner. Thank you.

Student Banking

There will be no student banking this term. We will let families know when school banking program resumes.



Before school 'morning fruit' is back!

We've adapted our procedures to align with current hygiene protocols so students can continue to enjoy the morning fruit program.

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

SIMPLE STEPS TO HELP STOP THE SPREAD.

Cough or sneeze into your arm

Use a tissue

Bin the tissue

Wash your hands

TOGETHER WE CAN HELP STOP THE SPREAD AND STAY HEALTHY.

For more information about **Coronavirus (COVID-19)** visit **health.gov.au**

HELP STOP THE SPREAD AND STAY HEALTHY

Australian Government



This guide is for parents and carers

A guide to NSW school students returning to face-to-face learning

Information has been updated as at 19 May 2020, until further notice.



Schools are safe and open for full time face-to-face learning

All schools are returning to full on-campus learning from Monday 25 May. All school activities and operations will be in line with Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) and NSW Health guidelines as applicable.

School students do not need to follow physical distancing guidelines, but should follow good hygiene practices like:

- Regularly washing hands
- Avoiding sharing drinks or food
- Coughing or sneezing into your elbow, or a tissue which should be discarded immediately.



School attendance

All students should be at school unless:

- They have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition
- They are currently unwell.

Students who have a medical certificate to stay at home will be supported to learn from home in line with regular procedures if they are able to. These regular procedures are different to what was offered during the learning from home period. If you require work to be provided to your child whilst they are at home due to an underlying health condition, you should contact the school for assistance.

Please note, students who live with a family member in one of the categories identified as being at increased risk by the AHPPC, should attend school unless a medical practitioner advises otherwise in writing.

If your child is unwell, do not send them to school. If they are unwell at school you or your nominated emergency contact will need to collect them immediately. Please make sure your contact details are up to date.

If a student is absent without a medical reason for more than three days, this will be recorded as an unauthorised absence and followed up by the school.

If you need any support to get your child back to school, please contact your school.



Reporting and assessment

Your child has been assessed during the learning from home period and will receive additional assessment on their return to school.

You will receive your child's semester 1 report before the end of August (week 6, Term 3).

This may be a simplified version of the report you normally receive. Schools are encouraged to discuss your child's progress with you before the written report is issued.



School activities

Teachers will continue to follow the same school curriculum with the exception of some activities that can't go ahead for now.

What children can do:

- Use the school library
- Engage in non-contact sporting activities
- Year 11 and 12 students may attend classes/activities relating to subjects available on other campuses
- VET work placement for Year 12 students is able to proceed from 1 June 2020. Year 10 and 11 work-placement is able to proceed from Term 3 2020.
- School based apprenticeships and traineeships can recommence once the relevant workplaces are back in operation
- Trade Training Centres can operate on school sites.

What students can't do:

- School assemblies (unless for critical information)
- School incursions and excursions including camps
- Work experience
- Inter-school activities (debating, inter-school sport)
- In-school activities requiring parent or other volunteers
- Use hydrotherapy pools
- Drink from a water bubbler – bring a water bottle instead
- Students cannot attend TAFE for study but may continue to learn online.



School cleaning and hygiene supplies

Your school will receive additional cleaning in line with the AHPPC guidelines and advice from NSW Health. Targeted areas include high-touch areas and other hard surfaces, door handles, lockers, light switches and handrails in stairways and movement areas. There will also be additional cleaning of toilets and bubblers and topping up of supplies like soap.

Your school has received supplies of soap, hand sanitiser, toilet paper, paper towels, disinfectant wipes and personal protective equipment. The school is able to order more as needed.



School grounds

There should be no visitors to school sites unless they are essential. Your school can provide guidance as to who is considered essential.

Your school will provide advice on drop off and pick up procedures.

Wherever possible, P&C and parent/carer/teacher meetings should be conducted virtually.

Canteens and uniform shops can open at the discretion of the principal.

Out of school hours care can continue to operate.

Community use of school facilities will recommence only for uses that are necessary for continuation of education and with principal's approval.





Responding to COVID-19 cases

There is a clear plan in place for schools to respond to any suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our schools. We are working closely with NSW Health and will communicate with parents if a situation was to arise.





Say hello

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