

Morena Postgate School

We hope you had a fab weekend and you didn't get blown away! We have a full week of Distance learning ahead of us, so a few important notices to start our week.

Thank You

On behalf of our staff, a huge thank you for everything you have been doing to make Distance Learning a success. We understand that not everything has gone to plan and it may be creating a bit of added pressure at home. Our staff has been full of praise for the tremendous work you have been doing. Thanks for being awesome. Your efforts have made our life a whole lot easier. We love your work.

Thank you to the 181 families who have completed the questionnaire about your intentions around Alert Level 3. This is a very important part of our future planning, at some stage of this Lockdown, I guess we'll find out more this afternoon. We are very appreciative of your comments of support that you left. We have shared this with our teachers as it will provide a lift and for them to read for themselves that their commitment to your child/ren is appreciated. You guys are awesome!

Distance Learning

As you'll probably acutely aware, there is a big difference between learning at school and via Distance Learning. Not all families are fully engaged, for various reasons and we understand these. During this time, children may not be making the same academic progress as they normally would, and we also understand this. When National Standards came in, there was a lot of displeasure around the overall teacher judgment of Above, At, Below, and Well Below. I was still in a classroom and my view that wherever your child was 'placed', it was not a precursor to future life success. I know and can show from my reports, I would have been graded as "Well Below". School just wasn't my thing. I loved going to school, loved being in class, being with people but I just didn't get what the heck was going on. It all started to make sense around the 5th Form or Year 11; maybe it had something to do with my maturity? Apparently, this has something to do with neurons within the brain, but I'm no expert with how this works. Maybe something your child could research?

There is a lot of research, especially from Daniel Goleman, around your IQ (Intellectual Intelligence) vs your EQ (Emotional Intelligence). We all need to be working together to promote both our children's IQ and our EQ. They say, your IQ gets you employed and your EQ gets you promoted.

Please do not fret about your child's learning or lack of it at this time; it is the same all over the world. We are working smarter at this time to ensure your child continues to learn at home. There have been some outstanding and creative ways of teaching and learning from our staff. I have 'sat in on' a few junior school class lessons, which are very entertaining and reminds me why I never taught juniors. What will matter is the quality of teaching and learning now and when we return to school.

Alert Level 3

Today the Government will announce if we are staying at Alert Level 4 or if we drop down a level. Once we are aware of this, we can send out our plans. Please be aware that all students will continue with Distance Learning, whether they are at home or at school. Children who come to school will be supervised by me. No other teachers or staff will be called back to school; they will continue their work from the safety of their own homes. Children who will be at school will be placed in their own 'Bubble'.

It is impractical to expect staff to do what is two jobs; distance and physical teaching.

As we move forward to a full return to school, I personally believe that adults within families should get themselves tested for COVID-19. This will help reduce anxiety within our community, knowing that we are all negative. My thought-train is if the adults are clear their children will also be clear.

As a school, we have started to develop plans around a full school return; how morning tea may look, when classes go for breaks, etc. If you have any thoughts or ideas, please share these with us. Your idea maybe just the one I was going to start thinking about.

As we move into a phase of this unique time, we are aware of the different stresses within each Bubble; no two Bubbles are the same. If you need any help or assistance, please let us know. One thing we are looking at is setting up a Postgate Small Business Directory; more about this later in the week.

We'll send an email tomorrow with a timeline of events for the next couple of weeks.

Keep smiling. Stay positive, and keep your Bubble intact. Please remember, we are here for you.

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"Ma te mahi ngatahi, ka tu pakari te matauranga"

"Together, We Learn and Achieve"

Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi Engari, he toa takitini;

Success is not the work of one, but the work of many

Nga mihi

Adam Campbell

Principal