



Sheoak Grove Primary School

Newsletter

The Last Day of Our First Term

Well, I think we all appreciate that our first term as a fully functioning school wasn't meant to end like this! No students at school, no parent community visiting and all of our interactions online.

We have had a very interesting first 10 weeks. In the first half of term we had our staff work together for the first time in our school development days. We also held Kindy induction days before week one began and held an open afternoon to welcome everyone and let our students and families explore our new school buildings.

Our first day with students was very eagerly awaited and it was an awesome day. Unfortunately, we had to postpone our first whole school photo because of our early uniform availability, but when that does happen, it might even mean that little bit more after recent weeks.

We had our Official Opening in Week 3, when we were honoured to have the Premier and our Minister open our school. It was a wonderful event, with Mr George Walley giving the Welcome to Country, Mrs Oliver doing a fantastic job as our MC and the Premier addressing our school. Both Lilly and Cooper represented our students speaking beautifully about what is was like to be foundations students here at Sheoak Grove.

Mr Piling and Mrs Nash took our swimmers to our first faction carnival in week 5 when our friends at Baldivis Primary School allowed us to join their event. It was awesome to see our uniform out and about in public and have our parents there too.

In Week 6 we had our first, and currently our only, class assembly when our first batch of merit award winners received their certificates.

Then, it all stopped. We had to postpone our Interschool Swimming, our Harmony Day Picnic, our Easter Hat Parade and our ANZAC commemoration. Then we lost our students altogether.

However, there are far worse things happening across the world, and the staff here at Sheoak Grove are just happy that we have been able to prepare to reconnect with everybody on day 1 of term 2. The delivery of curriculum will be very different next term.

Please make sure that you are across all of our organization for Term 2. It can all be found on Connect, and it is very important that we are all ready for week 1. A final guideline document about our *At Home Learning* programs will be available on Connect in week 2 of the holidays

Please remember that at this stage, the attendance conditions for students for next term are the same as they have been this week. That is that only those families who have no other safe alternative to maintain employment, children of essential workers and those who require schools to support them overcome particular vulnerabilities should do so. If that changes over the holidays, I will update our community on Connect.

I want to thank our School Board, our P&C and our entire school community for the incredible support you have given us through all of this. Your messages and acts of support and kindness have been fantastic. We would never take that for granted, but I can tell you it has been very, very much appreciated.

Our staff have been amazing throughout the term, and just incredible in preparing for next term. Their innovative solutions, their team work and their sheer determination to be effective for our school community in a very strange and unpredictable time has been inspirational. I am very proud to have them at our school, and I am sure that you join me in congratulating them.

We have missed our students, and I want to congratulate them on the start they made to their first year here. It has been fantastic to see you here, building friendships and moving through your learning programs. Although it didn't work out the way we wanted it to this term, we are really looking forward to when school gets back to normal and you are back at school properly, whenever that might be.

Until next term, we wish you a happy Easter if you celebrate it, a wonderful break if you get one, and a safe and peaceful fortnight for you and your loved ones wherever they might be across the globe. Stay home, and stay safe!

Craig Stanners
Principal

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