



Sheoak Grove Primary School

Newsletter

We're in interesting times and it's obvious that there are more challenges ahead for us all!

COVID-19

We will continue to place our updates in regard to COVID-19 on our Connect page. All of the information we give to our parents will be based on the official advice and direction from the relevant Departments and the Western Australian and Federal Governments.

Please ensure that you have access to Connect as no doubt it will become more and more important as our community navigates its way through the restrictions that are in place and those that will follow.

Our school has a comprehensive plan to implement all of the restrictions and advice that government gives us. We are well placed to do that effectively. Government advice is that at this stage schools will remain open and that therefore, students should come to school.

Our Plan covers 4 essential areas that we can control:

Communication – Connect will be our one source of updates for our community. This limits any confusion and provides consistency. Please use our Connect page as your only source of information in regard to what our school is doing.

Health – We are consistently teaching the appropriate public health messages (listed on Connect). We provide soap, hand sanitiser and paper towels in all of our toilets and wash basins as a matter of routine. We encourage students to use their own, labelled water bottles and our school is cleaned thoroughly every day to meet the

specific COVID-19 requirements recently provided to schools.

We have cancelled or postponed all of our events that were planned for the rest of the term (apart from, possibly, a student only Easter Hat parade) and we have asked all of our visitors, therapy providers and volunteers postpone their activities for the time being too. Meetings will only take place if they are essential and can meet the new restrictions announced by the Prime Minister today.

We urge anyone who is not well to stay home and not attend our school while any type of symptom is present.

Educational Considerations – We have well-constructed responses to either a school or system wide closure. These are contextual for our school and they follow the guidelines that our Department has constructed stringently. Our classes continue their learning programs as per usual.

Staffing Considerations – Maintaining a healthy and supported staff is critical for us. We have amazing people working here and their wellbeing is a very high priority too.

No doubt many families are debating school attendance. I urge you to consider the medical advice and government directions carefully and weigh that up with your family's need. Our school community can be very assured that this school, along with our colleagues across the system, is doing everything possible to support all of our students, our families and our staff through this time.

We urge you to keep up to date with the Department of Health information in regard to restrictions and advice for COVID-19

more generally. You can do that at https://healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/A_E/Coronavirus

After all of that, our show must go on!

Our New Class

This week we welcomed **Mrs Jill Doyle** to Sheoak Grove Primary School. Mrs Doyle joins us from Tuart Rise Primary School and she has taken our new class in Room 11.

Thank you to everyone for your patience with our restructure and all that it entailed. Your flexibility and understanding as a school community was very much appreciated. We now have a structure that should see us through to the end of the year without new enrolments placing pressure on our class sizes.

School Board

We are very pleased to announce that the inaugural Sheoak Grove Primary School Board Chairperson is Mr Jared McEntee. We thank Jared sincerely for nominating for this position. He has the strong, unanimous support of our Board membership. We are very much looking forward to seeing our Board develop under his leadership

Our Board held their first School Board training session last Tuesday in a very successful meeting that was attended by 100% of our members.

School Crossing on Baldivis Road

As you might be aware through Connect, our proposed Children's Crossing across Baldivis Road has been approved by the Children's Crossings and Road Safety Committee. We thank the Committee for their close consideration of our application and for their work in verifying our traffic data.

We will now meet to determine the exact location. The crossing will commence operation after the appointment of a Police Traffic Warden, the installation of the appropriate road markings and signage, and the appropriate pedestrian infrastructure is installed.

There was a lot of work in our application process, and we again than Mrs Linda Rose who collected our traffic data, and Cr Matt Whitfield who has worked with Local Government on our behalf.

Parent Communication

As noted earlier, Connect is now a crucial part of our communication suite. It will become even more important should schools be closed as part of the COVID-19 response. Please ensure that you have your 'P' number and that you can log into the page to see our notices and updates.

In the coming weeks we will remove our Facebook Messenger capability. Our Facebook page will remain, however we encourage parents to email us at sheoakgrove.ps@education.wa.edu.au, phone us on 9523 5400 or visit our webpage at <https://sheoakgroveps.wa.edu.au> as well as visit our connect page regularly.

NAPLAN 2020

Unfortunately, it was announced today that NAPLAN assessments have been cancelled for 2020. This is a further action in the Coronavirus response and to allow our system to concentrate on other urgent pressing online requirements.

What that means for school longitudinal data remains to be seen. It will obviously also impact on individual students in Year 3 and 5 and the data sets available to parents.

Before School Arrangements

Please remember that our classrooms are not open until 8:30 am. We ask all students and families who arrive at school before that time to come to our Covered Assembly Area to meet and play some games together. Supervised areas include 'Tamworth Square', the grassed quadrangle behind our library, the primary playground and our basketball courts.

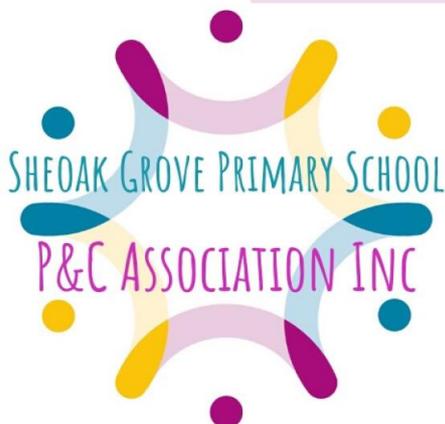
Parents are encouraged to join in and enjoy an important daily transition time for our students.

It is an important time in the morning, and really helps to build a fun routine for our students to set up an enjoyable and engaging school day.

Our P&C is Awesome!

Thank you to all of our volunteers who worked on the Bunnings Sausage Sizzle a couple of weekends ago. We raised over \$1000 for our School.

Our P&C is now operating Frosty Friday (or Wednesdays for our ECE students) and our kids are loving that! Thanks to our P&C and everyone who has supported their fundraising efforts.



It feels very strange to say that I won't be seeing you at any of our school events in the near future! Please, through this constantly changing time, stay connected with your school.

Please don't rely solely on social media for information about what might or might not be happening at Sheoak Grove in regard to the Coronavirus response. Please monitor our updates on Connect, stay confident that we are managing everything that is within our control, and if you have a question – just ask it. I'm accessible by phone, via email or by making a time to come and see me. I'm on duty in the playground before school, and usually walk through the school at home time.

I look forward to speaking to you soon.

Craig Stanners
Principal

