



In All Things Excellence

Navigator

4 FEBRUARY 2021

COMING EVENTS



Principal Report – Newsletter

Week 1, Term 1

Welcome to Flinders Park for 2021!

I hope you all had a fantastic holiday and it is great to see everyone back at school. We got off to a very smooth start this week and I must congratulate all our staff and parents for making it so great for our children. This year, we have about 410 students attending Flinders and many of these students are here for the first time.

The coming weeks are very important at school for your child - perhaps the most important of the year. We are working hard at our school to ensure all of our children get the best start possible.

COVID19

Wow, what a difference 24hrs can make! You may have seen Premier McGowan's announcement Sunday, 31 January. The Perth metropolitan area and the Peel and South West regions moved to a 5-day lockdown effective at 6pm, Sunday 31 January, 2021 until 6pm Friday, 5 February 2021. Schools in these regions are closed and staff remain at home. Information about the lockdown is available on the wa.gov.au site.

Whilst Flinders Park is in the Great Southern and was not immediately impacted we are following the latest health advice and our school remains open for learning and parents/carers are able to drop their children at school. You will have noticed that we have implemented additional measures by registering for the SafeWA app and all buildings have a QR code that you must use if you go inside. If you don't have the app then you will be asked to write down your details.

The safety of staff and students is a priority and extra cleaning and hygiene measures continue. The latest health information is available through the WA Health Department: https://www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/A_E/Coronavirus

Visitors on site

Aside when dropping children off at the start of the day and picking them up after the siren, anytime you come on site you must sign in at the front reception. You will be given a badge or lanyard to wear that shows us you have followed this process. If you do not follow this procedure, you will be stopped by various staff members to check if you have signed in. This system includes those quick visits where you are dropping off lunch or something for your child. **All visitors must sign in at the front reception if you come on site from 9am – 3pm.**

The Flinders Student

Most of our staff officially started back at work on January 28. We had a couple of days together to meet and prepare for the year before the children started. A concept that has been a key part of our Flinders fabric is *The Flinders Student*. Staff had very robust discussions about what this means in 2021 and beyond. We developed 5 core values that we will be teaching our students about so they know what embodies *The Flinders Student*. Our core values are:

Respect Excellence Cooperation Compassion Resilience

Our staff will be explicitly teaching our students what these values mean, what they look, feel and sound like, and how they can display them at school and in the wider community. Through your child, their teachers and other communication means we hope that these core values will flow through all aspects of our school community to become The Flinders Way.

New Staff

We only have a couple of changes to our teaching staff this year. We welcome Georgie Powis in one of our Kindergarten classes. Ms Powis comes from South Stirling Primary School. Mrs Vanessa Kelly-Sibley in year 6 from Mt Barker Community College. We also have Mr Phil Joseph, from Mt Barker Community College, who will be working in a couple of roles across the school, in Year 1 and middle to upper primary. Brooke Hannig from Gairdner Primary School who will be working with year 4 students on Fridays.

School Uniform

Finally, congratulations to our students and parents who have ensured that they are wearing the school uniform. We expect 100% compliance with our uniform policy. This makes a big difference to your child's experience at school as they feel a part of our community and they are identified as a Flinders student. Included in our uniform policy is that all students with long hair have it tied up whilst at school.

Tissue Request

This year there were some changes to the Voluntary Contributions for students attending Flinders. We have added a request for the donation of 2 boxes of tissues per student, to be used in classrooms. We understand with COVID restrictions the purchase of tissues is restricted at the moment, however if you can provide these items as soon as possible it would be greatly appreciated. The boxes can be handed to the office or class teacher. We thank you for your ongoing support of our school.

Once again thank you contributing to such a smooth start to the school year for all of our students here at Flinders Park. It was a very orderly and calm start with countless smiling faces to be seen.

**Tanya Uren
Principal**

