

Friday 17 September 2021

End of Term 3 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

The end of Term 3 has been a busy one for our school and others throughout the state. We're happy to say that together we made it through what has been a constantly changing and sometimes difficult Term. We could not have done it without the commitment from all of our families who supported learning from home, and from our fantastic teaching and school staff. I want to thank you all for your efforts to continue to keep our school community safe – I know everyone has faced different challenges at different times through the Term.

I hope everyone enjoys a break over the holidays and is looking forward to the COVID-safe return to school sites that we are planning for in Term 4. Please read through the following updates before the start of the school holidays and don't hesitate to reach out for support or with any questions.

LEVEL 4 SCHOOLS

Tirriwirri School is at Level 4 Restrictions

Return to school roadmap for Term 4

In Term 4, where stay-at-home rules are still in place but high community vaccination and low transmission conditions are met, students will return to school in a staggered approach for prioritised cohorts, with no mingling or on-site activities.

Order of return under staggered approach where we remain under stay-at-home rules

Students will return to face-to-face learning with NSW Health-approved COVID-safe Level 3 plus settings on school sites in the following order:

From 25 October 2021: Kindergarten and Year 1

From 1 November 2021: Years 2, 6 and 11

From 8 November 2021: Years 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 10.

The return to school roadmap is subject to change depending on new information expected through the Public Health Order.

Vaccinations for students aged 12 years and over

Young people aged 12 years and over are now also eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccination. You can book in your children for Pfizer now, or Moderna from Monday 20 September.

Vaccination appointments are available at more than 3,000 locations across NSW, including GPs and pharmacies. More appointments will become available as supply increases, so keep checking for new appointments in coming weeks.

Learning from Home

For families who are continuing to learn from home, the learning from home page has a wide range of curriculum-based activities to further support your child's learning, if needed.

Tirriwirri School Improvement Plan

Staff are currently working on developing our school improvement plan for the next three years. They have identified three focus areas for school improvement. Working parties are developing purpose statements to explain the purpose of each focus area. The areas for improvement are listed below.

1. Student growth and achievement
2. Staff working together to improve professional practice to improve student learning outcomes.
3. Engaging and working together with our community to improve student learning outcomes.

At the beginning of Term 4, we will be inviting parents and carers to engage with the working parties to learn more about each area of improvement and why it is essential. Parents/carers will have an opportunity to share their insights and hopes, and dreams for their children. We welcome and value parent and carer contributions as they will help us to achieve our shared vision.

Parent Support

I have included a link below for the Maggie Dent website. Maggie is an author, educator, and parenting and resilience specialist interested in the early years and adolescence. It has a wide range of resources to support parents. Specifically, it has a webinar, 'Practical Parenting in a Pandemic'.

<https://www.maggiedent.com/>.

Thank you again for your understanding and support. We hope you and your family enjoy a safe and very well-deserved break over the holidays. Please take some time over the break to check out our wellbeing resources for students and families. You'll find useful tools for mental health and Term 4 preparation. Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can do anything to help you and your children to prepare for Term 4 or if you have any concerns about the return to school. I will be in touch again soon with further information and any updates for you and your children.

Kind Regards,

Gabrielle Sheather
Principal