

Tarwin Lower Primary

Mini Newsletter

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Tarwin Lower Primary School

Small School, Big Opportunities

6th May 2020

Please note the following important items:

- **Google Classrooms**

All families have been emailed a letter with information on logging onto Google Classrooms. This letter has usernames and passwords for each child.

There was a "How to" attached in your email and Compass, this is also attached in this Mini News.

Google Classrooms will be used for students to submit their work, as the Department requires teachers to continue to assess student work during this remote learning period. As of next week students must submit one completed literacy and one completed maths task per day. Teachers will designate what specific tasks they want to see for assessment purposes.

Please use this week to become familiar with Google Classrooms. There is a video in the website on how to submit. For older students, they should be able to navigate Google Classrooms independently after a while, and therefore take the pressure off parents to continually email the school themselves. Google Classrooms allows students to send work directly to their teacher and get feedback.

This is the next step for everyone's learning.

- **Webex**

Just a reminder that all students need to be logged into their class meeting every day. If your child is unable to attend at that time, they need to meet the teacher later that day. However, please check the teachers timetable to see when they are available. Otherwise, students will be marked absent.

- **School Assembly**

On Thursday the 14th May the whole school will be meeting on Webex at 1.30pm for a special crazy hat assembly. You have until then to make the craziest hat you can from things that you have around the house or yard. Be as creative as you can!

The Webex link will be sent out next week

- **Kindergarten Enrolments 2021**

These are now open for South Gippsland. Please see the schools most recent Facebook posting. You can enrol at <https://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/centralenrolment>

- **Donations of knit wear**

Rotary Gippsland Bushfire relief have asked for donations of;

knitted beanies and scarves

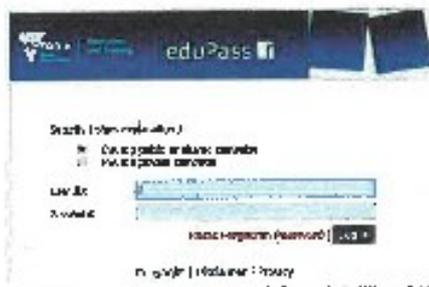
knitted jumpers for all age groups

blankets or doonas

Please contact for collection patriciaodonohue@hotmail.com or call 0408 581573

Logging In

1. Type in the address on the sheet – www.edu-star.vic.edu.au/google
2. You get this page



3. Enter your username and password, it is on the sheet
4. You get this page



5. Click on "Classroom"
6. Click on all the OK's and Accepts
7. You will get a page like this (I have logged on as Olivia) – Click "Continue"



8. Click "I am a student"

9. Click "Join"



Defree

10. You are now on Google Classroom!



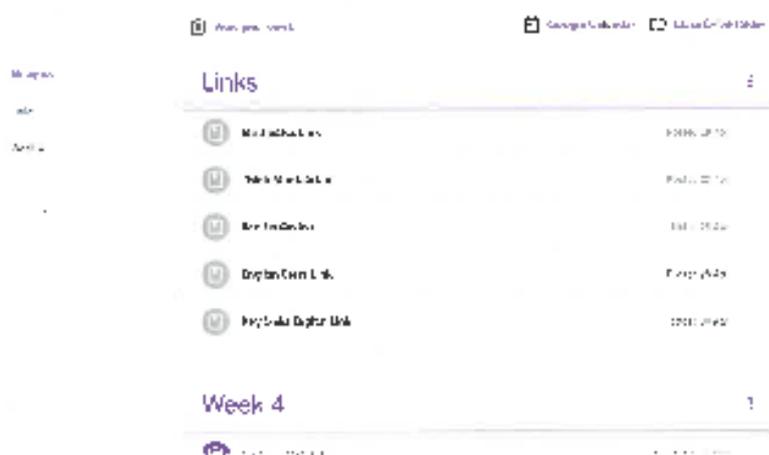
11. **BOOKMARK** this page!! Then you will be able to find it easier!

12. Type a "Hello" in the Share Something with your class and see what is on this page.

13. Click on Classwork – at the top of the page

14. It is here you will find the two bits of work that needs to be handed in each day

There is a Links topic for all the websites you can access, including the passwords if they are the same for everyone



15. Go to Week 4 and see the work that has been assigned to you.

16. Follow the instructions on the work.

****Watch the Clip on the website at the bottom of your class page, to see how and what to do****

SETTING UP LEARNING FROM HOME

1. PARENTS / CARERS

Parents, you are about to become your child's teacher assistant "angel" providing one-on-one learning and emotional support. Make sure you equip yourself with timers, schedules, social stories, visual aids to support your child.

This is all new to you too. Look after yourselves and make sure you are looking after your wellbeing. If you are worried, stressed, frustrated – your child will pick up on this, and they will also mirror these feelings. You need to care for the carer – YOU!

2. POSITION TO LEARN

Where your child is seated is very important in how effective their learning will be. Students work best in environments where distractions and noise are minimised. Ensure the student has a comfortable flat surface and chair to be working at. It is important that your child is comfortable.

Sit in the learning space yourself and do work. Do you get internet connection? How does it feel to you? If you are getting distracted, your child will too.

3. ORGANISATION

Students often find organisation of their school equipment very difficult. Limit the number of books, and equipment, perhaps set up a system like colour coding to help with organisation.

This is particularly important in a home setting where it can be easier to be more relaxed about the rules.

Organisation of school equipment can drastically reduce anxiety and provide order and routine to school. Have all items at the desk, and not in a big pencil case where they have to search. If they have to look for the scissors, they will lose focus and forget what they were learning.

4. QUIET AREA OR RELEASE OF ENERGY

Ensure there is an area where the student can retreat to if they are feeling overwhelmed. This can be a quiet table, reading corner, hallway, alcove, office, etc.

If your child seems to be wriggling – a run outside to release their energy can help.

5. SCHEDULES / TIMETABLES / TIMER

These are VITAL no matter what age. This may be in a range of formats such as photos, visuals or words. Using a timer supports the schedule and allows students to know HOW LONG activities will take.

See the Newsletter article about timers to support students. Even older students have their timetable written on the board each day at school. It helps them to be mentally prepared for the learning and understand the expectations

6. BREAK TIMES

Make sure the student knows what times recess and lunch will occur everyday. What activities are they allowed to do during these times?

Have set break times. These can reduce anxiety in the student. Introduce movement and sensory breaks and get some exercise in during the day. They need to move and have time away from the computer. Younger kids may benefit from 25 minutes of work, then 5 minutes of movement- outside or Go Noodle website.

7. TOILET / DRINK / SNACK

Have a drink bottle of water for students to sip when working. Ensure there is healthy snacks ready. You can even pack the lunchbox – just like school!

8. VIDEO CONFERENCING

If your child is finding Video Conferencing overwhelming or confrontational, turning the camera off can help. That way they are listening and not being distracted by all the faces (including themselves!). Just let the teacher know it is a strategy you are going to try.

Remember, please talk to your child's teacher if you finding anything challenging. We will try to help with strategies.