



Smithton Primary School

RESPECT ❖ ENCOURAGE ❖ ASPIRE ❖ LEARN

DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
learners first

Issue No 1

16 Feb 2022



2/3 Goodwin

In 2/3 Goodwin we have been getting to know each other and work on remembering what it is like to be at school. We have completed a collaborative artwork to display in the corridor, shared what we like to do at school and remembered that even though we are all different we can work together to demonstrate the school values of **Be Safe, Be a Friend and Be Real**. We have also spoken about how important it is to remember to be *kind* and *calm* at school.



— WELCOME — BACK TO SCHOOL

We have had a wonderful start back at school for 2022 with students very keen to see one another and return to learning. Families have done a wonderful job of preparing their children, especially given the fact that we have some changes to keep us safe at school and in the community. As you know, the Department of Education (DoE) is working closely with Public Health to provide us with the best up to date advice on how to operate the school safely. So as a result, at school we are:

- all staff and visitors (including parents) are wearing face masks.
- opening windows and doors for ventilation and air purifiers are in every learning area.
- frequently cleaning and increasing hygiene practices – washing hands and sanitising.
- all staff (including contractors onsite) are vaccinated and are checking in using the app.
- limiting extra adults on site.
- using outdoor learning spaces.
- Limiting opportunities for large gatherings of people to occur and mix.

I really appreciate the way that our parents and staff are following the rules that we are asking you to do. I understand that not everyone agrees with all of the rules, however it is great to see people being respectful of alternative views. We have already had the opportunity to test out some of our systems with some students having to isolate due to being a close contact. We have also had staff in this situation and it is brilliant to see the flexibility people are showing when adjustments need to be made.

Over the next few weeks our teachers will be making initial contact with families to discuss the start of the year, students learning goals, students interests and strengths! This is a great opportunity for teachers and families to work together for the best possible learning outcomes for our students.

Again, I wish to thank the school community for their ongoing support of the improvements we are making at Smithton Primary School. I especially thank you for your flexibility and patience as we follow the *DoE Return to School Plan*. As always, if you have anything you would like to discuss, I am very keen to meet with you, listen and work together.

**School
attendance
is important.**



**Make every day
of learning count
by attending
school regularly.**



**All children,
regardless of
whether they've
been vaccinated
or not, can
attend school.**



I would particularly like to welcome our new teachers, whom we are very lucky to have working in our school in 2022



Mrs Coombe



Mrs King



Ms Squire

Mrs Coombe will be working in our Launching into Learning (Pre-Kinder aged children). These sessions will be starting up after the first 5 weeks of the year.

Mrs King is our Literacy and Numeracy Coach and will be working very closely with our teachers to bring about improvements in both of those areas in the school.

Ms Squire is our new 5/6 Teacher who has come to us from further along the coast of Tassie.

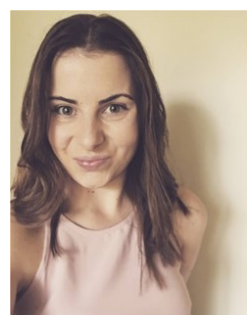
We also welcome Mrs Alicia Whiteman as a Teacher Assistant. Alicia and her family have moved to CH from King Island. We welcome back Teri Nichols from Maternity Leave, Teri will be working on a 5/6 class, and also Chicky O'Halloran and Nicole Lovell who will be joining us again this year in Teacher Assistant roles.



congratulations



I am thrilled also to celebrate two awesome events that occurred with two of our teachers over the holiday break. We had two weddings and as a result have two new name changes. We wish to say congratulations to both Miss Hine (Mrs Gale) and Miss Stanley (Mrs Underwood).



Mrs Gale



Mrs Underwood



Lastly, I would like to welcome our new students to the school: Bailey (Prep), Kobi (1/2 Ryan), Lincoln (3/4 Gausden), Sienna (1/2 Ryan), Brock (5/6 Squire), Westen (5/6 Squire), Xavier (5/6 Irvine), Hayden (5/6 Nichols). In our next newsletter we will officially welcome our new Kinder students to the school.

Thanks,



Josh Smith
Principal

5/6 Irvine

In 5/6 Irvine we have been getting to know each other by playing a game called Tenzies.

How to play:

You need ten dice for each person.

Choose a number between 1 and 6 to look for.

Everyone needs to roll their dice.

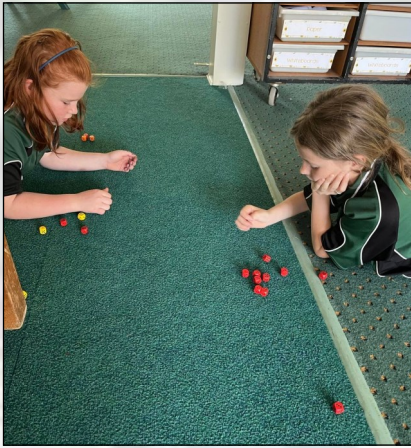
If the number comes up, they take those dice out of the game.

Keep rolling until all dice are gone.

The person who gets rid of all their dice first wins.

We are really enjoying 5/6 Irvine in 2022!

By Ethan Zoontjens, Lewis Poke & Jack Crowley





PARENTS & FRIENDS MEETING

THURSDAY, FEB 24TH
7PM AT SMITHTON
PRIMARY SCHOOL

ALL WELCOME

COVID REQUIREMENTS:
• IF YOU HAVE SYMPTOMS
PLEASE STAY HOME AND FOLLOW
THE HEALTH ADVISE.
• WEAR A MASK
• CHECK IN & SANITIZE

Scholastic Book Club

Scholastic Book Club is available to families who wish to participate.

There is one catalogue offering the best in age-appropriate reading choices (3+, 6+, 8+, 10+ and 12+).

Please return the form if you would like to participate in Book Club.

Forms are sent home with the eldest in the family.



PARTICIPATION IN BOOK CLUB 2022

Name: _____

Class: _____ (eldest in family)

Face masks and rapid antigen tests (RATs) are available at school, if requested.



Parents and carers must request additional RATs as you use them.



Run out of school issued RATs, and your child has symptoms? Don't attend school. Contact Public Health.



How to do a **nasal** rapid antigen test (RAT)



There are different types of RAT kits available.
Be sure to follow the instructions provided within the test kit.

Here are some general guidelines to follow:

1. Carefully read the instructions that came with your test before you start.
Some test instructions have a QR code that you can scan to watch a video.



2. Wash your hands.



3. Open packaging.



4. Wipe the swab around the inside wall of the nose 2cm deep in a circular motion. Five times or 15 seconds in each nostril.



5. Put swab in solution tube. Mix well. You may need to squeeze the swab or break the stick off as well – read your test instructions.



6. Put cap on tube.



7. Put drops in sample window of test. Your test kit instructions will tell you how many drops. Do not move or lift the test kit.



8. Start a timer. Wait for exact time in test kit instructions. Do not move or lift sample window of test.



9. Read result (see right).

1800 671 738 | coronavirus.tas.gov.au/testing



If there is a COVID-19 case in your child's classroom, monitor your child for symptoms.



If they're unwell, use the rapid antigen tests (RATs) provided by your school.



If your child is a close contact, they must follow Public Health advice for close contacts.



If your child needs to isolate, their learning will be supported online.





Drink Bottles

Please remember to bring a drink bottle to school.

Kids Need Water!

Water is essential to life and kids need plenty of water in order to feel good, focus, concentrate and think. Water will also give your children the necessary energy and brainpower to help them learn easier and better.



Student Absences

If your child is away from school for any reason it is important that you contact the school to provide a reason. Information is recorded electronically by the Department of Education to monitor absences. Parents may be required to provide a medical certificate for students who are absent with illnesses for 5 or more days in a calendar year.

- Ring the school office on 6452 1955 on the day your child is away
- Reply to the absence text sent by the school
- Send a written note to the school office
- Email the school on smithton.primary@education.tas.gov.au on the day your child is away

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Student Medications

If a student requires medication whilst at school, please discuss with your child's teacher and school administration staff to ensure that school staff are clearly advised on how to administer the medication.

Written permission (Education Department Medication Form) must be provided for any non-prescribed (e.g. Panadol) or prescribed medication to be taken by your child. Medication must be given to the school in its original packaging. The form for prescribed medication must be signed by the doctor or chemist who administers the prescription.

Education Department Medication Forms are available at the school office.

School Crossing



Children and adults accompanying children must use the school crossing when coming to and from school. As Grant Street is busy with cars and buses at drop off and pick up times it is important adults' model road safety to ensure children are safe.

TIPS:



Road safety is a shared responsibility. Keep children safe by following the road rules, particularly in school environments.

Dates To Remember

March

Friday 4th	Clean up Australia Day
Monday 14th	Public Holiday

April

Wednesday 13th	Last Day of Term for Students
Thursday 14th	Student Free Day

May

Monday 2nd	Term 2 begins for students
Friday 6th	Public Holiday - Agfest

2022 School Term Dates

Term 1	Wednesday 9th February to Wednesday 13th April
Term 2	Monday 2nd May to Friday 8th July
Term 3	Tuesday 26th July to Friday 30th September
Term 4	Monday 17th October to Wednesday 21st December






Enrol today!

Back to School, Back to Swim!

A fun, new way to learn to swim and be safe.

Swim memberships \$17.50 per week

*conditions apply

find out more
(03) 6452 4890
www.swiritas.com.au




EVERY DAY COUNTS....

A day here or there doesn't seem like much, but...



When your child misses just...	that equals...	which is...
1 day each fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year
1 day a week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year
2 days a week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year
3 days a week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year

CONTACT DETAILS

27-43 Grant Street, Smithton, Tasmania 7330

Phone: 03 6452 1955

Email: smithton.primary@education.tas.gov.au

Web: smithtonprimary.education.tas.edu.au

