



# Kismet News

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*Building the Foundations for Success and Happiness*

28th January 2021

Thursday 11 February	Year 4 to 6 Swimming Trials
Thursday 25 February	Year 4 to 6 Interschool Swimming Sports ( qualified swimmers only)
Friday 26 February	Year 3 & 4 Hockey Clinic
Friday 5 March	Curriculum Day
Monday 8 March	Labour Day Holiday

Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

On behalf of all the staff we welcome everyone back to Kismet in 2021. We extend a particularly warm welcome to all those new families joining our learning community for the first time. We look forward to getting to know you and working in partnership with you so that your child may reach their full potential.

Arrangements for upcoming classroom information sessions including dates and times will be sent out via Compass next week. These sessions provide an opportunity to visit your child's classroom and hear from their classroom teacher.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in following our current COVID safe protocols which will be updated as further advice is received from the Department of Education.

## STAY HOME WHEN UNWELL

The most important action school communities can take to reduce the risk of transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19), is to ensure that any unwell staff/students remain at home and get tested, even with the mildest of symptoms.

## SCHOOL ENTRY POINTS

To assist with social distancing around entry points families are asked to continue using the following gates according to surnames:

McEwan Drive A-C and L-M by surname  
Gym Car Park Entry D-G and N-S by surname  
Kereford Place and Laneway H-K and T-Y by surname  
Council Oval Back Gates A-Z by surname

We will not be implementing staggered entry times at this stage, but will be monitoring social distancing and crowding.

Please remember students should arrive at school from 8:40am and leave grounds after school by 3:30pm. Grounds are supervised from 8:40 – 8:55am and from 3:15 – 3:30pm. If you need to access the school earlier in the morning and/or later in the afternoon than these times we do have an excellent Before & After School program which is operated by Extend. For further information about this program please visit their website at [www.extend.com.au](http://www.extend.com.au) or call on 1300366437.

## PARENTS IN THE SCHOOL

Parents will be able to enter the school grounds, but **must not enter buildings** or classrooms. (Note that parents are asked to leave the school grounds within 15 minutes as any visitors who are onsite for longer must be recorded).

To help us avoid crowding and assist with social distancing we ask parents to drop students off at least 5 metres from the classroom door.

## COMPASS

As part of the school's efforts to effectively communicate with our community we use the 'Kismet Park Primary School Compass app.

Key features of the Compass include:

- A prompt and efficient way for you to keep up to date.
- Absentee Note - you can enter an absence for your child directly from your device.
- No more "Lost" notes in the bottom of a schoolbag. You will be able to find notes and permission slips on the App.



- You can approve and pay for excursions
  - Book parent-teacher conferences
  - View the school calendar
- View students reports

## SEESAW

To install this free app please go to Google Play or the Apple App store. Log in details will be sent home to new families next week. Log in details received in 2020 continue to be active for all other users.

The Seesaw app supports communication of student learning between the classroom and home, giving families an immediate window into their child's school day and makes communication with teachers seamless. Seesaw is used to share the information including audio, video and photos of students learning and samples of work with parents. Seesaw is available for free from the App Store and Google Play. In the coming weeks classroom teachers will be inviting you to create an account which allows access to their child's classroom portal.

## OUR SCHOOL PLEDGE

In 1996 the Junior School Council composed a school pledge that remains relevant today and fits well with our *Better Buddies* and *You Can Do It!* philosophies. The pledge is a simple affirmation of what it means to be part of our Kismet Park PS Learning Community. Students recite the pledge at school assemblies as a means for building shared pride and recognising the importance of collective responsibility for how students care for one another and the importance of respect for staff, parents and visitors to our school.

It would be appreciated if you could spend the time with your Kismet Park children to discuss the words of the pledge and what it means in actions at school. By reinforcing every child's role in being a considerate, courteous and caring student, we are promoting key characteristics of good citizenship and community spirit.

**We are the children of Kismet Park Primary School.**

**To make our teachers and parents proud we use courtesy, consideration and care.**

**We will play happily and safely in the yard and strive to make our school a better place to learn.**

## HOURS OF SUPERVISION

Please remember students should arrive at school from 8:40am and leave grounds after school by 3:30pm. Grounds are supervised from 8:40 – 8:55am and from 3:15 – 3:30pm. If you need to access the school earlier in the morning and/or later in the afternoon than these times we do have an excellent Before & After School program which is operated by Extend. For further information about this program please visit their website at [www.extend.com.au](http://www.extend.com.au) or call on 1300366437.

## ANAPHYLAXIS



Kismet Park Primary School is concerned about the safety and well-being of all our students. Many of you will know someone who is affected by anaphylaxis, a life threatening allergic reaction. Our school does its best to be an allergy aware school. Staff have had training in severe allergy management and we have implemented lots of strategies to help keep students at risk of anaphylaxis as safe as we can. We have a number of students who live with the risk of anaphylaxis to foods, insect stings and other allergens. Whilst these children are being taught to care for themselves at an age appropriate level, we ask that you help us educate your child on the importance of not sharing food with others, washing hands after eating and calling out to an adult if they think their friend with allergies is sick.

With increased awareness and understanding of anaphylaxis, you will be able to help protect those around you. A food allergy is an immune system response to a normally harmless food protein that the body believes is harmful. When the individual eats food containing that protein, the immune system releases massive amounts of chemicals, triggering symptoms that can affect a person's breathing, gastrointestinal tract, skin, and/or heart. Anaphylaxis is the most severe form of allergic reaction and is potentially life-threatening. It must be treated as a medical emergency, requiring immediate treatment and urgent medical attention.

Please help us in keeping all our Kismet Park Community Safe by avoiding, where possible, sending foods to school that contain any of the following high risk allergens:

**Cow's milk**

**Eggs**

**Soy**

**Wheat**

**Peanuts**

**Tree Nuts**

**Fish**

**Shellfish**

**Sesame Seeds**

## MOBILE PHONES IN SCHOOLS and WEARABLE DEVICES

As introduced by the Minister for Education last year:

- From Term 1 2020, students who choose to bring mobile phones (or a wearable device such as an Apple watch) to school must have them switched off and securely stored during school hours.
- Exceptions to the policy may be applied if certain conditions are met. Exceptions can be granted by the principal. Exceptions must be documented. Where an application for an exception is received I will be seeking advice from the Department during the process of information my decision to ensure my actions reflect the Minister's intention.
- Where students bring a mobile phone (or a wearable device such as an Apple watch) to school, it must be turned off and handed in to the school to be stored until the end of the school day.

To help us establish the number of devices to be stored and to ease congestion at the office during the first three days of school we are collecting devices from classrooms. From Monday 3 February onwards students will come to the school office before 8:55am and hand their device in for storage. Devices can then be collected from the office at the end of the day. Please let your child /ren who bring a mobile phone (or a wearable device such as an Apple watch) to do the following:

- Turn their mobile phone / (or a wearable device such as an Apple watch) off when they arrive at school.

## PERSONAL GOODS BROUGHT TO SCHOOL AT OWNER'S RISK

The Department of Education does not hold insurance nor does it accept responsibility for private property brought to school by students, staff and visitors and it will generally not pay for any loss or damage to such property. At Kismet Park we discourage the bringing to school of unnecessary, expensive or precious toys or sporting equipment.

## 2021 CURRICULUM DAYS

The following days have been confirmed as curriculum days for this year. As students do not attend school on these days please note them in your calendar.

- Term 1 Wednesday 27 January (the day before students return to school)
- Term 2 Friday 11th June
- Term 3 Thursday 29th July (on this afternoon we will be holding Three Way Conferences with parents)
- Term 4 Monday 1 November

## 2021 TERM DATES

<b>Term 1</b>	28th January—1st April
<b>Term 2</b>	19th April—25th June
<b>Term 3</b>	12th July—17th September
<b>Term 4</b>	4th October—17th December



## CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSION FUND APPLICATION

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you have a valid means-tested concession card, such as a Veterans Affairs Gold Card, Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible. There is also a special consideration category for asylum seeker and refugee families.

Payment amounts this year are \$125 for eligible primary school students and \$225 for eligible secondary school students [remove primary/secondary as necessary]. Payments are made direct to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions and sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

If you applied for CSEF through our school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year, unless there has been a change in your family circumstances. If you would like to apply for the first time, please contact the school office on [insert school phone number] and ask for an application form.

You can also download the form, and find out more about the program and eligibility, on the Department of Education and Training's Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund web page. Check with the school office if you are unsure, and please return completed forms to the school office as soon as possible.



Extend is the place for your children to thrive, learn and play, so what are you waiting for? Book and enrol at [www.extend.com.au](http://www.extend.com.au)



Hi there!

My name is Emily and I am the Coordinator at KPPS Extend. We are looking forward to welcoming new faces to our service and catching up with familiar ones.

In my spare time I love to spend time outside and go on adventures - my biggest achievement to date would be climbing to Mount Everest Base Camp!

Myself and all the staff at Extend KPPS are looking forward to a great year.

**Emily West**



**Come along to Before School Care for a healthy breakfast and a great start to the day. Then join us for After School Care and enjoy a range of different activities and be nourished with yummy, healthy food! Make new friends at Extend! Enrol**



One of the most important things we can do to slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) in our community is to stay at home when we are unwell, even when we have the mildest of symptoms.

## What you need to know

### 1. If a child is unwell, even with the mildest of symptoms, they must stay at home

If a child becomes unwell during the day, they must be collected from school/early childhood education and care (ECEC) as soon as possible.

### 2. If a child has any of the symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) outlined below, however mild, they should get tested and they must remain at home until they receive their results:

- fever
- chills or sweats
- cough
- sore throat
- shortness of breath
- runny nose
- loss of sense of smell or taste.

In certain circumstances headache, muscle soreness, stuffy nose, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea may also be considered symptoms.

For further advice:

- call the 24-hour coronavirus (COVID-19) hotline 1800 675 398
- call a general practitioner
- use the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) [online self-assessment tool](#).

Visit: [Where to get tested](#).

### 3. A child must stay at home until they are symptom free, even if their coronavirus (COVID-19) test is negative

If a person has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) or been identified as a close contact they must isolate/quarantine until they receive clearance from DHHS.

**Children with persistent symptoms due to underlying conditions such as hay fever or asthma** whose symptoms are clearly typical of their condition can continue to attend ECEC/school. They should be tested for COVID-19 if they develop symptoms that are different to or worse than their usual symptoms. They should consider getting a medical certificate from their GP to attend ECEC/school if they have persistent symptoms that may overlap with symptoms of COVID-19 such as cough or runny nose.

**Younger children (pre-school up to Grade 2) may have prolonged post viral symptoms** such as a runny nose or cough and may return to school/ECEC following a negative COVID-19 test even if they are not completely free of symptoms. They will need a medical certificate from their GP to confirm they are otherwise well or have recovered from their acute illness.

For information on the minimum periods students and children need to stay at home for other conditions, refer to the [DHHS school exclusion table](#).

### 4. Children do NOT need a medical certificate before returning to school/ECEC

Once symptoms have cleared, there is no requirement from the Department of Education and Training or DHHS for children/students to have a medical certificate before they return to school/ECEC.

**Thank you for your support in following these steps, together we can all stay safe.**



This advice has been prepared by the Department of Education and Training, Safer Care Victoria and the Department of Health and Human Services