

# Jerdacuttup Primary School Newsletter



Tuesday, 1 February 2022

<http://jerdacuttupschool.wa.edu.au/>

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*Kier Douthie*  
*Principal*

## **2022 Welcome**

After a busy harvest and Christmas, I hope everyone is looking forward to the offerings of our new year. As usual, there are a number of projects and activities planned for students this term and through the year and we plan to enjoy reporting them to you all.

## **Covid-19**

Everyone world-wide has been labouring through the COVID-19 pandemic for some years now and we must remain attentive to limiting contracting and transmitting the virus.

Staff are all double vaccinated, with boosters compulsory and being followed-up as staff become eligible. Some students may be vaccinated also, but this is not compulsory and not recorded by the school. Visitors to the school may be required to be vaccinated; not parents dropping off or picking up their children. A poster at the front of the school office helps to clarify vaccination requirements and all visitors must check in to the office to record their attendance.

Our school has been provided with three air purifiers (affectionately labelled Tom, Dick and Harry). Along with air-conditioners, open doors, and windows ventilate all work areas.

Hand hygiene, coughing and sneezing have been addressed too. Additional supplies of hand sanitiser and hand wash for students, staff and visitors is freely available and used. Coughing and sneezing into elbows, followed by sanitizer and tissues to blow noses are disposed of immediately and hands sanitised.

Children need to supply their own hand towels, which will be sent home at the end of each week to be laundered.

## **Staffing Term 1**

Beginning term one, we have Mrs Douthie in the school Monday to Friday, with teaching commitments part of every day except Wednesdays. Mrs Saunders is in Tuesday to Friday, Mrs Gibson Monday to Wednesday, (Mrs Crane is on leave for term 1), Mrs Marks Monday to Friday and filling two roles: Education Assistant and library Officer. Mrs Rachel Gibson is MCS on Mondays and alternate Fridays while Mrs Tucker fills the MCS role on Tuesday to Thursday (Mrs Norman is on leave for Semester 1). Mrs Atherton has a timetable that confuses me but is in to do the gardening most days of the week for a few hours! Mrs White also is in most days to clean!

## **2022 Theme**

The overarching theme for this year is Invertebrates. This fabulous theme will tie in with the first topic for science studies and links many of the art projects throughout the year.



**Figure 1: Mrs Gibson demonstrates her hygiene practice.** Photo: K. Douthie

### **Handbook for Parents**

Some updates have been made to the Parent Handbook, which can be found on our school's web site. There are still some blanks as we await AGMs and Staff meetings for annual appointments. Please keep up to date through newsletters.

### **Swimming Lessons**

I have negotiated with Swimming and Water Safety to timetable our swimming lessons over two weeks. They will start on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February and conclude on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February. Please find student permission note included with today's newsletter for further information.

### **Permissions**

Included with today's newsletter are a number of permissions and updates that I ask parents to read, sign where requested and return as soon as possible. They include:

- Medical update
- Ipad applications consent form
- Media consent
- Internet access
- Viewing consent
- Local Excursions and
- Swimming lessons permission

### **Bushfire Message**

Jerdacuttup Primary School is listed on the Bushfire Zone Register (BZR), which identifies schools at high risk of bushfire and requiring a stand-alone emergency and mitigation plan for such an event.

A significant aspect of the plan is to inform the school community of action that is taken when a weather affected fire danger rating of **catastrophic** is called for the zone in which the school lies. In consultation with DFES, the Department of Education notifies principals of BZR schools of pre-emptive closure and only then, is the school closed for the following day. In this case, all parents are advised of the closure in advance, no later than 4:30 pm the day prior. If weather conditions become less severe after a planned, pre-emptive closure at 4:30 pm, the closure still goes ahead, to provide certainty.

To assist families in their own bushfire planning, I have included a handy planning link developed by DFES covering all-important aspects of being prepared for a bushfire event.

<https://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/site/bushfire/overview.html>

### **Crunch 'n Sip**

Jerdacuttup Primary School has a long association with the Cancer Council's Crunch 'n Sip Program which will remain in place as one of the pillars of our Healthy Food and Drink Policy. This means that children need to bring a fresh bottle of water and a separately prepared snack of fresh fruit and vegetable each day.

Children bring their water bottle in to class and are able to drink whenever they need to. The snack is consumed in the early morning (times differ for the younger children).

Fruits and vegetables contain the nutrients your body needs to function properly and ward off disease. Many fruits and vegetables, regardless of how they're prepared (sans the deep fryer), are low in calories and contain vitamins, minerals, and fibre that help prevent disease. Be generous in your consumption!



Figure 2: Mrs Atherton attacks the lawn (wearing her PPE). Photo K. Douthie

### **Virtues**

Our Virtues Project this term begins with Diligence. Diligence is working hard and doing the best job you possibly can. When you are diligent, you take special care to do things step by step. You think and move carefully to make sure things will turn out right. Being diligent is being industrious, giving all you have to give to whatever you do.

You practice diligence by deciding what you can do and then giving it all you have to give. You treat each action as important and do things carefully, one step at a time. You do not rush through things. You give them your full attention. Diligence takes patience. When you work hard, you can accomplish wonderful things.

