

TALLYGAROPNA PRIMARY SCHOOL NO.3067



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SCHOOL VALUES - RESPECT, HONESTY & INCLUSION

Hi everyone

As we transition back to normal schooling this week with the return of our Foundation – Grade 2 students, all staff at Tallygaroopna PS thought it was important to thank our families for the work they have done over the last couple of months. We know this has been difficult at times, but your effort in supporting educational programs during Remote & Flexible learning has really been appreciated.

There may have been times of joy, times of frustration and times of anger during this period and we have been constantly aware of these feelings over this time and tried to support our families as best as we could. This was a learning journey for all of us, with no previous model to follow – there have been mistakes, learnings and successes during this time, some which we may continue with into the future.

Over the next few weeks, our hope is that the great connections that we had previously made with our students and families can be made again. We know this may take some time and we are conscious of strategies and processes which may assist this. Now is a good time to focus on these again. Some of these may include:

- providing time and space to discuss staff, family and student concerns and fears about what is occurring, involving school and regional Health and Wellbeing expertise and supports as required.
- maintaining and monitoring health and wellbeing support for staff, family and students.
- students engaging in activities such as play and sports, while adhering to advice of the Chief Medical Officer.
- staff, family and students having the opportunity, choice and time to share their experiences of learning remotely and returning to on-site learning to assist in developing strategies to support them through their transition back to school.
- staff, family and students are provided with support and strategies to enable them to express and manage feelings such as anxiety, fear, excitement, sadness, anger and frustration.

From now on, our hope is that all families of our great school value the teachers' role and responsibilities at Tallygaroopna PS during and after school hours consistently throughout the year. As members of staff, we certainly value the relationship we have with our families and acknowledge the contribution all of our families make to the education of our children. Communication is a big part of this. However, for this to be effective we all need to understand when this appropriate so that it can be effective and sustainable going forward. We know that the majority of families and staff at our school do a great job with this but the following communication processes must be adhered to by everyone – staff included:

- Only contact families and staff during the school hours of 8am – 5pm from Monday to Friday (staff and families will not reply to contact outside these times).
- Only use the following platforms for communication between families and class teachers – Class Dojo, **School Email if required**.
- Only use the following platform for communication between families and the school – Phone, School Email or Flexibuzz.
- Any urgent matters can be emailed to – Tallygaroopna.ps@education.vic.gov.au. These will be dealt with ASAP.

This has been put in the newsletter numerous times but is still not adhered to by a few families. There have been times when we as staff, have not adhered to this as well, but we are trying our best to do this whenever possible. This is not an attack on anyone – but an opportunity for all of us to do this better as we have a school re-set after Remote & Flexible learning. As a school community, we value the time we have together but in line with our school values it is also important to value and respect the times when we are with our families as well.

Thanks again everyone for your dedication over the last couple of months during this difficult time. We look forward to seeing all of our Grade 3-6 students on Tuesday 9th June again. Please remember, that families must not enter the school site until further notice, unless dropping off or picking up students from school.

We are all in this together!

Staff of Tallygaroopna Primary School