The start to Term Two has certainly been one of difference. It started with the declaration by the Premier on Monday the 13th of April stating that for the first five weeks of Term Two, Queensland students would be working from home and that schools would be open to children of essential workers and vulnerable students. We started with a week one average of 29% of students attending school which has grown to 32% in Week Two.

Students attending school are being supervised to complete the same Learning@home lessons that are being completed in homes across Mackay.

Our teachers were prepared for this and are actively working with families to troubleshoot issues and provide support while pursuing ways to stay in contact with children learning at home.

I would like to thank parents who are following the guidelines set out by the Queensland Government. Thank you to those who are staying in contact with the school to help overcome problems that may be occurring while learning at home.

We continue to ensure that we are doing all that we can to reduce risk to both students and staff by ensuring a high level of health and safety measures.

**Waterbottles** – We have been advised that school bubblers should not be used by students and as such, we are asking that all children are to bring a water bottle to school to use. The bubblers may be used to fill water bottles, but not to drink directly out of.

**Unwell students** – Please do not send your child if they are unwell. If a child is unwell at school we have been directed to contact parents / carers and the child must be collected from school.

**Adult access to the schoolgrounds** – Please do not accompany your child into the school, unless you are required to go to the office to see someone in Administration. We are asking all parents to use the Stop, Drop, Go zones to drop off and collect children.

**Absence Procedures** – Please contact the school office via SMS 0426305678 to let us know the following details:

1. My child is learning at home
2. My child is unwell and will not be learning at home

Please let us know your child’s full name and class and the duration for this type of attendance.
Fortnight 2 Materials

Prep – Year 3 – We have made the decision to photocopy the English, Maths and Science units for all children in Prep – Year 3. **Please let the school know if you do not require these materials to be printed for your child.**

Year 4 – 6 – Children who received the print outs for Fortnight 1 will have units printed for Fortnight 2. **Please let the school know if you would like your child’s name added to the units being printed.**

For those families working between home and school we ask that the children bring their work with them on those days that they come to school.

Collection of Materials – Due technical issues with school photocopiers, we have changed the day that we planned to have the Fortnight 2 resources collected.

Parents will now be able to collect Fortnight 2 materials on **Friday morning 1 May, between 9.15am and 10.45am.** Please follow the below instructions to collect these materials.

1. At some point during the above times, pull into the Stop, Drop, Go zone on Norris Road.
2. Please have attached to your passengers side visor your child/children’s last name and the year level/levels.

```
ADAMS
Year 1
Year 4
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3. Staff will be at the front of the school, we will see the year level units required by your family and we will bring these to your car for you.
4. If your child is on an ICP of another year level, you will be contacted by the office staff and asked to come to collect from the school office.

Virtual Playgroup

Playgroup Queensland has launched a new initiative called Playgroup @ Home – a closed Facebook group where members have access to activities, tips, blogs, recipe ideas and videos to help keep children entertained and learning through play.

For families wanting to join this safe space, please follow this link: [https://www.facebook.com/groups/316706615955567/?ref=share](https://www.facebook.com/groups/316706615955567/?ref=share)

From the Office

Thank you to those parents who have returned their refund forms, refunds for cancelled events are now complete. Upon returning to school students will receive up to date statements, if you have difficulty with payments please contact the school office to arrange a payment plan.
I am certain we are all over the COVID-19 news stories and this is a perfect time for sitting back and reading with a nice hot cup of coffee or cold glass of lemonade. So to test everyone’s knowledge of book titles and now that we are quickly becoming skilled in the world of technologies...(well emoji knowledge) I found this image from one of our Qld Teachers Library Association posts. I would like to challenge you all during this difficult time to see if you are able to decode each Children’s Book title. Our Library is still open for borrowing; we are ensuring that all recommended protocols are adhered to and followed. Answers in our next newsletter!

The tuckshop is open for business. We accept flexi schools as our preferred ordering option but you can pay cash as well. During this time the tuckshop is being run on limited items and we apologize for this. All menu options will return in the near future hopefully. Thank you for your support so far- Antoinette.

Welcome back to all our families for Term 2- although nothing like a term we have experienced before! As a P&C we will continue to evaluate events that we had planned for this year and as the weeks progress send updates to all families.
The first big events for Term 2 that has been planned were:
1. Mother’s Day Stall. We are currently working on an alternative plan to try and have the stall run in a different capacity. Please keep an eye out for updates.
2. Mum’s and Maths morning tea. Unfortunately this event will be postponed until later in the year.
Our uniform change is continuing to progress and we expect proposed designs to be circulated shortly for comment.
Big thank you to our Tuckshop for continuing to provide great food to those at school.
The eSafety Commissioner’s purpose is to help safeguard Australians at risk from online harm and to promote safer, more positive online experiences. A recent Australian edition of the COVID-19 Global ONLINE SAFETY ADVICE for parents and carers was released and can be found at [https://www.esafety.gov.au/key-issues/covid-19/advice-parents-carers](https://www.esafety.gov.au/key-issues/covid-19/advice-parents-carers)

### 10 top tips to help protect your children online

With increased online engagement at this current time, it might be worthwhile checking out the useful advice on the esafety website. Here is just one extract from the online safety advice booklet.

| 1 | **Build an open trusting relationship around technology** — keep communication open and supportive so your child knows they can come to you if something goes wrong or does not feel right online. |
| 2 | **Co-view and co-play with your child online.** This will help you better understand what they are doing and why they enjoy an app, game or website, as well as providing a great opportunity to start conversations about online safety. |
| 3 | **Build good habits** and help your child to develop digital intelligence and social and emotional skills — such as respect, empathy, critical thinking, responsible behaviour and resilience — and practice being good online citizens. |
| 4 | **Empower your child** — wherever possible, help them make wise decisions for themselves, rather than telling them what to do. Try to provide them with strategies for dealing with negative online experiences that will build their confidence and resilience. |
| 5 | **Use devices in open areas of the home** — this can help you manage and be aware of who your child interacts with online through phones, tablets, smart TVs, gaming consoles and other connected devices. |
| 6 | **Set time limits that balance time spent in front of screens with offline activities** — a family technology plan can help you to manage expectations around where and when technology use is allowed — you could even fill in an Early Years Family Tech Agreement. |
| 7 | **Know the apps, games and social media sites your kids are using**, making sure they are age-appropriate, and learn how to limit messaging or online chat and location-sharing functions within apps or games, as these can expose your child to unwanted contact and disclose their physical location. For more advice The eSafety Guide includes information to help parents and carers choose safer apps and report and block unwanted contact and sexual approaches. |
| 8 | **Check the privacy settings** on the games and apps your child is using and make sure their profiles are turned on to the strictest privacy setting. Restrict who can contact your child or ask them to check in with you before accepting new friends. |
| 9 | **Use available technologies to set up parental controls on devices** that can filter harmful content, monitor your child’s use and limit or block their time on connected devices or functions (e.g. cameras, in-app purchases). |
| 10 | **Be alert to signs of distress** and know where to go for more advice and support. Report harmful online content to eSafety at esafety.gov.au/report. Contact a free parent helpline or one of the other many great online counselling and support services for help. Kids, teens and young adults can contact Kids Helpline online or by phone on 1800 551 800 and the service also provides guidance for parents. |