

Dear parents and caregivers,

The health and safety of students and staff is always a priority. During the COVID-19 outbreak and pandemic we have been considering ways that we can minimise the risk to all members of our community.

Last Friday we bought additional soap dispensers, paper towels, wet wipes and hospital grade surface cleaners for each class, each STEM area, OSHC, the music providers, the front office and for the staff room. We have ordered more for when our supplies are used. This means that we can all wash and dry our hands and clean surfaces in accordance with public health guidelines.

On Friday during the assembly I took the opportunity to talk to the students about proper hand washing. I emphasised that the backs of the hands and between the fingers need to be thoroughly cleaned as well as the palms. The whole room then role-played washing their hands while we sang 'happy birthday', as that is close to the amount of time that it should take to wash our hands. We have an expectation that students wash their hands regularly and your child may tell you that they have cleaned their desk area.

We have also made decisions regarding some upcoming events. We have:

- rescheduled the Canberra camp until Monday 26 October to Thursday 29 October (term 4, week 3). The itinerary and flights will be confirmed when possible.
- Rescheduled the aquatics camp to 21 October to 23 October (term 4, week 2). Because of significant current demand from schools, this is still a tentative booking and will be confirmed later.
- cancelled Sports Day and will reschedule to later in the year
- cancelled planned excursions for the remainder of term 1
- cancelled Dental for Schools and will rescheduled when possible.

I understand that some of you will have booked leave to attend events or support your children. I apologise if these changes cause you any inconvenience whatsoever.

There are some decisions that we need to finalise. We have not yet made a decision regarding our three-way interviews later this term. SAPSASA is holding a committee meeting in the next day or two to decide which planned SAPSAS events may be held. We will keep you fully informed.

In all instances we will follow SA Department of Health guidelines and Department for Education instructions.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or your child's teacher if you have questions or concerns. I will be available in the staff room on Wednesday 18 March at both 2.30pm and 5.00pm to speak to any parents or caregivers regarding any of these matters.

Kind regards,

Leah Kennewell
Principal, Aldgate Primary School