



# Lakemba Link

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## Term 1 – Week 11

### Important Dates

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| Thursday<br>9 <sup>th</sup> April      | Last Day of Term 1                       |
| Monday<br>27 <sup>th</sup> April       | Staff Development Day                    |
| Tuesday<br>28 <sup>th</sup> April      | All students return to school for Term 2 |
| Friday<br>15 <sup>th</sup> May         | P&C Meeting                              |
| Friday<br>19 <sup>th</sup> June        | P&C Meeting                              |
| Friday<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> July         | Last Day of Term 2                       |
| Monday<br>20 <sup>th</sup> July        | Staff Development Day                    |
| Tuesday<br>21 <sup>st</sup> July       | All students return to school for Term 3 |
| Friday<br>21 <sup>st</sup> August      | P&C Meeting                              |
| Friday<br>18 <sup>th</sup> September   | P&C Meeting                              |
| Friday<br>25 <sup>th</sup> September   | Last Day of Term 3                       |
| Monday<br>12 <sup>th</sup> October     | All students return to school for Term 4 |
| Wednesday<br>16 <sup>th</sup> December | Last Day of Term 4                       |

Dear Parents and Carers,

Who would have thought that since our last newsletter that teaching and learning as we knew it would be turned on its head? As someone on Twitter said *'The last two weeks have been a strange ten years'*. Parents have become teachers, teachers and students have developed their skills in technology to allow them to facilitate and learn online. Everyone has done an amazing job as we have navigated our way through the myriad of questions that have arisen.

As a community you have rallied and supported us. We are very grateful for this. We are truly in this together.

We are now coming in to the school holidays when the school routines can be relaxed. It is important that during this time we all stay safe by not leaving home except for essential things such as shopping for food.

At this stage the Department of Education is advising that our current method of learning will continue. Please make sure that you keep your eye on Twitter, Facebook and the Skoolbag App as we will use these means to update you.

While student learning is important our mental health and general wellbeing is even more important. Parents can support their children's wellbeing by:

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|  | helping them stay safely connected to their friends and family. This should not be in person at this time.                  |  | challenging them to focus on their learning for longer periods each day.   |
|  | making sure they take part in regular exercise. Put on some music and dance or find an appropriate online exercise program. |  | turning off the television, radio and social media reducing the amount of time they are engaging with the media. |

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|   | maintaining a routine of regular bedtimes, sleep, getting up, beginning school work, eating breakfast, lunch and dinner.   |  | reassuring them that it is OK to be worried and ask questions. Answer their questions truthfully. You don't have to have all the answers. |
|  | talking to them about how they are feeling. Share with them how you are feeling with them and reassure them that you are doing your best to keep them safe by isolating your family. |  | doing some mindful breathing with them. They can guide you through it.  |

Take care and stay safe. We miss our students and families and will be pleased when we can get together again.

Kind regards,  
Jann Price

### Phone Calls

Lakemba Public School has a strong focus on wellbeing. One way we are doing this during the time our students are learning at home is by calling families each week to see how they are going with them as they learn at home. Teachers are keen to answer any questions you or your children may have as well as help with suggestions for learning.

### Student Attendance

During the learning from home period the school is still required by law to mark the roll to indicate that students are engaged in learning.

Students can be marked as:

- *Flexible* - Students are at home engaged in learning. Students have collected Learning from Home Package or are engaged in online learning.
- *Absent* - There is no evidence of students completing work. They have not collected Learning from Home package or there is no evidence that they are engaged in online learning. Students who log in online and not submit their learning may be considered as absent.
- *Sick* - Parents advise the school that their child is sick and not able to attend school and therefore unable to complete work. Parents must phone the school to inform them that their child is sick and again when their child is well enough to continue learning.

**Please make sure you have the Skoolbag app, have liked the Lakemba Public School Facebook page and followed @LakembaPS on Twitter.**

## School as Community Centre News

Hello everyone – hope you are staying well and managing these strange new times.



Go to <https://www.facebook.com/LakembaSaCC/>

Please like our Facebook page so we can keep in touch. We will post community information we find as well as some posts for the children – like this week's story; songs and activities are coming soon.

**“We’re Going on a Bear Hunt”.** Although recommendations are that you stay at home as much as possible, everyone needs a walk in the fresh air every day – especially kids!

If you live in a unit or house which has windows facing the street, then put a toy bear in the window so it can be seen by people walking by. The children can have fun “finding” bears while they are on walks with you. (There’s one peeking out from the Centre.)

This is happening in lots of places, so let’s make it happen in Lakemba too! It will bring a smile to your children’s faces – and yours too! If you don’t have a bear, then a similar animal will do – or your kids could draw or make one instead.

**Food Hampers:** Greenacre Community Centre has hampers to distribute every Friday afternoon. If you have a Centrelink card and are able to drive to the Centre in Waterloo Rd then you can book a time to pick up a hamper for \$2. You must book a time on 9750 7982.

**Stories to Listen to:** While children are not at school, Amazon has cancelled the subscription cost of books and audio stories for children and students of all ages. Kids everywhere can instantly stream an incredible collection of stories, including titles across six different languages, that will help them continue dreaming, learning, and just being kids. All stories are free to stream on your desktop, laptop, phone or tablet using the following link <https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>.

**Coronavirus Information in your Language.** News and information about coronavirus (COVID-19) is available on the SBS website in 63 languages. [www.sbs.com.au](http://www.sbs.com.au)

Stay well and safe – we look forward to seeing everyone again as soon as we can.

**Ring Wendi or Madeleine on 9759 4061  
if you need support or information.**