

10 July 2020

## Year 6 - Start to Term 3 Arrangements

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Further to the Headmaster's communication on Wednesday 8 July, I write to update you on our planning and preparation for Distance Learning 3.0 commencing on Wednesday 15 July.

### Important Preparation for Distance Learning: Monday 13 July 2.00–4.00pm

- **All Year 6 boys** will be required to visit their classroom (via front reception) to see their Homeroom Teacher and collect appropriate resources and musical instruments on Monday 13 July between 2.00–4.00pm.
- Parents who need to collect/sign for an IT device for their son (as previously required in Distance Learning 2.0) may visit Junior School reception.
- Due to current restrictions, we ask all other parents to remain offsite.
- All parents will be sent an email by 5.00pm on Tuesday 14 July with instructions to connect to your son's Year Level blog that is protected via a secure password.

### What will Distance Learning from home look like?

#### Year 6

- The Year Level blog will enable direct access for boys daily and will not require emails to parents.
- Homeroom teachers will conduct Zoom sessions at 8.45am to start the day, and again at 3.00pm to finish the day. (Link to Zoom will be available via Year Level blog).
- The blog structure will provide a literacy block and numeracy block, a guided mindfulness session, plus an additional specialist block, as per your son's daily routine and timetable.
- All teachers will provide appropriate activities, videos, PowerPoint presentations, links to appropriate websites and teaching sessions (via Zoom) through the Year Level blog.
- All Year 6 boys will need access to a laptop.
- Teachers will be available to respond via email to any questions or concerns during school hours (8.00am – 4.00pm Monday to Friday).
- As per Distance Learning 2.0, teachers will be able to communicate with your son directly via his BGS email address.
- In line with our Effective Learner Model and being 'ready to learn', we expect the boys to wear their sports uniform during their learning block (8.45am – 3.15pm each day).
- Your permission granted last term for distance learning curriculum delivery via Consent2Go will remain in place until the boys return to the classroom.

Having reflected on the feedback provided by parents and staff, there are a number of key aspects we have considered in developing our distance learning model for Term 3:

- Setting realistic and appropriate workloads for the boys
- Ensuring a balance between online instruction (on screens), offline work (off screen) and downtime.
- Managing expectations of what needs to be taught and learnt.

Our approach for Junior School boys during Distance Learning 3.0 is to continue to provide a combination of blended instruction using both synchronous and asynchronous learning. At times, boys will join their teacher and peers in real time via the Year Level blog/Zoom (synchronous learning). At other times, boys will work independently using the learning resources prepared by their teachers (asynchronous learning).

I am mindful of the challenges for those of you who find yourselves again working from home with your sons studying off-site, and I appreciate and thank you for your understanding. The BGS [Distance Learning](#) page will continue to be a useful resource where you can find [tips for parents](#) and [tips for boys](#).

We will continue to act in the best interests of our boys and staff and I thank you for your ongoing support. Please do not hesitate to make contact via email with your son's homeroom teacher, [Olivia Tims](#) or me if you have any questions or concerns.

Yours sincerely,



**Peter Tellefson**

Deputy Headmaster, Head of Junior School