



77 Sunshine Street, Manly Vale NSW 2093

Tel (02) 9907 9672

Email [manlyvale-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:manlyvale-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

Website [www.manlyvale-p.schools.nsw.gov.au](http://www.manlyvale-p.schools.nsw.gov.au)

## P & C Report – 11 August 2020

What a year it's been. Transitioning to a whole new way of teaching and communicating with our students and school community. There have been some challenges but also, it's been a year for reflecting and evaluating what we now need to do to move on from here.

We basically went from teaching face to face to online learning overnight. As a school we were lucky to have the technology and the training from last year to support all the teachers in their teaching of students remotely.

### **NAPLAN online cancelled**

We can't say we were hugely disappointed but as we still need data to rank and report on our students we are participating in some Check in assessments in Literacy and Numeracy in Year 5 in weeks 5 and 6 of this term (17 August- 4 September). Year 3 will also do some online check in assessments in week 9 of this term 14 September – 18 September.

We need this data to evaluate our current school plan 2018-2020 and set targets for our next school plan 2020-2023 (4-year plan).

### **Interviews at the end of Term 2**

The 10-minute social distancing interviews were a great success for the teachers. Even though it was a huge ask for teacher to conduct these interviews after an extremely busy term and writing reports (short versions) they enjoyed touching base with parents and talking about students at home learning experiences and listening to parents. I would like to get some feedback on the interview format/ reporting format? There will

Remote Learning, I think many parents discovered a lot about their own children during this time. Some families loved it but others found it extremely challenging trying to juggle work, school their children all of differing ages and abilities. Our high needs students all came to school during the online learning phase and our Teacher's aides didn't have one day off during this time. Pete, Mary, Justine, Jayne and Steph were amazing in their commitment to the school and to our vulnerable students during this time.

### **Online learning- what did it look like?**

We had approximately 60 students at school each day. They were all schooled in grade classes and teachers were rostered in a 3- phase cycle- 1. Planning for future lessons, 2. Marking and planning from home, 3. Face to face teaching at school. All teachers were able to have at least 2 days a week at home. Priority was given to teachers with young children at home and try and allow them to stay at home with their own children.

Teachers found it very tiring planning alternate lessons, marking work and providing feedback, attending Zoom meetings and then Face to Face teaching as well. I know parents found it challenging as well and my days were spent supporting those families who reached out for assistance. Laptops were loaned but major problems were:

1. Lack of data on home internet to engage with the online
2. Older siblings became the priority over our primary age students
3. Parents juggling work and home-schooling
4. Sharing devices and internet
5. Differentiating of lessons was difficult for parents to cope with

6. Converting hands on learning (primary school) to online activities that could be easily taught.
7. Lack of control of cyber safety and inappropriate use of the technology

Data shows that the students who came to school, during that time did achieve more growth and better results than those learning from home. Primary aged students need that face to face instruction and a teacher to differentiate and personally assist students in these early years to engage with the curriculum. Kindergarten students were the most difficult group to cater for as a lot of their work is personalised and hands on. Online learning was very difficult for these students.

#### Positive outcomes from Online learning and COVID guidelines

1. Teachers and students were upskilled in digital literacy overnight. 3 years of professional learning done overnight.
2. We learnt to do things differently. Meetings and unnecessary activities that waste so much time are being evaluated.
3. Positive experiences for parents and students at home. Some families really enjoyed their quality time together.
4. Anxiety and school avoidance for some of our students lessened. A more positive approach to schooling was adapted.
5. The building works went ahead without interruption. School looks amazing and is finished. Defects list is in operation.
6. Hygiene and cleanliness- the school has never been cleaner and it is wonderful to have such a clean workplace. There is no shortage of sanitiser, wipes and paper towel.
7. Less staff absenteeism- colds and flu are much less. Even on our return to school staff are not as sick as they have been during these winter months. The cleanliness and the fact that students are sent home with symptoms means that the school is a healthier place.

#### Filming of events

We are currently filming events so parents have the opportunity to see what is happening at school. Band performances, assemblies, Kindergarten Orientation program have been put on film. The virtual school tour is on the website for all to view.

#### Catchment Changes - Tuesday 11 August

Today the boundaries for Manly Vale PS will be extended to make a bigger drawing area for the school. These changes will be "Soft" boundary changes until 2023 where parents have the opportunity to stay at their current school until then and enrol siblings in that school if that suits. After 2023 it will be a firm boundary change and out of area students will not be accepted in their current local schools.

Manly West PS and Manly Vale PS will have a more flexible arrangement with some areas of the current Manly West catchment being allowed to attend Manly West or Manly Vale PS. It is predicted that the estimated growth of the school won't exceed 900 students which is less than capacity. All real estate agents and Early childhood centres were notified today of the new boundaries.

#### Tell Them from Me surveys

A parent's survey will be sent home this week and can I encourage you all to complete the survey to inform decision making for the future school plan.

#### School Improvement Plan (SIP) 2021-2024

The new school plan will have 3 Strategic Directions and will be based on a situational analysis of the school using the School Excellence framework. The directions will be school-determined targets to improve student's achievement. These targets will be determined in consultation with all stakeholders (students, teachers, parents

and community members). The next few months surveys, workshops (maybe virtual), analysis and evaluation of data and evidence will form a Situational Analysis of our school, and improvement measures we will need to put in place for the school plan 2021-2024. The P & C, School Council and Parent workshops (hopefully) will allow for consultation and discussion on our school's directions for the next 4 years.

We have external validation in 2022 to evaluate what we have achieved according to the School Excellence Framework.

### **Pick up and Drop off**

The pickup and drop off of students at the front gate have proved to be a lot more settling for students and teachers. Lessons are starting on time in the mornings and there is less tears and anxiety around the separation from parents.

This quick turn around in transitioning students to and from school has also assisted with traffic congestion and parking.

### **Traffic and parking changes**

The school's surrounding streets have changed traffic and parking conditions. This has caused our local neighbours a lot of stress and they are unable to park outside their houses for extended periods of time even on the weekend. Along with Parents parking across driveways and leaving their cars for extended times in limited parking zones the neighbours are petitioning to the council. The Rangers have been around and booked parents but the message needs to go out regularly that parents need to be aware of our neighbours and their ability to get in and out of their properties and park next to their homes. I have put these changed conditions in the newsletter weekly. Please spread the word.

### **Fire alarms and school alarms**

If you hear the alarms please ring school security or 000. There has been issues with these alarms e.g. Faulty smoke detectors, children pushing the emergency buttons, we ask for you to please call for assistance if you hear the alarms go off as they do not feed back to the fire department or the police station automatically.

### **Athletics carnival- Friday 14 August**

Will be run this Friday. No parents allowed to attend. There is no zone or regional carnivals but school records will be kept. K-2 will have a fun carnival back at school.

### **Dancesport, K-2 dance and gym**

All have been able to go ahead. Parents struggling with fees but the lack of excursions and outings have assisted parents. All excursions for Term 3 including the Stage 3 camp has been cancelled. Such a shame for our Stage 3 students and we are trying to find an alternative fun day for next term.

### **Kindergarten Orientation 2020**

First session was due on Monday week 10. Not sure how this will look at this stage but we are preparing to run the Parent Information session as an online video for Questions and Answers with Sharon and myself. We are hoping the new Kindergarten students will be able to visit classrooms next term at least.

Wendie has an alternative plan for the uniform shop where parents get to see sizes displayed in the front office and order online. Wendie and her team to fill orders on Monday 26 October and distribute that day with allowances for exchanging items.

### **On Your Soapbox Finals**

K-2 Wednesday 9 September

3-6 Wednesday 16 September

The event will be filmed for parents.

### **OOSH Tender**

We are currently in the process of putting our OOSH licence up for tender. We haven't actually changed our provider in the whole time I have been at the school Primaryoshcare currently hold the licence but the tender will go ahead later this term John Gillings is the parent representative on this tender panel and please feel free to talk to John if you have any concerns or things you would like raised during this tender process. Sharon (DP) and I are also on the panel. If there anything the P & C would like considered during this process?

### **Expenditure**

Some considerations for expenditure for this year:

1. Canteen lunch orders- Possibility of supporting parents through free lunches if required.- \$500
2. Library furniture and shelving-
3. New fixed equipment for the play area- upgrade 2021
4. Contribution to staff Christmas party- \$500
5. Hospitality fund for Kindergarten orientation, parent workshops, parent meetings? Annual \$500
6. \$5000 instrument purchase for Band- already approved but will be coming soon. School will purchase and P & C to reimburse the school