



20 May 2020



## Principals Report – Week 4, Term 2

### Phase 3 Return to School

The success of the phased return to face-to-face teaching has demonstrated the education system and community are ready for school to come back full-time.

As of Monday, May 25, all students will return to school full-time.

As our teachers will have full-time face-to-face teaching commitment, we can no longer provide a simultaneous online teaching option. As a result, Zoom meetings and online feedback will no longer be available from next Monday.

Our Mullaway Online Resources and eLearning (MORE) will still be open for parents and students to access online learning resources.

The only exceptions will be if there is a medical reason (substantiated by a medical certificate) which states that a child is unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition.

It is important, however; that you communicate any medical issues or concerns with the school.

Although students will be returning full-time, there will still be restrictions. This will include the continued postponement of the following activities until further notice:

- school excursions including camps,
- work experience,
- inter-school activities (debating, inter-school sport), and;
- in-school activities requiring parent or other volunteers (scripture, parent reading, canteen).

Whilst school students do not need to follow strict adult physical distancing guidelines, they will be encouraged to follow good hygiene practices like:

- regularly washing hands,
- avoiding sharing drinks or food,
- coughing or sneezing into your elbow, or a tissue which should be discarded immediately, and;
- maintaining physical distancing from teachers and school staff.

In addition, the Department of Education has funded an additional cleaner from 10:30am to 2:30pm each day to clean high usage surfaces (interior and exterior).

Physical distancing is still important for adults.

Mullaway is one of the few schools still allowing parents to enter the school grounds. The decision to allow this was due to the priority we place on road safety, as it is safer to have parents collect their child from the assembly area and escort their child to the car. We do ask that parents are mindful of social distancing with all non-family members, and; limit their time within the school gates.

A reminder that it is important that children who feel unwell are kept at home. Any child who presents at sick bay feeling unwell has their temperature checked with an infra-red thermometer, and even children displaying mild cold or flu symptoms in class are isolated until they can be collected by their parents or carers. All staff are instructed to stay home if they are feeling unwell.

We look forward to welcoming all our students back to school next week, and I would like to commend our school community: staff, students and parents; for their resilience, flexibility and support. It has been a challenging time but we will be stronger, smarter and safer for our efforts.



## Mullaway Online Resources & eLearning (MORe)

COVID-19 has undoubtedly caused the greatest disruption to learning in our living history. However, it has accelerated the onset of online learning and this has been a steep learning curve for all; teachers students and parents.

Mullaway Primary School was a leader in the transition to online learning and we continue to lead the way as we start moving forward into a post COVID-19 space. The skills, experiences and knowledge we gained in online learning throughout the last few months has ensured that the new normal will include a combination of online and face-to-face learning, or; blended learning.

Four of our teachers: Mr Blanshard, Mr Neal, Mr Cheers and Mrs. Sutherland, volunteered to join an innovation committee with the brief of developing an online learning hub in which all of our school community can easily access online learning resources.

Within the first two weeks of Term 2, this creative team of teachers has released Mullaway Online Resources & eLearning (MORe).

MORe enables our school community to access online learning remotely at any time. This resource will provide valuable support when students are unable to attend school (i.e. travelling, health reasons or if the school is non-operational) as well as being an excellent platform to discover new online learning experiences.

MORe is organised into Stage appropriate content and includes an exciting Library section in which students can access almost 2000 eBooks.

Importantly, MORe is a learning platform and not a communication platform. For this we have our SchoolZine, Facebook and school website.

I encourage you to explore MORe by going to the following link:

[https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fsites.google.com%2Feducation.nsw.gov.au%2Fmullawayprimaryschool%2Fhome%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR2G4clg0xk0Fsn2W2B0LTTUFQd\\_pVEdPK\\_p2xo9Nr8ucY5qxek6wfp5qyg&h=AT1vTNqo6-dJ\\_bTzwJblotz7Jdw423E7slCdLJp\\_ZbC8-cObqQbdCxxeLjyjI8XZ4](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fsites.google.com%2Feducation.nsw.gov.au%2Fmullawayprimaryschool%2Fhome%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR2G4clg0xk0Fsn2W2B0LTTUFQd_pVEdPK_p2xo9Nr8ucY5qxek6wfp5qyg&h=AT1vTNqo6-dJ_bTzwJblotz7Jdw423E7slCdLJp_ZbC8-cObqQbdCxxeLjyjI8XZ4)

I would also like to acknowledge our awesome foursome: Mr Blanshard, Mr Neal, Mr Cheers and Mrs. Sutherland. We asked for MORe and they delivered!



## New students

Mullaway welcomed three new students last week; Amelia, Dahlia and Tijana We trust that they will have a wonderful start at our fabulous school.



**James Deagan - Principal**

## Student Invoices

Student Invoices will be sent home next week.

At this stage the end of year excursions for year 4 to Cascade and stage 3 to Lake Ainsworth are still going ahead. Deposits need to be paid by the end of week 9, Friday 26 June. Due to circumstances this year, if the excursions are cancelled deposits will be refunded.

Payments for Essential Learning Packs are now overdue.

## Coming Events

27th May	Wednesday	National Simultaneous Storytime
22nd June	Monday	Book Club due date

**NEXT NEWSLETTER: Wednesday 3rd June**

## Notice from CommBank School Banking

The health, safety and wellbeing of our communities and our people is our first priority. Due to the rapidly developing situation with coronavirus, School Banking has been temporarily paused from **20 March 2020** until further notice.

We will notify you when banking will recommence.

## Messages from the Office

### Returning Notes/Money

Our big red box (for notes in the foyer) is working a treat. Thank you to all the students for doing the right thing.



Below are some reminders for filling in and returning notes/payment:

Send note/money in a plastic clip/zip lock bag, cut the top off with all the details to keep on your fridge.

Cut the top of your note and keep on your fridge and return note/money in plastic clip/zip lock bag. We will return the bag home with your child to reuse.

**PLEASE don't forget your child's name and class.**

PLEASE return the note/money by the due date. We cannot ensure your child will be able to participate in the event/excursion if permission is not received by the due date.

Please Check Facebook/SZApp/Newsletter for Upcoming Events.

### Parents

Could all parents/careers make sure the front office have current details for your child/ren.

### Children Late to School

If your child is late without a Parent or written reason, your child will come home with a printed late slip (used to be a pale green typed note). Please add a reason, sign and return to your child's class teacher.

### Parent Helpers and Visitors

All parent helpers and visitors to the school are reminded to please come to the office on arrival to sign in and collect a Visitors Badge. This is a Work Health & Safety requirement of all school grounds.

### Schoolzine App

Just a reminder to all parents to download the Schoolzine APP to your phone. See instruction on the link below.

This will deliver the school Newsletter to you each fortnight and also enable you to request meetings with teachers and advise the school of your student's absences.

## Bus Pass

# Rural and regional school travel

Your child may be eligible for free travel between home and school



Apply online for free school travel in rural and regional NSW

You only need to complete one form, even for journeys using more than one bus company. It's now easier for schools and bus companies, as Transport for NSW handles the applications.

### Who can apply

To be eligible for free school travel, students may need to live a minimum distance from their school:

#### Years K-2 (Infants)

There's no minimum distance.

#### Years 3-6 (Primary)

More than 1.6km straight line distance or at least 2.3km walking.

#### Years 7-12 (Secondary)

More than 2.0km straight line distance or at least 2.9km walking.

### Who needs to apply

You only need to apply if the student has never been approved for free school travel before. Students in a shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody) should submit a separate application for both addresses.

### How to update your details

You need to update student details online if the student is changing their name, address, school or campus, or their Transport operator. You can update them at [apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updatedetails/#/updateDetails](https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updatedetails/#/updateDetails)

### Frequently asked questions

#### Does the approved free travel include travel outside school hours?

Approved free school travel is only for travel to and from school. So for travel after hours, on weekends or during school holidays, students will need to buy a ticket.

#### What if there's no public transport in my area?

In areas where there is no public transport, you may be able to get a subsidy for driving the student to school. For details visit [transportnsw.info/school-students](https://transportnsw.info/school-students)

#### How do I apply if the student needs to travel from two addresses because the parents live separately?

Each parent (or the student if aged 16 or over) needs to apply separately for each address. The same minimum distances apply.

### How to apply for free travel for the first time

You can apply for free school travel for next year from the start of Term 4 this year.

#### Step 1

Once you have enrolled your child at the new school, apply online by giving your home address and telling us which bus company the student needs to travel with between home and school. You can apply online at [apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/home#/howToApply](https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/home#/howToApply)

#### Step 2

The school then confirms to us that your details are correct.

#### Step 3

We will then work on your application. You will get an email confirming if the student is approved for free travel. If so, we will tell your local bus company who may send a school travel pass (if needed) to your school or, in some cases, the bus company will contact you directly about travel arrangements.

A parent or guardian must apply for students aged 15 years and under. Students who are 16 years and over must apply for themselves.

### What will my card look like



### Want to know more?

For more information, visit [transportnsw.info/school-students](https://transportnsw.info/school-students)

For help in your language, call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 131 450.