



Wednesday 27th January, 2021

Dear Parents/Caregivers and students,

Welcome back! Where did those holidays go? I hope like mine, your summer break has been a safe and pleasant one. This will be my 14th year teaching at Mawson Lakes School and I am delighted to be again teaching year 6's. I would like to welcome you and your child into W4-1, located on Site West in the Harris building. There is a lot to look forward to like working with our neighbouring W4-2 Year 6 class, West Lakes Aquatics, Woodhouse Camp (*Monday 22nd to Wednesday 24th March*), excursions, house captains, Sports Day, Kids Council, Market Day, Year 6/7 jumpers, Vietnam Veterans' Day (*Tuesday 18th August*) and Graduation (*Wednesday 8th December*), just to name a few. I am looking forward to our 2021 journey together.

While some of this information might not be new to you, below outlines some guidelines for the year.

## **Arrival time and Absences**

Students are expected to arrive at school between 8.15am and 8.40am. Students who arrive before this time will need to attend Out of Hours School Care. If your child is absent or late, an explanation note can be provided via email, a phone call to the office, a note or in person when signing your child in at Site East office. Alternatively, you can communicate your child's absence or late arrival by downloading the MLS Skoolbag app. All absences must be explained, your help regarding this Department policy is appreciated. School concludes at 3.00pm. Students with no parent supervision by 3.20pm will be re-directed to OSHC by a teacher on duty. If your child will not be attending school for an extended amount of time for a holiday, an exemption form can be filled out at the office.

## **Stationery**

Students have been provided with the essential stationery and books for the school year. Students are welcome to store their labelled stationery in their own personal pencil case provided by families. Year 6's have been given their own USB, so that assignments can be worked on at home when necessary.

## **Homework**

Homework provides students with the opportunities to consolidate their classroom learning, prepare for learning beyond the classroom, foster good lifelong learning and study habits, provides an opportunity for students develop their ability to work independently and involve family members in their learning. Year 6's are encouraged to complete up to 60 to 90 minutes of homework per week. The setting of homework considers the need for students to have a balanced lifestyle. If homework is unable to be completed due to family circumstance, parents/caregivers are welcome to email myself or write an explanation note in their child's homework book for an extension.

## **Class website**

A class website that will be used by the class this year. This website allows the teacher to communicate upcoming events, links, assignments, homework etc. if student there is a repeat of the 2020 lockdown. No personal information will be uploaded. Visit <https://stevengera808.wixsite.com/w-4-1> using your computer. All students will be given a school email address.



## Healthy snacks and water

Healthy eating is promoted at Mawson Lakes and students may eat fruit during class time (however due to current government regulation until mid-April there are certain fruits not allowed on site). Students are also encouraged to keep a bottle of water in the classroom to stay hydrated.

## Nut-Free Zone

Mawson Lakes School is strictly a Nut-Free Zone. Students are not to bring any foods containing any types of nuts. Please check the label carefully before sending items to school.

## Tissues

Could all students please donate one box of tissues for our classroom. If your child could bring this in as soon as possible, it would be greatly appreciated.

## Uniform/Hats

As per Department policy and to generate a sense of equality for all students, students are dressed in school uniform consisting of navy and white only. Uniforms can be purchased from the uniform shop from 8:30 to 9:15am on Tuesdays or a shop of your choice that meets the Mawson Lakes student dress code. SAPSASA jumpers unfortunately are not permitted. Year 6's will have the option of purchasing a 'Year 6/7' jumper in the coming weeks. All students are to wear an approved school hat when participating in outdoor activities in Terms 1 and 4. The hat must be broad-brimmed, bucket or legionnaire style as outlined in the Cancer Council SA guidelines for primary schools.

## Electronic devices

As of this year, mobile phones are banned in primary schools across South Australia, under a new state-wide policy to ensure there is a focus on the learning. Students are still allowed to use their phones and other personal devices when travelling to and from school to ensure their safety, but phones are to be tuned off and kept in students bag during the entire school day. If a student requires contact with home throughout the day, they are welcome to use the school phone line. The school will not be involved in disputes and/or investigations over damage, loss or theft of electronic devices brought to school.

## Acquaintance night / Three-way interviews

Acquaintance night will be on Tuesday, Week 3 from 5:45-6:45pm if you choose to attend. This is a chance for families to familiarise themselves with their child's learning space, as well as ask any questions you may still have. Three-way student-teacher-parent interviews will be held during Week 10 this term. Online booking information will be provided closer to the time.

## Newsletters

Our class newsletter will be provided on the school website soon. This document will outline the terms' programming. This can be accessed through the Skoolbag app or by visiting;  
<http://www.mawsonlakes.sa.edu.au/newsletters.html>

Thanks in advance for what will be a successful year. Feel free to email, message via Class Dojo, visit or arrange an appointment to discuss your child's needs throughout the year.

Kind Regards,

Steve Gera



[steven.gera808@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:steven.gera808@schools.sa.edu.au)

## Child Inventory 2021 W4-1 Year 6

As a parent/caregiver, you know your child better than anyone else. To support your child's learning and wellbeing, could you please complete this inventory to assist myself in understanding your child's needs. All information will remain confidential. Thanks in advance.

Parent name:

Student name:

Your child's interests/hobbies:

Your child's strengths (in and out of school):

Areas for improvement (in and out of school):

Any concerns you have about your child this year:

Anything you would like me to know about your child (including sporting commitments, family arrangements that may impact on schooling etc):

Any other information you would like me to know that may be relevant to school life: