



Dear Parents and Guardians

## **CONFERENCES AND SEMESTER 1 REPORTING**

Thank you to all families who have made the time over the last few weeks to attend 2 and 3 Way Conferences. Informal feedback from students, staff and parents has been that the opportunity to meet face-to-face has been a valuable means of communication this term. I know there are still some Conferences to be held after periods of absence by staff or students. I would also like to acknowledge the teaching staff who have committed significant time and energy to the process.

As mentioned in previous communication, I would be interested in feedback from families regarding the use of the Edval Online Booking system. As with any new initiative there was some troubleshooting to do. If you would like to contribute feedback and suggestions for improvement, please contribute your ideas in the following short survey.

[Two and Three Way Conference Feedback Survey](#)

### **Semester 1 Reporting**

At the commencement of this term, I wrote to families and raised the issue of reporting in Semester 1 given the disruption that has occurred during this time. Staff have been considering the implications and have already raised some of these with families. I thought it would be prudent to explain some of the issues now and then our Reporting Letter that traditionally accompanies the release of reports will have a bit more context.

### Attendance

Each semester, student attendance is recorded on the Report. As a school, we follow guidelines and rules about how to record student attendance. For many students, the attendance rate this semester may be below, or well below, normal standards. At John Wollaston we take great pride in our excellent student attendance but in our situation this semester, attendance has been severely impacted for many. I know for some families, maintaining excellent attendance is of great importance and so I wish to provide some reassurance that we understand the reasons for the variation and thank families for their ongoing communication with the School regarding personal circumstances this semester.

### Profile of the Learner Comments

Our reports this semester will include the Profile of the Learner comments. This is most appropriate as, even as the semester has unfolded, students have been able to demonstrate many aspects of the Learner Profile, they have set worthy goals, demonstrated good character and made progress in many aspects of their learning. The comment this semester may also indicate the impact of attendance on grading and curriculum coverage.





### Grading

This is the area most impacted by our context this semester.

A few things to keep in mind when reflecting on grades –

- There is great variability in the evidence for grading across students. For some students, circumstances permit rigorous evidence for grading as per usual. For others, grading will be indicative, and in more extreme cases, there is insufficient evidence to inform a grade. The report will reflect this in the comment.
- The benefit of how our Programme of Inquiry works is that any learning area not able to be graded in Semester 1, will have further coverage in Semester 2. Teachers prioritise diagnostic and formative assessment at the start of units of work to ensure students further develop from where they are at, ensuring the learning can progress.

As is always the case, if you have any concerns, please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance. The Deans of Teaching and Learning, Mrs Fiona Currey and Ms Melissa Cuming are also available to help and support with queries about reporting.

It is anticipated that Semester 1 Reports will be issued to families via SEQTA by Friday 8 July.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Your sincerely

**TRACEY ROGERS**  
**HEAD OF PRIMARY**

8 June 2022

