Extreme Hot Weather Safety Policy

Rationale: Children’s safety is of the utmost importance. Our procedures, in line with DoE policies, will ensure that all community members are aware of correct protocols for managing extreme hot weather conditions during the school day. This policy will provide guidelines that ensure a safe and comfortable school environment is maintained during times of extreme hot weather.

Date: October, 2015

Aim: To ensure students, teachers and visitors at Oran Park Public School are safe and comfortable during times of extreme heat.

Implementation:

For the care and safety of students, parents and visitors to the school, during hot weather, we will take the following approach:

- On days that extreme weather is forecast a check of temperatures will be undertaken 10 minutes prior to the breaks on the Weatherzone website.
- At a temperature of 35 degrees, all students will be directed to use shady outdoor facilities, such as play under the COLA or in the hall. The oval / grass areas will be closed.
- If there are severe weather conditions, a temperature of 37 degrees or more, students will stay in supervised air-conditioned classes as per wet weather protocols.
- Our air-conditioned library is open and supervised every day at recess (the hottest part of the day) for all students to access.
- We have a school policy for playground or other outdoor activities, “No hat, play in the shade”.
- Bucket hats only are to be worn at Oran Park Public School, no caps.
- All students will be reminded and encouraged to drink water. Drink bottles are permitted in the classroom.
- We have altered our whole school timetable to avoid sport or physical education after 11am in Terms One and Four. We will postpone sporting or physical education activities that might expose students unnecessarily to extreme heat.

We request parents support us by:

- Sending their children to school with a water bottle
- Packing the school hat in your child’s school bag, and
- Applying sunscreen before school.

Donna Shevlin

Principal