

## Class Dojo

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

This year we will be using Class Dojo as a communication tool. This is an app which has been used in many classrooms for a number of years and has had positive feedback from families and teachers. In previous years, we have used a variety of communication tools including Instagram and Twitter, however in 2020 we will be streamlining our approach with all classes using the same app. This decision is based on parent and teacher feedback.



Class Dojo contains many features including Class Story, Portfolios and Messages, as well as the behaviour management points allocated by teachers in response to positive behaviour. Each class will use the Class Story and Messages features to share classroom learning with families and keep families informed.

### **What is Class Dojo?**

Class Dojo is a free photo, video and story sharing app available on Apple iOS, Android and Windows Phone. Classes can upload photos or videos to the service and share them with a select group. You can also view, comment and like posts. We are able to use this platform to instantly message and communicate with each other as well as create a personal portfolio for each student. It also makes it easy to send reminders of upcoming events or let you know if your child has forgotten a note or their library bag.

### **Who can access the Class Story**

Only families who are invited to and have subscribed to the class will have access to the class. Class teachers will send an invitation home to each family to connect to the class page. Everyone connected to the class page will be able to see the Class Story. Photos, videos and stories about the class learning will be shared here. If your child does not have permission to publish, their photo **WILL NOT** be shared in this space.

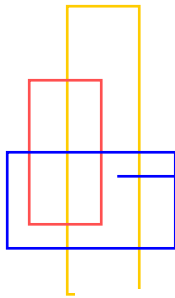
### **Who can access your child's portfolio?**

Your child's information is stored on their individual portfolios which can be accessed at the school level by their teacher and the child's parent. Students can choose to share photos of their work and learning. Student work needs to be approved by the teacher before it is uploaded and only parents of the child can view this work. No other parent can view another child's folder. All information remains private and is not published for public viewing.

### **Messages**

The Messages feature is available for teachers to communicate information to you (e.g. Tomorrow is mufti day – don't forget to bring in a gold coin donation). It is also designed for parents to communicate information to your child's teacher (e.g. My child is sick and will not be in today). These messages can be viewed by teachers at an appropriate time which will usually be during working hours. As it is a messaging tool, it is not designed to replace a conversation. To discuss your child's learning or concerns, it is still best to schedule an interview and meet the teacher face to face. As you can appreciate, teacher's days are busy teaching and they may not be able to respond to you immediately. Additionally, teachers may not open their class app during their private hours outside of school time.





# PEAKHURST PUBLIC SCHOOL

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## **Information about data storage & privacy**

Through the use of the Class Dojo app, data is stored by Class Dojo for our use and access. Class Dojo collects only the name of the student which is needed to sign up for the service. They do not ask for gender, number, student ID, email or their address. Class Dojo has a comprehensive security and privacy system, settings and policy. Their mission is to "provide a service that keeps students safe and puts teachers and parents in control of how student information is shared."

**For more information on Class Dojo's privacy policy please visit**

<https://www.classdojo.com/privacycenter/>

Feel free to add comments and likes on the photos posted on the Class Story and your child's portfolio. Please keep in mind that everything you write on the Class Story can be seen by everyone in the class Cyber bullying will not be tolerated. Inappropriate use of this site will result in immediate blocking of access to this site and will be followed up by the school. Please use the following link to access information on this important topic.

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/media/downloads/schoolsweb/studentsupport/behaviourpgrms/antibullying/cyberbullying.pdf>

Kind Regards,

Mrs Schafer and Mrs Reardon  
Class Dojo Coordinators

Ms Lawson  
Principal

