



St John Vianney's Parish School

NEWSLETTER

I WILL SHOW YOU THE WAY TO HEAVEN

TERM 1

MAY 20 2020

Number 7

Dear Parents and Carers,

With the easing of lockdown restrictions, it is important that we all maintain social distancing protocols when dropping children in the morning and picking them up each afternoon. There were changes to afternoon pick up which were placed on the skoolbag app last week. Parents are requested to collect children in K-2 from the amphitheatre, Year 3 and 4 children from outside their classrooms and Year 5 and 6 children from outside their classrooms as well. The gate that leads from the school carpark to the Year 5 and 6 building will be open at 3:00pm each day to make it easier for parents.

Attached to the newsletter this week is a letter from our executive Director Mr Greg Whitby. Mr Whitby's letter outlines the change to assessment and reporting for Terms 1 and 2 given the restraints placed on schools and teaching and learning during Covid-19. In conversations that I have had with Mr Whitby, he quite rightly acknowledges the challenges placed on teachers and parents in ensuring that our children continue to learn, even though it is in a very different manner to which everyone is accustomed. As children have been returning to school over the last few weeks, I have been asking them how they feel about being back and overwhelmingly, they report that they are very happy to return.

Yesterday we received notice that all Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta schools will return to full time, face-to-face teaching from Monday 25th May. A letter from our Executive Director was posted on the skoolbag app and children who attended school yesterday would have received a copy. This is in line with the Premier's earlier announcement that state school students would also return on that date. Parents will still need to observe social distancing protocols by leaving immediately when dropping off and picking up children.

Please do not bring your children to the classrooms. There will also be no assemblies until further notice, non-essential personnel and visitors will not be on-site and we will continue to promote sound hygiene practices. Once again, I thank you all for your patience, understanding and co-operation.

As we return to full time schooling, it is understandable that some children might be a little anxious about their return. One of the best ways parents can ease any anxiety is to reassure children that feeling nervous about returning to school is normal. Re-establishing your usual morning and evening routines will help of course, as will ensuring that children go to bed at a reasonable time and get sufficient sleep. Our school counsellor (Julie Poli) has put together a suggestions sheet for parents which is attached to this newsletter. I urge all parents and carers to read it. Should you have any concerns about your child returning to school, please don't hesitate to contact the school and together, we can work to ensure a smooth transition for your child

Cameron Lievore
Principal

IMPORTANT AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday 25th May
Winter Uniform for all
students

**Newsletter available
on Skool Bag App or
subscribe through our
School Website**

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19 May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

This morning (Tuesday 19 May), NSW Premier Gladys Berejiklian announced the return to face-to-face teaching for students in all NSW public schools, effective from next Monday, 25 May. As a result, we are looking forward to welcoming students back full time from next Monday.

We understand that this morning's news will see students return to school much sooner than many of us expected. Your school will provide you with more information in the days ahead as preparations for the full return to at-school learning continue.

I want to reassure you that the safety of our communities remains our priority. The relevant government and health authorities have provided assurances that it is safe to welcome students back. Our schools will continue to reinforce important health and hygiene messages.

Thank you for the way you have responded to challenges of COVID-19, including making the transition to at-home learning and balancing your child's learning with work arrangements. As always, if you have any concerns about your child's learning or wellbeing, please contact your school.

Yours sincerely



Gregory B Whitby
Executive Director
Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta

P.S. We're here to help! A reminder that information about fee relief is also available on your school's website.

LEARNING FOR TODAY'S WORLD



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9840 5600



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Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for the many ways you have supported your child's continued learning as, together, we have responded to the challenges of COVID-19. Our students, families and teachers have shown great resilience, creativity and flexibility.

In response to changes to the learning and teaching environment during COVID-19, schools have needed to adjust their assessment and reporting processes. While this report will look different, it will still provide you with valuable information about your child's learning, while complying with government requirements.

This 2020 first semester report recognises and reflects each student's learning in three key areas: English, Mathematics and Religious Education. The 2020 second semester report will return to documenting progress in all key learning areas.

Of course, school reports never surpass the richness of the learning conversations parents and carers can have with their child's teacher. We understand that you will have many insights to share about your child's current needs too.

Thank you for being part of our caring Catholic school community. As always, our dedicated teachers welcome conversations about your child's learning and wellbeing.

Yours sincerely

Gregory B Whitby AM KSG
Executive Director
Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta

LEARNING FOR TODAY'S WORLD



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Transition Back To School - Routines

In the next couple of weeks, children will gradually be returning to school after weeks of remote learning. Routines during remote learning may look very different to a typical school day. Your children may be accustomed to going to sleep later and/or waking up later. They may have had more freedom in the morning to play and watch t.v and their meal times may have been whenever they felt hungry. Here are a couple quick tips to help make the transition from home to the classroom easier for you and your child.

Validation: Let your child know that their nervous or apprehensive feelings about returning to school are normal. The knowledge that they are not alone in this experience will help your child feel that they are being heard and understood. For further ideas on supporting your child's emotions during this time refer to the 'Reconnect and Re-engage' handout on St Patrick's parent ilearn@home site.

Morning Routines: Create structure and predictability with a morning routine. Use this routine even on the days that they are not going to school, this way your child knows what is going to happen and has clear expectations. A morning routine may include: wake up at ... o'clock, shower/brush teeth, get dressed, have breakfast, leave the house by ... o'clock. A visual chart may help to keep everyone on track. .

Afternoons: Try to implement an afternoon (after school) routine that is typical for your family on a school day. For example: afternoon tea, outdoor play, reading, indoor play, dinner.

Bedtime: Bedtime can be one of the hardest transitions. Having good sleep is vital in children's learning, memory and emotional stability. Sleep restores our kids' brains and allows their bodies to repair. The hormone levels that rise during the day can return to normal levels when our children sleep. Children aged 5-13 years need an uninterrupted 9 to 11 hours of sleep per night. The following can assist in ensuring your child gets a good night sleep: have a consistent bed and wake up time, a calm night time routine, avoid screens one hour before bedtime, and keep bedrooms as screen free zones.

Ultimately, be guided by your knowledge and history of what best supports your child during times of change and transition.

References:

<https://childmind.org>

<https://www.parentingideas.com.au>

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Week 4 Term 2

What is your disposition?

Disposition: a person's inherent qualities of mind and character.

It's an interesting question. Where are the characteristics placed on what make us the people we are, in our values, outlook on life and actions?

We would hope to be able to say that our disposition is placed in the Gospels, wouldn't we?

To ask this question though we are beginning a process of self-reflection.

How do we think? Where is our thinking directed?

What are our feelings towards others and the circumstances around us, and in what way does our care for others show?

How do my actions relate to what I value?

Why is this important?

Gradually, as a school, we aim to begin developing a language and approach to learning and interacting with each other, that encourages the students to ask the question "How am I going?"

One way we can help in this, is breaking up this question into Head, Heart and Hand.

How is our thinking - **head**? How are we feeling - **heart**? And how are we acting - **hand**?

In our approach to many things these questions can become central.

In my thinking - Head: Am I being **attentive** to what is needed? Am I being **intelligent** in my understanding? Am I being **responsible** for what I need to do? Am I being **reasonable** with those around me?

In my feelings - Heart: Am I giving enough time to be **contemplative**? Am I **empathetic** of the needs of others? How **humble** am I being in putting the needs of others above my own? Am I being **loving**?

In my actions - Hand: How **present** am I being to those around me? Am I active in getting things done? Are my actions **compassionate**? Is what I am doing **effective** to make a difference?

As we move across the term and through the year, these questions can form a basis for stopping and self-checking how we are: our disposition.

They can form a good basis for success in the people we want to be.

Simon Stennett

Religious Education Coordinator

ENROLMENTS 2021

Enrolments Forms for Kindergarten and all other grades are available from the school office.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Parents are reminded that students will be required to wear their winter uniform in Term Two. However, due to the unseasonal weather we are asking parents to use their discretion in deciding which uniform is best suited, summer or winter, during the first 5 weeks of Term Two. **It will be compulsory for all children to be wearing their full winter uniform from Monday 25th May, Week 5 of Term 2.**

Please ensure that your child wears a jacket to school as it becomes colder so that they are comfortable and don't get sick. **Also, please make sure that all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name and class.** Often, there are many items that are lost but do not have a child's name on them. This makes it difficult to find and hand clothing back to the owner.



School Fee Relief

We understand that many families are severely affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. If you are experiencing financial hardship as a result of loss of employment or other reasons that has a significant income reduction, you may apply for a Fee Relief. Application for Fee Relief Information and procedures to apply can be accessed by clicking this [LINK](#). The page includes a list of 'Frequently Asked Questions'.

For any assistance you may contact Mrs Irma Dawinan, Senior School Finance Officer on 02 8869 6300 or email at idawinan@parra.catholic.edu.au. All conversations will remain strictly private and confidential.

DROPPING OFF & PICKING UP STUDENTS

As the number of children return to school increases, please note the following arrangements:

Mornings: Parents are to drop their child at the school gate, adjacent to the school office, and leave straight away.

Afternoons: K-2 students are to be picked up from the amphitheatre.
Yr. 3 & 4 students are to be picked up outside their classrooms.
Yr. 5 & 6 students are to be picked up outside their classrooms.

The gate that leads from the school carpark to the Year 5 and 6 building will be open at 3:00pm each day to make it easier for parents.

Thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

TERM 2 CALENDAR

| | | |
|--------|--------|--|
| Monday | May 25 | Winter Uniform for all students |
| Monday | June 8 | PUBLIC HOLIDAY – QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY |
| Friday | July 3 | LAST DAY OF TERM |

TERM 3 COMMENCES FOR ALL STUDENTS ON MONDAY 20TH JULY

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2020

Term 2 Monday 27th April to Friday 3 July

Term 3 Monday 20th July to Friday 25th September

Term 4 Monday 12th October to Friday 18th December

◆ Students finish Wednesday 16th December

LIBRARY NEWS
2020 Premier's Reading Challenge

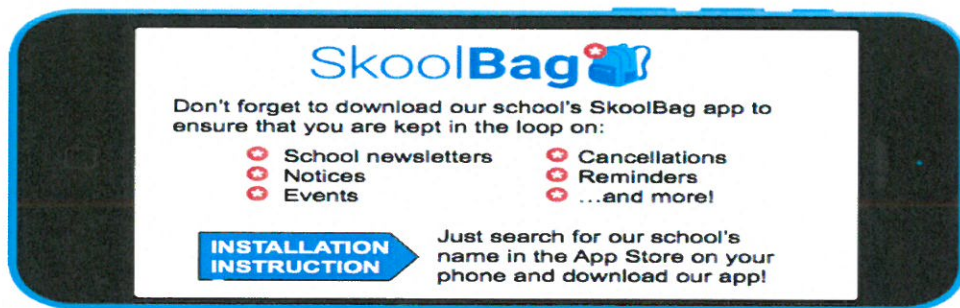


Congratulations to the following students who have completed the Premiers Reading Challenge for 2020.
Aidan Lobo, Emma Bajada, Caitlin Morales, Scyanna Du Ross, Jaideen Labo, Adia Aniano, Timothy Cheng, Chanel Morales, Natasha Kuhu, Emily Bottomley, Hrishi Koduri, Teejay Pineda, Gian Portelli & Alanna Jomon.

Well done!!
Mrs Kersivien
Teacher/Librarian

KEEP US INFORMED

If you have changed your address, email address or phone numbers, please update via the Skoolbag App or contact the school office as soon as possible. It is important to have ALL contact details up to date for our records to ensure we can contact you when necessary.



MEDICATION

If your child requires medication during the day, e.g. antibiotics, please send a note to the office together with the medication, details of dosage and time to be administered. If medication is required is required for a period of 5 days or more, a form will be sent home for completion. Just a reminder that **NO MEDICATION** is to be in your child's school bag. All medication must be kept in the office as we need to record all medication given to students.

The School's First Aid Officer require updated copies of all Asthma Management Plans and Anaphylaxis Action Plans so that we are prepared to help your child in case of an emergency.

WASHING HANDS ~ HEALTH NSW

What is the correct amount of time to wash your hands?

Wet **your hands** with **clean**, running water (warm or cold), turn off the tap, and apply soap. Lather **your hands** by rubbing them together with the soap. Lather the backs of **your hands**, between **your** fingers, and under **your** nails. Scrub **your hands** for at least 20 seconds.



COUGH ETIQUETTE



Cover your cough

- When coughing or sneezing cover your nose and mouth
 - Dispose of the tissue afterwards
- If you don't have a tissue cough or sneeze into your elbow.

Wash your hands

- After coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose, wash your hand with soap and water
- Use alcoholic-based hand cleansers if you don't have access to soap and water

CHILD PROTECTION

Building Child Safe Communities New procedures reminders for volunteers

<http://ceo-web.parra.catholic.edu.au/asp/volunteerscpmodule/index.asp>

If you are considering volunteering for school excursions, sports carnivals etc. it is important to complete the requirement as set out below.

It is a system requirement that child protection training be completed by all volunteers commencing work in our school and a briefing every second year for existing volunteers.

An online training module for use by volunteers.

1. Open the module by clicking the Start link below.
2. Read through the presentation.
3. Complete and submit quiz questions. This will take approximately 45 minutes.
4. After successful completion of the module, fill out the form by typing your name, email address, contact number, contact address and the school you intend to volunteer at.
5. A notification of your successful completion of the module will be sent via e-mail to the school and also to your email address.

Click on Start the module.

Volunteers

<http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/volunteers>

Thank you for your interest in volunteering. The opportunities provided to students are greatly enhanced by the contribution of volunteers.

ALL VOLUNTEERS MUST COMPLETE STEP 1 AND STEP 2

Step 1: Complete 'Building Child Safe Communities - Undertaking for Volunteers' Form

You will need to complete a Volunteers Form for each location that you volunteer. A notification of your successful completion of the form will be sent via e-mail to the volunteering location and also to your email address.

VOLUNTEER FORM

PRIVACY STATEMENT

Step 2: Complete the online training module

It is a system requirement that the online training module be completed by all volunteers commencing at any of our locations and the training needs to be completed every second year.

- Open the module by clicking the **Start** link below.
- Read through the presentation.
- Complete and submit quiz questions (this will take approximately 10 minutes).

TRAINING MODULE

PRIVACY STATEMENT

COMMUNITY NEWS



KINDERCARE LEARNING CENTRE BEFORE and AFTER SCHOOL PICKUP & DROP OFF DAILY SERVICE

Kindercare Learning Centre located in Doonside is a privately owned centre offering a variety of services including Long Day, Before & After School Care and Vacation Care for ages 0-12 years. Full Government subsidy and eligibility offered.

Our centre is open 7am to 6pm all year round.

Our Before School Care operates from 7.00am – 8.45am.

Our After School Care operates from 3.00pm to 6.00pm.

For further enquiries, or **to make the switch** please contact Jackie De Abreu on (02) 9622 8214 or visit our website www.kindercare.com.au

ST ANDREWS COLLEGE



2021 Year 7 & 11 Enrolment

St Andrews College is about creating dynamic learning environments that challenge and nurture students to be people of compassion, companion, confidence, competence, creativity, conscience and with the conviction of faith to transform the world.

Parents who wish to enrol their child at St Andrews for Year 7 or 11 2021 must submit an Application for Enrolment as soon as possible, otherwise your child may miss out on a place. At present we only have a few places left.

Parents can download an Application for Enrolment from the College website or phone the College on 9626 4000.



YEAR 7 2021



Patrician Brothers' College Blacktown

ENROL NOW



CONTACT US **8811 0300**

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