



SACRED HEART NEWSLETTER

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Week 10

Term 1

30th March 2020

Dear Parents, Carers & Students

Since the last edition of the school newsletter went home, our world has changed forever! Today I would like to write to you not only as in a principal capacity but also as a friend. As all of us will be facing a number of challenges in the very near future.

As our prime minister Scott Morrison mentioned last week, this crisis is a one in a hundred year event. History speaking, he is actually correct as it is nearly 90 years since the Great Depression and just over a 100 years since the world encountered the Spanish Flu. For all of us, we have never encountered anything like COVID-19 and the side effects it is having on our everyday life.

We are living in uncertain times and through this situation, we are seeing the worst and best of humankind. As you may well know and also you may have been personally involved with, the problem of panic shopping and now we are faced with a situation of no toilet paper and other items that we take for granted. It was heartbreaking to see a photo that went viral on social media, an elderly and vulnerable lady staring at the empty shelves in a shopping aisle crying! As well as the various clips showing people physically fighting over toilet paper.

Yet we are also seeing the very best of humankind as well. As in the United States, two children putting on a violin performance for their neighbour who has put herself in isolation. An image that stood out for me was a woman who recently got engaged standing on the other side of a window showing her grandfather who is locked down in a nursing home, her engagement ring. Also in Spain, which is currently in lockdown, some policemen performing with song and guitar to the various people, in order for them to keep their spirits up.

Many of us are in a very vulnerable position, especially with our relatives who are already suffering from various ailments. I am in the same predicament. My father suffers from a chronic lung condition and is on a respirator 24 hours a day. Simply put, if he gets any type of flu or cold, he is in big trouble. I am taking leave from the beginning of next week until the end of Week 2 next term to assist

my mother with his daily care. In a way I am actually looking forward to it as my parents will see me again as a son, not as a person who is preoccupied with work commitments. I know that I have mentioned in the past about spending quality time with your family. This is probably the first time in roughly twenty years that I have put my family first before my career.

I am in that generation where my parents are not overly religious and my grandmother used to take me to celebrate weekly Mass when I was a child. However, when I was speaking to my mother recently, she mentioned that for all of society to get through this crisis associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, we need to show love in which she used St Paul as an example. Paul in his letter to the Corinthians mentioned: **Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.** If all of us used this as our inspiration, the world would be a better place at the moment.

Anyway from a principal perspective, in the very near and long term future, teaching and learning is going to be very different to what we have experienced previously. I cannot guarantee at the moment, if the school will even be open at all during Term 2. We have taken measures to ensure that quality teaching will still be happening, in which every student will have access to. We need to look at the structure of the student's workday. It simply won't work in the normal 8.45am-2.45pm in which the school operates. At home, a typical school day will be around 3 hours with emphasis on literacy, numeracy and religious education. I have been and still am offering for students to use their school chromebooks for home usage and also for our K-1 classes, physical resources that they can use to assist with their learning. Information has been sent home already and no doubt there will be more information coming in the very near future. ***Please check your Compass platform each day as notification will be heading your way in regards to the children's online home learning for Term 2.***

Normally I end my passage for the school newsletter with: have a great fortnight. Times are tough at the moment and I no doubt it could get worse in order to stop the spread of this virus. Take care and I will definitely see you in the very near future at the front gates of the school when we'll eventually get back to some form of normality. There is light at the end of the tunnel. Now we just need to get there. All of us will get through this and when we do, we will definitely have a community barbecue on the school grounds (my shout!).

Dallas Hyatt



***Students Of The Week
for Attitude, Values and Study Habits
Week 8***

K-1 Kiara

Yr 2-4 Coen

Yr 5-6 Karter

PRINCIPAL'S AWARD

Ava T: for the enthusiasm and dedication that she had shown at the dance workshop held last week.

25 Readers Awards

Ellie, Kayla, Lachlan, Kiara and Grace.



Happy Birthday to the following people who celebrate their birthday in April school holidays ~ **Mrs Rees** who celebrates her birthday on the Tuesday 14th, **Steven** (10) on Thursday 16th, **Ava T** (10) on Saturday 18th, **Kayla** (5) on Sunday 19th, **Hannah** (11) on Tuesday 21st and **Ms Traynor** Wednesday 22nd April. We hope you all have a great day!

SCHOOL FEES

I know this is a hard thing to think of at this time, but the school still has running costs, so we ask that if you have outstanding school fees, if they could be paid before the end of term (9th April). Considering the circumstances we would prefer direct payment, however if you need to pay cash that will be fine. If you are having difficulty with this matter, please contact the school to make alternative arrangements.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Prayer to Patroness of Diocese

Mother of God and Queen of the Angels.
We fly to you today as your beloved children.

We ask you to intercede for us with your son, as you did at the wedding in Cana.

Pray for us, loving Mother and gain for our Dioceses, for our nation and for the world, and for all our families and loved ones, the protection of your son Jesus and of all his holy angels, that we may be spared the worst of this illness.

For those already afflicted, we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance.

Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful, wipe away their tears and help them to trust. Amen

Project Compassion Fund Raiser

Congratulations to **Tom Watt** who was the winner of the **Easter Egg Guessing Competition**. Tom was the closest to the exact amount of 149 eggs with his guess being 152 eggs. The money raised is going directly to Project Compassion. Tom can collect his box of eggs from Wednesday morning on. Thank you to all who participated.



SCHOOL RESUMES (HOPEFULLY!)

MONDAY 27TH APRIL



