



SACRED HEART NEWSLETTER

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Week 3

Term 2

11th May 2020

Dear Parents, Carers & Students

Happy Mother's Day for yesterday. I hope all of the mothers/grandmothers of the Sacred Heart Learning Community had a fantastic day and that you were spoilt with an endless supply of gifts, as well as having the chance to take a well earned break and catching up with other family members either physically or online.

It is great to be back! After spending the last five weeks isolating and following strict social distancing, it was great to relax, spend some quality time with my parents as well generally doing various chores around their house. I have to admit I am very relieved I'm not a full time pumpkin farmer as I spent a large amount of time harvesting pumpkins and I didn't realise that there is a branch of science associated with growing the perfect pumpkin in my parents eyes! A big thank you goes out to Mrs Howarth as well as Mrs John for filling in my role during the last three school weeks. It is very much appreciated!

Hopefully this week will be the start of the lifting of various restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and sooner rather than later, we can have that community barbecue that I promised that I will host in my last principal's message when all restrictions have been lifted.

Tomorrow will see the beginning of the first phase getting students receiving face to face lessons once a week. Students in Kindergarten, Year 2 and Year 5 will be here tomorrow while the students in Year 1, Year 3 and 4 as well as Year 6 will be at school on Thursday. Can you ensure that your child brings in their chromebook as well as any other resources that you believe that they will need for these days? As mentioned in a message that went home last Thursday, the students can wear their sports uniform on either the Tuesday or Thursday.

I know that there still might be families who are considering keeping their child/ren at home due to a number of reasons. If you are considering still following this option, can you please contact me.

Please note that the school is still open everyday for students of essential workers and we have had a number of students who have been attending school nearly everyday since this term has commenced.

At the moment online learning modules will be delivered for learning at home as well as in the classroom to ensure that all learning is consistent, fair and no one is disadvantaged and I hope that no one has encountered major problems with the accessing of these items. I would like to thank all of the teachers who have spent a large amount of hours developing their I.T skills as well as planning, delivering, sorting out various problems and providing feedback on your child's learning.

As you know this pandemic has caused a number of factors that have had a huge impact on our lives. May is normally quite a busy month in our school year with the Gunnedah Eisteddfod, Real Talk workshops, Online NAPLAN, Catholic Education Week as well as various local and diocesan sporting events. All of the events mentioned have either been cancelled or postponed to later in the year. This pandemic will also have an impact with our reporting methods and procedures for this semester as well. To accommodate for the number of changes that COVID-19 has made to the delivering of education over the last two months, our school reporting format will be changing to accurately indicate your child's progress both in the classroom and at home. The teachers will be meeting tomorrow to work on the most suitable option for reporting proposed by the Catholic Schools Office that will work in our context. Please be aware that our reporting styles and/or format may differ from other schools throughout the diocese. I will let everyone know what our approach to reporting will be in the very near future.

I think that it about it from me. Have a great fortnight and I will hopefully see all of you in the very near future.

Take care and God bless.

Dallas Hyatt



Happy Birthday to **Kayleigh** who celebrates her 11th birthday today as well as **Kiarah** will be turning 7 on the 21st May. We also hoped Mrs Wise had a great day last Thursday and also Mrs Goddard who celebrated her birthday yesterday.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

O Lord,

Grant me your strength, so I will have courage in every situation;

Grant me your love, so I will never give up on anybody;

Grant me your wisdom, so I will show others the path to success;

Grant me your mercy, so I will forgive those who have hurt me;

Grant me your peace, so I will find the best in everybody;

Grant me your hope, so I will never give up;

Grant me your joy, so I will be thankful for all my blessings;

And Grant me your grace, so you will always be at my side.

Amen

"Today children are a sign. They are a sign of hope, a sign of life but also a *diagnostic sign*, a marker indicating the health of families, society and the entire world. Wherever children are accepted, loved, cared for, and protected, the family is healthy, society is more healthy, and the world is more human."

Pope Francis, Bethlehem, 2014.

PROCEDURES FOR STAFF & STUDENT STAGGERED RETURN TO SCHOOL

To ensure that we are maintaining the highest level of hygiene and safety when staff and students return to school, we will be implementing the following procedures:

- Regular temperature checks.
- Disinfecting of classrooms and playground equipment on a daily basis.
- Hand sanitiser readily available for staff and students to access throughout the school.

If you plan to pick your child up from school, can you continue to observe and practice the current social distancing rules.

We appreciate everything that is already being done to prevent the risk of infection during this pandemic.

A FEW PHOTOS FROM OUR STUDENTS HOME LEARNING EXPERIENCES



