

04 June 2020

Dear Students and Families,

This is our final update before students return to school on Tuesday. I imagine that many of you face this transition with mixed emotions. Some may be anxious and wondering why the Victorian Government didn't wait till Term 3, some probably can't wait and wonder why we didn't come back sooner. Others swing somewhere between the two. These thoughts and emotions are both real and reasonable. At this time, it might be worth remembering that we are not alone: *"Do not be afraid, for I am with you" (Isaiah 41:10)*

Since the rollercoaster of COVID-19 started in early March our actions have always been guided by the Victorian Chief Health Officer, Professor Brett Sutton; the Department of Health and Human Services; the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria and the Department of Education. This continues to be the case.

Should it be deemed unsafe for our school to be open, we would close immediately. If this were the case, families would initially be notified by text message, followed later by a link to more detailed information.

Over the past two weeks much time has been spent in planning for the return of students and staff. The accompanying *Return to School Guide for Students* outlines the steps we need to take to reduce the risk of coronavirus transmission and to provide a safe working and learning environment for students and staff.

Please read and discuss this guide with your child, particularly the advice around hand washing and physical distancing, both at school and as we move about the community.

Families are reminded that it is important to continue to monitor our own health and the health of everyone in the family. If you, your child or a member of the family develops any flu or cold like symptoms (fever, chills or sweats, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath or a runny nose), please:

- Stay at home and do not attend school.
- Seek medical advice.
- Call the school and let us know.

All schools are limiting non-essential adults on the school site. Parents / Carers are reminded that they should only come to the school if it is essential. Where possible, we ask that you ring. There can only be 1 adult in the office at a time. Please wait outside if someone is already at the counter, use the hand sanitiser provided before coming to the counter and follow the physical distancing protocols.

As we navigate this next phase of COVID-19, we will continue to update and communicate with families through SMS with links to the College website.

Thank you for your continued support and all you've done during this period of *Learning from Home* and now in preparing students to return to school. We are certainly looking forward to welcoming students back on Tuesday.

Yours sincerely,



Christina Utri
Principal