



# Maronite College of the Holy Family NEWSLETTER

23-25 Alice Street, Harris Park, 2150

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**Term 1 - Week 9: Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents/ Guardian

As the threat of this virus continues to spread, I would like to assure you that all necessary precautions are being put in place at the College. It is our utmost priority to make sure all the students and staff are looked after accordingly. I urge you to continually remind your children to exercise proper hygiene and not to touch other students.

We are continually following advice from the Department of Education in relation to procedures we must follow.

Please note the following important dates in your calendars:

- Remote Learning commenced on Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020 for all students at the College and for all the students who have chosen to stay at home. All students will be treated equally as per Government advice.
- The final day that the College will be open for students will be Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020.
- Remote Learning from home will conclude on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> April 2020 for all students.
- Term 2 Concludes for all staff and students on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> April 2020.
- Unless otherwise notified, Term 2 Commences for students on Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

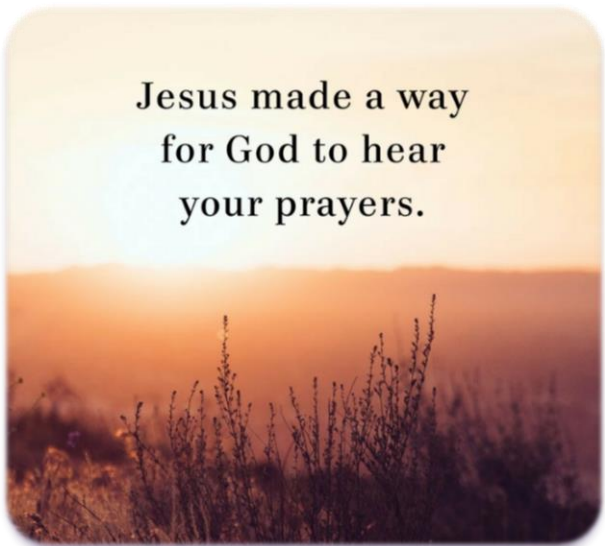
**Should you require any further details, please contact the College.**

### **Prayer for people who are infected with COVID-19 or facing quarantine**

*Jesus, during Your ministry on Earth You showed Your power and caring by healing people of all ages and stations of life from physical, mental, and spiritual ailments. Be present now to people who need Your loving touch because of COVID-19. May they feel Your power of healing through the care of doctors and nurses.*

*Take away the fear, anxiety, and feeling of isolation from people receiving treatment or under quarantine. Give them a sense of purpose in pursuing health and protecting others from exposure to the disease. Protect their families and friends and bring peace to all who love them. Amen.*

**Sr Irene Boughosn  
PRINCIPAL**



**Jesus made a way  
for God to hear  
your prayers.**

## HEAD OF PRIMARY MESSAGE

Today I begin by thanking all the Primary staff for the extra effort they have made over recent weeks amidst the growing uncertainty of current events. They arrive smiling each day in order to continue the important role they play in the education of all students, even when they themselves, have faced the same feelings of insecurity that many other Australians are experiencing. I would also like to acknowledge Sr Irene for her continued support and leadership at a time when schools are guided by the decisions made by the government. This week, MCHF like all other schools, moved into the uncharted waters of Remote Learning. General daily plans from the Department of Education were modified and used for our students. This allowed Primary teaching staff to be fully prepared to begin daily plans based on their class programs from next Monday.



For parents, Remote Learning can appear to be a daunting task. It is important to remember, that it does not necessarily mean that you are now the teacher. Whilst we continue to meet the academic needs through the set learning tasks and activities provided, your role as a parent is to maintain structure, routine and offer face-to-face support. Teachers are aware that many families are going to be balancing the task of Remote Learning with the daily responsibilities of work and family life. As always, teachers are willing to assist in any way they can to ensure a smooth transition occurs for their students. This style of learning will produce numerous challenges for all involved, and teachers are appreciative of the patience and support shown by the MCHF parents.

### Friday Mass

Today the Primary staff and students joined in the celebration of Mass in a way that we have never done before, online. Although we couldn't be in the church, nor could we be in the one room, we found comfort in knowing that together we prayed as one family, especially in the uncertainty of the current situation. We also prayed for others in our community who need God's blessing at this time, especially Charbel Kassas and his family. May his healing hands lay upon us all.





### Learning from Home

As mentioned, remote learning began this week for most students. From the many work samples and photos that were sent to teachers, it appears students are enjoying the novelty of working from home. The puppet making in Stage 1 was rated as one of the most enjoyable activities by both students and parents. I wonder if we will see any creative puppet shows being produced? Let's wait and see.



### Learning at School

It seems that home was not the only place where all the fun learning was happening this week. Back at school, students from 2 Jade combined their artistic skills of painting to explore the Mathematics topic of symmetry. The colourful results demonstrate their wonderful achievement. Great work!



### Hygiene and Social Distance

All staff are continuing to emphasise the importance of personal hygiene. The College is also ensuring that a safe environment is provided to our MCHF community with more frequent cleaning schedule occurring throughout the day. This week, social distancing has been a popular topic of conversation amongst our older students. Seeing this awareness is not only encouraging, but shows a growing maturity which is vital in the current situation we find ourselves in. As always, discussing these issues at home with your students is also extremely beneficial.

### Holy Communion

A reminder that the Year 4 Holy Communion will now be held on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 2:00pm. Further details will be sent out at a later date.

### Project Compassion

A big thank you to all the families who donated to the Project Compassion Appeal over the past weeks. Project Compassion promotes faith, love, generosity, justice and peace. Each year, millions of Australians



come together to help the poor around the world in a hope to end poverty, promote justice and uphold the dignity of all people.

### Homework Club

This week was the final week of Homework Club for the term. From the beginning of next term, Homework Club will be held on a Monday afternoon from 3:20pm – 4:20pm in the Primary Learning Centre. The Monday session will replace the session currently held on a Wednesday. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms LeMerle and the Primary teachers who regularly assist each week to support our students. Your dedication is appreciated.

### 2020 Premiers Reading Challenge

Don't forget that even when learning remotely, students can still be completing the Premier's Reading Challenge. Encourage them to continue reading so that they can be transported into another world, time or place. Students can log onto the site, search for books to read, add books to their reading logs and track their progress. The race is on! <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/studentExperience.html#/>

### Applications for Approved Leave – Travel

Just a reminder that currently, the following applies to all MCHF families.

- Applications submitted for leave to travel, will not be accepted.
- Any family returning from an overseas trip **MUST SELF ISOLATE for 14 days prior to returning to College.** Medical documentation must be provided before returning to the College.

Mr D. Day

Head of Primary

## HEAD OF SECONDARY MESSAGE

### Student Success: Part 5 “Commitment”

This week we continue to breakdown the 7 aspects that achieve student success. This week we focus on Commitment. A student's commitment towards their education will bring success. When we see students committed to their learning, we see a student who works effortlessly to produce the best results they can achieve. It allows for students to take pride in their achievements and a source of feedback to help them identify areas for growth and improvement. Many of our students who have achieved success has come down to their consistent commitment they have applied in their studies.



### Remote Learning Feedback and Update

We understand the transition to remote learning is a challenge for everyone – parents, staff and students. As a College, we are working extremely hard to adapt to the transition and staff are working extremely hard behind the scenes developing online resources such as interactive tasks, videos, presentations etc. to ensure students can still continue their learning remotely.





The impact for students is definitely something we are aware of. The College Psychologist is still available to work with our students remotely. You are welcome to contact her at the College if you feel your child requires assistance with the transition.

Please note that you are no longer required to contact the College if your child will remain at home. As of Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2020 until the end of the term, all students will be marked as on flexible learning in our attendance system. This record will not impact your child's attendance record. Students who are still attending the College for supervision will be marked as present.

We are receiving daily messages and we are doing our best to adapt to the messages and announcements made. Therefore, please keep in mind that changes may be made on short notice due to government directives.

If you have any questions or require any clarification in regards to remote learning, please do not hesitate to contact the College and we will do our best to assist you.

#### **Remote Learning Plan for the Remainder of the Term**

As stated in the remote learning plan transition letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020, please see below the plan for the remainder of the term. Please note in Week 11 all students are required to remain at home and remote learn as a trial of continuity of learning should the College be instructed to close.



Week	Dates	Action
10	30/03/2020 – 03/04/2020	Secondary students continue access content via the College's learning management platforms (Moodle, Microsoft Teams or Microsoft OneNote). This will be communicated by each subject teacher.
11	06/04/2020 – 08/04/2020	<b><u>Remote Learning from Home – ALL STUDENTS</u></b> On Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> April 2020 until and including Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2020, students are to remain at home and learn remotely. These days will be a trial to guarantee continuity of learning should the College be instructed to close in the future.
<b>Term 1 concludes for staff and students on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2020. Unless otherwise notified, Term 2 commences for students on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2020</b>		

#### **Applications for Approved Leave (Travel)**

Please note the College will not be approving any applications for approved leave (travel) until we are cleared from the COVID-19 pandemic crisis we are in. Any pre-approved applications have been cancelled and those parents have been contacted.

#### **Year 12 Parent Teacher Interviews**

A reminder to Year 12 parents/guardians, the Year 12 Parent Teacher Interviews will no longer be held face to face. Parents/Guardians have been invited to email Year 12 teachers in the week beginning Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2020 for feedback on the progress of their child. During this week please be patient with Year 12 teachers for a response to emails. We ask for 48 hours to receive a response. For more information, please refer to the letter released via the College Website and App.

#### **College Forms**

A reminder to parents/guardians that the following forms are due to be returned to the College:

- College Events Permission Form (provided at the Parent Information Evening)
- Photography Form
- Medical Forms (if there are changes from 2019).

These must be returned as soon as possible to ensure the College can effectively operate this year. If you need additional

**Mr E. Asmar**  
Head of Secondary

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- Term 1 Ends on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April – All students are to continue with remote learning, **at home**, between Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April until the end of term.
- Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April – Term 2 Begins
- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May – Year 7 Immunisations + Years 8 and 11 Catch-ups
- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May - Year 7 (2021) Enrolment Interviews
- Monday 25<sup>th</sup> to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May – Years 7, 8 and 10 Half Yearly Exams
- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> to Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Year 10 Minimum Standards Test
- Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June – Year 9 Half Yearly Exams

## ★★★ CONGRATULATIONS ★★★

We are not liking this empty board, but looking forward to next term!



## THIS AND THAT

~ REMOTE LEARNING ~

*Yes we can! Ms Njeim and her little friends send encouragement to our students at home.*





Kindy know the importance of using hand sanitiser.



Year 12 Standard Maths class, led by Mr Shah, featuring Charbel Hadchiti and Jon Boumelhem.

rigs practice:

1. What is the distance between C and A?
2. What is the total area covered by the shape ABC?
3. What is the bearing of A from C?

Answers:  
1. Need to find  $\angle ABC = 65^\circ$  ( $20^\circ + 45^\circ$ )  
Got my angle sandwich:

## PARENT CORNER

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