



Maronite College of the Holy Family NEWSLETTER

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Term 2 - Week 5: Friday 29th May 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

On Monday we commence fulltime schooling for all students as per Government Instructions. For further details, please refer to our **Return to Full-time Schooling Guide** below.

All students should be at school unless:

- they have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition
- they are currently unwell.

I ask all parents to please continue to remind your children about safe hygiene practices. I also thank you and remind you to continue to exercise social distancing when collecting your children at the end of the day. This practice is for the safety of all.

Launch of the College YouTube Channel

Reminder that last week we launched our new YouTube Channel as a strategy to improve our communication with students and parents/guardians. It has also been established to assist with curriculum delivery where departments can purchase resources to add to their playlist. We encourage you and your child to subscribe to our channel by searching for *MCHF Parramatta* in YouTube.

On Sunday we celebrate the feast of Pentecost. This commences the new season in the Church calendar. May the Holy Spirit bless our Church. May the Church be a place where we go to worship and pray and find inner peace. I ask the Holy Spirit to come upon us and bless our families, communities, and Country from all harm.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit,
give me your gifts of wisdom,
understanding and knowledge.
Enlighten my mind
and inspire me during these
days of study and examinations.
Help me above all
to know what to do with my life
so that I may be a faithful follower of Jesus
and bring his love and truth into the world.
Amen.



**Sr Irene Boughosn
PRINCIPAL**

When we pray for the Spirit's help ... we will simply fall down at the Lord's feet in our weakness. There we will find the victory and power that comes from His love.



Return to Full-time Schooling Guide Effective Monday 1st June 2020

Attendance

- Attendance at the College returns to normal.
- Students absent from school are required to bring in a letter of explanation upon their return.
- Students who present with flu-like symptoms are asked to remain at home.
- Students showing any signs of sickness or become ill during the day, will be sent home.

College Activities

Activities that will resume

- Learning Centre facilities
- Non-contact sporting activities
- Work Placement for Year 11 VET students as of Term 3 (dates TBC)
- Homework Club

Activities currently cancelled until further notice

- Assemblies
- Incursions, excursions and camps
- Work experience
- K-12 events such as sport carnivals and inter-school activities
- Drinking from bubblers

Assessment and Reporting

Primary Department

- Semester 1 reports to be issued by the end of Term 2.
- Parent/Teacher interviews to be conducted via phone.

Secondary Department

- Assessment and Reporting will continue as normal.
- Secondary students will complete online half yearly exams.
- Reports will be issued for Semester 1.

College Grounds

- Parents/Guardians are not permitted to enter the College grounds for morning drop-off and must leave promptly after students have entered the gate.
- Students from Kindergarten to Year 2 will be dismissed from 3:00 pm each afternoon.
- Parents and Guardians are asked to leave the playground and area in front of the College immediately after students are dismissed. Please refrain from communicating with teachers at this time.
- Parent Volunteer assistance throughout the College will cease until further notice.
- Visitors are only permitted on College grounds for essential business services and must report directly to the School Administration Office.
- Canteen services will resume - online ordering is preferred.

HEAD OF PRIMARY MESSAGE

Next Monday 1st June, marks the day that the College resumes full-time onsite learning for all students. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the way in which you responded to the many challenges we faced over the recent months. The support provided to both your children and the staff during the Remote Learning period is very much appreciated. We look forward to welcoming back all of our students next week. We must also highlight the tremendous work and effort our staff have put in over the past month or so to ensure that learning continued for your child. Finally, a big thank you to Sr Irene who has successfully guided the College through this unforeseen period.

Communication with Teachers

During Remote Learning, parents were able to communicate to teachers via email. Now that we are resuming to full time face-face teaching, we ask that all communication is conducted via phone or email to the Primary Office.

Alternatively, you can write a brief note for your child to pass on to their teacher. This will ensure that any queries or concerns can be addressed promptly. In line with new health and safety procedures, we also remind you not to communicate with teachers at the end of the day as students are dismissed.

Dismissal

From next week, students from Kindergarten to Year 2 will be dismissed at staggered times starting from 3:00 pm. Parents are asked to leave the playground and area in front of the College, immediately after dismissal.

Homework

The College has invested in the Reading Eggs and Maths Online programs. These online programs will replace the current format of homework across Kindergarten to Year 6. Further details will be provided in a letter to be sent home on Monday.

Safety and Wellbeing

The safety and wellbeing of all members in our community is of great importance. When driving I urge everyone to comply with the road rules, especially within the school zone. As all students return to school next week, it is imperative that we are all more observant of the rules and their surroundings whilst driving. This will assist in maintaining a high level of safety for all in our community, especially our students.

General Parking Rules

Each day this week, the NSW Police have been monitoring the streets around the College. They have issued many parking fines to parents and other people in our community. Parking illegally can cause a number of hazards to other drivers and even pedestrians. The following is information provided by the NSW Government. Further information can be located by following this link. <https://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/roads/safety-rules/road-rules/parking.html>

You must not stop your vehicle (that is, bring it to a stop and either stay with the vehicle or leave it parked) in the following circumstances:

- To double park (that is in the road alongside a car that is parked)
- On or across a driveway or footpath
- On a median strip or traffic island
- In a clearway
- On footpaths and nature strips
- Between **BUS STOP, BUS ZONE, TAXI STAND or TAXI ZONE** signs
- In a safety zone or within 10 metres before or after a safety zone
- Within an intersection
- Within 1 metre of another vehicle parked in front or behind (does not apply when angle parking)
- Within 3 metres of any double centre lines
- Within 3 metres of an Australia Post letterbox unless dropping off or picking up passengers or mail
- Within 20 metres before and 10 metres after a bus stop
- On or within 20 metres before and 10 metres after a children's' crossing or pedestrian crossing
- Within 10 metres of an intersecting road at an intersection without traffic lights unless:
 - A sign allows you to park there
 - The intersection is a T-intersection without traffic lights, where you are permitted to stop along the continuous side of the continuing road



Drivers are to always:

- parallel park unless signs tell you otherwise.
- park in the same direction as the adjacent traffic.
- ensure your vehicle is parked parallel and as close as possible to the kerb. On a one-way street, you may also park on the right hand side of the road.
- park your vehicle entirely within any marked lines and at least one metre from any other parked car.

National Child Restraint Laws

The number of students who are currently being dropped off and picked up from school by car is on the increase. For this reason, I thought it timely to remind all parents of the National Child Restraint Laws pertaining to school

age children. Further information regarding this topic can be accessed via the following link:

<https://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/stayingsafe/children/childcarseats/index.html>

- All children **must be safely fastened** in the correct child car seat for their age and size.
- Children aged between 4 and 7 years old must be secured in a forward facing approved child restraint with an inbuilt harness or an approved booster seat.
- Children aged between 4 and 7 years old cannot travel in the front seat of a vehicle with two or more rows. This is only allowable if all back seats of the vehicle are occupied by children younger than seven years who are seated in an approved child restraint or booster seat.
- Children aged from 7 years but under the age of 16 years, who are too small to be restrained by a seatbelt properly adjusted and fastened, are strongly recommended to use an approved booster seat.
- Children in booster seats must be restrained by:
 - a suitable lap and sash type approved seatbelt that is properly adjusted and fastened.
 - an approved child safety harness that is properly adjusted and fastened.
- If your child is too small for the child restraint specified for their age, they should be kept in their current child restraint until it is safe for them to move to the next level.
- If your child is too large for the child restraint specified for their age, they may move to the next level of child restraint.

School Uniform

A reminder to all families that students must wear their **full winter uniform** to school each day. All uniforms must be worn neatly and correctly. It is expected that children have suitable hairstyles that comply with school expectations. Boys hair must be kept short without excessive hair product used. For girls, long hair must be tied back using appropriate hair accessories. Sleeper earrings and stud earrings may be worn. Students are to wear our school hat when outside. Please ensure that all items of clothing are labelled with your child's name and class. This makes for the easy return of items if they are misplaced. If for some reason your child cannot be in correct uniform, we ask that a note of explanation is sent to the class teacher. I thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Learning Centre News

Student borrowing will resume on Monday. Please ensure that your child has returned any books that they may have at home. We also remind them to bring their library bag so that books are protected.

Applications for Approved Leave – Travel

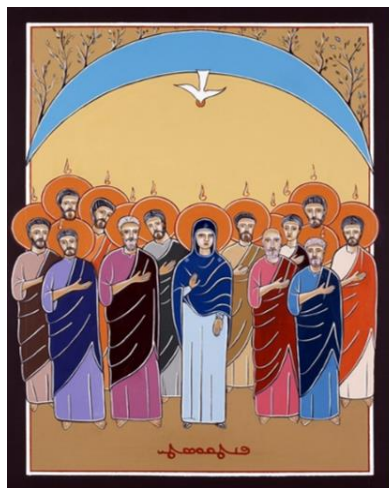
Just a reminder that currently, the following applies to all MCHF families.

- 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



This Sunday we celebrate the **Feast of Pentecost.**

This feast is of great importance as it marks the **coming of the Holy Spirit.**

The dove descending is the Spirit of the Living God. It descends from the blue heavenly realm and enters the **earthly realm to rest on Mary** who is speaking with the apostles.

Week 5 Summary and Highlights

This week our Year 7-10 students increased their day at the College to two-days. It allowed our students to further transition and settle back to normal College procedure. Our Year 10 students completed their half yearly exams online. The exams operated smoothly and the great success we had is providing an opportunity for the College to continue this format in the future which we will consider and evaluate once all half yearly exams have been completed. I thank our Director of

Curriculum, Ms Dalla, the KLA Coordinators and the teachers for their tireless efforts setting up the online exams

and I congratulate them of the success of the Year 10 exams. Next week our Year 7 and 8 students will complete their half yearly exams followed by Year 9 in Week 7. Please refer to the attachments for the Year 7, 8 and 9 Half Yearly Examination timetables.



Return to Full-Time Schooling

The College will return to full-time school on Monday 1st June 2020. Remote learning will conclude and we will revert back to face-to-face teaching delivery. Attendance will also revert back to normal procedure. Documentation will need to be provided to explain any form of absence. For any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the College.



Starting next week, Thursday bell times will be the same as Monday-Wednesday and Friday. There will be no inter-house sport competition; rather a pastoral session will be timetabled for Thursday afternoons. This will remain this way until further notice.

Please refer to the **Return to Full-Time Schooling Guide (above)** for more information. We take this opportunity to congratulate all parents/guardians for your efforts in supporting your child to continue their learning during remote learning. We thank our amazing staff for their tireless efforts and work to transition and maintain teaching and learning during remote learning.



Wellbeing Wednesday

This week on Wednesday 27th May 2020 was Wellbeing Wednesday. The day included various activities and initiatives to promote the importance of wellbeing and mental health. The highlight of the day was the morning breakfast for students, lunch for staff and a staff vs students volleyball match at lunch time. We thank Mrs Abdul Ahad for overseeing and coordinating the day along with the staff and College leaders who assisted her.

Year 5 and 6 Transition to Secondary Sessions

This term our Year 5 and 6 students will participate in transition to secondary sessions to prepare them for

secondary education.

- Year 5 students will spend half experiencing life in secondary education. Each year 5 class will have a scheduled ate to participate in this session. Year 5 Rainbow will have their session on Tuesday 9th June 2020 and Year 5 Opal on Tuesday 23rd June 2020. The other Year 5 classes will have their sessions in term 3.
- Year 6 students will participate in their next session on Tuesday 16th June 2020. Their session will be led by our Director of Curriculum and our Director of Pastoral Care presenting information on the secondary curriculum and pastoral care.

Year 7, 2021 Enrolments

Year 6 parents/guardians should have received now the Year 7, 2021 application package. Parents/Guardians are required to complete all the documentation and return them to the College. Completed and signed documents and the enrolment fees must be submitted and finalised in order for the enrolment to be confirmed. The forms are required to be returned by Friday 5th June 2020. Interviews will be scheduled later in the year.

Year 12 Students Parking at the College

Please be advised that Year 12 students who have permission to drive to the College will not be permitted to park at the Church Car Park until further notice. Students are requested to either park in the surrounding streets or catch public transport.

Uniform and Grooming

A reminder that all students at the College must be in full Winter Uniform. This includes blazers and ties. Students grooming must also ensure it meets the College's policy. Students who do not meet these requirements may be sent home.

Homework Club

Homework club has been moved to Monday afternoons from 3:20pm – 4:20pm. However, homework club will not commence this term due to COVID-19. We will advise when homework club will recommence.

Mr E. Asmar

Head of Secondary

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Monday 1st June – Back to onsite learning for everyone
- Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd June - Year 7 Half Yearly Exams
- Wednesday 3rd until Friday 5th June - Year 8 Half Yearly Exams
- **Monday 8th June - Queens Birthday Holiday**
- Tuesday 9th until Friday 12th June - Year 9 Half Yearly Exams
- Tuesday 30 June – Term 2 Ends for Students
- Tuesday 21st July – Term 3 Begins for Students

★★★ CONGRATULATIONS ★★★

All Rounder Awards – Eligh Nader, David Kozah, Christian Abboud, Joshua Azar (Year 1) - Fadia Taouk, Abraham Baissari, John-Pierre Maroun, Charbel El Asmar, Jason Zallouia, Serena Sadek, Joseph Dannouia (Year 3)

Bronze Awards –

Silver Awards –

Principal's Award –



THIS AND THAT

During Pastoral today, Year 12 leaders held a Question and Answer session with Year 7 students.



Today, the Year 11 Legal Studies class took part in a debate regarding Hate Speech Versus Religious Freedoms. This was specific to the infamous Israel Folau Instagram post of 2019. Both the Affirmative and Negative side debated fantastic points, illustrating maturity and accuracy in regards to evidence for both sides. Congratulations to our students for their dedication and the effort put into making the event memorable and educational. The winning team will enjoy McDonald's as their choice of reward.



Mr Asmar's Year 12 VET Construction class completing a surveying component of their assessment task. Students had to correctly set up a 6m x 4m area to prepare for a proposed concrete slab.



PARENT CORNER

Parents/Guardians: If you have changed any of your contact details, including your email address, please remember to *make the change/s through the **parent portal***.

This is extremely important, especially at this current time, as you will receive important documentation and urgent messages via email.

ALL FAMILIES are required to download the **SkoolBag app** (free) from your app store and create an account linked to our College. This ensures you receive urgent College news immediately.

BYOD LINK AND CODE

<https://www.jbeducation.com.au/byod/>

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Website: <http://www.mchf.nsw.edu.au/>

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