



Maronite College of the Holy Family NEWSLETTER

23-25 Alice Street, Harris Park, 2150
Tel: 9633 6600 Email: Admin@mchf.nsw.edu.au
Term 2 - Week 2: Friday 8th May 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

****Happy Mother's Day****



As we continue to travel through this blessed month I hope all mothers have a very special Mother's day.

May the presence of our Blessed Mother Mary fill your homes and shower you all with her healing and strength.

On the 13th of May we will be celebrating the feast of Our Lady of Fatima. I encourage all families to pray the rosary together on a daily basis.

Prayer to Our Lady of Fatima ***

O Most Holy Virgin Mary, Queen of the most holy Rosary, you were pleased to appear to the children of Fatima and reveal a glorious message. We implore you, inspire in our hearts a fervent love for the recitation of the Rosary. By meditating on the mysteries of the redemption that are recalled therein may we obtain the graces and virtues that we ask, through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

Primary Department – Term 2, Week 3 Return to School Plan

Arrangements have been made for Primary students to gradually return to school. The details of the return process were outlined in a letter sent out to all Primary parents. Over the next two weeks, whole grades will be asked to attend school on specific days. The schedule has been designed to reconnect students to College structures and class routines. It also provides a wonderful opportunity to reacquaint themselves with their friends and teachers.

On the days that students are not scheduled to attend the College, they will continue to work at home on the Remote Learning Plans emailed by their teachers each morning. The College of course, will remain open each day for those students who need to attend. A further update will be provided on Wednesday 20th May.

Secondary Department – Term 2, Week 3 Return to School Plan

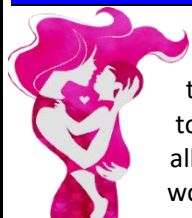
The College Secondary Leadership Team has devised a return to school plan for secondary students. Please refer to the letter sent during the week detailing the return to school plan for secondary students for **Term 2, Week 3 ONLY**.

Please note WEEK 4 SECONDARY PLAN WILL BE RELEASED ON WEDNESDAY 13TH MAY 2020. Every Wednesday, the College will release the Secondary plan for the following week until all students have returned to the College. This will be communicated to parents/guardians and students.

If you require any further clarifications regarding the secondary return to school plan, please contact the Head of Secondary, Mr Asmar.

Sr Irene Boughosn
PRINCIPAL

HEAD OF PRIMARY MESSAGE



Today the Primary staff and students joined in the celebration of Mass, which was streamed live through the internet. Although we could not be in the church, we found comfort in knowing that together we prayed as one family. Traditionally, today's mass would be a special celebration honouring all our mothers. Be sure to know, that you were all kept in our prayers as we thanked God for the special women in our lives who deeply love and care for us. I wish all our mothers a very special day on Sunday.



Mother's Day Stall

The Mother's Day Stall is an annual event that is always planned well in advance to ensure its success. A smaller version of the stall was opened today for the students who attended school. There was an array of wonderful gifts on offer for students to choose from. A big thank you to Mrs Mary Bechara for organising the event and to all the parents whose hands wrapped the many gifts. Thank you also to our wonderful support staff who assisted with setting up the stall and helping our students pick that perfect present for their mum.

K-6 Return to School

This week, notification was sent home regarding the return of K-6 students to the College. In order to follow government directives, students will return to school gradually so we can maintain health and safety measures for all members of our community. The two-week schedule begins from next Monday 11th May. It has been designed to reconnect students to College structures and class routines. The staggered return of grades provides a wonderful opportunity for your child to reacquaint themselves with their friends and teachers. For this reason, we encourage parents to follow the timetable, so we can manage the return of students to a regular routine. As always, the College will remain open each day for students who are vulnerable and for those whose parents are essential workers.



Week 3 Reminders

- Students are required to wear their full College winter uniform when they return to school, even if it is their usual sport day.
- If your child has access to a laptop, we encourage them to bring it to school during this period of transition.
- Any student absent on the specified day will be required to submit a note of explanation. This is in line with current procedure outlined in College Policy

During this transition period, teachers will have the challenging task of providing support to students at school as well as those learning from home. This will mean that there will be times when they are unable to respond as promptly to

remote learners as they have been. We ask for your patience as we work towards returning to our regular school routines.

Additional Safety and Cleaning Procedures

For those families who are returning to the College for the first time since Remote Learning began, the following procedures have been implemented so that we can ensure a high level of health and safety is maintained. Your compliance with these measures will be appreciated by all in our community.

- Each morning, staff will be at the front gate to welcome students.
- Parents are asked not to enter the College grounds unless necessary. Access is restricted to students, staff and approved personnel only. This is to ensure that the health and safety of all those in our community remains a priority.
- Access to the main office foyer is restricted to two people at any one time. Visits must be for essential business only.
- At the end of the school day, we request that parents stand in the restricted area so that we can maintain health requirements by limiting personal contact. It is also asked that you leave the College grounds immediately once your child has been collected and avoid conversing with other parents and students.
- Staff continue to emphasise the importance of personal hygiene. The College has ensured that a safe environment is provided to our MCHF community with a more frequent cleaning schedule and the instillation of wall mounted hand sanitisers in every classroom.
- Social distancing is also reinforced by all staff. This in line with government advice.
- Staff and students who present with flu-like symptoms are asked to remain at home. If they show any signs of illness or who become ill during the day, will be sent home.

School Uniform

A reminder to all families that full winter uniform is to be worn from Monday 11th May. 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 be labelled with your child's name and class. This makes for the easy return of items if they are misplaced. I thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Wellbeing

The wellbeing of all members in our community is of great importance. Teachers have been supporting student wellbeing by including activities in their daily work plans. These activities range from writing prayers, meditating and reinforcing healthy living. It has been wonderful to see the students and their families become so involved in this essential program. We thank all those who have sent in photos of their efforts and notes of appreciation. Check out the 'This and That' section of this newsletter to see some of the great work produced.

Scholastic Book Club

Scholastic Book Club have made a few changes to their ordering procedure. If you have ordered previously from Scholastic, your details will be on their LOOP database. All parents on this database, will be sent a link to the latest Book Club issue. Purchase orders can then be placed via LOOP, just as they always have. All Book Club orders will be home delivered for a \$5.99 delivery fee.

2020 Premiers Reading Challenge

Don't forget that even when learning remotely, students can still participate in the 2020 Premier's Reading Challenge. The rules for the challenge have been adapted to cater for the current pandemic situation. An update of the rules can be located using the following link. <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/rules.html>

A support article explaining how to add Bonus Choice Books to a student's Reading Record, has also been prepared to assist with this process. The article can be accessed via this link. [How do I add bonus choice books for 2020?](#)

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

Week 2 Remote Learning Feedback

This week we continued remote learning for all students. Supervision for students with essential parents or vulnerable students continued as well. We have witnessed an improvement of engagement during the week with students settled into a routine of learning. Our aim in this remote learning period is to remain as consistent as possible and keep daily structures and procedures as normal as possible. Students have been asked to complete a daily attendance form to provide the College some feedback on student's engagement and progress. Below shows the percentage of students who have been completing the daily attendance form:



Monday 4 th May	Tuesday 5 th May	Wednesday 6 th May	Thursday 7 th May	Friday 8 th May
81%	83%	85%	83%	82%

We remind you that students must complete the daily attendance form emailed to them through the daily announcements every morning. We are aiming to ensure the percentage is over 90%. Year Advisors will continue following up with students and making contact with parents/guardians.



Week 3, Return to School

As advised on Wednesday 6th May 2020, the return to school plan for secondary will commence on Monday 11th May 2020 with Year 11 and 12 returning fulltime. With flexible curriculum announced for K-10, we felt it is vital for our senior students to return and are priority at this present time. Week 4 will see the return of Year 7-10 students. This will be determined early next week and an announcement will be made on Wednesday 13th May 2020. We will continue to announce provide weekly updates on Wednesday until all students have returned fulltime.

		RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN – SECONDARY DEPARTMENT TERM 2, WEEK 3					
	Monday 11 th May 2020	Tuesday 12 th May 2020	Wednesday 13 th May 2020	Thursday 14 th May 2020	Friday 15 th May 2020		
Year 7	Remote Learn from Home	Remote Learn from Home	Remote Learn from Home	Remote Learn from Home	Remote Learn from Home		
Year 8	Remote Learn from Home	Remote Learn from Home	Remote Learn from Home	Remote Learn from Home	Remote Learn from Home		
Year 9	Remote Learn from Home	Remote Learn from Home	Remote Learn from Home	Remote Learn from Home	Remote Learn from Home		
Year 10	Remote Learn from Home	Remote Learn from Home	Remote Learn from Home	Remote Learn from Home	Remote Learn from Home		
Year 11	Attend School	Attend School	Attend School	Attend School	Attend School		
Year 12	Attend School	Attend School	Attend School	Attend School	Attend School		
Uniform and Grooming		Recess and Lunch		Morning Drop Off		Afternoon Pick Up	
Students attending the College are to be in Winter Uniform College Grooming Policy must be adhered to – this includes shaving and hairstyles.		Students will be in their designated areas for Recess and Lunch. These areas are split into different College grounds.		Secondary Students enter the College via Alice Street. No parent/guardian permitted to enter the College grounds.		Afternoon departure procedures remain as normal. No parent/guardian permitted to enter the College grounds.	
PLEASE NOTE							
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Supervision for vulnerable students and students with essential working parents will continue for Year 7-10 students.Every Wednesday, the College will release the Secondary plan for the following week.This plan may change based on advice and/or review. Parents/Guardians and students will be notified accordingly.							

Year 7, 2021 Enrolments

Commencing this week, the College will be contacting Year 6 parents/guardians to commence the Year 7, 2021 Enrolment process. Due to COVID-19 and the current pandemic we are facing, the application packages will be sent home. Parents/Guardians will be required to complete all the documentation and return them to the College. Interviews will be scheduled later in the year.

Year 7-10 Semester 1 Exams

Semester 1 exams for Year 7-10 students will continue this term as scheduled. However, the exams will be held online in a revised format. Students will be notified of the changes. Therefore, it is imperative that students continue to be engaged in their learning.

Year 11, 2021 Subject Selection

Year 10 students will begin their subject selection process as we commence preparation for the 2021 HSC years. In light of COVID-19, we have amended the process to ensure we are still able to conduct the process. We have set up a Microsoft Teams page as a one-stop-shop for everything to do with subject selection. Students have been emailed the information to enrol in the Microsoft Teams page and must enrol by Monday 11th May 2020.

Instead of the information evening taking place originally scheduled on Wednesday 20th May 2020, a video presentation will be released to parents to provide all the information required to know about the process.

Completed Refurbishment Projects

This week we finalised the refurbishment of the Secondary Hall Storeroom (which includes the delivery of new examination desks), the A Block Bathrooms and the delivery of new chairs for A201 and A202.



Uniform and Grooming

Commencing next week 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.

Playground Allocations

Commencing this term, we have made changes to student's playground allocations for recess and lunch based on feedback from students and staff. Year 7 and 8 students will be based in the B/C Block playground; Year 9 and 10 students will be based in the Grass Area; Year 11 and 12 students remain in their A Block playground.

Homework Club

Commencing this term, 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.

Elevate Education Parent Webinar

On Wednesday 6th May 2020, Elevate Education held its parent webinar with over 1600 parents/guardians tuning in. For any who missed the webinar, the **Motivation Cheat Sheet** containing the proven techniques discussed is available for you. Due to unprecedented demand, there will be another webinar on **Tuesday 12th May 2020** which will focus on **time management, organisation and beating procrastination**.

Event Title: Elevate Education – Time Management and Organisational Secrets

Date and Time: Tuesday 12th May 2020 @ 6pm

Sign-Up Link: <https://www.elevatecoaching.info/parent-webinar-aus-time-management>

Cost: Free

Mr E. Asmar

Head of Secondary

THIS AND THAT

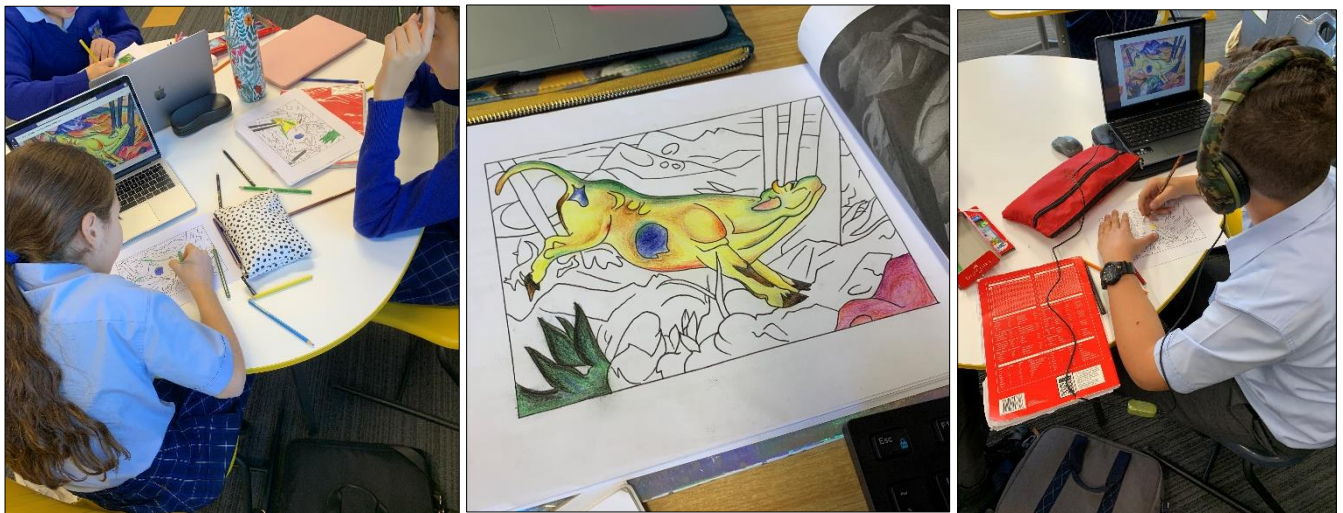
Kindergarten loves being active!



Year 3 making jelly with Ms Assaf and Mrs Ramsey and Year 6 investigate how the sun omits light.



Students in Year 7 are working on a colour drawing activity to understand how to blend colours and create mood, energy and excitement in artworks. These first two weeks of Term 2, they have been studying Franz Marc's "Cow" painting. They have learnt how to layer colours to make new colours and also add dimension and depth to their work.



This week Mrs Botros' Year 8 Technology class put their online learning skills, via the GROK learning course (from term 1), to the test! They discovered how to use a Python Coding language for their BBC micro-bits. They then used their python coding skills to program their BBC micro bit to read data from the soil in their very own garden patch.

This included the Temperature and moisture levels of the soil. Our young Agriculturists have now diversified their skills into python language program developers!!



PRIMARY WELLBEING ACTIVITIES

Years K-2 children made Veggie People!



Prayers, written by students from Years 4-6

Dear God,
Please help us through this time of stress for all of us and the people who have died from the corona virus. It is hard for us to be separated from our family and friends, Church and school but we trust in you that things will return to normal when it is safe. We pray for people who have lost their jobs and are suffering that they find their way to you. God bless our doctors and nurses who are working so hard to protect and save the sick. Amen

Matthew Zoghaib

Dear God,
Thank you for keeping me safe in this crisis. I pray that you keep us safe and end this mysterious case in a safe way. I hope that you will keep all my friends, teachers and relatives safe. I ask you to look over us and protect us and all people suffering from COVID-19!

I ask this through God's Will. AMEN

Bernadette Yaacoub

Dear Lord,
Thank you for putting a roof over my head, giving me food to eat and giving me the most wonderful family that takes care of me and loves me.
Please help me to be a better person to my brother through this tough time of the year. It has been difficult for all of us through this time. Thank you for guiding me through my schoolwork and making me concentrate more than ever. I would like to try stay off my phone so much and study a lot more so I can become the best I can.
I have been trying my best to keep my room clean and making my bed everyday so it's easier on my mum.
Thank you for keeping me and my family healthy and happy and always keeping us safe.
I hope you can forgive me for being rude to my brother and forgive all my sins.
Amen.

Sienna Younes

Reflections on Meditation

After a lovely meditation I felt more relaxed than ever. It also put a huge smile on my face.
Now after remote learning I can't wait to meditate with my family.
I have felt that I am breathing deeper. Knowing that makes me very proud of myself.
I enjoyed the meditation. Now I am just going to meditate daily.

Farrah Sleiman

I just finished my meditation and here is what I felt

1. I felt calm
2. Relaxed
3. Happy
4. Recharged

I had a lot of energy after meditating and really enjoyed it. Thank you.

Leigh-Shah Aflak

Yes! I'm excited about the meditation and would love see more of these things as part of our children's night routine



I'll let you know how we go.

MCHF Parent

SECONDARY STUDENT WELLBEING SURVEY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

<p>WHAT WENT WELL FOR YOU ON THE WEEKEND? I realized that if I keep track on my learning I will be more confident doing remote learning from home and understanding my work more.</p> <p>HOW DO YOU RATE YOUR ONLINE LEARNING TODAY? ★★★★★</p> <p>KNOW LOVE SERVE</p>	<p>Anthony Merheb</p> <p>Year 7 Student</p> <p>MCHF</p>	<p>WHAT WENT WELL FOR YOU ON THE WEEKEND? On the weekend my family and I did a bonfire, it was a really fun thing to do during quarantine! On Sunday we woke up early and got the morning mass ready on YouTube live video after that my family and I decided to do a movie night!!</p> <p>HOW DO YOU RATE YOUR ONLINE LEARNING TODAY? ★★★★★</p> <p>KNOW LOVE SERVE</p>	<p>Rafka Tawk</p> <p>Year 7 Student</p> <p>MCHF</p>
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MY DAILY PRAYER OR BIBLICAL QUOTE?

"Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong"

HOW DO YOU RATE YOUR ONLINE LEARNING TODAY?

★ ★

KNOW LOVE SERVE

Joyce Yaacoub



Year 8

Student

MCHF

MY DAILY PRAYER OR BIBLICAL QUOTE?

He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. And he will be their peace.

HOW DO YOU RATE YOUR ONLINE LEARNING TODAY?

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

KNOW LOVE SERVE

Anna Licha



Year 8

Student

MCHF

WHAT DO YOU MISS ABOUT SCHOOL?

Socialising with teachers and students and just having a routine in general.

HOW DO YOU RATE YOUR ONLINE LEARNING TODAY?

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

KNOW LOVE SERVE

Ella-Maria Bassil



Year 9

Student

MCHF

WHAT DO YOU MISS ABOUT SCHOOL?

Every Tuesday and Thursday morning my family and I would go to mass in the chapel, I also miss playing with my friends and joking around with the teachers

HOW DO YOU RATE YOUR ONLINE LEARNING TODAY?

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

KNOW LOVE SERVE

Anthony Habib



Year 9

Student

MCHF

PARENT CORNER

Parents/Guardians: We ask that you please remember to let the College know if you have changed any of your contact details, including your email address. This is extremely important, especially at this current time, as you will receive important documentation and urgent messages via email.

Please email your change in details to Admin@mchf.nsw.edu.au.

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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