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13th May 2020

K-6 Back to School Transition Update

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This week, students from Kindergarten to Year 6 began returning to MCHF for face-to-face teaching. The staggered scheduled that has been implemented, ensures that the College is following government directives and adheres to all suggested health and safety measures. It has been designed to reconnect your child to College structures and class routines, providing them the opportunity to reacquaint themselves with their friends and teachers. To ensure the success of the transition period, we encourage parents to follow the timetable that was sent to all families last week, and to only send your child on the day/s allocated.

To reiterate our current College procedures, please note the following:

- 1. The College will remain open each day for students who are vulnerable and for those whose parents are essential workers.
- 2. Parents may continue to keep their children at home on their scheduled days if they are concerned for their wellbeing. There is however, no health advice to support this.
- 3. Remote Learning Plans will **NOT** be sent home on the day/s students are scheduled to be at school or when they resume full time. Teaching face-to-face, does not allow sufficient time for staff to provide the necessary support and feedback to those students learning at home.
- 4. Students absent on their specified day, even if it is due to parental choice, will be required to submit a note of explanation. This is in line with the current procedure outlined in our College Policy.
- 5. Medical advice confirms that social distancing requirements **do not apply** to students whilst at school. The Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC), has determined students do not need to abide by social distancing in the classroom. Adults will continue to exercise good social distancing, when in areas such as the staffroom and playground.
- 6. Staff and students who present with flu-like symptoms are asked to remain at home. If they show any signs of sickness or become ill during the day, they will be sent home.
- 7. 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.
- 8. Access to the main office foyer is restricted to two people at any one time. Visits must be for essential business only.
- 9. 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 with staff and students. 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.
- 10. Staff will 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.

A further update regarding the transition of students back to school will be provided on Wednesday 20th May. This will be made available to you via:

- College Website: <u>https://www.mchf.nsw.edu.au/parentsguardians/</u>
- Facebook: @mchfparramatta
- SkoolBag App: Search for Maronite College of the Holy Family

As always, we are appreciative of your ongoing support and understanding during this challenging period. I pray that the Lord continues to protect and keep us safe.

In God's Love,

Sr Irene Boughosn College Principal