



Maronite College of the Holy Family NEWSLETTER

23-25 Alice Street, Harris Park, 2150
Tel: 9633 6600 Email: Admin@mchf.nsw.edu.au

Term 3 - Weeks 1-2: Friday, 31st July 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I would like to thank you all for your continued support and understanding over the last week. Many parents have emailed the College expressing their concerns about leaving their children at School. I would like to make it clear to all parents that unless there is a note to explain your child's absence during the last two weeks, your child will be marked unexplained.

Commencing next week, **ALL STUDENTS SHOULD BE BACK** at the College, unless they have been asked to self-isolate.

We remind you that if your child displays any flu like symptoms, please keep them at home and take them to the Doctors. A reminder to continue to observe social distancing procedures when dropping off or picking up your children from the College.

Sr Irene Boughosn
PRINCIPAL

HEAD OF PRIMARY MESSAGE

A warm welcome back to everyone. I hope you all had a restful and relaxing break. Staff were delighted to see the return of our students on Monday as they begin another exciting term, ready to continue their learning journey and strive to achieve their personal best.

At the end of last term, you had the opportunity to discuss your child's progress and future goals with their classroom teacher. It was pleasing to hear that the discussions were both informative and collaborative. The work you do with your children at home and by being interested in their learning, greatly motivates them to continue developing their skills and knowledge. We greatly appreciate and value the partnership we have with each family.

Developing Mathematical Skills at Home

In Mathematics, being able to double is an important skill. Knowing doubles also reinforces the ability to recall some number facts quickly and accurately. Being able to double numbers means that we can span or bridge to the next whole number or decade easily. This skill of spanning and bridging to the next decade assists us in our ability to estimate, round up or down and more importantly, use mental strategies to solve simple problems. Playing games like 'What's that double?', will assist in the development of this skill. Start with doubling 2 and work your way up. This will also be a helpful strategy to use when solving homework problems. A problem such as $8 + 9$, simply means double $8 + 1$. Developing the skill of doubling encourages students to think differently and use a more efficient strategy to find a solution quickly.

Upgrade of Primary Facilities

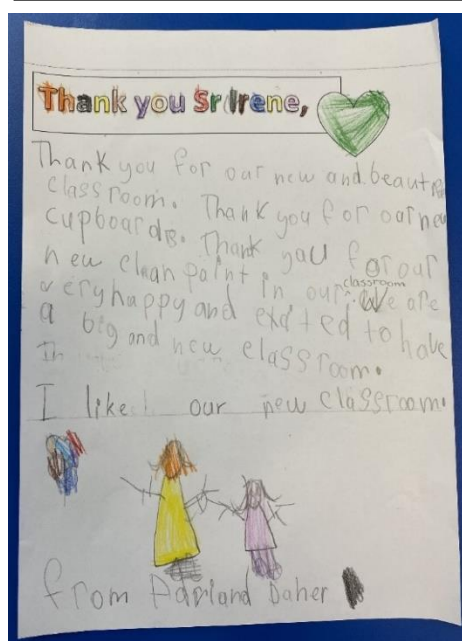
The Kindergarten classrooms underwent a total refurbishment during the Term Break. Both the teachers and students were excited as they entered their rooms. The freshly painted walls and bright new cabinetry providing additional storage, has

Thank you Sr Irene,



Dear sister irene thank you for the nylon carpet so we have something soft and comfortable and for the nylon cubbies so we can put our things inside. Also for the white boards so every one can have a turn. Our classroom is awesome we are proud to be lucky because we are in cindy with love from Jas.

certainly created a vibrant learning environment. The students' happiness was evident in the beautiful messages of thanks they wrote to Sr Irene.



The floor of the Primary Hall was also replaced during the break. The stronger and more durable floor has already been tested by our students who have used it during break times and for class sporting activities.

Year 4

This week, 4 Amber students used a hands-on approach to their learning. They participated in a range of barrier games in

order to prepare themselves to write an instructional text. All students enjoyed this fun and engaging way to learn.

(Pictured right)

Foundation Day



In place of the Foundation Day Walkathon this year, we have decided to host a College fundraiser for St Vincent de Paul.

Since the COVID-19

Pandemic began, St Vincent de Paul has seen an increase in the number of people in need. As a result, we will be holding a K-12 Pyjama and Tracksuit Day on **Friday 14th**

August 2020. On this day, all students from K-12 are invited to come to school in their pyjamas or tracksuits. To participate in this event, we kindly ask for donations of new scarfs, gloves, blankets, non-perishable food or money. This event coincides with our College theme for this year, 'To Serve'.



Hair-Raising Event

During the Term Break, Elizabeth Ayoub from 2 Pink made the big decision to have her long hair cut so that she could donate it to the Children's Hospital. She also used this event to raise money for a worthy cause. It is wonderful to see such thoughtfulness and compassion from such a young student.



Premier's Reading Challenge

The Premier's Reading Challenge is an annual event which aims to encourage a love of reading in students using quality literature. Students from Kindergarten to Year 2 must read a total of 30 books while students from Years 3-6 need to read 20 books. A reminder for all those students who are participating in the challenge, the closing date for entries is 28th August 2020. Keep reading and good luck!

Attendance

A reminder that any student absent from school requires a letter of explanation specifying the reason for non-attendance. More detailed documentation such as a doctor's certificate, needs to be submitted for prolonged absence. This procedure is mandated by the government. This term, we continue to insist that students who present with flu-like symptoms remain at home. We thank you for your continued support.

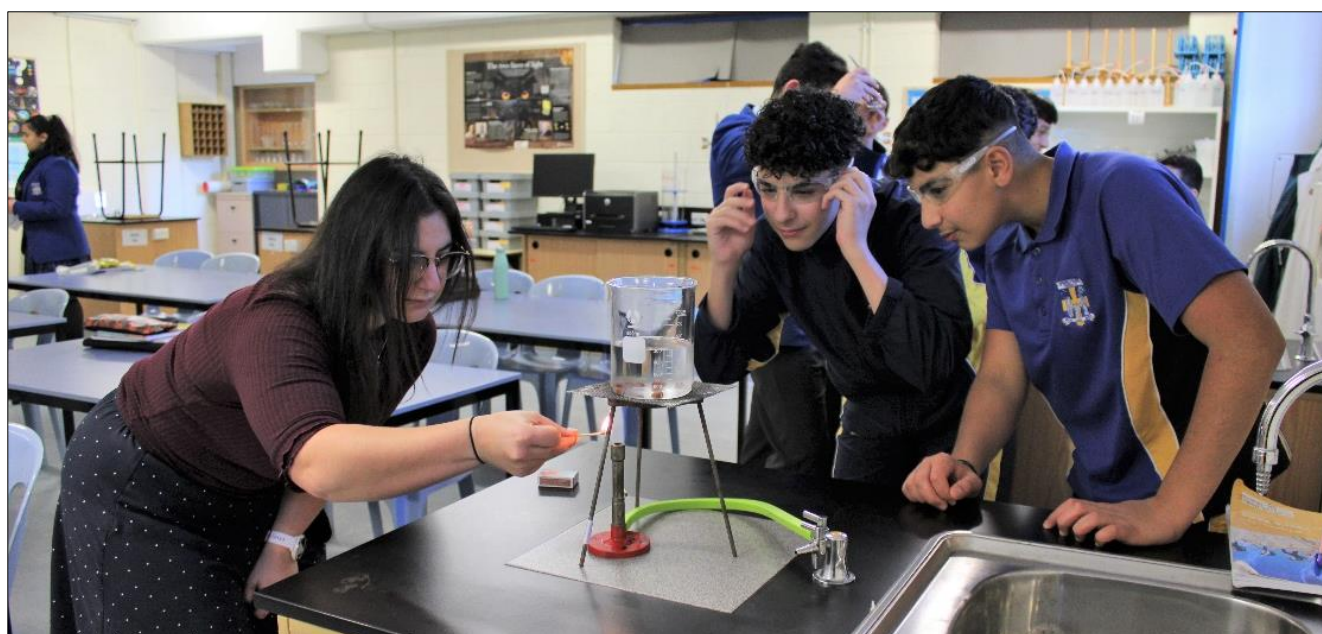
Communication with Teachers

Just a reminder that all communication with teachers is to be conducted via phone or email through 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 ask you not to communicate with teachers at the end of the day as students are dismissed.

Mr D. Day

Head of Primary

HEAD OF SECONDARY MESSAGE



Ms Zaferis demonstrating to Year 9 students how to model and observe convection currents in a physics practical investigation.

Welcome Back and COVID-19 Update

Welcome back to Term 3! I hope you had a restful break and prepared for another term ahead of us. Unfortunately, we haven't return to the best of circumstances due to the outbreak of COVID-19 at OLOL Cathedral and other parts of NSW. However, be assured and trust that the College remains a safe place with hygiene practices continue to apply as per Term 2. We remind you if students are presenting any symptoms to remain at home and get tested. Although the advice still remains that physical distancing does not apply to students in schools, we will do our best to ensure we take precautions. I wish you all the very best for Term 3!

Congratulations

The MCHF family congratulates Mr Khatar and his wife on the birth of their firstborn son, Elijah Charbel. May God bless and protect him.

Term 3 COVID-19 Restrictions

Despite a difficult start to the term, the restrictions of school activities have eased with the resumption of Thursday afternoon internal sport. Students are no permitted to undertake sporting activities within the College. External sporting events and carnivals remain cancelled at this stage.

Year 12 Graduation

Our Year 12 Graduation will continue as planned; however, we are assessing our options on how the celebrations will be held this year. We are continuing planning and discussions and we hope to make a decision

in the next few weeks pending on the advice and restrictions.

Foundation Day and Walkathon

Our Annual Walkathon event will not be held this year on Foundation Day due to COVID-19 restrictions. However, we have instead decided to make the most of this opportunity to host a community fundraising event. This fundraising event coincides with our theme for this year, to serve. Due to COVID-19, St Vincent de Paul have seen an increase in the number of people in need coming to them for help. Therefore, our fundraising event will be a Pyjama/Tracksuit Day Vinnies Winter Appeal. On Friday 14th August 2020, we are asking all students to come to school in their pyjamas/tracksuits. To participate in this event, we invite families to donate new scarfs, gloves, blankets or non-perishable foods on the day for St Vincent de Paul, Harris Park. There is also an option for students to provide a financial donation and the College will purchase items St Vincent de Paul, Harris Park need.

Attendance Reminders

A reminder to parents/guardians that the College is currently operating full-time and delivery curriculum face-to-face. This means that students should be either:

- Attending school
- At home because they are currently unwell
- At home awaiting results of a COVID-19 test
- At home because they have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition (or in limited cases where a family member has an ongoing medical condition). The medical certificate must have specific detail *"this child (name) cannot attend school because of COVID for this period of time (giving dates) as this is the condition they have / member of the family has"*

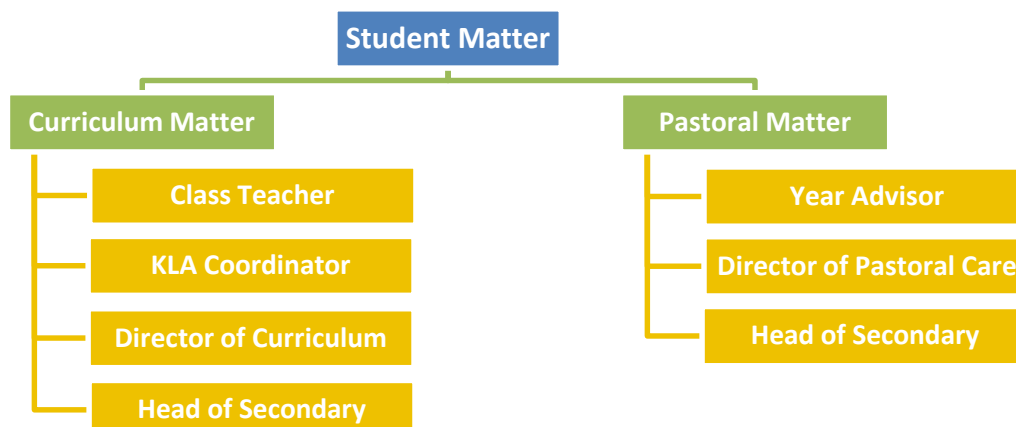
If parents/guardians believe that their child has a condition which means it's not safe for them to attend school, a medical certificate/documentation will need to be provided.

Parents/Guardians are not permitted to keep their child/ren at home because of fear – students absence will be stated as unexplained/unjustified.

These requirements and conditions are information provided by Catholic Schools NSW and the Association of Independent Schools (AIS).

Lines of Communication

The College welcomes parent/guardians to contact the College to discuss any matters regarding your child. However, we request that the lines of communication and procedures are adhered to. Below is a summary of the lines of communication:



Social Media Concerns

The College has been addressing multiple concerns where students are breaching the mobile phone and ICT policy. We have been made aware of students using their mobile phones within College hours, taking videos and uploading them onto social media platforms such as Snapchat and TikTok. As mentioned in the last newsletter at the end of last term, there will be automatic suspensions for students who breach the mobile phone and ICT policy from this term onwards.

Mock Trial Success

In the midst of a difficult start to Term 3, we were able to celebrate a first round win for our Mock Trial team. Our very talented team defeated Normanhurst Boys High School 173 to 160 points. This year Mock Trial was held via a zoom session. Our team worked very hard to gain a win against a previous final winner. This year our team consists of Celine Harb, Wadih Tannous, Grace Sleiman, Georgia Khattar, Stephanie Atie and John Massoud. Our team were strong, respectful, intelligent and persistent. A great formula for success in the court of law. Congratulations to the team, led by Ms Esber-Dayoub.

Year 10 Minimum Standards Testing

On Thursday 30th July 2020, our Year 10 students completed their compulsory minimum standards tests. Students completed three minimum standards test: Reading, Numeracy, Writing. Students need to achieve Level 3 or 4 in reading, writing and numeracy tests of skills for everyday life to meet the HSC minimum standard.

Year 7, 2021 Enrolment Interviews

Enrolment interviews for our year 7, 2021 cohort will commence on Monday 3rd August 2020. Thank you to all the parents/guardians who have booked their appointments. The booking system has now closed. Parents/Guardians who have not completed their booking must contact the Secondary Admin to book their appointment.

Maintenance Work

During the term break, we improved our landscaping around the B and C Block. This term, our Year 12 VET Construction students will be completing the landscaping with a concrete path as part of their course. We will also be planting some colourful plants and flowers. A concrete ramp on the path from C to A Block was also completed during the term break.



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.

Semester 1 G.E.M. Awards

Secondary students at MCHF are taught the importance of Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness (G.E.M) in their daily morning routine. Congratulations to the following students in year 7-11 for achieving one of the 3 awards during semester 1 (Year 12 students will be presented their G.E.M. awards at their graduation ceremony).



Homeroom	Gratitude Award	Empathy Award	Mindfulness Award
7A	Chanel Kassis	Faith El Katrib	Charlize Sleiman
7B	Charbella Hanna	Monica Dagher	Jerome Deeb
7C	Grace El Khoury	Gwen El Haddad	Jacob Ricardo Philippe Nassif
7D	Josee Rizk	Isabella Boumelhem	Elissa Yaacoub
8A	Raymond Constanton	Charbel Habib	Taylor Yaacoub
8B	Ella Maria Kalache	Veronica Fakhri	Norma Samaha
8C	Isaac Azzi	Veronica Ibrahim	Anthony Samson
8D	Christian Abdulahad	Joyce Yaacoub	Rita Raffoul
9A	John El-Bahrour	Melissa Makhoulf	Tony Georges Saba
9B	Rafqa Iskander	Jerome Francis	Jessica Khoury
9C	Angelina Helou	Christina El-Khoury	Antonia Hamad
9D	Therese El-Haddad	Kayla Fasavalu	Abdo Abo-Chedid
10A	Luciana Dib	Mandalin Moussa	Julien El Bazouni

10B	Joelle Lahood	Elie Joukhadar	Joseph Boumelhem
10C	Stephanie Atie	Jayden Gharib	Patrick Licha
10D	Melissa Elkrinna	Grace Sleiman	Natalie Khoury
11A	Chanelle Coorey	Simon Zaiter	Lauren Alhage
11B	Heleena Diab	Nina Bousaid	Chahid Bazouni
11C	Adrian Harb	Lana Chamchoum	Mariella Mikhael

Mr E. Asmar
Head of Secondary

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Monday 3rd until Friday 14th August – Year 7, 2021 Enrolment Interviews
- Friday 14th August – Foundation Day and Vinnies Winter Appeal
- Monday 17th until Friday 28th August – Year 12 Trial HSC Exams
- Wednesday 19th August – Wellbeing Wednesday
- Tuesday 25th August – Years 7 and 10 Immunisations
- Friday 28th August – Year 9, 2021 Subject Selection
- Wednesday 23rd September – Year 12 Graduation
- **Friday 25th September – Term 3 Ends**
- **Tuesday 13th October – Term 4 Begins**
- Tuesday 20th October to Friday 11th November – HSC Exams
- Thursday 22nd to Friday 23rd October – Year 11 Leadership Camp
- Saturday 24th October – Year 4 Holy Communion
- Monday 26th October to Friday 6th November – Years K-3 Swimming lessons
- Tuesday 10th November – Catch-up Immunisations
- Wednesday 11th November – Years K-6 Remembrance Day Ceremony
- Friday 13th November – Year 3 First Reconciliation
- Friday 27th November – Year 6 Graduation
- **Tuesday 8th December – Last Day for Students**



★★★ CONGRATULATIONS ★★★

All Rounder Awards:

- ★ Charbel Baaklini, Helen Maroon, Gabriella Assi (Year 3)
- ★ Jasmine Saba, Annalise Khoury (Year 4)
- ★ Isabella Ishak (Year 6)
- ★ Allegra Achy, Jayden Bazouni, Dania Nakhoul, Isabella Boumelhem, Patrick Matta, Angelina Ishak, Charlize Khoury, Michael Khoury, Mikayla Moussa (Year 7)
- ★ Clarita Fajloun, Nicole Farah, Peter Germanos (Year 12)

Bronze Awards:

- ★ Salma Abou-Azar, Aurora Fenianos (Year 6)

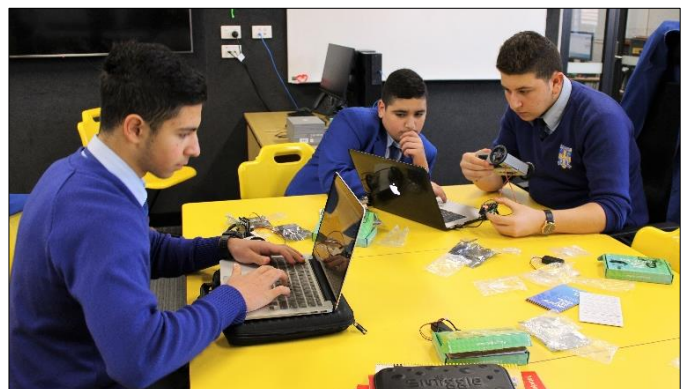
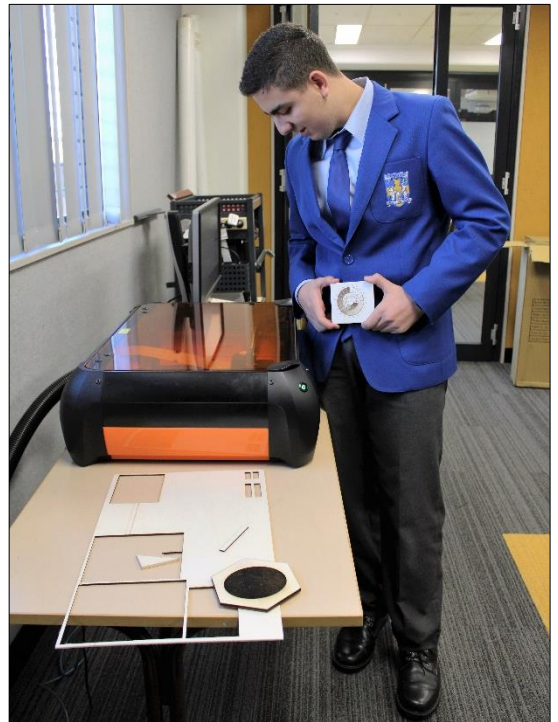
Silver Awards:

Principal's Award:



THIS AND THAT

Year 10 STEM students working on creating programmable cars using microbits and 3D printing or laser cut material.



Ms Sarlog leads by example in her art classes



Our kids are always smiling in Ms Pather's Food Technology class. Master Chefs in the making!



Year 7 were led by the Year 10 Peer Support Leaders in a session centred on "Being Strong". Students were able to define their character strengths and ways to be resilient.



This morning, year 11 students participated in a team-building session during Pastoral time. Activities were aimed at building skills of teamwork and unity. Thanks to the homeroom teachers for their guidance.





Part-Time Work

1X Permanent Part-Time position – Maronite College of The Holy Family - 5549

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 - ✓ Community spirit
 - ✓ Positive energy

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Applications close: Sunday 16th August 2020



Below is the link to a great article, for parents, on how to motivate their children...

https://parents.au.reachout.com/common-concerns/everyday-issues/things-to-try-school-and-education/motivating-your-teenager-when-school-is-the-last-thing-on-their-mind?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=MKTG%20Schools%20July%202020_5WaysWellbeing_AJ&utm_content=MKTG%20Schools%20July%202020_5WaysWellbeing_AJ+CID_8d1fa0e2ed4a81b12742338306b60413&utm_source=emailCM&utm_term=Share%20the%20article

PLEASE DOWNLOAD THE SKOOLBAG APP!

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We ask that you please download the SkoolBag App to your phone, to ensure you receive urgent and important information seconds after we send it.

You can also use the app to send absentee, late to school, or early leavers notes to the College.

Go to app search on your phone:

1. Download the SkoolBag app
2. Create an account
3. Add your school

Please see detailed instructions below...

1. Download the SkoolBag App

Open the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store and search for and install 'SkoolBag'.

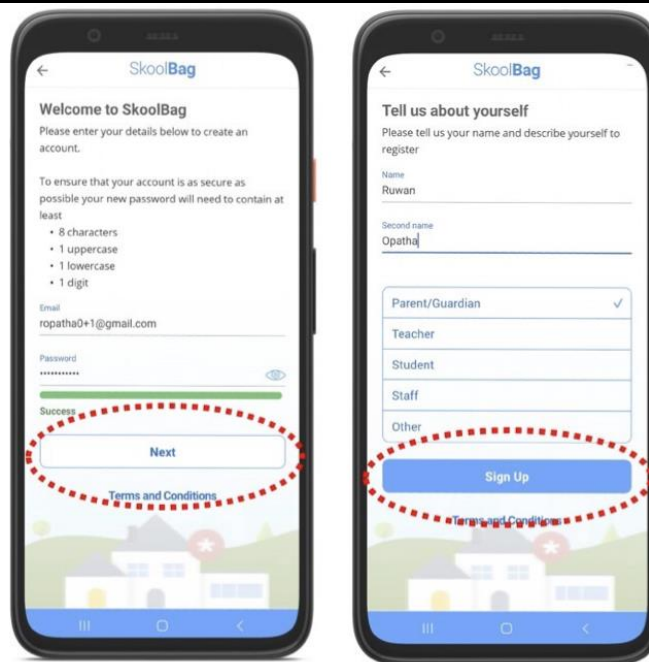


2. Create an account

Open the SkoolBag app and Click 'Sign Up'



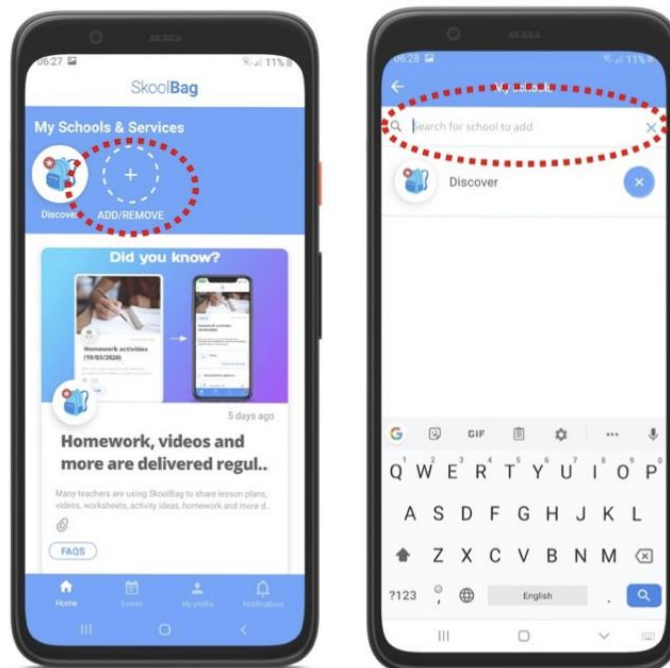
Enter your email address, create a password and click on 'Sign Up'



Open the confirmation email and confirm your account

3. Add your school

Open the app, and Click 'Add/Remove'



Click '+' to add your school.

BYOD LINK AND CODE

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

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