



# Maronite College of the Holy Family NEWSLETTER

23-25 Alice Street, Harris Park, 2150

Tel: 9633 6600 Email: [Admin@mchf.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Admin@mchf.nsw.edu.au)

**Term 3 - Week 10: Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This term has finally come to an end. This has been the final week of official school for the Year 12 students. We wish them all the best in their studies and our prayers will be with them in the upcoming weeks leading to the HSC Exams.

I wish to thank you all for your continued support and your patience during this most difficult term. Hoping that you enjoy this much earned break with your family. May the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross strengthen your faith. Please continue to pray as a family for an end to this pandemic.

*O Holy Cross of Christ, be with us, be our trust, be for us the true light of our salvation.*

### Term 4 Remote Learning Continuation

Term 4 will resume with the continuation of Remote Learning. At this stage, the road map back to face-to-face teaching will commence on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2021. The transition back to face-to-face teaching will be at a staggered approach. We will provide further information regarding the road map next term.

In the meantime, as we continue with remote learning, I would like to remind our parents/guardians that you must keep your child/ren at home, unless you are an essential worker and are unable to work from home. The College has become aware of a large number of families and students contracting COVID-19 and we are working closely with these families to support their child/ren. Therefore, we need to ensure we are taking all precautions to minimise the risk of COVID-19 entering the College grounds. We are very close to returning to face-to-face teaching and we do not want to risk delaying this.

We have managed to get through this term, which could not have been accomplished without the hard work, support and cooperation of our staff, students and parents/guardians. I expect you all to continue working hard, supporting and cooperating with us for a few more weeks in Term 4.

In the meantime, I hope you have a great term break to rest and refresh. I will keep you all in my prayers and look forward to working with you all in Term 4.

### **Each month we will reflect on the many virtues of St Joseph: September – Joseph Most Prudent**

Prudence is the mother of virtues which depend upon the practical wisdom gained by experience matched with an agile mind to make decisions in the here and now. Each time Joseph knew the will of God he acted decisively, swiftly, and accurately. He acted neither rashly nor timidly, but prudently.

**Sr Irene Boughosn**  
**PRINCIPAL**

## 14 SEPTEMBER - FEAST

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross



For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. John 3:17

## GOOD LUCK, YEAR 12!

Put your best effort on the exam and god will surely crown you with success. My good wishes will always be with you.

**BEST OF LUCK!**



## MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

### Term 4 Commences for Students

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021

#### **REMOTE LEARNING**

*(Summer uniform for students supervised at the College)*

#### **End of Term 3 and Preparing for Term 4**

I take this opportunity to thank all our staff, students and parents/guardians for getting through this term. We appreciate the struggles that all of us have had; however, our focus should be on getting through it and you are to celebrate this in the upcoming term break.

As we head into term 4, we know that we will be continuing remote learning for the first three weeks. Week 4 the return to school transition will commence. It is vital that our students are prepared for this in regards to their uniform and grooming.

I also take this opportunity to wish our Year 12 students all the very best as they prepare for their upcoming HSC exams. The students have now concluded their lessons and will now have the time to prepare for their HSC exams.

I wish you all the very best for the upcoming term break. Stay safe and I hope you have the opportunity to rest and relax before we continue the learning journey in Term 4.

#### **NAPLAN Results and School Photos**

The College has received each student's NAPLAN results and the School Photos. The College plans to distribute these next term when students return to school.

If any parent/guardian would like these earlier, please email the College [Admin@mchf.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Admin@mchf.nsw.edu.au) or contact Administration and an arrangement will be made in Term 4 to collect them.

#### **COVID and Remote Learning Reminders**

- There are still a very limited number of staff at the College on a daily basis.
- Avoid coming on College grounds. Please contact the College via email [Admin@mchf.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Admin@mchf.nsw.edu.au) or phone 9633 6600.
- **Supervision is strictly provided only for students with essential working parents.**
- All staff and secondary students are required to wear a mask at all times when at the College.
- Support and assistance for students' wellbeing is available during remote learning. Please contact your child's Stage Coordinator (Primary) or Year Advisor (Secondary) for more information.

#### **Return to School Road Map**

As announced by the NSW Premier, the College is currently working through the return to school road map. The plan will be actioned if the Parramatta LGA no longer is a hot spot or area of concern. Further details of the plan will be announced early Term 4.

#### **Accessing College Grounds**

The College will be enforcing strict procedures for parents/guardians/visitors accessing the College grounds. All parents/guardians/visitors will be asked to buzz the College from the entrance gate where instructions will be provided via the intercom by the Admin Staff.

#### **Family Phone Calls**

Our Staff have been making many phone calls to all families in the College over the past few weeks. As many of our staff are working from home, the number might present as 'No Caller ID'. We will make a few attempts to reach out to check in with students and parents and be able to see how everyone is going.

#### **Remote Learning Theme Days**

The Friday theme days were a successful initiative this term. A lot of our students (and staff) got behind it and were excited to send in the photos to the College.

We will continue the weekly theme days on Fridays in Term 4. Week 1 of Term 4 (Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2020) will be a crazy sock theme day.

We encourage our students to get behind our weekly themes and send your photos to [media@mchf.nsw.edu.au](mailto:media@mchf.nsw.edu.au)



## REMOTE LEARNING THEME DAYS

Term 4 Week 1: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2021

# CRAZY SOCK DAY

Wear your most craziest socks for the day.

The **CRAZIER** the **better!**

Take photos and send them to the College via email  
[media@mchf.nsw.edu.au](mailto:media@mchf.nsw.edu.au)

Mr E. Asmar  
Assistant Principal

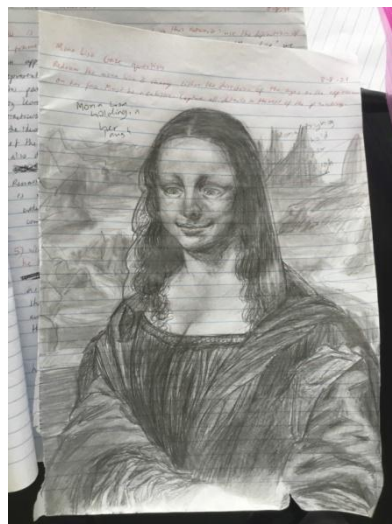
## SECONDARY NEWS

### Year 9 and 11 Textiles

Who said lockdown isn't fun? In Year 9 and 11 Textile and Design, students are learning about natural fabric dyeing with Mrs Abdul Ahad. Students have been exploring fabric colouring with natural ingredients like oranges, tea, onions, strawberries, avocados, coffee, beetroot, purple cabbage and more. Students have experimented at home and created tiktoks or videos showing their outcomes.

### Year 10 VA - Charline Kayrouz and Claudia Harb

These drawings by Charline Kayrouz and Claudia Harb are of an appropriation (or using something very recognisable and changing the meaning, or the purpose/context) of the Mona Lisa. The 10VA students' work really shows how they have been able to change the famous expression of the Mona Lisa to create an interesting and very humorous version of Mona.



## 10D Step Challenge

Our students in homeroom 10D led by the amazing Mr Sedicol have been undertaking a step challenge this past month with an aim of keeping fit and healthy, getting out of the house and supporting some of our own students who are participating in 'September'.

Their combined current step count is 939 686 with an aim of 1.5 million by the end of the month. 939 686 steps is roughly 716km which is equivalent to going from Harris Park to the city 28 times or from Harris Park to Byron Bay!

Here are photos of some of the students participating – Matthew Youssef (who did 60 400 steps in one day by doing his classes from the treadmill!), James Ellis, Mikayla Stavrinakis (who is also participating in the 'September' challenge) and Jonathan Stavrinakis, as well as the leader himself, Mr Sedicol.

I would like to thank Mr Sedicol for getting his homeroom into this activity and trying to promote some fun and fitness during these difficult times. Congratulations to all of the students participating, we hope to see you reach that 1.5 million steps goal soon!



## Year 12 Farewell

On Wednesday, we were supposed to be able to farewell our Year 12 class of 2022 with our Graduation Mass and Ceremony. Unfortunately we haven't been able to do this, but we do hope that once the HSC is over and restrictions have eased, we can hold these celebrations in some way.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Year 12. They have all shown such resilience, strength, determination and unity in the most trying of times. They have faced something that no other cohort has had to go through, and it has been inspiring to see how they have handled it. They have all done MCHF and our community proud.

On behalf of the staff, I would like to wish all of Year 12 the best in their upcoming exams, we know that God will guide them through, and we wish them every success with their future endeavours.



Here are some of the memories Year 12 have created at MCHF and some messages of love and support from our staff.



## Write a Book in a Day Project

This week we had a group of our secondary students participate in the enrichment project 'Write a Book in a Day'. They wrote a fabulous book of their own creation to donate to the Cancer Council that will be given out to sick children across the Sydney hospitals. They spent the day collaborating online through Teams. They worked collaboratively and completely independently and had to use special parameters including characters such as a watchmaker, pineapple, and about 10 other strange items but they made it work.

The students involved were:

Jonathon Semaan, Marielle Khoury, Isabella Boumelhem, Giovanni Makari, Therese Sessine, Angelina Franjie, Zoe Marie Fagerstrom

We congratulate them on this wonderful achievement!

## Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Award 2021

I am pleased to announce that two of our Year 10 students, Steven Estephen and Matthew Al-Chakty were the winners of the Special Assistance Dorothea MacKellar Poetry Award for 2021. These students wrote a poem titled 'Rich and Rare' about Australia's flora and fauna with the help of one of our teachers, Mrs Fisher. The judges said that *"Although this poem describes familiar animals and flora of Australia, it does so in a way that brings the country alive - lovely descriptions and choices of words that create a sense of rhythm and delight."*

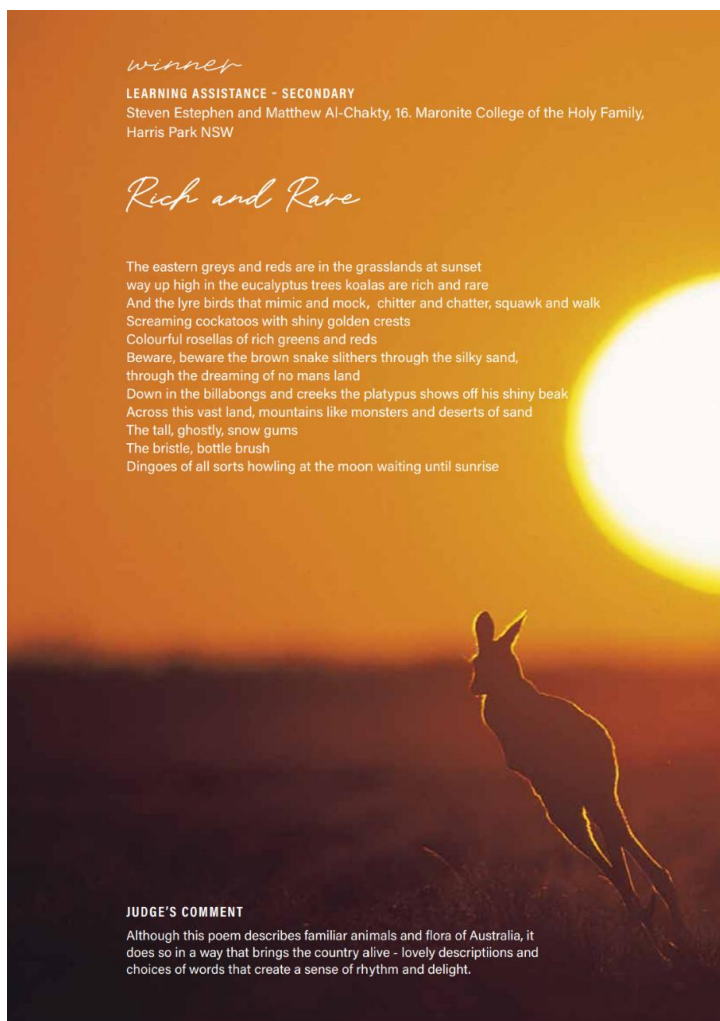
Congratulations to both Steven and Matthew on this wonderful achievement and thank you to Mrs Fisher for your help and support.

## What To Do These School Holidays

With another school holidays in lockdown nearly upon us, our College counsellor, Mrs Khoury, has put together a list of things that students and their families can do during the break from the comfort of their own homes.

1. Take a virtual tour of the Art Gallery of NSW (<https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/art-gallery-of-new-south-wales>) or the National Arts Gallery (<https://www.nag.org.au/virtual-tour>)
2. Visit the Zoo (virtually of course) - <https://taronga.org.au/education/digital-programs-online-resources/virtual-zoo-lessons>
3. Try some yoga (<https://www.youtube.com/user/yogawithadriene>) or pilates (<https://online.hustl.com.au/>);
4. Set up a Movie Club or Book club with family and friends and meet weekly.
5. Get ready for Christmas and decorate the house.
6. Organise a scavenger hunt with the family.
7. Create a Ninja Warrior style obstacle course around the home and compete with your siblings.
8. Learn something new - how to cook a favourite meal; how to play a card game; how to sew a button on a shirt; how to play a song on the guitar or piano.
9. Spring clean your entire bedroom (this will make mum and dad happy!!!)
10. Write a bucket list of all the things you would like to do once lockdown ends.

Whatever all of our families get up to this school break, I hope you are able to stay safe and well. Thank you for your support throughout a very tough term. Although we will be continuing our remote learning into Term 4, I look



forward to hopefully being able to welcome all of our students back to the College when it is safe to do so.

**Ms E. McCluskey**  
**Head of Secondary**

## PRIMARY NEWS

As the term draws to a close, I would like to acknowledge and thank Sr Irene and Sr Marlene for their leadership, guidance, and support as they navigated the College through this challenging time. My appreciation also goes to the teaching and support staff for showing great dedication delivering quality learning experiences for our students whilst also maintaining their wellbeing. We thank the College Administration staff for the amazing job they continue to do in assisting students, parents, and teachers each and every day. Lastly, I would like to applaud our students and parents for the commitment you have displayed towards learning at home during the term. I wish everyone a very safe and restful break.

### Farewell

Today we wish Ms Sandy Zgiar and Ms Joanne Beylouni all the best as they begin leave in preparation to welcome new additions to their families. I would like to thank them for their valued contribution to the College this year.



### Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross

Last Tuesday was the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, which marks the beginning of a new liturgical season in the Maronite faith. As part of the Religious Education lessons, the students engaged in an art activity where they made their own personal scripture cross. Students were provided with a range of scripture phrases to help them focus on this important feast. The idea of combining art with Religious Education is that the students can reflect on the meaning of the Cross and the scripture whilst using their creative skills. The students demonstrated a deep understanding reflecting on this important symbol of our faith.





**Learning from Home**

Our Remote Learning adventures from home are always different and exciting. Here is a glimpse of the students adventures this week.



***Kindy Wacky Wednesday Theme...***







### Reading at Home

It is important that your children continue their reading for at least 20 minutes a day. The recommended frequency enables your child to develop their vocabulary, comprehension, and oral language. Sharing books with your child, listening to them read and discussing the text is also a very important part of the learning to read process. The knowledge we gain from reading a variety of texts, expands children's imagination and vocabulary, which greatly benefits their writing.

### Writing for Purpose

We don't often realise the many forms that writing takes. It is important to note that the way we write depends very much on the purpose of our written text and the audience that it is targeted for. At home, you can assist your child's writing skills by asking them to write a shopping list, perhaps labels for items in the cupboard, emails to family and friends, a daily journal, or even recipes for some delicious homemade treats.

You learn to *write*  
better by *reading*.  
You learn to *read*  
better by *writing*.  
Reading and writing *work*  
*together* to improve your  
ability to *think*!

### Learning Centre News

Catch up on all the latest Primary Learning Centre news below. Remember to keep on reading!

#### **Parramatta Library Spring School Holiday Program**

The Holiday Program for Parramatta Library will be conducted online during the coming Term Break. Details of the program and how it can be accessed are listed below for those families who are interested. The program has been designed by trained facilitators and is easily accessible to children of all ages and abilities.

**To view our Spring Online School Holiday Program and other additional online resources for children, please visit the library using the following link -**

<https://www.cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au/community/library/whats-on>

### **WORLD BOOK FREE TRIAL**

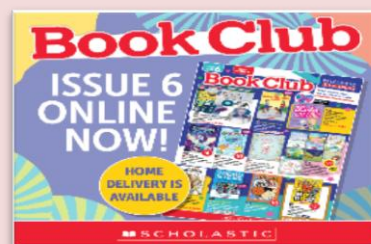
**A Free access trial period for eBooks on the World Book site** has been arranged for our MCHF families **until 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021**. There are over 2000 books to choose from. Please use the link below and use the ID and password provided - [www.worldbookonline.com](http://www.worldbookonline.com)

ID: fact / Password: anzsl

#### **Book Club**

The great news is that Book Club is still available during Remote Learning. This will allow your child the opportunity to continue to purchase their desired books. Scholastic is currently organising the home delivery for any orders made from Issue 5 & 6. Orders for Issue 7 will be conducted in the same way next term. Please follow the link below for more details.

<https://www.scholastic.com.au/media/6360/bc521.pdf>



**Mr D. Day**  
**Head of Primary**

## ★★★ CONGRATULATIONS ★★★

### Remote Learning Awards

Kindy Blue: Memas Nader	4 Olive: Michael Bechara
Kindy Red: Sebastian Cortese	4 Violet: Anthony Mallouhi
Kindy Rose: Maria Diab	4 Aqua: Christopher Khoury
Kindy White: Jamie Dahdah	4 Amber: Jacob Khawaja
1 Gold: Ella Abi-Khattar	5 Opal: Valentina Bou Melhem
1 Green: Charbel Tannous	5 Rainbow: Ellias Ibrahim
1 Lilac: Patrick Dimassi	5 Ruby: Tatiana Mejalli
1 Silver: Joshua Licha	5 Sapphire: Luke Whitton
2 Diamond: Christian Bayssari	6 Indigo: Charlize Ellis
2 Jade: Jacqueline Haklani	6 Emerald: Juliana Licha
2 Pink: Taleen Jehdian	6 Topaz: Johnny Mouawad
2 Purple: Mark Maroun	Year 7: Rita Doumit
3 Lavender: Eli Baker	Year 8: Pierre Azzi
3 Beige: Anabel Bouchaaya	Year 9: Veronica Ibrahim
3 Orange: Sienna Ghabache	Year 10: Charline Kayrouz
3 Yellow: Theresa Bassil	Year 11: Julien El Bazouni
	Year 12: Brytney Al-Saiah



### All-Rounder Awards

- ★ Jake Green, Sophia Saab, Margaret Wakim, Anthony Boumelhem, Gabrielle Germanos, Georgia Ibrahim (Year 8)
- ★ Jessica Khoury, Antonia Hamad, Jacinta Chakti, Therese El-Haddad, James Ellis, Matthew Youssef, Charline Kayrouz, Stephanie Dimassi, Jerome Francis, Margarita Harb (Year 11)
- ★ Kristina Ishak, Maria Doumit, Michael Choueiri, Tatiana Estephen, Therese Sassine, James Azar, Reina Layoun, Dejahm Darjani, Michael Antoun, Therese Abi-Khattar, Elias Matta, Mariella Mikhael (Year 12)

### Bronze Award

- ★ Christopher Dimassi, Kayla Maalouf, Bianca Ishac, Nicole Atie, Jerome Deeb, Isabella Matta, Alisa Saghabi (Year 8)
- ★ Jessica Khoury, Charline Kayrouz, Matthew Youssef (Year 11)
- ★ Erica El Bazouni, Brytney Al-Saiah, Margaret Sabat, Celine Harb, Roula Abou-Chedid, Simon Zaiter, Christina Geagea, Natalia Gereij, Jamile Jeitani (Year 12)

### Silver Award

- ★ Jason Chakti (Year 12)

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September - Term 3 Concludes for Students**  
**Term 4 Starts with remote learning – Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

## REMINDERS AND NEWS FROM FEES AND ENROLMENT

During these times of lockdown and remote learning, we kindly request for parents/guardians to limit cash transactions. Our preferred method is through direct debit. Please contact the College if you require any further information or assistance.

The following excursions have been cancelled for this year and credits will be applied off school fees:

- ★ Years 6, 9 and 11 Camps
- ★ Years 8 and 10 Living History Incursion
- ★ Year 9 Geography Excursion
- ★ Year 11 First Aid Training
- ★ Drama and Music Excursions

# ALSO THIS WEEK...

Kindy and Year 6 buddies enjoyed seeing each other on Teams yesterday. They even made some beautiful posters for each other!



## Kindy Favourite Colour Day



## STUDENT CORNER

### HSC 2021 - The Road Ahead - Staying Focused and Motivated WORKSHOP For Year 12 Students and Parents

The Year 12 of 2021 have endured more uncertainty and disrupted learning than any other. This practical, informative workshop for students and parents will examine;

- How to manage the uncertainty around online schooling
- The adolescent brain
- How to recognise and reframe unhelpful thinking patterns
- How to sustain motivation and momentum over the extended break
- How to avoid procrastination
- Organisation
- The key to success
- Apply recent understandings in neuroscience to study and learn effectively
- Create and implement effective study habits over the break and into Term 4

All participants will receive a comprehensive pdf booklet of resources and strategies.

**Dates** (this is a repeat session): On the days of the presentations, a link to the webinar will be sent via the email you use to register.

**Lunchtime session:** Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September, 12-1:30pm - <https://www.trybooking.com/811805> OR

**Evening session:** Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September, 6-7:30pm - <https://www.trybooking.com/811815>

**Cost:** \$50 per household

## PARENT CORNER

### Apply for a Creative Kids voucher!

The NSW Government is helping kids get creative with the new Creative Kids program.

Parents, guardians and carers can apply for a voucher with a value of up to \$100 per calendar year for each student aged 4.5 to 18 years old enrolled in school.

The voucher may be used with a registered activity provider for registration, participation and tuition costs for creative arts, speech, drama, dance, digital design, coding, and music lessons and activities.

Click the link for more details and to register - <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-creative-kids-voucher>

### Free fun with the Parliament of NSW

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September, Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> September, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October

#### For children up to 12 years

Visit Australia's oldest Parliament via ZOOM this school holidays for **free** fun, educational activities for children and families.

Three sessions over three days planned including storytelling, a virtual guided tour through the chambers and a special cultural session with [Mirri Mirri](#).

Click the link for bookings: [Free Family Fun with the Parliament of NSW – Parliament of New South Wales](#)

School holiday colouring-in competition!

There will be four lucky winners and the prize is a Parliament of NSW Gift Box filled with goodies, valued at \$100. The link to the competition is <https://education.parliament.nsw.gov.au/school-holiday-fun-colouring-in-competition/>

## Can you help our students?

Our Year 10 and 11 students are looking for employers who are happy to take them on as apprentices in the following industries (commencing in 2022)...

- Beauty
- Construction
- Electrician

These students are eager to work, learn and study, whilst completing their HSC courses.

Please email Mrs Kumar if you are able to assist or if you require more information – [skumar@mchf.nsw.edu.au](mailto:skumar@mchf.nsw.edu.au)

## City of Parramatta Library Events

During September, City of Parramatta Libraries is celebrating Spring into Health, a partnership with Western Sydney Local Health District, to share the latest health and wellbeing information for families.

One program you might be interested in is **'Healthy snack and lunch ideas for children'**. An online (20-minute) live presentation for parents - Providing a range of ideas and practical tips to inspire them to provide tasty options from each of the five core food groups.

### Dates:

Friday 24 Sept – 10.30am

Thurs 30 Sept – 3.40pm

**Cost:** Free

**Information and Bookings:** <https://www.cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au/spring-into-health>

School Holidays: **Big Bang Science Workshop - Kitchen Science Chaos - Online (8-15 years)**

Science is all around you - even at home in the kitchen. Why the kitchen? Because, all the BEST chemistry happens in the kitchen. Presented by Children's Discovery -

**Date:** Wednesday 29 September

**Time:** 11am to 12pm

**Cost:** \$3.00

**Bookings:** <https://parra.city/bigbangscience>

## USEFUL LINKS & RESOURCES

Trivia activities - <https://kahoot.it/>

Virtual Board Games - <https://codenames.game/>

Build with Brickman (Facebook) – The LEGO Masters judge has been running some virtual events through Facebook where you can build creations with him - <http://www.thebrickman.com>

Sydney Observatory – Through their Facebook account they have been running some fascinating virtual events with astrophysics - <https://maas.museum/sydney-observatory/>

How to make Origami - <https://au.video.search.yahoo.com/search/video?fr=mcafee&ei=UTF-8&p=making+origami+virtual+lessons+free+crane&type=E211US714G0#id=2&vid=63ddbfd40fb8eabf501ade6054aca36c&action=click>

Fantastic learn to draw site for kids - <https://www.artforkidshub.com/>

Jo Wicks the Body Coach – Does quick workouts for kids at home. Posts new workouts weekly and continues

providing home exercise routines for families - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d3LPrlh0v-w>

Children yoga activities, to encourage movement and mindfulness - <https://cosmickids.com/>

*NSW Dept of Education*

Education Live Videos/Livestreams/Fun Lessons - <https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/learning-from-home/learning-at-home>

Disability Learning and Support Advice - <https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/learning-from-home/learning-at-home/disability-learningand-support-advice>

ACYP – Advocate for Children & Young People - <https://www.digitallunchbreak.nsw.gov.au/>

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Mental Health Support - <https://lifeinmind.org.au/communities/support-for-those-impacted-by-adverse-events/mental-health-support-for-covid-19>

Australian Reptile Park - <https://www.reptilepark.com.au/educationhub/>

Art Gallery NSW - <https://togetherinart.org/kids/>

Sydney Opera House - <https://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/digital/for-the-kids.html>

Australian Museum - <https://australian.museum/inside-out/homeschool-resources/>

Taronga Zoo Sydney - <https://taronga.org.au/education/digital-programs-online-resources/enrichment-design-competition>

### **2021 BYOD Portal**

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

School Code: MCHFBYOD

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

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/mchfparramatta/>

**Instagram** - <https://www.instagram.com/mchf2325/>

**LinkedIn:** <https://au.linkedin.com/company/maronite-college-of-the-holy-family>