



ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Thursday 16th April, 2020

***St Joseph's is a Child Safe School.
We promote the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all children.***

Caritas Prayer for the COVID-19 Pandemic.

May we, who are experiencing the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in Australia and are coming to terms with a new reality,

remember the words of scripture "Be still and know that I am God".

May we, who as adults struggling to process what is happening in our world, remember children who are fearful of a reality they cannot comprehend.

May we, who complain about the scarcity of commodities, remember those who are working to maintain the supply chain.

May we, who observe the long queues of those seeking support, remember those for whom there is no government assistance or financial aid.

May we, who rely on essential services, especially those in the medical profession, remember all those working on the front line.

May we, who work to end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity, remember those living and working in vulnerable communities.

May we, who are working from home, remember those who have no employment or home from which to work.

May we, who have access to medical facilities and services, remember those who do not have basic health care.

May we, who are beginning to experience border closures, remember refugees who cannot return home.

May we give thanks for those who are working to help or bring some kindness, joy or humour to others, showing us the light of Christ lives.

During this time of isolation as we close our doors, may we continue to keep our hearts open to our family, friends, local and global communities.

We ask this in the name of Jesus.

Amen

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your overwhelming support for the teachers and myself as we navigate distance learning. The emails have been so lovely to share and read as we all sit in isolation.

Please remember that the school library will be opened Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from 11-12 pm, for borrowing and returning library books and changing 'take home readers'.

All the books have been wiped down and only one family will be in the library at a time. When books are returned they will be wiped down before being returned to the shelves. We ask that each student borrows only 2 books each and that they do not touch any books unless they are borrowing them.

This piece was shared with me by Alana Bennet and I thought it was worth sharing it with all of you.

Written by Ebonie Williamson

If they cancel the rest of the school year, students would miss approx 6 months of education.

Many people are concerned about students falling behind because of this. Yes, they may fall behind when it comes to classroom education...

BUT WHAT IF

What if instead of falling "behind", this group of kids are ADVANCED because of this? Hear me out.

What if they have more empathy, they enjoy family connection, they can be more creative and entertain themselves, they love to read, they love to express themselves in writing.

What if they enjoy the simple things, like their own backyard and sitting near a window in the quiet.

What if they notice the birds and the dates the different flowers emerge, and the calming renewal of a gentle rain shower?

What if this generation are the ones to learn to cook, organize their space, do their laundry, and keep a well run home?

What if they learn to stretch a dollar and to live with less?

What if they learn to plan shopping trips and meals at home.

What if they learn the value of eating together as a family and finding the good to share in the small delights of the everyday?

What if they are the ones to place great value on our teachers and educational professionals, librarians, public servants and the previously invisible essential support workers like truck drivers, grocers, cashiers, custodians, logistics, and health care workers and their supporting staff, just to name a few of the millions taking care of us right now while we are sheltered in place?

What if among these children, a great leader emerges who had the benefit of a slower pace and a simpler life to truly learn what really matters in this life?

From our teachers to our students and parents.....

Foundation

First of all - congratulations and well done to everyone for embracing our new way of learning at home and for all trying your best :) Everyone did such a fantastic job at having a go at uploading their completed work - I'm very impressed! Thank you so much to all of the families for supporting your child - I know it's not easy in this new and challenging time, but your help and support has made my job so much easier. I miss all of your smiling and happy faces and look forward to seeing them all again soon :) Mrs Angele

Gr 1/2 KP & HW

Just a quick note to say how proud we are of all the students and their efforts yesterday in managing to get online and post some work. It was most rewarding to see their faces, hear their voices and see how excited they were to be back learning. Thank you to you as parents, for all your efforts in juggling your daily commitments, we know this wouldn't have been easy! A reminder each Year 1/2 class will have a live Google Hangout on Friday at 9.30am. We will be in contact with families tomorrow with more detail.

Mrs Phyland, Mrs Kelliher and Miss Wood

Gr 3/4

This is to say how proud we are of each and every one of your children in the way they conquered our first day. They embraced our day yesterday with enthusiasm and resilience as they navigated their way through the day and systems in a way like never before. It was so wonderful to see them all this morning and this afternoon. We hope they enjoyed their day and feel proud of their efforts. Please continue to encourage them to take a deep breath and not stress. We are starting slowly until everyone is accustomed to our new routines and systems. Mrs Botterill & Mrs O'Brien

Gr 5 & 6

Thank you for yesterday, everyone, it was a very successful first day of Distance Learning. We greatly appreciate the effort it takes to get yourselves organised around this new way of learning and living. Just remember to not be too hard on yourselves if things go pear-shaped. It's not the end of the world if the work doesn't get done straight away - your wellbeing and happiness are far more important at this stage.

Mr Sandison, Mr Brooks and Ms Cooke

Please stay at home and stay well.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, thoughts or kind words.

Regards, Carmel Stutterd

WEEK 1 TERM 2

Monday- 20 April

Library opened 11-12 pm for borrowing library books and/or changing 'Take Home readers'

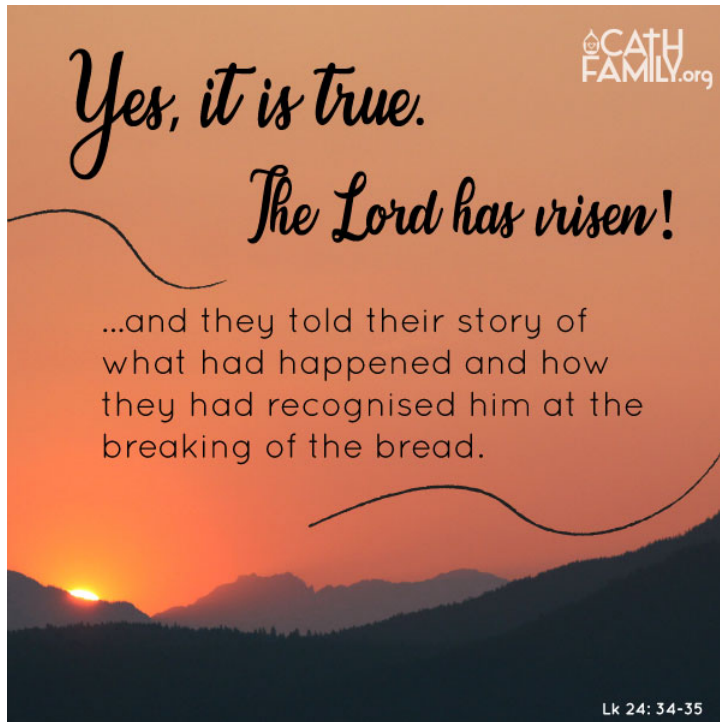
Wednesday- 22 April

Library opened 11-12 pm for borrowing library books and/or changing 'Take Home readers'

Friday- 24 April

Library opened 11-12 pm for borrowing library books and/or changing 'Take Home readers'

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



EASTER

Welcome back to 2nd Term.

Talk about new beginnings for us all. A whole new way in more ways than one.

This is the time of our Liturgical Year when we rejoice in the Resurrection. The church gives us fifty days in which to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is imperative that we remember that belief in the resurrection of Jesus is the cornerstone of our faith. The children will spend the next few weeks exploring (distance learning) the events that occurred after Jesus rose from the dead.

We are now called to be disciples of God.

We are called to spread the Good News by our actions and our words.

How we treat others is how we would treat Jesus if we were to meet Him on the road.

We now ask God the Father to help us to be good disciples and to spread the Good news.

It is most appropriate as we meander through the coming months and adapt to new ways.

Stay safe, stay well and stay happy.

Jenny Keely REL



Helping children cope with stress during the 2019-nCoV outbreak



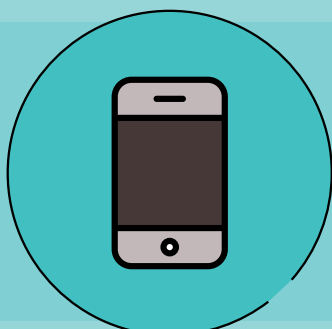
Children may respond to stress in different ways such as being more clingy, anxious, withdrawing, angry or agitated, bedwetting etc.

Respond to your child's reactions in a supportive way, listen to their concerns and give them extra love and attention.

Children need adults' love and attention during difficult times. Give them extra time and attention.

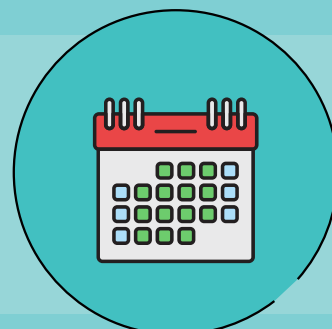
Remember to listen to your children, speak kindly and reassure them.

If possible, make opportunities for the child to play and relax.



Try and keep children close to their parents and family and avoid separating children and their caregivers to the extent possible. If separation occurs (e.g. hospitalization) ensure regular contact (e.g. via phone) and re-assurance.

Keep to regular routines and schedules as much as possible, or help create new ones in a new environment, including school/learning as well as time for safely playing and relaxing.



Provide facts about what has happened, explain what is going on now and give them clear information about how to reduce their risk of being infected by the disease in words that they can understand depending on their age.

This also includes providing information about what could happen in a re-assuring way (e.g. a family member and/or the child may start not feeling well and may have to go to the hospital for some time so doctors can help them feel better).



Virtual Visits

Virtual Open Mornings

Wednesday 22 April and Friday 12 June
Commencing 9.00am

Virtual Open Afternoon

Saturday 9 May
Commencing 2.00pm

Virtual Talk and Tour with the Principal

Wednesday 20 May
Commencing 4.00pm

We invite you online to explore the quality education and programs that your daughter will experience as a Kilbreda girl, all in the comfort of your own home!

Register today at kilbreda.vic.edu.au

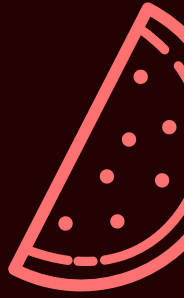
Kilbreda College

A Kildare Education Ministries School in the Brigidine Tradition





*stay home,
stay safe!*



BERRIES ON THE ROCKS

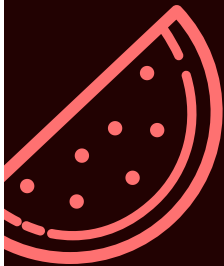
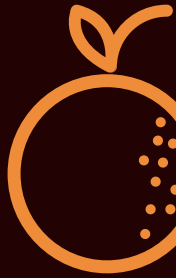
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