



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

PO Box 340
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Telephone: (08) 9796 8100
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18 March, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians

You may have noticed that our electronic sign reminds us to “live as people of hope for the world”. I can testify that the staff and wider St Joseph’s community are finding ways to offer hope in both their words and actions in a myriad of ways as we navigate this very new world we’re experiencing. We could be handing out “I Spy” awards for spotting the Spirit of Jesus wherever we look!

Because we are a community who care deeply for each other, and because it is looking increasingly like schools will not be mandated to close, we have decided to implement some measures to minimise risk as far as is humanly possible. Rest assured that while some of these initiatives are inconvenient, we have made these decisions with the safety of your children and families as paramount. Please take the time to carefully read this list of changes:

- Staff members will be the only adults allowed on site. This will come into effect on Thursday morning, 19 March.
 - Staff will be stationed at entry points so that your children are welcomed into the grounds of the school. If your child is late or you need to collect them for an appointment, you will need to come to the front office to sign them in/out as usual. Sadly, you will not be allowed past this point. One of us will accompany the younger children to class.
 - Awards presentations will be in-class affairs.
 - Volunteers and therapists will not be allowed on site until further notice.
 - Only the outer gates of the school will be open during the day.
- We are minimising the sharing of as many resources as possible. To this end:
 - Students will not be borrowing home readers or library books. Please encourage your children to read the books you have at home. Some teachers are ensuring online reading is available and many of the AR books are available as e-books.
 - Art shirts will be sent home for washing. They will then be stored in each student’s bag rather than in a common space.
- We are doing our best to maintain the health of all school members.
 - Students will frequently be instructed to wash their hands.
 - Students who become unwell at school will be observed by 2 staff members to ensure we are responding to their symptoms appropriately.
 - Thank you for assisting us by keeping your child home when they are unwell.

Like you, we are all looking forward to a return to normalcy in which we can treasure the simple experiences of handshakes and hugs. In the meantime, my prayer for all of us comes from Romans 15:13:



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I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.

If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us, and we will do our best to clarify things.

Take care and God bless

Jane Olsen

(Acting Principal)