



Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Dear Parents,

First and foremost, I want to assure you we are doing everything we can to protect our students. Staff, student and school community's health is our first priority. Whilst we are not immune, we are working to be well prepared. Our aim is to minimise and prevent the further transmission of Coronavirus (COVID-19) and we at Mary's Mount Primary School are continuing to monitor the outbreak and advice from CEWA Inc and the WA Department of Health.

To assist us, please take a few moments to read this IMPORTANT letter and familiarise yourself with the information we are sharing with you. It is important you check for messages every night from our school so you can remain up to date with the current situation, just as we will endeavour to reply in a timely manner to your messages.

As we have more information and updates to share, we will keep you informed but please be patient as we disseminate the information and share what is relevant for our school.

The most important message I can share with you is to not panic but please be vigilant and not be complacent.

COVID-19 MMPS COMMITTEE

At school we have formulated a COVID-19 committee. This committee includes representation from staff, students and parents for discussion and planning going forward. Over the coming weeks we will keep you up-to-date with communication and information. Please be patient as we work through the information and prioritise what is required.

ATTENDANCE

IMPORTANT – Mandatory Self Isolation

EFFECTIVE TODAY *If you have travelled anywhere OVERSEAS in the last 14 days, please do not enter the school grounds.*

If you or your child (including students, parents and other caregivers) have been in contact with anyone who has returned from overseas in the last 14 days, please do not enter the school grounds.

In line with the current health advice from the Government, all Australian travellers, students and staff who return from international travel must self-isolate for 14 days. This includes all parents, contractors and school visitors. Students or staff members who are in the same house as a person self-isolating should make alternative residential arrangements to mitigate the spread of the virus.

Staff and students residing at the same residence as a self-isolating person MUST ensure they do not have contact with the individual.

In summary, students, (including parents and caregivers) cannot attend school, must be isolated for 14 days, and MMPS notified if any of the following apply:

- Your child is unwell and is shown signs of flu-like symptoms including:
 - Coughing, sore-throat or fatigue
 - Shortness of breath
 - Fever
- Been in close contact with a confirmed case of coronavirus in the last 14 days.
- Been in contact with someone who has returned from overseas travel in the last 14 days.
- Travelled overseas in the last 14 days.

For students and families that end up self-isolated, we are currently working with teachers in regards to learning requirements. More information on this will be distributed at the end of the week.

WHAT WE ARE DOING AT SCHOOL

- **Shared resources at school**

We are currently reviewing our hygiene and cleaning requirements at school. This includes shared school resources. Can each student please bring a pencil case to school tomorrow with their name on it so class teachers can distribute stationary. If you are unable to send in a pencil case, we will use a snap lock bag with your child's name on it.

- **Doors propped open to bathrooms**

Bathroom doors are to be left open for ventilation and to try and minimise the spread of germs on doors and handles.

- **Minimising student to student contact**

Students are being asked to not shake hands, hug each other nor high-five each other. Students are also being reminded to not share drink bottles, food or utensils.

- **Educating students about good hygiene practice**

Teachers are working closely with students to ensure regular and correct hand washing techniques are used. Please also discuss this at home with your child and continue to reinforce this so we are working together in this area.

Precautionary measures are necessary to ensure the safest possible environment for all at school. We have commenced a greater emphasis on good hygiene in all areas of the school and are taking the following steps:

- Constant reminders for students about good hygiene practices.



- Extra soap, paper towel, tissues and hand washing stations around the school including in all classes including printed visuals around the school highlighting best practice.
 - Regular cleaning of equipment and resources.
 - Consultation with school cleaners to ensure stringent cleaning processes are followed.
 - Avoid hand shaking, hugging and student to student contact.
 - No sharing of food, drinks or food utensils.
- **Increased signage**
You may have noticed new signage and visual reminders around the school for parents and students.
 - **Class supplies (soap, tissues, paper towel, hand sanitizer)**
The school has done a stock take of classroom supplies. We do have supplies at the moment, however if you have spare stock at home, we will welcome any additional donations you have to ensure our supplies are well maintained.

VISITORS TO SCHOOL (between the hours of 8.50am and 3.10pm)

Effective tomorrow, ALL VISITORS to school (including parents) between the hours of 8.50am and 3.10pm MUST sign in at the school office so there is a record of your visit to school.

YEAR 5 CAMP UPDATE

The Year 5 camp is going ahead tomorrow as planned. Parents of these students have been sent a letter reassuring them of my correspondence with CEWA, camp coordinator and camp site manager. As always, we have the child's well-being of upmost importance and all staff facilitating the camp are committed to ensuring it is a fun and safe experience enjoyed by all.

YEAR 6 SYDNEY/CANBERRA CAMP UPDATE

A letter was sent last week to all parents of students who have committed to this interstate camp. The situation has not changed since that letter was written. We are continuing to monitor this, and will make a final decision on the viability of this trip at the beginning of Term 2.

With all possibilities that it will be cancelled due to changes to flights, we still want to give every child the option to attend should we be able to go, however our students' health is our priority.

ALL OTHER SCHOOL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

We will continue to monitor and review these as they arise and communicate the status on them as the situation changes.



SCHOOL CLOSURES

At this stage we do not have any advice to close the school, however this could change at short notice. This is why it is important you keep on top of correspondence from school. As soon as the situation changes, we will advise you.

I would like to assure you that in the eventuality that schools are asked to close, we are currently reviewing online platforms whereby we will be able to continue to communicate and deliver educational programs to our student if required.

SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

This is the situation as it stands based on current advice. We will continue to keep you informed and updated as things change.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school office, myself or your class teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

Your ongoing vigilance will support the effort to contain the spread of COVID-19. Our schools play a vital role in this work and I appreciate your continued calm, support and attention to our actions.

Yours sincerely,

Sandro Coniglio

Principal

16 March 2020

1921-2021

100 Years

CATHOLIC EDUCATION