



Thursday 26 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

A new Chapter was written today at the College:

1) Remote Learning

Well I must say it seemed, from my perspective of being “live on line”, that our first day of the St Leo’s Remote Learning went extremely well. I watched 4 classes across various subjects, sat in on teacher professional development, spoke to students on campus and the positivity was palpable.

There were a few glitches, students sleeping in, a dead camera, and a few students “laying low” but all these can be overcome. For a first day I was very impressed with the professionalism and overall enthusiasm of our students and the support you have shown us and your young person in managing this transition.

Towards the end of next week I will be conducting an online evaluation of the Remote Learning Environment asking parents, students and staff for their feedback. The aim of this survey will be to tweak any areas where possible and give everyone a window into this new world.

2) Assessment Task Schedule Intake 2020 (Yr 7) – Year 11

I have attached for your information the *Amended Assessment Task Schedule* for the remainder of this Term for Intake 2020 (Year 7) through to Year 11. Year 12 has already been published.

Most listed Assessment Tasks have been “postponed”. What does this mean? The tasks that were originally listed were being hosted in a normal classroom environment, or tasks that need more face to face instruction than we can provide in this new online setting.

There are two approaches we are using for these “postponed” assessment tasks:

- a) These tasks are currently being “reimagined” given our developing online environment, or
- b) Being “postponed until we have an indication of a return to normality.

3) The Future is here

I believe we need to turn this situation into an opportunity for our teaching and learning both now and in the future. I have addressed this over the last two days with staff. The opportunity is there – and we need to grab it!

Global and national research (*Prof Michael Fullan’s work on Deeper Learning*); which is in line with our strategy at St Leo’s of the development of whole person through the Growth Domains and the 6Cs (*Christian Citizenship, Creativity, Character, Communication, Collaboration and Critical Thinking*); is being tested in this new environment. Education has been talking about this “future world” – but now it is within our grasp. I’ll keep you posted!

Today, the 26th March, amongst the anguish and serious issues around the world, your young people, yourselves and the staff were part of a new chapter in the story of not only St Leo’s but



"Education" in Australia. Our Diocesan symbol is a lighthouse, overlooking the cliffs and raging waters. Today we were that bright lighthouse in the darkness of our current world, as we are a faith-filled people of hope.

Thank you for being part of our history and our future ... on this day!

Tony Gleeson
Principal