

Friday 1st May, 2020

*Update No 3 T2PU*

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Apologies for the longish letter - but I believe it is better you are across all current issues.

Over 1.8 billion young people around the world have been affected by school closures due to Covid-19 pandemic. There is much public discourse about education and the strategies in place to combat Covid19. Being a systemic Catholic College we will follow the guidelines and protocols given by the Federal, State governments, Catholic Schools NSW and the Diocese of Broken Bay.

In this most unusual situation - I would like to welcome 3 new students to the College community.

*Ella H* (Year 10)

*Zoe G* (Year 9) and

*Noel P* (Year 8)

So if your young person sees a new face on their screen, please ask them to make them feel welcome.

From the analysis of our Daily Mentor Check Ins- it seems that most of our students are handling and enhancing their own capabilities to cross a few hurdles that non face to face learning brings. I would congratulate you as parents and care-givers that have delicately given the right amount of advice and support that your particular young person needs. I have [included today's summary of Check Ins](#) for your information. For most students - it was a good week. Followup is required for a minority group and find out why things could not have been better. As we know life is a journey of ups and downs and students need to build resilience. Are they addressing their current situation, or do they need assistance in this? Mrs Sykes our Director of Pastoral Care and Wellbeing has distributed many available staff and outside services available for our students.

Here is the full link to today's *Check Ins* (organised by Year Group).

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1\\_IH3VQ7e9kMhhQjJdHGRpFluBot64\\_EecVZ8BdO77M8/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_IH3VQ7e9kMhhQjJdHGRpFluBot64_EecVZ8BdO77M8/edit?usp=sharing)

As you are aware at the start of **Week 3 - Monday 11th May** we will commence our St Leo's 3rd Model of Remote Learning. From the daily feedback we are receiving from the students (and some parents) the balance between the proportion of input, activities and learning and feedback seems to be very satisfactory. So in developing this 3rd model we are keeping this "balance" and routine.

It is never going to be a model that suits everyone's particular needs but there are always staff you can contact to receive some extra assistance.

The 3rd Model is being developed in response to the governing bodies and their recommendations over the past two weeks.

It is best outlined by the 2 tables below. These listed Year Groups will conduct their learning on campus on these listed days with their class teachers.

<b>Week A</b>	<b>(Monday 11 May - Friday 15 May)</b>				
	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
<b>Year Group</b>	Yr 12	Yr 12	Yr 12 & Yr 11	Yr 12	Yr 12
<b>Year Group</b>	Intake 2020 (Yr 7)	Yr 11	Yr 10	Yr 8	Yr 9

<b>Week B</b>	<b>(Monday 18 May - Friday 22 May)</b>				
	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
<b>Year Group</b>	Yr 12	Yr 12	Yr 12 & Yr 11	Yr 12	Yr 12
<b>Year Group</b>	Intake 2020 (Yr 7)	Yr 10	Yr 9	Yr 11	Yr 8

### **Notes**

- 1) Year 12 Students are onsite every day with their class teachers\*
- 2) Year 11 Students are onsite twice each week with their class teachers\*
- 3) Intake 2020 (Yr 7) to Yr 10 students are on site once a week with their class teachers\*
- 4) When students are at home - they are undergoing Remote Learning (as they have been Wks 1 & 2 this term - Model 2)
- 5) Normal College codes of behaviour, expectations and dress are expected. Students are expected in winter uniform. Students must adhere to the College grooming code.

*\* Denotes that the majority of the class teachers will be present, some are working from home - but all students will be supervised if their normal teacher is not present.*

Presently the canteen is not operating with so few students on site. I would ask all students to bring their own food/drinks for the entire day.

Further details (such as subjects and rooming) will be given early next week, in keeping with the similar format to the Model 2 Remote Learning.

The College remains open to all students each day. These students will be supervised whilst they access their Remote Learning Model 2 - (this will still be in operation). Obviously charged devices will need to be brought to school.

As I have always stated, the College respects whatever decision you take as parents/care-givers to either send your young person to school or not. If you decide against sending your young person to school - please contact the appropriate Leader of Year.

**I would ask students to respect social distancing with each other and members of staff. If this is not adhered to - parents will be contacted and students will be sent home. I would ask parents to stress this with their young person.**

### **The College Calendar:**

There are a few factors we all need to be aware of for the remainder of 2020:

- Mathematics tells us that there will *not* be enough time in Terms 3 & 4 to simply move the events that were postponed/cancelled from Wk 8 T1 and T2 for a number of reasons, some are:
  - Currently there are already various events listed from when the Calendar was first done at the start of 2020. Some may stay - some will need to be moved; some will need to be Cancelled;
- Some “non negotiable” events have moved to other dates (eg Year 12 Trials) have now been moved to commence Week 5 of Term 3. This will mean some of those originally listed events need to be either postponed or cancelled.
- Some events will need to be re-thought eg Yr 12 Graduation; Parent/Teacher /Student events etc. What that will look like in terms of gatherings of people/social distancing etc?
- From my interactions with many Yr 12s over the past few weeks - the Year 12 Retreat is a big ticket item. Our thinking caps are on.

Our aim is first and foremost is the continuing holistic development of our students across [our 6 Growth Domains](#). We need to keep a *balance of events* around the academic demands, for all of our students.

Full link to the 6 Growth Domains:

[https://drive.google.com/open?id=1BKcTarbTI5gTezc7cje5FNYTmmoe\\_bZA](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1BKcTarbTI5gTezc7cje5FNYTmmoe_bZA)

I would like to form a **Calendar Working Party** to assist in the revised Calendar. I believe it is important that the

calendar will affect everyone and it is important that these members have a feeling of control and certainty - particularly over matters that affect them directly.

The parameters of this WP will be:

*To devise a revamped 2020 Calendar (to include all events; Assessment Tasks etc) from Week 6 T2 to the end of 2020 that will be a viable and realistic plan that supports members of the St Leo's community in light of Covid19. The calendar to be finalised by the start of Term 3 2020.*  
(given we are not too sure upon the full school being back).

It will involve wide consultation for revised Assessment Task dates, sport; photo dates; Subject Selection and many others.

### **Membership:**

**Chair:** Mr Petrie;

Ms Therri Ellison (Leader of Admin);

two other members of staff

six students (one from each Year group) and

two parents.

The recommendation for the revised 2020 Calendar would then be made to the College Leadership for approval. The students and parents will be consulted - as the draft is approaching finalisation, due to the amount of prior “legwork” needed within the College and outside bodies/organisations.

If you wish to join the [Calendar Working Party please use this link](#). Nominations will close next **Tuesday (5th May) morning at 9am.**

Here is the full link to the Calendar Working Party:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc8LhDVywnhXwAjVyd-U3RcVLi6S9xw4JYjMATA1chheWkH5Q/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc8LhDVywnhXwAjVyd-U3RcVLi6S9xw4JYjMATA1chheWkH5Q/viewform?usp=sf_link)

### **Progress on the Year 12 Assessment Working Party:**

Thank you to the students and the parent who volunteered to be on this Working Party with our Director of Learning and Teaching, Ms Josephine Cali.

Below is a progress update on where this working party is currently:

NESA released some much awaited details last Friday evening. Ms Cali has consulted the three Year 12 students (two College Captains and Annabelle) as well as the Yr 12 parent (who also happens to be another teacher in another school) about the Assessment Task schedule. The CSSA has also published the dates of the Trial Exams (which now have been pushed back to the week beginning Monday 17 August through to Monday 31st August). NESA has also released more details about subjects with Major Works and their due dates.

This Working Party is now working backwards from these dates and is consulting with various groups to work out the most fair, realistic and equitable way our revised Assessment schedule can be created.

### **Intake 2020 (Year 7) to 11 Assessment Working Party:**

Thank you to the students and the parent who volunteered to be on this Working Party with our Dean of Curriculum, Mr George Morad.

Below is a summary of their recommendations - which the College has accepted.

In Intake 2020 (Year 7) to 11 the remainder of Term 2 will be largely *formative assessment* (assessment for learning - these are a series of mini tasks or classwork). This would mainly consist of class tasks, writing, projects, activities etc that have been completed in the recent remote learning environment that St Leo’s students have been working in, as well as in the transitioning back to school period.

[The Common Grade Scale from NESA](#) can be used to determine the grade of achievement for students using *formative assessment*, as well as their already completed summative assessment tasks from Term One (some of which had been completed).

As Intake 2020 (Yr 7) to Yr 11 will be transitioning back to school from Week 3, they may receive a **summative assessment task** (*assessment of learning - these are the regular more formal assessments which students get 2 weeks prior notification*) towards the end of Term 2.

Teachers have designed the delivery of lessons and content during this period of remote learning and school transition in such a way that students produce work that demonstrates an achievement of relevant subject outcomes for this period.

Once again thank you for your support and the obvious support you are giving your young person in these times. Ensure that you are taking time for yourselves - so you have the energy and patience as we slowly move out of our present situation.

I will update you again early next week giving all parents and students the full details of operations in Weeks 3 & 4 of this term. If you have any questions please do not hesitate contact College Reception or email: [stleos@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stleos@dbb.catholic.edu.au)

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'AF Gleeson' with a stylized flourish at the end.

**AF Gleeson**  
**College Principal**