



No 16: 3 August 2020

“Be the Hands, Heart and Voice of Jesus”

School Theme 2020

Our Commitment to Child Safety:

“At St Paul the Apostle Catholic Primary School we hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our school. Our commitment is drawn from and inherent in the teaching and mission of Jesus Christ, with love, justice and the sanctity of each human person at the heart of the gospel.”

Dear Parents and Families,

Yesterday, the Victorian Government announced that, on the advice of the Victorian Chief Health Officer, regional and rural Victoria will move to Stage 3 restrictions and metropolitan Melbourne will move to Stage 4 restrictions to slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

These requirements apply to all schools across all schools across Victoria. The changes to schools' operations will **come into effect from Wednesday 5 August**, following a **Student Free Day on Tuesday 4 August**, and are likely to apply until the end of Term Three.

A Staff Planning Day Tomorrow - Tuesday 4 August - Pupil Free Day No On-site School

The Victorian Government announced that, to assist the move to Stage 4 restrictions to slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19), **all school across Victoria will be closed tomorrow** to enable staff to continue planning for the lockdown which could be in place for the remainder of term three.

Camp Australia Full Day Program Tomorrow: 7.00am – 6.00pm (for Eligible Families)

Therefore children of essential workers or those deemed vulnerable will not be able to attend onsite remote schooling tomorrow. However, I have requested Camp Australia to run a Pupil Free Day tomorrow to assist parents with the supervision of children unable to be supervised at home.

Camp Australia will contact their registered families directly or you can also visit the Camp Australia Website: www.campastralia.com.au and follow the prompts if you wish to access the day's program and satisfy the strict criteria.

No Assistance at Home from Staff for Remote Learning Tomorrow 4 August

As this is a Staff Planning Day, teachers and staff will be involved in extensive planning and will not be available to teach the children or assist with their remote and flexible learning from home during the day.

Onsite Staffing During Stage 4 Restrictions

- Schools will ensure sufficient staff are available for necessary on site supervision. (However we are awaiting the new definition for "permitted" workers.)
- With the change of wording from "**essential**" workers to "**permitted**" workers, the Premier is expected to clarify over the coming days who "permitted" workers are. This will have implications for the number of children who will be eligible to attend remote schooling onsite from this Wednesday 5 August. Schools are legally obliged to follow all directives issued by the Governments, DHH&S or the CEM and CECV.
- Staff not required for on-site supervision will therefore work from home during Stage 4.

As outlined in the Chief Health Officer's advice on Friday, schools remain safe places for staff and students – but these steps are critical measures to reduce the movement of students and families.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Mid-Year Child/Parent/Teacher Interviews via Zoom

Families received your child's Mid-year Report last Friday and would have taken up the opportunity to share it with your child, parents will now have the opportunity to join their child and their teacher during their **Mid-year Child-Parent-Teacher Interviews scheduled for next week.**

Parents are now able to select their preferred timeslot from the "School Interviews Online Booking Website" for a 10 -15 minute Zoom video conference.

Parent-Child-Teachers Interviews: 9.00am – 4.30pm

Monday 10 August	Senior Level
Tuesday 11 August	Middle Level
Wednesday 12 August	Junior NM, ED & CI
Thursday 13 August	Prep level
Friday 14 August	Junior JD, MK & ZW



As with other video facilities used by work places such as Medical Centres and businesses, the Zoom facility will now allow working parents to have the flexibility to block out a **10 – 15 minute timeslot** during their working day and join their child irrespective of their location.

Details regarding the "School Interviews Online Booking Website" for families were sent out last Friday and is also uploaded on our school website. www.spadoreen.catholic.edu.au. I'm pleased to report that a large number of parents have already accessed the site to book their preferred timeslot. The teachers will provide with you your Zoom link over the coming days.

Keep safe and well and I will continue to communicate with you as we receive further updates.

Phil Doherty
(Principal)