



# HOLY EUCHARIST CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

1a Oleander Drive, St Albans South VIC 3021.

(Entrance via Chedgely Drive)

Phone 8312 0900

[www.hestalbanssth.catholic.edu.au](http://www.hestalbanssth.catholic.edu.au)



## SCHOOL NEWSLETTER – SPECIAL EDITION (7)

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020

### *The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (8<sup>th</sup> September 2020)*

The feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary is celebrated each year on the eighth of September. Mary was born to be the mother of the Saviour of the world and our mother.

Let us celebrate with joy the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, for from her arose the Son of justice, Christ our God.



*A reading from the prophet Micah (Mi 5:1-4)*

*The Lord says this:*

*'You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans of Judah, out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old.*

*The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth. Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel. He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God.*

*They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land. He himself will be peace.'*

*The Word of the Lord.*

### **Principal's Message:**

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers,

The term is quickly coming to a close and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in the school for their total commitment during these very difficult times. This last term has not been easy for all of us but we have worked hard together to do the best we possibly can for our children. I am hoping that next term the school can get back to normal with all our children attending and working back in their classroom with their friends and teachers.

Last Thursday the school celebrated the feast of Saint Monica with a beautiful liturgy via Zoom. It was great to see so many of our children and their families celebrating together with such reverence. I would like to thank all the students who read so well during the liturgy.

Around this time of the year we would be celebrating Father's Day with our annual Father's Day breakfast. Unfortunately we are unable to celebrate together due to the lockdown that we are all in at the moment. To all the fathers and grandfathers, I hope you have a great day on Sunday with lots of love and gifts.

As the term holidays are approaching, my time at Holy Eucharist will soon come to an end. I would just like to thank all those who have sent me messages of congratulations and well wishes. My time at Holy Eucharist has been amazing in so many different ways and I am so glad that I have been a part of this school and parish for the last 15 years.

God Bless.

Mr Jeffrey Parker

Principal

[Jeffrey.Parker@hestalbanssth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:Jeffrey.Parker@hestalbanssth.catholic.edu.au)

## Deputy Principal's Message:

As we begin Week 9 of Term 3 and the sixth week of Stage 4 lockdown, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the work that our parents, guardians, grandparents and staff are doing, keeping the children of Holy Eucharist learning safely at home. Please remember that the staff at Holy Eucharist is here to help, when and where we can. It has been difficult for many of us to understand and make sense of the world at this time, let alone our children who are trying to comprehend what is happening. When children see positive communication between their parents or carers and staff, they begin to learn it is important to build healthy relationships. Relationships turn into partnerships when schools and families work together. Therefore, family involvement in their child's learning, particularly during remote learning, is essential. If your child sees school and home working together, then that will be the true foundation of success through this pandemic and remote learning. Please remember to continually check for updates on Class Dojo and to visit our school website to keep up to date with important information in regards to COVID-19. Please visit [www.hestalbanssth.catholic.edu.au](http://www.hestalbanssth.catholic.edu.au)

### PREP ENROLMENTS 2021

Just a reminder that Grade Prep enrolments for 2021 are almost full. If you wish to enrol your child for Prep next year, please do so as soon as possible. If you know of family friends who are also seeking a placement for their child, could you please let them know to contact the school office on 8312 0900.

### SACRAMENTS

At this stage we are still unable to gather in large groups as directed by the State Government. Therefore, we are unable to make any plans to celebrate Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation. As soon as we know anything we will communicate this with families.

### ONLINE LEARNING AND STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Please remember that it is a legal requirement for all students in Melbourne to complete the set tasks outlined by the teacher. Remote Learning is just like a "normal" school day and attendance is compulsory. All students are required to complete the daily set tasks during school hours.

Students in Grades 3 to Grade 6 are asked to login each day at 9:00am on Google Classroom, in order to complete the attendance log. Students in Grades Prep to Grade 2 are required to login on Class Dojo and to complete their attendance. If a student does not login at 9:00am, they will be marked absent for the day and will be followed up with a phone call.

If a student is unable to take part in Remote Learning for any particular reason, the parent/carer is required to notify the teacher via email or can telephone the school office, explaining the reason for their child's absence. **All absences will also be recorded in the Semester 2 report.**

### ONSITE LEARNING

We will continue to offer limited onsite learning for those students who need to access this, including for students on days when they are not able to be supervised at home and no other arrangements can be made. **Please remember, if your child can stay at home, then they must stay at home!** Onsite supervision will only be provided for extreme circumstances. The safest place for a child to be supervised, is in their own home or with extended family. With this in mind, only those who fall under the following criteria will be provided with onsite supervision:

- Parent/s who are identified as a "permitted" worker based on the criteria outlined by the Chief Medical Officer and cannot work from home and alternative arrangements cannot be made for the supervision of their child/ren.
- Please note that it is incumbent upon all businesses to provide the employee with a "working permit" if they are required to work onsite.
- A child is in "out of home care" and is at extreme risk.
- A child falls under the disability category and cannot be supervised at home and who also fits into one of the above categories.

**Please note**, if your child is attending school during remote learning, it is vital that **they do not come to school** if they have any symptoms like sore throat, temperature, tiredness, loss of taste or smell, tummy pains or shortness of breath. They will be sent home if they show any of these symptoms. All children attending school will have their temperature taken upon arrival. Any child who registers a temperature of 37.5 or more, will be sent home. It is important that your emergency contact is available, if for any reason you are unable to pick up your child if we ring you. The constant message is for all of us to be responsible in the actions we take. By keeping yourself safe, you are keeping your families, your colleagues and your friends safe.

### Q & A

Many parents and guardians have been worried about their child's academic progress in 2020 and have been asking many questions, such as....

#### ***Will my child need to repeat in 2021?***

- No. All school children in Victoria are in a similar situation due to the pandemic (and all Victorian school children cannot repeat the school year!)
- These are exceptional circumstances. The Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCCA) and Catholic Education Melbourne (CEM) will be guiding us by providing advice, as we plan our way forward into next term and into 2021.
- We will do our best at Holy Eucharist to address your child's individual academic and wellbeing needs when they return to school.
- Please remember, that most children are resilient.

#### ***Where is my child in comparison to the rest of the class?***

- Due to the limited evidence we can gather, we can make no comment on this matter.
- The authenticity of any evidence submitted cannot be verified. (Maybe a parent or someone else completed a task. Maybe a child has excelled at home and is now doing exceptionally well. We can't be sure.)

In the coming weeks we will be providing more information in regards to Assessment and Reporting.

## REMOTE LEARNING PACKS

During Stage 4 restrictions we have had to cease the collection of Remote Learning Packs from the hall. If your child has completed allocated tasks, these can be uploaded onto Class Dojo or onto Google Classroom. Alternatively, if you are having difficulty uploading the work onto Class Dojo/Google Classroom, you may email these to the teacher by sending the work as an attachment.

## VISITOR ACCESS

Parents/carers/visitors are **not to enter the school grounds**. The school office will be closed and will only be accessible by appointment only. The School Office will only allow 2 parents at any given time to enter. An Administration Officer will be at the door to provide hand sanitiser to these parents. If parents are required to be onsite, they must wear mask, minimise their time and practise physical distancing.

## COMMUNICATION

Please note, that our Teaching Staff may not be able to respond to emails or telephone calls immediately. The school accepts **that a response within 2 working days is acceptable**. Our Parent Code of Conduct Policy stipulates that responses **will not be made outside of working hours or during school holidays, with the exception of an emergency**.

## FACE COVERINGS/MASKS

Face coverings are mandatory for people aged 12 and over. These measures will slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) and help protect our school community. Students who attend primary school for onsite supervision will not be required to wear a face covering. Students who are aged 12 by Year 6 will not be required to wear face coverings. The Victorian Chief Health Officer has advised that it is not practical to require some primary school students to wear face coverings while others are not required to.

Parents, guardians and carers will be required to wear face coverings whenever they leave the house, including for school drop-off and pick-up. Students or staff who have a medical condition – including problems with their breathing, a serious skin condition on the face, a disability or a mental health condition – are not required to wear a face covering.

The Department of Health and Human Services website has [advice about face coverings](#), including:

- Which different types can be used.
- How to make your own.
- How to safely wear one/safely remove it.

## SCHOOL LITURGIES AND ASSEMBLY ONLINE – VIA ZOOM

Thank you to all our students, families and staff for taking part in our online Liturgies and Assemblies. The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has disrupted daily life for all of us in our school and the parish community and has posed many different challenges. However, it is important during these difficult times, to remain optimistic and to stay connected with each other, in order to draw strength and to remain positive.

We will continue celebrating the special feast days online and will be hosting regular whole school assemblies via Zoom. All students and their families will be invited to attend these. Please look out for the regular invitations posted by me (Mr Bonnici) on Class Dojo.

## SUNDAY MASSES

St Patrick's Cathedral will continue to broadcast Sunday Mass (live) via online streaming and also on C31 (digital channel 44). Broadcasting Sunday Mass on television and online continues to enable the faith community to gather and pray remotely, during the COVID-19 lockdown. In particular, the television service is essential, especially for those in our community with limited internet access.

Sunday Mass at 11am will continue to be televised free-to-air. All daily Masses however, will be available online via the Archdiocesan website and YouTube channel. For more details, please visit: <http://melbournecatholic.org.au>

To access Mass from St Patrick's Cathedral via live streaming, please visit <http://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass>

- Monday – Friday 1.00pm.
- Saturday – 8.00am.
- Sunday – 11.00am OR Sunday – 11am free-on-air C31 (digital channel 44).

Fr Rob Galea also broadcasts Mass each Sunday morning at 10am. Please visit <https://www.frgministry.com/>

Please take care and stay safe,

**Mr Michael Bonnici**

Deputy Principal/Learning and Teaching Leader

[Michael.Bonnici@hestalbanssth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:Michael.Bonnici@hestalbanssth.catholic.edu.au)

## CAROLINE CHISHOLM – YEAR 7 2022

Enrolments for Year 7 at Caroline Chisholm for 2022 are open until 9th October 2020. If you wish to secure a place at the Catholic college for Year 7 in 2020, please visit [cccc.vic.edu.au](http://cccc.vic.edu.au)



## Every day is Open Day

Visit our updated website [cccc.vic.edu.au](http://cccc.vic.edu.au) to learn about our College facilities and programs.



## IMPORTANT DATES:

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| • Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> September                    | -Father's Day   |
| • Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> September                   | -Our Lady's Birthday                                  |
| • Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> September                   | -End of Term 3  |
| • Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> October                      | -Beginning of Term 4                                  |
| • Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> October                      | -Caroline Chisholm's Year 7 Enrolments for 2022 close |
| • Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> October                     | -School Photos  |
| • Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> - Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup> October | -Children's Book Week                                 |