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14 July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: Return to learning at home for Term 3

I hope you are having a peaceful school break and are taking the opportunity to spend valuable time with your family. We continue to see ourselves in unprecedented times and are facing challenges that none of us thought were ever possible. Our thoughts and prayers are with all our families and the community.

Based on advice from the Victorian Chief Health Officer, Catholic schools in metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire, have been instructed to move to remote learning for most students from 20 July (Term 3, Week 2).

The Chief Health Officer has also provided advice about the health measures that should be taken by staff and students, and staff at St James the Apostle Catholic Primary School will be following these measures. The purpose of these changed arrangements is to reduce the number of people, including students and families, moving across metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire in order to reduce the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

Arrangements beginning on Monday 20 July

From Monday 20 July, St James the Apostle Catholic Primary School will be moving to remote learning. **This will apply to all students apart from the following:**

- children of parents/carers who cannot make suitable arrangements to supervise children at home, including children of teachers in schools who are required to return to work onsite;
- students with disabilities who choose to attend onsite; and
- vulnerable students.

If any of the above applies to your circumstance, please email Mary Abbott (<u>mabbott@sjhcn.catholic.edu.au</u>) as per the email sent on 8 July 2020.

St James the Apostle Catholic Primary School will follow similar arrangements to those we put in place for remote learning in Term 2. Currently, your child's home group teacher is working tirelessly to ensure that your child remains connected to school. The teachers are meeting the following recommendations from Catholic Education Melbourne for online learning:

For learners in **Years Prep to 2**, the school will provide a daily learning program that includes the following:

- English (45-60 minutes)
- Mathematics (30-45 minutes)
- Additional learning areas Religious Education, Inquiry, Italian, Visual Arts, Performing Arts, Physical Education (30-45 minutes)

For students in **Years 3 to 6**, the school will provide a daily learning program allocated as follows:

- English (45-60 minutes)
- Mathematics (30-45 minutes)
- Physical activities (30 minutes) Physical Education
- Additional learning areas Religious Education, Inquiry, Italian, Visual Arts, Performing Arts (90 minutes)

Home group teachers are required to check in with their home group twice each day for Term 3 via Google Meet. The first check-in is for greeting learners and going through the learning for the day. The purpose of the second check-in is for clarification of learning tasks. This will take place at a time decided on by the home group teacher. Each check-in will be recorded and uploaded into the learning platform. There will be other opportunities for staff to check-in with your child throughout the week. Information about those times will be sent by your child's home group teacher.

Remote Learning Platform

St James the Apostle Primary School maintains a robust ICT infrastructure which can deliver online learning for students in a time of need.

Each element provides a unique service and together forms the School Remote Learning Platform.

Platform	Audience	Link	Purpose
School App	Staff Parents	<u>iOS (App Store)</u> <u>Android (Google Play)</u>	School-wide communication. Ensure your notifications are turned on.
GMail	Staff Parents Students	<u>mail.google.com</u> Students log in using their sjhcn email address	Personal communication between staff and students in Years 3-6 and personal communication between parents and staff. Leaders' emails are located on our website.
FAMILY Seesaw Family	Parents	<u>iOS (App Store)</u> <u>Android (Google Play)</u> Web: <u>app.seesaw.me</u> Parents log in using their usual Seesaw account	Year-level communication between parents and teachers.
Google Meet	Staff Parents Students	<u>meet.google.com</u> Students in Years 3 - 6 log in using their sjhcn email address. Other student users access Meet using a generated code.	Platform for daily check-ins between learners and teachers and other small group work.

CLASS Seesaw Class	Students: <i>Years Prep - 2</i> Staff	<u>iOS (App Store)</u> <u>Android (Google Play)</u> Web: <u>app.seesaw.me</u> Students log in using their personalised Home Learning code	Platform for remote learning tasks for students in Years Prep - 2.
Google Classroom	Students: Years 3 - 6 Staff: Years 3 - 6	<u>classroom.google.com</u> Students log in using their sjhcn email address	Platform for remote learning tasks for students in Years 3 - 6.
Google Drive	Students Staff	<u>drive.google.com</u> Students log in using their sjhcn email address	All students have access to their own personal Google Drive, with Year 3 - 6 students required to use it as part of Google Classroom.
School Website	Parents Staff	www.sjhcn.catholic.edu.au	Visit the Learning at Home section for useful links and information (sjhcn.catholic.edu.au/remote)

Finally, a reminder that if you, your child or a family member develop symptoms of a fever, chills or sweats, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose, or loss of smell or taste, you should get tested at a coronavirus (COVID-19) testing facility and stay home.

If you would like health information from the Department of Health and Human Services, you can visit <u>www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus</u>.

We will continue to communicate with you as soon as we receive further information.

Stay safe,

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Mary Abbott **Principal**

David Hurn Deputy Principal Learning and Teaching

Renae Stone Deputy Principal Student Wellbeing School Community