



**MATER DEI
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Mater Dei Matters

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK – CHRIS BARTLETT



Thank you for your continued patience, flexibility and willingness to adapt to the challenges that COVID-19 has presented so far this term. At the beginning of next week, we will see changes that will provide a new set of rules for us to engage in. These changes will release some pressures at home and school, while at the same time increase demands in both environments. We are conscious that the “ideal” is not attainable given our current circumstances. I am confident that our staff and parent body will continue to be supportive of the processes in place and enable the best outcomes for student learning while restrictions are in place. We are all in this together and staying strong as the Mater Dei team is our best solution.

This weekend we will celebrate Mothers' Day which acknowledges motherhood and the influence mothers have had on our society. Each of us will turn some attention to our own mothers this Sunday and reflect on the influence these great people have had (or continue to have) on our lives. We also recognise the collective contribution to society of mothers present and past. It is also time to reflect on those among us who have not been blessed with the opportunity of motherhood, but continue to serve in our community to foster, love and care for many people.

To all the mums out there, we wish a fantastic day on Sunday with those you love and care for most. Happy Mother's Day!

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S DESK



This Sunday we celebrate Mother's Day. In our assembly today, our Year Ones reminded us just how amazing mothers are. During these unique times, we have all had to stretch beyond our comfort zone and problem solve previously unencountered challenges. We take this opportunity to thank all the mums and mother figures in our community for being such great role models in this regard. The positivity and resilience our families have shown, and the support provided is so very much appreciated and so important in our ongoing partnership. Please view our school assembly via this [link](#)

This Sunday is the fifth Sunday of Easter. Please find a [family prayer resource](#) for the weekend and our St Theresa's Parish [bulletin](#). As you will see in our assembly video, Fr Brian is a natural on camera and is now recording mass each Wednesday and posting on youtube. The link to the parish youtube channel can be found in the bulletin.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Partial Return to School: Prep – Yr 1

We received announcements from our State Officials at the start of the week including a directive that Prep and Yr 1 students will commence school on Monday 11 May. The following points provide clarification around school practices.

Prep to Yr 1 Students:

- These students are able to attend school for their normal face to face delivery of the curriculum.
- Class teachers will plan for face to face delivery and are not responsible for learning at home.
- If a child is sick, they will be marked – Medical absence (as per normal).
- If a parent chooses to leave a child at home due to COVID-19 reasons, they are to contact the school and the child will be marked – Approved educational absence
- Any educational support for students who will have prolonged absences from school must be discussed with the class teacher.

Yr 2 – Yr 6 Student:

- The existing partial school closure guidelines remain in place until 25 May 2020.

Attendance:

Remote learning is for all students who:

- *Have a parent at home or, are able to be supervised and learn from home.*
- *Have a medical condition that places them at a greater than average risk for infection.*

On Site learning is supervision for:

- *Children of essential workers -*
 - *On days when they are not able to be supervised at home and no other arrangements can be made.*
 - *Essential worker means any worker who must continue to attend their workplace for essential business during this time.*
- *Vulnerable children who include children who are currently receiving services from Child Safety, including children who are subject to a child protection order or are subject to a youth justice order.*

As a result, if you are unable to provide adequate supervision and no other arrangements can be made, you may send your child (children) to school. Please register attendance by:

- *Phone 4637 6100*
- *Email: materdei@twb.catholic.edu.au*

Curriculum Delivery:

Curriculum content and activities delivered to students on site or remote, remain the same. As a result:

- *The same work is produced by students and submitted to teachers for review and feedback.*
- *Teachers will review submitted work, plan the next weekly bundle of work and issue electronically to students.*

Some difference is inevitable but not impacting on the student access to the curriculum and learning:

- *On Site Learners are allocated regular school time to complete the activities, Remote Learners have flexibility when the tasks are complete (as long as the week's work is submitted by Monday afternoon).*
- *The delivery of some instruction is teacher based for On Site Learners and parent based for Remote Learners.*
- *Some curriculum delivery will be live or pre-recorded and accessible to all students.*

Zoom Meetings:

- *Daily class Zoom Meetings (Yr 2 – Yr 6) are planned to continue until the partial school closure period ends. This will be review each week as necessary*
- *Principal Zoom Meetings will continue on Monday and Friday mornings until the end of the partial school closure period.*

Social Distancing:

Social and physical distancing protocols continue to apply to adults in a school setting. We can all help to restrict the spread of COVID-19 by adhering to these protocols:

- Minimising the need to enter the school
 - Stop, Drop and Go - where appropriate
 - Wait in the car until the going home bell rings before entering the school grounds to collect your child
 - Use the drop off / pick up zone if your child is independent.
- Not gathering inside or outside schools
- Engaging with staff via phone or emails
- Keep a distance of 1.5 meters between all people whilst in and around the school grounds.

Parents can also assist by ensuring their child stays away from school if they are showing any signs or symptoms of illness.

Hygiene Practices:

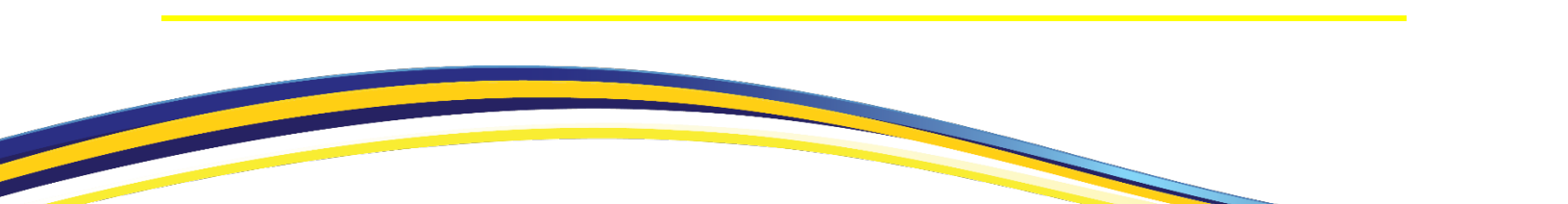
Good hygiene practices will remain in the school. These points are provided as a reminder as more students become regular attendees in the school grounds.

- School Practices:
 - Eating areas, classrooms (inc. library, LS room and Specialist rooms), toilets and staff rooms: Cleaners will be engaged to deliver COVID-19 Touch Point Cleaning Standard.
 - Resources for spot surface cleaning will be distributed to each class to be used at teacher discretion.
 - Reduce the use of air-conditioners which recycles the same air in the room – open doors and windows for good ventilation wherever possible.
 - No large gatherings eg. assembly, liturgies, masses, sporting events, parent meetings / events, excursions or camps.
- Student Practices:
 - Each student is to use hand sanitiser upon entering and leaving the room.
 - Play on the playforts is postponed until further notice due to close proximity of students. Use of general play equipment at lunch time is to continue until further notice
 - Sharing of pens and general writing items to be minimised. Please provide a pencil case in Prep and Yr 1 to assist with this measure.
 - Use of shared classroom devices occurs if sanitised by wiping after each session of individual use
 - Physical proximity to each other is to be minimised for example, no handshakes, no high fives, limited physical contact, etc.
 - Sneeze, cough, blow procedure eg. sneeze and cough into elbow; wash and sanitise hands regularly and after every nose blow into a tissue.
 - Hand wash procedure reinforced by all staff when using toilets.
 - Students sanitise hands when entering and exiting classroom
 - Tuckshop considerations - convenor is aware of safe food handling practices and procedures, with volunteers reminded and monitored each tuckshop shift.
 - Encourage students to drink from water bottles not the drinking fountains.

Messaging Students During the School Day

Please note that it is breach of our IT Acceptable User Policy for parent and students to be messaging each other during the school day. This is particularly important for Yr 4 – 6 students who will operate from their BYO I-Pads during the school day.

All parental communication to students during school time is through our school office or to the class teacher. A reminder that any student mobile phones must be checked into the office each morning and collected at the end of the school day.



FROM THE SCHOOL COUNSELLOR

Keeping Safe Online

During this time of online learning, our children are spending more time on the internet than usual. In order for our children to safely enjoy the benefits of the internet, it is important for parents and caregivers to be aware of its associated risks. Unsupervised access to the internet increases your child's risk of exposure to inappropriate material, sites that are not child friendly, or expose them to situations that could cause harm. To protect your child from risk, here are some simple steps to follow:

- Discuss with your child the rules for technology use (i.e. what internet sites are appropriate; limit after hours use)
- Use parent controls (found within the settings on your device) to block specific sites and manage time online
- Check your privacy settings on all devices to keep your personal information safe
- Ensure your child can be easily monitored while online (i.e. only accessing the internet in a central room in the house or in line of sight)
- Intermittently check the search history
- And limit screen time, where possible.

For more information related to keeping safe online please access the resources listed below.

Resources for parents and carers to support safe online learning:


- Think U Know - <https://www.thinkuknow.org.au/for-parents-and-carers>
- Online safety kit for parents and carers - <https://www.esafety.gov.au/about-us/blog/covid-19-online-safety-kit-parents-and-carers>
- Taming the Technology - <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/skills-advice/taming-technology>
- Parentline 1300 30 1300 - <https://parentline.com.au/>

Free online webinars created by the eSafety Commissioner:

- **My House, My Rules** (suitable for parents/carers and primary aged children to participate together). **Sessions:** 8th May 11.30-12.00 pm; 12th May 11.30-12.00 pm; 14th May 11.30-12.00 pm. Registration link - <https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/2707460927900082190>
- **Keeping Safe and Healthy Online** (suitable for children ages 7-12 years old). **Session:** 6th May 10.30-11.00 am. Registration link - <https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/4010253563954144270>
- **Keeping Your Sanity and Supporting Your Kids Online** (suitable for parents and carers). **Sessions:** 4th May 1.00 pm-1.30 pm; 6th May 8.30 – 9.00 pm; 12th May 8.30 – 9.00 pm. Registration link – <https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/9112745080346428942>

For Prep and Grade 1 Families

We are looking forward to welcoming our Preps and 1s back on campus next week! While some children may welcome this change, others may find it a little more difficult. If you are looking for some hints and tips on how to support your child with this transition, you'll find some relevant resources on [School Counsellor Connect](#). Similarly, if you and your child are needing a little extra support please don't hesitate to reach out.



TUCKSHOP

Thank you to everyone who ordered chocolate slice. It has been very well received by our Mater Dei Community. This will be the last week to order "The Slice of Mater Dei at Home". Pick up will be next Tuesday 12th of May. \$5.00 for 6 pieces of slice (a tray).

All the best to all our mothers this Sunday!

HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!

Have an enjoyable day with your beautiful children!

As we begin to transition back into school learning again, we will need your help in the tuckshop. Catch up with all the other Mums and Dads again. Please sign up below. Your help is greatly appreciated!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0E45A9A629A1FC1-mdps9>



NATIONALLY CONSISTENT COLLECTION OF DATA ON SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY (NCCD)



Dear parents, guardians and carers

Re: Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)

Every year, all schools in Australia participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). The NCCD process requires schools to identify information already available in the school about supports provided to students with disability. These relate to legislative requirements under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the *Disability Standards for Education 2005*, in line with the *NCCD guidelines (2019)*.

Information provided about students to the Australian Government for the NCCD includes:

- year of schooling
- category of disability: physical, cognitive, sensory or social/emotional
- level of adjustment provided: support provided within quality differentiated teaching practice, supplementary, substantial or extensive.

This information assists schools to:

- formally recognise the supports and adjustments provided to students with disability in schools
- consider how they can strengthen the support of students with disability in schools
- develop shared practices so that they can review their learning programs in order to improve educational outcomes for students with disability.

The NCCD provides state and federal governments with the information they need to plan more broadly for the support of students with disability.

The NCCD will have no direct impact on your child and your child will not be involved in any testing process. The school will provide data to the Australian Government in such a way that no individual student will be able to be identified – the privacy and confidentiality of all students is ensured. All information is protected by privacy laws that regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. To find out more about these matters, please refer to the [Australian Government's Privacy Policy \(https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy\)](https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy).

Further information about the NCCD can be found on the [NCCD Portal \(https://www.nccd.edu.au\)](https://www.nccd.edu.au).

If you have any questions about the NCCD, please contact the school.

Kind regards

Principal

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