



Covid-19 Newsletter 13

Principal's Message – Mrs Joanne Webster

29th July 2020

Dear Families,

Thank you for your continued partnership with the school to engage your children in the remote learning tasks set. The teachers are constantly in praise of your great work. For this we are very grateful.

As I write this today, I think it is important to inform you of the multiple closures of primary and secondary schools in our area due to Covid 19 cases, contact tracing and cleaning processes. I would like to thank the families of essential workers, vulnerable students and special needs students for their diligence to inform the school of cases in their work places, and for the responsibility you have taken to protect the onsite school students and staff. This is certainly a testament to our sense of "community" and being in this together.

If you or your family have tested positive for Covid-19 please inform the school, whether you are onsite or remote learning.

A reminder to all families that there are only 3 reasons your children may attend school, in the metro Melbourne and Mitchell Shire, as set by the Premier of the State, Department of Education and Catholic Education Melbourne:

1. Essential Worker and validation of this is with a letter from your employer
2. Vulnerable student: Family violence
3. Special Needs.

For all other families you must educate your children at home using the remote learning tasks set by teaching staff. I understand this is by no means easy, but the directive is clear. I would appreciate your understanding and acknowledgement of this.

PRAYER

At times such as these- of great uncertainty, illness and even death-God holds each of us in the palm of His hand. Knowing we are embraced in His great love, and mercy, is comforting. Prayer at this time demonstrates our faith and hope in God. You may like to make time in your life for prayer. It gives one the sense of solidarity and hope.

As a community of believers our faith is central to our being. In times of war, persecution or injustice, many Catholics around the world pray for God's divine intervention. And miracles occurred and occur. Miracles can happen every single day of our lives. If God wills it, He can make them happen. Certainly, we can also ask for them in Christ's name. Jesus Himself said "Ask and it shall be given to you. Knock and the door shall be opened. Seek and you shall find. ([Matthew 7:7](#))"

May we, who are experiencing the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in Australia and in our small world, and are coming to terms with the new reality, remember the words of Scripture: "Be still and know that I am God".

May we, who as adults struggling to process what is happening in our world, remember children who are fearful of a reality they cannot comprehend

May we, who complain about the scarcity of commodities, remember those who are working to maintain the supply chain.

May we, who observe the long queues of those seeking support, remember those for whom there is no government assistance or financial aid.

May we, who work to end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity, remember those living and working in vulnerable communities.

May we, who are working from home, remember those who have no employment or home from which to work.

May we, who have access to medical facilities and services, remember those who do not have basic health care.

May we, who are beginning to experience border closures, remember refugees who cannot return home.

May we give thanks for those who are working to help or bring some kindness, joy or humour to others, showing us that the light of Christ shines.

During this time of isolation, as we close our doors, may we continue to keep our hearts open to our families, friends, local and global communities.

We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

There is no hard and fast rule for how to pray to God to make miracles in your life. Spend some time with God and give it a try!!

Take care, stay safe, God bless

Mrs Joanne Webster
Principal



| Statement: 'It is better to change than to stay the same.' | |
|--|---|
| STRONGLY AGREE | STRONGLY DISAGREE |
| <small>Put yourself in the position of someone who strongly agrees with the above statement. What might they say to support their position and what evidence might they give? Write a paragraph using full sentences to respond.</small> | <small>Now put yourself in the position of someone who strongly disagrees with the above statement. What might they say to support their position and what evidence might they give? Write a paragraph using full sentences to respond.</small> |
| I strongly agree people should change. It can help a person feel change within them and I think change can help a person think in a different way and make them feel like a new person. | I strongly disagree for people to change I think it can change what they think about themselves and may change their personalities to a bad one. |

