



SAINT BRIGID'S SCHOOL COLLIE

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End of Term Principal's Letter

Dear Parents and Community

It was lovely to catch up with so many parents last week during the collection of the Long-Term Packs, and hearing of the trials and tribulations of teaching your own children at home. Despite some comical tales of suspensions, expulsions, detentions and students declaring pupil-free days, it was wonderful hearing how beneficial having quality time together has been for many families. Although this pandemic is crippling in many ways, as parents we are presented with a unique opportunity to slow down (if your schedule allows), build family relationships and just be together.

Many children are feeling anxious and unsettled due to the Corona Virus uncertainty, the resulting disruption to their daily routines and being isolated from their friends and families. It is vitally important that parents prioritise your child's wellbeing. Take the time to do this by doing fun activities together, enjoying each other's company and ensuring that learning at home is a positive experience. We are providing Remote Learning to enable students, with family support, to continue formal learning away from school. Engage in this learning in a way that suits your family and prioritises wellbeing. If things are becoming overwhelming then pull back a bit. If a situation arises and you need to take time away from this formal school work then do so. Our staff are here to support you and your family and to work with you in educating your child- so please make contact if we can be of any assistance.

Term 2: As per the above, we have been advised by CEWA, that Term 2 will commence as Remote Learning and parents are again encouraged to keep your children home, unless you are an essential worker (employed and unable to work from home). We have received formal indication that this will continue for at least four weeks and to prepare for it to continue longer.

Appreciation to our Staff: I wish to extend my appreciation to the staff of our school, who have embraced the concept of Remote Learning and are rapidly upskilling themselves, with what is required to deliver online learning in Term 2. In a very short period of time, they have had to research and establish a consistent approach to Remote Learning across our school and prepare to implement this plan. The instruction that our teachers have planned for students, will give our students the best opportunity for learning success as we move to online learning and delivery.

Partnering With Parents- We Walk Together: One of our school's goals is to walk together with our parents. As we transition to remote learning, we want you to know that we are committed to working with you and supporting you. Our teaching staff (assistant teachers and teachers) will continue to work from home to support the learning of your child. The technology that our school has invested in, will enable your child to actively participate in remote learning lessons with their teachers and assistant teachers. Throughout Term 2, we will have staff working on site at school and working from home supporting your child. Our school office will be staffed each day by office staff and school leadership.

SERVICE

RESPECT

KINDNESS

LEARNING

We aim to deliver rapid support if you are having difficulties so you can get back on track with your technology concerns and learning.

Support at Home: Our staff will be in regular contact with students and families.

- For assistance with classwork email your class teacher firstname.lastname@cewa.edu.au They will get back to you promptly – on the same day if the email is received before 11am
- For general support, assistance and enquiries call 9735 9200 or email admin@stbrigidscollie@cewa.edu.au, daniel.graves@cewa.edu.au or marcia.collins@cewa.edu.au
- For technical support email david.sarre@cewa.edu.au

Remote Learning (Long Term Plan) Commences Tuesday 28th April: The following important and updated documents will be emailed to all families and are available on our website (Parent Information-Covid19 & Remote Learning- Long Term Plan):

- Remote Learning Technology Guide (Version 2)
- Remote Learning Plan (Version 3)
- Our website also contains helpful videos to get your iPad/laptop set up and logged in

On the first day of each week parents and students are expected to:

- (K/PP) Open Flipgrid and check your weekly schedule and commence your learning. Please ensure you take note of and attend your conference calls.
- (Year 1-6) Open OneNote, go to Content Library and open Weekly Timetable. Commence your learning. Please ensure you take note of and attend your conference calls.

As parents, you are playing an important hands-on role, assisting your child in engaging in learning at home. Parents are by no means expected to take the place of teachers, and we will be doing our very best to support you and your child.

Congratulations Mrs Chelsea Roney: One of our amazing teachers, Mrs Chelsea Roney has accepted a full-time teaching position at Collie Senior High School for the remainder of 2020. We wish you well in this new and exciting challenge and we will all miss you!

Happy Easter: The Lenten period of preparing for Easter ends today on Holy Thursday, as we commence the Easter Triduum. During the Triduum, we remember Jesus's Last Supper and his death, and we celebrate His resurrection. On Easter Sunday, we remember that Jesus, who was crucified on the cross, was raised from the dead and walked amongst his friends. The Easter season continues for fifty days leading up to Pentecost. We wish all our families a blessed Easter and may you and your family be filled with new life and the love of the risen Lord.

Our school staff are very grateful for the support and appreciation that so many parents and caregivers have shared, as we work through this challenging time together. Stay well! Have a lovely holiday!

Kind regards,

Daniel Graves (Principal)

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