



# St Christopher's Newsletter

St Christopher's Primary School  
34 Roberts Road,  
**AIRPORT WEST 3042**  
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Term 2 Week 6 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2020

## PRINCIPAL:

**Adrian Glasby**

## DEPUTY PRINCIPALS:

**Colleen Mahoney**  
Faith & Organisation

**Denis Johnstone**  
Students, Staff & Community

Dear families,

As you are aware, next Tuesday May 26 is the first day on site for Year Prep to Year Two students. Drop off and pick up will look different than it has previously, due to social distancing rules. In particular, we are limiting parent contact within school boundaries as is the direction from authorities. To achieve this, drop off and pick up are done away from the classroom settings. Below is a dot point summary of what drop off and pick up will look like. **Please be very patient.**

### **Drop-offs and Pickups: Tuesday May 26 through to Friday June 5**

#### **Drop offs:**

Can occur from 8.25am to 8.50am **at the front of the school only.** Children are to be walked to the gate or dropped off and walk to the gate themselves. Once arriving at the gate they will sanitise their hands. St Christopher's staff will be on duty to direct and care for the children. Parents please observe social distancing.

#### **Then the following will happen depending on your child's year level.**

- Year Prep and Year One students will go into the hall via the side entrance where they will line up and be ready for their teachers to walk them across to their classrooms at 8.50am. The hall area will be staffed at all times
- Year 2 students will be walked from the front gate to the COLA area (Covered Outdoor Learning Area). Where they will be met by their teachers and walked to their classrooms
- Year 3-6 students who are at school because their parents have no other option will play on the basketball court area, as they have in the past and then line up and be collected by their teachers in the usual line up area when the music starts

#### **Pickups:**

3.20pm Monday to Thursday and 3pm Friday **both the front and the back of the school will be used**

- Students with surnames beginning with A-K will be picked up at the front of the school and students with surnames beginning with L-Z will be picked up at the back of the school
- Students (surnames beginning with A-K) being picked up from the front of the school will be walked by a teacher and lined up inside our front gates on the asphalt near our car park. 10 parents will be let in at a time to quickly pick up their children and then go directly out of the gate. Parents are asked to observe social distancing as they wait for pick up and to move out as quickly as possible
- Students being picked up from the back of the school (surnames beginning L-Z) will be walked by a teacher and lined up on our oval. 10 parents will be let in at a time to quickly pick up their children and then go directly out of the back gate. Parents are asked to observe social distancing as they wait for pick up and to move out as quickly as possible
- Students in Year 3 to Year 6 who are here can collect their younger siblings in Year Prep to Year 2 if necessary and walk out to the designated pick up area.

[A Health Message from the STC Student Leaders](#)

A MESSAGE FROM  
STC STUDENT LEADERS  
HEALTHY STUDY AND  
LIVING TIPS

**Tuesday  
May 26**

**Return to  
School for  
Years Prep,  
One & Two.**

**NO CANTEEN  
FOR THE REST  
OF TERM 2 &  
ALL OF TERM 3.**

**PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE (Continued)****Early Pick up:**

This process may be difficult for some families. We are offering an early pick up time of 2.30pm to help these families and to ease potential congestion. It is there if you need it. Early pick up will take place from the **front of our school only**. To organise early pick up please email the "aways" email for your child's grade and state their name and that you want your child to be dismissed at 2.30pm. You will need to do this **by 10am on each day** of early pick up. If you have more than one child at school you need to send an email for each student.

These students will return to class after the 2.20pm bell, get their bag and return to the line. Staff members will walk the children down the front of the school to be collected by their parents.

**Please Be Patient:**

Please be very patient. We are doing the very best we can to ensure we keep St Christopher's safe. These changes will definitely increase the time it takes to pick up your children. Arrive early and take advantage of off street parking, this may involve a little more walking than usual.

**Wet Days:**

We have a few options to use in wet weather including using the hall and COLA for pickups but rain makes everything difficult. My suggestion is that in wet weather families take more of an advantage of the 2.30pm pick up time where possible.

**Children Who Are Sick:**

No child who is sick should be at school including those with coughs, sore throats and runny noses. You will be asked to pick up your child if they are at school in this condition.

**Cleaning:**

Thanks to our STC maintenance staff who have been working really hard keeping our school clean. Our school canteen will be closed for the rest of term two and term three. Our canteen staff have been and will continue to help with the extra cleaning requirements in this time.

**Drink Taps:**

Students will not be able to use our drink taps until further notice. Please ensure they bring a full water bottle every day.

**LAHTs:**

As each year level returns to school, their Learning at Home Tasks cease.

Best Wishes and stay healthy.

**Adrian Glasby**  
**Principal**



## Religious Education Newsletter

Dear Parents,

I hope you are all well. So much has changed in the past week and now we are readying ourselves to welcome the children back to onsite learning at school in the coming weeks. We are all really looking forward to seeing the children and getting into our school routines once again (even if these look a little different).

The Gospel reading for this coming Sunday is the Ascension of the Lord. It is such a fitting gospel to have for the Sunday prior to our Preps, Ones and Twos returning to school. The final words of the gospel are, "And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time." We know that there will be challenges in this time of change ahead and that school may not look exactly like it did before we moved to online learning. No matter what, we know that Jesus is with us and we can pray to him as we move ahead. We look forward to the children of our school filling our rooms and playgrounds again with laughter and joy.

All the best to you and your families,

**Colleen Mahoney**  
Deputy Principal of Organisation and Faith.

### Gospel Reading: THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD A - Sunday 24th May

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Mt 28: 16-20

*All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.*

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commandments I gave to you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



### Prayer

Mt 28: 19-20

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all  
people my gospel.  
I am with you always,  
until the end of the world.

Alleluia!



## WELLBEING @ STC TERM 2, WEEK 6

Dear Parents and Carers,

I feel like I'm saying this weekly at the moment but what a difference a week makes at times like these. I hope you have all had the opportunity to catch up with friends and loved ones over the weekend. Having that social connection back has been a massive boost for my and my family's wellbeing. I hope that your families were able to experience a similar boost.

### **The Road Back:**

So begins the road back - to school, to work, to post isolation times. The huge change that we have all undergone in such a short period of time is bound to have taken a toll on all of our wellbeing. As someone who is normally upbeat and positive, I know that this period has knocked me around a bit personally! Some people navigate this more easily than others. If you are feeling a little (or a lot) out of whack, a little anxious, a little confused and very tired - know that this is all very normal and we are all feeling much the same way. This is especially true for our children.

Having to Learn from Home, have their parents be their teachers, not see their friends and family, not be able to go outside except for some exercise, listen to the constant chatter about the dangers of this virus - all of these factors will affect our children in some shape or form.

That is why it is important for you as parents, our children and our teachers to focus on the return to school and start acting now, to smooth the transition back to onsite learning and school.

### **Tips for Managing the Transitions back to Onsite Learning (Adapted from Be You resource):**

Everyone reacts differently to change – some find it exciting, some find it stressful, some find it anxiety-inducing, some hardly notice it happened. Adults use their experience and existing knowledge to predict what changes may be like, and how it may affect them and can develop strategies to help them adjust and cope.

Children don't often have as much prior knowledge or experience to draw on which can make change more difficult and challenging. The added fear associated with COVID-19 may be a complicating factor for some children.

### **Transitions are everywhere, every day - make the link for your children:**

Transitions are best described as change: a period where we must adapt to new circumstances, expectations, people, environments or routines.

Transition involves more than the first day in a new situation – it happens over time both before and after what we think of as the 'big' day (the first day back). How quickly children adjust will vary.

When thinking about types of transitions for children and young people we might consider:

- their first transition from home to an early learning service
- the first year of school
- moving from primary to secondary school
- finishing secondary school and moving to the next stage of study or work.
- moving to a Learning From Home program
- moving back to Onsite Schooling
- 

However, small transitions are happening every day for children and young people: saying goodbye to family in the morning, stopping one thing and starting something new, moving from one room or building to another.

Transitions also occur in home life: moving house, going on holiday, the birth of a sibling, family changes, separations or bereavements. These early years' experiences can influence how we approach and cope with transitions throughout life.

**WELLBEING @ STC TERM 2, WEEK 6 (Continued)****What we might observe during transitions:**

Children and young people often communicate their feelings through behaviour. They rely on the adults around them to understand, acknowledge and interpret their behaviour, and provide a safe, secure, predictable space for them. Transitions are successful when children and young people feel confident, secure and included – and these are all important protective factors for children's mental health and wellbeing.

Discussing the return to school and going through the new procedures that will be in place for drop off and pick up (as outlined by Adrian's newsletter) will be important strategies to assist your children in transitioning back to school. We know that anxiety has its root in the unknown, so seeking to shed some light on the new procedures will work towards lessening anxiety towards change and new/unfamiliar experiences.

**Supporting transitions and building resilience:**

We build resilience by learning and developing social and emotional skills – including coping skills. With these skills we manage life's stressors, grow in confidence and willingness to try new things, and seek and accept help when required.

What success stories do you and your family have of your COVID isolation time? What strategies and coping skills did you develop together as a family? Take some time to talk about these with your children and instil in them the confidence to handle new and different circumstances with the knowledge that they have conquered similar situations before.

During transitions, things we can do that provide the most positive experience for children and young people, maintain and grow relationships and reduce routine disruption and stress include:

- Plan and prepare for transitions through a supportive discussion and information sharing about the changes that will be occurring with your children
- Talk about what school was like in term 1 and the positives that the children are looking forward to upon their return
- Be flexible when the unexpected happens and encourage acceptance of feelings of being anxious or scared without being overwhelmed by these emotions
- The school will establish routines as soon as possible to develop a sense of predictability in the new environment.

We are really looking forward to seeing the smiling faces of our students back at school and will be working hard to make the transition as smooth as possible for them.

Stay safe, stay healthy, stay connected,

**Denis Johnstone**

**Deputy Principal - Students, Staff and Community**



**COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD:****St Bernard's College - Year 7 2022 Enrolment Reminder**

Online applications are still possible.

The online link will remain open until Wednesday, 20 May 2020.

Refer to College website [www.sbc.vic.edu.au](http://www.sbc.vic.edu.au) and scroll across to Future Students tab and then scroll down to the enrolment tab.

For more information contact College Registrar – Mr John Nocci via email – [jnocci@sbcc.vic.edu.au](mailto:jnocci@sbcc.vic.edu.au) or by phone – (03) 9289 1103.



## VIRTUAL TOURS

Join the Principal for a virtual tour and learn about St Columba's College.

Visit [www.columba.vic.edu.au](http://www.columba.vic.edu.au) to book your virtual tour or register for a scholarship.

Year 7 2022 Enrolments closing 21 August 2020.



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Noone Niddrie Trading Hours

- Monday to Friday – 10am-5pm
- Saturday – 9am-12pm

\* Please note that there will be restrictions on the number of customers in the store and social distancing measures will be in place



**YEARS 7 - 12**

**APPLY NOW**

Enrolment enquiries: 9319 1346

Other enquiries: 8331 0100

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