



30th April, 2020

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Re: College communication and updates

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.' Mark 6:31

Mid-Term Break - Offline Day (May 8th)

I would like to acknowledge the immense effort of our College community during the course of the last 3-4 weeks. Our students, siblings, parents, guardians and staff have simply been awesome. Thus, next **Friday 8th May will be a day where we all go offline**. On this day we pause as there will be **no classes running** and the College Office will be closed. Our staff will be offline and I hope our students will also be offline. I anticipate that the day will provide an opportunity for our community to take a breath and refresh.

Onsite Attendance & Transport (May 4th - May 15th)

In terms of our planning for student supervision and bus transportation, it is integral that we maintain strong lines of communication. Parents are asked to register on a fortnightly basis, if your child/children will be attending school because they fit the Government prescribed categories.

A reminder that the Government has strongly indicated that, **from the start of Term 2 all students who can learn from home must learn from home. Remote learning from home is still the preferred option.**

For those children who need to attend school because they fit the Government prescribed categories such as workers in essential business or poor technology capacity at home, social distancing measures at school will be implemented. Families should note that the canteen will not be available, drink bottles should be brought by students and College PE uniform or winter uniform should be worn. Students will be supervised by rostered staff and will complete the same online learning as students who are working from home.

The Government Bus System and an abridged form of the College Bus System will continue to operate for students attending school on-site. If you require your child to attend school, please contact the College office to register your request and your transportation needs. Please be aware that we cannot accommodate last minute changes to the bus run and that the mandated social distancing guidelines between the bus driver and the students upon entry to the bus cannot be guaranteed.

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Parents are asked to **register their child's attendance and transportation arrangements for the next two weeks (Monday 4th May to Friday 15th May, 2020)**, by contacting the College office on 5866 2222. Families must register their details before **12 noon on Friday 1st May**, to allow time for planning. If you have any queries please contact the College Office.

Happy Mother's Day (May 10th)

To all of our mothers, grandmothers and great grandmothers please celebrate and enjoy Mother's Day. I encourage families to enjoy the simple lifestyle that the current period has afforded us.

The SMOTA community, although confronted with daily challenges and hurdles, has again shown great strength, resilience and community spirit throughout the closure period. This response is not underestimated, nor unexpected. My thanks again for your support during these challenging times as we all work together to support the learning and wellbeing of your children.

With Peace and Goodwill,



Matt Carver
Principal