



Newsletter

Term 2 Week 4 Thursday, 7 May 2020

Principal's Message principal@olmcsunbury.catholic.edu.au

Dear Parents,

This Sunday we celebrate Mothers' Day. It will look a little different this year as we won't have the opportunity to gather as families but that won't stop us from recognising the important role our mums play in our lives. I thank God for my mum every day. I am so lucky to have her and although she has been diagnosed with Alzheimers, she still has the best sense of humour and is the most beautiful woman I know. I am grateful for every moment I get to share with her and I am mindful of those who no longer have their mum by their side. I am also proud to be a mum to my wonderful daughters. I thank God every day for how blessed I am. I would like to wish all the OLMC mums a very Happy Mothers' Day. I hope you enjoy the day.



School Address

53 Macedon St
Sunbury 3429
9740 7344

2020 Term Dates

Term 2 :

Tue 14th April -
Fri 26th June

Term 3:

Mon 13th July -
Fri 18th September

Term 4:

Mon 5th October -
Fri 16th December

School Closure

Day

Term 2

Thur June 4th

A reminder that 2021 Prep Enrolments are now open. If you have a child starting school next year please hand in your forms to the office as soon as you can. You may also email them. Can you please remind kinder friends and family members as well.

Next Monday we may have more of an idea about whether or not onsite schooling will return any earlier than term 3. Daniel Andrews is still standing strong that schools are closed for the duration of term 2. Be assured that I will be in touch if anything changes. Your best news source on this is me as there is already a lot of speculation around but none of it grounded. Keep up the wonderful work you are doing at home to support your child's learning. Remember to have them check in with their teacher each day so they can be marked as present. Otherwise your child will be marked absent. Teachers also need to see evidence of some of the work the children are completing each day. It is really important for children to access class meetings via google meet or hangout as often as possible. This will help with their wellbeing as well as help them to understand the tasks set by the teacher.

I have had some lovely emails from parents which I really appreciate and have passed on to the teachers. We are here to support each other.

If you are needing extra support there is plenty available. Cecilia Tankey, our school counsellor can be contacted via email ceciliatankeytherapy@gmail.com or here are some very useful links:

Beyond Blue provides some great ideas for keeping mentally healthy during the COVID-19 outbreak.

<https://www.beyondblue.org.au/the-facts/looking-after-your-mental-health-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak>

Headspace offers some great advice <https://headspace.org.au/young-people/how-to-cope-with-stress-related-to-covid-19/>

Emerging Minds: <https://emergingminds.com.au/supporting-childrens-mental-health-during-disaster-and-traumatic-events/>

Kids Helpline provides telephone support on 1800 55 1800 – It is a free call, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

<https://kidshelpline.com.au/>

Raising Children Network - COVID 19 family guide: <https://raisingchildren.net.au/guides/coronavirus-covid-19-guide>

World Health Organisation provides information about healthy parenting practices during COVID 19 <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public/healthy-parenting>

Aussie Broadband are supporting families who need extra data on their NBN. Please click on the link for more information

<https://www.aussiebroadband.com.au/covid19-connectivity-relief/?school=>

This Sunday we celebrate the 5th Sunday of Easter.

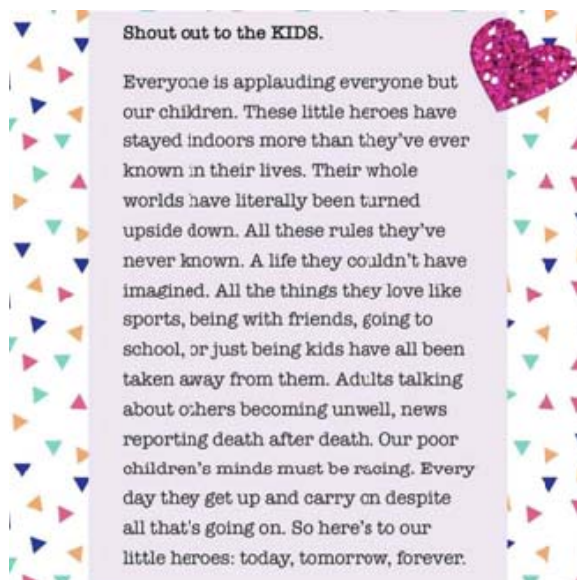
Gospel

John 14:1–12

I am the Way, the Truth and the Life

God Bless,

Julie



Parental GUIDANCE RECOMMENDED

What is your role in supporting learning at home?

By Catholic School Parents Victoria

As we move into a new way of learning, priorities have shifted to engaging families in the process. While teachers have extensively prepared over the past weeks to provide online learning, the role of parents is equally important.

With the situation unfolding, we have seen many comments about parents adapting to having children at home and assuming various roles to support their learning. Some say it's an ideal time to do things together and learn in different ways.

Children will need to have some routine and connect with their school learning. This is especially true where parents are now working from home and juggling that with children's learning. Educators should work with parents to engage in learning, support children and keep life as normal as possible.

To help parents understand their changing focus in guiding learning, we've outlined the roles they might play based on those depicted in the Global Family Research Project's [Joining together to create a bold vision for next generation family engagement](#):

Partners with educators: Now, more than ever, we need to work as partners. Two-way communication with the school is critical to help parents support their children to reach learning goals.

Path builder and co-creator: Parents can create opportunities for learning by asking questions. As parents know their children well, they are able to suggest ideas for learning activities that suit their interests, making it easier to motivate them to complete set tasks.

Adviser, monitor, coach: Advising is helpful if children have a question, while monitoring is about keeping them on track and supervising online learning. Coaching is an effective way to encourage children to talk about their learning, explore ideas, and prompt critical and creative thinking.

Negotiator and connector: Negotiate when learning happens with your children and their teachers. Connect learning at home with learning at school and highlight these connections, so children can see the link between life and education.

Co-learner: As parents will be learning alongside their children, they can ask questions and enable children to be teachers. This will enhance student-led or independent learning, allowing them to seek assistance if needed.

Networker and community builder: Our homes are our first communities, so should be nurtured. Patience will be tested and routines adapted, but parents have support networks through friends, relatives and colleagues, as well as their children's teachers.

Volunteer and leader: Parents are effectively volunteering to support learning at home, but it's important to acknowledge that many already do this. Leading by example in how we manage will have a huge impact on children, as they observe their parents become more resilient.

Advocate: Sharing feedback with teachers to work through solutions is essential. Conversations about learning at home or areas for improvement will be more useful than struggling or feeling frustrated. Working together will make your children's experience more rewarding.

The many roles that parents take on need to be supported during this time. It is critical that communication and understanding with a focus on wellbeing are maintained, and that we aim to work in partnership for the benefit of our children.

How informed are you when it comes to supporting your child's learning?

Catholic School Parents Victoria are a team of passionate parents of children in primary and secondary Catholic schools. As volunteer delegates we contribute parent perspective in education at a system, state and national level under the pillars of Parent Engagement and Parent Leadership in:



We achieve this through establishing relationships with critical partners in education, sourcing parent feedback via school representatives and CSPV parent forums, writing submissions for government and other bodies.

CSPV promotes Catholic education, parent engagement and parent leadership through forums and workshops, committees and policy development groups as well as communication with parents and schools.

CSPV invite you to subscribe to our newsletter, follow our Facebook page, visit our website or enquire about becoming a council delegate so you can be more informed to support children through Catholic education.

Visit www.cspv.catholic.edu.au/join-us or contact our Executive Officer on 03 9267 0458.



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Find us on

Sunbury Downs College

'Confidence to Achieve'



Dear prospective parents/carers/families,

Welcome to Sunbury Downs College. Thank you for taking the time to explore our College website and inquire about the outstanding Teaching and Learning programs that we offer.

Sunbury Downs College is a conservative, medium sized, inclusive and caring coeducational school. The College has a holistic approach to student growth and development. We offer a comprehensive curriculum and a wide variety of extra curriculum programs promoting the attainment of successful student outcomes; including quality pathways and destinations. We believe outstanding teaching produces high quality learning outcomes.

Sunbury Downs College fosters authentic respectful relationships so that learning is enjoyed and students may achieve their full potential.

Sunbury Downs College recognises the importance of the partnership between schools and parents to support student learning, engagement and wellbeing. We share a commitment to, and a responsibility for, ensuring inclusive, safe and orderly environments for children and young people.

We pride ourselves on providing a welcoming, safe, and orderly learning environment which is a precondition for successful teaching and learning. A positive learning environment fosters collaboration and cooperation with shared expectations of educational success.

At our school students develop responsibility for their own learning, progress and behaviour. We create confident, resilient and reflective independent life learners.

The College has five core values that underpin our work and interaction with our community: Respectful Relationships, Community Engagement, Ambitious Expectations, Successful Outcomes and Resilient Behaviours.

Our College will have finalised two major capital works programs that commenced in 2019 by the middle of this year. The result of these facility upgrade programs is that students and teachers will have access to state of the art Science, Physical Education, General Purpose Classrooms and Canteen / Cafeteria facilities. New modern Food Technology kitchens have been constructed and incorporated into a shared community facility to be used by Sunbury Downs College, Sunbury Heights Primary School and Hume City Council.

I encourage you to browse through the [College website](#) and contact the College on sunbury.downs.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au or 03 9744 0500 for a hard copy prospectus.

We look forward to meeting and sharing our great school with you. I hope that this is the beginning of a partnership where we work together to support our young people and develop in them the skills to have the "Confidence to Achieve".

Regards

Warwick Beynon
Acting Principal

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