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**St Paul's**  
Catholic College  
Booragul

19 March 2020

Dear Parents & Caregivers,

***Re Covid-19 Update.***

You would have received an update from the Catholic Schools Office indicating that schools will remain open until the end of Term 1 and at this point, will reopen at the beginning of Term 2.

This news gives us all the certainty that we needed. The rumour mill was alive and well with all sorts of possibilities so now, with this decision made, we can get on with the business of teaching and learning.

*"Business as usual"* is in fact the new business as usual. Schools will continue to teach timetabled classes but for the foreseeable future, restrictions and the changes to some of our practices will continue. This includes the cancellation of assemblies, the sports program, parent meetings and information nights etc. Under these guidelines, the Parent/Teacher Interviews that were to be held in Week 11 have been cancelled.

Parents who made the decision to keep their children home for the remainder of the term (or longer) have the absolute right to do so. Unfortunately, teaching staff will not be able to set individual work for them while they are away. I have asked staff to use Compass to indicate what work is being done in class. This practice is to prepare for the possibility of a shut-down in the future. However, it will not be as detailed as what might be otherwise expected. Students will still have access to Education Perfect in Stages 4 & 5 as well as Maths Online and possibly OneNote if their teachers use that platform.

I ask that you speak with your child about the seriousness of this situation. Perhaps get them to watch some appropriate news bulletins and read appropriate on-line news feeds. We have had a number of incidents where students have made inappropriate comments and who have spread rumours about possible contact with the virus. This is not helpful and in this heightened state of awareness has led to people being very upset.

I will continue to update you in the coming weeks. Regular updates from the CSO will come at 4pm each day. You can also view these updates on the CSO website:

<https://www.mn.catholic.edu.au/news-events/covid-19-update/>

Once again, thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G Selmes".

Mr Graeme Selmes  
**Principal**