

Booragul

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24th April 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

COVID – 19 Update No. 18

Welcome to Term Two.

In my last update at the end of Term One, I indicated that we would begin Term Two the same way that we concluded Term One. Yesterday, our Director of Schools sent out a letter via Compass indicating that this would be the case for all diocesan schools.

At St Paul's, while we remain open for children who for, whatever reason they need to be at school, I ask that families heed the advice of the Premier, Gladys Berejiklian where she asked parents where possible to keep students at home. The same advice has been reinforced by Mr Mowbray's letter yesterday. The current news about the flattening of the COVID Curve has been very good, but the reality still remains, this virus is deadly for many of our communities, including teachers and support staff who work in our schools every day. We all must continue to do what we can to ensure the safety of all.

The Premier also indicated that schools across the state, both State, Catholic Systemic and Independent will begin the phased return of students to school from week three. How this will look is still to be decided. The Catholic Schools Office in consultation with schools will be formulating a plan to make this happen over the next few weeks. It is a very complicated process that will need much discussion and consultation. I assure you that at all times, we will be keeping the continued education of all our students at the forefront of any decisions. As well, we will need to ensure the work, health and safety of all staff here at the College as we move forward. The other thing that needs to be considered is the overall status of the virus in our community. As you are very aware, that can change very quickly and will have a significant impact on any planning. The Premier, in her recent press conference also indicated that students will still be learning using the online platforms regardless if they are at school or at home even when small groups come into schools from week three. The goal is for schools to be "normalised' by the beginning of Term Three.

For HSC Students, NESA still has not made any solid determinations about subjects with major works. They have made decisions in the following domains and have indicated that these works will still be due Term Three.

Drama individual projects; English Extension 2; Music compositions and musicology essays; Society and Culture Personal Interest Projects and Dance Major Study - Dance and Technology Option1: Choreographing the Virtual Body

So, from day one this term, students will continue to access the curriculum via our online platforms. Teaching staff will deliver that work and will be expecting engagement and feedback from all students in their classes. Later in Week One, we will be also sending out some material to some classes via the post to aid in this learning. Not all students will receive packages. Teachers will be in contact with classes to let them know what might be coming for their particular course. I expect deliveries via the post will begin early in Week Two.

Go Gently.

Yours sincerely,

Graeme Selmes