

# **ST THERESE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL**

131 Endeavour Drive Cranbourne North Vic 3977 Telephone: 5996 7525 Email: principal@sttcbourne.catholic.edu.au

20 May 2020

## Phased Return to Classroom Learning

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers

As previously advised, the Victorian State Government has announced that Victorian school students will begin a phased return to classrooms.

Monday, 25 May 2020, will be a pupil free day to support all school staff to prepare and complete the necessary planning for a successful transition back to school. Remote Schooling will not take place on this day and all students will remain at home.

From Tuesday, 26 May 2020, all Foundation (Prep), Grade 1 and Grade 2 students will return to classroom learning.

On Tuesday, 9 June 2020, all students will return to classroom learning and will be expected to attend St Therese's school as normal.

Where parents, guardians or carers choose to keep children home instead of returning them to classroom learning, St Therese's will no longer be required to provide a Remote Schooling Program. However, St Therese's will endeavour to provide extended absence work program and your child will be marked as absent from school.

We ask all parents, guardians and carers to keep their child at home if your child is unwell. It is essential that you inform the school if your child will be absent from school. Upon arrival to school or during the school day, if your child becomes or is unwell, you will be contacted and required to come and collect your child.

If your child is experiencing signs or symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, cough or sore throat), it is recommended that appropriate medical advice is sought. Your child should not be sent to school.

We would also like to inform parents that the school will no longer be conducting temperature checks of students, staff or visitors to the school. Instead, the school will continue to implement known controls, such as good hygiene measures.

While medical advice states that physical distancing is not required for students during classroom activities, **St Therese's will be implementing the following control measures that will begin on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May:** 

### School Drop Off 8:30am – 9:00am and Pick Up 3:30pm – 4:00pm

- Families whose surname begin with A-K are to drop off and pick up their children at the Endeavour Drive pedestrian gate.
- Families whose surname begin with L-Z are to drop off and pick up their children at the Mitchell Court pedestrian gate.

We request that were possible, parents/carers do not get out of their cars and ensure their children leave the car from the footpath side of the car and walk to the gate. Children are able to use the pedestrian crossing on Endeavour Drive should they need to cross the road. Please do not put your children in danger by expecting them to cross between cars, even with parent presence this is dangerous. Parents/carers who need to drop off their children late or pick them up early are requested to phone the school and use the Endeavour Drive pedestrian gate to enter the school. The admin officer will sign the child in or out so that parents do not need to enter the school unnecessarily.

#### **Visitors Onsite**

There will be restrictions in place for any visitors other than school staff and students. We request that where possible, parents/carers do not enter the school grounds. Parents/carers who need to speak with a member of staff are asked to phone the school office in the first instance.

If parents or carers wish to meet with a member of staff, please contact the school on 59967525 to make an appointment or email the staff member directly.

#### Canteen

Canteen services at St Therese's have been suspended until the beginning of Term 3. As such, there will be no over the service sales, Breakfast Club or lunch orders, including SUBWAY.

In Term 3, we will resume Canteen for lunch only. All orders will need to be made using the FlexiSchools app.

#### **Drink Bottles**

Until further notice, the drinking fountains will remain closed. All students are required to bring a named drink bottle. These can be refilled throughout the day at the taps within the classrooms.

#### **Birthday treats and toys**

Until further notice, please do not send your child to school with birthday treats, cakes or toys to share with their class or friends. Thank you for your understanding on this matter.

#### **Extended School Cleaning Program**

Throughout the school day, high touch areas, such as door handles, tables, shared equipment etc will be cleaned. Playground equipment will be open to the students to use, however, this will be done on a roster system with certain classes using the equipment on certain days. The equipment will be cleaned between uses.

Soap and hand sanitizer is available to all staff and students in all learning areas throughout the school. Students are expected to wash and sanitize their hands regularly throughout the day and the teachers have taken the time this takes into account when planning lessons. Extra time will be allocated for eating time.

I wish to reassure you that the safety and wellbeing of our school community will remain our highest priority with these and other provisions being made for the safety of students and staff.

I appreciate that the transition to classroom learning will be a challenging time for all and I thank all our parents, guardians, cares and the wider school community for their hard work and support.

As more information becomes available regarding the return to classroom learning it will be provided as soon as possible.

If you require further information, please contact Michelle Bruitzman via email at principal@sttcbourne.catholic.edu.au

Yours sincerely,

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Michelle Bruitzman (Principal)