

ST. PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL 230-240 SUNSHINE AVENUE KEALBA VICTORIA 3021

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KEEPING OUR CONNECTIONS – UPDATE 2



Thursday May 7 2020

Dear Community,

CONTINUITY OF LEARNING PLAN: VERSION 2

Week Four of Term 2 has our St. Paul's 'family' working at home and at school, on Version 2 of our Continuity of Learning Plan. The new plan has been a combination of listening to families, staff input and the need to be moving our children's learning forward. With a focus on structure and new learnings, supported by technology and taking into consideration feedback from parents & guardians, students and staff, Version 2 will hopefully ensure all stakeholders in learning and teaching at St. Paul's are heard.



LEARNING & TEACHING QUESTIONS

If you have any questions relating to learning and teaching at home or at school, please contact Mrs. Tina Segulin, Learning & Teaching Leader, via email at tsegulin@spkealba.catholic.edu.au

CHALLENGES & FRUSTRATIONS

We are all still struggling to come to terms with arguing Federal and State governments, conflicting medical advice and our own personal and family challenges, associated with the Coronavirus. I would like to thank you all for your ongoing support and understanding, as we continue to work together to be safe & healthy, as well as continuing our new way of learning & teaching.

I appreciate the huge challenge having your children at home has presented. Staff are constantly exploring new ways of making remote and flexible learning workable for families. Our goal remains to work with you in making remote and flexible learning more manageable and accessible for all students, parents & guardians and staff.

I again thank those parents & guardians who have sent emails of support & encouragement to myself and my staff – they make a difference when we are constantly trying to remain in touch and support the work you are doing at home. To those parents who have expressed challenges & frustrations in their emails, I assure you we are here to listen and we will continue to respond to you with support and recommendations, in dealing with those challenges and frustrations. Ultimately we are all trying our best for our kids!

We are all in this together and we want to make our new ways of learning and teaching work. Sharing your successes and expressing your challenges will mean that we can celebrate what we (the adults) and the kids are achieving, as well as working out solutions for what might be challenging and frustrating us.



INFORMATION, EXPECTATIONS & UPDATES

- Classroom teachers need to be your first contact for questions and concerns
- Classroom teachers will be online and available via email, between the hours of 8.50 am and 3.25 pm, each learning day, Monday to Friday.
- After hours emails will be answered the following working day
- The Continuity of Learning Plan: Version 2, will be sent out to parents & guardians, by individual class teachers, week by week, as follows:
 - V2-Week 4 on Friday May 1, to start on Monday May 4;
 - V2-Week 5, on Friday May 8, to start on Monday May 11;
 - V2-Week 6, on Friday May 15, to start on Monday May 22

- CLP: V2 provides greater structure & detail for each day of the learning week, Monday to Friday
- CLP: V2 has expectations for students to post work for assessment via email, in Google
 Drive or via Google Classroom; teachers have been clear about which applies to your
 children. This will increase student accountability, and give teachers further opportunity
 to connect and provide feedback, as well as collect data to inform the writing of midyear reports.
- School work needs to be given priority over Language School homework & tutoring homework.
- School work completed at home and uploaded, will be used for assessment purposes.

SUPPORT

The staff and I are here for you, to support you in managing & guiding your children's learning at home. The challenges we are facing are different for everyone and it is our job as a staff team to support and direct you in dealing with those challenges. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher via email and they will respond within 24 hours, Monday to Friday, between 8.50 am and 3.25 pm.



INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

Thank you for learning with us in the area of digital technologies, as we work to make access to learning at home possible. Our Middle School and Senior School students are developing their competence and independence in managing to access their learning plans and upload their work. Foundation and Junior School students are far more reliant on you, their parents & guardians, to access their learning plans and to upload their work. We are constantly working to improve this part of learning at home, with teachers, School Leaders and Curriculum Leaders, looking at ways we can remain in contact via technology. Our digital platform is Google and the G Suite, which includes G Mail, Google Docs, Google Drive, Google Classroom, Google Meet and Google Sites.

If any of you have I.C.T. (Technology) questions or issues please contact Mr. Andrew Curmi via email at acurmi@spkealba.catholic

If any of you have CareMonkey questions or issues, please contact Mr. Patrick Pantalone via email at ppantalone@spkealba.catholic.edu.au



OUR STAFF

As a staff team we are continuing to work both at school and from home, doing our best to be available to you and your children.

We are grateful to those of you who have emailed or posted affirming & positive comments to us. We very much appreciate your support and the time you have taken to let us know that. We will continue to listen and we will continue to act on your feedback & input!



OUR STUDENTS - YOUR CHILDREN

I would like to thank & congratulate your children, for the work they have been doing at home and for some at school. With your support, guidance and direction they have been sharing & uploading their work, sharing their at-home learning assessment activities and communicating with their teachers via G Mail, Google Classroom, Google Meet & Google Sites. Keep up the great work kids; we're proud of you!



RETURNING TO SCHOOL

I am very mindful of so much conflicting information regarding returning to school. Regardless of what our Prime Minister says, we take our directives from the State Government of Victoria, who advises the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria and Catholic Education Melbourne. Our Premier cares greatly about the health and safety of all Victorians and it is to him we look for leadership and direction about when we return to school. My hope is that it will not be too far away but in the meantime we can only do our best to stay safe & well and keep our families safe & well.



WE WILL BE BACK TOGETHER!

As our new way of learning & teaching continues and the challenges of not knowing what lies ahead play on our minds, I remind you again of the words of St. Paul that, "Hope does not disappoint"! Let's try our best to remain hopeful, as we deal with so many unknowns and so much conflicting advice and opinion.

Denis.

Denis J. Daly

Principal