



IRENE McCORMACK  
CATHOLIC COLLEGE  
Prayer Service Justice

THE

McCORMACK

MESSENGER

## Special Edition 24<sup>th</sup> April 2020

### ANZAC Day 25<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Tomorrow we remember and honour all Australians who have served our country in wars and peace keeping missions. We also remember the family members who have supported loved ones in those engagements.

The current Covid-19 pandemic is a reminder of the Spanish Flu pandemic that was impacting the world's population 100 years ago, as those who served in World War 1 returned to their home countries. It is reminder that the recovery from the experience of military service is ongoing.

#### Words of Remembrance

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.

For a reflection of the ANZAC Ode of Remembrance please see:

<https://anzacday.org.au/words-of-remembrance>

### Return to Schooling for Students – Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April.

Background information about the State Government and Catholic Education Western Australia (CEWA) decision to return the school is available in the 20 April 2020 Special Edition of *The McCormack Messenger* available on our website:

[https://www.imcc.wa.edu.au/images/news/newsletters/20th\\_April\\_2020\\_Special\\_Edition.pdf](https://www.imcc.wa.edu.au/images/news/newsletters/20th_April_2020_Special_Edition.pdf)

**The following is a summary of information for student arrangements next week.**

#### Year 11 and 12 Students

From Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April, students in Years 11 and 12 are **strongly encouraged** to attend school to resume their classes and engage in face-to-face learning with their teachers.

Parents are asked to follow the normal absentee procedure if your child is **not** able to attend school for any reason. This will allow us to ensure alternative learning arrangements are put in place.

#### Year 7 – 10 Students

In line with CEWA's staged approach to transitioning students back into classrooms in a responsible manner, parents with children in Years 7 to 10 may choose to send their children to school or keep them at home to engage in flexible, remote learning.

Parents should notify the College by email [admin@imcc.wa.edu.au](mailto:admin@imcc.wa.edu.au) if you intend sending your children to school from Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April.

Students will follow their school timetable. Students who attend school will have most classes in their allocated classroom, supervised by their class teacher. When the class teacher is not available,

students will be supervised in the Library by senior College staff. These students will engage in the same mode of learning being provided to students learning from home.

## **Health Considerations for Students Attending School.**

Dr Andy Robertson, Chief Health Officer for Western Australia advises stated that

The advice from the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC), WA Department of Health and myself, as WA's Chief Health Officer, remains unchanged. We have considered the benefits of schools remaining open over the last 2 months and, in the context of our wider public health strategies, determined schools should stay open and that they are safe for staff and students.

With increased testing and low rates of infection in Western Australia, I am confident that school staff and children are not at an increased risk of COVID-19 by physically attending school. Even when we had higher rates of disease in WA, only 1.5% of cases were school students (8 cases) and one case was a teacher, which were mostly related to travel, all of whom had mild illness and have fully recovered. Furthermore, there have been no cases of student-to-student transmission in WA and no cases of student-to-teacher transmission.

The latest advice from the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) for schools to reduce even further the relatively low risk of COVID-19 transmission in schools is published online at: <https://www.health.gov.au/news/australian-health-protection-principal-committee-ahppc-advice-on-reducing-the-potential-risk-of-covid-19-transmission-in-schools>

The following health practices are observed:

- Practice hygiene habits at school including:
  - Frequently washing your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, or using an alcohol-based hand gel.
  - Avoid touching mouth, nose and eyes.
  - If coughing or sneezing, covering your nose and mouth with a paper tissue or flexed elbow, dispose of the tissue immediately after use and perform hand hygiene.
  - Avoiding close contact with anyone if they or others have a cold or flu-like symptoms.
  - Drinking taps will not be available. Students will require a personal water bottle to refill.
- Medically compromised students are asked to remain at home until they receive a medical clearance to attend school. Online learning and/or work packs will be provided to these students.
- Parents dropping off or picking up their children, must not exit their vehicle.
- Parents are not permitted on school property, except to attend to business at the College office or to visit the Uniform Shop.
- Assemblies, excursions, interschool activities and school-based co-curricular activities will not recommence until advice is received from the Department of Health that it is safe to do so.
- The school will continue to ensure that environmental cleaning practices are in place. Every room in the school will be cleaned using non-allergenic disinfectant. All cleaners used by the College are certified in Infection Control Cleaning.

## **Uniform**

Students may wear the Winter or Summer uniform to school until Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May. The Winter uniform must be worn from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May. The Uniform Shop will be open

- Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April from 12.00noon – 4.00pm.
- Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April from 08.00am – 12.00noon.

**The Two Rocks/Yanchep Charter Bus and Woodbridge – Mindarie Regional Bus Service** will operate the regular service from Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April.

## **Years 7-12 Parent Teacher Meetings.**

Due to the restrictions with Covid-19, the Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews due to be held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May, will not proceed.

As an alternative, parents will be able to request a telephone discussion with teachers, by emailing [pto@imcc.wa.edu.au](mailto:pto@imcc.wa.edu.au) by 29<sup>th</sup> April.

### **In your email request please include the details:**

- Your name and phone number.
- Your child's name and Care Group.
- The teacher/s, and their subjects, you would like to converse with.
- Times during the week 4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> May, that are not suitable for teachers to contact you.

For example:

John Smith, 0456 345 990

Jane Smith, 8EA

Ms Debbie White (Religious Education), Mr Peter Mazzini (Care Group).

Not available between 9.00am – 3.00pm every day.

Teachers will make the call to you in the week of 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> May.

## **School Fees**

At this difficult time, I wish to reassure every parent and caregiver that the ongoing enrolment of every child in our school is guaranteed. I encourage parents seeking financial support arrangements to contact Mr Andrew Mawby, Business Manager, email: [Andrew.Mawby@cewa.edu.au](mailto:Andrew.Mawby@cewa.edu.au)

## **College Contacts**

If you need clarification about any College matter, particularly in regard to Covid-19 issues, please contact:

- The respective Assistant Deputy Principals for any issues about your child.
- Mr Andrew Billingsley, Deputy Principal, email [andrew.billingsley@cewa.edu.au](mailto:andrew.billingsley@cewa.edu.au) for education issues.
- Mrs Angela Byrne, College Psychologist, email [angela.byrne@cewa.edu.au](mailto:angela.byrne@cewa.edu.au)
- You are always welcome to contact me by email, [robert.marshall@cewa.edu.au](mailto:robert.marshall@cewa.edu.au) with any queries.

## **Canteen**

The Canteen will continue with normal operation for students attending school. A full menu will appear in Week 1 of The McCormack Messenger.

## **Mr Robert Marshall**



## **Principal**