



## Holy Week

Dear St Mary's Catholic School Community,

For the first time in living memory our churches are not opened during Holy Week.

In an email sent from the Catholic Schools Office to you last Monday there was a link to *School Holiday Activities Guide*. A further link takes you to *Easter Activities*. Within this link are further links: *Holy Week at Home*, *Easter at Home*, *Make Easter Eggs* and *Mass Online*. Each provides you with excellent ways to share our faith with your child. It's good to remember that the Church is not a building. We, the people are the Church. And our homes are holy places.

May the blessings of Our Lord be abundantly clear to you as we (differently) celebrate the events of Holy Week and the resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday.

### We Miss Your Kids

Again, thank you for the tremendous efforts you make in reducing the risk of spreading the virus at our school. With only 15-20 students in attendance each day, it is obvious that you are taking the pandemic seriously.

But one fact remains. We miss the vibe, the atmosphere created by having 475 children present. As a teacher, there's nothing like seeing the light in a child's eyes as they attain new learning. To see the sense of achievement on a child's face, that look of satisfaction and contentment. We miss that.

### What's Happening for School in Term 2?

Regarding what's happening about schools in Term 2, I don't have any 'inside information'. We have talked as a staff about planning HBL for the long haul. The

general feel from various sources is that we'll be doing it for at least Term 2.

The combined efforts of the community to adhere to the "stay at home" and "physical distancing" messages have been very positive. As a school community, you (our parents and carers) have been fantastic. With only 15-20 children at school daily, it is helping keep both the children and staff safe. I appreciate your considerable efforts.

### Enrolments for Kinder 2021 Open

Applications for enrolment in Kinder 2021 at our school are now open. Please contact our school's administration to access a Kinder enrolment pack.

### iPads to Borrow for Term 2

With HBL looking to continue for quite a while, we've sourced 20 more iPads to lend to families. If your family either does not have a device (priority) or would like another for children to access, please call our administration.

### Term 2 Home-Based Learning Returns

Our home-based learning resumes on Tuesday 28th April.

Kind regards,

*K Williams*

Kevin Williams  
Principal

## From Our Religious Education Coordinator

Wishing all of our families a very happy Easter! Attached with today's newsletter is a link to how you could celebrate Easter at Home with your family.

### Sacramental Program

Unfortunately our Reconciliation Program has been postponed. We will keep you informed when we hear more information.

Liz Hartge  
Religious Education Coordinator



## From Our Family Liaison Officer

Family wellbeing is more important than ever in the circumstances we all find ourselves in at the moment. While families generally look forward to the school holidays and a break from routine, the fact we will all have to stay home and limit interactions with friends, family and neighbours has the possibility of making the next two weeks a challenge for some. It is important that parents/ carers look after their own wellbeing so they are in the best place to help support their children at this time. Following are 5 simple ways to maintain wellbeing.

**Connect**—Make time for the important people in our lives— family dinners, regular family games or movie nights, joining in with the kids play (child directed), phone or video calls to those we are separated from.

**Be Active**—Regular exercise has been shown to lower rates of depression and anxiety. Walks, bike rides, backyard cricket, kicking a football around, youtube fitness videos—something for the whole family to do together.

**Take Notice**—Mindfulness doesn't just mean meditation, although that is a great practice to get into. It's being aware and noticing the little things we often take for granted. Noting and journaling 3 things we are grateful for each day can help us develop a positive mindset. Teach children to notice the things that make them happy.

**Keep Learning**—For kids at school learning is expected, but it's great for all of us. Learn new skills, take up a hobby, expand your cooking skills, ask the kids to teach you about something they are passionate about and enjoy.

**Give**—When we give our time and energy to help someone else it is very rewarding, giving us a sense of meaning and purpose. While we may have to socially distance ask the kids what ideas they may have to support others.

Please use the link "[Why parents need a little Self Compassion](#)", for some great ideas for parents/ carers.

## From Our Numeracy and Literacy Coordinators

Parents, here are some questions for you and your kids to try. Can your child make their own?

### Clues for Crack the Code #1

I've lost the code to open a padlock, what could it be?

5 4 8 = One number is exactly correct

5 3 0 = Nothing is correct

1 5 7 = Two numbers are correct but in the wrong places

8 0 6 = One number is correct but in the wrong place

6 4 7 = One number is correct but in the wrong place

What is the code?

### Clues for Crack the Code #2

I've lost the code to open a padlock, what could it be?

2 6 5 7 = Two numbers are correct but neither are in the correct place

4 2 8 6 = Nothing is correct

0 4 1 5 = One number is correct but in the wrong place

1 7 4 9 = Two numbers are exactly correct.

Using any number 0-9 only once, what is the code?

Looking for a break from screen time over the holidays? Try some of these ideas....

Play some games as a family that will help with literacy skills e.g.

Boggle  
Scrabble  
Bananagrams  
Scattergories  
Charades  
Articulate  
Treasure Hunt with clues



## Photos From Our HBL Classrooms!



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