

March 23rd, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I write to you to confirm that our school will follow the recommendation from the Victorian Government and the Chief Medical Officer that school holidays commence from Tuesday 24th March.

As a result, Monday 23rd March will be the final day of classes for Term 1, 2020. The school office will be open until Friday March 27th.

If necessary, parents may collect any necessary medications for their child/children. Children will bring activities and stationery home and where applicable devices at the conclusion of classes today for the coming four days. If your child was absent today and you would like to collect these activities, they are available in the foyer.

For those parents who are currently working in **essential services** (ambulance, fire, hospitals, medical profession etc), the school will be providing supervision for their children during school hours for the remainder of this week.

If you are intending to send your child to school, could you please notify the school as to the essential service you are involved with along with your child's name. This will allow us to have adequate supervision during the day.

Term 2 will begin for staff on Tuesday 14th April and Wednesday April 15th for students. We are still unsure what that will look like but I will provide regular communication with families around this. Any changes to these dates will be guided by the ongoing advice of the Chief Health Officer, and will be communicated to parents.

DHHS has a number of resources on their website, which explain the virus, detail risk reduction practices and behaviours and answer frequently asked questions. The website address is www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus.

You can also find information about Catholic education's response at <http://www.cecv.catholic.edu.au/Coronavirus-information-for-parents>.

It's been a very difficult time for many and I ask that if there are any families who need extra support in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me. The community of Sacred Heart is here to support each other. If there's anything you need or feel someone in the community may need, please let me know.

Thank you for your ongoing understanding as we work through this situation together.

Yours sincerely,

Pauline Hindson

