



St Catherine of Siena

T: 9743 2166

E: principal@scmeltonwest.catholic.edu.au

W: www.scmeltonwest.catholic.edu.au

NEWSLETTER

Term 1, Week 9

March 25th 2020

Prayer for a Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced
remember those whose lives are at stake.
May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable.
May we who have the luxury of working from home
remember those who must choose
between preserving their health or making their rent.
May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close
remember those who have no options.
May we who have had to cancel our trips
remember those that have no safe place to go.
May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market
remember those who have no margin at all.
May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home.
As fear grips our country, let us choose love.
During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,
Let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbours. Amen.
A prayer by Cameron Wiggins Bellm



Dear Families,

As we come to the end of the term can I take this opportunity to thank you all for your support over the first term. As many of you will already know our Reconciliation ceremonies, which were to have been celebrated this week, were cancelled; they will be rescheduled for later on and we will let you know arrangements once they become available. Due to Coronavirus our St Catherine of Siena Feast Day Mass and NAPLAN have also been cancelled.

Recently I have employed Lorraine McDonald as our Wellbeing Leader. Lorraine is currently working with Catholic Education Melbourne as a Wellbeing advisor to schools and has been a Wellbeing Leader in schools prior to this. Lorraine will be able to start with us on the 18th May after working out her notice; after she has settled in we will organise for Kristie Browning to come back to have a handover with Lorraine.

Can I also take this opportunity to wish Gemma Hayley all the very best as she leaves us after a period in Year 4 last year and Year 5 this year. Gemma has given 5V a terrific start to the year and worked hard to assist the children and their families. We wish Gemma all the very best in whatever she does next. Ms. Kaye Weaver will be taking over in 5V for the remainder of the year.

Please note that the Victorian Government has designated the first day of second term a pupil free day. This will mean that children come back to school on Wednesday, 15th April.

Wishing you all the peace and hope of Easter time in this time of uncertainty.
Stay well and safe.

Carmel Marantelli
PRINCIPAL

CURRICULUM FEE

The curriculum fee for 2020 is \$350 per child. This was due to be paid this term so I encourage all parents and guardians to ensure they have paid this fee. Statements have been sent out to all fee payers this week.

COVID 19 Update

Thank you to you all for your understanding when schools were closed on such very short notice. I know that for all of you who are still at work this was a very difficult thing to organise in only a matter of hours.

In the event that State/Federal Governments or Catholic Education Melbourne make a decision to close schools over the holidays I will email all parents via the newsletter email groups and CareMonkey. Please make sure that you monitor these so that you can be kept up to date with arrangements as they become available.

If we do not come back after the holidays there may be items at school you need such as handwriting books, pencil cases etc. The school will be open for parents/guardians to come into the class pick these up and leave; if doing this please be aware of social distancing spacing and wait accordingly. After Tuesday, 14th April the school would not be open for this.

All parents/carers were asked to complete a form on CareMonkey letting us know if your child has access to a digital device if school is closed. If you have not completed this please do this as a matter of urgency. This information is crucial to our planning for possible school closures.

If the school is directed to close entirely there will be work available for children electronically. This will be uploaded on the SEESAW app or Google Drive. Where possible work will be provided to you in Word Document format so that children can complete it on a laptop or PC if printing is not available to you. During the time the school is closed staff will be available during school hours via email, CareMonkey or SEESAW to check in with children, assist with activities if possible, provide extra activities and stay connected to both children and their families.

If closed we will not be able to provide enough work to keep children engaged in learning for normal school hours so consider activities such as cooking, gardening, craft, board games, card games etc. to keep children engaged in learning during this uncertain time. They may also be able to make up their own board games/activities with rules which they could then share with their class once normal school routines resume. For younger children programs such as Play School, Sesame Street and the like may assist you in providing engaging activities for your children.

School holiday dates

Term 2 begins on Tuesday, 14 April, which is a student-free day, with students expected to return on Wednesday 15 April.

Any changes to these dates will be guided by the ongoing advice of the Chief Health Officer, and will be communicated to schools and then to parents.

Parish Of Melton Office

20 - 22 Unitt Street, Melton

Tel: 9743 6515, Fax: 9747 8603

Email: melton@cam.org.au

Office Open: Tuesday - Friday 9am - 3pm

PLEASE NOTE:

As of 19th March 2020 **ALL MASSES** (including Sunday services) have been **SUSPENDED** until further notice due to the COVID-19 direction issued by The Bishops of the Province of Victoria. We will continue to provide updates via the Parish website and Parish Facebook page as they become available.

W: <http://pol.org.au/melton/Home>



[catholicparishmelton](https://www.facebook.com/catholicparishmelton)



The Sacrament of Penance

Please note that the Sacrament of Penance has been postponed until further notice. While the children have completed their preparation, we will communicate arrangements for them to receive the Sacrament as they become available.



Stations of the Cross

Unfortunately we have had to postpone viewing the Stations of the Cross Movie until normal school routines resume. For privacy reasons sharing the movie with families is not possible. We appreciate your understanding and look forward to watching the Stations of the Cross Movie created by our Year 6 students.



Children's Sunday Liturgy @ Home

In this time of uncertainty when we are unable to attend Mass it is important to find ways to stay connected to our Faith and the ritual of gathering to Listen to and Respond to Gods Word. While we are unable to do that as a whole community CathKids is a website with short animations on the Sunday readings and associated 'I wonder' questions, a craft activity and prayers which may assist you and your family in staying connected to your faith. Usually this site has a small subscription fee but **due to the situation with COVID19 they are offering this resource FREE for the next 3 months.** The website below will allow you to access this free resource. If the link is not working the web address is -

<https://cathfamily.org/cathkids-faith-unlimited/>

The Sacrament of Eucharist

Please note that the Sacrament of Eucharist has been postponed until further notice. The children will be prepared during Term 2 however we are unsure as yet when the ceremony will take place. Once this is determined we will let you know so that arrangements can be made.



The Sacrament of Confirmation

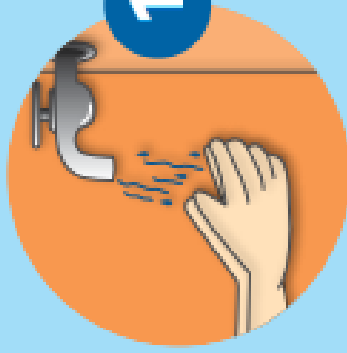
At this stage we do not know what will happen with Confirmation. The Archbishop has cancelled all Confirmations until further notice and the Prime Minister has closed places of worship for large gatherings. Our ceremony is in 3rd term so the situation may have changed by then. We will have to wait and see what announcements are made closer to the time.



Beginning of Term 2 - Wednesday, 15th April

Protect yourself and your family

Wash your hands regularly



1

Wet your hands.



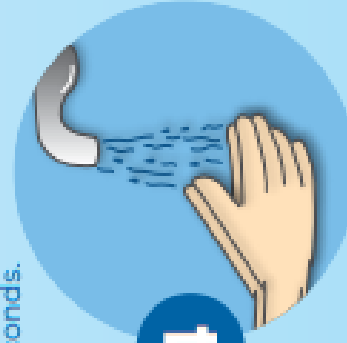
2

Put soap on
your hands.



3

Rub the soap over all
parts of your hands for
at least 20 seconds.



4

Rinse your
hands under
running water.



5

Dry your hands thoroughly
with disposable paper towel
or hand dryer.

Stay germ free and healthy

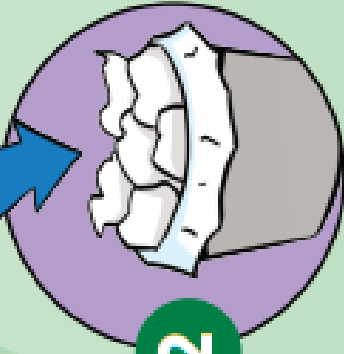
Protect yourself and your family

Cover your cough and sneeze



1

COVER your mouth
and nose with a
tissue when you
cough or sneeze.



2

Put your used
tissue in the
rubbish **BIN**.



3

If you don't have a tissue, cough
or sneeze into your upper sleeve
or elbow, **NOT YOUR HANDS**.



4

WASH your hands with soap and
running water. Dry your hands
thoroughly with a disposable
paper towel or hand dryer.

Stay germ free and healthy

20 March 2020

Communique

Education Ministers met today and decided that NAPLAN will not proceed in 2020. The NAPLAN test window was scheduled to be held from 12 to 22 May.

All Education Ministers acknowledge and thank all of our school leaders, our teachers and support staff for the essential work they do every day educating our children and young people, particularly during these challenging times. They are all playing a vital role in managing the response to COVID-19.

Education Ministers reiterated that the National Cabinet has agreed, on the advice of the chief health and medical officers, that “pre-emptive closure of schools are not proportionate or effective as a public health intervention to prevent community transmission of COVID-19 at this time.” The advice of the Chief Health and Medical Officers is available at [this link](#).

The decision to not proceed with NAPLAN in 2020 has been taken to assist school leaders, teachers and support staff to focus on the wellbeing of students and continuity of education, including potential online and remote learning.

Further, the impact of responses to the COVID-19 virus may affect the delivery of NAPLAN testing, including the operation of centralised marking centres and the implications for nationally comparable data if an insufficient number of students are available to do the test.

The decision to not proceed with NAPLAN in 2020 also means that the scheduled testing of the NAPLAN Online platform, known as the Coordinated Practice Test (CPT), will not proceed. Ministers acknowledge the work that departments and schools have undertaken in preparation for the anticipated CPT which was due to commence next week on 23 March.

Education departments and systems will continue to closely monitor health advice and work with schools to ensure appropriate support for students and staff as the response to COVID-19 develops.

2021 Prep Enrolments

Due to COVID-19 restrictions we will not be holding an Enrolment Information evening or School Tours.

Enrolment applications will be available from the office from Term 2.

When lodging an application copies of your child's birth certificate, immunisation certificate, Baptism certificate and signed Parent-School Code of Conduct must be attached along with any VISA or legal documents if these are applicable.

All siblings of current students as well as all new applicants are required to have an enrolment application lodged and attend an enrolment interview with our Principal Carmel Marantelli and our Parish Priest Fr Michael Moody.

Term 2, 2020

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
30	31	1 April	2	3	4	5 Palm Sunday
6	7	8	9 Holy Thursday	10 Good Friday	11	12 Easter Sunday
13 Easter Monday	14	15 Week 1 *Term 2 Begins	16	17	18	19
20 Week 2	21	22	23	24 *SCHOOL CLOSURE	25	26
27 Week 3	28	29 Catherine of Siena Feast Day	30	1 May	2	3
4 Week 4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Week 5	12	13	14	15	16	17



ST CATHERINE OF SIENA PRIMARY SCHOOL
- WINTER UNIFORM ORDER FORM -

Parent Name: _____

Phone: _____

Child's Name: _____

Class: _____

BOYS - Daily, except sports day

ITEM	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL PRICE
TROUSERS								\$32.00	

BOYS SPORTS DAY ONLY

ITEM	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL PRICE
TRACKPANTS								\$25.00	

GIRLS - Daily, except sports day

ITEM	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL PRICE
TUNIC - CHECK								\$50.00	
TROUSERS - CHECK								\$40.00	

GIRLS SPORTS DAY ONLY

ITEM	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL PRICE
TRACKPANTS								\$27.00	

Miscellaneous for both boys and girls

ITEM	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL PRICE
POLO SHIRT - Short Sleeve								\$25.00	
POLO SHIRT - Long Sleeve								\$27.00	
WINDCHEATER								\$35.00	
SCHOOL JACKET <i>[Optional]</i>								\$65.00	
ART SMOCK	S		M		L			\$17.00	
SCHOOL BAG								\$40.00	

TOTAL ORDER AMOUNT	
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Presentation of Uniform:

All students are expected to wear the prescribed school uniform, at all times.

Black shoes are to be worn daily, except on sports days - runners are to be worn.

Socks - navy.

Jewellery: a watch can be worn. Earrings are to be plain studs/small sleepers only.

Hair - long hair to be tied up in black/brown hair-tie, with or without a blue/yellow ribbon.

No Nail polish.

UNIFORM SHOP IS OPEN EACH MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY MORNINGS BETWEEN 8.30AM - 9.00AM
PAYMENT BY CASH & PAID IN FULL AT TIME OF ORDER



The 2020 Reading Australia poetry competition will inspire students to explore how language holds the power to turn ordinary objects into poetry.

World Poetry Day (21 March) is the chance for teachers to celebrate poetry with their students. This year Reading Australia is co-hosting our annual poetry competition with **Red Room Poetry**, an organisation dedicated to promoting poetry in meaningful ways.

The competition has two categories for under-18s, as well as a category for teachers who want to flex their writing muscles. There are exciting prizes up for grabs, including a \$500 cash prize, book packs, vouchers, and more!

To enter:

1. Write a poem (20 lines or less) about an object of your choice.
2. Submit your poem via the [Red Room Poetry website](#).
3. Enter before the closing date: **22 May 2020**.

Click for full details

Terms and conditions are available on the [Red Room Poetry website](#).