



EMMAUS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Jesus stay with us
PH: 9390 4500 Fax: 9390 1700
www.emsydenham.catholic.edu.au

Emmaus Catholic Primary School has a commitment to the care, safety and wellbeing of children.



FROM THE
PRINCIPAL'S DESK
your weekly update on our
school community

Thursday 23rd April, 2020

The school Newsletter will be published fortnightly on the school Website. Notifications are sent to the Emmaus App when published.

Dear Parents and Carers,

THANK YOU!

I know you have received many notes from me over the last few weeks but this week's newsletter is to say a big thank you!

Thank you to our parents and carers who are trying incredibly hard to keep their children at home. We know by staying home we are doing our bit to stop the spread of the COVID19 virus. We are very proud to report that around 95% of Emmaus students are schooling from home. We know some people have taken their annual leave to support their children at home, others are taking their carer's leave and some are taking it in turns with their partners. We are very grateful to you all. This has been a community initiative - we are all experiencing change and giving things up for the wellbeing of others.

Parents and carers remember we are not expecting your children to complete all of the learning all of the time. It is important for the wellbeing of children that they are not sitting completing their learning from 9am until 8pm. We would like the children to complete their learning at their own pace and get done what is suitable for your family. All children are different, as are all adults and families. At school, in normal times, it is far easier for us to modify the learning but we are doing our best to suit learning to individual children. You all know your children well, adapt the learning to suit your child. Please do not compare your children to someone else's children or your family to someone else's, thankfully we are all different.

We are working with a flexible model to fit in with all parents at home. Your children are welcome to send photos of their learning and to submit their learning via Hapara. When they are finished their learning or during their learning if they would like further support or feedback on what they have already done. There are no due dates, children just send in work as they are ready to.

Thank you to our parents and carers for your patience. We are being very strategic when implementing changes and are very careful to ensure that what we move to, fits within the Emmaus policies and procedures. We want to continue to ensure everyone is safe online. A big thank you to Laura Chamberlain, our ICT leader. She has spent many hours co-ordinating our technology, providing tutorials for staff and setting up live streaming for our meetings. We are very grateful for her vision, skills, patience and work ethic.

Thank you to everyone working so hard with your children at home. We know you are not teachers. You have been doing a remarkable job! We know Hapara has been a new platform for you to work from. We know that it has been a little confusing and we are working hard to streamline it for everyone. We know that at times we have planned too much learning for students and other times we have planned too little. Know that we are listening carefully to parents who are offering constructive feedback for the good of all students and their parents and carers. It has been a huge learning curve for both teachers and students. Very soon we will move to teachers video conferencing with individual students.

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Thank you to our Emmaus teachers. They have been extraordinary. They are doing all they can to move from their normal methods of teaching to a flexible and distant style of teaching. They are emailing and calling parents and children regularly to make sure everyone is ok. Many of our teachers are also offering to supervise students who need to come to school. We are very grateful to these teachers as they are offering this time on top of their planning and communication time with parents. We are also grateful to our teachers who have their own children at home who require home schooling. This takes enormous organisation and patience.

As a teaching team we have been very careful not to compare ourselves to other schools but to think very carefully about our context at Emmaus and put into place what will work for our parents, students and teachers as a whole. We are open to ideas and suggestions but we can only implement what suits our platform at Emmaus.

Thank you to our Prep parents, carers and children. This is not the Prep year any of us imagined. It will be something the children will never forget. I hope you are having a lot of fun with the packs our teachers and learning support officers made up and delivered to your doors. I also hope you are enjoying getting a glimpse of the learning our Preps are doing through our ICT platform of Hapara.

This week the learning will be published on Hapara and available between 4pm and 5pm Sunday night. Some of our working parents suggested we send the learning out a little earlier so they can get it organised before Monday morning. I am very grateful to our teachers who will need to interrupt their weekend to do this.

As the weeks go on, we will be getting a little impatient as we would all like to be out and about doing our normal things. At the moment we are unable to do this. Let us support each other, find strength in our God and keep doing the right thing for the good of all.

Take Care
Jackie



**MASS is available through
STREAMING and TV IN OUR
PARISH**

**We live stream Sunday Mass
each weekend from our Parish
starting on Saturdays at 5.00pm
and available after that.**

**Use SHEPARISH on YouTube and
Facebook**



APRIL 2020

15	Remote Learning Begins
25	Anzac Day - Saturday (No public holiday on Monday)