

PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

15th May 2020

I read an article by Steve Francis recently. I think it applies to us and I have paraphrased some of his thoughts in this newsletter.

When dealing with student behaviour, classroom teachers, Mrs. H and I often find ourselves in the unenviable position of having to investigate, interrogate, judge, mediate and sentence on the testimony presented by children aged between five and eleven. In fact, we even have to go one step further. We always fix the relationship which was damaged by the poor behaviour. It is both challenging and extremely important. Our staff and Mrs. H do it very well.

At times when we are confused and frustrated by the behaviour of our students we look for more information about what is going on in their lives. We don't necessarily know about health issues, financial issues, relationship issues or other challenges they, or their family, are currently facing and recent events have clearly added stress to individuals and families. Most are doing what they can and stressing over what they can't.

At times we can be too quick to judge others. By jumping too quickly to conclusions we do them an injustice.

Instead of making assumptions, we do well to be less judgmental and cut them some slack. That doesn't mean that we have to be 'soft' and lower expectations. Being consistent and reliable is far more helpful than being unpredictable.

However, cutting them some slack means you need to resist the temptation of jumping to conclusions. Look for other reasons or explanations. Open the channels of communication and extend assistance, where appropriate.

On occasion, others won't agree with the way you deal with your own children, or with the way we deal with student behaviour...and that's ok. Those others don't know the whole story. It takes courage and leadership to do what's right and I love to see it in our families and in our school community. I love working together so that our students can lead their best lives and become their best selves.

Mart For

KEY DATES FOR WEEK 5



TUCKSHOP

LUNCH MENU ONLY MONDAY TO WEDNESDAY

Prep are unable to order tuckshop due to their different play arrangements.





Click our school crest to go our school website calendar.



Click the facebook icon to go to our school facebook page.



Click the Parish logo to go to the Parish Newsletter.



Click the Centacare logo to go the Group Programs Calendar.

WEEK 5 IMPORTANT INFORMATION



We have thoroughly enjoyed the return of Prep and Year 1 classes this week and we look forward to the return of all students on Monday 25th May as announced by the Premier of Queensland earlier today.

The only other students to attend in Week 5 are vulnerable students and the families of essential workers.

Essential workers are any workers who must continue to attend their workplace for essential business/work during this time.

Students who need to attend school in Years 2-6 will be supervised as they work through the on-line learning activities provided to students who are learning from home. Teachers for these year levels will continue to have a specific focus upon online learning and providing online feedback to all students.

UNIFORM

All students who attend school need to follow their normal uniform schedule in regards to formal and sports uniforms.

SPECIALIST LESSONS

Students in Prep and Year One will have their Specialist lessons as per their usual timetable. The Library will be open for Prep and Year One on their usual days.

TUCKSHOP

Tuckshop will be open for all students who attend on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays – for Lunch Only. Prep are unable to order tuckshop due to their different play arrangements. There will be no Friday Sausage Sizzles until further notice.

DAILY ROUTINE

Students will have supervised play from 8:15 until 8:35 am. By the second bell at 8:42, students in Prep and Year One will be at their classrooms with their class teacher. There will be no Courtyard Prayer until restrictions cease.

ADULT SOCIAL DISTANCING

Adult social distancing is very important. All pick up zones will continue to operate. At drop off, if your child is capable, just drop off at car pick-up zone and go. For younger children, please just see your child inside and leave. At pick-up, arrive just before 3:00, keep your distance from other adults. Depart as soon as you have your child.

STUDENT TRAVEL REBATE SCHEME



NCCD ON SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY

The NCCD – What do I need to know as a parent?

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) is a yearly count of students by all Australian schools across the country. The aim of the NCCD is to provide the Australian Government with information about the number of students with disability in Australian schools and the type of adjustments they need in order to access and participate in education on the same basis as other students. From 2018, the NCCD will be used by the Australian Government to inform funding for schools, known as the 'student with disability loading'.

If you are a parent, guardian or carer of a child with disability who requires ongoing adjustments at school, a teacher or another school staff member will consult with you to understand your child's needs. This collaborative approach ensures the most appropriate adjustments are chosen to support your child's learning and participation at school. In some cases, an individual education plan (IEP) or personal learning plan (PLP) may be developed to document specific educational goals and to review your child's progress over time.

Your child will be included in the NCCD if they require ongoing adjustments at school due to a disability as defined by the Disability Discrimination Act 1992. This is a very broad definition of disability, which includes physical and intellectual disabilities, learning disorders such as dyslexia and dysgraphia, and mental health conditions such as anxiety and depression. The Disability Standards for Education 2005 set out the obligations of schools towards students with disability.

If your child has a disability, your child's school will provide information about them for the NCCD, including:

- your child's year of schooling
- the category of disability that best describes your child's difficulties (one of four categories is chosen by the school team to reflect your child's greatest area of need: physical, cognitive, sensory or social/emotional)
- the level of adjustment your child receives at school (one of four levels is chosen by the school team to reflect the type of support your child requires: quality differentiated teaching practice, supplementary adjustment, substantial adjustment, or extensive adjustment)

The information collected by schools for the NCCD will ultimately be provided to the Australian Government Department of Education.

While it is not possible for schools or families to 'opt out' of the NCCD, the privacy and confidentiality of all students and their families is treated with utmost importance. Data is collected within each school, and personal details, such as student names and other identifying information, are not provided to local or federal education authorities.

Related resources:

Fact sheets for parents, guardians and carers about the NCCD NCCD Website - <u>https://www.nccd.edu.au/for-parents-guardians-and-carers</u> For More Information Click Here

Jo Gills, CEO Project Officer for NCCD

OUT AND ABOUT

