

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE: COVID-19 & WORK EXPECTATIONS

Dear Parents/Guardians

I write to you with updated information regarding COVID-19 (Coronavirus) and its impact on the learning programs of Sacred Heart Primary School.

We are continuing to run classes at this stage and will be responding quickly to any change in advice. Victoria’s Chief Health Officer has stated that pre-emptive school closures are not likely to be proportionate or effective as a public health intervention to prevent community transmission of COVID-19 at this time.

Any family that would like to keep their child/ren home has our support to do so, however we ask that you follow normal School Protocols with regard to student absences. In this circumstance, the school teaching staff will not provide further resources than what is available online to students.  Teaching staff will not be in a position to provide *additional* materials to students who voluntarily stay away from school. This is due to the continued resourcing demands required to maintain delivery of classroom lessons.

Students in the Prep-2 Level have online access to their Reading Eggs subscriptions, where appropriate literacy tasks are accessible at home, in line with what is being currently taught at school. Reading Eggs also has a digital library, where students can continue to “borrow” and read texts at their reading level. Students in the 1/2  Level also have access to their class Studyladder accounts, where they can complete maths tasks currently being taught in the classroom.

Students in the Year 3/4 level have online access to their class Studyladder accounts, where they can complete maths tasks currently being taught in the classroom. Students have access to Kidnews/Btn which are both free online programs where students can read/listen to a range of new items and can be followed up by questions and discussions.

Students in the Year 5/6 level have access to online resources including Mathspace, Literacy Pro, BTN, and Google Classroom. Homework and class activities are often uploaded onto Google Classroom.

All students have access to over 1000 e-books through our subscription to Wheelers ePlatform One. The website is here - <https://shdiamondcreek.wheelers.co/>, the link is also on the Learning Tools page of the [Sacred Heart Student Portal](https://sites.google.com/a/shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au/sacred-heart-student-portal/).

Log in with your school username (e.g. fredm) and the password “Library1” – with the capital L and without the quotation marks.

The collection is shared with other school libraries, so the book you want may be already on loan, but you can reserve books.

Ebooks can be read online or downloaded on a Windows, Chromebook, Android, or Apple device.

Loans are for two weeks, then the book automatically disappears from your device – so no danger of drink bottle leaks on books, little brothers/sisters tearing books, books lost under the couch, thus no overdue or damaged book fines.

**I**f you need help, please email Mrs McMahon – [brendam@shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au](mailto:brendam@shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au)

The staff have been working diligently to develop resources for a Home Learning Program should we need it. This will help ensure that we will continue to provide a consistency of learning and pastoral care to the students. If we do have a confirmed case of COVID-19 at the school, we will be directed to act in accordance with the advice of the Health Department.

To help ensure the prevention of the spread of COVID-19, the school is strongly advising families to continue to implement the following strategies to assist in minimising the spread of any respiratory illness:

* *Those with symptoms such as a fever (temperature above 38°C), cough, sore throat or congestion, should not come to school, and stay home until symptoms have subsided for at least 24 hours (without the use of fever-reducing or cough-suppressing medication). If symptoms persist, parents should contact a medical professional.*
* *Anyone becoming ill should inform the school and stay at home.*

Further updates will be provided by the school as they come to hand.

Thank you.

Mrs Gina Murphy

Acting Principal

Sacred Heart School