



NEWS FLASH

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Dear Parents,

The Corona Virus is at the forefront in the thoughts of many at this present time and I wanted to take the opportunity to communicate with you procedures that are occurring within St Brendan's.

As of the time of writing there has been no announcement regarding the closure of schools, so we continue with business as usual. However, changes are being made at a rapid rate and if schools are officially closed this will be communicated with you as soon as possible.

Our discussions with students remain positive and factual. The everyday events for our children are rapidly changing and it is vital that they are spoken to in a positive and reassuring manner. Anxiety amongst young people is growing and they can be assisted by:

- Reassuring them that they are safe.
- Letting them talk about their worries.
- Sharing with them your own coping skills.
- Limiting their news exposure.
- Creating a routine and structure.

We continue to reinforce the essential need for high standards of hygiene. It is imperative that if students are at all unwell that they are kept at home. At school we are creating an environment where germs are not easily spread. We have a thorough cleaning and disinfecting program and students are encouraged to wash their hands at numerous times throughout the day. Social distancing in a school such as St Brendan's is easier to enforce with a large school and small number of students but they are reminded to always be careful when interacting with others.

As you are aware many events that will have an impact on our school have been cancelled:

- Safe on Social Parent Presentation at Henschke Primary School
- Safe on Social Student Presentation at St Michael's Coolamon
- ASPA lessons and concert that was to be held at St Joseph's Junee
- Paul Kelly Cup
- MacKillop Swimming Carnival Sydney
- NSW PSSA Swimming Carnival Sydney
- MacKillop AFL trials Wagga
- Ganmain Debutante Ball

Unfortunately this list continues to rapidly grow and we wait for confirmation as to whether events such as our school cross country and athletics carnivals can occur later this term.

Should schools close, Catholic Education Diocese of Wagga Wagga (CEDWW), has made provisions to ensure that learning still continues for students. Whilst we hope to not have to make use of these measures, please be reassured that they will be implemented to provide an education for our children and this will be communicated with you should the need arise.

We pray for those whose lives have been upturned due to this crisis. We offer a prayer for the sick and their carers. We seek a world that is filled with rational thoughts and actions in this time of chaos.

Kind Regards,

Paul Spain

Principal