

# ST. BERNARD'S

## A Letter from Mrs Marino

### Term 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of the holidays, I hope this finds you and your families happy, healthy and well. These are challenging times we are living through and I would like to send a huge thank you to you all for your support of our school and staff, and for your calm and measured approach to the rapidly changing information we have all been receiving over the past week. I have greatly appreciated this and thank you on behalf of all our staff.

Catholic Education WA has been clear about the approach for education at St Bernard's and other Catholic schools for the first four weeks of Term Two: parents have the choice to keep their children at home, or to send them to school. All students, whether they are at home or at school, will continue their learning through online programs of work, prepared, monitored and assessed by their teachers, and supported by work packages and resources, if and as required.

At this time, it is important that parents have choice in their decisions for schooling for their children: CEWA and St Bernard's acknowledge that only you can decide what is best for your family. Also, it is important that children are not disadvantaged by either staying at home or attending school. By focusing on the preparation, delivery, monitoring and assessment of online learning for all students, CEWA and St Bernard's is ensuring continuity and fairness for all students in these uncertain times.

St Bernard's will be providing hard-copy resources and other materials to support students' at-home learning, as we did in Term One. These packages will be delivered during Week One and you will be contacted to organise this delivery if your children are remaining at home to learn. It is envisaged these packs will be prepared and distributed fortnightly.

Information on cleaning and social distancing at school is being updated all the time and, rather than provide information which might change, I ask that you trust me to do whatever is best to support the safety and health of our students and their families, and our staff. Please note the requirement that parents do not come into the school at this time and read the information for drop-off and pick-up of students in the box above.

### Drop-off and Pick-up Info

**Parents are not able to come into the school at this time. Please follow the directions for drop-off (8.30-8.50am) and pick-up (2.55-3.10pm) times:**

- Drive slowly through the car park, stopping at the main school gate
- A staff member will ensure children safely exit or enter your car and take them inside the gate
- Children walking or riding to school need to walk to the main school gate and meet a staff member there
- If you are dropping off or picking up children outside the designated times please call the school to arrange for a staff member to meet you in the car park.

For students attending school the next four weeks may look a little different and I ask that you prepare them for this before their first day on Wednesday 29 April. They may not be working in their classroom and they may not always be with their teacher. However, they will be welcomed, kept safe, assisted in their learning, and cared for by all our staff.

In mentioning our staff, I acknowledge the huge amount of work they have done to prepare the very best learning for your children as we move forward, despite the confusion and uncertainty of the past few weeks. I thank them from the bottom of my heart and I know it would mean a lot for them to hear from you, as parents as well. Please consider sending a message of thanks and support to your teachers at this time.

Finally, we look forward to seeing all of our students in Term Two: those learning at home and those attending school. Teachers will be in touch with students and parents throughout this term, whatever it brings.

Take care and God Bless,

Mrs Marino

