



Dear Parents,

I would like to begin by thanking our school community for being so co-operative and understanding during this difficult period. Your support and assistance has been outstanding and appreciated.

It is very important that our school continue to provide a calm and responsible environment for our children and families. In uncertain times like these, our schools can provide strength and support to communities.

Further measures and changes that we are going to take to improve the safety of our children include;

Fresh Fruit Program The 'Fresh Fruit' program will not continue until further notice. If you are a parent that assists with the cutting up of the fruit in the canteen, your assistance will not be required until we resume the program later in the year.

Non essential visitors All non-essential visitors to the school and incursions to classrooms have been postponed until later in the year. This includes:

The 'Responsible Pet Owners Visit to Preps- Thursday 19th March

The Connect Cyber Safety Classroom Workshops- Tuesday 24th & Wednesday 25th March

The Connect Parent Cyber Safety Information Session – Tuesday 24th March (evening).

Parents and carers will not be able to attend School Assembly until further notice.

Parent Helper programs will not commence in term 2 as planned.

School Photos Due to the high number of students absent at this present time, and the exclusion of non-essential visitors, school photos **will not** be conducted next Monday 24th March and have been re-scheduled for Term 3 (Mon 20 July) . Payments will be held over until the new date.

Lunch Orders Thursday's lunch orders will continue. The caterers do not have direct contact with students and the ordering of the lunches is optional for parents.

Icy Pole Day – The final icy pole day is planned for the last day of term – Friday 27th March. This day will continue but will be conducted by staff and House Captain students.

School Closures Victoria’s Chief Health Officer has advised **that all schools should continue to operate as planned for now.** His advice explains that at this time, pre-emptive school closures are not likely to be proportionate or effective as a public health intervention to prevent community transmission of COVID-19.

If this decision changes, we have been assured that schools will be given 24 hours pre-notice so that we can inform our school community in preparation.

Unwell Children We have been very thankful for all the parents that have assisted this difficult by making other arrangements for their unwell children, and even ‘possible’ unwell children, other than sending them to school where there may be a risk of harming other children. Your assistance is noted and greatly valued.

These are interesting times, but we can work together to make the best of the situation. We are not in panic mode – we are in planning mode. Smart people keep calm and think their way through things.

