



Friday 24th July 2020

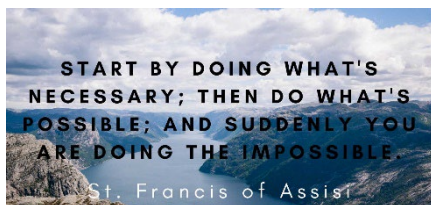
Dear Parents and Guardians,

Covid-19 Update No.12

*Awareness.
Social distancing.
Facemasks 12 years and over.
Enter College grounds only if essential.
The safest place is at home.*



*Gracious God, give us ears
to hear, eyes to see, hearts
to love, and hands to act;
so that 'we are shining
lamps, giving light to all
around us'.*



Week Two

I hope this week has been kind to you. If we follow the 'rules' the wheel will turn in the fight against Covid-19. No one could have ever imagined a time when masks become a part of our everyday living. The tension between keeping the economy buoyant and stopping movement is a real and there is no easy answer to that dilemma but a third wave we do not need. Staff onsite are being very cautious with social distancing and as much as it is practical the same applies for students on site. College staff are tremendous in supporting students on-line and we are doing our best honour the criteria for in balancing requests for onsite supervision.

St Francis of Assisi was one very determined leader of the Franciscans. In times of difficulty (St Francis experienced many) his resilience and resourcefulness was always to do what was necessary and we are all certainly in that mode at the present time.



A Generous Heart

And in line with *St Francis' thinking of doing the necessary* in times of crisis there is always someone who turns a difficulty into a positive to bring joy to the hearts of others. So true for St Mary's with Learning Support Officer Kellie Giannarelli's mum, Trish Potbury who is generously offered to make masks for staff and students. If you are in desperate need of a mask, please contact the College Office. Blessings on you Mrs Potbury!

High Street Crossing

Due to crossing Supervisors wearing masks they will not be using the whistle to indicate students to cross the road. There will be a voice command, 'walk' until the College is otherwise notified by Mitchell Shire. Please be aware that whistle blowing has been a consistent part of the operation of school crossings for many years and this is a sudden change.





Agriculture and the Garden of Assisi

Our College is as much regional as we are town based. There is a wonderful educational resource that surrounds the College – agriculture. Mr Allen the 9/10 Agriculture teacher is passionate about connecting students to be proactive guardians of our environment. Our secondary curriculum is providing students with a course of study that can eventually lead to career pathways in post school careers, which is a growing industry across Australia. An example is the high increase in demand for agronomists. As the *Garden of Assisi* grows and matures students, staff and parents and grandparents will have the opportunity to be members of the St Mary's Garden Club. How wonderful it will be to see grandparents with a green finger in the *Garden of Assisi* supporting Mr Allen and educating grandchildren on the emotional and mental positive wellbeing outcomes that go with time in the garden!

The below link is an interview that Mr Allen gave on Seymour FM Radio describing the magnificent work our students are doing to bring the garden alive across the curriculum.

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/WhctKJVzXHPwczNpTnpPczMHBktMtRDnrmGNTBhGldFtknTZzgpKshmhMDttLcmFpCmdFxV?projector=1&messagePartId=0.1>



Your request has been logged!

NetTek the College ICT Service provider has deployed a new ticketing system to track support enquiries. When a request is emailed to the ictsupport@smseymour.catholic.edu.au email address, the sender will receive a reply with a ticket id number to acknowledge the support request. One of the NetTek team will be in contact to resolve your request as soon as possible.

Bandwidth

During remote learning the school's network has struggled to cope with the amount of traffic due to video conferencing.

Telstra will double the College's Internet bandwidth to 200mbps to help cope with the demand.

NetTek has arranged a loan of some modern wireless access points to help reduce local onsite bandwidth issues during this time at no cost.

<i>Onsite Supervision</i>	Email Information office@smseymourcatholic.edu.au CareMonkey form must be submitted to the Office by 1.00pm each Thursday.
<i>Secondary Contacts</i>	In the first instance please contact the subject teacher for learning issues and the Homeroom Teacher or Level Coordinator for wellbeing matters.
<i>Primary Contacts</i>	In the first instance contact the class teacher for learning or wellbeing issues.
<i>General queries</i>	office@smseymourcatholic.edu.au and will be directed to the staff member.
<i>Counsellor</i>	Please email counsellor@smseymour.catholic.edu.au for referrals.
<i>IT Helpdesk</i>	For support please email ict@smseymour.catholic.edu.au
<i>Face Masks</i>	12 years and over required to wear masks.

It is worth noting that the most popular age group bracket testing positive to Covid-19 are those 25 to 29 years of age. The median (average) age of those testing positive are in their mid-30's. Covid-19 is not an 'old persons' virus.

Best wishes and stay well.

Wayne Smith
Principal

DipEd(ACU) DipRed(ACU) BEd(ACU) GradCertEdAdmin (Edith Cowan)
GradDipRed(ACU) MEdAdmin (Charles Sturt) MTheoSudies(BBITAITE)