



## OUR SCHOOL VISION



Holy Family School aspires to be a school community where all are celebrated and challenged to be the very best they can be in the image of Jesus with a desire for life long learning.

H.E.A.R.T

Term 2 Week 2

**PRINCIPAL: MR STEVE TWOMEY**

20/04/2020

**Address** 100 Power Rd Doveton

**Phone:** (03) 9791 1853

**Parish Priest**

Father Michael Payyapilly  
**Phone:** (03) 9792 4317

**Principal**

Steve Twomey  
principal@hfdoveton.catholic.edu.au

**School Secretary**

Bernadette Blaney

Salamat Pagi,

Term 2 has started off like no other that staff or families have ever experienced. Prior to the Easter break the staff had a few days to get their heads around remote learning and experimented with presenting information via video. During the holidays the announcement was made that schools would be commencing the term through remote learning and we had to consider how to deliver aspects of the curriculum explicitly to the children.

This has been a big learning curve for parents and staff. In the ideal world we would have a month to prepare for this so that parents, children and staff were ready. Unfortunately we didn't have that opportunity so we are all learning as we go. I look at it like we are all going on a bus ride while we are still putting the wheels on the bus.

Suzanne Deefholts, has done an outstanding job fleshing out home learning and putting together guidelines and support mechanisms for teachers and we thank her for her commitment to ensuring that staff felt supported with the introduction of alternative methods of curriculum delivery.

At the commencement of Term 2 it was hectic at school sorting out technology issues. Connie Drossaert and I delivered iPads to some families. We visited parts of the surrounding areas where our families live and it was great seeing how excited the children were receiving their devices.

**The most important thing at this time is the wellbeing of everyone involved. We do not want parents and children at home stressed over home learning requirements.** Please communicate with your child's teachers or contact myself, Connie or Suzanne if you or your child is overwhelmed. We will do our best to sort out any issues that arise.

The effort required by staff to prepare and deliver learning remotely is huge and everyone has been 100% on board. Delivering learning to the children at home is a lot different and more difficult than having the children in front of you in a classroom. I am very appreciative of the staff at Holy Family - seeing and listening to them work together to ensure that your children are receiving the educational opportunities they require.

Connie Drossaert has been leading teachers and Learning Support Officers through the process of providing services for the children at our school who require additional support. It is a complicated process supporting the varied needs of children and we are grateful that families recognise this and are supporting the continuation of additional programs. Connie is also looking at how we can support the wellbeing of families while they are at home. She has been liaising with our school psychologist and will be providing information on additional services that may be offered when Catholic Care have finalised any arrangements. As I mentioned above everyone's wellbeing is at the heart of what we are doing for your children this term.

When all this is over and we are back at school we will celebrate the effort put in by our school community—staff, children and parents to educate the children from Holy Family during an unprecedented time of crisis.

We are looking forward to when we have all the children back onsite and I will repeat it again: The wellbeing of everyone in our school community is the most important part of this remote learning process and we are here to support you on this educational journey, with learning as well as social and emotional issues.

Steve Twomey  
Principal

Trust

Empathy

## Mass Times:

To celebrate Mass with Father Michael go to the Youtube channel "Divine Australia."



# Education in Faith



Easter Sunday celebrates the day of Jesus Christ's resurrection, which is written in the New Testament of the Christian bible. The name Easter is believed to come from Eostara, the goddess of rebirth. In early times the Feast of Eostara celebrated earth's resurrection and rebirth.



Christians believe that Jesus Christ was sentenced to death by crucifixion by Pontius Pilate, the governor of Judea. He was crucified on a Friday and when he died, he was laid in a tomb. On the following Sunday, a group of women visited the tomb and found it empty. Jesus had been brought back to life. This resurrection is celebrated on Easter Sunday.

### Prayer:

*Lord Jesus, through your death and resurrection; death became life; darkness became light; defeat became God's glory.*

*In this time of Easter, help us to live lives full of life, light and glory.*

*We make this prayer through our Risen Lord Jesus. Amen.*



## Wellbeing

Parents as you settle your children into home learning, and navigate the different platforms that are used to deliver this new way of learning there are some important things to be mindful of.

The most important aspect for you as a parent is to ensure that your child's emotional wellbeing is your primary concern. Each day sets its own course and you may have to tackle each day differently. Each family is different and your child or children's needs will be different to other families' needs. Be mindful of your own story and try not to compare what is happening in your home to someone else's.

Other elements to consider are:

1. Expectations: at home learning will not be the same as school. Yes, school staff are qualified teachers, but we are also learning to navigate delivering a curriculum in alternate ways. Please be patient with us.
2. Check in with your child frequently to see how they are going, as an interested parent not as a teacher.
3. Be flexible about what and how your child learns – what is important for your child to do today?
4. If your child is anxious put aside the learning temporarily and engage yourselves in something enjoyable (e.g. looking for bugs in the garden and then finding out more about them; printing with Autumn leaves....as I heard a father say to his school aged son as I went out to get a coffee this morning).
6. If you as a parent are anxious, put aside the learning temporarily or make a daily timetable of the things you think your child can do.

As teachers we are aware that there are educational expectations and it is our responsibility to provide these for your children. We are also conscious that your child's world, and yours, may be flooded with emotions and that these may be heightened at particular times. Please take care of these emotions - and yourselves - and remember we are a phone call (or a Seesaw post) away to assist in the ways we can or just listen to your experiences, feedback and wonderings.



# Learning And Teaching

## Learning at Home

Home learning is an exciting opportunity for our whole community. Students learn best when parents and schools work together in partnership. Nothing can replace face to face interaction between teachers and students each day, however, we are trying our best to ensure that some learning continues for the students during this time. Parents are not expected to be teachers. This is a particularly challenging time for parents who are trying to work from home, care for younger siblings and support their children through home learning.

The message from the school is this: do what you can. This may not be the same every day. Teachers find that on different days, students are more or less motivated to complete learning, depending on mindset, curriculum area and time of day. Home learning will be no different. Students do not need to complete every learning task, every day set by teachers. Do what you can.

Do not worry about your child falling behind their peers because of home learning. All children across Australia (and the world) are adapting to a different learning model. When the pandemic is over, and the children return to school, learning will continue for all of our children at Holy Family.

### Communication

Communication is most important during home learning. Even though we will not see you every day we are here to support you however we can

- Teachers will meet with students at 8.45am and 3pm each day via Google Meets.
- Feedback for student learning will be given - Prep-2 each day, grades 3-6 each week
- Parents can contact teachers via Seesaw if they have a concern
- Teachers will be in contact with parents via phone
- Assembly is pre-recorder and posted on the Home Learning Portal each Monday morning
- School leadership can be contacted via the school office or email

### Helpful tips for Parents

Learning from home is an exciting initiative for schools and families. The most effective strategies for family-led learning at home include :

- Believing in your child/ren's potential
- Talking and reading with your child/ren
- Supporting children to develop positive relationships with their siblings, parents, teachers and peers
- Learning together, including participating in everyday activities such as cooking and spending time learning as a family.
- Creating a positive learning environment, that is, providing the child a dedicated space and time for learning, having the same rules as the school about learning, and ensuring parent-child interactions around learning are positive.

Please contact the school if you need assistance with the home learning program for your family. We are here to support you.



Parents will be sent an email shortly to sign up to CareMonkey. This will allow us send letters, permission forms and other important information straight to parents and use Seesaw as a platform just for learning.

## Heart Values

Tadhg for commencing home learning with enthusiasm and encouraging his peers

Tabitha for being thoughtful to others in a difficult situation.



## Happy Birthday

Wiktoria, Mercy, Ruot, Andee-Lei, Faith, Frazier, Nihal, Hanish, Bhelissa, Phong, Veronica, Margaret, Tishayini, Taj,

Mrs Blaney



# What's Happening in Home Learning

## Junior

The Junior children will explore changes that are happening around them by answering the question "What changes can I see within and around me?" By observing change using the 5 senses, students will glimpse the diversity of materials in their world. They will explore change through the context of food including spaghetti, chocolate and popcorn. They will also learn about how heating or cooling a food can change its properties and whether the change can be reversed or not. They will use the Science Inquiry skills of questioning, predicting, planning and conducting hands-on, shared experiences to investigate the effects of mixing materials together that bring about change.



For Religious Education, the Junior students will first begin to explore the Easter story and the Pentecost and Ascension experiences. They will also learn about the changes they can make within their hearts to be disciples of Jesus. Through scripture stories such as The Lost Sheep and The Prodigal Son, they will explore forgiveness, reconciliation, love and gratitude, and relate these stories to their own life experiences.

## Middle

Welcome to Term 2! The 3/4 students have been working very hard to complete their Learning at Home, using their Digital Technology skills learned in Term 1 to access Google Meets, Google Classroom and SeeSaw.

We are so proud to see all students trying their very best and showing enthusiasm towards their Learning at Home. Not only are they embracing the challenge of Learning at Home, but they are also displaying their HEART value of Empathy as they communicate positively with kindness towards their teachers and peers online. We are especially excited to see students encouraging their classmates and helping each other in the comments sections of each lesson. Keep up the great work, 3/4!



This term our Inquiry focus is on Change. There are many things changing in our world at this time and we are looking forward to the students exploring ways that they can make a positive impact by asking 'How can I change my world?'

## Senior



Welcome back to term 2 with a difference! There has been a lot of learning and navigating technology happening in the senior school at the start of this term, not only for the students but also for the teachers! We have all embraced the challenge of online learning with a positive growth mindset and have even made some gratitude flowers to remind us of the good things in our lives.

Our focus for Religious Education and Inquiry this term is Change. Our two big questions are: *What can we change?* and *How does the church ask us to change?* In Inquiry the concept of change will be explored through science and in Religious Education we will be looking at what the church does, and what we can do to change the lives of those less fortunate.

Thank you all very much for supporting your children with Home Learning and please keep messaging us through Seesaw if you have any questions. We are off to a great start!