In Christ we Live, Love and Learn!



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 6 May 2020

Term 2 Week 2

Religious Education

At Holy Family we are so lucky to have a team of such dedicated teachers who have continued to deliver our learning programs, including Religious Education.

Using an 'Inquiry' model of learning, we always start our learning with an Entry Event.

What is an Entry Event?

An entry event is some kind of learning experience that the children participate in, to build curiosity and wonder about a particular concept or phenomenon. Sometimes, our students have never experienced a particular concept and this allows them to have a shared experience to draw upon as their learning continues.

The event will always generate discussion amongst teachers and students. The discussion will allow them to build their knowledge of important terms and concepts. The teacher will then facilitate further steps of the inquiry process.

How does this work in an Online Learning environment?

Our dedicated team of staff have worked in collaboration with our Religious Education Coordinator, Mr Baker, to plan and adapt their entry event experiences to allow them to occur online.

For example, our Stage 2 students had to listen to a story online and then respond to the story with some questions. The questions were designed to make them think, reflect and build connections with their prior knowledge online with their own creations.



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In Stage 1, our students had to create something. Their learning this term is about 'Creation' and we wanted our students to all have an experience of creating something. All of our wonderful teachers created videos of themselves modelling how to create something and encouraged the students to respond online with their own creations.

Check out their fantastic creations below:















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...Stay tuned for the next episode of RE Inquiry where we share our 'Know and Need to Know' process from the next step of Stage 1's inquiry!

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Dear Parents and Carers,



Welcome back to Term 2. We hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable break. This week we continued with both online learning at home and at school through Google Classroom, while we are planning for a staggered return to school from Week 3. When returning to school students are to wear their regular uniform as per normal schedule.

The staff would like to thank all our parents and families for being so cooperative and supportive during this difficult time. They appreciate

all of the hard work you are doing in supporting your children's learning.

Shout out to the KIDS.

Everyone is applauding everyone but our children. These little heroes have stayed indoors more than they've ever known in their lives. Their whole worlds have literally been turned upside down. All these rules they've never known. A life they couldn't have imagined. All the things they love like sports, being with friends, going to school, or just being kids have all been taken away from them. Adults talking about others becoming unwell, news reporting death after death. Our poor children's minds must be racing. Every day they get up and carry on despite all that's going on. So here's to our little heroes: today, tomorrow, forever.



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Launch of Connected Learning Portal



We are very excited about the launching of our Connected Learning Portal which we hope is a great resource for parents. There is a wealth of information located on the site as well as updates of any communication that is being sent home. I urge ALL parents to visit this site.

https://sites.google.com/parra.catholic.edu.au/hfsconnectedlearning

Communication is vital between home and school, particularly at present. Continuing strong positive relationships with our students and parents is essential. The teachers are continuing with preparing and presenting online learning either through Seesaw and/ or Google Classroom. School communication is sent via Skoolbag app, Facebook, Connected Learning Portal, individual email, phone calls and the fortnightly school newsletter. Please use the one that suits you best to keep up to date on what is happening at Holy Family.

Week 3 Back to School Transition Timetable

Monday 11th May	Tuesday 12th May	Wednesday 13th May	Thursday 14th May	Friday 15th May
Year 2	Year 4	Kindy	Year 1	Year 3
	Year 6			Year 5
	rear o			real 5

Students may wear their sports uniform on their rostered day to be at school.

Beginning next week Monday 11th May we will be transitioning grades back to school for one day where the children will be taught by their classroom teachers through direct instruction (teachers will be teaching them face to face). We understand that some parents will not send their children back on these set days and those students will continue learning online from home. The teachers will be zooming some lessons and /or recording direct instructions so that those at home will be able to access what has happened in the classroom. Please understand this may not be available until the next day as teachers will be dedicating their time on actual classroom teaching.

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Other students who attend school daily, on the days not specifically allocated to their grade, will be supervised and continue accessing their work through either Google classroom or Seesaw.

Towards the end of next week we will reassess this and notify parents if there is any change to the timetable in Week 4.

Winter Uniform

Students returning to school during Term 2 will wear their full Winter uniform. Please ensure that jackets, jumpers, ties, hats and your child's name is clearly marked on them, avoiding large numbers of lost property.

Mother's Day

Unfortunately we have had to cancel our Mother's Day school celebrations for this year due to the current situation.



However I would like to take this opportunity wishing all our wonderful mum's, grandmothers and mother figures a wonderful day on Sunday. May God's blessing be on you all.

Hopefully we will be able to organise something later in the year to recognise the extraordinary contribution that mother's make in the lives of their children.

Kindergarten 2021 Enrolments



We are taking enrolments for Kindergarten 2021. We ask that parents intending to submit an enrolment do so as soon as possible as many places have already been allocated. The enrolment form can be downloaded from the school website www.hfgranville.parra.catholic.edu.au or picked up from the school office. Completed forms can be returned to the school office or emailed to holyfamilyegranville@parra.catholic.edu.au with all the required documentation (if emailing you will be required to present original documents at a later date).

Fee Relief

Recently an email was sent home from CEDP regarding Fee Relief for those families who were impacted financially from Covid-19. The ways parents can apply for fee relief is also outlined on the CEDP web site and a link can be found on our website.

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No Hat No Play

Over the last couple of years the practice was that students did not need to wear a hat during terms 2 and 3. After great thought and discussion amongst staff all students will now be required to wear their school hat ALL YEAR not just selected terms. Please ensure that your child/ren have their hat with them every day at school because the rule of NO Hat, NO Play will be enforced each day.

Kind regards,

Let us remember that as many hands build a house, so many hearts make this school.

Mrs Cheryl Fortini

Principal



School Canteen Open Daily

Order Online or send orders with children

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Reconnect and Re-engage!

Tips for parents to support their child's return to onsite schooling following the Covid-19 Pandemic

With schools starting to return to a routine of on site learning our children can be filled with mixed emotions. It is also very normal that some children may display symptoms of separation anxiety as they anticipate this change to the routine that they had adjusted to during the pandemic, along with the natural ongoing worries that continue about Covid-19 in Australia. As parents and carers it is important for us to be prepared to respond to and support these differing emotions that arise in our children so that we can support their transition back to a school routine successfully.



Your child may be experiencing a myriad of emotions about returning to school after such a long absence from attending school during the pandemic. Some of the emotions they may be feeling include;

- Happiness -They might be happy to play and engage with their friends and recommence a more 'normal' style of play on the school grounds.
- Worry Children may be worried about what they have missed out on by not being
 present at school both socially and academically. They may be concerned that their
 friendships have changed. When your child returns to school their closest friends or
 supports may not be physically present at school the same day they are and this may
 also cause your child to worry about returning.
- Insecure Your child may be more concerned about the threat of COVID-19 in school
 and the presence of germs. School has always been a safe place for your child and with
 all of the changes which have occured in the environment, that sense of security may be
 challenged. This may result in a reluctance to attend school.
- Excitement Your child might be excited to leave home and return to the regular routine of face to face school, including seeing their classroom teacher.

What behaviours to expect in primary school children

Primary aged children often struggle with communicating their feelings and worries verbally to us. Their main communication tool for us to interpret what they may be experiencing is their behaviour. The following behaviours may present in children who are feeling apprehensive about returning to school after the pandemic:

Refusal or hesitation around attending school	Whinging	Difficulty sleeping, nightmares	Being unusually clingy	Teary, crying, distressed
Physical symptoms such as headaches, stomachaches, nausea	Shaking with fear	Shyness Withdrawing from others	Lacking trust in their teacher or other school staff	Refusing to speak

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Strategies and practical tips

Our parenting - adults are in a challenging position as we too have mixed feelings about the 'return to normal' post pandemic, and we may be processing the numerous impacts it has had on our family. Try to be kind to yourself and monitor your own wellbeing daily so that you are aware when you may be less resilient or tolerant than usual, and can take action in the form of self care to restore some balance.

- Being available to recognise and respond with compassion to behaviours that may indicate your child is struggling with returning to school.
- Our children look to the adults in their lives for guidance on how to react, feel and behave. Remember that they are sponges that absorb from us even when we aren't aware. Try to limit their exposure to negative conversations, media messages, and anything that may add to their worries about returning to school.



Practical strategies - anytime your child has experienced separation anxiety you have probably already used a range of strategies to help them cope and adjust to being away from you. Some strategies that may help during this time include:

- If you suspect your child will struggle with the transition back to school let their teacher know as soon as you can, so that the school can be best prepared to provide consistent support when they arrive at school.
- Support your child to connect with their class teacher or another familiar staff member when they arrive at school, or even settle into a game with their familiar friends.
- Remind your child of who/when/how they are getting home from school.
- Say goodbye briefly, don't make it longer than it needs to be. Being kind but firm.
- Maintain a calm relaxed demeanour, even though it can be upsetting if your child is distressed to leave you.
- Sometimes a small familiar item from home carried by the child provides some
 reassurance to the child while they are away from their parents. Choose an item that isn't
 sentimental or too large and distracting in class. Sometimes even a family photo or a
 photo of their pet helps a child's sense of connection to home.
- Similarly, you could pop a note in your child's lunch box that they can look forward to.
- Some parents find that their children are reassured by drawing a heart on their child's hand, telling the child that they can touch/press it when they want to feel close to their parents/family.

If you have concerns about your child's emotional wellbeing, please do not hesitate to contact your school or classroom teacher who will consult the school counsellor for additional support to be provided to your family during these challenging times.



Written by Karina Greenfield and Jessica Austin, CEDP Wellbeing Counsellors

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Stay informed with the SkoolBag App



The SkoolBag app is the easiest way to stay up-to-date with school events, last minutes notices, newsletters and **all** school communications.



Download the app

Search for the free SkoolBag app in the Apple App or Google Play Store



Create an account

Sign up in seconds with your email address







Add your school

Search for your school and add your subscription groups



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	Year 6			Year 5

Students may wear their sports uniform on their rostered day to be at school.

School Photo Day has been moved to Term 4 Week 2

Any students leaving in 2020 must give 10 weeks written notice, a form is available from the office.



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