



IN THIS ISSUE

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KEY DATES AND EVENTS

Monday 23 August

Year 9 Camp - Onsite

Monday 23 August

Primary Book Parade

Monday 23 August

Year 8 Squash Program

Tueasdy 24 August

Year 10 Gymnastics

Wednesday 25 August

Year 9 Camp - Off site

Wednesday 25 August

Year 5 Camp

Thursday 26 August

CSEN Interschool Sports

Friday 27 August

Year 9 Camp - Off site

Saturday 28 August

Working Bee

Please refer to email communications
for more information
and check calendar for updates

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The Earth is the Lord's

Dear Parents,

You are probably already experts, but I am writing to you with practical tips about At-Home-Learning.

Partnership is important. Our teachers want to be in partnership with you, it is something that we school staff find very affirming; that sense of being united with you in the pursuit of increasing learning for your children. More than ever during lockdowns we seek to protect our shared partnership.

Here are some parent-teacher partnership practices that we see as valuable during lockdown:

- We want families to feel confident about contacting our teachers. Everyone is different, and in our multi-national society, some people, from some cultural traditions are less confident about asking questions of teachers. We want every one of our beautiful families to feel confident to approach teachers if they have a question.
- Our teachers want to be active in trying to stay in touch with you. However, we learned during 2020 not to overdo this, particularly in secondary. When parents got detailed contact from all their child's teachers it became overwhelming for them. Now we seek balance.
- Finding the workload balance for your children can be tricky. So, especially at primary we are flexible because teachers know different children work differently. In secondary we allow moderate flexibility, but we are under the constraints of the compulsory curriculum.

- Feedback is crucial. Our primary teachers give feedback that nurtures the blossoming confidence of our young learners. Secondary teachers give directional feedback to improve student learning outcomes, so their feedback needs to be authentic, honest and robust.
- Students should work at a pace that means the family home is still a good place to live. In other words, we do not want parents to sacrifice their relationship with their own children in order to get vast amounts of schoolwork done.
- Teachers try to plan activities that match the home setting. We try to set activities that are possible to complete in the home. This is not always simple because, while the parents are under the constraints of online learning, so are the teachers. I know you understand, and we will not always get it perfect.
- Predictability can create stability. I heard that some parents follow the morning routines as if onsite schooling was happening. They prepare snacks and lunch as would be done for a school-day. They then pack the schoolbag and escort their children out the front door. Next, they all walk around to the back door and enter that way, fresh and ready for the day of At-Home-Learning. (Might need to make sure you don't lock yourselves out with that one!)

Be kind to your children, to your teachers, and to yourselves.

Yours sincerely,

David Gleeson
Principal

WEEKLY BIBLE VERSE

Do not pervert justice; do not show partiality to the poor or favouritism to the great, but judge your neighbour fairly. Do not go about spreading slander among your people. Do not do anything that endangers your neighbour's life. I am the Lord.

Leviticus 19:15,16 (NIV)



Community

PRIMARY UPDATE

As I write this, we have just been informed by the Victorian Premier that we will have another week of lockdown. We as a staff team want to partner with you even in this hard time, so let me remind you of how we can work together to get through this.

You will have noticed how hard the teachers are working to ensure learning continues for your child. We are noticing how hard you are working too! To help you as much as possible with your home-schooling, the teachers are leading wonderful Zoom classrooms (I had the opportunity to sit in on an English lesson today with Miss D and Year 6 – it was wonderful, and the children were all engaged!) and there are fantastic PowerPoint available as well with either teachers' voices accompanying them or teachers screen casting their images onto them. So even if your child is unable to read all their instructions, they will be able to listen or watch as one of our staff guides them through it.

Let me walk you through a typical day of learning and how you can make it best work for you and your children:

9.15am – 9.30am **DEVOTION TIME**

- You will find the links to these on Canvas

- at the top of each day
 - Led by a different staff member each day
 - For Prep to Year 6 so the whole family can listen together
- 9.30am – 10.15am **ZOOM CLASSROOM – ENGLISH**
- Zoom links are on your child's Canvas page
 - Teachers are teaching an English lesson just like in the classroom
 - Children can ask questions about their work
- 11.15am – 12.00pm **ZOOM CLASSROOM – MATHS**
- Same as for English, but with a focus on Maths
- 1.15pm – 2.00pm **SPECIALIST BLOCK**
- These lessons are on PowerPoint with teacher audio or screen casting
 - Children can email their teachers with any questions
 - Monday – Bible
 - Tuesday – HHR
 - Wednesday – Art/Food Technology/STEM
 - Thursday – HASS/Science

- Friday – Digital Technologies
- 2.30pm – 3.15pm **SPECIALIST BLOCK**
- Monday – Japanese
 - Tuesday – Chapel (For Prep to Year 6 so children can watch together)
 - Wednesday – Performing Arts
 - Thursday – PE
 - Friday – Finish off (complete anything you were not able to get to)

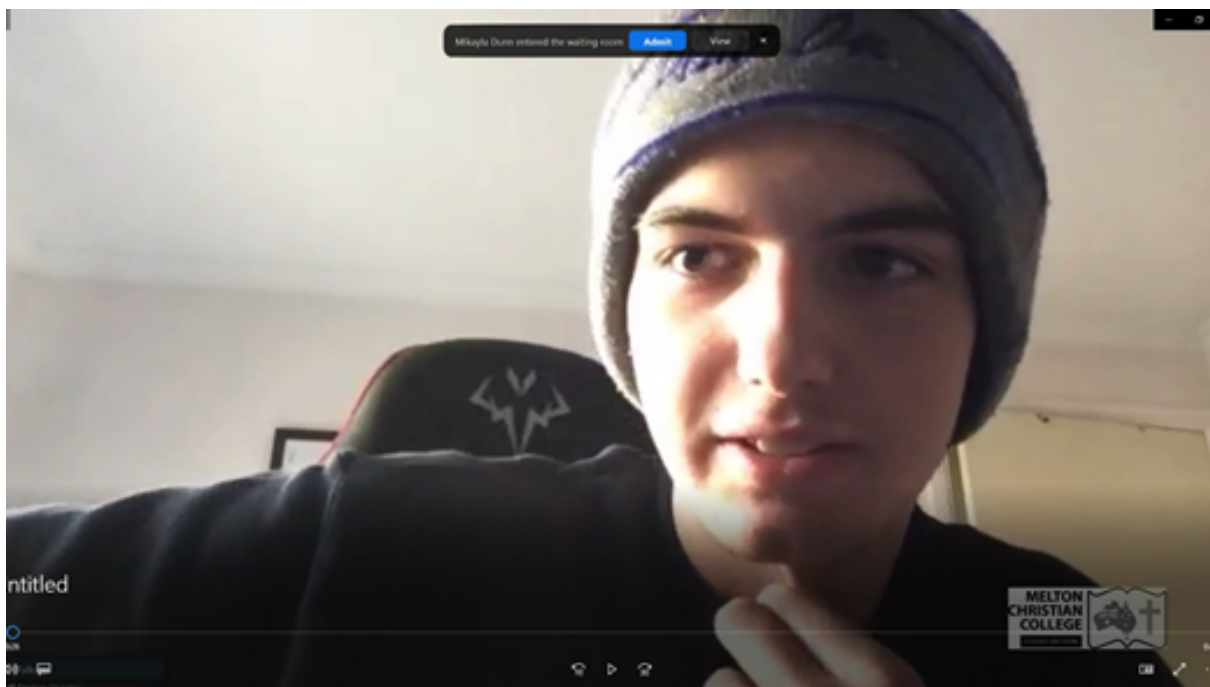
Please make use of the Zoom classrooms if you can as they will benefit your children immensely. It is as close to a real classroom as we can get. Please encourage your children to email their subject teachers if there is anything they don't understand in their specialist lessons.

Do your best. None of us want to be working this way – but the pandemic is dictating this now and we must follow the guidelines we are given by the Victorian Government. We know you all want to get out of this as well.

Most importantly, look after yourselves and keep yourselves safe.

God bless,

Jodie Vamplew
Head of Primary



Deykan Quigley, Year 10 - Legal Studies Interview with Hon. Tanya Plibersek MHR

SECONDARY UPDATE

As we enter another week of lockdown, I want to encourage everyone to reach out if you are struggling.

Homeroom teachers are working hard to ensure their students are all travelling well, but sometimes they cannot help if they are unaware there are problems.

Talk to your Homeroom teachers if you need assistance. They might be able to help you on the spot, or direct you to a person who can.

Let's continue to be kind and look after ourselves and each other during this pandemic.

Here is some helpful advice that I sent out last year that is still useful today:

Begin on the same page – sit down as a family and devise a plan, what are everyone's expectations during this lockdown.

Be honest – have conversations with each other, be open about facts and feelings.

Set up routine – maintaining a routine is important – following the 2021 College timetable is a very good way to achieve this.

Keep active – break up the day and classes with some physical activity, which is critical to people's mental health.

Get things done – feelings of accomplishment can be helpful during isolation. It could be a school assignment or even long-avoided house chore!

Give each other space – respecting other's need for alone time is important.

Stay connected – another critical component of good mental state is feeling connected to others. Social media and ZOOM conferences can help keep us connected with family, church/social groups and friends.

Learn from the experience – parts of our lives have slowed down, and family time has increased. God has a plan for you through this; we need to be open to see the silver lining of this pandemic.

Mr Derek Bendall
Head of Secondary



SPOTLIGHT ON TEACHING & LEARNING

MCC's Approach to At-Home Learning: why we do what we do.

As we settle into another week of "Lockdown 6.0" I find myself reflecting on how we do at-home learning and why we do what we do at MCC. I want to explain just how intentionally family-focussed our approach is.

Designing our approach to At-Home-Learning has been a learning process for us in seeking what works best for you. We have been attentive to parent-responses. We have been listening ... to you.

Some of the things we have heard from you is that too much schoolwork is too much, and too little is just as bad, and too much screen-time is mighty unhelpful, and complex activities create headaches and can lead to squabbles at home. To hone what we do, we have investigated other schools; looking to learn from their successes and their mistakes. For example, among our Melton neighbourhood schools, some simply send home piles of printed paper worksheets, another school requires constantly connected Zoom for each child, another school relies heavily on internet freeware as its resource.

Researching all these various approaches has been helpful, but what has been most helpful is

picturing you! We have been visualising you in your home: trying to get so much done, trying to manage the emotional pressure of lockdown, trying to look after younger children and babies, and trying to optimise the learning for your school-aged children and keep your sanity intact as well.

Whether our students are learning in the classroom or in the loungeroom, our teachers are committed to delivering curriculum to students of mixed abilities from different contexts across all primary and secondary year levels. Our commitment to each learners' success is unwavering.

With over 850 students in our care represented by 580 families, we are acutely aware that what we're tasked with is no small thing. We are honoured to be in partnership with you.

We imagine our students, your children, in their home environments and think: how can we best deliver meaningful educational experiences and best serve our families and still make it work for your household? As we plan and develop learning experiences, we are guided by our dual priority: delivering education and caring for our people.

The result is that we do a blend of online real-time learning lessons. This is intentional, it

means there can be flexible, self-paced lessons accessible from Canvas that can be completed when best suits each learner and their family dynamic. Some schools rely hugely on technology, we want balanced reliance on technology so that none of our families is disadvantaged. We are certainly grateful for the tech that enables accessibility to learning content and to each other, but are intentional in offering off-screen learning opportunities too.

In short: we enable you, our families, to do what works best for you in your household, without letting go of educating young people and contributing to their holistic formation, while ensuring your family continues to build strong relational bonds.

Lockdowns bring a level of complexity for all members of our learning community. We appreciate the feedback received throughout the lockdown journey. We use it to tweak and improve learning experiences for all students and improve the ways we provide support and care for those in our midst. We appreciate your mutual care and support as we partner with you in this important work.

Kristie Barber
Head of Teaching & Learning



Legal Studies Interview with Hon. Tanya Plibersek MHR

INTERVIEW WITH FEDERAL MP

Legal Studies Interview with Hon. Tanya Plibersek MHR.

During our recent lockdown, Unit 1&2 Legal Studies students interviewed federal MP and Shadow Minister for Education and Women, Tanya Plibersek. The meeting was via zoom (thank you Mr Prowse and Mrs Escaner!) and flowed very smoothly.

Our responsibility as teachers, nurturing young minds is to do our best to stay politically impartial, so it was great to see that our students posed a variety of inquiries from a range of perspectives. Tanya asked students to address her by her first name, and indicated strong appreciation for the quality of our students' questions. The discussion

ranged from issues in Australian education systems, to women's rights, and Indigenous respect and recognition. For example, Junior Vita raised a matter about fines as an appropriate sanction which strongly engaged her. It was inspiring to observe the level of cultural and legal literacy developing in and displayed by our students!

This event proved to be a wonderful opportunity for our students to see a real politician doing what politicians do; convincing others to see things their way, and doing it very effectively.

'Tanya was able to give a good answer to my question about education being foundational in improving employment for Aboriginal people.'
Deykan Quigley, Yr 10.

'Tanya was very honest and interesting to listen to.'
Adau Kir, Yr 11.

'I really enjoyed our interview with Tanya. Her responses were all very informative and gave me some further insight into current issues. She was very open and did not hesitate to express her opinion freely, which included criticising the Prime Minister.'
Shelby Dedman, Yr 11.

(And I'm sure the Prime Minister would applaud such an exercise of freedom of speech).

Well done Legal Studies students!

Lachlan Mason
Unit 1&2 Legal Studies Teacher



Community



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Buttons Needed

Primary Art is in desperate need of buttons of all shapes and sizes. If you are able to assist, all button donations will be gratefully accepted at the College Reception. Thanks in advance,
the Primary Art Department

Reusable Face Masks Available

Ultra-comfort, reusable face masks available for purchase from Reception. With adjustable nose bar and ear loops to reduce fogging and for a perfect fit, these soft-to-touch cotton face masks have odour control to keep your face fresh, dry and odour free. ANTI-MICROBIAL FINISH TEXPEL MICRO™ kills 99.9% of bacteria. One size fits most. Available in black or navy for \$4.50 Let's do the right thing for our environment and reduce waste. Avoid single use and go reusable!

Year 5 Weekaway Camp 2021

Students from Year 5 have the exciting opportunity to attend Weekaway Camp nestled at the base of the Macedon Ranges from Tuesday, August 24 - Friday, August 27. Students will develop team building skills while engaging in a number of activities such as canoeing, archery, bush cooking, mountain bike riding and more. Camp forms can be completed and returned to the College Reception.
We are looking forward to an amazing adventure!

Year 9 'Rescue and Safety' Camp

The Year 9 Camp to Lake Dewar will take place during Week 7 in term three, August 23 – August 27. The theme of the camp will revolve around 'Rescue and Safety.' As such, there will be a First Aid (including CPR), a CFA and a 'Party Safe' component amongst other enjoyable camp activities. The staff that will be attending the camp along with the students will be: Mr Rod Grimaldos, Mr Simon Doherty, Ms Natasha Oxley, Mrs Kerri-Anne Ciarniello, Mrs Bonnie Lang, Mrs Kellie Giannes, Mr Keenan Schier and Mr Bendall.

Camp Australia

Outside School Hours Care service is open and operating for those that need care, and will provide your children with much-needed familiarity and continuity through our engaging programs. It's FREE to Register (and if you want to use OSHC, you first need to register). **Register at pp.campaustalia.com.au/account/login**. Once registered, it's easy to make and manage your bookings online via the Parent Portal. Visit the blog: <https://campaustalia.com.au/blog>

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www.mcc.vic.edu.au

Uniform Shop (Located in the College Auditorium)

The Uniform shop is closed due to current restrictions.
Regular hours will commence once restrictions have been eased.

MCC Uniform Shop opening hours:

Wed to Fri - **8:45am - 11am & 2 - 4pm.**

Orders can be placed at the Uniform Shop or via email
with an order form on the College website.

MCC Uniform Shop Manager: Denise Eddy

MCC Uniform Shop contact details - Ph: 9732 3019; Email: uniformshop@mcc.vic.edu.au

Melton Christian College is a ministry of Melton Christian Church

For information on service times, go to:
www.mcchurch.com.au



PRIMARY AWARDS

PREP

Tristin Griffith-Henderson

Harjas Singh

Eunice Kalonji

Daeja Alfonso

Ravnoor Kaur

Riak Mabiei

YEAR 1

Sophie Yap-Bauzon

Eleanor Micallef

Nathaniel Axiak

Sapphira Tamayo

Avah Joubert

Adele O’Brien

YEAR 2

Indianah Hussey

Saanjh Sandhu

Kurtis Lai

Ivy Thai

YEAR 3

Rebecca Hana

Jayden Borysiewicz

Elisha Lorenzo

Naomi Lauchai

YEAR 4

Ethan Alfonso

Alana O’Brien

Grace Golowka

YEAR 4

Xavier Axiak

Blair Wilson

Anna-Rose McRitchie

YEAR 5

Tayla Davies

Amy Guljas

Cooper Wursthorn

Sarah Obeid

YEAR 6

Riley Apap-Comley

Cedar Howie

Tamia Keyi

Bailey Summers

MELTON
CHRISTIAN
COLLEGE



MELTON CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

PRODUCTION OF

 DREAMWORKS

SHREK

THE MUSICAL JR.

BASED ON THE DREAMWORKS ANIMATION MOTION PICTURE
AND THE BOOK BY WILLIAM STEIG

BROADWAY JUNIOR COLLECTION ©

BOOK AND LYRICS BY
DAVID LINDSAY-ABAIRE

MUSIC BY
JEANINE TESORI

Sept 24

4:00PM

MATINEE

Sept 22-24

7:00PM

\$15

\$10 MATINEE

TICKETS AVAILABLE

TICKETEBO.COM.AU/MCCSHREKTHEMUSICAL

