2 July 2021

Dear Parents and Caregivers

I trust that you are all safe and enjoying this time at home with your families. Thank you for your patience and ongoing support as we make decisions with regards to the first week of school in Term Three.

This morning the Queensland Premier announced that the lockdown on the Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast and in Ipswich will end at 6pm this evening. Brisbane and Moreton Bay will remain in lockdown for at least another 24 hours while contact tracing for a Carindale case continues.

Given the latest update, with no further border restrictions announced, we will continue as planned with the Senior College camps occurring in Week 1 of Term Three. Unfortunately, the Pindari Outdoor Adventure has been cancelled by the provider. Information regarding the revised plans for the 18 students booked for Pindari will be sent to parents by Ms Shelley Haines later today. The Years 7,8,9 and 11 camps will go ahead as planned unless further lockdowns or restrictions are introduced prior to Monday 12 July. Year 10s will attend their work experience venues and Year 12s will attend classes on campus.

If restrictions preventing the attendance at camps are imposed prior to Monday 12 July then all students will attend school as usual.

If we are required to go into lockdown at the start of term, or any time after this, the information that I provided earlier this year remains the same.

Prep to Year 4: Parents will be sent an email from their child's teacher directing the children to the Share Point folder for their activities.

Years 5 and 6: Students will continue to do their school work through OneNote on their laptops.

Years 7 to 12: Students will be expected to continue their studies as per the weekly plan as published on D2L for each subject and continue to access the content on D2L for each of their courses. This will include continuing to work on any assessment that is due. To assist in ensuring students know what to do during a potential enforced shutdown, and in case they have any queries, we would begin each day with a Year-level Teams meeting at 8.20am, as well as conclude each day with a Year-level Teams meeting at 2.45pm. Students would be expected to attend both of these Teams meetings with their respective Heads of Year, during which a roll would be taken.

If we are directed to close for a longer period of time we would revert to our Off-Campus Learning program. We would need a few days preparation time to ensure that OCL again occurs as seamlessly as possible and for the timetable to be adapted. Details of the new program would be communicated at such time.



I believe that the chance of a lockdown is very small, given that the Prime Minister this morning announced that the National Cabinet has agreed on a pathway out of COVID-19. This is, however, dependent on the majority of the population being vaccinated.

I do urge all who are in a position to do so to get the vaccine as soon as possible so that we can return to a semblance of normality and consistency.

Thank you again for your continued support and understanding as we juggle things this end.

At times like these when we feel frustrated 18 months into this pandemic and face more uncertainty, it is so important to acknowledge all that we have to be grateful for, especially in this wonderful country of ours.

Lord, thank you:

For the taxes I pay

Because it means I am employed.

For the mess to clean after a party

Because it means I have been surrounded by friends

For the clothes that fit a little too snug

Because it means I have enough to eat.

For my shadow that watches me work

Because it means I am out in the sunshine.

For a lawn that needs mowing,

Windows that need cleaning,

And gutters that need fixing

Because it means I have a home.

For all the complaining I hear about the government

Because it means we have freedom of speech.

For the parking spot I find at the far end of the parking lot

Because it means I am capable of walking,

And I have been blessed with transportation.

For my huge heating bill

Because it means I am warm.

For the lady behind me in church who sings off key

Because it means I can hear.

For the pile of laundry and ironing

Because it means I have clothes to wear.

For weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day

Because it means I have been capable of working.

For the alarm that goes off in the early morning hours

Because it means I am alive.

Amen

Kind regards

Kim Cohen Principal