



23 March 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Our priority at Catholic Regional College Melton, continues to be the health and safety of our school community.

In light of State Government announcements this Monday 23 March, school holidays will commence Tuesday 24 March. Teachers will use the remaining week to prepare for an eventual transition to Distance Learning Mode (DLM).

Students will not be expected to attend online until Term 2.

Students should empty lockers today and collect all valuables to take home this afternoon. The College will remain open tomorrow only for any student who may still need to collect their belongings.

I wish to reassure you that the school is well-prepared for the impact of COVID-19 (coronavirus). Staff have received training in delivery of Distance Education and have been rehearsing with students. Distance Learning Mode will commence after the holidays. Parents will be notified of the date that this will commence as information becomes available.

I attach with this letter Advice to Parents to assist you when the time comes to support your sons and daughters in their learning at home.

At this point I would like to wish all families a restful and healthy Easter break. Although we will not be able to gather physically, the community will continue to pray in our own space and to keep the wellbeing of all our families in our thoughts and prayers.

As parents, you have a critical role in helping the school manage this situation:

- Talk to children about the situation, as they may be feeling anxious or stressed. You have a key role in helping students feel prepared and safe
- Encourage children to be proactive and committed to their schoolwork once we recommence, and to stay connected with the school and their teachers.

The Department of Health and Human Services has several resources on its website, which explain the virus, detail risk-reduction practices and behaviours, and answer frequently asked questions. These are available at www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus.

I ask that you continue to work closely with the school and to contact my office should you have any new concerns.

Thank you for your support as we work to keep our students and staff safe.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Jorgensen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M" and a long, sweeping underline.

Mrs Marlene Jorgensen
Principal