

ISSUE

19

11 December 2020

Caritas COLLEGE Newsletter



KEY DATES

2021

Term 1

Wed 27 Jan - Fri 9 Apr

NON SCHOOL DAYS

26 Jan - Australia Day
8 Mar - Adelaide Cup
2 Apr - Good Friday
5 Apr - Easter Monday

Term 2

Tues 27 Apr - Fri 2 Jul

NON SCHOOL DAYS

26 Apr - Anzac Day
27 Apr - Staff Professional Learning
14 Jun - Queen's Birthday

Term 3

Mon 19 Jul - Fri 24 Sept

NON SCHOOL DAYS

19 Jul - Staff Professional Learning
3 Sept - Staff Reflection Day

Term 4

Mon 11 Oct - Fri 10 Dec

NON SCHOOL DAYS

9-10 Dec - Staff Professional Learning

Front Office is open until
Friday 18 December

Further information on events is available
on our website
[http://www.cc.catholic.edu.au/news-
events/calendar](http://www.cc.catholic.edu.au/news-events/calendar)

T: 08 8648 9700

Absentee SMS:
0428 071 211

www.cc.catholic.edu.au

Principal's Message



An Extraordinary Year

As the year draws to a close, I would like to express my sincere thanks to everyone in our College community. In such a challenging year I cannot commend students, staff and parents enough. Our entire school community has demonstrated an incredible amount of resilience and agility. In a year that has challenged us in many ways, we have remained committed to the cause of Catholic education and experienced many successes. Thank you and well done!

Capital Development Project 2021

Penola Learning Centre & Nature Play Space

The final weeks of the school year are always busy and hectic. We managed to amplify this even further by relocating more than two thirds of our classrooms and office spaces in preparation for the building project that will start early next year. I am deeply appreciative of the work of staff and students to make these major changes happen in the final stages of the year.

End of the Year Events & Activities

On Monday our primary students performed their carols and dances. It was wonderful to see them embrace the Christmas spirit through the dances and songs they performed. There was an assortment of red and green colours, Santa hats and Rudolph-red-noses to complement the occasion. I hope that parents will enjoy seeing the performances as we post them on our Facebook page over the coming days and weeks.

On Tuesday the students and staff had an enjoyable day participating in water games and a colour burst activity. The older students helped the younger students move their way through an array of activities and games that saw them sprayed with water and a rainbow of colours. I couldn't help but think that the laughter, friendships and colours were all symbolic of the happy, fun and inclusive school community that we are all a part of. It was a great way to finish the school year.



Staffing

It is normal for us to farewell staff at this time of year. We will be saying goodbye and thank you to the following staff: Tara May, Charlotte McCann (nee Raffan), Thomas Rutjens, Hannah Blowes and Jasmin Eckert. These staff members have all contributed to the Caritas College story. Some have contributed great things to our community in a short amount of time and others have added value to our educational setting in significant ways over a number of years. It is important to recognise Jasmin Eckert who has been part of the staff at Caritas College for 15 years and has made a positive impact on the leaning and wellbeing of students for a sustained length of time. I know the whole College community will join me in wishing the staff members who are leaving us all the best with our prayers and blessings for the future.

Next year we will welcome two new teachers into our school community. Courtney Redden (Secondary Teacher) and Jessica Freeman (Primary Teacher) both bring a range of skills and experiences into our setting. I know you will join me in welcoming them to Caritas College.

A number of Education Support Officer roles are currently advertised and will be finalised in the coming weeks. These appointments will be communicated to families as soon as possible and practicable in the New Year.



FAREWELL
AND
THANK YOU

2021 School Fee Schedule

As shared in recent newsletters, the 2021 School Fee Schedule is now available on our website. We are proud to offer an affordable and accessible Catholic education to all families. We invite families to contact the College if you have any questions regarding fees or your personal financial circumstances. Please be aware of the following features of our School Fee Schedule for 2021:

No increase of school fees for the last two years

There was no percentage increase to fees in 2020. Furthermore, there will be no increase to school fees in 2021.

1:1 Laptop Program

In 2020, we commenced a 1:1 Laptop Program for all students in Years 7-12. The cost of this device is included within the School Fee Schedule. Therefore, families do not incur any additional costs for this educational resource that supports their learning at school and at home.

Stationery

The fee structure has been extended to include the supply of stationery items for all students. Therefore, families are not required to order or purchase stationery items at the beginning of each school year as these are supplied by the College.

Class Placements for 2021

Teaching staff have spent considerable time and effort placing students into classes for 2021. A range of factors are considered and inform these placements which include:

- Progress of learning
- Student's individual needs (Social/emotional, learning, physical, behavioural)
- Relationships
- A balance of sexes

Sometimes other factors may also need to be considered. Please be assured that the process for class placements focuses on the overall learning and wellbeing needs of each student. Class placements will be communicated to parents during the week prior to school starting next year. This will happen via an email detailing your child's teacher and classroom. A text message will also be sent alerting you that this information has been emailed to you.

New Uniform

The front office has been abuzz this week with families coming in to try on the new uniform. I thank families for their patience as we work through the big process of implementing the new uniform. I especially thank the front office staff for the incredible work they have done in supporting families through this process over the past week. Please know that the current uniform will still be able to be worn throughout 2021 and 2022 while we transition to the new uniform.

Uniform Update.....

Earlier this week, we were advised of some recent developments that have affected deliveries of some uniform items.

The recent escalation in shipping congestion has added 2 - 3 weeks to delivery times. This is a worldwide issue that has compounded as pre- Christmas sea freight during October and November has been at an all time high.

All Summer Sportswear items will be available to order mid January. [as indicated on the Online ordering site]

Winter items such as Track pants, Girls pants and Ruggies will be available second term. [as indicated on the Online ordering site]

All Formal lines are available now for Online ordering (excl socks).

Unfortunately, the Online Ordering platform will not allow for families to place an order for those items where there is No stock available. Families may prefer to hold off placing an online order until **11 January** when more stock becomes available.

Families requiring the new trans-seasonal uniform for the beginning of Term 1, please **'book a fitting'** by clicking on the following link [Uniforms](#). Bookings are available up until **Friday 18 December**. Throughout 2021, the 'book a fitting' will re-open for families to make an appointment to try on the garments for delivery throughout the year.

Merry Christmas

Thank you for your support throughout the 2020 school year. I wish all of our families a safe and happy holiday break. May you find love, wonder and understanding in the marvellous mystery of Advent with all the blessings of this most joyful season. *Merry Christmas!* I look forward to continuing working with you all in 2021 when school resumes on **Wednesday 27 January**. God Bless!



Damian Smith, Principal