



St Patrick's School

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Dear parents,

Hopefully this letter finds you and your family well and surviving supervising your children during remote learning at home.

Once again, can I start by saying a huge thank you to everyone for the wonderful effort you are putting in supervising your child/ren, often under very trying circumstances.

You are doing an amazing job and it is greatly appreciated.

I am writing about a change we would like to introduce from next week that we hope will be of benefit for everyone concerned. In short, we would like to change the format of the week to include a screen free day & a break from English/Maths & use that day to do a family based specialist program - hands on based activities. Specialist teachers would not be required to be online as such, but they would supply an activity/activities for the family to complete together.

The week would look like this:

Monday: Literacy/Maths/a little of other eg RE, SOSE

Tuesday: Literacy/Maths/ a little of other eg RE, SOSE

Wednesday: Specialist: PE, Art, Indo, science, Digi Tech

Thursday: Literacy/Maths/ a little of other eg RE, SOSE

Friday Literacy/Maths/ a little of other eg RE, SOSE

The specialist day would be the same day for all families & grade levels: Wednesday in the middle of the week so as to get the maximum from the break. Eg 2 days maths & literacy, then a break from that & then 2 days maths & literacy to finish the week.

Classroom teaching staff would use this Wednesday to meet as a team, plan for the coming week and basically have more time to get their excellent online remote learning curriculum organized. Classroom teachers will not be responding to emails etc on Wednesday unless it is an absolute necessity and will resume contact on Thursday.

It is also thought that this Wednesday will be as relatively 'screen free' as possible for students, for them to take a break from the constancy of being in front of a screen.

Everyone will be marked as present however if your child is unwell, we ask you to contact the office. Specialist activities will be uploaded on Tuesday evening for you to check.

So next week we will trial this to see how it works. The at school supervision schedule will run the same way as the remote learning program for this day.

I hope all that makes sense and will be a way to still deliver all we need to deliver over the course of the week, just in a way that also takes into account the mental stresses from all parties.

I look forward to your feedback on whether or not this process works, so let us know here at school so we can continue to adapt what & how we do things for the betterment of all.

Thank you for your continuing support. Enjoy Mother's Day & your weekend.

Regards,

Michael McKenzie

Principal