



# St Paul's Catholic School Palette



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19th March 2020

The  
Season  
of  
Lent



## Living with Uncertainty

I heard a medical professional say in the last week that one of the greatest challenges with this virus is the uncertainty. We know so little. How long really is the incubation period? Will it come back? This was from someone relatively highly informed. So how about us poor plebs not so medically educated? I must say I have been distressed by some of the things circulated by friends of mine who simply should have known better

We start clutching at straws and common sense goes out the window. So, let's start with the basics. Two of the things we do know are: we need good hygiene and we need to look after each

other. With good hygiene, we are looking after ourselves and stopping the virus spread. Looking after each other, we are strengthening the emotional bonds that are essential for a good life. I have been impressed by some of the ways, often creative, by which people are helping each other. Just this morning, a local butcher shop has offered home delivery to those who are quarantined. Good for them, and us.

Uncertainty is part of human existence. It can close us down which leads to selfish and wacky behavior or it can open us up to appreciate who and what we have now. We have to go through this period of uncertainty. We are all in this together. Let us pray asking God to enlighten our minds and hearts that we may deeply care for each other so much and so creatively, that these times of social isolation actually led to stronger families and better communities.

*Loving God, open my mind and heart to the mystery of this present time. May the uncertainty I feel be an opportunity to*

*come closer to you and to those I love.*

*Give me the wisdom to calmly care for my family, friends and community. I ask this in Jesus' name confident that you will hear me.*

Sr Kym Harris osb



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Dear Parents

We have sent out a number of letters and directives as we work together to implement sensible measures to help combat the spread of this fast-evolving COVID-19. The key principles underpinning our initiatives are:

- We aim to constrain contact to the broader community and restrict activities as far as possible to the core practices of the school.
- to keep our school open while it is deemed safe to do so.
- adopt appropriate social distancing measures.
- alleviate associated risks and anxiety for our school community.

Catholic Education Tasmania is in constant contact with the Department of Health, Tasmania and the Director of Public Health and is taking all advice from them.

**Compass** - Compass is our best form of communication of all school related information. I know many of you have already signed up but if you have not please do so immediately. Ms Nolan has sent home individual logins for each parent/guardian for our Compass online data portal. If you need support with this process please pop into the office and someone will help you.

**Eye Screening** - Last week, our vision screening was very successfully run by Lions Club Australia. All children who were assessed should have received a summary sheet. This initiative was well received by you all.



**Fee Assistance-** If you have a current Health Care Card you are eligible for fee assistance at our school, so could you please take your card to the office for us to copy. In some cases this will replace the need for you to fill in a fee assistance form but in other cases it won't. If you are unsure please speak with Leanne or Jess in the office.



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## Congratulations

Congratulations to Rose Smith for receiving our Rice McAuley Award. Rose received this award for being an amazing helper in our school and always saying yes when asked to help. This is the attitude of a true leader. Well done Rose!



Congratulations to our class award recipients for this fortnight. Each fortnight one child from each class is chosen to receive an award for their work within their classroom and their attitude to our school expectations. This award can be for doing their best in a particular learning area; being a classroom friend and supporting their friends; for making Jesus real by their actions etc.



## School wide Positive Behaviour

Our THREE school expectations are RESPECT, SAFE, LEARN.



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Children have been receiving Mercy Merits when staff members 'catch' them showing these qualities. Congratulations to the children who have reached 10 Mercy Merits as they earned themselves an icy pole and a postcard home and to those who reached 20 Mercy Merits who earned themselves extra play time and a postcard home. I am looking forward to presenting more rewards next week at assembly.



**Congratulations to Zyron Roach-hill**, whose artwork was chosen as our postcard for children receiving 20 Mercy Merits. During art classes, all children draw their representation of our three school expectations and one drawing was chosen for each award.

**Assemblies will be cancelled until further notice.** Following advice from Catholic Education Tasmania will not be holding any gatherings. Awards and Mercy Merit awards will still be given out in the classroom.





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**Breakfast Club** - We will be continuing breakfast club in the hub each morning but we ask everyone to use a separate plate, knife, bowl and plate and to place it in the wash up sink as soon as you have finished with it. We also ask all children, parents and siblings to wash their hands before and after going to the breakfast club. Classrooms are the best place to do this as all classrooms have sinks, soap and hand towels.

**Sustainability** - Thankyou to all the parents/carers and families who are helping us be more sustainable by keeping our plastics to a minimum. Children are bringing amazing lunchboxes with food in reusable containers. As we now have a large amount of paper towel, Sr Carmel's worms are unable to cope with the volume so please place paper towel in the landfill bin as it will decompose easily anyway.

**Catholic Education Week** - All events are cancelled.

## Kinder Enrolments 2020

We have opened our Kindergarten enrolments for 2021. We are hoping that all our current families that have a child for Kinder next year can complete the paperwork in the next few weeks. Our Kindergarten positions last year filled up before the end of Term 1. Please contact the school office if you require a form to be sent home. To be eligible for Kinder your child must turn 5 in 2021.

With every blessing,

Jo Clark

**Principal**



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## Project Compassion and Lent

This is an important time in the Church calendar as we enter Lent and prepare for HolyWeek and Easter. Lent is a time to reflect on our lives and to make small changes that can help others.

Each family was given a small donation box for Project Compassion by Caritas Australia. Project Compassion provides education and training for some of the world's most vulnerable communities, helping to end poverty, promote justice and restore dignity. Any contributions that can be made are greatly appreciated. Students can return these boxes to school in Week 10.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact myself or your child's classroom teacher for more information.

Regards

Mr Casey Moore

**Religious Education Coordinator**



## Sun safe

A part of our Sunsafe Policy, during Term One, all students **MUST** wear a school hat to be allowed to play outside. These can be purchased from the uniform shop.

## Outside School Hours Care

Catholic Care Tasmania provides after school care at St Paul's Catholic School each day. Please see their Facebook page to register for Friday as an additional day. Care is available each school afternoon until 6.00pm. Please contact Catholic Care Tasmania to register, details are as follows.

**CatholicCare Tasmania** Phone: 1300 119 455 [www.catholiccaretas.org.au](http://www.catholiccaretas.org.au)



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## **School Facebook page**

Please use the 'St Paul's Catholic School Community' Facebook page to keep up to date with what's happening at our school. Please follow and like our page. Please keep an eye out on the school calendar which is located on our school webpage and on Compass.

## **Uniform Shop**

The uniform shop is open on a Tuesday 8.30am - 9.00am or Wednesday 2.30pm - 3.00pm. If you need to make an alternative time, please contact Jess.

**Subway** - Cancelled until further notice.

**School Banking** - Cancelled until further notice.

**B5 Program - SetUp for Success** - Cancelled until further notice.



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# Stop the spread of germs



Wash your  
hands with soap  
and water





# Stop the spread of germs



Cover your cough



Wash your hands with soap and water



## Protect others from getting sick



Avoid close contact when you are experiencing cough and fever

Avoid spitting in public



If you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing **seek medical care early** and share previous travel history with your health care provider





## Protect others from getting sick

When coughing and sneezing  
**cover mouth and nose** with  
flexed elbow or tissue



**Throw tissue into closed bin**  
immediately after use

**Clean hands** with alcohol-based  
hand rub or soap and water  
after coughing or sneezing and  
when caring for the sick

