



# St. Patrick's Catholic Primary School

PREP TO YEAR 6

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## PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

8th May 2020

Michael Fullan is well known throughout the world in educational circles for both his research and Leadership. He has recently partnered with Mary Jane Gallagher to author a new book called 'The Devil is in the Details – System Solutions for Equity, Excellence and Student Well-Being.' I like Fullan – because he looks deeply at the big picture. Over the last decade in the Western World, there has been almost no improvement in the learning outcomes of students. He would suggest that the very narrow focus we have maintained on testing, accountability and limited aspects of literacy and numeracy is simply not working.

Every educational system in the Western World echoes the choruses of 'improve the data, raise the bar, close the gap' and certainly in Australia you can add 'improving NAPLAN ranking' in there. All of these things are in themselves great, but they are not our moral purpose in Education, particularly within a Catholic School. Students don't really buy into them, nor do parents, teachers or authentic educational leaders. Fullan and Gallagher suggest a refocus onto something more authentic that we can all ascribe to. They suggest that the moral imperative for us as a community, is to see the purpose of education as helping students to '**become better at learning and better at life**'.

I think we have this here at our school. We know that a really good academic education assists our students to be better at life, and we will happily use data and every resource at our disposal to support the academic growth of our individual students, because it helps them become good at life.

Similarly, our Religious Education component, along with the values and culture of our Catholic School community and co-curricular offerings, absolutely support our students to become good at life.

These challenging times have surely caused us all to reflect upon what really matters in life. One of the real benefits of children being with parents through this period, is that parents have had this wonderful opportunity to mentor their own children through a difficult circumstance. This weekend as we celebrate Mothers' Day, we acknowledge the role of parents in helping their children to navigate the relationships, disappointments, injustices and challenges that life presents. This is how parents and the school again work in partnership, to help your children and our students, succeed at life. Thanks for the wonderful, important work you do as parents.



Please also consider downloading the COVIDSafe app on your phone. Will certainly help to get schools reopened sooner.

*Mark Fox*

## WELCOME BACK



Click our school crest to go our school website calendar.



Click the facebook icon to go to our school facebook page.



Click the Parish logo to go to the Parish Newsletter.



Click the Centacare logo to go the Group Programs

## WEEK 4 IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### WEEK 4

The return to school on Monday 11th May is for Prep and Year One students. The only other students to attend are vulnerable students and the families of essential workers. Essential workers are any workers who must continue to attend their workplace for essential business/work during this time.

Students who need to attend school in Years 2-6 will be supervised as they work through the on-line learning activities provided to students who are learning from home. Teachers for these year levels will continue to have a specific focus upon online learning and providing online feedback to all students.

#### UNIFORM

All students who attend from Monday will revert back to their normal uniform schedule in regards to formal and sports uniforms.

#### SPECIALIST LESSONS

Students in Prep and Year One will have their Specialist lessons as per their usual timetable. The Library will be open for Prep and Year One on their usual days.

#### TUCKSHOP

Tuckshop will be open for all students who attend on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays – for Lunch Only. Prep are unable to order tuckshop due to their different play arrangements. There will be no Friday Sausage Sizzles until further notice.



#### DAILY ROUTINE


Students will have supervised play from 8:15 until 8:35 am. By the second bell at 8:42, students in Prep and Year One will be at their classrooms with their class teacher. There will be no Courtyard Prayer until restrictions cease.

#### ADULT SOCIAL DISTANCING

Adult social distancing is very important. All pick up zones will continue to operate. At drop off, if your child is capable, just drop off at car pick-up zone and go. For younger children, please just see your child inside and leave. At pick-up, arrive just before 3:00, keep your distance from other adults. Depart as soon as you have your child.

## STUDENT TRAVEL REBATE SCHEME



  
**Student Travel Rebates**  
Semester 1

**Bus Fare Assistance**

- Does your child attend a school outside the Brisbane City Council boundary?
- Does your family spend more than **\$25/week\*** on fares to and from school (\* \$20/week if you hold a concession card)?
- Does your child travel on a publicly available service not owned or associated with the school?

**Students With Disability**

- Does your child have a **verified disability** that requires **transport assistance** to and from school?
- Has your school's learning support teacher assessed your child's **travel capability rating** as "semi-independent" or more dependent?

Visit our website to see if you qualify for our financial assistance to help with the cost of transport and apply at [SchoolTransport.com.au](http://SchoolTransport.com.au) during May.  
Late applications cannot be accepted after 31<sup>st</sup> May.



## MOTHER'S DAY



# Happy Mothers Day

to all our beautiful Mum's at St Patrick's



PS - Keep an eye out for our special Facebook Post

## NCCD ON SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY

### The NCCD – What do I need to know as a parent?

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) is a yearly count of students by all Australian schools across the country. The aim of the NCCD is to provide the Australian Government with information about the number of students with disability in Australian schools and the type of adjustments they need in order to access and participate in education on the same basis as other students. From 2018, the NCCD will be used by the Australian Government to inform funding for schools, known as the 'student with disability loading'.

If you are a parent, guardian or carer of a child with disability who requires ongoing adjustments at school, a teacher or another school staff member will consult with you to understand your child's needs. This collaborative approach ensures the most appropriate adjustments are chosen to support your child's learning and participation at school. In some cases, an individual education plan (IEP) or personal learning plan (PLP) may be developed to document specific educational goals and to review your child's progress over time.

Your child will be included in the NCCD if they require ongoing adjustments at school due to a disability as defined by the Disability Discrimination Act 1992. This is a very broad definition of disability, which includes physical and intellectual disabilities, learning disorders such as dyslexia and dysgraphia, and mental health conditions such as anxiety and depression. The Disability Standards for Education 2005 set out the obligations of schools towards students with disability.

If your child has a disability, your child's school will provide information about them for the NCCD, including:

- your child's year of schooling
- the category of disability that best describes your child's difficulties (one of four categories is chosen by the school team to reflect your child's greatest area of need: physical, cognitive, sensory or social/emotional)
- the level of adjustment your child receives at school (one of four levels is chosen by the school team to reflect the type of support your child requires: quality differentiated teaching practice, supplementary adjustment, substantial adjustment, or extensive adjustment)

The information collected by schools for the NCCD will ultimately be provided to the Australian Government Department of Education.

While it is not possible for schools or families to 'opt out' of the NCCD, the privacy and confidentiality of all students and their families is treated with utmost importance. Data is collected within each school, and personal details, such as student names and other identifying information, are not provided to local or federal education authorities.

#### Related resources:

Fact sheets for parents, guardians and carers about the NCCD

NCCD Website - <https://www.nccd.edu.au/for-parents-guardians-and-carers>

Jo Gills, CEO Project Officer for NCCD

For More Information  
Click Here



Sometimes  
**heroes**  
need helping too!

## Feeling the pressures of ISO life?

As a parent, keeping you and your family's **mental wellbeing** in check is **important**. We are here to help you through these challenging times.

- Isolation getting too much
- Kids are bored at home
- Learning from home is a struggle
- Tensions are building at home
- Unrealistic expectations of life
- Feelings of hopelessness
- Feelings of loneliness
- Depression or anxiety
- Missing distant family members
- Relationship troubles

**Centacare** offers professional and confidential **counselling** and **psychology** services. Sessions can be conducted over the **phone** or via **video chat**.

Phone  
Appointment



&



Video  
Chat

To make an appointment, call 1300 523 985  
or visit: [centacarecq.com/counsellor-booking/](https://centacarecq.com/counsellor-booking/)

\*Psychology appointments can be arranged as Telehealth and Bulk Billed through Medicare.

