



THE
HAMILTON
AND ALEXANDRA COLLEGE

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Thursday 9 April 2020

Dear Parents and/or Guardians

This week the Commonwealth and State Government have made several important announcements that re-affirm our decision to commence our Remote Learning Program (RLP). More information will be shared next week but our highest priority at this time is offering stability and continuity of learning to your daughters and sons. I share the following important developments to help your family prepare to return to school after Easter.

- On Wednesday 15 April we commence remote learning until 19 June. This means that from the start of Term 2 'all students who can learn from home must learn at home'.
- The Junior School timetable for Wednesday starts at 9am with their Class Teacher welcoming students from Prep to Year 6. The Junior School can provide a device and charger to families whose children do not have access to their own device at home. Please email Mr. Ian Cook and Mr. Mitch Clode at its@hamiltoncollege.vic.edu.au.
- The Senior School timetable for Wednesday starts with Mentor Group at 9.00am through Microsoft Teams, followed by period 1 (Day 3) at 9:30am. Recess is at 10:40am, followed by period 3 & 4 and we will have a full school 'remote' assembly at 12:45pm. After periods 5 & 6 we will revisit with Mentor Groups at 3.20pm to check internet connection, homework concerns etc.
- The College will remain open for children of parents who cannot work from home or children who are not in supervised environment. We will comply with all governmental requirements around adequate supervision, based on physical distancing measures. Should you require assistance, please urgently email my PA, Mrs Linda Archer on admin@hamiltoncollege.vic.edu.au. Students who just arrive at school unannounced will be sent home as they violate health regulations. All staff and students on site will have temperature checks on arrival.
- All Government buses are running next week but our private services from Warrnambool, Portland, Woorndoo and Balmoral will not be available until we return to normal schooling. We need to advise the Bus Coordinator of any students who will be using the Government Buses.
- Student dress for remote learning is College PE shirt, House Shirt or School / Sport Jumper. Students onsite need to be in full school uniform (summer uniform can be worn until Monday 27 April).

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- Various Executive members will be in contact with you to seek your feedback about any connectivity issues you anticipate and/or experience with our goal of ensuring that all students can be fully established into the remote learning approach by Friday of next week.
- We will host an online Q and A forum for parents in Week 2. Further information about this will sent to families next week.

Remote learning has been launched successfully across the College. It's early days, but our first indicators suggest boys and girls are already proving to be flexible, industrious, and committed to both their learning and to supporting their friends. Thank you for your patience as we work through any challenges in the first weeks of Term 2.

The girls and boys are the heart of our school, and we all very much look forward to the day they return. While I can't predict what the next months will hold, I can reassure you that the staff and I are working hard at doing the very best for all students.

We thank you for your continued support and I hope that you have a safe and healthy Easter. I invite you to contact me as any need arises on ahirst@hamiltoncollege.vic.edu.au.

Yours sincerely

Dr Andrew Hirst

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