





14th July 2021

Dear Parents / Guardians / Caregivers,

Creating a Covid Safe School.

Once again, we are having to respond to community-based expectations and procedures relating to ensuring the Health and Safety of students, staff and visitors to the school. While guidelines for schools continue to evolve, we must make sure that our students recognise that we all have a role to play in keeping our school and community as safe as possible.

I have included below information, taken directly from Government health websites, regarding the responsibilities of school communities at this time.

For Schools Outside of Greater Sydney:

- All students should be at school unless;
 - o they're unwell,
 - they have a medical certificate saying they can't return to school because they have a medical condition.
- Students and staff with flu-like symptoms will need to provide a copy of a negative COVID-19 test result before being allowed to return to school.
- All schools must use the <u>Service NSW COVID Safe Check</u> in. When you enter your child's school, look for the COVID safe QR code posters. All visitors to the school <u>must</u> comply with sign-in arrangements.
- <u>At school</u>, students in Year 7 and above are recommended to wear a <u>mask in all indoor settings</u>.
- School students are to follow good hygiene practices including
 - Regular washing hands
 - Avoiding sharing food or drinks
 - o Coughing or sneezing into the elbow or a tissue
 - o Using water bottles rather than a bubbler
 - o Non-essential visitors are not permitted in schools.
- Parents and Carers: must follow their school's advice regarding any changes to dropping off and picking up of students.

At Verity Christian College:

Parents and Carers are asked to;

- Drop their child at the school entrance
- To pick up their child in the rear playground

- Wear facemasks when on school premises
- To use COVID sign-in process if there is a need to enter the school buildings.

We thank you for your co-operation with these Health Advisory expectations.

STEM Day

During Week 10 last term, VCC had the privilege of participating in a STEM Day. Each class spent a period or two learning how to think creatively in applying their knowledge of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics to solve problems with limited resources.

First up were Year 1/2, who spent the morning designing a basketball holder using only newspaper and masking tape. This allowed the students to develop their thinking about what shapes are best when building a tower.





Next were Years 3, 4, 5/6. Their challenge was to build a catapult that either made an object fly the furthest or the highest. They only had tongue depressors, plastic spoons and elastic bands to create their design to fling mini-marshmallows across the chapel.

High School had the biggest challenge. Their goal was to create a water filter using limited resources which they had to "buy" with limited money. However, using only stockings, filter paper, cotton balls, elastic bands, masking tape, paper towel and a soft drink bottle, the students were successful in their goal.



After

Before



Finally, it was Prep/K's turn. They built rafts using straws and masking tape, and then built cubes using matchsticks and playdoh.

It was a really good and exciting day for all, with a lot of team building and encouragement throughout. The students enjoyed the day and can't wait for another opportunity to practise their skills.

Mrs Greig Director of Science and Technology Learning

Term Dates:

Term 3: Ends Fri 17th September

Term 4: Starts Tues 5th October and Ends Fri 10th December



Parent/Carer/ Teacher Communication!

In response to Parent/Carer feedback in our survey, we are adding another short report this term to send to parents/carers to keep them further informed on their child's progress at school. It will be brief but informative and any questions arising can be followed up on at Parent/Teacher interviews later in the term.

Thank you for feedback. It is appreciated and acted upon where practicable.

Unfortunately we have had to postpone the Working Bee. (It was on the 17th July).

It will happen at a later date when Covid-19 restrictions have eased and when the weather becomes more favourable.

Support and Extension Program

Now that we are all settled into our classes for the year and we have a semester of learning behind us, we have established a support and extension program. We are running numerous small group reading sessions on a weekly basis, for those students who need a little extra support in this area. For the students that have shown excellence in Mathematics and Science, we are running a combined extension session in the library each week. For the students that have shown excellence in English, they will have the opportunity to spend time with the year level above, each week, to further develop their skills.

Every child is different and has their own individual set of gifts and talents. We are hoping that these support and extension initiatives will be an encouragement to our students and provide them with the opportunities that they need to stay inspired and keep moving forward towards achieving their full potential.

New Playground Build

Despite interruptions with wet weather, the new playground is progressing well. We really appreciate the few people working on this significant project for the school. Thank you to them, as well as those who kindly donated it.





Enrolments

We are currently taking enrolments for Prep through to Year 10 for 2022.

Please contact Mrs Stone in our front office ASAP as our places may become limited due to an influx of enrolment interest. Please pass this information on to others who might be interested.

Please find attached a sheet of multiplication tables to help encourage your students to learn their times tables. Put it on the fridge, make it fun, do some challenges.

School Photos

Unfortunately school photos are postponed due to Covid-19 restrictions.

We will go ahead at a later date.



¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Romans 15:13 (NIV)

David Fox

Principal

Verity Christian College



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