



Thornleigh Salesian College

Headteacher
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Dear Parent/Carer

As we reach the end of a full half term of remote learning I wanted to take the opportunity to write to you with some updates and information.

We have been delighted with the level of engagement of our students throughout recent weeks-they have been routined and disciplined and are clearly working hard in their online lessons. We are acutely aware of the many challenges that working in this way brings but the staff have worked hard to try to ensure that these challenges have been overcome.

As I write this letter there is no firm guidance from the government about when all students will be back in school full time but we should be able to communicate this with you after half term. In the meantime we know that we will definitely have at least two weeks of online learning after half term.

Equally at this stage the government have not confirmed how GCSE and A level grades will be awarded but we do know that we will have to provide extensive evidence for grades and for this reason it is vitally important that your son/daughter remains completely focussed on their learning and that they continue to regularly submit their work to their teachers. Assessments will continue to take place in lessons both remotely and once students are back in school. Students will not be sitting formal PPE's on their immediate return to school. Please be reassured that evidence will be gathered from a wide range of sources, not one single assessment. Once the official guidance has been shared with us then we will give you further information. We are very much looking forward to having students back on site with us and supporting them further over the coming months.

This week we have posted out to all students some paper based activities. This will mean that teachers can set more none-screen based activities and tasks in order to reduce the amount of screen time that your child has to have each day. Your child's timetable will remain the same and they will still be expected to attend all of their Zoom lessons but they may be directed to complete some tasks off line.

As well as the challenges this term there has also been a great deal to celebrate. The feast of St John Bosco was a real highlight on Friday 29th January with so many students taking part in online challenges, a quiz and also taking time for themselves in the afternoon. The day was genuinely a tremendous community celebration.

I hope that your child has been sharing with you their year group newsletter that they receive each week which celebrates the contributions made by students across the school-there is so much good work going on!

This week is national Esafety week and your child will be receiving further support and guidance on how to remain safe online. There are resources for parents also available on our website which I would encourage you to access.

Lent begins during half term and your child should have received our Lenten appeal card this week which we hope will encourage students to look after themselves and their families as they become closer to God during this season.

Finally, may I thank you for your continued support as we work together for the benefit of your child.

I hope that you and your families remain safe and well.

Yours faithfully

Mrs A O'Callaghan
Headteacher



