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Dear Emmaus families,

Re: COVID-19 (coronavirus) update #6

Just to keep you posted, here is the latest COVID-19 advice as it affects our Emmaus school community:

Parent /Teacher/ Student learning Conversations

We have received advice from CESA that these meetings not be face to face. We are being asked to use phones or some other type of technology to conduct these meetings. Emmaus staff are currently considering options available and we will communicate our plans for these, next week.

NAPLAN 2020

Education ministers met today and decided that NAPLAN will be cancelled for 2020. This decision was made so that school leaders, teachers and support staff can focus on the wellbeing of students and prepare for the continuity of education, including working on online and remote learning options.

Happy Friday

It's easy to feel overwhelmed by everything we are hearing about coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) right now. It's also understandable if your children are feeling anxious, too. Children might find it difficult to understand what they are seeing online or on TV or they might be worried about someone they love, getting sick. Children can be particularly vulnerable to feelings of anxiety, stress and sadness.

It is important during these times to remain positive and instil hope in our children – it will get better! At such a challenging time for all of us, it is important to spread a bit of joy. Today all students received FREE ice blocks! And we put on some party tunes for students to listen to during play time. It certainly lifted everyone's spirits! I encourage you to look for ways you can spark a bit of joy in your homes, with your loved ones.

For more tips on speaking to children about COVID-19, see the link below:

<https://www.unicef.org.au/blog/news-and-insights/march-2020/how-to-talk-to-your-children-about-coronavirus>

Stay tuned

Please stay informed by regularly checking for further email updates from our school. We also recommend the following sources for COVID-19 news related to Catholic Schools in SA

The CESA website Alerts page - <https://www.cesa.catholic.edu.au/alerts>

The CESA facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/CatholicEducationSA/>

Wishing you a happy and safe weekend.

Kind regards,

Catherine Gurr.

Catherine Gurr
Principal

20th March 2020