



STELLA MARIS NEWSLETTER

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Term 1 Issue 9, 27 March 2020

from the Principal



REFLECTION

*The struggle to
escape the world—to
avoid conflict and let
things take care of
themselves— stays
strong in us.*

*We have lost the holy
gift of awareness of
the world's needs that
the prophets brought
to fullness.*

*We have overlooked
what the prophets
knew best: the time
most germane to our
own sanctification is
now.*

*What we do and say,
see and respond to,
in our own day is the
real seed of our own
sanctification.*

*It is the times we live
in that are our call to
courage.*

JOAN CHITTISTER
The Time is Now

Dear Stella Community

A New Phase of Learning

This week the College entered a new phase of learning at Stella as we move our classes to an online environment. The Leadership Team have been proactive in preparing the College for this move and I thank them for their guidance. The workload of teachers for this transition is significant as they prepare materials and post all lessons on the portal as well as host Microsoft Teams meetings with their classes. Although teachers are not undertaking playground duty or running Extra Curricular, they are reworking resources and activities to be more suited to the online environment. This can be challenging, particularly for the teachers of practical subjects. I am thankful for the professionalism of our teaching staff in this on-going work.

I ask parents/carers to assist us by monitoring your daughters as they transition to their new look classroom. Communication with your daughter's teachers and Head of Year will be in and ensuring that the College is aware of any concerns or difficulties your daughter may have. It is not as clear when students are struggling if the opportunities to discuss things face to face have been reduced.

Whilst teachers have been preparing and presenting lessons in our online world, our support staff have been assisting with administration and resourcing, planning and reviewing what will be needed if the College is required to close. Many support staff have been collecting laptops in preparation for a 'work at home' phase and completing other tasks that would normally be undertaken during the holiday breaks. I am most appreciative of the support that these staff member are offering to the College community.

Finally, I would like to thank the parents/carers and the girls for being so supportive of the transition to working from home. I am grateful for the many emails of support and appreciation for the care that the College has taken in moving the girls and staff towards this change over the past few weeks.

Enrolling Stella Girls for 2022

We are currently finalising enrolment interviews for girls to commence at Stella in 2022. If you have a daughter currently in Year 5 and you have not contacted the College to arrange her enrolment interview, please contact kerrie_dudley@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au as soon as possible.

Encouraging Altruism and Connection

Here is an article from the Alliance of Girls' Schools Australasia about cooperation and compassion in times of crisis. It might make for a good dinner table conversation whilst you are ensuring you are using social distancing. **CLICK HERE**

Message from the Finance Team

The College is committed to continuing your daughter's enrolment. This is her community and we believe it is a place where she will continue to thrive and flourish. For this reason, we ask that if your circumstances have changed and these changes have impacted your ability to keep up with your regular fees payment schedule, please contact the Finance Team for advice as to how we can best support you during this time. Please use the email fees@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au as this is a confidential address.

Elizabeth Carnegie, Principal



inclusive innovative inspiring

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