

THE ROAD

Term 2 Issue 5 2022

Web: emmauskempscreek.catholic.edu.au
Email: emmaus@parra.catholic.edu.au
Phone: 9670 8300

July	July	August
1 Last Day of Term 2	27 Year 11 Retreat	2 Year 11 Fast Forward Excursion
19 7-10 Parent Teacher Interviews	August	15 Feast of the Assumption
20 Students Return to School	1 HSC Trial Exam Begins	16 Year 9 Spirituality Day

College Leadership Teams	
Executive	
Principal	Mr Nastasi
Principal's Personal Assistant	Mrs Schembri
Assistant Principal	Mr Roberts
Director of Learning and Mission	Ms Waring
Director of Academic Growth	Mr O'Connor
Director of Curriculum Administration	Mrs Else
Innovations and Pedagogy Coordinator	Ms McQueen
Leaders of Wellbeing	
Year 7	Mr Liceralde
Year 8	Miss Gaudiosi
Year 9	Mr Petrocco
Year 10	Mr Hamond
Year 11	Mrs Luke
Year 12	Mr Pearman Sultana
Leaders of Learning	
REC	Ms Waring
Diverse Learning	Ms Varga
English	Mr O'Connor
Mathematics	Dr Goundar
PDHPE	Mr Brunt
HSIE	Mrs Curran
TAS	Mr Chhabra
Science	Mrs Hamama
Creative Arts and Performing Arts	Miss Ashton Mr Connolly
VET Coordinator	Mrs Grills
Sport Coordinators	Mr Safi Mr Saba
Language	Mrs Scarfone
Library	Mrs Ellery
Pathways Coordinator	Ms Olivieri
College Counsellor	Ms Wen Ms Read
Business Manager	Mr Anchique
Digital Media Coordinator	Mr Edwards

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Robert Nastasi
Principal



Term 2 draws to a close and some details around the start to school in Term 3



Photo: All Award Winners in Semester One

A huge thanks to all staff, students and families for a successful term 2 where the focus thankfully has been on a return to 'normality' so as to ensure strong re-engagement in the teaching and learning process. I am extremely grateful for the efforts of our community, namely our students in contributing to social outreach activities this term including Project compassion and the Vinnies winter appeal. As we prepare for a well-deserved break, I stress the importance of our students returning in term 3 with a growth mindset and indeed a renewed focus on ensuring the little things are in place, like uniform, grooming and respectful behaviours (Mr Roberts writes about this in his section of the newsletter). The strong standards that the College is founded on will not be compromised and this message will be reinforced with the student body upon their return.

Please be aware of a few key dates in week 1, term 3:

- **Monday 18th July is a Staff Development day/Pupil free day** where staff will be undertaking professional development in the area of intergenerational trauma.
- **Tuesday 19th July is the Year 7-10 Parent/Teacher/Student three-way conversations** from 8.30am to 7.30pm in both the hall and library, booking details have been

shared with families and booking forms remain open throughout the holidays.

- **Tuesday 19th July will be a study day for Year 11 and 12** working from home.
- **Normal lessons will resume for Years 7-12 on Wednesday 20th July.**

I wish all staff, students and their families a restful holiday break.

Staffing News

I take this opportunity to thank and congratulate Ms. Danielle Olivieri on her appointment as Pathways Coordinator commencing term 3. She takes over the role vacated by Mrs Scarfone and will oversee opportunities for all our students in areas of study, work and learning whilst establishing links and networks with organisations locally and further afield. Students and families requiring advice on career pathways and tertiary options are to contact her going forward.



Photo: Whole school Assemblies return Term 2

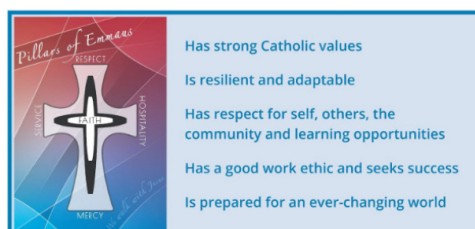
Year 10 re-enrolment process for Stage 6 - 2023

The decision to stay at school for Year 11 and 12 and to prepare for the rigorous public examination of the HSC is a challenge for all students regardless of their abilities. It is an additional challenge at Emmaus Catholic College because we expect, and will continue to expect, that application to study; standards of dress, grooming, hairstyle, behaviour, and leadership are second to none. These expectations place demands on the students and their families and for this reason the College uses a RE-ENROLMENT interview process to recommend those students eligible for the transition to Years 11 and 12. It is designed to focus on the student and their commitment not only to the HSC but also to the Emmaus Catholic College community and for what it stands.

The senior school enrolment process includes:

- **The undertaking of Enrolment interviews** of 20 minutes or so duration with a teacher leader at the College. These interviews with students only will take place throughout term 3 beginning in week 2 during school hours with students being withdrawn for half a lesson. The interviews require the students to articulate their reasons for returning and how they will contribute to the College in a positive manner. In some cases, students and their parent/carer will be asked to attend these meeting with a college executive member to determine suitability around completing the HSC years and to discuss alternatives.
- Students who are not intending to continue at Emmaus Catholic College in 2023, will need to collect an **Intention to Leave** form obtained and submitted at student services.
- **The Year 11-2023 Subject Information sessions have taken place in term 2 with Stage 6 Subject Handbook issued describing all the subject offering for 2023/24**
- **Students are to have nominate their first round of subject choices by Friday 1st July 2022 or earlier.** This will determine student interests and help to guide the College on what courses can run or not.
- **Final subject choices** will be known to students/families' early term 3. Some **Student 'subject interviews' with the Director of Curriculum Administration** may need to take place in term 3 where there are clashes or when course may not run to look at alternatives
- **Enrolment offers for stage 6-2022/23** will be handed/posted to families throughout term 3.

THE EMMAUS GRADUATE





Halfway Checkpoint

The end of Term 2 also marks the end of the first semester. It is a great opportunity to stop and reflect on how things have been going during the first half of the year. Like we would during halftime in a game, we must look at the things that we are doing well and aim to continue to do these and alternatively, try to improve on things that aren't going as well as they could.

Students, by now, would have received their reports indicating how they have performed in each of their subjects. This will also be accompanied by Parent/teacher & student interviews at the beginning of next term (Tuesday 19th July) to give each student the necessary feedback so that they can improve. It has been said on numerous occasions to the students that 'hope is not a strategy'. For improvement to take place in anything, it requires feedback, self reflection and hard work.

It is one thing to receive feedback but receiving the feedback alone will not equate to further success. Strategies or a plan needs to be developed and this plan needs to be suitable and sustainable for each individual. The feedback that will be given will help shape what this plan will look like. As we end the semester I encourage everyone to ask themselves the following questions:

What did I do well that I can continue doing?

What are things I could do better?

What are simple things I could commit to doing that will help me improve?

In answering these questions, students should be able to come up with one simple action that may benefit them in the future.

I would like to thank everyone for their hard work this term. I hope that everyone has a happy and safe holiday and you return to school in term 3 well rested and ready for the second half.

What the Uniform Represents

Two common questions asked by students when they are asked to fix up their incorrect uniform is -

- 1. Why do I have to?**
- 2. What does this have to do with my learning?**

Answer to question 1 - because it was what was agreed upon when enrolling at the College. Just as an employee is required to wear the company uniform, so are the students at Emmaus (and for any Catholic school for that matter).

Answer to question 2 - nothing. It has nothing to do with how a student learns in the classroom, however, it is the lesson or message we are sending the student by allowing them to fall short of an expectation or commitment.

A short cut here and there may seem meaningless actions at the time, however, these actions become your habits and the habits become part of your character. Wearing the uniform correctly each and every day sends the message that you take pride and care. You take pride and care about your school, a community of which you are a part of; and you take pride in your own appearance.

To use sport as an example of this, I have never seen a professional athlete wear a different uniform when competing for their team. They wear the uniform to be a part of the team and proud of the crest they are representing. The uniform does not have anything to do with the way they perform, however, they wear it all the same - and they wear it with pride.

When students return in Term 3, they will be encouraged and challenged to ensure they are meeting expectations and fulfilling their commitment to wearing the uniform correctly. I know (on occasions) there may be an issue, however, there are no excuses for some of the incorrect uniform we have seen during term 2. I thank everyone in anticipation for their support with this.



Reports and Parent Teacher Interviews

By now, students in Year 7-10 would have received their Semester 1 reports via Compass. Please take the time to sit with your child and go through their results and assist them in coming up with strategies to grow in their learning for the end of year Final Report.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact your child's teacher to discuss their report.

Teachers will be available to discuss these reports during parent student teacher interviews on Tuesday, 19th July between 8.50am and 7.00pm. Interviews for students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 will be held in both the Hall and the Library. Teachers with the surname starting with A through to J will be located in the Library and teachers with the surname starting with K through to Z will be located in the Hall. I would suggest you take note of each teacher's surname when booking interviews to minimise your movement between these two spaces. Please note that this will be a pupil-free day for all students and no supervision will be provided.

These interviews provide a valuable opportunity for parents to gain information and important feedback about your son/daughter's academic progress. Students should attend with their parents and must wear full school winter uniform.

If it is not possible for you to attend on this day, please contact the relevant Leader of Wellbeing in writing.

Parents/Guardians are asked to make an additional interview with your child's Coaching Class Teacher as well as all subject teachers. The scheduled interview is for 5 minutes with each teacher. Please allow a 5 minute break between interviews to allow for easy transition. Should you require additional time, you will need to make alternative arrangements with individual class teachers. Please adhere to this time to enable all parents to maintain their appointments. Diversity teachers will also be available to discuss your child's progress in regards to meeting their learning needs.

See below for a step-by-step procedure to access your online booking. The bookings are now open and will close on Monday, 8th July at 9pm.

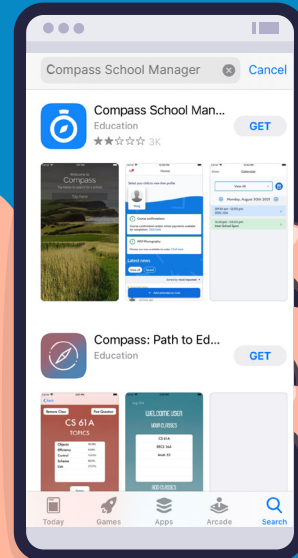
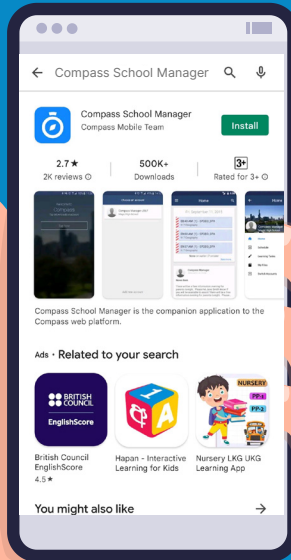
Thank you for your continued support and cooperation. We look forward to seeing you at the 2022 Parent/Teacher/ Student interviews in the College Hall and Library.

Instructions to book your Parent Student Teacher Interview Online

- **Step 1:** Log on to www.schoolinterviews.com.au
- **Step 2:** Enter the event code **6px5p**
- **Step 3:** Enter your name and email address (if you do not have an email address then leave this part blank). Your booking dates and time will be sent to the email address.
- **Step 4:** If you have 2 or more children you can enter their names and complete the bookings for ALL of your children at the same time. **It is important to enter your child's full name (First and Surname)**
- **Step 5:** From the FIRST drop down menu subjects choose a subject then from the second drop down menu choose your child's teacher for that subject.
- **Step 6:** Choose the interview times by clicking on the available time slot

Download the Compass App for Parent Portal

1 Search for Compass School Manager app

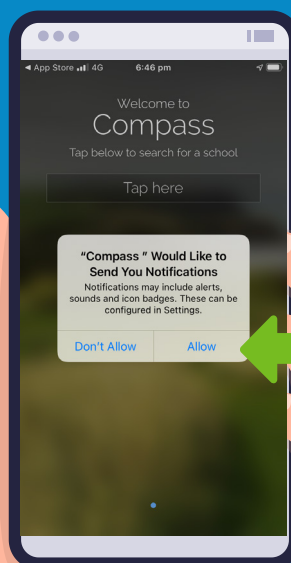


2

Install / Get

3

Using details from your parent login letter, log in to the parent portal for the first time

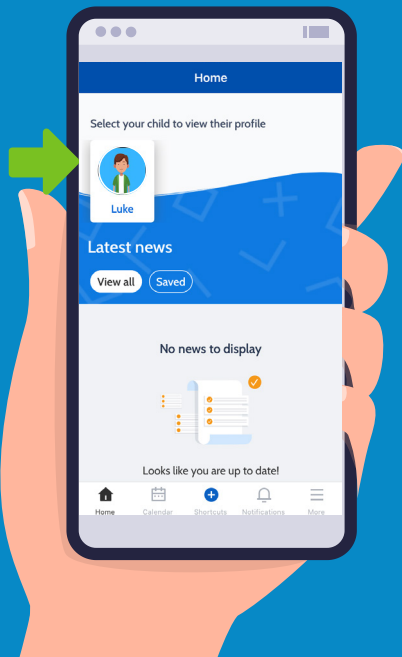


Allow notifications

4

Find my child's semester report

1 Select your child's profile picture



Tap or swipe to reports

2

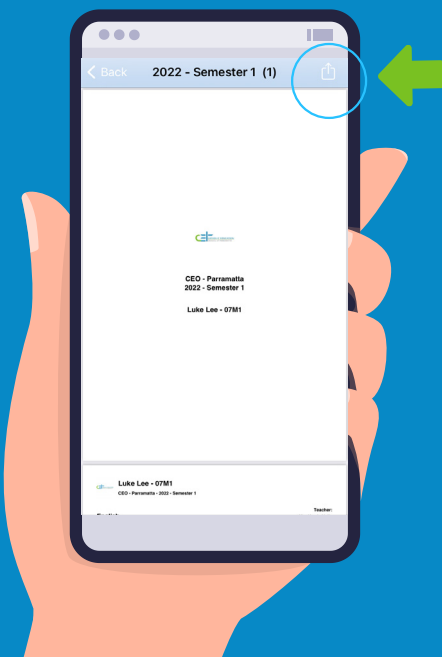


3

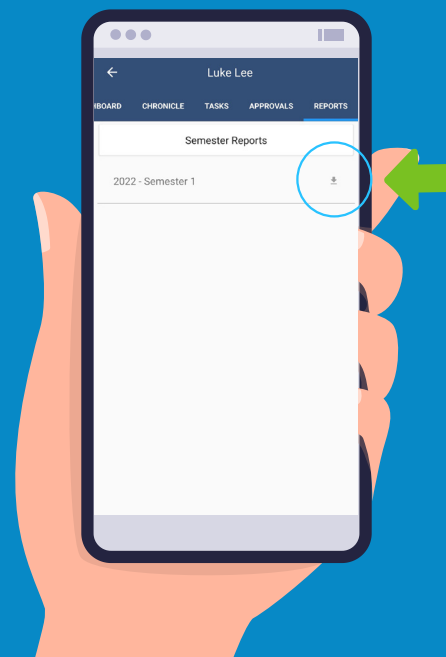
Click to view your child's semester report

4 Select the icon to generate the report

Apple



Android





Excursion to St. Mary's Cathedral

Written by Angelina Bahdi 11.2

Year 11 Studies in Catholic Thought students went on a wonderful excursion to the St Mary's Cathedral last week on Tuesday 21st June.

We saw the beautiful sights of the traditional, Gothic-style Cathedral and enjoyed lunch in Hyde Park in the middle of the city. Not only did we get to enjoy the Cathedral itself but we also got to learn about the history of the building of the church and the community that has worshipped there since its beginning in the 1800's. The part I found the most interesting was the crypt which is situated underground. The terrazzo tiles specifically depict parts of the Creation story and link these with symbols and images of Mary.

I am appreciative of the experience to see and understand what we are learning about in class first-hand.



Excursion to Blacktown Mosque



Written by Charlee-Rose Murtough-Coombes 11.3

On Tuesday Week 9 the year 11 Studies of Religion classes went on an excursion to the Blacktown Afghan Mosque. There we were immersed in the Muslim faith and learnt about their beliefs and worship.

The day began with a tour of the Mosque. The walls were decorated with beautiful hand painted paintings and verses from the Quran (the Islamic book of worship) with a large golden chandelier hanging from the ceiling.

Around the chandelier were the 99 names used to describe Allah, names used throughout the history of the faith.

The main room was full of windows and light, making it a perfectly tranquil place for worship. The mosque didn't have any statues or sculptures like you would see in a Catholic church, which we learnt was due to idolotry is a sin in Islam because adherants should pray directly to Allah and not idols.

Our day continued with a lesson on Islamic practices in the women's worship room. There we were taught about the Five Pillars of Faith which includes their belief in monotheism (worshipping only Allah), their five daily prayers, fasting and donating money during Ramadan and their pilgrimage to Mecca, the birthplace of the prophet Muhummad.

Finally we sat in the main hall to hear about Islamic beliefs and ethics. He outlined the fiqu, the guidelines for how Muslims should live their lives, and explained the meaning of what is haram and what is halal, haram being prohibited and halal being permissible.

Year 11 is incredibly grateful to be able to take part in this fantastic excursion and we will cherish the memories we made there.



Year 11 2022 Biology Experiments

Jwan Hamama
Leader of Learning - Science



Written by Sophie Alexander and Twyla Achampong.

Over the course of this year, year 11 have been learning about cells as the basis of life as well as the organisation of living things. Mrs Hamama and Mrs Luke expertly guide their Biology students in the depths of cellular Biology, teaching them in a refreshing way that is sure to follow them after their HSC and into their university years. Their straightforward and engaging approach to teaching whilst ensuring that the content is taught about the expected standard, encourages students to go out and seek research for themselves.

The topic of gas exchange was extremely important across both modules. In order for students to fully understand the idea and be able to visualise gaseous exchange Mrs Hamama took students through a sheep pluck, demonstrating how oxygen travels from the mouth/nose, through the pharynx and larynx, to the trachea and into the lungs. Amazingly the class was also able to see the alveoli allowing us to truly see the detail that goes into gaseous exchange. The before and after of the experiment is made evident in the images below.

As curiosity surrounding the respiratory system within other organisms grew a second experiment was conducted, this one included a fish. We decided to conduct this experiment outside due to the very nice weather (although mainly due to the smell of the fishes). Within this experiment students were able to see the peculiar respiratory structure of a fish. Miss hamama would find different organs on her own fish as the rest of the class would attempt to find it on their own fishes. Not only did we focus on the respiratory system, we were also able to identify parts of



the cardiovascular system as well as the digestive system which was quite fascinating. From cells to tissues to organs and systems, Mrs Hamama continues to build on our knowledge and feed our curiosity about the wonders of biology.



One of the first experiments conducted in the Year 11 Biology course was the experiment of how diffusion occurs across a semipermeable membrane. Through this investigation of how the surface area to volume ratio will affect the rate of diffusion, students are able to deepen and develop their understanding and knowledge of the importance of diffusion in all living organisms. Students practised on how to correctly write an experiment report whilst observing the nature of how rates of diffusion are depending on the SA:V (surface area to volume ratio) of varying cells. The study of cells and cellular biology as a whole relates to the first module, where students are immediately introduced and immersed into new information about biology which has never been learnt before in junior years.

Both Mrs Hamama and Mrs Luke expertly led their students through a topic which appears to be 'boring' in a fun light, bringing enjoyment and making their biology classes delightful to take part of. It is no doubt that the Year 11 Biology students are grateful to have chosen this course.

Another experiment conducted within the Biology course was the conduction of an experiment that investigated the exchange of gases between the internal and external environment of animals. Unfortunately, there were no photos taken of this experiment. This interactive and exciting experiment allowed students to investigate and observe how an exchange of gas from the internal environment of an animal could influence and change the animals external environment.

Students breathed out carbon dioxide through a straw and held their breath for ten seconds, ensuring that none of the the solution used was swallowed. This was done for a minute straight and after the minute had passed, students were able to observe a change in the physical properties of the solution. It had turned to a cloudy and murky grey colour! Furthermore, students were able to relate back to their previous knowledge of the universal indicator (pH indicator) and pH levels to further understand the impact of gases from an animal's internal environment to their external environment.

This investigation/experiment managed to undeniably involve students in Module 2: Organisation of Living Things in a fun and exciting way that continued to feed their interest and love for biology.

The Biology teachers, Mrs Hamama and Mrs Luke, over the course of the year have undisputedly managed to introduce and teach biology in a captivating way. Through the involvement of students by experiments, the exploration and study of the two modules covered so far have been invigorating. Students have, beyond a doubt, truly engaged with the teaching styles of Mrs Hamama and Mrs Luke in a way that will further develop and extend their current knowledge of Biology.

Jade Ashton
Leader of Learning - Creative and Performing Arts



Meaghan Bottalico
Creative and Performing Arts Teacher



Year 10 Photography

Year 10 PDM students have been examining themes relating to social justice throughout their making in Term 2. Topics such as warfare, racism, refugees and poverty have been explored through the lense of students' perspective to create a variety of media using techniques and skills developed during class.

Using photographic media techniques in Adobe Photoshop and Lightroom to create propaganda posters as well as conceptualising, filming and editing a short film on their chosen social justice movement to raise awareness to their target audiences ranging from 10-15 year olds.



Year 9 Visual Art

In Year 9, students have been introduced to 3D forms of artmaking, specifically ceramics and pottery. To learn the skills needed to create a dinner set, students were asked to create a maquette. The class really enjoyed this activity and are looking forward to their group task of creating various ceramic vessels inspired by an Artist or art movement.



SPORTS REPORT

Jeremy Safi
Sports Coordinator



Julian Saba
Sports Coordinator



Athletics Carnival

The 2022 Emmaus Athletics Community Day was a great day for all students to show their talents in Athletics and participate in all events. There were multiple students who showed outstanding performances in many events, however we would like to give a special mention to Jacob Zhara, Akol Akon, Edwin Liberty, Hunter Rebec, Divine Ojinna and Adriana Borg who were exceptional in their respective events. Overall it was a successful day and we thank all students who played a part in the day.

PDSSSC Gala Days

Emmaus entered a Boys and Girls Football team at the PDSSSC Football Gala Day. Both teams were very competitive against every team they played against. We had students in all year groups and there is no doubt that we gained experience coming up against older students. Next term we look forward to competing in the PDSSSC OzTag and Netball Gala Days.

Thursday Representative Sport

This season, Emmaus will be entering a team in Boys and Girls Soccer, Girls Netball and Inter Boys Rugby League. At times, buses returning from Representative Sport may arrive back at the College after the end of day school bell and for that reason, students need to ensure they have alternative transport home on Thursday afternoons in case of this. All information regarding representative sport draws and venues for each sport can be found on the Parramatta Diocese Secondary Schools Sport website.



<http://www.secondarysportparra.catholic.edu.au/>

Parramatta Secondary Schools Sports Council (PDSSSC)/NSW Catholic Schools Sport

Individual Selection Trial Registrations are now open for many sports at either the Diocesan level or NSW state level. Information about these and the respective sports and their closing dates can be found here:

<https://www.secondarysportparra.catholic.edu.au/nswccc-representative-sport>

Students wishing to trial for an external PDSSSC team or individual sport can register via the link. These teams are composed of students performing at a highly skilled level from all schools across our Diocese



Image: Dalmarri

Join us to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, history and heritage

- Cultural performances
- Market stalls
- Workshops
- BBQ lunch ... and more

Thursday 7 July 2022

10am to 4pm

Jamison Park,
South Penrith

PENRITH
CITY COUNCIL

penrith.city/events

Students Taking Leave During the School Term

If parents are wishing their son/daughter to take leave during the school term, a Leave Form must be completed.

Forms are available from the Front Office or if parents would like a form emailed to them, please contact the College Office. Leave forms are for any length of time.

There are two types of Leave Form: (i) for Travel only and (ii) all other types of leave. Students receive an Exemption Approval letter from the Principal

UPDATED TRADING HOURS

Uniform Shop

Trading Hours
During School Terms

Monday 12pm - 4pm

Tuesday 8am - 12pm

The Uniform Shop is located in the TAS building, which is the first building on the left hand side as you enter the school carpark.

School uniforms are also available for purchase at the School Locker Shop in Liverpool and online at the School Locker Portal.

Donations of Uniforms

The College is happy to take donated uniforms however due to Work, Health and Safety, we request that all uniforms are washed and dry-cleaned

Second Hand Uniforms

Please call the College to make an appointment to see the Business Manager around whether you qualify for second hand uniforms.

Compass Parent Portal

If you are still unable to log onto the Compass Parent Portal after you have downloaded the Compass School App, please contact the College Office

Withdrawing from the College

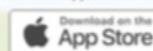
If you are withdrawing a student from the College please be advised that 10 Weeks notice is required in writing

How to install the SkoolBag app

Instructions for parents and community

1. Get your favourite mobile device
2. Open the App Store/Play Store
3. Search for "SkoolBag"
4. Download the free app
5. Open the app and add your school(s)

for Apple users



for Android users



for more info visit skoolbag.com.au



Our Parishes

Holy Spirit

Todd Row, St Clair
Ph: 9670 8222

Our Lady of the Rosary

Saddington Street, St Marys
Ph: 9623 1962

Our K - 6 Schools

Trinity Primary

61-83 Bakers Lane,
Kemps Creek
Ph: 9834 3212

Holy Spirit Primary

7-17 Todd Row, St Clair
Ph: 9670 5379

Our Lady of the Rosary

Saddington Street
St Marys
Ph: 9623 2500

catholic healthcare

3-Bedroom Units with Private Ensuites

Enquire now: 1800 225 474

Emmaus Retirement Village, Kemps Creek