

29 October 2021

PO Box 214 Bacchus Marsh VIC 3340 E school@bmg.vic.edu.au www.bmg.vic.edu.au

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I would like to thank you for your support over the past two weeks as we have gone through the new norm of dealing with COVID whilst minimising isolation and school closure. It has been a process not without its frustrations.

It has been pleasing that in the last few days we have had contact from the Department of Health about how they may further streamline their processes for the next few months. My hope is that any further outbreaks of COVID at the school will be able to be dealt with a minimum of disruption to the schooling of most children.

As Victoria is set to reach the 80 per cent double dose vaccination milestone, this weekend, the Victorian Government has announced that all students are expected to return to onsite learning from next week. As we move to a new type of 'Covid normal' it is wonderful to have this strong directive and commitment to get children back into classrooms, learning with their teachers and peers.

In keeping with this advice, from Wednesday 3 November, it is our expectation that all students who can return to onsite learning, should return to onsite learning. We will no longer be providing remote learning for those students able to attend school.

For those students under a DHHS isolation order only, or who have documented medical issues, we will be providing additional support. If your child is required to isolate, please email <u>school@bmg.vic.edu.au</u> with verification.

We appreciate that with the events of the last two years, some students or families may be reluctant about the return to onsite school. If you require support with your child's attendance, please contact their Year Level Coordinator or Head of School.

The research is clear: Every day of learning counts. We thank you in advance for supporting your child to have strong attendance for the remainder of the year. These final few weeks of school will be crucial in identifying any potential learning gaps and targeting these through quality curriculum and teaching. Now that significant numbers are vaccinated, now is the time to be back at school.

I wish you an enjoyable long-weekend break, and we look forward to the vast majority of students being back onsite next Wednesday.

Kind regards,

Mr Andrew A. Neal - Principal