



From the Headmaster
Dr D P Nockles

30 March 2020

Dear Parent

I am aware that I have been sending you a good deal of correspondence lately and beg your forbearance as I try to keep you as informed as possible in the current climate.

It is very clear that the current arrangement for online teaching and learning will continue to the end of this term and most likely into next term. With the advice we have received, it is highly unlikely that Autumn Term will begin with face-to-face classes. Given that, the School Council and I have decided to bring forward the end of student classes this term so that the last day of School for Summer Term will be Tuesday 7 April 2020. Wednesday 8 April and Thursday 9 April will be pupil free days during which the staff will undertake Professional Learning.

These days are important to allow the staff to evaluate the last few weeks of the term and begin planning for the continuation and planned improvements in delivering online learning into next term. Many independent schools are finishing the Friday before, however, it is felt that just the two days are all that is needed to get on the front foot.

Please continue to provide feedback and any questions you have about the delivery of work to Mrs Elling, the Dean of Studies, or the relevant Head of School. The webpage that was set up providing information about the School's response to COVID-19 has been extended to include online mental health resources (<http://www.macarthur.nsw.edu.au/online-mental-health>) as well as a few brief video snippets (<http://www.macarthur.nsw.edu.au/video-snippets>) which will be added to as time progresses. The information about mental health and one of the videos to our Year 5 to 12 students addresses the concerns raised by so many of isolation and lack of social interactions. There is also a short video of thanks from me to school families given the difficulties of the past few weeks.

I also wish to inform you that, as of this afternoon, the Administration Office at school will close from 4.00pm until further notice.

Yours sincerely

David Nockles

