

21 January 2021

Welcome to the 2021 Academic Year

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is hard to believe that the start of the 2021 academic year is almost here! We pray that 2021 is a safe and prosperous one for all. We are very excited about welcoming our staff and students back to school and are well-prepared to support our students to achieve excellence in all aspects of their education (academic, social, emotional and spiritual).

Before I provide some important information below about school commencement, I am thrilled to announce the appointment of **Mr Tim Campbell** as our **new Vice Principal**. Tim previously worked at Mt Hira College for 14 years and has a proven track record of excellence as an educator and former Vice Principal (Administration). Welcome back Tim!

In preparation for the start of the academic year, please find some important information below:

School Commencement Date & Timings:

The first day of school for students in Years F-12 is **Monday 1st February 2021**.

The school day will adhere to the normal school timings:

School Day Commences – 8:40 am

School Day Ends – 3:30 pm

Parents/carers are kindly requested to drop off their children and collect their children **within 20 minutes maximum** of these start and finish times, as there will be no teachers on duty outside of these times.

Parent/Carer Drop-Off and Pick-Up Procedures:

The back carpark (Greens Road entry) is now operational and parents/carers can drop and pick up their children from this entry as needed.

For the safety of our students, please **do not speed** and please **avoid queueing in the carpark**, as this blocks departing traffic. Please always park your car to collect your child.

Social distancing remains a government requirement in schools. Therefore, we kindly request that parents/carers do not come onto campus unless it is absolutely necessary. We also request that parents/carers do not congregate outside of the school gates at home time.

Face Masks:

- Face masks are to be worn by individuals aged 12 years and older when on public transport and school buses – unless you have a lawful exemption.
- Individuals aged 12 years and older **must always carry a face mask**.
- Face masks are recommended for use by staff and students when physical distancing of 1.5m cannot be maintained.
- Mask breaks should be taken throughout the day, when you are in settings that do not require them to be worn.

New Uniform Items for 2021:

As mentioned last year, there are planned changes to some aspects of our school uniform. However, due to the covid situation overseas, there has been a delay in the arrival of some of our uniform stock. Parents/carers can purchase the new uniform items whenever they become available. However, there will be a transition period of 12 months, which means the current uniform can still be worn throughout 2021. **The new uniform will become compulsory at the start of 2022.** We will notify parents/carers once the new items come into stock.

Planned Uniform Changes include:

- New girls' shirt (Years 6-12), which is light blue in colour, with logo and not transparent. *This is currently in stock, but not yet compulsory. The girls' white shirt is currently being sold at a 30% discount.*
- New comfortable design navy-blue tartan pleated skirt. *This is not yet in stock. The girls' maroon skirt is currently being sold at a 30% discount.*
- The optional headscarf has also been changed from white to navy blue (for primary & secondary students) and should be purchased from the Front Office. *This scarf colour is now compulsory. That is, white scarves should no longer be worn. The white prayer scarves can still be worn during prayer (available at the Front Office). Students are reminded to bring their scarves, as prayer will re-commence in Term 1.*
- Junior School short and long sleeve tops will be available in cotton fabric for colder months, in addition to the current sports mesh. *The long sleeved poly cotton tops are not yet available.*
- Mt Hira College navy blue with gold embroidered school bags (micro fibre backpack or trolley bag – two options). *These are currently in stock, but not yet compulsory.*

We wish our students and families a safe, prosperous and successful academic year.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the College on **(03) 9709 0100**.

Kind regards,



Dr Toni Pikos-Sallie
Principal