



Tuesday 26 October

Dear parents and carers,

Thank you to all of you for the support you have provided as our students return to on-site learning. As I have been moving around the college, I have seen strong compliance with mask-wearing and social distancing. Students are clearly understanding the importance of these measures, and others, designed to keep everyone safe. This demonstrates the value of them hearing the message from you at home as well as us at school. Our values of Pride, Respect and Responsibility are clearly on display.

I also applaud the focus our Year 12 students have maintained on preparing for their end of year exams. I have seen many students coming in for additional support over the last week and encourage this to continue in the coming weeks.

As we plan for upcoming events it is important to understand we are doing so within a constantly evolving situation. We are hoping events such as graduation and our awards ceremony will be able to take place, what these events look like will be entirely dependent on the restrictions in place at the time.

We have been advised that from Monday 1 November we will be able to:

- hold graduations and other assemblies consistent with community density limits
- travel across Victoria for camps and excursions
- resume interschool activities such as sport and debating
- deliver the full range of curriculum programs, including music and performing arts
- conduct transition programs for Grade 6 students transitioning to Year 7 in 2022
- have a range of visitors onsite, including photographers, guest speakers and MPs

We are continuing to put measures in place to keep everyone at school safe, which include:

- wearing face masks
- maintaining physical distancing between staff and, where possible, students
- maintaining strong hygiene practices.

Because of the extensive periods of remote and flexible learning, particularly in Semester 2 this year, we have adjusted our end of year program as per the dates below. These dates have also been adjusted in our Xuno calendar.

Date	Event
Monday 29 November	Report Writing Day
Tuesday 30 November	2022 Step Up commences
Monday 13 December	Activities Week commences

A reminder also that this Monday, 1 November, will be a student free day to allow staff to complete some important training focussed on attendance and Respectful Relationships.

If we return to a further period of remote and flexible learning due to a localised lockdown, I will advise you about the restrictions in place at that time. For the foreseeable future, I strongly recommend all students take their learning materials home with them each day because these shorter lockdowns can be announced with very little notice.

It is also important that if there is a COVID positive case in our student population, the college is notified of it immediately. We have robust internal processes to manage this if the situation arises and rest assured, I will communicate with you all in a timely fashion throughout any such scenarios.

I will continue to provide updates when there is information which needs to be shared with you all.

Take care of yourselves and each other.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon Wood', written in a cursive style.

Simon Wood
Acting Principal – Castlemaine Secondary College