

From the desk of the Principal

5 June 2020

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Dear St Joseph's College families

Winter is upon us. One of my favourite poets is Robert Frost, (an appropriate name considering the current season), who describes winter as a subtle opposition of darkness and shadow '*through the thin frost, almost in separate stars... a quiet light*'. Hibernation in the colder weather brings powerful influences of contemplation and renewal. A time for rest and indoor activities such as reading and reflection.

It is in this new season and after a period of enforced hibernation, that we welcome our Year 7-10 students back to the college on Tuesday June 9. Our VCE students have settled in well over the last two weeks so we are looking forward to having the rest of our student cohort return.

RETURN TO SCHOOL

The safety and wellbeing of our students continues to be a priority for us. Some students may feel anxious about this period of isolation from school and friends so it is important they discuss any concerns with their teachers and the wellbeing staff.

The return to school may also generate a range of issues and questions for families. ABC Life has [advice](#) around these matters which you may find useful.

ENHANCING OUR ENVIRONMENT

While students have been learning at home we have been busy with maintenance and projects such as painting and improvements to our reception area. Year 8 students will be pleased to know that new Radio Frequency Identification (**RFID**) lockers have been installed at the Mercy Campus.

REMOTE LEARNING PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

We are grateful for your patience and support during the first weeks of Term 2. Recently you gave us valuable and helpful feedback regarding your experience with our Remote Learning program. We are pleased to share the results of this short two question parent survey on the next page.

FINALLY

Thank you for your flexibility and for the trust you have demonstrated in us as we continue to navigate carefully and thoughtfully through these challenging times. I hope you and your family stay warm and enjoy the long weekend.

God bless

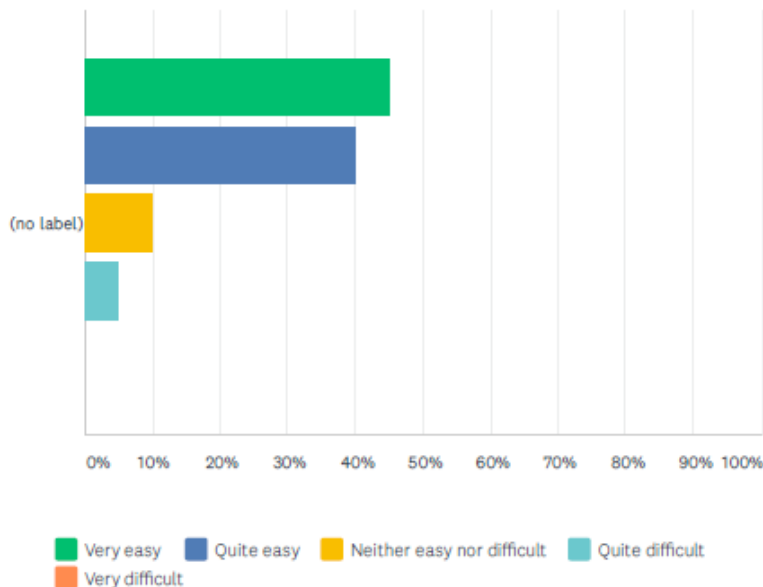


Mrs Marg Blythman
Principal

SURVEY

A few weeks ago we released a simple two question survey to parents so we could gain an insight into remote learning. Here are the results.

Q1 How easy or difficult has St Joseph's College made it to maintain your child/children's learning remotely? 85% replied that it was very easy/quite easy.



Q2 In general, given the climate, how satisfied are you with St Joseph's College's remote learning arrangement? 80% replied that you were very satisfied/quite satisfied.

