Emmanuel CATHOLIC COLLEGE God is with us

Emmanuel Catholic College

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Dear Parents and Guardians

Following recent State trends there has been an increase in positive COVID-19 cases reported by staff and students. From 1 May through until 15 May a total of 147 positive cases have been reported through the Self-Report Form. With this in mind, and a peak across WA expected this week, whilst the mask mandate has been lifted, I strongly encourage where possible, both staff and students to continue wearing masks whilst at school.

Under the State Government's expansion of its free Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) free RATs for each student were delivered to the school late on Friday afternoon. These free RATs will support our students to continue to attend school for face-to-face learning and will minimise disruption to their schooling. You will be able to test your child at home or students, with your permission, may self-administer the test if they are feeling unwell. Students can also use these RATs if they are a close contact to enable them to test daily and continue to attend school, as long as they receive a negative result, remain asymptomatic, and wear a mask if they are in Year 7 and above. A letter from WA Health explains how to use the RATs and is accessible here.

RATs will be distributed to students through their Pastoral Care Group at the end of the day tomorrow (17 May). Where a student is absent, RATs can be collected by a Parent/ Guardian or sibling from the main reception between 3.20pm – 4.00pm on Tuesday 17 May.

With Year 12 Examinations commencing today, Year 12 students will be informed on the completion of the English / Literature Exam or the General English EST that they may collect their allocation of RATs from the College Boardroom in the main administration building. Year 12 students may access the boardroom through the external north door, opposite Science.

If students become symptomatic, they should stay home and be tested for COVID-19. Please continue to notify the school if your child tests positive for COVID-19 through the Self-Report Form and refer to healthywa.wa.gov.au for information on close contact definition, testing and isolation requirements.

Thank you for your ongoing support in prioritising the health and safety of our school community.

Kind regards

Mr Paul Watson

Principal