



16 September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers of students in Years 7-10

As Term 3 ends, I would like to take the opportunity to commend students on their resilience throughout the past ten weeks of Home-Based Learning. It has been a challenging time for all involved including students, parents and teachers and we look forward to next term when we will hopefully be able to return to face-to-face teaching in alignment with the NSW Government plan.

Students in Years 7-10 have completed their written Learning Reflections throughout the last two weeks and these will be made available to families on the College Portal on Friday September 17. Parents and carers will be emailed a link on Friday morning to a video which has been prepared, describing how to access the Learning Reflection on the College Portal.

The Learning Reflection is designed to encourage students to think about their approach to learning throughout the HBL experience, identifying what the challenges have been, what they have enjoyed and are proud of. We are constantly encouraging boys to take responsibility for their learning and this term has certainly challenged them to become autonomous, independent learners. Students were asked to think carefully about their responses which will appear unedited in the final document that you receive. Students are aware that you will have access to the reflection and I encourage all families to take the time to discuss the reflections with their son/s. It is evident from reading many of the student reflections that some students have thought in great depth about their learning while others have been more challenged by the process. This is a good starting point for a conversation with your son about his learning. If your son does not have a learning reflection posted on the College Portal it means that he has not completed the exercise because he did not attend the lesson in which it was completed, nor has he attended the catch-up opportunities provided.

The reflections will help guide the conversations at the Learning Conferences which are scheduled for Wednesday October 6 and Thursday October 7. Throughout these two days, students will participate in asynchronous learning to allow teachers, students, parents and carers to participate in the Learning Conferences. Lesson content for these two days will be available on the College Portal and normal Home-Based Learning lessons recommence on Friday October 8.

I would like to remind families of the opportunity to provide feedback to the College about Home-Based Learning via the [Home-Based Learning Survey](#). This survey also allows families to ask questions that they would like answered at the Information Webinar scheduled for 6.30pm on Tuesday October 5.

The table below provides a list of key dates and events for the remainder of Term 3 and the commencement of Term 4. We will be analysing the health advice for the safe return of students to face-to-face learning, which is currently scheduled for Monday November 8 for students in Years 7-10. I will provide the details of this plan to families at the commencement of Term 4.



Term 3	
1. Parent survey closed Home-Based Learning Survey.	Thursday September 16
2. Learning Reflections uploaded to Portal	Friday September 17
3. Staff Development Day	Friday September 17
Term 4	
1. Staff Development Day	Tuesday October 5
2. Year 7-10 Webinar Teams Link emailed to Parents	Tuesday October 5
3. Year 7-10 Information Webinar	Tuesday October 5, 6.30pm
4. Learning Conferences & asynchronous learning	Wednesday October 6 and Thursday October 7
5. Year meetings to commence the term	Wednesday October 6- 8.40am
6. Microsoft Teams approach to HBL recommences	Friday October 8
7. Year 7-10 Commence Face-to-face learning	Monday November 8

I wish all families a safe and happy end of term break and hope that you can enjoy some of the lightened restrictions released earlier in the week. Please do not hesitate to contact me on 4321 6400, or at principal@stedwards.nsw.edu.au if you have any questions or would like to discuss the information outlined in this letter.

Yours sincerely

Mark Bonnici
College Principal