**Head Teacher Update Mon 30 October 2023**

The school was settled last week as we moved into the new term but the weather is certainly cooler now and we encourage young people to wear adequate clothing to school each day as winter approaches.

Last week, I held brief assemblies with all year levels to again reinforce our expectations regarding behaviour in toilets – in particular making them safe spaces that are accessible to everyone, at all times. I have made it clear again that congregating in toilets, vaping and generally creating an intimidating environment for younger students will lead to disciplinary action.

One of the key points made to young people was that these are their facilities and that they can report any issues anonymously to a senior staff member without the fear of any repercussions. As a community we all need to stand up for our right to a safe school.

The green seat area toilets remained closed last week. Next week the green seat female toilets will open again. All other toilets remain operational.

We are now operating a robust supervision rota of all toilet facilities at break and lunchtimes. When we have all main toilet blocks back in operation we will designate senior and junior toilets. This will be well signposted to all students.

**Other news**

Student Councils for various year levels started last week and there have been great discussions around such matters as uniform and the toilet areas. Information like this will feed into the first Student Parliament session next month. This is an excellent forum for democratic decision making and a number of student led changes have already been agreed in the past such as the purchase of outside benches, uniform changes and PE changing.

Recent feedback from the parent – school partnership has told us that there needed to be better communication around key events. I hope that parent / carers have received the update on homework, google classrooms and the Senior Awards Ceremony sent out last week as well as the mini- calendar for November-December. We aim to review our comms. over coming months to create a better flow of relevant information including ensuring the website calendar is up to date. Last session we also started discussions with a photographer to upgrade the website and have begun talking to a company about adding new video content on our webpage.

That the end of this brief update.

If you want to feedback on any matters please don’t hesitate to contact the school.

Craig Biddick

Head Teacher