



# Manor Lakes College

# Newsletter

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## Week 7 Update

### Masks at school

The Victorian government has recently changed its advice regarding mask wearing. Masks are no longer mandatory in all indoor spaces in the broader community.

At schools, this means that face masks are no longer mandatory in indoor spaces for school staff and students. Masks are still required in limited indoor settings, however, such as public transport, commercial passenger vehicles and large retail settings.

While not mandatory it is still recommended masks are worn by staff, students and visitors when physical distancing of 1.5 metres cannot be maintained.

Everyone above the age of 12 must carry a mask with them at all times unless they have a lawful exemption.

### Parents and visitors on grounds

Parents are asked to minimise the time they spend at school. Walking their child to the classroom building is appropriate, but please do not wait in the area after your child has arrived, nor enter the classroom or the building. At the end of the day, parents are asked to identify a location a short distance from the classroom to meet their child when dismissed. This is to minimise the number of adults in a small area around the exits from the classrooms. We have ceased inviting all visitors to the school unless there is an educational need or a meeting that cannot be held electronically.

If a parent wishes to meet with a teacher this can be arranged by an email and the teacher will respond with a contact to arrange the format, time and date.

### Public Holiday and Curriculum Day

This Monday, 8/3/21 is a public holiday, (Labour Day – celebrating the introduction of the 8 hour working day, 8 hours work, 8 hours play, 8 hours rest). A curriculum day has been planned for Tuesday 9/3/21. This has been communicated previously.

Four curriculum days are allocated every year as part of the industrial agreement between the Department of Education and the school workforce. I understand there is some community disquiet about curriculum days being implemented given the disruption to schooling over the past twelve months. I sympathise with these sentiments, however, the curriculum days are also expected to run.

The School Council has to approve curriculum days and the philosophy has been to schedule them on dates we hope will be least disruptive. Usually they are scheduled for Mondays or Fridays in the hope that working parents may be able to schedule long weekend arrangements with their employers. In this case, the Tuesday was selected to 'mix up' the days, and to hopefully provide some families the opportunity of creating a 'longer' weekend.

All staff will be at school on Tuesday completing professional learning activities, or in the case of the Supported staff, working with parents at SSG meetings.

I am happy to get feedback from parents about timing that best suit for curriculum days. This information will be passed on to School Council as part of their approval process.

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