



# ST CLAIR HIGH SCHOOL

6 ENDEAVOUR AVENUE,  
Phone: 9670 6700

ST CLAIR 2759  
Fax: 9834 3867

2<sup>nd</sup> July 2014

Dear Parent / Guardian

I am writing once again to keep you informed of the school's response to the fire which occurred last weekend and which has destroyed a large part of the school.

This letter includes an update on the current situation and most importantly, revised arrangements for the return of students for the start of Term 3.

## **The current situation.**

At this stage a definite cause of the fire is still unknown, but it is reassuring to know that there is currently no indication of it being deliberately lit.

From the outset I must say that the response from the Department of Education and Community in the days following the disaster has been extraordinary. It is true testament to the value of a high quality Public Education system. There have already been many meetings and personnel at the school working around the clock to have the school up and running in a temporary fashion by the end of the vacation. At this stage, weather permitting, we are confident this will occur.

The response from our staff, students, community, and many other schools has been incredible. We have had offers of textbooks, teaching resources and fundraising as well as many words of encouragement. Many of our own teaching staff have already given up their vacation and are working non-stop to start sorting out the details of what has been lost and how to operate the school in the months ahead.

The planning has already started to have a large number of demountable buildings established on the school sports field and surrounding areas. We need to be prepared to be operating in those buildings for at least a year following the demolition of the damaged buildings.

We have arranged a meeting with our Year 12 students for this coming Friday in order to update them and reassure them that they will be a priority in terms of their HSC studies. A member of the Board of Studies will also be present to provide advice. Parents of year 12 students are welcome to attend this meeting. It will commence at 12pm in the St Clair Recreation Centre.

## **The start of Term 3.**

We believe it is best for everyone if we arrange a slightly staggered start for students. This is because we need to offer each group support, explain to them the temporary arrangements and reissue timetables and daily organisation.

## **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July**

Only students in Years 11 and 12 should return on this day. All students in these two years should be present in the school hall at 8-30am. Parents of these students are also welcome to attend in order to understand the new arrangements.

## **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July**

8-30am students in Years 7 and 8 should return to school and assemble in the school hall. Parents of these students are also welcome to attend in order to understand the new arrangements. Students will commence classes immediately after this meeting.

9-30am students in Years 9 and 10 should return to school and assemble in the school hall. Parents of these students are also welcome to attend in order to understand the new arrangements. Students will commence classes immediately after this meeting.

## **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July**

We anticipate all students to be in attendance and attending classes as normal in temporary accommodation.

We seek your support and understanding with this slight variation in the first two days. However, if the above arrangements on Tuesday and Wednesday are impossible for particular families we will provide minimal supervision for students in Years 7-10 on the Tuesday, but there will be no normal classes operating on that day for junior students.

In order to assist our community through the early stages of this situation, we have also placed on our school website a set of "Questions and Answers" that you may find helpful.

I will continue to update you via our school website, Facebook and Phone App in the weeks ahead.

Yours faithfully

Chris Presland (Principal)