



Dear School Community,

Castlemaine Steiner School and Kindergarten contacted parents on Monday, March 16 to advise that the last day of school for term one will be Friday, March 20, one week earlier than scheduled.

While there have been no reported cases of COVID-19 within the school community, the CSSK Board of Directors, College of Teachers, and Executive Team decided to take this decision in the interests of our students, teachers and staff, their families, and the wider community, particularly those who are most vulnerable at this time.

Our students education and wellbeing are at the heart of everything we do, so we are actively listening and responding to the shifting nature of the situation, and we have no doubt the situation will continue to change.

One priority has also been to ensure we are taking care of the health, safety and wellbeing of our staff. We are working on measures to support our staff to eventually work from home, reducing in-person meetings and restricting travel. We are also supporting anyone who has concerns for their health and wellbeing, ensuring these people have the ability to work from home.

The pandemic brings with it a range of impacts, and we recognise some of you will be financially impacted. CSSK will continue to develop measures to support parents and carers who may be facing hardship in the coming weeks. The Board of Directors will be meeting next week to discuss this further.

There is a lot of uncertainty ahead. However, we can continue to remind ourselves of our School's guiding principles of *Care for Self, Care for Others, and Care for the Environment*.

And although we may not be shaking hands or hugging at this time, we can continue to smile and be kind!

Warm regards,

Danilo Paglialonga
Acting Principal