**MONDAY, 30 JANUARY 2023**

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I briefly stated on Friday last week, I extend a warm welcome back this week to existing families but in particular our new Preschool and Kindy children and families who are joining Charles Conder School this week. It has been amazing to see these children begin their day today successfully and we look forward to welcoming the Preschool end of week session classes on Wednesday.

**CANTEEN**

Our school canteen will once again be operating Wednesday – Friday this year and will begin on Thursday this week. Orders are preferrable through Flexischools, via our school website or following this link: <https://flexischools.com.au/>

**BREAKFAST CAFÉ OPEN**

We will be opening our Breakfast Café in the Community Hub tomorrow so children can have some toast to begin the day. One of our Youth Workers Kieren will be here from 8.30am.

**P&C UNIFORM SHOP**

The uniform shop is located in the Front Office and is open for families to purchase uniforms from Monday – Friday from 9:00am -3:30pm during the school terms. Over the holiday period, there has been a slight increase in the cost of the polo shirts which are $28.00 each or 2 for $55.00. We also offer a 2nd hand uniform shop which has items that can be purchased for a gold coin donation.

**SAFE PARKING AROUND SCHOOLS**

The start of the school year is a particularly busy time in our school carpark and surrounding streets. It’s important that we park safely and legally to support the safety of students.

Parking on a footpath, nature strip or roadside verge can:

* Cause safety risks for pedestrians as they are less visible to oncoming cars
* Increase the risk for vulnerable members of our community like children, people who are visually impaired, and those using a wheelchair or pram
* Restrict the line of sight for other road users
* Restrict access for emergency services vehicles.

Parking on nature strips can also damage trees, footpaths, gutters and underground pipes and cables. Please also remember not to park across driveways or block neighbouring residents’ properties.

As students return to school remember to also slow down and stick to the 40km/h limit around our school between 8am and 4pm.

Parking inspectors regularly patrol school zones to support safe parking and keep students safe. If you cannot find a car park in our school car parks, we suggest parking a little further away and walking or riding the rest of the way – it’s a quick and easy way to get in some exercise too.

I ask parents to be patient as school restarts when mornings and afternoons can be extra busy. We will be looking at alternatives to get to school such as a walking school bus if we can organise volunteers. Let’s all work together to keep our kids and community safe!

More information about travelling safely to school is available on the [Transport ACT website](https://www.transport.act.gov.au/travel-options/schools/travel-safely-to-school).

**STAYING COVID SMART IN 2023**

Being COVID Smart remains a priority for all ACT public schools in 2023.

Students, staff and visitors are reminded to:

* Stay home if unwell and get tested for COVID-19
* Stay up to date with your vaccinations
* Practise good hand and respiratory hygiene
* Physically distance from others when in public places

Individual schools may implement additional measures to manage COVID-19 if deemed necessary in a particular setting. Any changes will be communicated to parents and carers.

**If your child has COVID-19, you must let the school know**. We recommend keeping your child home for at least five days.

RATs are again available from the school for students in term 1 from the front office.

**You can read more about how we are being COVID Smart in ACT public schools at** [**https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/covid-school-arrangements**](https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/covid-school-arrangements)

A reminder to all children starting tomorrow in years 1 – 6 that you can go to your child’s class as teachers will be outside waiting before 9am. If you aren’t sure where to go, we will be around to support.



New and Returning players to join - Contact Nicole Mitchell on miniroos@tufc.org.au or Stan Mitchell on president@tufc.org.au for more information.

***Jason Walmsley***

Principal