



RETURNING TO SCHOOL

When St Aloysius Parish School Redan students from Years F-2 returned to school on Tuesday, May 26 after six weeks of home learning due to the COVID-19 lockdown, the children were welcomed by staff with balloons, chalk art and the sounds of 'You've Got a Friend in Me' echoing from speakers. It allowed the children to celebrate their return and alleviated the expected anxiety that comes with the first days of school.

On Tuesday, June 9, the Year 3-6 children were welcomed back. They had eight weeks of home learning. The children learnt many new skills in that time. They have been accessing their learning via the school website.

Staff organised Google Meet sessions to check on wellbeing or their class work. They accessed Google Classrooms for further teacher videos or lessons. It has been amazing how well most of the children have coped.

As a Catholic School, it is important to continue to pray together despite the isolation. In the first weeks of home learning, children were asked to set up their prayer table at home. Staff prepared school prayers each day as part of their Religious Education program. In week seven, children participated in an online 'Whole School Prayer' prepared by Bernadette Lynch.

Despite the initial confusion about what home learning would look like, we were pleased with the programs delivered, the participation of students, the communication with and from parents and families and the great new technology skills we have all acquired. There have been many positives that have come out of this experience. Our prayer now is that Australia remains safe and healthy into the future.



Michael Kennedy – Principal