

MEDIA RELEASE

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Teachers deserve our appreciation now more than ever

On **World Teachers Day 2020**, Catholic Education Melbourne says thank you and congratulations to all teachers for the incredible contribution they make in our community, and especially amid the circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic.

'This year has shone unprecedented light on the importance of teachers to the wellbeing and development of children and young people', Catholic Education Melbourne Executive Director Jim Miles said.

'Teaching is a demanding, yet uniquely rewarding profession. The COVID-19 pandemic has challenged our teachers like never before and they have responded magnificently.

'Our teachers have pivoted between remote and onsite learning, sometimes with only a few days notice. All the while, they have worked extremely hard to keep their students engaged, learning and, most importantly, healthy.

'So many of our teachers have also gone above and beyond to support students and their families during this pandemic', Mr Miles said.

Mr Miles said it is fitting that World Teachers Day 2020 falls in a week when schools have welcomed Years 8–10 students back to campuses and have returned to their full capacity as vibrant, Catholic learning communities.

'On World Teachers Day, I encourage everyone in the community to take the opportunity to show our teachers how much we value them, we support them and we acknowledge the outstanding work they do every day.'

More than 153,000 students are educated in 335 Catholic schools across the Archdiocese of Melbourne, employing over 20,000 teachers and support staff.

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