



ST. JAMES' SCHOOL

Newsletter

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28th June, 2019

Tuesday 2nd July—Stage 3 Presentation Evening—6pm to 7pm
Thursday 4th July—Stage 2 Billy Tea and Anzac Biscuits –7:30am-9:00am
Friday 5th July—School Awards Assembly
Friday 5th July—Last Day Term 2

Tuesday 23rd July—First Day of Term 3 2019

Advance Notice

Monday 22nd July—Staff Development Day—Pupil free day

Friday 2nd August—Zone Athletics

Friday 27th September—Pupil Free day



Dear Parents and Carers,

You will by now have received the school reports for Semester 1. I have had a few queries regarding how the grades are allocated.

When I was a student (back in the dim distant past) a C was a pass. Today in the A-E reporting standards a C means that a student is achieving at expected levels of academic achievement for the time within the stage.

Below is some extra from the NESA website which further explains this. More detail is available at

<https://arc.nesa.nsw.edu.au/go/gen-info>

Making progress during a course or stage

If a student receives the same grade for two consecutive reports they have made progress.

For example, if a student receives a Grade C in the middle of the year and again at the end of the year they will be making progress. If a student receives a C grade in the second year of a stage (particularly in Mathematics) they are making growth. The second year is the B content which is more challenging so maintaining a C Grade signifies improvement.

Between the two reporting periods the student will have learned new knowledge and skills of a more advanced nature. In order to receive a Grade C on the second occasion the student has

a sound knowledge and understanding of the main areas of content and has achieved an adequate level of competence in the processes and skills

in relation to this new and more challenging material.

Please take the opportunity to make an appointment with the class teachers to seek clarification as all teachers are happy to meet for interviews

Cheers

Ann



We have a very exciting, sacramental time coming up next term. On Friday 9th August, 11 of our students will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop Gregory Homeming. On Wednesday our Confirmation candidates participated in a special retreat in Maclean. They were guided through some activities by a group of students from the Catholic Schools Youth Ministry Australia (CSYMA) class at McAuley College and also met with Father Nicolas to discuss their Confirmation Names. It was a special day and it prepared them well for their Confirmation next term. Please keep our Confirmation candidates in your prayers. Best wishes to Tully, Fin, Aaron, Kydan, Levi, Charlotte, Eamon, Henry, Gemma, Willow S, Tayah and Pearl.



The first Year 4 student discipleship retreat will be held in 2019. The primary school retreats start with Year 4 as students have completed the sacraments of Initiation in Year 3 and are 'switched' on in a new way after receiving these sacraments. Accendere will support them on their faith journey, allow them to meet others of like mind and be immersed in a day that focuses on the theme of friendship in Jesus. Research has shown that young people are making defining choices about their faith at a much younger age than in the past. This retreat will help support our students as they search for meaning and discern their commitment to faith.

This will be a one-day retreat using group rotations where the students will engage in a variety of creative activities that will relate to the theme of the day, and will nurture their faith. The day will be facilitated by a team of Youth Ministry Officers (YMOs) from the local area.

Renee Howland
Leader of School Evangelisation and Catechesis



Incidental Reading

Incidental reading is all about snatching pockets of time in a busy day to quickly escape into a book with your child. It could be while you're waiting for the bath to fill or while you're killing time before a doctor's appointment.

The key to incidental reading is to surround yourself with books so that they can be easily and regularly dipped into.

Five easy ideas for incidental reading anywhere, anytime!

1. Mini editions of children's books. These are often sold in school book club catalogues or around Christmas time as gift sets with soft toy characters. These are small enough to take with you place or keep in your car for incidental reading opportunities.

2. Doodle books, colouring books and activity books. Doodle books are wonderful! They show a picture idea and the child is encouraged to continue draw from it. For example, there might be an outline of a TV screen and the child can draw a scene within it.

3. A few nice picture books that are 'new' to the child. These might be library books or ones that you rotate from home.

4. 'Spot the difference' or other 'finding' books. These provide hours of entertainment as kids try to find small hidden things.

5. Story stones. These are smooth pebbles with stickers or small paintings of characters, settings and objects, which can be used to tell stories.

Kind Regards
Alanna Petersen

LOP NEWS



Holiday Writing Challenge



Matthew Flinders came ashore in July 1799 to replenish water supplies and repair his sloop *HMS Norfolk*. He named it Shoal Bay which eventually became Yamba, 11 years after Port Phillip was established. His cat Trim was his companion on the trip and I would love you to find out about Trim and any stories of his visit to Yamba - A hint is to visit the Yamba Museum. Please bring me any stories after the holidays.

Lisa Dougherty
Leader of Pedagogy



Athletics Carnival

Last Friday we held our Athletics Carnival at Yamba Oval. Well done to all students for their sportsmanship and willingness to get in and have a go in all the events on the day. It was great to see all the kids out on the oval enjoying having a run with their friends.

Congratulations to all those students in Turners who were the winning house on the day and to our age champions, who are listed below.

A big thanks to all the parents who helped out. Without your help these events don't happen and we appreciate the support that you gave on the day.

A team to represent our school at the Clarence Zone carnival will be selected from the results and a note will go home next week to those students. The Zone carnival will be held at Coffs Harbour International Stadium on Friday 2nd August.

Age Champions

Junior - Grace Finnegan & Levi O'Shea

11yrs - Olivia Fuller & Beau Edwards

Senior - Imogen Lee & Cooper Olsen

Winning House - Turners

Parish School Forum

It was great to see so many families at the AGM. We had a most successful Forum Meeting on Sunday last and again last week. Can we thank the past executive of the Parish School Forum; Alexie Miller, Carolyn Adler and Kathryn Stoddard.

We welcome the new executive Jodie Jones, Alexie Miller and Rachel Courtney. The next meeting will be in the School Hall on Thursday August 15th in the evening.



Bike-a-thon THANK YOU

Stage 3 would like to thank all the parents and community members who supported them with the annual Bike-a-thon.

A special thanks to all the parents who came along on the day and helped with the course. A big thankyou to Mr Thompson (Charlee and Ruby's granddad) who is our resident Mr Fix-it on the day and is a marvel at fixing chains and everything cycling !

Canteen DAY Possible change

We have been asked to look at moving Canteen day to Friday each week. Inserted in this newsletter is a quick survey. The decision will impact on work rosters outside St James therefore we are seeking your response by Wednesday July 3rd.



Mitchell Galouzis—1st
July, Tyga Redwood—
8th July, Lilly
Stoddard—10th July,
Hannah Haslett—12th

July, Pearl McGrorey—12th July, Jesse Daley
-Malone—13th July, Floyd Segall—14th
July, Chloe Edwards—20th July, Olivia
Fuller—20th July, Heidi VanLeest—21st
July, Cooper Crouch—23rd July

Mini Vinnies Winter Appeal

For the rest of Term 2, Mini Vinnies will be collecting items for their Winter Appeal to assist families in the community.

Please send in any warm clothing, shoes, blankets and bedding that you no longer need. Mini Vinnies will set up a collection box in the office

Thank you for the marvelous donations so far.



Early Stage One have been learning all about weather and the seasons in Science and Technology. We have been writing, reading, drawing and performing drama with Mr Scudamore (using our Green Screen weather backdrops). Come and visit our classroom and ask us about different ways people can predict the weather!



Canteen DAY Possible change

We have been asked to look at moving Canteen day to Friday each week. Here is the quick survey.

The decision will impact on other work rosters for work outside St James therefore we are seeking your response by **Wednesday July 3rd.**

Please tick one!

We are happy with **THURSDAY** canteen day

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We would like canteen on **FRIDAY**

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Thanks for your input