



9th August, 2019

Monday 12th August 6-7pm—New Enrolments Night
Tuesday 6th August to Tuesday 13th August—Book fair closes.
Thursday 15th August—Mass in School Hall—12pm
Thursday 15th August—Meerkat Production 2pm to 3pm
18th August to 22nd August—S3 Sydney/Canberra Excursion
Wednesday 21st August—Reconciliation—School Hall 11:35am
Friday 23rd August—Diocesan Athletics at Lismore
Saturday 24th August—First Holy Communion 5:30pm St James Church Yamba



Advanced Call— Friday Week 9 Sept 20—Touch Football Gala Day—S2 / S3
We have been offered the canteen as a fund raiser. Please read inside for details.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for taking the time to join us for the Book Week Parade, Grandparents Day and Writers Expo at St James. It seems that as the school grows so does the imagination of the students in planning their costumes for the Book Parade.

You can view your child/ren reading their writing on Seesaw if you were not able to join us today.

Cheers
Ann





SACRAMENT WEEKS

Over the next few weeks 19 children from Saint James will receive the Sacraments of Confirmation, Reconciliation and Eucharist at St Mary's and St James.

The children and their teachers have worked hard to prepare for these sacraments which bring the children into the full life of the Catholic Church.

Tonight the confirmation class includes Pearl, Henry, Charlotte, Aaron, Kydan, Henry, Gemma, Tully, Willow, Levi, Tayah, Eamon, Fin, Mrs Hollington. We ask you for your continued prayers and best wishes for the children tonight when Bishop Greg confirms them at St Mary's Maclean.



The Reconciliation and Eucharist candidates will receive their sacraments on August 21st (Reconciliation) and August 24th (Eucharist). This celebration for Tully, Tayah, Harrison, Finn, Leyla, Elly, Heath, Sam, Kayden and Pearl will be in St James, Yamba.

In preparation for these sacraments a school-based retreat will be held in the next few weeks.



Ann Dawson

SAFE ON SOCIAL NIGHT

The Parent Assembly is offering the Safe on Social Night on August 26th for Parents. **Babysitting will be provided as will pizza for dinner for those who book in.**

Kirra from Safe on Social is a very well respected commentator and educator in this space and I now follow her on Facebook and receive weekly updates. There are things happening in the social media application spaces that amaze me each week and I feel this is an increasingly important area for every student, family and educator to engage with. Invites next week.



Phonics and Sight Words

Phonics is the teaching of letter-sound relationships. It is the understanding that there is a predictable relationship between the sounds of the letters/letter combinations and the look of printed letters/letter combinations.

Alongside alphabetic (phonemic) knowledge in the classroom, sight words are taught and introduced. Sight words are those words that cannot be decoded using the sight/sound approach. Lists of these words come home in the early years of school and give children the opportunity to build up a bank of high-frequency words and an understanding that not all words can be decoded. Without knowledge of the alphabet, the letters and the sounds, as well as the blends that those sounds make, reading is impossible. Remembering words by sight will only get a young reader so far – soon enough they will need some strategies to decode unknown words. This is why sight words and phonics are taught together.

Suggestions on how to engage in collaborative play with sight words at home;

1. **Sight word splat** – adult calls out a sight word and the child 'splats' the appropriate word card with a fly swat.
2. **Sight word hop** – write sight words on pavers or in a pattern on the concrete and have your child hop onto each word and say it as they land on it.
3. **Sight word parking lot** – draw a parking bay with sight words in the car parks. Have your child 'park' their toy car on the sight words you call out.
4. **Sight word playdough** – have your child make their sight words with playdough
5. **Sight word highlighters** – use old books, magazines or newspapers and have your child highlight their sight words.

Kind Regards
Alanna Petersen

School Banking

There will be NO School Banking Wednesday 14th August 2019.

Feast Of the Assumption

Parish Mass in the School Hall at 12:00. All the parish and community are invited to join us for the Mass.



Athletics

Last Friday we had 32 students from St James' travel to Coffs Harbour to compete at the Clarence Zone Athletics Carnival. Everyone competed well on the day and we were lucky enough to have 5 students qualify for the Lismore Diocesan Carnival to be held at South Lismore on Friday 23rd August. Those students were:

Rohan Chivers-Smith - 1st 10yr Boys 100m

Millie Day - 3rd Junior Girls Shot Put

Christian Lovell - 2nd Senior Boys 800m

Imogen Lee - 2nd Senior Girls 800m

Cecilia Strain - 1st 12yrs Girls 100m, 1st Senior Girls 200m, 2nd Senior Girls Shot Put.

Special congratulations to Cecilia who broke 2 Zone records on the day in the 100m with a time of 14.81 seconds and the 200m with a time of 31.21 seconds. A great effort, well done!

We wish these 5 students the best of luck at the Diocesan carnival and look forward to hearing their results.

Martin Dougherty
Sport Coordinator

You may have heard that we were entering the Friday 16th August—League Tag Carnival S2 and S3 in Grafton—this has been cancelled by the organisers



Parish School Forum

Touch Football Gala Day September 20th

The Parish School Forum has been offered the canteen for the Touch Football Gala Day at the Angourie Sports Fields on September 20th. This is a big day and at the Forum meeting last night it was decided to approach all families for support. The children in Stages 2 and 3 compete across the day in a round robin format.

The Parish School Forum is seeking support from parents in *all stages* as this is a fabulous fund raiser for any school with at least 800 children competing on the day.

This is a great opportunity for the school community to showcase school spirit and to engage widely with the Yamba community.

If you are able to spare an hour on the day to help in the canteen we can maximize the fund raising in our "quiet year". Please keep an eye out for the form in the next couple of weeks. There will also be a request for homemade goods, closer to the day which are apparently a hit on the day.



Layla Hodge—10th August, Aryadeep Kantamneni—12th August, Mrs Jeffrey—13th August, Hailey Rutkowski—15th August, Ashley Rutkowski—15th August, Kayden Duckett—21st August, Heath Ferguson—21st August, Eamon Mawn—21st August, Ashton Miller—21st August

Stage 1 Green Thumbs!



This week the Stage 1 students hopped on a bus to visit the Yamba Community Garden. We were lucky enough to be shown around by a local garden expert, Larry Griffin (or 'Pop' to Severin in Stage 1). The students were able to roam the garden and choose a plant to draw, label and describe. Some of them even made friends with a worm!

Back at school, we have some very special garden gnomes who have been going home with members of the class as a reward for wonderful writing. We love finding out what the gnomes have been getting up to while they visit your home!

