

# Principal's News

Term 4 | 2019 Edition 5

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## IMPORTANT DATES

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December**  
CANTEEN LAST DAY TODAY  
Year 6 Celebration Day  
Depart 10am – Return 5pm

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December**  
End of Year Mass  
Whole School  
11:30am-12:30pm  
Please note: office will be  
closed during this time

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December**  
Last Day of 2019  
School Assembly, 8:45am MPC

## 2020 TERM DATES:

**Term 1 2020**

**MAI Assessments:**

From Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January

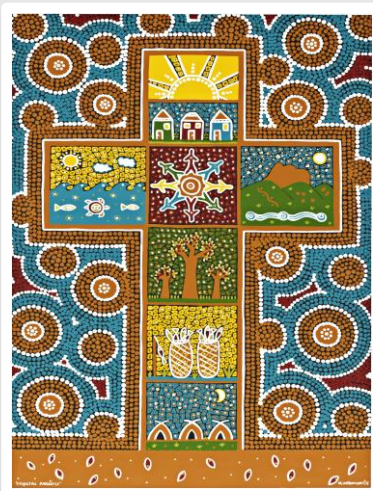
**First Day Year 1- Year 6:**

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January

**First Day Kinder:**

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February

Last Day: Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear St James Community,  
This coming Christmas night we will hear once more the Angel's message to the shepherds, and we experience anew the atmosphere of that holy night when Jesus was born. As we dash around town trying to find that perfect gift for someone, may we remember to spread the spirit of giving to everyone we meet and on Christmas morning may we remember Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus who celebrated the first Christmas in Bethlehem. May the joy of Christmas and Christ's love for us gently fill our hearts and homes, so that in this loveliest of seasons we may find many reasons for happiness.



This year, as a school we have ensured that the children's learning journey, the experiences in Catholic Identity and Faith and the continuation of teaching and learning have been at the forefront of our time together. We have enhanced our programs through our co-teaching models in our flexible learning spaces, that has fostered a greater sense of belonging for the children and gifted them with learning opportunities that facilitated academic growth and opportunities to glow. We congratulate everyone for what we have achieved this year.



Our teachers are privileged to know and love our students and to participate in their academic journey; they recognise and applaud just how hard their students try. They celebrate their students' achievements whether they be great or small and they share with pride the progress they make with their learning. Our staff thank you for entrusting your children into our care.



# Principal's News

As principal of St James Primary, I consider myself blessed to be leading our awesome school; I have many fond memories from our year together and I look forward to continuing to help us all live, learn and grow in God's love in 2020. All of the experiences of this year have contributed in some way to ensuring we offer our students the best education available. I believe we have a unique place for students to learn, where joy and being known and loved are at the core of our school. Thank-you to all of the St James families for all that you do for our school and for your ongoing support of my leadership.



As we close our year together we express our wishes of farewell to those families who will be moving on from our school and we thank them for the contributions they have made to our community. Particularly, we farewell our Year 6 students who have concluded their primary school years with St James and we thank them for their best endeavours that have been applied by each of them during their time here. Additionally, we farewell 3 staff members from our team: Mrs Elise Gallagher, Mrs Christine Stone and Miss Alexa Giufre. We also farewell Mrs Monique Rochester who will be taking 12 months maternity leave and we wish her all the best with the upcoming arrival of the newest member of the Rochester family. We thank all of these staff members for assisting our students with their learning, for gifting our school with their talents and for all they have achieved with our students and families in their time at St James. We wish all those leaving our school community joy and happiness as they enter new chapters in their lives.



We would also like to thank the following people/groups for their support during the year:

- 👍 Fr Michael, Fr Wilba, and Mrs Kathy Twohill for sharing their love of God and the Catholic faith with us.
- 👍 Mrs Cree for her outstanding leadership and support for everyone.
- 👍 The School Leadership Team for assisting with the management of our school.
- 👍 The School Improvement Team for leading our improvement journey.
- 👍 The entire School Staff Team for their tireless work and dedication.
- 👍 The Grade Parent Representatives/Forum members & Parent Helpers who have actively ensured that our community enjoys celebrating together.
- 👍 The Canteen Conveners and Helpers for feeding us and providing scrumptious food.
- 👍 All Parents and Friends of our school who have supported and promoted our school.
- 👍 And mostly important the students who enrich our school and make it a beautiful place of learning, joy and faith.



To our returning staff, students and families we look forward to strengthening our relationship with you and to journeying together through the 2020 school year. With joy in our hearts we can all look forward to the next chapter of education for St James Primary and remain confident that our school will continue to be a place where the Gospels come alive and where everyone achieves fullness of life.



In closing I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and I pray that our holidays are safe, happy and joyous.

With Christmas blessings,  
Nic