

Principal's News

Term 1 | 2020 Edition 1

St James Primary School
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IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 3rd February

Flag Raising 8:40am

Wednesday 5th February

Kinder First Day

Cheers & Tears Morning Tea for
Kinder Families

Thursday 6th February

Saints Netball Sign On

MPC 3:15pm-4:30pm

Friday 7th February

Welcome Assembly 8:40am

Monday 10th February

St James Playgroup

Friday 14th February

School Assembly MPC 8:40am

Tweed Zone Swimming Carnival

Wednesday 19th February

School Photo Day

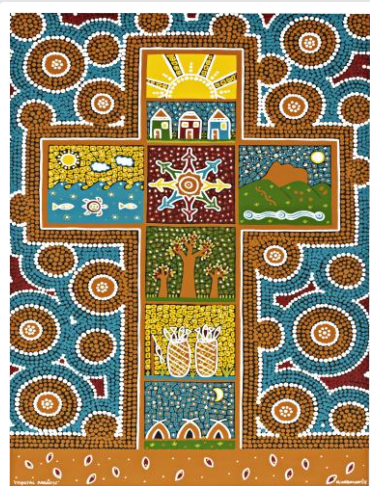
2020 TERM DATES:

Term 1 2020

First Day Kinder:

Wednesday 5th February

Last Day: Thursday 9th April



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear St James Community,

Welcome to school for the 2020 academic year. We foresee a successful year ahead that will be infused with faith, learning, hope and joy. We give thanks to God for ensuring that everyone had a wonderful holiday break and have returned to school safely and full of enthusiasm. We extend a very special welcome to all our new students who have commenced school at St James Primary this year, and to Miss Warby, Mrs. MacQueen, Mr Capellari and Mrs Green who join our teaching team. Our new Kindergarten students will commence their 13-year journey of Catholic Education at St James next Wednesday and we extend a very special welcome to them and their families.



As we walk a new path together in 2020 we hope you feel welcome, comfortable and involved with your child's learning; we welcome your presence at school at all times and we encourage you to become active partners in your child's learning. We pray that the 2020 school year gifts everyone with 'life – life in all its fullness.' (John 10:10.)

Play is the Way:

Today we launched our Play is the Way program; a methodology that will support our students' social and emotional development, by using guided play, classroom activities and an empowering language. We look forward to exploring and developing this new program throughout the year.



New Arrival for Mrs Rochester:

We congratulate Mrs Rochester and her family on the safe arrival of "Louis Robert Rochester", born 30th January. Both mum and bub are doing well and we wish them all the best for this exciting time ahead.





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Educational Program in 2020:

In 2020 our school have 380 students who will be educated by 45 staff in 7 Grade Cohorts within our 4 Learning Communities (Hanly [Kindergarten], Ryland [Year 1&2], Polding [Year 3&4] and MacKillop [Year 5&6]). Our students will continue to have non-interrupted Literacy and Numeracy sessions, along with a balanced curriculum aligned to NESA requirements. They will also enjoy specialist learning and teaching in Science/Technology, The Performing Arts (Music/Dance/Drama), Visual Art and Physical Education.

During the break we were required to make changes to our staffing profile that impacts our learning environments; as such we announce the following:

- Mrs Nerthery decided to retire from teaching, as such she will not be teaching in the English block in Year 1 or supporting our Additional Needs Students. To this end, Mrs Maxworthy will join the Year 1 team with Mrs. Barone, Mrs Vickery, Mrs Sanderson, and Mrs Green. Mrs Sanderson will manage the school's Wellbeing program, which includes supporting our Additional Needs Students.
- Mrs. Daley will teach Science/Technology; however, she will only be with us for a short time this year (she has some exciting news!). To this end, Mrs. Louise MacQueen has been appointed to the position of Full-Time teacher in Year 2; Louise is an experienced teacher having worked at Kingscliff Public School for a number of years, along with some relief teaching at St James. Her depth of knowledge and experience will enrich the learning and wellbeing of the students in Year 2. She will join Mr. Cutler, Mrs. Sanderson, and Mrs. Green as part of the Year 2 team. The decision was made to avoid any disruptions during the course of the year when Mrs. Daley departs our school on Maternity leave.

We are confident that these changes will enable us to continue offering our children the utmost care and learning throughout the 2020 school year.

Next Friday our students will gather for a Welcome Assembly (8:40-9:15am/MPC; there will be no awards at this gathering; award presentations will commence the following Friday). Parents and Friends are most welcome to attend our Assembly.

Beginning of the School Year Mass:

Our 'Beginning of the School Year Mass' will be held in the Doyle Centre on Wednesday February 12th at 11:30am. All families are welcome and encouraged to attend; our Year 6 Students will be inducted as Student Leaders at this celebration and receive their Year 6 Graduation shirt.

School Uniform:

In 2020 students may choose to wear their physical education uniform each day to school. The uniform shop is running very low on stock, however more should arrive asap; including the new skorts and new socks. Lowes has expressed their apologies for any inconveniences. The new style hats are now available from the school office.

Students wearing their physical education uniform each day will be required to have the physical education shirt, embroidered shorts/skorts (when they're available), new style socks (when they're available) and school hat. Once the winter months come, the embroidered pants and jackets will be available from the uniform shop; these are also required if being worn each day in 2020. All students will be required to have this uniform by the start 2021.

Students wearing the formal and physical education uniform in 2020 are not required to make any changes to their uniform. Lowes are selling remaining stock of the boys shirt (\$10) and girls dress (\$20), and these may be worn in 2020. The Physical Education uniform is required for all students as follows in 2020:

- Kindergarten: PE Uniform Wednesday & Friday
- Year 1 & 2: PE Uniform Thursday & Friday
- Year 3 & 4: PE Uniform Tuesday & Friday
- Year 5 & 6: PE Uniform Monday & Friday

Should anyone need guidance on uniform matters; please contact the school office.

Hello/Welcome Evening:

Our 'Hello/Welcome Breakfast will be held on Tuesday February 25th (7:30am NSW Time); we encourage and welcome everyone's attendance at this special event. Classrooms will be open for you to meet and greet your child's teacher and to view your child's learning space. More information regarding this event will be provided A.S.A.P.; please save the date!

Thumbs up:

Gratitude and thanks are extended to....

- 👍 All students for returning to school full of joy and enthusiasm;
- 👍 Parents for supporting our MAI assessment strategy;
- 👍 Staff for the amazing organisation and preparation they have completed during the holidays;
- 👍 Our maintenance team who tirelessly worked in our school over the holiday break.

To conclude

We look forward to working with you and our students to promote academic, social and spiritual growth throughout the 2020 school year. We sincerely thank our staff for their work in preparing for the year ahead, and we congratulate all students for the positive and joy-filled way they have returned to school today. Welcome everyone; may 2020 be a faith-filled year of safety, joy and learning. With blessings,
Nic.