

Principal's News

Term 1 | 2021 Edition 1



St James Primary

Doyle Drive, Banora Point NSW 2486

p. 07 5524 9404

e. bpp@lism.catholic.edu.au

w. bpp.lism.catholic.edu.au

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday 10th February

Opening Mass, Doyle Cnt 11:30am

Friday 12th February

Show Your Colours Day

Tuesday 16th February

Family Welcome Breakfast 7:30am

Thursday 4th March

School Photo Day

2021 TERM DATES

Term 1 2021

Y1-Y6 First Day: Mon 1st Feb

Kinder First Day: Thu 4th Feb

Last Day: Thu 1st April

Term 2 2021

First Day: Mon 19th April

Last Day: Fri 25th June

Term 3 2021

First Day: Mon 12th July

Last Day: Thu 16th September

Term 4 2021

First Day: Tues 5th October

Last Day: Wed 15th December



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear St James Community,

Welcome to school for the 2021 academic year. We foresee a successful year ahead that will be infused with faith, learning, hope and joy. We extend a very special welcome to all our new students who have commenced school at St James Primary this year, and to Mr Keating, Miss Regan, Mr Crompton, Mr Zambelli, Miss Clarke and Miss Saddler who join our staff team, along with a welcome back to Mrs Rochester. Our new Kindergarten students will commence their 13-year journey of Catholic Education at St James next Thursday and we extend a very special welcome to them and their families.



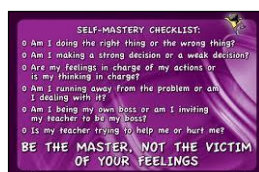
As we walk a new path together in 2021 we hope you feel welcome, comfortable and involved with your child's learning; we welcome your presence at school at all times (within COVID guidelines!) and we encourage you to become active partners in your child's learning. We pray that the 2021 school year gifts everyone with 'life – life in all its fullness.' (John 10:10.)

Prayers requested:

- Please remember the Close family in your thoughts and prayers; Steven Close (Father of Indirose, Y6 & Tiabella Y10) passed away suddenly. We offer our sincerest condolences to Shartrell, Indirose and Tiabella and we extend to them our love and prayers.
- Please keep Troy Lamond in your thoughts and prayers. Troy (Father of Jayda, Y5) had a heart transplant during the holiday break. He is recovering well, but his medical journey will continue for many months to come; we pray for his speedy recovery.

Play is the Way:

We will continue to embed our Play is the Way methodologies, and we encourage you to become familiar with this language, which we use with our students to encourage them to be empathetical people of good character and decency.





Principal's News

Educational Program in 2021:

In 2021 our school will have 388 students who will be educated by 33 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 English and Mathematics 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. We will also launch our Apple Mac iPad program, which will see Kindergarten-Year 2 students have 29 shared iPads per classroom and students in Years 3-6 receive a 1:1 iPad, cover and stylus pen. Combined, this educational landscape will enhance collaboration, creativity and communication, and ultimately improve student outcomes and wellbeing.

Beginning of School Year Assembly, Mass and Welcome to school year events:

- Next Friday, February 5th our students will gather for a Welcome Assembly (8:40am-9:15am/MPC; there will be no awards at this gathering; award presentations will commence the following Friday).
- Our 'Beginning of the School Year Mass' will be held in the Doyle Centre on Wednesday February 10th at 11:30am. All families are welcome (within COVID guidelines) to attend; our Year 6 Students will be inducted as Student Leaders at this celebration and receive their Year 6 Graduation shirt.
- Show Your Colours Day will be held on Friday February 12th. Students can wear clothing relating to their House team and we will spend the day celebrating our school's story.
- At this stage, our 'Welcome Breakfast (pancakes for Shrove Tuesday)' will be held on Tuesday February 16th (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. This event however, will be confirmed closer to the date (due to COVID guidelines).

Term 1 Dates/events:

Please note the following Term 1 events:

- Beginning of the school Year Mass (Feb 10th)
- Show your Colours day (Feb 12th)
- Welcome breakfast (Feb 16th)
- Ash Wednesday Mass (Feb 17th)
- Play is the Way Parent Session (Feb 22nd)
- 3-Way Parent Conferences (Feb 24th & 25th)
- 3-Way Parent Conferences (March 2nd & 3rd)
- School Photos (March 4th)
- Pupil Free Day (March 16th)
- School Cross Country (March 26th)
- Holy Week Liturgy (April 1st)
- Easter Raffle (April 1st)
- Final day of Term 1 (April 1st)

School Uniform:

From the commencement of 2021 all students will wear 1 uniform style; active/sports wear. To this end, students must have embroidered shorts or skorts, a St James polo top, reversible hat and new ankle length socks. As the weather gets cooler later in the year, students may add a St James jumper, jacket, track suit pants and/or tights. Students must also have fully black, leather style joggers. These items (except joggers) are available from the St James uniform shop which is open Wednesday (1pm-3:30pm) and Thursday (8:30am-10am). I thank everyone for their cooperation; should anyone need guidance on uniform matters, please contact the school office.

Parent Handbook:

The 2021 Parent Handbook is currently being revised and will be located on the school website (<https://www.bpplism.catholic.edu.au/>). This important document outlines all school policies, procedures and structures; please become familiar with its content.

Staffing news:

During the holiday break, our Leader of Pedagogy Mrs Susan Jones secured a new teaching position; on behalf of our community I have thanked Sue for her 4 ½ years of service to St James. To this end, Mrs. Monique Rochester will now be teaching Year 3, along with Mr Lewis Capellari and Miss Laura Warby. Mr Joseph Zambelli has also joined Mrs Jo Ryan and Mrs Tarri Johns in Year 2. This is a positive change for our students as it now extends our 3 Teacher model into Year 3.

Thumbs up:

Gratitude and thanks are extended to....

- 👍 Parents and students 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 2021 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 engaged with their assessments over the past two days. Welcome everyone; may 2021 be a faith-filled year of safety, joy and learning.



Regards,

Nic.

Catholic Schools Office Road Safety Message – Returning to School Primary

As children return to school, it is important to keep safety in mind.

As parents you should take the opportunity to talk with your children about getting to and from school safely.

Here are some safety tips:

1. Be alert and aware by traveling distraction free. Ask children to take off their headphones when walking.

2. Choose a safe place to cross. The fastest way, may not be the safest way.

Stop! One Step back from the kerb.

Look! Continuously, both ways.

Listen! For the sounds of approaching traffic.

Think! Whether it is safe to cross and keep checking until safely across.

3. Keep safe getting in and out of the car. Always use the door closest to the kerb.

4. Keep safe getting on and off the bus.

Wait at the bus stop and stand at least one step back from the edge of the road.

Always meet your child at the bus stop. Never meet them on the opposite side of the road and call them across.

Wait until the bus has gone, before you cross the road.

5. Hold hands to cross the road. Until they are ten children should hold an adults hand.

6. Wearing a helmet. Children must wear a helmet when riding a bike in any public place – it's the law. Foot scooter, skateboard and rollerblade riders should wear helmets and protective gear such as knee and elbow pad.

Be a positive role model when you are a pedestrian, passenger and driver. Children learn from what they see, as well as what we say.

Never sacrifice safety for convenience.

Source: <http://www.walk.com.au/wstds/>, <https://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/>