

22nd February, 2019

What is On!

Wednesday 27th February—Zone Winter Sports Trials

Wednesday 27th February—Zone Sports Meeting—Mr Dougherty

Thursday 28th February _ Executive CSO meeting McAuley Catholic College.

Friday 1st March—Dio Swimming—Kempsey

Sunday 3rd March - Saturday 9th March—Catholic Schools Week

Monday 4th-8th March—Parent teacher interviews.

Wednesday 6th March—Ash Wednesday—School Hall—1:15pm

March 21st—PI Day All Staff—Pupil Free Day (Advanced Notice)

Dear Parents,

Accompanying this newsletter is a class information letter. We look forward to meeting with all families to look at the children in our care.

We have had some queries about roll marking. As a legal requirement we mark the roll at the official start time for school which means at St James 9am. The relevant Diocesan Attendance Policy point is included for your information:

4.1.12 In the case of late arrival or early departure, the precise times of arrival or departure must be recorded with the relevant attendance code. Where a genuine error is identified the designated staff member should amend the appropriate attendance register/roll. Note: Alterations only apply to errors in attendance register/roll marking.

All partial absences are recorded as such and over time are automatically tallied into days by the software. Eg Late by 20 minutes 2 days per week over a term (10x 20x2) would appear as part of the total on the reports as an extra 1 days absence.

Any further clarification please ask. Regards Ann

Sport News

Zone Swimming

On Monday we had a team of 17 St James students travel down to Coffs Harbour to compete at the Clarence Zone Swimming Carnival. The students were great representatives of our school and had some really pleasing results.

As a result of the students' efforts, we had 7 children who have qualified for the Diocesan Swimming Carnival to be held at Kempsey next Friday, 1st March. Congratulations and good luck to Levi O'Shea, Kydan Jones, Heidi Van Leest, Dexta Jones, Millie Day, Beau Edwards and Christian Lovell.

Winter Sport Trials

The Clarence Zone Winter Sport Trials are being held at Woolgoolga, next Wednesday 27th February. These trials are for Stage 3 students only and we wish Cooper Olsen, Noah Smith (Rugby Union), Beau Edwards (Rugby League) and Benji Hunt (Soccer) all the best. Students who are successful at these trials will be selected in the Clarence Zone team to compete at the Diocesan Winter Sport Trials to be held in Grafton on Friday 15th March.

Martin Dougherty
Sport Coordinator

RE News

Beginning of School Mass

Last Thursday we celebrated our Beginning of School Mass in the hall with Fr Nicolas. This was a special Mass that marked the beginning of another fantastic year at St James School. At the conclusion of the Mass, our Year 6 leaders were presented with their blessed leader badges and our Kindergarten students received a special blessing.



Year 6 leaders wearing their badges with pride.

PROJECT COMPASSION: “Love your neighbour as you love yourself” (Matt 22:39). Help empower our most vulnerable neighbours worldwide to build a better future for their families and communities by supporting Caritas Australia and Project Compassion.

During the Season of Lent we are collecting donations in each Stage for **Caritas**, Australia.

Who is Caritas?

From humble beginnings in 1897 Germany, **Caritas**, named after a Latin word meaning love and compassion, grew to become one of the world’s largest humanitarian agencies. The Catholic Agency for Aid and Development, Caritas began in Australia in 1964. And many people, then and now, feel that supporting Caritas is a great way to reach out to people in need.

Ash Wednesday

A liturgy to celebrate Ash Wednesday will be held on **Wednesday 6th March at 1:15pm** in our school hall. This day marks the beginning of Lent and students will be invited to receive the ashes at this liturgy.

Renee Howland
Leader of School Evangelisation and Catechesis

2019 Premier's Reading Challenge

The Challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely.

The 2019 challenge will open on March 4, 2019, however students can keep a record of books they are reading now to include on their 2019 reading records when online reading records open. PRC student reading records will need to be finalised by August 30, 2019.

K-2 students, you can read the books on your own, read them with someone, or someone can read them to you.

3-4, 5-6 students, you must read the books on your own, but someone can help you choose them.

Premier's Reading Challenge(PRC)Tips for parents and carers for participating in the Challenge from 4th March - 30th August, 2019

- Familiarise yourself with the PRC website <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>. Logon is not required to view the Book Lists or read the Rules.
- Visit the new Premier’s Reading Challenge Support website. It allows you to search for information about the PRC and also contact the PRC team.
- Set reminders for Challenge opening and closing dates in your and your child’s calendar.
- Assist your child to borrow books from the school or local library. Listen to your child read and talk about the story/ characters/ information.
- Help your child to add books to her/his Student Reading Record regularly.
- If unsure of anything, speak to your child’s classroom teacher.

Christine Jeffrey

Congratulations to the following students who completed the St James’ Primary Holiday Reading Challenge! Keep up the fabulous reading!

Pippi Short
Rhys Owen
Sailor Short
Severin Griffin

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Zoe Edwards—23rd February, Ella Carolan—28th February,

Stage One

Students in Stage 1 have been looking at Earth and Space in their Science unit this term. They've created some great artwork depicting the Sun, Earth and Moon. Feel free to drop into our class and have a look at all the children's work.





