



# ST. JAMES' SCHOOL

## Newsletter

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**14th February 2020**

**Saturday 15th February—Commissioning Mass—5:30pm—St James Church  
Yamba— All welcome**

**Monday 17th February—St James Family Welcome BBQ—5pm—  
6:30pm**

**Tuesday 18th February—Stage 3 excursion—Relics—Maclean**

**Wednesday 19th February— Stage class letters home.**

**Wednesday 19th February—Miss Dawson—Emergency Management Training**

**Thursday 20th February—Zone Swimming—Coffs Harbour**

**Monday 24th February—Zone Winter Sports Trials**

**Tuesday 25th February—Beginning of Year School Mass 12:00pm—1:00pm**

**Friday 28th February—Dio Swimming—Kempsey**

**WEEK 6 beginning March 2nd —Parent Teacher interviews ( advanced notice)**

**Monday 9th March—AGM Parent Forum—5:15pm in School Hall—Children Welcome**



Dear Parents and Carers,

The year has begun in a busy way. You will notice that each class has had a casual teacher attached for the past 10 days. Let me explain!

Each year *all* students in Catholic schools in the Diocese of Lismore, undertake a mathematics assessment interview with their class teachers and support from the school executive. The data must be provided to the CSO by February 19th. You will receive a separate letter next week detailing the MAI process from our Leader of Pedagogy.

Schools in other towns conduct these interviews over the first week of school and the children do not begin school until week 2.

At St James, we recognise that most of our families have two parents working and extra child care for the first week of school as well as bringing children in for an interview would be challenging.

To this end we spend the first week getting to know the children (Project 72) and then place an extra teacher in each space to release the class teacher/s to complete our data commitments.

We are rare in this structure. We commit significant budget to cover 20 casual days to ensure that all children can be included in the data and that our school data is accurate.

It is a big week for the staff, both the teacher administering the assessment and the core teacher who remains on class.

Next week your children will be with their full compliment once more. The learning has already been underway as is our role and responsibility. We look forward to working with all the children to meet their exact need as learners in all KLA's.

Cheers

Ann

Looking forward to seeing you all in the next few weeks as our school community building continues with the Forum, Class Parents and Parent Teacher Meetings.



## RE News

**Welcome back for another exciting year at St James!**

Our **Commissioning Mass** will be held this **Saturday 15th February at St James Church, Yamba 5:30pm**. All are welcome to attend.

### **Relics**

On Tuesday 18th February Stage 3 students and teachers will be travelling to view the Relics of St Therese of Liseaux and St Louis & Zelig Martin at St Mary's Church, Maclean. Stage 3 students have been learning about the Relics and our parish priest, Father Nicolas Maurice has spoken to the students and teachers about the history of these sacred Relics.

### **Beginning of School Mass**

Our Beginning of School Mass will be celebrated on **Tuesday 25th February at 12pm** in our school hall, with Fr Nicolas. This special Mass marks the beginning of another fantastic year of learning, together in faith and love. At the conclusion of the Mass, our Year 6 leaders will be presented with their blessed badges. All parents and family members are warmly invited to celebrate with us.

### **Ash Wednesday**

A liturgy to celebrate Ash Wednesday will be held in on **Wednesday 26th February 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.

### **Sacrament Dates**

**Confirmation-** Monday 25th May, St Mary's Church, Maclean.

**First Holy Communion-** date to be advised.

**Reconciliation-** date to be advised.

The order of Sacraments in the Lismore Diocese is:

Baptism, Confirmation (Year 2), Reconciliation (Year 3), First Eucharist (Year 3)

If you would like your child to receive these Sacraments, please fill in the form below and return it to me at school by **Monday 6th April**. For your child to receive any of these Sacraments they must first be Baptised. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Renee Howland

Leader of School Evangelisation and Catechesis

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### **Sacraments:**

I would like my child \_\_\_\_\_ to receive the

Sacrament/s of \_\_\_\_\_

Parent: (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

## **2019 Year 6 Religious Education Test**

In 2019, 17 Year 6 students participated in the 2019 Religious Education Test. Results included: 1 High Distinction, 2 Distinctions, 8 Credits and 6 Participations.

### **REMINDER:**

**St James Family Welcome BBQ  
Monday 17th February—5pm**

**All Welcome**

**Looking forward to seeing you there—No need to return your notes.**

## Sport News



### Swimming Carnival

We held our school swimming carnival in Week 1 and were lucky to have a nice sunny day. It was great to see so many kids jumping in and having a go in the different events and doing it all with a smile on their face.

Our age champions on the day were:

Juniors - Kydan Jones and Heidi Van Leest

11yrs - Dexta Jones and Ruby Thompson

Seniors - Beau Edwards and Eve Van Leest

Congratulations to the Turners house who were the winning house on the day.

We have 22 students who have qualified for the Zone Carnival which is being held in Coffs Harbour on Thursday 20th February. Those students have all been given a permission note and need to make sure that both the note and money is returned to school as soon as possible.

The Diocesan Carnival will be held in Kempsey on Friday 28th February

### Basketball

The Polding Basketball Carnival was held last Friday in Lismore. Millie Day was selected from the Diocesan trials that were held at the end of last year to attend this carnival, and although she wasn't selected in the Polding team on the day, it was a great effort to reach this level.

### Winter Sport Trials

The Clarence Zone Winter Sport Trials are being held at Woolgoolga on Monday 24th February. Any students in Stage 3 who are interested in trialling for one of either Soccer, Netball, Rugby League, Rugby Union or Hockey need to make sure they return the note to Mr Dougherty by Wednesday 19th February.

Martin Dougherty—Sports Coordinator

## Community News



*The land on which St James is built was donated by the Dougherty brothers in 1995 to our parish to build a Catholic School in Yamba.*

*They also donated the land for the bike path to the school to give safe access to the site.*

### Papal Knighthoods

Peter and Bill Dougherty who donated the land where St James School stands today were the recipients of Papal Knighthoods last week. They were awarded the medal of St Gregory the Great, which is one of the five Orders of Knighthood of the Holy See.

Papal knighthoods are rare honours bestowed on members of the catholic faith to recognise personal service to the church, through their unusual labours and the examples they set in their communities.

This rare honour was bestowed on them by Bishop Gregory and took place at St Mary's Church Grafton last Wednesday evening.



Father Nicolas was also in attendance at the Mass of Investiture with Bishop Gregory.

*Our St James' school community sends heartfelt congratulations to both Peter and Bill.*



Rhys Johnson—14th February, Henry Miller—17th February, Taya Murphy—17th February, Mr Dougherty—17th February, Mrs Howland—17th February, Miss Haines—17th February, Bradley Haslett—21st February, Millie Day—22nd February, Kydan Jones—22nd February, Zoe Edwards—23rd February, Ella Carolan—28th February.

# Science Living World

This Term in Science, Stage One are learning all about our living world. As part of our learning, the students are looking at life cycles of living things and discovering how things grow and change. We have had so much fun making our own caterpillars and butterflies; we have also drawn and labelled diagrams of the life cycle stages of a butterfly. As young scientists in Stage One, we have also learnt some scientific vocabulary, just ask us what metamorphosis means! Mrs Hollington & Mrs Boomsma

