

St James College



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NEWSLETTER

21 JULY 2017

VOL. No.22

Dates for Your Diary

July

- 21 Interhouse T&F Carnival
- 23-29 Catholic Education Week
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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and All in the St James Community

During their Years 10 to 12, students spend a great deal of time researching future pathways. Year 10s themselves are about to embark on this process over the next few weeks as part of their careers program, having participated in a number of career-directed events during Semester 1.

I recently attended a forum where presenters urged young people to think seriously and realistically about their post-school options. What was eye-opening was that they side-stepped the traditional question of 'what would you like to be when you leave school'. The emphasis was more on preparing oneself for eventualities - in other words, indicating that most young people today need to equip themselves with a portfolio of skill sets that can be transferred across a cluster of different pathways rather than just one career.

These skill sets fall broadly into four categories: Foundational Skills, Technical Skills, Enterprise Skills and Career Management Skills. The Foundational Skills are those of literacy (being able to read and write), numeracy (being able to use basic and more advanced mathematical skills), and language (being confident in verbal communication, perhaps even in more than one language). Technical Skills: these are the basic office-type and workshop skills, variously incorporating standard computer software familiarity, planning, risk management, machinery operation, etc. Thirdly, there are the Enterprise Skills: these are the ones that begin to separate out the successful candidates from just the job applicants. They include digital literacy skills, creativity, problem-solving skills, communication skills, financial literacy, critical thinking skills, and the ability to be a productive member of a team. Finally, there are the Career Management Skills: these focus on one's own personal values and perspective - career opportunities will present themselves to someone who is self-aware, has a sensible work-life balance, has a goal to be a life-long learner, is an informed decision-maker and demonstrates the initiative to seek out pathways that might be out there in society rather than being someone who simply waits for whatever comes along.

What we hope for in our young people is that they avail themselves wholeheartedly of the opportunities that school presents and use these to equip themselves in the four areas that I have listed above. Commitment to their day-to-day studies and co-curricular activities as well as involvement in personal development and social justice experiences are all essential aspects of this skill-development portfolio. The resultant pathways are up to the individual and may involve university or other tertiary study, traineeships and apprenticeships, or direct entry into the workforce. Whatever the case, my challenge to all our seniors and yet-to-be seniors is to be proactive about planning your future. Become aware of the talents and personality traits that you have that might steer you in a number of related interest areas, and equip yourself as far as it is possible, in your current circumstances, with those skills I have listed above. Above all, don't wait for your ideal career to drop into your lap - that will never happen. Work at developing your personal skills and traits, and get out there and do the searching. You may be surprised at what will present itself.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Tomorrow, the Interhouse Athletics Carnival will be held at Nudgee College. We wish all students an enjoyable and involving day as they vie for the honour of Champion House. Please note that special buses will be transporting all students to Nudgee, leaving the College at 8.45am. Students must be at school no later than 8.25am for assembly. All students will be back at St James by 3pm in the afternoon.

BUNNINGS BBQ

A reminder that the next monthly fundraising BBQ at Bunnings, Albion, is scheduled for Saturday, 29 July. If you are able to assist or would like to know more, please contact me directly or my PA, Mrs Naomi Ritchie at the College Office (naomi.ritchie@stjamescollege.qld.edu.au) to register your interest and contact details. A roster for the day will then be drawn up incorporating your preferred time and sent out prior to the day. All money raised contributes to our being able to provide the best resources for students. Thank you very much for your support.

Live Jesus in our Hearts

Gerry Crooks
Principal

If your child talks to you about bullying:

1. **Listen** calmly to get the full story.
2. **Reassure** your child that they are not to blame.
3. **Ask** your child what they want to do about it and how you can help.
4. **Visit** www.bullying.gov.au to find out some strategies.
5. **Contact** the school.
6. **Check-in** regularly with your child.

BULLYING. NO WAY!

Having trouble getting the College Newsletter at home? Would you like to receive it via email?
If so, please send an email to school@stjamescollege.qld.edu.au and we will add you your mailing list.

ABSENTEE LINE
3230 8655

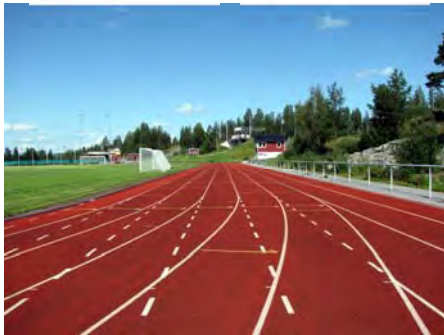
Please clearly state student's name, Year level and home room.

YEAR 11 SEMI-FORMAL

Friday, 18 August 2017.

Tattersalls Club
215 Queen Street, Brisbane City

Tickets are on sale from
Student Services at \$65 per person.
All tickets must be purchased by
FRIDAY 11 AUGUST.



St James College

CLASS OF 1977

40 YEAR REUNION

Saturday, 22 July 2017.

This Saturday, the College looks forward to hosting the Class of 1977 at a morning tea in the St James Room commencing at 10am followed by a tour of the College. Lunch off campus will follow. Enquiries: Enrico Petracci M 0412 987 079 | E petraccih@gmail.com or Brad Kunkel M 0415 154 207 | E bfkunkel@gmail.com.

Deputy Principal
Parent Teacher Interviews
Parent Lounge



Please go to the Parent Lounge tab on the home page of the College website www.stjamescollege.qld.edu.au to make bookings with staff for the Student Parent Teacher interviews to be held Thursday next week, July 27. This is an opportunity to discuss current progress as well as a time to reflect upon and discuss Semester 1 reports. Students will be sent home at 12:30 pm and interviews will commence at 1:30 and continue until 7:00 pm.

Year 10 (2017) Subject Selection for Year 11 (2018)

On the same afternoon/evening of the Parent Teacher Interviews there will be information sessions for parents about subject selection for Year 11 students in 2018 (ie. Current Year 10 students). This is a most important process for Year 10 students and these selections have far-reaching consequences. Parents may need to be well-informed to be able to assist students with these selections. Parents or Guardians will also need to sign off on these choices to indicate approval. The session will be run twice in the Study Centre (former Library), once at 4:00 pm and again at 6:00 pm. Parents should attempt to attend one session. Parking will be available on the Basketball courts.

AP Pastoral

Interhouse Athletics

I mentioned in last week's edition that tomorrow will see this great event take place. I remind all families of the dress code: Students may wear their sports uniform to school. Failing that, full school uniform is to be worn. Students may then change into appropriate House coloured gear for the day.

House Events Term 3

You will see in today's and upcoming newsletters advertisements for various House community gatherings. I encourage all families to find the time to attend these gatherings as our House communities are a vital part of the care we provide for students. They will be fun events and a chance for you to connect with House staff and other families.

Uniform

I have been very impressed with the way students are wearing the uniform after their return from holidays. I have said many times, the St James uniform is very smart looking when worn properly and students cut very fine figures when they wear it well. I would ask that girls please attend to their nails as many seem to have decorated them quite extravagantly over the break. Also, House Deans have had cause to address students regarding nose piercings. These are not allowed and need to be removed or have a clear stud in place.

Year 11 Semi Formal

I spoke with the 11s this week regarding this event and the details are as follows:

Tattersall's Club 215 Queen Street
Friday August 18, 6.30pm - 10.00pm
Cost \$65 payment - Due: August 11.

Mr Tony McCulkin

Mr Martin Wiseman

MARY RICE HOUSE

COMMUNITY EVENT

Thursday, 3 August 2017.



Mary Rice House Assembly (2.20pm) and House Olympic Games (3.15pm)
Gold Coin Donation for Afternoon Tea afterwards.

Sr Melissa Dwyer
Bakhita Secondary School, Malawi.



Pictured above is Sr Mel with the 2016 Bakhita Secondary School Prefects.



AP Identity

Mrs Tricia Parry

On Monday morning, our whole Year 9 Level went to the Library to listen to a presentation given to us by Sister Mel which linked into your Religion Topic for the term called *Priests, Prophets and Kings*. She started by telling us what a prophet was and how there are modern day prophets in our world who set a good example for young people to learn from. Although she talked about Noah and Moses, Sister Mel also talked about the great influence that Pope Francis was having on so many aspects of the world. She also spoke about Gandhi and the amazing effects that he had using his positive example.

She spoke about Jesus who is one of our prophets in the Catholic and Christian tradition, and also mentioned Mohammad, the Muslim prophet, and how he helped a lot of Muslim people to believe in their religion and give them a brighter future. Sister Mel also told us about how other prophets had spread the word of God which is what prophets do.

Sister Mel then told us about her own story which was very interesting and heartwarming. Some of the things which she told us included her leaving Australia to go to Africa in order to teach and become a Principal of a female boarding school for poor girls and orphans. When she was telling us this story, she told us about the story and the life that she left behind to follow what she believed was a call from God. She was a very promising athlete who was highly competitive in the Australian sports scene especially in javelin and was looking towards Olympic selection. She had a very hard decision to make – should she follow her love of sport or should she follow the call of God.

She then told us about Africa and when she met small girls who were being sexually assaulted by older men and she knew that she had followed the call of God and that her heart had led her to the right place where she needed to be to make a difference. She also met this particular girl who she was protecting and who begged Sister Mel to help protect her – she actually called Sister Mel “Mum” because she saw her as a protector and looked for her to help her. Sister Mel did the very best she could.

Now Sister Mel has returned to Brisbane and is doing God’s work in a number of ways. She helps us out when we need it and we love her here at St James. She also talked about the ways that Sisters, Nuns, Priests and Brothers could help in our community. These included actions that normal people do – they don’t just sit around and pray all day. They are active members of the community and help out people in need as well as spreading the contemporary message which Jesus taught about loving one another and being kind.

We were all really taken in by Sister Mel’s Story and were most grateful that she shared so much of her life with us. Not only did it help us with our Religion topic, but it gave us a real- life example of how the topic we have started is still actually relevant in our world today and what we can do as both a group and as individuals to be positive people in our community and homes.

Written by Mrs Tricia Parry and Theo Power (Yr 9 Student)

I would sincerely like to thank Sister Mel for her gracious and generous contribution to our RE Program – she is a living resource to us whom we love – thank you Sister Mel.

Every Blessing to make a small change as witnessed through the account above which may positively change somebody else’s week during the next few days.

Ba-ra Barimi Learning Centre



Library News

Ms Nikki Carpenter

Library News

The Ba-ra Barimi Learning Centre has been super-busy this week! It would seem that there is currently a major UNO challenge being conducted, as around a dozen students are playing this popular card game every day during lunch time. Of course, Chess is still very popular, as is our 1000-piece jigsaw puzzle. The cooler weather may also be enticing students to spend more time in the cosy confines of the Library as well, as many are relaxing with a book.

eLearning News

Students and parents are reminded that **additional electronic devices are not required at school**. This week, we have seen a number of students bring to school devices specifically aimed at ‘gaming’, including iPads and hand-held game consoles (such as Nintendos and Sony Play Stations). Not only are these devices a distraction, but there is always a risk that expensive toys such as these will be lost or stolen. Students are provided with a College laptop that caters for all their educational electronic and digital needs while they are at school.

Sports News

Mr Scott Prickett

Upcoming Sporting Dates:

- ◆ District Track and Field – Monday 31 July & Thursday 3 August
- ◆ Regional Track and Field – Thursday 31 August & Friday 1 September
- ◆ State Champions Basketball Tournament - 14-17 September

Athletics News

Students who place in the top three will be put up for consideration to compete at the District Track and Field Carnival. Those students who are successful will receive a permission letter the week following the Carnival. Any students who place in the top three will also receive their ribbons in the homeroom folders next week.

Jimmies Climbing Club has been busy competing all year. So, when Rocksports become a boulder gym for a night; with more than 25 problems, who could resist! They attended the Social Series -Round 2 - Boulder Jam on Saturday, June 17. It was a really fun way to compete and let off some steam! Jacob Forker pulled some massive moves through the roof, while Bridget Aitcheson delicately manoeuvred her way around the gym. All climbers represented St James with flare - even Miss Francis had a go!

The next social competition will be held at Urban Climb – Boulderfest, on Saturday, August 5.



(Pictured above is Jacob Forker-Freeman, Yr 12.)

Queensland Schools Orienteering Championships Kurwongbah, 29-30 July, 2017 BULLETIN 2 Entries are now open for the Queensland Schools Orienteering Championships! A sprint, a relay, and a long distance course on maps just north of Brisbane. Open to all school students who can complete a course independently. And for parents and friends, public races ranging from easy to challenging courses.



Be part of the team: Join the Challenge Rather than a regional competition, we have our own version of State of Origin: City Vs Country. The City Team (black and white) includes greater Brisbane, Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast. When you enter, you will be contacted by the Team Manager. Everyone else (and especially Darling Downs!) is in the Country Team (the Red-Shirts). Let's see if the City can overturn last year's resounding win by the Red-Shirts!

Any queries regarding Rock Climbing or Orienteering may be directed to Miss Casey Francis at the College on 3230 8600.

Guidance Counsellor

Mrs Tania Munro

Year 10 SET Plans

All students and one of their guardians will be invited to attend a SET Plan interview with one of the Guidance Counsellors this term. This is a requirement for all students regardless of their intention regarding work and study next year. These appointments will be on Mondays and Fridays and parents with limited availability are encouraged to contact Mrs Valmai Whye directly to request a suitable time.

Year 10 Subject Selection

As our Year 10 students embark on their subject selection and SET Plan process, it is an opportunity time to discuss and review as a family some of career options available and consider the young person's suitability for a role or industry. One resource that our students have been using in their Work Skills class is the MyFuture website. This is one of the most useful tools and is available freely to students and their families.

Every student has created an account and started their Career Profile by taking quiz in categories that include: Interests, Education and Training, Skills, Work Conditions, Knowledge and Entrepreneurship. The results of the quiz are presented as ranked 'Suggested Occupations' for students to further explore.

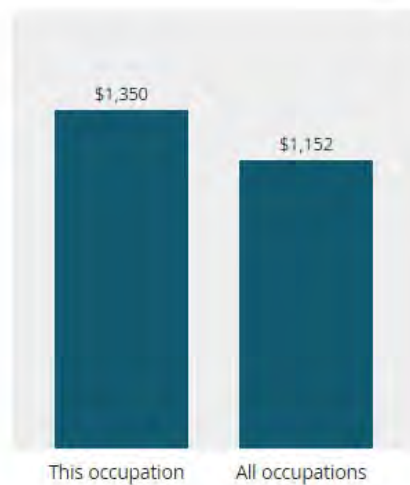
Much like the old Job Guide, the MyFuture website provides a snapshot of information about each occupation including the tasks they may perform as well as the personal requirements of people in that role and the training pathway required (e.g. Apprenticeship or Bachelor Degree). It also provides links to possible courses in each state. Unlike the Job Guide, the MyFuture website offers valuable information on the prospects of each occupation including the average income and average weekly hours worked as well as the number of job openings. Crucial information such as weekly earnings and job openings over the next five and ten years are shown graphically. The example below shows the prospects for Accountants:

What are my prospects?

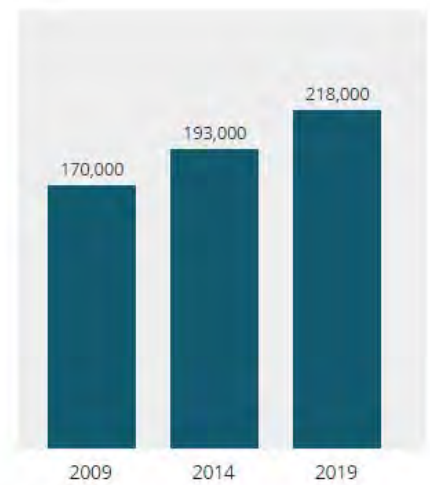


The median annual salary is based on pre-tax earnings of a sample of full-time workers, excluding superannuation contributions from employers. Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics. Employment description derived from data provided by Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Full time weekly earnings



Number of people employed



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics. Employment description derived from data provided by Australian Bureau of Statistics.

I would encourage you to explore some of the occupations, their pathways and arguably most relevant of all, the prospects of each job with your son or daughter.