

St James College



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NEWSLETTER

20 MAY 2016

VOL. No. 14

Dates for Your Diary

May

- 25 TAH Restaurant 6pm College Hall
- 27 Careers Expo Years 10 & 12
- 29 P&F BBQ Stall, Bunnings Albion

June

- 03 School Photography
- 13-17 Year 10 Work Experience
- 14-21 Year 11 & 12 Exam Block
- 15 P&F Meeting
- 15-17 Year 7 Camp

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and All in the St James Community

Tonight we celebrate, in an amazing, creative, even perhaps a little chaotic way, the extraordinary diversity that defines this very unique little school in the heart of Brisbane.

Over the past weeks there has been frenetic activity in classrooms at lunchtime as well as out in the playground after school and before school, when students have met together to design their own personal presentations for this 'one night of the year'. Staff operate in a supervisory and organisational capacity, but in actual fact the students themselves have planned and choreographed their own presentations.

It continues to fascinate and even humble me to observe how our kids embrace the culture of this school. When they touch that crest at the school gates every morning as they arrive at school (if you haven't seen this, take a moment if you can to observe from a distance, perhaps from across the road in the shopping centre - it really is something special), our kids somehow know they are making a decision to be here, to embrace all that this school stands for and, for this most part, do their best to perpetuate this sense of belonging among each other.

Tonight is not a concert. It is not a night where the school demonstrates its prowess and expertise. Tonight, you will witness presentations where students celebrate the depth of their own cultural background and their love of what makes them who they are. Some performances will be very good, some perhaps that may have needed a little more polish. But, rest assured, these kids are stepping out of themselves to show you that it is really not about them, but about the school that they are a part of.

For me, what shines through is their thorough enjoyment of what they are doing, their creativity, their teamwork, their laughter, even their craziness, and their love of who they are.

These young men and women have gathered together to show you and I what inclusion means to them. As staff and parents we think we know; we think we can engineer an environment where all this can happen and hope that it does. Not so. Much devolves onto the shoulders of the young people who choose to make decisions that do not focus on what is different among them, but what unifies them in a common culture.

This is why we choose to call this event a 'Cultural Night' and not a Multicultural Night. This is the one culture of St James; it is what defines our place.

Do we worry that we have young men and women from over 40 different cultural backgrounds and from over 150 different suburbs across Brisbane? Are we daunted by the many students who have learning differences or are we concerned by those who, for any number of reasons, turn up at our front door just searching for a place of acceptance? Indeed they create challenges for us, but at the same time we are privileged that they have chosen to come here.

It is not difference that brings about division in spite of the fears expressed by some in government. The celebration of difference causes us to value the depth of what inclusion and compassionate acceptance are really all about.

Together, they define this community of St James, a unique culture of its own, one that we treasure and, indeed, of which we are immensely proud.

God Bless

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.

2016 INTERHOUSE CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL

Carey House Leaders receiving the annual Interhouse Cross Country Trophy. (From L-R) Mary Hassani, Zeke Koch, Marie Meurin and Brandon Norman.



Deputy Principal

Educational outcomes

Recent media attention given to the publication of NAPLAN data focused on very narrow educational goals. Comparison of schools based on these results misses the most important educational outcomes to which schools can aspire. NAPLAN data is almost useless information when considering significant educational outcomes. Important considerations are bound up in beliefs about intellectual virtues and practical wisdoms. A searching mind or life is not necessarily based upon narrow, academic or studious habits. Such an outcome is not for all and is unjust as it is exclusive. What can be a goal for all is an inherent desire to know, not just idle curiosity. But this in itself is not enough. A searching mind can be used for bad or evil ends, intelligence does not equal virtuosity. A searching mind needs to be oriented towards a fitting goal or life (like love of God and neighbours). Motives and methods need to be ethical.

A wise mind or life is not necessarily a scholarly life of a well-read person. A wise mind or life is characterised by thoughts and deeds that are judicious, insightful and prudent. It is not mere cleverness or skilfulness; it is embedded in human happiness and well-being. Practical wisdom or knowing yourself is the opposite of foolishness. Foolishness is the pursuit of relative goods rather than ultimate goods, leading to a superficial lifestyle. Becoming wise is a lifetime process, a calling for all and an indispensable aid to living.

Years 11 & 12 Examination Block

Years 11 and 12 Examinations will commence on Tuesday June 14. It will then continue each day until Tuesday June 21. **There will be no classes from Wednesday June 25 to June 27. The last day of classes for Years 7 to 10 is Tuesday June 21.** Students may stay at home on these days. Schedules for the Examination Block were distributed to Senior students on Tuesday.

AP Pastoral

Interhouse Cross-Country

Congratulations to Carey House for their win in this year's event. Carey have had a reasonably lean run in recent years so for them to get up was a great story. Well done to Mr Zammit, his staff and students. Congratulations to all the Age Champions who ran very hard around the 2km loop. Again, we were impressed with the behaviour of all students on the day. Well done!!

St Mark's Secondary School Expo

Our thanks to St Mark's Catholic School at Inala for inviting us to this important event last Wednesday evening. We shared the floor with a number of Catholic secondary schools in the area and it was great to talk to prospective parents who were impressed with our display. My thanks to students **Caleb Jeffrey, Nieve Liveri and Asadullah Abdullah** who accompanied me and were fine ambassadors for the school.

Children's Esafety Commissioner

On Tuesday, as part of the compulsory ongoing training for Child Protection Officers, Mrs Parry, Mrs O'Gorman, Mrs Munro and I went to the O'Shea Centre to hear a number of speakers address us over the issue of Child Protection. One of the speakers was an Officer from the Esafety Commissioner which is a government body set up to assist parents in managing cybersafety. They field many inquiries regarding cyberbullying and work with families, schools and sometimes police in managing situations when they occur. It is important to note that the school should be one of the first ports of call whenever children are involved in bullying online. Please ensure you let us know if this occurs to your child. Information can be found at www.esafety.gov.au.

Uniform Issues

We are seeing more notes from parents regarding the uniform after our blitz which is helpful. I do remind students however, that hoodies and other jumpers are not to be worn to school now that weather is finally cooling off. Our preference is for the College jumper or vest to be purchased before we get more tracksuit tops in.

AP Identity

Can't remember what or when Pentecost is? Pentecost was last Sunday; and if you want a little more info on this celebration of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the Church, take a look at Busted Halo's two minute video <http://bustedhalo.com/video/pentecost-in-two-minutes>

A Pentecost Prayer for you:

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created and you shall renew the face of the earth.

O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations, through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

Live Jesus in Our Hearts – Forever!

Mathematics News

Ms Corrie Shand

RAMPAGE!

Previous Rampage Question: No correct answer was received for this question. The answer is shown below:

1 3 4 2
4 2 3 1
3 1 2 4
2 4 1 3

New Rampage Question: Can you place digits in the triangles, so that each hexagon adds to 25? Only the

P&F BBQ FUNDRAISER

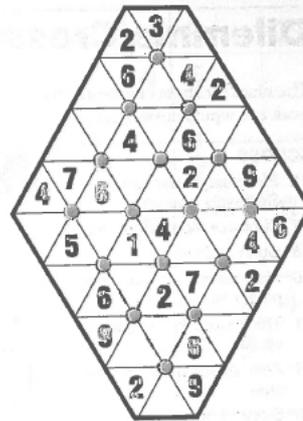
Bunnings Albion

Sunday 29 May, 8am to 4pm.

Contact Dawn Moloney on 0429 338 040 if you would like to assist. All support is welcome.



digits 1-9 may be used and no two numbers in any hexagon may be the same.



HOMELESS CONNECT

On Wednesday a small group of Jimmies' students worked at 'Homeless Connect', Eagle Farm. The students assisted in a variety of ways throughout the day including the collection of rubbish during the morning and later on serving drinks.

Pictured below are (from L-R) Raphael Vuthy, Lisa Newman (founder of the Project), Goushiga Gopalakrishnan, Mia Bowman and Lachlan Platter.



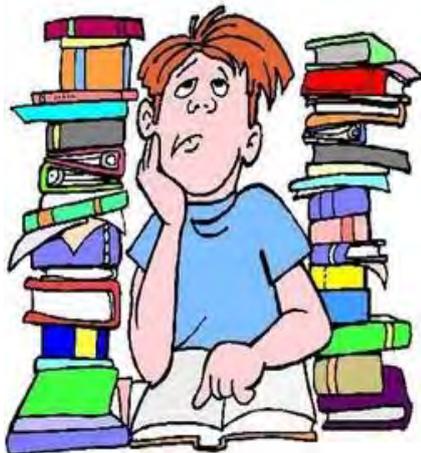
YEAR 8 DEBATING TEAM

(From L-R) Thomas Markwell, Timekeeper, Gabe Stapleton, Will Peardon & Harry Goodeve.



Middle Coordinator

Tutoring support offered after school in the library



Ms Helen Robin

As mentioned in an earlier newsletter Assessment Calendars for students in Years 7 - 10 are available on the college website. <http://www.stjamescollege.qld.edu.au/teaching-and-learning/exams-and-assessment/exam-and-assessment-schedules/>

These were distributed to the student a few weeks ago and hopefully, students used these assessment calendars to help them space out the work required to get all their assessment pieces in on time.

It is possible that slight changes may have been made to the due dates of assessment items but this will have been communicated to students by their teachers. By reviewing this list parents will have a guide of what their son/daughter will have due over the next few weeks before the end of term. Students who do not submit their assessment (for any reason) will need to have a conversation with their teacher about this and make alternative arrangements to get their assessment in before the end of term. Students may be issued with detention on the student free days of Wednesday - Friday (24 - 26 June) if

assessment is not finalised before then. For reports to be issued by the end of Week 20, obviously, all assessment and marking will need to have been done by that time.

If there is any confusion about the assessment, please be in touch with the college about your concerns by using the following email address school@stjamescollege.qld.edu.au and specifying the **name of the student** and **teacher in the subject**, so that the email may be forwarded to the right person.

I can also assist you in being in contact with classroom teachers if there are issues of concern. My email is Helen.robin@stjamescollege.qld.edu.au.

Starting from Thursday 19 May, I will station myself in the library from 3:15pm - 4.00pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays for the rest of this term to provide academic support to students wishing to access that.

Debating News

Mrs Karen Lindsey

The Year 8 Debating team successfully defeated San Sisto College this week in Round 3 of the QDU competition. The topic was "That all students should be required to study elementary computer coding" and our team was arguing the negative side. Congratulations to all team members: William Peardon, Harrison Goodeve and Gabe Stapleton. Special thanks also to Thomas Markwell of Year 9 who did the timekeeping for us.

Year 7s who attended the expression of interest meeting yesterday were given permission forms to take home for signature. Please return these as soon as possible so we can finalise numbers. The first Year 7 debate is scheduled for the week that Year 7 camp is on so we will be seeking a postponement. The new date will be communicated once we hear back from the QDU.

Library News

Ms Nikki Carpenter

Here in the Library, we have been gathering a series of games and puzzles for students to make use of during breaks. Social interaction during the playing of board games promotes problem solving skills, teamwork and negotiation among students. Our puzzles range from 50 pieces to 100 pieces, which are perfect to finish during a short break, and reflect popular themes such as Stars Wars, Avengers and Animals. We also have Memory Game, Mastermind, Trouble, Dominoes, Scrabble, Boggle, Uno and Uno Stack, Monopoly and several decks of playing cards. The games range from challenging to simple, so are appropriate for all students.

Jimmie's Pick of the Week

This week, Jimmie picks the *Thirteen* series of books. This series follows the story of teenagers who can see into the future through their dreams. It's fast-paced and a real page-turner, thus hooking readers in for a whole 13 books of excitement. It's suitable for all readers from age 12+.



Ministry Miss Jessica Whelan

Mater Little Miracles Fun Run

Summer-Lee Hendricks and Jacob Forker-Freeman came to me a few weeks ago wanting to participate in a school fun run to raise money for an organisation. After much discussion, we decided to enter a St James team into the Mater Little Miracles 5km Walk on June 5. All money raised will support seriously ill and premature babies cared for at the Mater Hospital. This will be held in South Bank and it would be wonderful for families from the St James College community to join us. If you would like any more information on this event please send me an email Jessica.whelan@stjamescollege.qld.edu.au



WHERE:

Cultural Forecourt, South Bank

WHEN:

Sunday 5 June 2016, *entertainment from 9 am—walk starts at 10 am*

COST:

\$45 for a family of five if you join the "St James" team
\$25 per person if you join the "St James" team

Sports News

Mr Scott Prickett

St James Cross Country – Last Friday saw our college hold the annual Interhouse Cross Country Carnival. What a fantastic day, the weather was beautiful and the course was ready to go. The participation level of all students was incredible with each competing to their best of their ability and with a smile! It is really encouraging to see students enjoying competing for their respective Houses. Congratulations to Carey House on winning the Cross Country Carnival for 2016. The points were so close with two points separating third place to first place. Congratulations are also extended to all runners who were crowned 2016 Age Champions.

Age Group	Boys	Girls
U12	Ethan Avery	Lilly Peardon
U13	Cosmas Wilberforce	Samantha Dix
U14	Dut Acuil	Jana Taufua
U15	Awan Awan	Mariam Ajang
U16	Tristan Bruhn	Talita Taufua
Open	Tai Leaupepe	Jenny Wizeyimana

1st Place Carey House – 75 points

2nd Place Long House – 74 points

3rd Place Mary Rice House – 73 points

4th Place Hogan House – 61 points

Confraternity – Our Confraternity team played against St Thomas Moore on Monday afternoon in the inaugural Saints Cup. This game did not disappoint the number of supporters in attendance. With some great Rugby League being played and hard tackling, both teams showed they will be contenders in the upcoming Confraternity Carnival. St Thomas Moore came away victorious winning 18-12. A great effort was put in by all St James players and their preparation going into the Confraternity competition is on track.

QC CUP Netball – St James entered two teams into the QC Cup this year, both junior and senior teams represented the college proudly. Our senior girls came away placing third in their division and our junior girls were placed seventh. Thank you to Ms Corrie Shand and Mr Chris Tooley for taking on these teams for the competition. Sincere thanks is also extended to one of our most recent past students, Kirra McIntosh (Class of 2015), for giving up her time to referee these matches.

Guidance Counsellors

Mr Jim Bartlett & Mrs Tania Munro



Year 10 and 12 Excursion to Brisbane Careers and Employment Expo

On Friday 27 May all Year 10 and Year 12 students will attend the 2016 Careers and Employment Expo at the Convention Centre. This has the largest gathering of employees and courses in Queensland where students will have the opportunity to obtain career advice and training information that is relevant and specific to them. This event showcases education institutions from all professions, who will be able to advise on course entry pre-requisites, flexible learning options, course payment plans and career progression pathways.

We will be travelling to the Convention Centre at South Brisbane by bus departing at 10:45am and returning at 12:45pm. All students need to wear their full college uniform.

To find out more about the Expo, visit [www. http://careersemploymentexpo.com.au/](http://careersemploymentexpo.com.au/). If you would like more information, please contact Tania Munro or Jim Bartlett.

Part Time Jobs Needed

Many students are looking for part time jobs. If you have any information can you please contact either Jim Bartlett or Tania Munro.

Haute Team Members Wanted—Now Hiring at SNAG STAND:

Casual Vacancies are available for interested students at Queens Plaza Snag Stand Restaurant, located in Queens Plaza, 226 Queen Street Mall, Brisbane. Students can either apply in-store or send their resume to JOBS@SNAGSTAND.COM.AU.

Online Resources for Year 12 Parents

Transitioning from high school to university can be a challenging journey for students and their parents. Here are some resources for parents to support them and their children through the transition:

- ◆ Australian Catholic University - 'Parents' information' <https://www.acu.edu.au/567632>
- ◆ Griffith University - 'Parents' <https://www.griffith.edu.au/future-students/parents?src=hp&p=gnav>
- ◆ Queensland University of Technology - 'Are you the parent of a school student' <https://www.qut.edu.au/study/undergraduate-study/are-you-the-parent-of-a-school-student>
- ◆ The University of Queensland - 'A Guide for Parents' that can be downloaded at <https://future-students.uq.edu.au/publications-and-forms>

Year 10 Mock Interviews ASSISTANCE REQUESTED

On Wednesday 8 June the Year 10 students at St James College will be involved in the annual Mock Interviews Event as part of their Careers Education during their Work Skills class. We are looking for employers or people with experience in hiring and interviewing potential candidates who may be interested in participating as an interviewer at this employability skilling event. The event will run from 12:30pm – 2:00pm at St James College and will allow all of our students to practice their interview skills with a professional who can offer them feedback to make them more attractive candidates as they move forward into applying for casual jobs and School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships. For the vast majority of our students, this will be their first experience of a job interview so your expertise and feedback will be extremely valuable.

Students will come dressed for the interview and will be applying for an advertised position which will be presented. There will be individual interview evaluation forms/checklists to support with questions and assessment. Each interview will run for ten minutes and will be followed by five minutes of feedback by the interviewer. Students look forward to this day and we hope you can join us to assist students with this crucial job skill.

If you would like to assist, or would like any further information, please contact Tania Munro at tania.munro@stjamescollege.qld.edu.au.

Code of Conduct for School Students Travelling on Buses

Information for Schools

School staff are concerned about student safety and play a key role in advising students about the Code and the consequences of bus misconduct. They liaise closely with bus operators and are part of the collaborative team of stakeholders ensuring safe bus travel and managing student misconduct on buses.

School principals play a pivotal role in maintaining positive partnerships with bus companies. This collaboration can help to establish effective communication strategies and provide a link between the school's behaviour management plan and the Code. In this regard schools can talk to parents/carers and students about the Code and provide information about its requirements in student enrolment information.

Schools' role

To promote bus safety and collaborate in the management of student bus safety.

Schools' rights

- Safe and comfortable travel for their students.
- To be consulted and to receive accurate information about their students' school bus behaviour.
- To be respected.

Schools' responsibilities

- To collaborate with stakeholders and communicate respectfully during the implementation of the Code.
- To support bus operators in the application of the Code's procedures and processes.
- To reinforce safe bus travel and the Code's messages in school-based processes.
- To facilitate effective communication between bus operators and students/parents/carers.

Schools' expected behaviours

- To provide information on the Code to parents/carers.
- To support the bus operator in implementing consequences for school students who breach the Code.
- To collaborate with bus operators and parents/carers in relation to their students' behaviour on buses.
- To ensure a suitable level of supervision at school bus collection points, where appropriate.
- To reinforce with students the need for safe and responsible behaviour on buses.

What are the possible consequences for not following the Code?

Category 4: The behaviour is immediately life threatening

- Refused bus travel for a defined period (school weeks) plus behaviour agreement (agreement period up to one school year).
- Permanent refused travel.

Category 3: The behaviour is dangerous/destructive and highly likely to cause immediate harm to property and others

- Refused bus travel (maximum 10 school weeks) plus behaviour agreement (agreement period up to one school year).

Category 2: The behaviour is unsafe where there could be harm to property and others

- First Report – refused bus travel (maximum five school days).
- Repeat Report within 10 school weeks – refused bus travel (maximum 10 school days) and/or behaviour agreement (agreement period up to 10 school weeks).

Category 1: The behaviour is irresponsible but not likely to cause harm

- Report of single incident – written caution considered.
- Report of repeat of incidents in single journey – written caution and/or one to two days refused travel.
- First Repeat Report in 10 school weeks (repeat incidents across multiple journeys) – written caution and/or one to two days refused travel.
- Second Repeat Report in 10 school weeks – maximum five days refused travel and/or behaviour agreement for up to 10 school weeks.
- Third Repeat Report in 10 school weeks – maximum 10 days refused travel and/or behaviour agreement for up to 10 school weeks.

** In some circumstances an alternative consequence may be considered appropriate.*