



NEWSLETTER

St Joseph's Primary School
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7.2.2020

Week 2 Term 1

Principal's Message

Dear Friends

Welcome to the 2020 academic year. It has been a wonderful start to the year, especially welcoming so many new students, families and staff. There is a lovely feel and exciting buzz around the school, with everyone settling in well. This is particularly important after such a challenging and disruptive holiday break with so much tragedy and sadness. We as a community continue to pray for those lives who have been horrifically affected by tragedy during the break and also give thanks for how the worst of nature has brought out the best in humanity.



Each year we have a focus, this year we have named 2020 as the year of gratitude. We will have a strong focus on developing gratitude in our children and for that matter all our community. We will be speaking to the students about being in charge of their own attitudes, being thankful and trying to develop an 'Attitude of Gratitude.' We will be weaving "gratitude" into all our Mercy Value focuses through out the year.

Research is showing that the practice of gratitude helps develop positive mental health and wellbeing in our students, reducing anxiety and depression.

You have probably noticed that there have been a few projects happening around our school during the Christmas break (some still continuing) including the following:

- Refurbishment of the Year 5 & 6 classrooms and veranda.
- New decking and paving outside the library near the Year 2 room.
- Completion of the library refurbishment.
- The repair and stabilising of the lift and upgrade of the garden between the library and admin.
- Minor works on the Kinder and Year 3 veranda to add screening to reduce heat in these rooms.
- The addition of a sand pit, mud kitchen and a small tepee in the garden area near the canteen for lower primary.

Some things that are still to be completed in 2020

- Screening behind Kinder rooms.
- Addition of more tepees in both Primary and Infant's playgrounds.
- New Primary playground equipment.
- Completion of the Infants toilets and the classroom refurbishments.

I have had a great deal of positive feedback in regard to all the work in particular the Stage 3 classrooms and new furniture. Although the work is not finished yet, it is a very inviting and contemporary space. Please ensure you pop your head into the refurbished rooms as they are looking amazing. The efforts by the builder John Killalea Constructions and the Diocesan Project Manager Angela Bill to ensure we were able to return to classrooms was nothing less than extraordinary. As you know the timeline was tight and I truly was unsure if we would be able to return to the rooms at the commencement of the year, but they made sure this was achieved, working long hours over the Christmas period. Thank you John & Tim Killalea and your hard working team, we are truly grateful.

Last weeks Swimming Carnival was an outstanding success. Thank you to the wonderful students and parent volunteers who assisted on the day. Thank you to Mrs Karen Kiem for her brilliant organization of the carnival and to the staff who supported her.

Next week the staff will attend the Called to Serve Mass in Hamilton which is the annual diocesan commissioning Mass for school staff for 2020. It is an absolute privilege working with the staff at St Joseph's. They have been working tirelessly to ensure your children's start to the 2020 school year has been successful.

Parents in Year 1 to 6 will receive an outline of the expectations and requirements for the students for the year, along with curriculum overviews for Term 1 and other information pertinent to each class. Parents are invited to make an appointment with their child's class over the coming weeks to discuss any issues or goals for their child for the year. Kindergarten parents are invited to a parent teacher meeting on Tuesday 18th February in the Kinder classroom from 6 -7pm where the Kindergarten teachers will provide lots of information about the day to day routines of the school.

As we step into a new academic year,

restore our Spirit,

renew our passion for sharing your wisdom and nurture our compassion for those in our care.

Open our minds and hearts to the Good news of justice and peace.

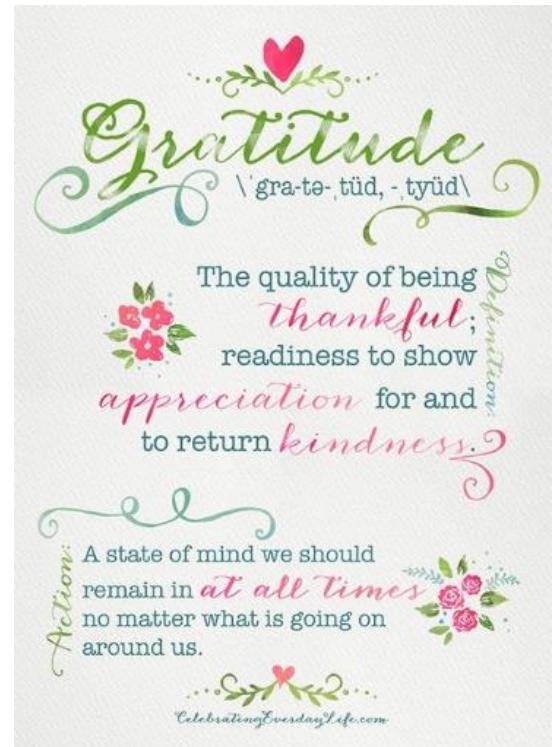
Help us to be grateful for all your blessings and listen to the Wisdom that calls us to the Kingdom of God.

Hear our prayer.

Be gentle on yourselves and your children.

God bless

Marie Butel-Simoes



At St Joseph's East Maitland, we are a faith community living the experience of the Body of Christ in all we do. Our mission is striving for excellence, with empathy and integrity. We live by Gospel teachings and the Mercy values of respect, courage, compassion, hospitality, service, and justice with Jesus as our guide.

[From the Assistant Principal](#)

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of St Joseph's,

I would like to issue a very warm welcome to each and every one of you as we begin our New Year together. Welcome to our new families who have joined our community this year. To the "old hands" returning to St Joseph's thank you for continuing to trust us with the education of your children. We look forward to a wonderful year filled with learning and fun as we aim to ensure that all students are offered the best possible educational opportunities, in a caring and nurturing environment centered on Catholic values and teachings.



2020 – The Year of Gratitude

Are you a grateful person? Thankful for the good things, big and small, in your life?

In the hustle of to-do lists, work deadlines and being a parent, it's sometimes easy to block out the details of the day, forgetting that each and every day holds precious gifts. From the air we breathe to the friendships we hold close, there is *always* something to be thankful for.

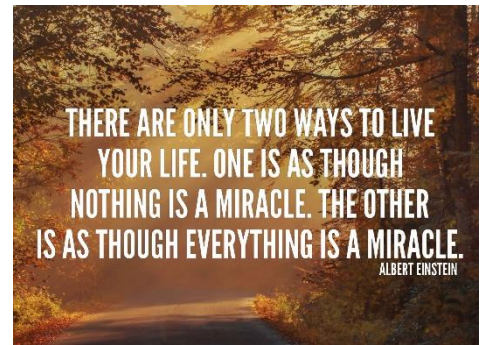
[Parents You Have Homework \(Here it is again, please have a quick read\)](#)

The gift of a good education is a very valuable one.

What can parents and carers do to contribute their part to this gift?

The teachers (school) have one very important part. The child has a very important part. Parents also have an equally important part.

In short, parents have homework. The home is where it all begins. Parents provide, teach, reinforce and enforce. You the parents and carers have a role that no other agency or person can fill. Your child carries with him/her everything that is absorbed in the home.



By the time your child has reached school age, parents have completed lots and lots of "homework." However, a new assignment is just beginning.

When a child begins school, the parent's role takes on a new dimension, that of enhancing the "formal education." That is, the education that is provided by the school.

A parent's role in the education of his/her child has many dimensions. A parent's "homework" carries with it many responsibilities. These responsibilities include keeping the proper attitude toward education and school, supporting/helping your child, setting healthy priorities, consistency in discipline, rewards and consequences, open communication, helping with work missed during sickness, being active in school matters, and controlling your child's school attendance.

Attitude. It begins with attitude. **If you have a positive attitude toward school in general, your child will also have a positive attitude.** Research has proven that parents that talk up their school and teachers have children who overall perform better at school.

If you have concerns about the school or a teacher, be very careful how you voice these concerns in front of your child. Your child will pick up on your attitude, adopt it as his or her own, and take it to school. Negative or indifferent attitudes can be detrimental to your child's attitude and therefore may create problems with behavior while at school.

Successful students have parents that:

- **Have a positive attitude about education**
- **Believe their children can do well**
- **Convey that belief to their children**

Support. Your child cannot go it alone. **Your child needs you to supply what they require for both school and home in the way of equipment and resources for learning.** Be there with all the support and help possible so your child will feel secure in the fact that you will be there for them.

Priorities. For education to come out on top, it must be given top priority.

Consistency. Whatever your methods of managing behaviour, consequences, and household management, consistency is the key. When you promise a consequence, follow through. Be firm. Results, while not always immediate, will be forthcoming. Children are just that - children. Although they are learning to accept some responsibility, they are not yet adults, and should not be treated as such. This is their time in life to learn things like consistency and priorities, and it is your "homework" to instill these qualities in your child. Children need to know that their poor choices can create consequences.

Communication with your child. Talk with your child. Listen to your child. Make casual comments about what he/she is saying to show that you are listening. Do not "put words" in his/her mouth about what went on in class. If your child has an unpleasant story to tell you, do not make it worse for him/her by becoming visibly upset. This will only upset the child even more. Let your child tell the story in his or her own way, in his or her own time. If you resort to an "interrogation", you will likely get the story from a biased point of view. There is a saying that "the teachers will believe half of what the children tell them about what happens at home, if the parents believe half of what they tell them about what happens at school". But remember if the problem persists, call or email the teacher.

Communication with your child's teacher. Keep the lines of communication open. Check your child's agenda daily. **Read all school correspondence, including the Newsletter as these are the teacher's best method of communicating with you.** Always go to the teacher with any problems before going to the Coordinators, Assistant Principal or Principal. You and the teacher are on the same side - the side of your child. The teacher wants your child to succeed.

Missed Work. If your child is absent due to an illness, he or she may need extra attention from you to get caught up on missed work. **"Homework" for the parents is to instill the importance of school tasks in your children.**

Be involved. Show your child that you want to be involved in his or her school. Whenever you get notification of a school meeting, or a school need, show that you are interested. Participate in various activities at school if possible. If there is a school event, show up with your child if possible. If you work there are other ways that you can be involved in the life of the school, please speak to your child's teacher to see what you can do?

Child's Attendance. You, as the parent have the power to control your child's attendance, including being on time. Poor attendance and lateness directly affect a child's school success in numerous ways, emotionally as well as scholastically. Your child may miss vital instruction. Instruction continues right up until dismissal. "Homework" for you as the parent is to keep your child in school.

Yes, parents have "homework". Your homework continues as long as you are responsible for your child. Without your part, your child's school experience will not be all that it can be.

Together, let's prepare the "Gift" of education for your child/ren

Below is a prayer you can pray with your children



back2school prayer

"Dear Lord, use my eyes to *see* new friends.

Open my ears to *hear* my teacher.

Open my mind to *learn* new things.

Let my heart *remember* YOU are near when I'm afraid.

Help me to *love* others like you do.

I want to *shine* your light so bright in my school."

©Courtney DeFeo

Amen.



RE News

Welcome to another school year, and a special welcome to the new teachers, students and families in our community.



At St Joseph's students celebrate the Gospel with Christ as our model. Over the last few years our school has embraced the Charism of the Sisters of Mercy, the founding order of St Joseph's East Maitland.

Throughout the year, we focus on the six key values of Respect, Hospitality, Service, Compassion, Courage and Justice. It is important to not only honour our Mercy heritage but to explicitly teach these values to create an environment that is based on integrity and empathy for all our students, staff, families and the wider community.

All parents, carers and family members are invited to attend our first celebration for the year.



OPENING SCHOOL MASS
KINDER – YEAR 6
Tuesday 18th February
St. Joseph's Church
9.30am

The Year 6 students will receive their leadership badges and make their pledge of leadership during the Opening Mass. All welcome! We look forward to you joining us.

Important Dates

TUES 18th February — Opening School Mass: St Joseph's Church 9.30am K-6

TUES 25th February – Caritas Launch and CSW Theme: Sacred Heart Cathedral (*School Captains and Prefects only*)

WED 26th February — Ash Wednesday Liturgy: in classrooms K-6

SUN 1st March - Kid's Mass: St Joseph's Church East Maitland 6pm
(*Welcome Mass for the new families in our school communities*)

TUES 3rd March– Catholic Schools Week Mass: COLA 9.30am K-6
(*Outdoor Mass followed by Open Classrooms*)

FRI 20th March—St. Joseph's Liturgy: COLA 9.30am K-6

SUN 5th April - Kid's Mass: St Joseph's Church East Maitland 6pm (*Palm Sunday*)

TUES 7th April — School Mass: Church 9.30am 3-6

THURS 9th April – Holy Week Liturgy: COLA – 11.30am



A STUDENT'S PRAYER FOR A NEW SCHOOL YEAR

*Lord Jesus, I ask for Your help as I begin this new school year.
Allow me to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before me.*

*Open my eyes to the new challenges
and exciting opportunities that this new school year brings.
Open my heart and mind to new friends and new teachers.
Give me a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with my studies
and courage to accept new opportunities.*

*Help me to be attentive to my teachers and let me experience
Your presence in my new friends.*

Jesus, inspire me to do my best this year!

Amen



God Bless
Annemarie Arkell

[From the Primary Co-ordinators](#)

[School Facebook Page](#)

Have you found us on Facebook yet?



If you have any urgent enquiries, please contact the school office instead of messaging the Facebook page.

[Compass](#)

For those new families who were unable to attend the Compass information sessions, letters with log in details will go home early next week.

You can access Compass via the following link: <https://eastmaitland-nsw.compass.education>

You can also download the app- Compass School Manager and search for St Joseph's Primary East Maitland.

[Attendance](#)

All student absences are to now be entered via Compass. This is for **whole day absences only**. If your child is arriving late or leaving early you will sign them in or out via the kiosk in the front office. If you are going on holidays for up to 10 days, you will enter this straight in to Compass. For anything longer than 10 days, you must still apply through the front office.

If your child is not going to be at school due to illness or holiday, please enter these details in Compass by 9:00am.

[Year 5 BYOD](#)

Our Year 5 students are all set and ready to start BYOD. Please make sure that students have returned their signed User Agreement to school on Monday if they have not already.

[Safer Internet Day](#)

Start the chat before
someone else does



This year Safer Internet Day will be celebrated on Tuesday, 11 February 2020. The theme is 'Together for a better internet' and Australia's eSafety Commissioner is encouraging parents to mark the day by starting family conversations about online safety. There are lots of fantastic resources on the eSafety

Start the chat about online safety and help make every day a Safer Internet Day!

Join in the Safer Internet Day buzz

This year Safer Internet Day will be celebrated on Tuesday, 11 February 2020. The theme is 'Together for a better internet' and Australia's eSafety Commissioner is encouraging parents to mark the day by starting family conversations about online safety.

You can download our Safer Internet Day resources at esafety.gov.au/sid and use them to start the chat about online safety with your family.

Explore Australia's online safety hub

Check out eSafety's great range of advice and resources. Get started by visiting our **parents and carers** pages and reading the practical tips for kicking off an online safety conversation. You can also download our 'Parents guide to online safety' booklet (available in 5 languages), look through eSafety Kids with your family or get familiar with our **step by step** advice for reporting different types of online abuse. Find out more at esafety.gov.au

Join our free parent webinar

The session will cover how to start the chat about harmful content, contact with strangers and cyberbullying.

Helping Kids Thrive Online

12th February 2020 at 8:00 PM (AEDT) 14th February at 2020 12:00 PM (AEDT) Register now at esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars



esafety.gov.au/sid

website. esafety.gov.au/sid

Awards Week 2

Kindergarten	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Axel Rindfleish Dallas Osborn Hayley Henderson Emmett Walker Sidney Le Mesurier Fred Priestley	Lindsay Chen Darcy Laverick Mia Ridley Danielle Humphries Caden Penton Scarlet-Rose Robinson	Addison Nichols Aengus Horgan Henry Laverick Brayden LeBreton Connor Murphy Sophie Hodson	Reid Myers Oliver Skinner Isabella Thomas Madeline Kelly Isaac MacClure Cayden Norris	Boey Nancarrow Zac Elbourne Ruby Young Sofie Mayet Sam Murray Ella Woodward	Oscar Fields-Smith Riley Deaves	Jack Sullivan Brianna Battersby Lachlan Jackson Marcus Anderson Kaden Lawler Evie Kaal Madeleine Sacco
CHRISTIAN VALUE AWARD- RESPECT						
Jensen Mullard Grace Lewis	Evelyn Sanson Lyla Whitney	Jorja Greedy Lylah Tanner	Leo Field	Hunter Spittles Jack Boyd		Mathew Lyons Nischal Bunnemeyer Oliver Slattery- O'Brien

Dates to remember

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
WEEK 3 9/2	10/2 Gymnastics 1,4,5	11/2	12/2	13/2	14/2	15/2
WEEK 4 16/2	17/2 ASC Regional Swimming Carnival Gymnastics 1,4,5	18/2 Opening Mass 9.30am	19/2 Volunteers Induction 5.45pm & P&F Meeting 6.30pm CC Rooms	20/2 Volunteers Induction 9.30am Library	21/2	22/2

Important Dates for 2020

Date	Event
17 th February	All Saints Regional Swimming Carnival
18 th February	Opening School Mass 9.30am
19 th February	Volunteers Induction 5.45pm & P&F meeting 6.30pm Caroline Chisholm Rooms
20 th February	Volunteers Induction 9.30am
27 th February	Diocesan Swimming Carnival; Kinder & New Families BBQ
3 rd March	Stage 3 Mass 9.30am
6 th March	Catholic Schools Week Liturgy 9.30am
10 th March	Resilience Talk/Morning Tea 9.30am
17 th – 19 th March	Year 6 Canberra Visit
20 th March	St Joseph's Day Liturgy & Activities
27 th March	School Cross County TBC
7 th April	Stage 2 Mass 9.30am
9 th April	Last Day Term 1 & Holy Week Liturgy
27 th April	Pupil Free Day
12 th – 14 th May	Years 3 & 5 NAPLAN
15 th October	School Photo Day
28 th – 29 th October	Year 5 Aussie Bush Camp

School News

Welcome to our Kindergarten new families

The Kindergarten students and parents had a lovely first morning at St Joseph's and there seemed to be more tears from the parents than the Kinders. Kindergarten students have settled in very quickly and appear to enjoy school. They have been supported by their Yr 6 buddies during break times to help them mix with others and learn about school life. We welcome these new families to our school.



Welcome to our new staff

We are very pleased to have these teachers joining our school community and already they feel part of the school staff and have enjoyed meeting many parents in the first two weeks

Mrs Tracee Cinello- Year 1B teacher

Miss Vanessa Blyton – Year 5B teacher

Mrs Robyn Barlin – Year 3W Term 1 only

Mrs Diana Dastor- Japanese Rotation Teacher

Mr Patrick Moran- RFF rotation teacher – Health Stage 3

Mrs Barb Gibson- 1 day a fortnight Learning Support Teacher

Miss Sophie King- Pastoral Care Worker

Kinder and 'New Family' BBQ

The P&F Association would like to extend a warm invitation to all our Kindergarten and new families to attend a welcome BBQ on **Thursday 27th February 2020** from 5.15pm to 6.15pm. This will be held in the Canteen cola.

This is a FREE function which has been a very successful event on the P&F /school calendar providing the opportunity for teachers, students & families to catch up with one another while our children's friendships are being formed.

We would also like to invite our Year 6 students and a parent/guardian to attend and spend some quality time with their respective buddies whilst assisting the P&F Committee in a leadership role.

Please RSVP (from next Monday) via QKR by Monday 24th February.

Parent Volunteer Inductions

All volunteers who assist at the school must complete a Volunteers induction. The next Volunteers inductions will be held on at the following times:

19th February at 5.45 pm before the P&F meeting.

20th February at 9.30am in the library

Attendance

It is very important that all children are at school ready to line up for class at 9.05 am. The roll is marked immediately and if children are not at school when the class moves into their room, they need to go to the office with their parents and parents are to sign them in via compass. Any parent who collects their child early must go to the office for collection. We ask that appointments are made out of class hours so that children are not missing out on learning time.

Interruptions to Learning Time

Learning time is very valuable. Schools have an obligation to ensure students meet subject and hour requirements that are set by NESAs. Parents need to be aware of the impact of enrolling their child in extra – curricula activities such as guitar/ band or withdrawing students out of class early to attend dance or sport or Speech/OT therapy sessions.

When students leave the room the teaching and learning still continues, the teacher does not adjust the timetable to cater for these interruptions and this learning cannot be made up. This is a tricky choice for parents as the opportunity to learn an instrument or receive therapy is fantastic but parents need to be aware that the down side is the loss of learning.

External Therapist Working with Students at School

Catholic schools within the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle and the National Disability Insurance Agency recommend that therapy services funded through a child's NDIS support plan and privately funded therapy are best delivered outside of school time. This allows the school to focus on teaching your child and all other students and ensures your child does not miss out on important learning.

If parents require further information or clarification about engaging therapists during school time please contact the Learning Support team, Mrs Cate Larke & Miss Brooke Hartup at St Joseph's.

Medical issues

If your child has an allergy and an EpiPen/Ventolin, please check the expiry date and upgrade it as necessary. **Medical plans for Anaphylaxis and asthma need to be updated on an annual basis.**

Anaphylaxis

As we have many students across the school who have anaphylaxis, we ask that you do not put nuts or nut products in your child's lunch box. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Sun protection

Students are required to wear their school hat before school. It is best if they get into the habit of wearing their hat to school. Anyone without a school hat will sit in the shade.

Mobile phones

Students may need to have a mobile phone with them at school so that they can be in contact with their parents before or after school, but the phone needs to stay turned off in their bag during supervised school hours. Students are responsible for the care and safety of their own phones. With the right to have a phone comes the responsibility to care for it. The school will not be responsible for the loss or damage of any mobile phone. No student is to be using their mobile phone during school hours.

Students are not permitted to make calls, text, messages, emails, take photos/videos or use any form of social media during school hours. Mobile phones are to be switched off while at school.

School Crossings

Drivers don't forget to stop at the Children's Crossing Flags when children or adults are crossing. When the flags are displayed you must slow down and stop before the stop line if a pedestrian is on or entering the crossing. You must not proceed until pedestrians have left the crossing. You must not stop on or within 200 metres before or 10 metres after a children's crossing. Parents are asked to use the school crossing and not cross in between buses.

Supervision & School Hours

Supervised school hours: 8.40am - 3.30 pm. Playground supervision commences 8.40am.

Student safety: For the safety of your child, please do not send children any earlier and MB Oosh NSW offers before/after school supervision if you need it.

School commences: 9.10 am Recess: 11.05 pm - 11.30 am Lunch: 1.10 pm - 2 pm

School dismissal: 3.10pm After school supervision: 3.10 pm - 3.30pm.

The school day begins at 9.10 am and concludes at 3.10 pm on Mondays to Fridays.

Students do not leave the school grounds once they have entered the school gates

At all times outside school hours, before 8.40 am and after 3.30 pm on Mondays to Fridays, during weekends and holidays, the school grounds and buildings are out of bounds

While normal supervision of students by the school will be undertaken between 8.40 am and 3.30 pm on Mondays to Fridays, no supervision will be provided other than between those hours and no responsibility will be taken by the school for any consequence of the activities of students outside those hours.

Would you please assist the school, in the interest of the safety of students, by ensuring that your child does not attend or remain in the precincts of the school outside the hours of 8.40am to 3.30pm on Mondays to Fridays.

After school: All students are to be supervised by an adult out of school hours.

Afternoon Dismissal Procedures 2020

We ask all parents and grandparents to become acquainted with these procedure to ensure we keep our students safe at the end of the day.

Gates:

The King St gate behind Year 3 and the **Presbytery gate** will open at **2.45pm**. **Parents are asked to wait in the canteen cola or the tarred section near the boy's toilets. Please don't wait in the Infants quad, opposite Year 6 or Primary colas assembly area and eating area** as these areas are busy and it can be confusing for students if parents are in these areas at the end of day. It creates additional pressure on students as they are moving to their departure spot.

The gate on the office side of the playground will **not be opened for parent entry** as this will be opened by the duty teacher for King St walkers who are accompanied off the site and for students catching buses.

Students have a number of lines that can be selected in the afternoon for departure.

King St Walkers is the first line to leave the school. The duty teacher walks the children along King St to the corner of the street. Parents who wish to collect their child from this line are asked to wait on the grass in front of the administration building or on King St as the duty teacher will walk the children to parents. This is a fast exit for families if they are willing to park up in King St.

Bus students are to line up in the Primary Cola for dismissal.

Oosh Pickup- All students attending Oosh are to go directly to the library area, the students are to sit on the tiered seating in the Infants quad.

Primary Valet and Canteen Cola Pickup

Primary students who are exiting by **Valet or car pickup** in the church car park are to line up near the Year 3 room to meet the duty teacher (usually Mr Carey) who walks the children towards the valet point. Primary children who are being picked up must walk to the Canteen Cola to meet the Cola duty teacher and wait for

parent pickup. **Primary students are to join the Infants Students and sit in Canteen Cola to wait for pickup.**

NO STUDENT IS ALLOWED TO WALK TO THE CARPARK ALONE.

Infants Valet Pickup.

Valet Infants Students line up outside Year 2B room and wait for the duty teacher. The duty teacher will walk the students to Valet.

Infants Canteen Cola Pickup (new procedure)

Infant's students line up outside the Year 1B room and are walked to the canteen cola for parent pickup. Students are to sit in Canteen Cola to wait for the pickup.

PARENTS ARE NOT TO WAIT FOR CHILDREN IN THE INFANTS QUAD OR THE PRIMARY COLA. THIS IS A VERY BUSY TIME OF DAY AND PARENTS NEED TO VACATE THESE AREAS.

Valet Procedures to be followed (Pick up after school):

If you wish to use Valet, please have your family name displayed on the dashboard for pick up. These signs are available after completing a user agreement form from the school office.

Valet is a No Standing Zone from 8.30am - 9.10am and again from 3.15m - 3.30pm. Parents or grandparents are not to leave the car and students must be able to open car door and embark into the car without assistance.

When the bell goes at 3.10 pm Primary students go to the tarred area in front of Year 3 and wait for the teacher on duty before moving to the valet area. Infants students line up near Year 2 room to wait for the teacher on duty before moving to the valet area.

Teachers are on duty from 3.10pm - 3.30pm. This allows parents to stagger their pickup time so that vehicles don't have to queue in King Street. Please allow a few minutes after 3.10 pm for the children to arrive to Valet.

If students are not ready to be collected, parents do not hold up the traffic and wait for them but proceed around the block.

Siblings are asked to wait together and this helps for a quick pick up.

In wet weather there is no Valet - When it is raining children are picked up from the Canteen Cola. Parents are asked to park in the church car park and walk over to collect their child. The double gates are open for a quicker pickup.

Teachers are very vigilant when doing this duty, ensuring they supervise children getting into cars safely. There have been cases where teachers have been abused for asking drivers to move on if they have arrived too early or students cannot be found. ***Respect is to be maintained at all times.***

Wellbeing

A student's wellbeing can change over time and encompasses the health of the whole student – physical, mental, social and emotional. The link below provides some valuable wellbeing tools for parents to use with their children.

<https://beyou.edu.au/resources/tools-and-guides/wellbeing-tools-for-students>



[*Mini Vinnies Christmas Appeal*](#)

Thank you to all the families who very generously contributed to our Mini Vinnies Christmas Appeal. The photos below show how the St Vincent de Paul Team were able to deliver a large number of disadvantaged people and families from our region with some special food and treats to share on Christmas Day. Thank you for making a difference in their lives.



[*Morning tea for parents - Building Resilience in children*](#)

Resilience is the ability to bounce back from adversity. It's about learning how to cope with life's challenges and build strengths that protect and promote well-being. It can help us to not just survive, but to thrive. When children are resilient, they are braver, more curious, and more adaptable.

Please join myself for some morning tea on **Tuesday 10th March at 9.30am** for a talk on building resilience in children. If you can please RSVP to the front office.

I look forward to seeing those of you who can make it.

Stacey Mortimer School Psychologist

[*LEXIA – Year 1 to Year 3*](#)

All students in Year 1 to Year 3 have a login to use LEXIA at home and at school.

LEXIA is a research-based reading program that supports students to grow their reading skills. The program is a mastery program and is responsive to the individual learning needs of all students from Kinder to Year 7 level. Students regardless of their ability or skills should be logging in at least 3 times a week at home to support their skills and growth as a reader.

Parents of students in older grades who would like access LEXIA for their child are invited to contact Brooke Hartup for a login. Brooke.hartup@mn.catholic.edu.au

[*2020 Activities*](#)

Coding will commence in Term 2 and continue throughout the rest of the year. All students will receive 10 weeks of coding lessons during the year. After school Coding classes and holiday Coding classes will be offered commencing Term 2.

Japanese is taught across grades Year 1-6. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to learn and be exposed to a foreign language.

[*Gifted Education*](#)

This year St Joseph's Gifted Education teacher is Mrs Jessica Palmer. Congratulations to following students who have been selected to participate in the Virtual Academy: Hayden Searle, Samuel Collis and Alexander Rayfield.

Morning and Afternoon Pick-ups -Do not park in the Drs Carpark across the road

Please be advised that the owners of the businesses across the road have now called in the parking rangers to enforce the parking in their privately owned carpark. Under NO circumstances are parents to park in that carpark when dropping off or collecting their children from school. Doing so will run the risk of being fined, clamped & towed.

Lunch Seats

A big thank you to the P & F for our kinder lunch benches. They have arrived and are being constructed at the moment. They will be a perfect size for the little ones.

Head phones

All students in Year K-6 are now asked to bring their own headphones. These need to be clearly labelled with their name as they will be kept at school.

Uniform Reminders

The appropriate School Uniform must be correctly worn to and from school each day. (This includes all accessories such as ties.)

Sports Uniform may only be worn on Sports Day or as otherwise directed by the teachers.

Blouses and shirts must be tucked in (common sense will apply when students are playing active games at recess and lunch).

School Hat to be worn outside at all times. A “no hat – play in the shade” policy applies.

Earrings – to be silver/gold studs or sleepers only. No three-dimensional or coloured earrings to be worn.

Necklace – one only and should be of a religious significance only. To be worn under clothing.

Watches – permitted.

Rings – one only and to be signet/birthstone

Bangles, bracelets or anklets of any description are not to be worn.

Parents must provide a note explaining any variation to uniform.

Grooming expectation when wearing the school uniform

Hair should always be tidy and shoulder length hair must be tied up. Hair to be kept in natural colours only.

No extreme haircuts or rat tails are allowed.

Only navy ribbons or school uniform material/navy “scrunchies” may be worn in the hair.

Coloured nail polish is not to be worn.

Make-up, body glitter or any other cosmetic accessories are not to be worn.

School shoes

Black leather jogger style school shoes will now be permitted in addition to the standard school shoe.

Specifically not allowed are canvas style (converse, running shoe) or mesh jogger – must be leather or leather substitute in plain black. Examples below (for illustrative purposes only, does not have to be any specific brand) :

Shoes that are ALLOWED under the policy (examples)



Shoes that are NOT ALLOWED under the policy (examples)



Sports Joggers

The all white jogger policy has been relaxed to mostly white with some colour accents allowed. Specifically not allowed are brightly coloured, all over coloured joggers – must be mostly white with some colour or accents. Examples below (for illustrative purposes only, does not have to be any specific brand) :

Shoes **that are ALLOWED** under the policy (examples)



Shoes that are **NOT ALLOWED** under the policy (examples)



Newsletter Advertising

Advertising space is still available in the fortnightly newsletter. Please contact the office for more information.

Office Notices

School Fee Information 2020

Thank you to those families who have completed their blue 'Fee Discount form'. It is very important that these forms are completed and returned for each family for every new school year. Discounts cannot be applied without the form being lodged. Outstanding forms have been re-sent to families next week. Please return them as soon as possible.

School Fees are issued each new school year around Week 3-4 and will be emailed out. The majority of families choose BPAY as their preferred payment option so that the whole expense can be paid off weekly, fortnightly or monthly throughout the year. Other options are Cash, cheque or EFTPOS at the Office or over the phone.

For your information, the approximate cost for 2020 for total yearly school fees is

\$3083 for 1 child ... this equates to approximately \$80 per week

\$4610 for 2 children ... approximately \$115 per week

\$5882 for 3 children ... or approx \$145 etc

Year 5 & 6 Camps

These are separate to school fees and **MUST BE PAID PRIOR TO CAMPS.**

The Year 6 Canberra excursion will be 17- 19/3 March year and will cost \$400.

The Year 5 Camp will be on 28 – 29/10 and will cost \$300 approximately.

If you choose to pay the Camp fee via BPAY or QKR we request that you advise us when you have paid (by phone or email). This will ensure that the money is directed straight off the Camp.

Health Care Cards must be presented each new school year and a copy provided to the Office, and an additional form also needs to be completed at the office.

Should you have any queries at any time with Fees or in meeting your fee obligations feel free to contact the Office on 4933 5536 or admin@eastmaitland.catholic.edu.au

Learning Support News

Welcome to 2020

Our learning Support teachers & case managers are:

Cate Larke

Grades K,1,2,3

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday

cate.larke@mn.catholic.edu.au



Brooke Hartup

Grades 4,5,6

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

brooke.hartup@mn.catholic.edu.au



Our school has a very good network of support headed by our Learning Support Teachers. This team supports the classroom teachers and parents in the following areas:

Transition

New enrolments

Students with learning difficulties

Students with social difficulties / anxiety/ sensory issues

Students needing Medical/ physical support

Therapist liaison

Letters for external therapists and NDIS reports

NAPLAN adjustments

Accessing the Learning Support Team

1. Firstly, contact with the classroom teacher to discuss the needs of your child.
 2. The classroom teacher will then meet with the LST
 3. Once on caseload, the Learning Support case manager will make contact as needed, however, the classroom teacher is **always** your main contact.
-

P & F News

The AGM for the P&F and the first P&F meeting will be held on Wednesday 19 February and all are welcome to attend. If you are interested in holding a position on the P&F, please come along and nominate yourself.

Unfortunately if we do not have enough people offering to assist with the P&F we will need to dissolve the P&F which would be extremely sad. Please support the P&F.

Library News

We have been having lots of fun at lunch time in the Library already this term!

Our amazing Library is open every Tuesday and Wednesday and every second Thursday (even weeks) at second half lunch.

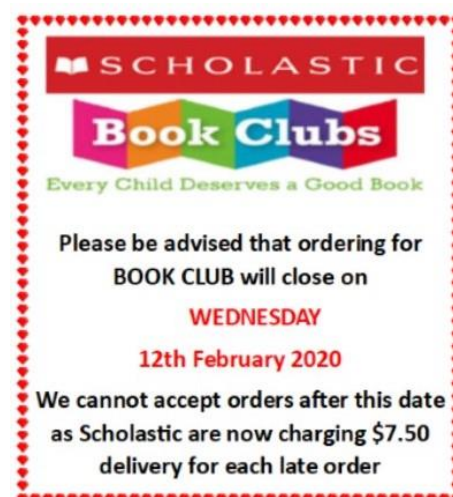


Library Borrowing Times

Library Borrowing Timetable Term 1 2020

Monday	Tuesday	Thursday
YEAR 4 YEAR 5 YEAR 6	YEAR 1 YEAR 2 YEAR 3	KINDER

Borrowing commences Week 3
Library volunteering commences Week 4
Rosters to be sent out next week.



Happy reading,

Mrs Ziemba, Mrs Wallace and
Mrs Bezzina

Sports News

St Joseph's Swimming Carnival

We had a fabulous day at Maitland Aquatic Centre on Monday 3rd February, with the weather holding off long enough to complete our School Swimming Carnival. Congratulations to all of our students. They certainly participated with enthusiasm and showed their school pride, house spirit and sporting abilities as they competed and cheered on their fellow housemates. A day such as this cannot be held without the generosity of our parent community. Thank you to all of our amazing volunteers who are essential to the smooth running of the day.

Results of the carnival will be announced in the coming weeks with the presentation of the swimming trophy. Congratulations to the following students who have qualified for our school swimming team to represent us at the All Saints Cluster Regional Carnival at Maitland Aquatic Centre on Monday 17th February under the management of Mrs Michaelie Schweinberger:

Oscar Schweinberger, Damien Pitcher, Layton Kelly, Xavier Schweinberger, Jack Allen, Alijah McLetchie, Cayden Norris, Connor Burns, Isaac MacClure, Darcy Butchard, Henry Harrison, Ashton Greedy, Elijah Antcliff, Riley Barnes, Jack Lantry, Gabriel Chriba, Connor Burns, Preston Stace, Samuel Murray, Chloe Murray, Keeley Fogarty, Iman Mayet, Ruby Pitcher, Zahli Walmsley, Olivia Mackaway, Alana Barnes, Audrey Antcliff, Josie Field, Hannah Sargent, Poppy Carlstrom, Anaelle Tule, Olivia Spittles, Katelyn Nichols, Claire Dupal, Lucy Greaves, Emalee Farrell, Abigail Mackaway, Josie Field and Miranda Murray. All notes have been sent home and must be returned BY THIS MONDAY 10th FEBRUARY at the latest.

Winter Sports Trials

Notes went home this week, with selected students who are turning 10 years or older this year, regarding nominations for the winter sports trials. Nominations for representation are available for the following sports: Rugby League, Soccer, Netball, Hockey, Rugby Union, Touch Football and AFL. All regional winter sports trials will be completed by 10th March so please look out for notes in bags or Compass Alerts as to the dates when events will be held or when notes must be returned. School soccer trials will be held ASAP as Regional trials are being held next Friday 14th February at Cessnock.

Summer Sports – POLDING EVENT in LISMORE

Congratulations and good luck to students, Pheobe McGregor and Ben Hindle, as they compete in Polding events of Basketball and Tennis this Friday in Lismore. What a fabulous achievement and we can't wait to hear how your day went.

Gymnastics Program

Students in Year 1, 4 and 5 will begin a gymnastics program running for 8 weeks beginning this MONDAY 10th February. Year 4B will start our rotations promptly in the Therry centre at 9:10. They will miss Monday morning assembly. Year 4B are to line up at their classroom to walk down with their teacher when the bell goes at 9:05.

Dates for the Calendar

Regional Rugby League Trials – Thursday 13th February
Regional Soccer Trials – Friday 14th February
ASC Regional Swimming Trials - Monday 17th February
Diocesan Cricket Trials - Friday 13th March (regional date still to be advised)
Diocesan Swimming Carnival - Thursday 27th February
Diocesan Trials – Tuesday 24th March
Polding Trials – Friday 1st May, Bathurst

Thank you for your support,
Karen Kiem
Sports Coordinator



Canteen News

Canteen Roster

Monday 10/2	Tuesday 11/2	Wednesday 12/2	Thursday 13/2	Friday 14/2
Kirri Jackson	Susanne Goodman	Alison Lantry	Trisha Oswald	Kelly Grice
Sonia Lantry	Helen Pantaleo	Amy Prebble	Linda Hogan	Michelle Smith
Carisa Mitchell		Amanda Fogarty		Sarah Ridgley
Monday 17/2	Tuesday 18/2	Wednesday 19/2	Thursday 20/2	Friday 21/2
Kylie Lantry	Megan Pyziakos-Duggan	Roslyn Rayfield	Amy Gibson	Renae Mackaway
Marilyn Vidler	Rebecca Broekman	Belinda Cornwall	Fiona Martin	Belinda Roberts
				Margie Field
				Amanda Rostron

OKR

Please make sure that you have updated your child's profile on the QKR app so we can process payments and canteen orders correctly.

New Canteen Menu

A new Canteen menu for 2020 will be distributed shortly. Price adjustments have to be made for Fruit and Vegetables as prices have increased for those products.

Special Order Days

The Canteen will be having 2 special order days in Term 1. A Cheesburger/Hotdog day & Easter Orders for Good Friday.

More information will be sent home in the next few weeks.

Parish News

Sacraments of Initiation

COMMITMENT SUNDAY with RITUAL OF THE SPRINKLING RITE will be at all Masses on Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th February. This is where the children bring with them their Form of Commitment and hand it to the Priest during Mass. The community will be able to welcome the children who are participating in the Sacraments of Initiation within their Community.

RECONCILIATION Dates to remember:

The next meetings for parents, caregivers and children will be held in the following churches.

NOTE The family and children only need attend ONE of these meetings. TIME 7PM
St Paul's Rutherford on the 11th February; St Joseph's East Maitland on 12th February
Our Lady of Lourdes Beresfield on 13th February

ACTiv8

ACTiv8 Youth Ministry are bringing Fr Rob Galea and his band to Maitland for a concert on Tuesday 31st March.

The concert will take place at All Saints Collage, St Marys Campus, 6.30pm – 8.00pm

Tickets available at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/activ8-youth-concert-with-fr-rob-galea-tickets-91727217577?aff=ebdssbeac>

Don't miss this rare opportunity to see Fr Rob live in concert. The concert is suitable for all ages.

Come along and be inspired by his uplifting music. Tickets are limited for this very special event.

Fr Robert Galea is an ordained Catholic Priest and is currently serving in Shepparton, Australia after moving to Australia in 2007 from Malta, his home country. He is a singer and songwriter with a comparable international fan base. Apart from a series of recordings and CD releases, Robert has also written a number of songs for various campaigns and international conferences.

Robert has recorded with artists such as pop idol Guy Sebastian, Paulini, Gary Pinto, Natasha Pinto and Amelia Farrugia, and has shared the stage with the likes of Matt Maher, Hillsong United, Darlene Zschech and more. After being selected to sing in the international version of the official World Youth Day song "Receive the Power", Robert entered the realm of the cast of musicians having performed in some key events before an estimated 500,000 pilgrims in Sydney.

Kid's Mass



Chisholm Region @ St Joseph's East Maitland

KIDS MARCH

KIDS MASS

Bring the kids ... Bring the whole family...

A special welcome to Kinder 2020

MUSIC, CUSHIONS, SAUSAGES, CAKE, FUN, FRIENDS, JESUS!!

SUNDAY 1ST MARCH 6PM

COME EARLIER TO JOIN IN WITH THE MUSIC, DO A READING, OR OTHER MINISTRY

*Thank you
to our
2020
Newsletter
Sponsors.*

**HELP MAKE THIS SCHOOL YEAR
THE BEST EVER FOR YOUR CHILD!**

BENEFITS OF RHEE TAEKWONDO FOR KIDS

- ★ **LISTENING** - Your child will be able to practice their listening skills to develop better self-control, discipline and values.
- ★ **HAND-EYE COORDINATION** - Hand-eye coordination is important in your child's early development. Rhee Taekwondo provides plenty of opportunities to improve fine motor skills through techniques, obstacles, drills and challenges.
- ★ **SPEED, AGILITY AND BALANCE** - Speed, agility and balance gives your child better body awareness and coordination.
- ★ **SOCIALIZATION** - Kids experience partner and team-oriented situations in class that helps develop strong communication skills.
- ★ **GOAL SETTING** - Goal setting is an important skill for kids to learn. Rhee Taekwondo teaches both short-term and long-term goal setting in a fun and positive environment.
- ★ **MEMORY & FOCUS** - Learning Rhee Taekwondo sharpens memory focus retention skills. It also keeps kids mentally engaged.

THORNTON

Pat Hughes Community Hall
Taylor Avenue, THORNTON
Tues & Thurs 6.00 - 7.15pm

ASHTONFIELD

Hunter Valley Grammar School
Cameron Centre
Thurs 3.30 - 4.45pm

Enquire Today:

Robert Durighello
0437 037 964

E: rtkd.newcastle@gmail.com



Please Support them