



# ST JOHN'S NEWS

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## PRINCIPAL NEWS

Dear Parents,

This is the final newsletter for 2018.

We celebrate our end of Year Liturgy in the Church Friday morning from 11:15 am. This will be a time to reflect on the year, to celebrate and acknowledge the challenges

and achievements we have faced together. We will farewell Year 6 families and staff leaving us and we'll acknowledge their commitment and contribution to our community over those years.

We enjoyed the annual Talent Quest for Catholic Mission this week. All our finalist can be really proud of their performances and more proud that their efforts helped raise over \$400 for those in need this Christmas. Donations for Christmas hampers have also been pouring in and we have been able to provide St Vincent de Paul a truck load of goods which will help many people in need enjoy a special Christmas this year. Well done St John's!

We have experienced sadness and loss during the year. In many ways this has encouraged an outpouring of compassion from our community, but particularly from our children. Our thoughts are very much with those who have lost loved ones during the year and with those experiencing illness. The image of the Holy Family gathered in the manger is particularly poignant as a reminder of the peace and comfort our saviour offers us.

My deep appreciation to the staff of St John's for their amazing work with your children and our families during 2017. We are blessed to have such a caring, cohesive group of people doing their very best every day for the children of St John's. I wish them a well-deserved and relaxing break.

School return dates for 2018 are on our website along with booking information for Maths Assessment Interviews during the first week back.

On behalf of the staff, I wish each family a very happy and holy Christmas, some relaxing time together as a family and a fabulous New Year. Thank you for the support you have provided for St John's during 2017.

Sincerely

Mark Bateman - Principal

### Christmas Eve Mass:

A special children's mass will be held outdoor December 24<sup>th</sup> with carols beginning at 4:30pm and Christmas Eve Mass at 5:00pm. Children can come along dressed as angels, shepherds, and wise men or in Gospel attire. Bring a picnic rug and chair and take part in a beautiful family celebration.



# CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS!!!

Week 1 Term 1 Mon 29 Jan	Week 1 Term 1 Tues 30 Jan	Week 1 Term 1 Wed 31 Jan	Week 1 Term 1 Thurs 1 Feb	Week 1 Term 1 Fri 2 Feb	Week 1 Term 1 Sat/Sun 3 & 4 Feb
<b>Staff Development Day</b>	<b>Year 1-6 MAI interviews Kindergarten Best Start/MAI interviews</b>	<b>Year 1-6 – First day of Term 1 Kindergarten Best Start/MAI interviews</b>	<b>Kindergarten at school until 12pm Kindergarten Best Start/MAI interviews in the afternoon</b>	<b>Kindergarten at school until 12pm Kindergarten Best Start/MAI interviews in the afternoon</b>	<b>Sunday from 11am – Welcome picnic for Kinder 2018 (and anyone else who would like to come!)</b>

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE DIARY – FIRST FEW WEEKS OF 2018

### Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January

Staff Development Day

### Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January

Year 1-6 MAI interviews

Kindergarten Best Start/MAI interviews

### Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January

Year 1-6 – First day of Term 1

Kindergarten Best Start/MAI interviews

### Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February

Kindergarten at school until 12pm

Kindergarten Best Start/MAI interviews in the afternoon

### Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February

Kindergarten at school until 12pm

Kindergarten Best Start/MAI interviews in the afternoon

### Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February

Getting to know you picnic for Kinder 2018 and any new families

– on the astro-turf at St John's after 10am Mass – ALL

WELCOME!

### Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February

St John's Swimming Carnival

### Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February

Ash Wednesday

## CANTEEN

### IMPORTANT NOTE: Canteen is CLOSED every TUESDAY AND THURSDAY

W1, Term 1 Mon 29 Jan	W1, Term 1 Tues 30 Jan	W1, Term 1 Wed 31 Jan	W1, Term 1 Thurs 1 Feb	W1, Term 1 Fri 2 Feb	<p><b>We require 2 volunteers each day to operate the canteen.</b></p> <p>If anyone would like to join our group of canteen volunteers, click <a href="#">here</a> or email <a href="mailto:cendrine01@optusnet.com.au">cendrine01@optusnet.com.au</a></p> <p><b>Canteen Coordinator:</b> Cendrine Lambert (0435030903)</p>
CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	
CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	
W2, Term 1 Mon 5 Feb	W2, Term 1 Tues 6 Feb	W2, Term 1 Wed 7 Feb	W2, Term 1 Thurs 8 Feb	W2, Term 1 Fri 9 Feb	
CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	
CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	

### CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY OUTDOOR MASS – 24<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER @ 5PM

St John's will be celebrating Christmas Eve Mass at 5pm on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December. This is a very family friendly event held out in the back playground (weather permitting) and the children are encouraged to dress up as shepherds and angels.

**HOLY FAMILY NEEDED!** We are looking for a mum and dad and bub to play the part of the Holy Family at the Christmas Eve Mass. Let the parish office know on 99826536 if you can help.

### CHRISTMAS BUSH – HELP!

The Parish are selling Christmas Bush at the Christmas Eve Mass. All money will go to St Vincent de Paul. If you have any Christmas Bush you can donate on the day it would be greatly appreciated!



**Open Air Family Mass**  
Sunday December 24<sup>th</sup> at 5.00 pm  
(carols start at 4:30)

St John's Church, Narraweena

All Welcome

Children can dress up as an angel or a shepherd and be part of the Offertory Procession.



Bring a rug to sit at the front or a chair to sit at the back.  
It'll be great to see you there.

Other Christmas Mass times at St Johns:  
Christmas Day – 8 & 10 am



If anyone is available to help set up for the Mass at 11 o'clock on Sunday, please contact the Parish office on 9982 6536.

## SCHOOL NEWS

### A FEW FINAL REMINDERS

#### Medication

All medication held by the school needs to be collected by an adult (we cannot send medication home with the children). Please see your class teacher.

#### MAI Bookings

As per emails sent out last week, these interviews will take place early next year. Log on to [www.schoolinterviews.com](http://www.schoolinterviews.com) and use the following codes to book a time for your child/children. (Remember if you can't find an appropriate time with your child's teacher there are other teachers taking interviews at the same time.)

Kindergarten 2018 code [4ash5](#)

Years 1 – 6 2018 code [9874b](#)

## Library Books

A last shout out for these few missing books – we have had a great response. This also applies to any school readers that you find.

## Lost Property

Last chance to check for missing hats, jumpers, lunch boxes.

## **SCHOOL STUDENT TRANSPORT SCHEME (SSTS)**

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This is a reminder regarding the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) and students progressing from Year 2 to 3 and Year 6 to 7.

**We have made some improvements to our system which now means that students who are progressing to Year 3 and Year 7 do not need to reapply if they meet the following three conditions:**

- are continuing at the same school
- are residing at the same address
- have not been sent an expiry notification from Transport for NSW.

The system has automatically validated a student's ongoing eligibility if they're at the same school and progressing to Year 3 and Year 7. Where a student met the new eligibility the system has updated their entitlement and card. If they didn't meet the new eligibility, they would have been sent an expiry notification.

If students need to update any information or reapply, they should go online to <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updateDetails>.

Applications need to be submitted before **31 December 2017** to ensure students' entitlements are updated and their current card is not cancelled. If their application is submitted after 31 December 2017, the system will automatically cancel their card and a new one will need to be issued.

Students in the Opal network applying for an SSTS or Term Bus Pass entitlement for the first time will receive their card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out during the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of January 2018.

Students residing in Rural and Regional (R&R) areas should receive their new travel pass at the commencement of the new school year in 2018. **Note:** some R&R operators do not issue travel passes. Students should check with their operator for more information.

***SSTS Concessions, 131 500***