



# ST JOHN'S NEWS

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## PRINCIPAL NEWS

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school for 2019!

There was great excitement this morning as the children reconnected with their friends and met their new classmates. The teachers have been working hard during the break and especially during the past week to ensure our learning environments are welcoming, well organised and ready for a smooth start to the year. Our Maths Assessment Interview day ran smoothly yesterday. Thank you for your cooperation with the processes involved. Our aim is have all children assessed by Week 4 this term.

A special welcome to the following new students and their families:

Year 6 – Isabella G; Year 5 – Charlie B; Year 5/6 – Rachael S, Oscar J, Sophia L, Isabella L and Campbell D; Yr 4 – Massimiliano (Massi) S; Yr 3/4 – Ruby G; Yr 3 – Albie R; Year 2 – Crisitiana G and Yr 1 – Levi E.

Tomorrow is the Feast Day of St Brigid. Our school was first staffed by the Brigidine Sisters who had their origins in Tullow, Ireland. The sister's work was inspired by the life and great faith of St Brigid. There are hundreds of Catholic schools of which we are one, operating today as a result of the missionary work of Brigidine nuns. We will celebrate St Brigid's day with a special prayer time on the blue soft fall in the morning. The Brigidine Cross is displayed in each of our classrooms as a sign of connection with this part of our story (<https://spiritualray.com/meaning-story-of-saint-brigids-cross>). Miss Dunk has created an interesting display in our foyer to celebrate this special day.



***“May the blessing of God and the Trinity be on this cross, and on the home where it hangs and on everyone who looks at it.” Rita Mihehan, ‘Rekindling the Flame’***

Best wishes

**Mark Bateman** – Principal

### **Kindergarten 2019:**

Our new Kindergarten children and their families arrive for a half day Friday, February 1<sup>st</sup>. All Kindergarten children and families are invited to attend a picnic this Sunday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> in the school grounds. This is a BYO food and drinks (no alcohol) event and aims to provide an opportunity for parents and children to meet and enjoy each other's company. The picnic will be held on the green synthetic grass next to the playground from 11:00am – 1:00pm.

## Parent / Teacher Information Nights and Meetings 2019:

We will be holding Parent/ Teacher Information Evenings during Weeks 2 and 3 this term. The evenings are held for parents and teachers to meet; to explain class routines and to have organisation of classes and grades clarified for the year. There will be opportunities for parents to ask questions of the teachers about class organisation. Meetings will be held on the following dates and times:

Kindergarten – 6:30 – 7:15pm Tuesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> – School Library

Years 1 - 6:30-7:15pm – Tuesday, February 12<sup>th</sup> – Year 1 Classrooms (Room 3 and 4)

Year 2 – 6:30 – 7:15pm – Wednesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> – Library

Year 3 and 4 – 6:30 – 7:15pm Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup> – Library

Years 5 and 6 – 6:30 – 7:15pm Monday February 11<sup>th</sup> – School Library

Parents will be invited to a goal setting meeting with the teacher and their child at the end of Term One. Parents will also be invited to a check-in meeting with their child and teacher at the end of Term Two following the distribution of Semester 1 reports. There will be optional end of year meetings to discuss end of year reports in Term 4 and these will be held in December.

## Update on holiday projects

Playground work continues and is on schedule. Work will continue for approximately 4-5 weeks. We have been able to open the play equipment to the children safely while workman continue various projects in fenced off parts of the play equipment area. Our intention is not to remove any play equipment but to add creative play areas to the existing space, increase the natural shade and renew the area closest to the hall with a large play mound complete with tunnel, seating areas and two bush tucker garden spaces under construction.

You received a letter at the end of 2018 concerning a proposal regarding the hall from Father Reinaldo. This consultation continues and Father will advise us of the outcome.

## DIARY

<b>Week 2 Term 1</b> Mon 4 Feb	<b>Week 2 Term 1</b> Tues 5 Feb	<b>Week 2 Term 1</b> Wed 6 Feb	<b>Week 2 Term 1</b> Thurs 7 Feb	<b>Week 2 Term 1</b> Fri 8 Feb	<b>Week 2 Term 1</b> Sat/Sun 9/10
<b>Kinder – First Full Day</b>	<i>6:30 pm Kinder Parent Information Evening</i>		<i>6:30 pm Year 3 &amp; 4 Parent Information Evening</i>	<i>2 pm Welcome Liturgy</i>	<i>5 pm Yr 1 &amp; 6 Mass</i>
<b>Week 3 Term 1</b> Mon 11 Feb	<b>Week 3 Term 1</b> Tues 12 Feb	<b>Week 3 Term 1</b> Wed 13 Feb	<b>Week 3 Term 1</b> Thurs 14 Feb	<b>Week 3 Term 1</b> Fri 15 Feb	<b>Week 3 Term 1</b> Sat/Sun 16/17
<i>6:30 pm Year 5 &amp; 6 Parent Information Evening</i>	<i>6:30 pm Yr 1 Parent Information Evening</i>	<i>6:30 pm Yr 2 Parent Information Evening</i>		<i>SRC presentation @ assembly</i>	

## Term Dates 2019

**Term 1 31<sup>st</sup> January – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April**

**Term 2 30<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 5<sup>h</sup> July**

**Term 3 22<sup>nd</sup> July – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September**

**Term 4 14<sup>th</sup> October – Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

## ICLT User Agreements at St John's

**Technology User Student Agreements will be sent home this week. Please take the time to read through and discuss the agreement with your child before signing and returning to school ASAP.**

### URGENT – SWIMMING CARNIVAL – Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> Feb Wk 4

Thank you to those families who have completed the [Google form](#) for the upcoming swimming carnival but we still have many forms outstanding.

We are preparing the program and finalising buses at the beginning of next week and need details for all children Years 1-6. Thank you for your assistance in completing the form (also on homepage of the Weebly): <https://goo.gl/forms/0xicdC5hVJmLd2y43>

### COMMUNICATION UPDATES FOR 2019

**NEWSLETTERS** – Newsletters will continue to be uploaded to our website on Thursday afternoons. From Week 2, we will no longer send an email to families, rather we will just send a Flexibuzz to let you know it is ready to read.

To ensure effective communication we ask for families to please remember to download and use Flexibuzz and Qkr.



#### FLEXIBUZZ

- **UPDATE YOUR CHILDREN'S YEAR GROUP FOR 2019** (click Enter Here, click the 3 lines at the top right of the screen, select year)
- We suggest you also select 'Whole School' in addition to your individual child's class
- Once you have updated the year group you will be able to submit absence notes to your teacher

**QKR** – for canteen ordering, school fee and other payments.

Refer to school website (<https://www.sjandbb.catholic.edu.au/news-events/150/p/>) or Weebly (<https://stjohnsnarraweena.weebly.com/parent.html>) for information on each app

If you have any questions about how to download these Apps or update your child class, please feel free to contact the office.

### LIBRARY NEWS

We are lucky enough to have a large number of new books for students to use in their classrooms for reading. I urgently need help with covering of these fabulous new resources. I will provide the contact and they can be taken home for you to do at your own pace. If you could help out please collect a bag from the library.



#### COMMUNITY LIBRARY:

Have a look at our books in the community library located next to the entrance gate of the school. Books may be borrowed from the library (honour system applies). There is a selection of books appropriate for parents or children and the selection is regularly changed over.

### LIBRARY DAYS AND SPORTS DAYS

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**Library Days** – bring your library bag and books you wish to return

Tuesdays – KB, 5W, 6B

Wednesdays – 3B, 3/4W, 4B, 4W, 5B, 6W

Thursdays – 1B, 1W, 2B, 2W

**PE Sports Days**

Wednesday – 3B, 3/4W, 4B, 4W, 5B, 6W

Thursday – KB, 1B, 1W, 2B, 2W, 5W, 6B



Class sport days are being finalised and will be communicated via Flexibuzz over the coming days. (Don't forget to update your Flexibuzz.)

### NEW CLASS PARENTS NEEDED FOR 2019

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We are looking for 2 class parent volunteers for each class of 2019.

One of the class parent roles is to help organise a school event during the year eg kindly have the disco in term 4. There is a folder of knowledge kept in the office from previous years to assist you with this task.

We also require a representative from each year to attend the P&F meeting which occur once per term. The P&F meeting for term 1 has been scheduled for **Tuesday 26 February** in the library and will go through the events in the calendar year and update you on other school related issues.

Should you wish to volunteer to be a class parent please come and see myself in the playground and email either [Joanne.woolford@bigpond.com.au](mailto:Joanne.woolford@bigpond.com.au) or the office on [sjan@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:sjan@dbb.catholic.edu.au)

### SCHOOL BUS

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- **Students will now require an Opal card which you can apply for online via <http://www.transportnsw.info/school-students>**
- **School Bus route <http://www.sydneybuses.info/news/new-bus-route-numbers-for-school-special-bus-services-in-2016>**

**Children using the bus must remember to tap on and off using their Opal card as the data from registration of trips is used to make decisions on whether the bus keeps running or not.**

### PROCEDURE FOR PICKING UP AND DROPPING OFF CHILDREN ON WARATAH PARADE

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A reminder that each family must register to use the Waratah pick up; in order to receive a laminated family name card. Drivers will place one of these name cards in the windscreen on the passenger side to allow the teachers to see which children need to be ready to get into cars.

**The procedure for Waratah pick up is attached to the newsletter.**



# Safer Internet Day 2019 | Tuesday 5 February

Together for a better internet

RESPECT • RESPONSIBILITY • REASONING • RESILIENCE

**Safer Internet Day** raises awareness about the positive role of digital technology and explores ways we can all contribute to creating a better, safer internet. Coordinated by the Office of the eSafety Commissioner in Australia and celebrated in over 130 countries, this year's Safer Internet Day theme is **'Together for a better internet'**.

Parents are encouraged to get involved and support our young people in developing the critical skills required to successfully navigate the online world. These skills take time to develop but they can help us in all areas of life - online and off. We like to call them the 4Rs...

**Respect** - I treat myself and others the way I like to be treated

**Responsibility** - I am accountable for my actions and I take a stand when I feel something is wrong

**Reasoning** - I question what is real

**Resilience** - I get back up from tough situations

Help spread the word about creating a safer, more positive internet—start a conversation with your child about which of the 4Rs of online safety is most important to them and how can they help build a better internet for everyone.

This year, as part of the wider celebration of Safer Internet Day, we encourage all of our parents, students and teachers to review their privacy settings associated with their social media accounts and adjust as necessary to ensure our own personal safety and privacy.



Use the [Privacy Checkup](#) to review and adjust your settings to make sure you're sharing with who you want. You might also want to review photos and posts that someone has tagged you in. If you don't like something you're tagged in, you can [remove the tag](#) or [ask the person who tagged you to remove the post](#).



Anyone can view your profile and posts on Instagram. You can make your posts [private](#) so that only followers you approve can see them. If your posts are set to private, only your approved followers will see them on hashtag or location pages. You might also want to check that you actually know your [followers](#) in real life.



Configure your Snapchat profile to only receive messages from users on your [My Friends list](#) and to control who you share your stories with. This might be a good opportunity to review your [MyFriends](#) list to ensure that you have only people who you know in real life. You might also want to check that [SnapMap](#), a location-based service is disabled for your own personal safety and privacy.

The Office of the eSafety Commissioner's [iParent](#) portal is packed with resources to help you address online safety with your children.