

St Joseph's College

NEWSLETTER



CONTACT THE COLLEGE

✉ Doyle Drive (PO Box 246)
Banora Point NSW 2486

☎ (07) 5524.9002

FAX (07) 5524.9272

✉ Email: sjcbanora@lism.catholic.edu.au

🌐 Website: www.sjctweed.org

WEEK 1 AT THE COLLEGE

MONDAY 30 JANUARY

- Staff Development Day

TUESDAY 31 JANUARY (DAY 1)

- School commences for all Year Groups

WEDNESDAY 1 FEBRUARY (WED)

THURSDAY 2 FEBRUARY (DAY 2)

FRIDAY 3 FEBRUARY (DAY 3)

Principal's Message

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends of St Joseph's College,

Welcome to the 2012 year and all the learning, challenges, laughs, achievements and celebrations this year will bring. The staff and I look forward to working with you throughout the year.

To our new families, I extend a special welcome and home that we can meet your every expectation. My congratulations to all our staff, parents and students for the wonderful focused beginning to the year.

Welcome also to the following teaching staff, new to St Joseph's College: Angela Finkel, Michael Lill, Jessica McKenzie and Carrienne Scott. Our Year Coordinators for 2012 are:

Year 7 Coordinator	Ms Celia Pennay	Year 10 Coordinator	Gary Wheatley
Year 8 Coordinator	Ms Jenna Mepstead	Year 11 Coordinator	Carlo Trimboli
Year 9 Coordinator	Mr John Besgrove	Year 12 Coordinator	Guy Davoren

A reminder to what's new in 2012 at St Joseph's College:

1. TIMETABLE

From 2012 the College will have a 6 day cyclical timetable with Wednesday being a fixed day to enable elective sport to operate.

This structure has many benefits including the best mix of number of periods combined with frequency of classes, allows for students in VET courses to spread their missed classes across a wider spectrum, and avoids the Last Lesson Friday syndrome amongst other things.

However it also means that students, parents and staff will need to follow carefully which timetable cycle day aligns with which weekday.

Year 11 will be undertaking a 12-unit HSC pattern which will maximise their time on task with their teachers. Study periods become available only in Year 12.

2. SPORT

Sport for Years 7 and 8 will be integrated into the timetable which allows for a better use of resources; staff, school and community. It also allows for a more systematic and educative dimension to be incorporated into Years 7 and 8 with the PDHPE faculty taking a much more prominent role.

Years 9 and 10 will continue with the elective leisure-based sport that will be offered Wednesday afternoon. Years 11 and 12 will not have to do sport. All representative and interschool sport will remain as it currently operates.

3. LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (LMS)

In 2012, the College will be moving from its current LMS, which is called STUDYWIZ, to MOODLE. Moodle is used by many Universities, QLD and NSW TAFE, all the schools in this Diocese and many education systems in Australia and internationally.

In terms of our local context it means that all parents will (eventually) become very familiar with, and be able to use one LMS from Kindergarten to Year 12 to support their child's education. This allied to our new Parent Portal will deliver much more and more timely information to parents.

4. PASTORAL CARE/STUDENT WELFARE

From 2012 there will be a new position in the College, the Coordinator of Students, and in 2012 Mr Peter Serone will be undertaking this role. The role is aimed at strengthening and supporting the pastoral structures in the school and drawing together the work of the College Counsellor, the Special Education Coordinator, the Year Coordinators, the Ministry Coordinator and our Values and Mission Facilitator.

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5. LEARNING TO LEARN

The creation of the Student Coordinator position has allowed some of Mr Lyon's time to be available to work with the Studies Coordinators on improving learning outcomes for the various subjects and to introduce a new programme called Learning to Learn (L2L) in Year 7 and Year 10. This is a very exciting development more details to come.

Remember to sign up for the Parent Portal - contact the College Office for details.

God Bless

Mr Eric Littler
Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S NOTES

• IMPORTANT INFORMATION •

Please take note of the following information as it will assist all students throughout the school year. Please also turn to the back page regarding compulsory attendance at school.

ATTENDANCE

Students need to be at school by 8:30am.

For students to be eligible for the '100% Attendance Award', partial absences (arriving late/leaving early) for the year must not exceed 6 periods (the equivalent of one whole day).

ABSENCES

Parents/Caregivers are asked to telephone the College before 9:00am to notify of your child's absence. Regular attendance is essential, so please keep absences to a minimum.

APPOINTMENTS

Please try and avoid making appointments during school hours unless it is absolutely necessary.

LEAVING EARLY

If a student must leave the school through the day, the parent must also write and sign a note to that affect in their child's College Planner. The student must also show this note during roll marking at LMG.

The parent or carer must collect the student from Parent Reception at the designated time.

Under no circumstances should a child leave the school grounds without being in the company of their parent/carer or designated and responsible adult.

AFTERNOON DETENTIONS

These are held each Monday 3:30-4:30pm. Students placed on these detentions are required to attend on the date specified.

If there are exceptional circumstances, then a note is to be submitted by 8:30am on the Monday to the Deputy Principal.

SCHOOL DIARIES - COLLEGE PLANNERS

This year, we have a Junior (7/8), a Middle (9/10) and a Senior (11/12) College Planner. Each contains a lot of relevant and useful information in the body of the planner for both students and parents in getting the most out of the school year. We hope you use this most helpful tool.

Again this year we will be focusing on the manner in which the students use their planner. A greater emphasis will be placed on the use and care and entering details of homework issued. Please support us by reading and signing the planner each week.

If the planner is subjected to graffiti, a replacement planner will need to be purchased.

UNIFORM

Students are to have a parental/caregiver note if out of uniform. Lunchtime detentions will be issued if otherwise. All students are required to have a College cap.

BODY PIERCING

Please note that visible body piercing (including the 'clear' variety) is NOT permitted.

NON-SUBMISSION OF ASSESSMENT TASKS

Students who fail to submit an assessment task on the due date are required to remain behind each afternoon (Monday to Thursday) from 3:30-4:30pm until the task is submitted.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL SUPERVISION

Teachers are on supervision duty from 8:20am in the morning. All students are required to remain in the quadrangle until the movement bell at 8:40am. In the afternoon, teachers will be on duty until the last bus leaves at 3:45pm.

Please note that the College Office is open until 4:00pm. If a student misses his/her bus or transport home, they should report to the Office.

CAR PARK REMINDER

Parents are reminded NOT to drop off or pick up their children from the Administration carpark area in front of the Technology & Applied Studies Building.

STUDENT PHOTO DAY

When: Friday 2 March 2012

Cost: Dependent on the individual order.

Dress: Full school uniform. Boys will need to wear their tie for the photo.

Payment: On the day - and directly to the photographer.

Please note: Every student will have an individual photo taken for their Student ID card. The cost of this is borne by the school.

Mr Peter Lyon
Deputy Principal



St Joseph's Parish
Tweed Heads

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PARISH TWEED HEADS

Catholic Presbytery
Ph: (07) 5536.7522

PARISH-YOUTH MASS

Our First 2012 Youth Mass will be held
on Sunday 26 February
(end of Week 4)
in the Holy Family Chapel,
St Joseph's College,
Doyle Drive, Banora Point
commencing at 5:30pm

Youth Mass Dates for the remainder
of 2011 are as follows:

TERM 1:

Week 8: Sunday 25 March

TERM 2:

Week 1: Sunday 29 April
Week 5: Sunday 27 May
Week 9: Sunday 24 June

TERM 3:

Week 2: Sunday 29 July
Week 6: Sunday 26 August
Holidays: Sunday 30 September

TERM 4:

Week 3: Sunday 28 October
Week 7: Sunday 25 November

term dates 2012

Term 1 commences on Tuesday 31 January
Term 1 concludes on Thursday 5 April

Term 2 commences on Monday 23 April
Term 2 concludes on Friday 29 June

Term 3 commences on Monday 16 July
Term 3 concludes on Friday 21 September

Term 4 commences on Monday 8 October
Term 4 concludes on Friday 21 December

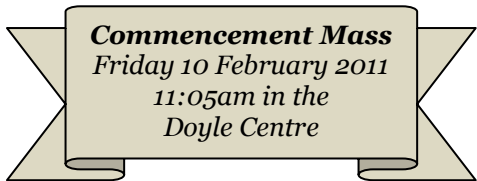
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

2012 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

If there are any students who are baptised Catholics but have not been confirmed or received their first Holy Communion and would like to do so, would you please contact me at the College.

2012 COMMENCEMENT MASS

Parents and carers are most welcome to attend the Commencement Mass for this year to be held on Friday 10 February.



Mr Scott McDermott
RE Coordinator-Ministry

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

St Joseph's Parish	St Anthony's Parish
Saturday Vigil: 6:00pm	Saturday Vigil: 6:00pm (Kingscliff)
Sunday: 7:00am & 9:00am	Sunday: 7:00am (Pottsville)
Sunday: 9:00am (Bilambil)	Sunday: 9:00am (Kingscliff)
Fr Michael Brady Parish Priest	Fr Jim Griffin Parish Priest

'You Have A Friend'

Date	Attendees (Accompanying Adult in bold)
6 Feb	Amy Bacon, Olivia McLean, Rose-Marie Samuels, Scott McDermott
13 Feb	Kieran Baker, Kirra Manning



Don't forget to visit our website www.sjctweed.org for all the latest at St Joseph's College . . .



Australian Government

Education Tax Refund

The Education Tax Refund (ETR) helps with the cost of educating primary and secondary school children. Eligible parents, carers, legal guardians and independent students are able to get money back on education expenses. These include items like computers, educational software, textbooks and stationery. You may get 50% of your money back.

UPDATE . . .

The Government has changed the Education Tax Refund to include school-approved uniforms, purchased from 1 July 2011.

Items of clothing including hats, footwear and sports uniforms approved by a school as its uniform may be claimed from 1 July 2012. So from 1 July 2011 start keeping receipts for school uniform items so you can claim them next year.



The Education Tax Refund provides up to 50% back on a range of children's education expenses. For the 2010-11 tax year refunds may be as much as \$397 for every child at primary school, and up to \$794 for every child at secondary school. The amount of the refund increases each year by the Consumer Price Index.

The Education Tax Refund website www.australia.gov.au/educationtaxrefund helps you decide if you are eligible and explains what you can claim and how to claim everything you are entitled to.

Keep your receipts. You need them to calculate your refund and you may need to show them as proof of purchase.



www.australia.gov.au/educationtaxrefund

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

A weekend for married couples. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset - *Your Marriage!* This is a unique opportunity to recharge your relationship batteries, refocus on each other and fall in love all over again!

Weekend dates (choose from):

NSW: 23 - 25 March at St Mary's Towers Retreat Centre, Douglas Park (Sydney); OR
QLD: 27 - 29 April at Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Ormiston (Brisbane)

Bookings:

NSW: (02) 4283. 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au
QLD: (07) 3352. 3328 or boyletj@powerup.com.au
Information on the website www.wwme.org.au

CASUARINA BEACH RUGBY UNION Sign On Days! Saturdays 4 & 11 February

10:00am - 1:00pm

It is never too late to give Rugby a try! We cater for 7-17yr olds. We offer a fast track program to help new players learn the skills and rules. Trainings are Thursdays at Casuarina Fields. 4.30pm start. Socks, Shorts, Bags and playing shirts provided with registration.

Feel free to give us a call if you have any questions -
Leanne Blyth - Secretary 0414 895 121
More info at: www.cbrugby.com.au

KINGSCLIFF DISTRICT FOOTBALL CLUB AND TWEED VALLEY KINGS

REGISTRATION SIGN-ONS FOR 2012
Boys, girls, men and women welcome

Saturday 4 & Sunday 5 February - 10-4pm
Thursday 9 February - 6-8pm
Sunday 12 February - 10-4pm

Cash, personal cheque and EFTPOS available
Family discounts for 3 or more players
All ages and grades from U6s to seniors at Kingscliff District Football Club House, Cnr Shell Street, Kingscliff
For further information contact:
Registrar - 0418 976 971

(Proof of age is required for all players and all graded players must attend for photo)

Sons SIGN ON
NETBALL CLUB INC.
Saturday 11th & 18th February, 2012
9.00 am to 12 noon
at Tweed Netball Clubhouse, Arkinstall Park
Registrations
Netta (8 - 9 yrs) - \$155.00
Competition (10 yrs - Open) - \$180.00
Players are encouraged to start forming teams, with a coach and manager.
For those who can't and would like to play anyway, placement in sides can be arranged.
Contact Jo Weaver 0414 584 273 or Tracey Togo 0468 961 003

KINGSCLIFF HOCKEY CLUB - SIGN-ON

Sundays 12 & 19 February - 10am to 12noon
& Thursdays 16 & 23 February - 4-5pm

Merv Edwards Oval Kingscliff and Walter Peate Oval Kingscliff (across from Cudgen Leagues Club)
Players for all grades are required Minkey/Modified (5-9 years and beginners) With Juniors up to 16 years
Enquiries Ross Salmon (07) 5524.6204
Terri Felton (02) 6674.0920
Peter Barnes (0418) 766.256

St Joseph's College

COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE – INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

All children from six years of age and under the minimum school leaving age of 17 years are legally required to attend school.

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10. After Year 10 and until they turn 17 years of age students must be in a school or registered for home schooling, or full-time in:

- further education and training (eg. TAFE, traineeship, apprenticeship)
- full-time, paid employment of an. average 25 hours per week; or
- a combination of both of the above.

Did you know that if a student misses as little as eight days in a school term, by the end of primary school they will have missed over a year of education?

Must I send my child every day? YES.

Children are expected to attend all school activities, on time. Regular attendance:

- helps your child develop the skills needed to access the world of work and other opportunities
- helps your child to learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- ensures your child can make and keep friendships.

What if my child has to stay away from school?

If your child has to be absent from school, you must tell the school and provide a reason for your child's absence. To explain an absence parents and carers may:

- send a note, fax or email to the school, or
- telephone the school, or
- visit the school.

A small number of absences may be accepted by the principal. For example, if your child has to:

- go to a special religious ceremony
- is required to attend to a serious and/or urgent family situation (eg. a funeral)
- is too sick to go to school or has an infectious illness.

What are school Principals responsible for?

Principals help to ensure the safety, welfare and wellbeing of your child. Principals have to keep accurate records of student attendance and the reasons for any absences.

Principals are responsible for accepting or not accepting a parent's explanations for their child's absences. Principals can request medical certificates or other documentation for long or frequent absences even where they are explained by parents as being due to illness.

When absences are unexplained by parents, or the explanations are not accepted by the principal, schools work together with parents to help address the issue. The main aim is to sort out what is preventing the child from getting to school and putting strategies in place to help.

Sometimes, the school will ask regional support staff and other agencies to assist.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Catholic Schools Office may take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unacceptable absences from school. Some of the following actions may be undertaken.

- Attendance meetings and compulsory attendance conferences
Parents (and sometimes their child) can be asked to go to a meeting with school personnel and other Catholic Schools Office staff. The aim of the meeting is to help identify strategies to support the child and family. Other agencies may also be asked along to help. If the school and other Catholic Schools Office staff have tried to help improve a child's attendance, without success, parents (and sometimes their child) can be asked to go to a compulsory attendance conference. The conference will be run by a trained conference convenor. The aim of the conference is for the school, parents (and sometimes their child) and other identified agencies ("the parties") to further identify the issues which are impacting on a child's attendance.
The outcome of a compulsory attendance conference is for the parties to agree to certain actions to improve the child's attendance. These actions are written in the form of undertakings
- Applications to the Children's Court - A Compulsory Schooling Order
Legal compliance can be sought through an application to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The aim is to assist a family and/or child to address the issues which are preventing satisfactory school attendance but has the added force of a Court's powers.
- Prosecution in the Local Court
If all attempts by schools and regional support staff fail to improve a student's attendance, action can be taken in the Local Court and the result can be fines up to a maximum of \$11,000.

For further information

- Catholic Schools Office: <http://www.lism.catholic.edu.au>
- about school attendance see the website address: <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/gotoschool/a-zattendance.php>
- about the school leaving age see the website address: <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/leavingschool/index.php>

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are provided, where possible, for parents/carers who do not speak or understand English well and for Deaf parents/carers who use sign language. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at the telephone number: 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

See the website address: http://www.immi.gov.au/living-in-australia/help-with-english/help_with_translating/