



St James College

Global Learning, Achieving Aspirations

NEWSLETTER

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 CRICOS No: 00715J RTO No: 30526 ABN 96 372 268 340

We acknowledge and pay our respects to the Turrbal and Jagera peoples, the traditional custodians of the land our College calls home. We commit to walking with their leaders towards true reconciliation.



Dates for Your Diary

February 2021

- 16 P&F Meeting 6pm
- 16 South District Swimming
- 17 Ash Wednesday/Lent begins
- 17-19 Yr 12 Formation Camp, Mt Tamborine
- 19 Yr 10 Outdoor Education Day Out
- 19 St James Taster Day
- 19 Pacific Islander Dinner
- 24 Yrs 9 & 11 Debating
- 24 African/Alumni students' Dinner
- 26 Malaga Mentoring

12 FEBRUARY 2021

VOL. No. 3

Dear Parents, Caregivers, Friends, Staff and Students

This week has seen many interactions with our students and families with four House Breakfasts on different days, Enrolment Information Evening, Year 7 Parent Night, Chinese New Year Celebration and Dinner, and National Apology Day Morning Tea, and an Year 11 Outdoor Education Camp! A typical week in the life of the school!

National Apology Day – February 13th

Overall, we were delighted to host our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and staff to a beautiful morning tea prepared by our Hospitality team, Ms Louise Pope, Ms Janet Beaman, and students. In so doing, experiences and stories were shared about culture, the current challenges faced with intergenerational trauma, caused through lack of citizenship (only 1967 was recognised in the Constitution to have the right to vote) and the various government policies including the “Stolen Generation”, all stemming from colonisation. We welcomed all our special guests including Aunty Thersa Nunn, Aunty Anne Russell, Ms Tarra Wright and Mrs Amanda Cooper.

ST JAMES COLLEGE ENROLMENT INTERVIEWS 2022 - 2023

Enrolment Interviews for 2022 and 2023 are now taking place, with limited vacancies available in all Year Levels.

For all enrolment enquiries please contact Mrs Maria Young at the College on 07 3230 8600 or at MYoung@stjamescollege.qld.edu.au



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 to our mailing list.

ABSENTEE LINE 3230 8655

Please clearly state student's name, year level, homeroom and absence reason.

Assistant Principal Mr Isikeli Kubunameca and Mr Jon Reuben discussed the impact of the Apology on 13 February 2008, where Prime Minister Kevin Rudd publically apologised, on behalf of the Federal Government, to the Stolen Generations – the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children who were forcibly removed from their families and communities by successive colonial and Australian governments. From the early 1800s to the mid-1900s, a series of government policies enabled the removal of many thousands of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their homes and communities. They were sent to children's homes and training institutions and/or were fostered or adopted (usually by non-Indigenous families). In addition to the trauma of being forcibly removed from their families and communities, many children suffered significant physical, sexual and/or psychological abuse from those who were supposed to be 'caring' for them. The trauma of these experiences continues to impact many members of the Stolen Generations and their families today.

House Breakfasts

We must thank our House Deans and Year 12 students for hosting the House Breakfasts over the whole week – it was a delight to see so many parents/carers come and enjoy this start to the day and receive some lovely feedback about the progress of their children.



Chinese New Year

What a wonderful surprise on Assembly greeted us, when we had the Chinese Dragon Dancing treat us to their performance in welcoming the Chinese New Year! It symbolises a fresh start and is celebrated by a quarter of the world's population at this time so consequently that is why we are hosting a dinner for our International students this Friday afternoon.



2021 is a **year** of the Ox, starting from February 12th, **2021 (Chinese lunar New Year Day)** and lasting until January 31st, 2022. It will be a Metal Ox **year**. The recent zodiac years of Ox sign are: 1961, 1973, 1985, 1997, 2009, **2021**, 2033.... An Ox **year** occurs every 12 years.

Because the holiday is tied to the year's first new moon, the timing will vary. It can fall in January or early February, Lee told USA TODAY. In China, the festival lasts 15 days, starting with a feast the night of New Year's Eve and ending this year with the Spring Lantern Festival on February 26. Vietnam's Tết Nguyên Đán goes for up to a week, and Lunar New Year in South Korea, known as Seollal, runs for three days.

International Day Women and Girls in STEM



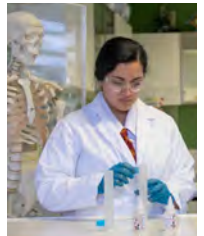
Australia faces a challenge in this area as does the globe. It has been one of my passions to improve these statistics and I believe the problem starts at early ages, where there is stereotyping of gender-based learning and experiences. As a person, who has always loved mathematics, to hear that often girls say "I am not good at maths" will stem often from what has been emphasised and passed on to them – either through home and/or the education system.

The representation of women working in Australia's STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) qualified occupations stood at only 14% in 2019. **This has barely improved in the past decade**, from 11% in 2009.

As expressed in the United Nations documents, "Science and gender equality are both vital for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Over the past 15 years, the global community has made a lot of effort in inspiring and engaging women and girls in science. Yet women and girls continue to be excluded from participating fully in science.

At present, less than 30 per cent of researchers worldwide are women. According to UNESCO data (2014 - 2016), only around 30 per cent of all female students select STEM-related fields in higher education. Globally, female students' enrolment is particularly low in ICT (3 per cent), natural science, mathematics and statistics (5 per cent) and in engineering, manufacturing and construction (8 per cent).

Long-standing biases and gender stereotypes are steering girls and women away from science related fields. As in the real world, the world on screen reflects similar biases—the 2015 [Gender Bias Without Borders](#) study by the Geena Davis Institute showed that of the onscreen characters with an identifiable STEM job, only 12 per cent were women.



In order to achieve full and equal access to and participation in science for women and girls, and further achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, the United Nations General Assembly adopted [resolution A/RES/70/212](#) declaring 11 February as the [International Day of Women and Girls in Science/STEM.](#)”

Coming Events

- ◆ **Parents & Friends Meeting commencing at 6pm in the College Library on Tuesday 16 February.** All parents and carers in our College Community are warmly invited to attend our Parents & Friends Meeting next week. The Library is located on the top level of the Joseph Canali Building, entry via Gloucester Street, Spring Hill. Parking is available. Light refreshments are offered.
- ◆ Year 12 Formation Camp, held at QCCC Mt Tamborine from Wednesday 17 to Friday 19 February.
- ◆ St James Taster Days in Term 1 are being held on Friday 19 February, 12 and 26 March. These days provide primary school students the opportunity to attend St James and experience a variety of class room and sporting activities with our staff and students. Enquiries are welcome, please contact Mrs Maria Young on 3230 8600 or at Maria.Young@stjamescollege.qld.edu.au.
- ◆ Pacific Islander Dinner, commencing at 4pm in Nagle Place on Friday 19 February. Invitations have been sent out to our Pacific Islander families.

Student Achievements

- ◆ Gibson Gray (Year 11) has been invited back to the Lord Mayor’s Youth Advisory Council for the second year running.
- ◆ Thomas McGarry (Year 10) will be representing our Year 10 cohort at the Lord Mayor’s Youth Advisory Council this year.

Enrolments

The College will be hosting another Enrolment Information Session on Monday 8 March commencing at 6pm in the College Library. Should you know of someone who is looking for a secondary school for their child, please recommend this Session to them or invite them to contact the College.

College app

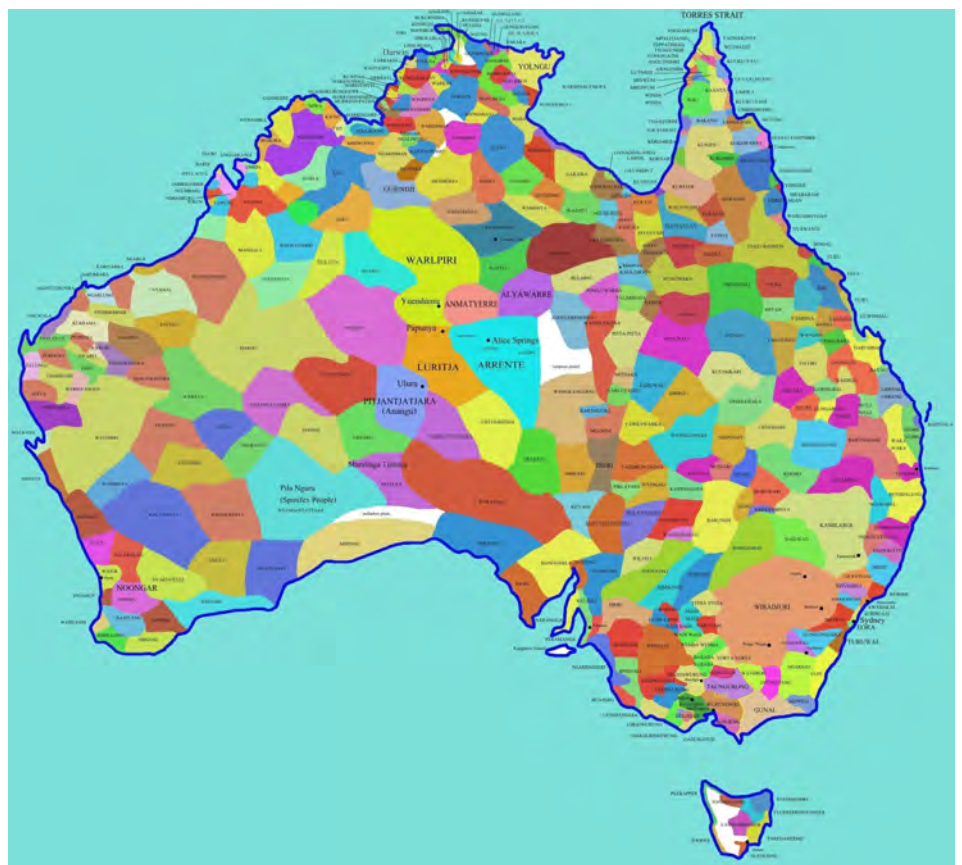


Take care and blessings for the week



Ann

**Ann Rebgetz
Principal**



Deputy Principal

Mr Martin Wiseman

Parent Nights

The last two weeks has seen our Year 11 and Year 7 parents and carers gather to listen to various members of the College community present to them regarding their child's important stage of schooling and how St James seeks to partner with families to ensure the best outcomes for students. I thank the following staff for their commitment and time in putting together these presentations. Ms Rebgetz, Ms Dolejs, Mr Kubunameca, Ms Shetty, Ms Whelan, Ms Martin, Mr Prickett, Miss Thornton and Ms Whyatt. For those of you who couldn't make those nights, we will upload the presentations to the College website for your perusal.

House Breakfasts

My thanks to the House Deans and House staff for putting on these important community events this week. Attendance at all the breakfasts was terrific and a wonderful way to kickstart the new year and welcome our new families.



College Diary

It is timely to remind all families of the great resources in the Diary including Assessment Calendars, Policies and expectations, Goal Setting proformas, Advocacy Logs and my favourite – the Timeplanner. This is in addition to the weekly communication sections. Please peruse the Diary at least once a week so you can manage your child's progress and get involved in their schooling.

Assistant Principal Identity & Global Advocacy

Mr Isikeli Kubunameca

A busy week this week. Tuesday we started our Chinese experience for Chinese and Vietnamese New Year, Friday 12 February. We were entertained by Jonathan Lee, past Jimmies student and the LTL group, to some Lion dances. We rounded the week off with the International Dinner.



Thursday, St James observed the National Apology Day with a brunch in the Library. With invited guests, students of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage and our wider community to participate in dialogue about how we as a community can help with the healing and continue the story of reconciliation in our own way. A big thank you to Ms Louise Pope and Ms Janet Beaman and their team for the delicious food, that definitely helped inspire parents, staff, students and invited guests to share their story and thoughts around the still emotionally charged narrative of Apology in Australia. We were able to gather some great ideas that we will add to developing Stretch RAP.

Finally, Sunday 14 February is Valentine's Day and the lead up this week, although may have a commercial air about it, hopefully allows people the space to reflect on their loved ones. For more information about St Valentine's, visit: <https://www.history.com/news/6-surprising-facts-about-st-valentine>.

Director of Learning, Innovation & Pathways

Ms Jessica Whelan

QUT High School STEM Internships – 2021 Applications Open Now

QUT Young Accelerators offers an exclusive [internship program](#) for Year 12 students curious about a career in STEM. Running in the Term 1 holidays from Tuesday 6 to Friday 9 April 2021, students will be working alongside QUT researchers in an exciting research placement. As an intern, students will be treated like a real QUT undergraduate, accessing facilities and online resources, and enjoying student life, preparing them for university as a next generation STEM leader. This unique and rigorous program develops students' technical knowledge, leadership and critical thinking skills through practical learning and professional development activities.

Applications are [now open](#) and close at 2pm on 22 February 2021. Any Year 12 student considering studying STEM at university should see me about applying for this wonderful opportunity!

International Women and Girls in STEM Day with the ADF

On Wednesday 10 February, Georgi Lucas, Grace Deller and Viv Yakimoff-Minge travelled to QUT to attend the International Women and Girls in STEM Day with the Australian Defence Force. This day was designed for young women who are considering a career in Science, Technology, Engineering or Maths. The Australian Navy, Army and Air Force have many roles where employees require a strong background in STEM Skills. This was an opportunity for students to participate in an Aerodynamic sand modelling lift workshop along with the Defence Force Recruiting team. Students also met military personnel and learnt about a range of STEM Careers available within Australia.



Above from L-R: Georgi Lucas, Viv Yakimoff-Minge and Grace Deller.

A graphic advertisement for the Youth Enterprise & Innovation Team Homework Club. The text reads: "YOUTH ENTERPRISE & INNOVATION TEAM", "HOMEWORK CLUB", "Are you 12 - 24 years old from a refugee background?", "Bring your homework & meet our tutors.", "Computers & internet available.", "Afternoon tea provided." There are two small images: one of a person working at a computer and another of a person writing at a desk.

QPASTT Homework Club

The QPASTT Homework club has reopened this year from Monday to Wednesday from 3pm-5pm at the youth space, Dibley Street, Woolloongabba. QPASTT have a keen bunch of diverse tutor volunteers, with expertise in a variety of subjects, available to support young people with their homework.

Chinese Teacher

Ms Ariel Chen

Chinese Lunar New Year arrived at St James College this week with a series of cultural activities. This Tuesday, students learned about the tradition and customs of Chinese New Year celebrations from the presentation at Assembly, and enjoyed a lively Chinese lion dance performance. Next week, there will be an experience lesson for students who study Chinese language to learn dragon dance and play Chinese drums from a *shifu* (martial art master). It's a great opportunity for Jimmies to immerse themselves in the culture and joy of this significant festival.

Xin Nian Kuai Le 新年快乐 - Happy New Year!

Gong Xi Fa Cai (Mandarin) and Gong Hey Fat Choy (Cantonese) - wishing you enlarge your wealth!



Sports Coordinator

Mr Scott Prickett

Wednesday Sports

A reminder to all students that the Wednesday Sport competitive season will start next week. Students are to bring all their equipment, be on time for the buses and must be sitting in their respective area at 12:45pm.

South District Swimming

Any students who do squad swimming and would like to compete at the South District Championships are to speak to Mr Prickett by Tuesday 16 February.

Futsal

Our St James College futsal teams will take on Mabel Park SHS on Monday in what is the beginning of a Tri-Series between both schools. Below is the list of students who have been selected for this round. We wish them the best of luck and hope they play well and represent the college with pride.

YEAR 7/8	U16 TEAM	U19 TEAM
Oliver Ashurst (GK)	Hamid Afshari	James Wongnukun (GK)
Ziad Baku	Harrison Hagan-Green	Cosmas Wilberforce
Marcus Lopez	John Kashindi	Godwill Thomas-Remijo
Simeon McAuliffe	Kasongo Mlenda ©	Lionel Nihibitanga
Ahora Shojei ©	Michael Mlondani	Ahmed Abdalla Gamar
Khalid Ali Idrisa	Remy Mukendi	Baraka Ruhirika ©
Sahr Thomas	Jurence Jean (GK)	Emile Lubunga
Xavier Fischer	Tyrese Eaves	Linosa Ishimwe

Kick off Times for Round 1 are as follows:

- ◆ 10:30 – Year 7/8 team
- ◆ 11:10 – U19 Team
- ◆ 12:00 – U16 Team

Teacher

Mr Andrew Ebrington

An awesome day was enjoyed by those students who chose to go fishing during sport yesterday, landing double figures in the whiting department! Year 8 student Mwajuma Mlondani caught four fish, one of which was the largest whiting of the day, Sam Holmes landed three whiting, Dominic Hills and Oliver Evans also reeling in a few whiting between them. A couple of toad fish were also caught in between our great catch of whiting!

(Pictured below from L-R: Mwajuma Mlondani, Sam Holmes and Dominic Hills)



Finance Manager

Ms Genevieve O'Sullivan

Please be advised that Semester 1 fees will be emailed out by the end of this week.

If you don't receive an email from us, please check your Junk or Spam email folder, otherwise all statements will be accessible via logging in to Parent Lounge.

For those families who have Direct Debit authorities recommencing this year, your first payments will commence next week – please let us know if you require payments to come out of your account on a certain day.

For those families on fees concessions or payment plans, please continue your regular payments as arranged.

If you are experiencing financial hardship and would like to apply for a fees' concession, please contact us for a confidential discussion and application.

Should you have any queries or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us at finance@stjamescollege.qld.edu.au or 3230 8694.