



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

November

- 25 P&F Meeting 6pm
- 26 End of Year Celebrations for Years 7 to 11
- 27 Orientation Day for students new to the College in 2021

December

- 11 College Office closes

January 2021

- 11 College Office reopens
- 27 Years 7, 12 and all new students commence/Parents Morning Tea
- 28 All Year Levels commence

20 NOVEMBER 2020

VOL. No. 36

Dear Parents, Caregivers, Friends, Staff and Students

This week has been a momentous one in our year, as we farewell our Year 12 students with the School Formal, Rites of Passage Retreat and Graduation Ceremony! The ceremony was very moving but took us to new heights with the privilege of past student Bishop Ken Howell leading us in reflection, accompanied by our choir of 40 voices!! It was spectacular and a real credit to our music staff to see how well they did - Ms Melody Thomas-Young, Ms Tanya Yates, Ms Hannah Flower, Ms Rikki Hastings-Thomas, Mr Josateki Tora, Ms Rejeli Tora, Ms Rachel Pelser. Our thanks must go to Mr Isikeli Kubunameca for his coordination and direction of all involved and for the Retreat experience. Overall, the College has excelled with the work done – our appreciation to our music and stage teams, lighting and sound, catering, cleaning and facilities, our administration and office staff, all of our teachers, counsellors and teacher aides for being there for our students.



ST JAMES COLLEGE ENROLMENT INTERVIEWS 2021 - 2022

Enrolment Interviews for 2021 through to 2022 are now taking place, with 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.

Congratulations to our Year 12 Graduands

Our school is enriched by the charism of Blessed Edmund Rice. As many of you know, Edmund Rice devoted his life to ensuring education was provided to disadvantaged children in Ireland. The principles of Edmund Rice Education are based on 4 Touchstones – Gospel Spirituality, Liberating Education, Justice and Solidarity and Inclusive Community. St James College strongly espouses all of these Touchstones in everything we strive to achieve. Our wish for you, Year 12s, is that you take the Touchstones with you on your journey for the rest of your lives. Education is liberation. Embrace the challenges of the future with confidence and positivity. Value your education and use it to make a positive difference in the world. Be an active part of your community. Stay connected to our Jimmies community. Remember that God has a plan for you – listen to your heart as emphasized by Bishop Ken, and be guided by your own moral compass to ensure that you make good decisions.

I am reminded of the story of Dr Agnes Bennett – Agnes was born in Australia in 1872 as one of six children in Sydney – her mother died when she was 10, and her father died when she was 15. She had a hard time, but was passionate about getting an education and achieved highly at Sydney Girls High School. At this time women were not allowed to study science at University and not accepted into Medical degrees. The Professor of Obstetrics at one of the Universities publicly stated

“If young women were allowed to undertake tertiary education the energy needed by their uterus would be diverted to the brain rendering them infertile”

This was the view held by many around women and education!

Dr Agnes Bennet fought the stereotypes, the system and eventually graduated in medicine as a surgeon in Edinburgh, did amazing work during World War 1. However, she could never get a job in Australia as a surgeon as the males would not let her. It was hard to even get a job as a doctor because she was a woman, even though she had saved many lives during the war when they needed her. She finished her career in Queensland with the Royal Flying Doctor Service as a general doctor. Agnes did not let society's views stop her and she paved the way for women in medicine today – she found her way around barriers.

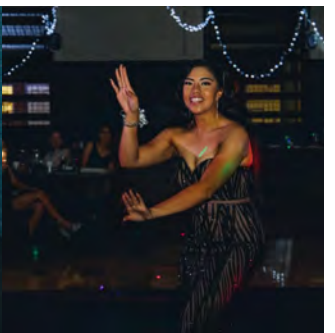
We look forward to hearing about your future accomplishments and the barriers you have overcome.

Do not limit yourself by stereotypes or perceptions – step out into those rocky paths that are less travelled – the reward will be there. Remember what the poet Robert Frost wrote - *“I took the road less travelled by and that has made all the difference”*

College Formal

After such a turbulent year around events, dates, venues, and restrictions, our Year 12 students were able to enjoy a beautiful dinner, dance, formal dress and fun, in our hall, which was delightfully transformed through the efforts of Ms Yolanda Cano, Mr Martin Wiseman, Mr Alex Blann, Mr Tony Holloway, Mr Bruce Bitossi, Mr Perry Patel and team, Mr Isikeli Kubunameca, House Deans, and all other helpers, including Mr Josateki Tora, Ms Lisa Kubunameca with the Photo Booth, DJ, St Leo's catering, attending Staff. It was really a night of twinkling stars with the special effect lighting, and the students looking amazing in their outfits. We were very appreciative of all the hard work and pre discussion that contributed to the evening being a great success. It was wonderful to see all being able to dance! We thank our parents and families for their support, our school-based police officers for helping us with security support along with our security officers, although all was very calm and no outsiders wanting to join us.

Having many beautiful photos to provide memories, it enables our graduands to enjoy the memories – a special thank you to Ms Yolanda Cano and Mr Martin Wiseman for their coordination and ensuring that the Formal was able to happen!



NSSAB Review

Every five years we have a review with the Non State Schools Accreditation Board and next Tuesday we have visitors to the College to validate our College in its operations and directions according to the regulations – we are looking forward to the visit and will welcome Ms Cathy Galvin, Principal of St John Fisher College, and Mr Jim Midgley, Director of Teaching and Learning at Toowoomba Catholic Education.

Coming Events

- Final P&F Meeting for the year, Wednesday 25 November – 6.00pm in The St James Room (above the College Reception). Light refreshments will be available. All Parents, Guardians and Carers are most welcome to attend.
- End of Year Celebrations at Newmarket Pool, Thursday 26 November.
- Orientation Day for all new students to the College in 2021, Friday 27 November.
- YOS & Pirlirra Graduation, Thursday 3 December.

Enrolments

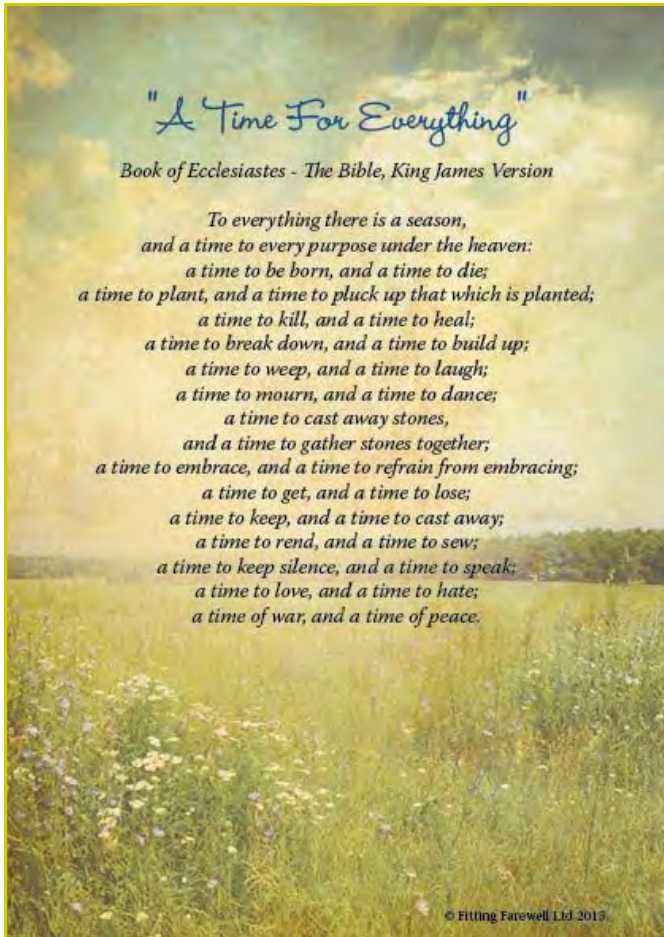
The College welcomes enrolments for 2021, 2022 and 2023. Please contact Ms Maria Young, Enrolments Officer, on 07 3230 8600 or at maria.young@stjamescollege.qld.edu.au. Tours of the College are always available Monday to Friday between 9am and 2.30pm.

Take care and blessings for the week.



Ann

**Ann Rebgetz
Principal**



The Road Not Taken

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

Robert Frost
1874–1963

Vale Seniors 2020

I know much has been written about this group in this edition of the Newsletter but I would like to add my reflections. Much has been said about the tumult that they have endured through Covid and it is true many concessions have been granted to them as a result. Despite these concessions the lack of clarity and unsurety around these events must have been stressful. There are many claims that this group and young people in general will suffer the mental and emotional impact of Covid for years to come so we must all be vigilant in looking after our young people.

I wish these young people all the very best in their endeavours and hope they aspire to all that is great about being a past student of St James College.

Senior Jerseys/Jackets 2021

A reminder to our Year 11 students that they have the choice of a jersey, jacket or both next year and to get their orders, payments and measurements in as soon as possible. This can be done at Student Services.

Senior Formal 2021

Some advance warning for parents and carers. The College Formal will be held in Term 1 next year. Whilst a date has not been finalised yet, it will be in the back half of the term. This notice is given so that families can prepare for the impending costs of this function. We will endeavour to keep the costs around the \$100 mark but of course suits, dresses, hair and makeup also cost a lot of money so please start preparing now for that.

Year 10 Senior Schooling 2021

A more detailed email will be sent to respective families, but the College has taken the logical decision to see our Year 10 students as Seniors in 2021. This decision has been taken given the nature of the study undertaken in Year 10 – which reflects their post school choices, their age and position in the school. Consequently, as of next year the 10s will be asked to wear the Senior uniform (white shirt/blouse with tie in Terms 2 and 3). There will be a lead in period so families can replace their junior uniform as it wears out rather than immediately. More detail will be forthcoming.

**SENIOR JERSEY / VARSITY JACKET
YEAR 12, 2021**

Students who are currently in Year 11, have the opportunity to purchase a Senior Jersey or Varsity Jacket for their final year of school in 2021. Students will receive the item ordered in Term 1, 2021.

Students must place their order, together with full payment, by Thursday 26 November. No orders will be taken after this date.

The cost of the Jersey is \$75 and the Varsity Jacket \$80.

The name that each student chooses to have printed on their Jersey / Jacket must be submitted to the Deputy Principal for approval prior to Thursday 26 November.



This week we farewell the Year 12's with 2 days of Rite of Passage followed by their Graduation Liturgy and Ceremony. It has been a hard year for the 12s with COVID and the first year through doing ATAR. But this cohort has handled it with grace. We wish them all the blessings and offer 2 poignant scriptures as guide and transitions into the next phase of their lives.



GRADUATION PRAYER

Dear God,

We pray for our graduates today and lift them before you. We thank you so much for the work you are continuing to do in their lives. They are a gift to us and to many others. And during this season of new beginnings, we ask that you would make their way clear. We ask that you would keep their footsteps firm and remind them that you are with them, always. May they sense the freshness of your Spirit over their lives in amazing ways, may they be strengthened, instilled with hope, for the new roads you have in store.

And today, again, we release our children straight into your tender care. Because we know that's the best place they could ever be. We thank you in advance for all you have in store, for their lives.

We pray for protection, for your covering, that you would surround their lives as with a shield. Protect their coming and going. We ask that you would help them to live aware in a dark world and keep harm or evil intent far away. We ask that you would hide them in the safety of your powerful presence.

Our world is currently anxious, fearful and uncertain. We pray our graduates are filled with your courage and strength, that they may be a light to their friends and neighbours in this uncertain time.

We ask for your wisdom and clear direction over their lives, that you would give them understanding beyond their years. Thank you that your timing is perfect. We pray that you would direct their steps, that your plans for them would prosper; that every place you have determined for them to walk would be paved clear. We ask for you to open doors that need to be opened and close every one that should be shut tight. Allow every gift and treasure you have placed inside their lives to grow, develop, and flourish, to bring you glory.

We ask that you would remind them every day how very much you love them, that they would find security and confidence fully in you, knowing that you are trustworthy and true.

We ask that you would teach them your ways and fill them with an unquenchable desire to learn your Word. Give them a compassionate spirit, and the wisdom to look beyond outward appearances to the heart within. We pray that you would surround them with friends and leaders who would challenge them to press closer to you.

We ask for your peace to cover them. We ask for laughter and joy to fill their days. We pray that you would give them boldness and courage to face challenges set before them, with the confidence and peace that can only come from your spirit.

We ask that you would raise up greatness in their lives, greatness in this generation, willing to stand strong and true, passionate for you, believing that you have designed them for purpose and good works, which you have planned and prepared in advance for them to do.

Be a lamp for their feet, and a light to their path. Shine over them. Fill them with your spirit. Bless them with your favour and peace. In Jesus' Name,

Amen.

Plans (Jeremiah 29:11)

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Faithful Forever.

Brisbane Flexible Trades Skill Centre Teacher

Mr Mark Holmes

Students across the Junior Design and Technology are busy finishing off their major projects for the semester. The Year 8s have made a sandwich tray, the Year 9s have made their team Billy Carts and the Year 10s have made a wooden folding table and a metal stool. The Year 10s are now excited about their pathways for next year in to Senior Certificates in the Trade Skills.



Director of Learning, Innovation & Pathways

Ms Jessica Whelan



Lions Youth of the Year competition

If you are a student between the ages of 16 and 18 years of age as at the 30th of June in 2021, then you may be eligible to enter the Lions Youth of the Year. This is a prestigious public speaking event for young people. By entering the program, which is now in its 55th year, you will have an unequalled opportunity to experience an interview situation, in a friendly atmosphere and a chance to practice your public speaking skills. The best way to enter is through an online application form which I am happy to provide for interested students.



TAFE Skills Tech

I have emailed out to all students in Year 10 and 11 a comprehensive list of all of the available TAFE Skills Tech programs, days of delivery and current enrolment numbers. This is ideal for any student that wants to get ahead in a career in a trade area while they are still at school. Some of these qualifications include Certificate II in Automotive Vocational Preparation, Certificate II in Electrotechnology, Certificate II in Plumbing, Certificate II in Furniture Making Pathways and Certificate II in Rail Infrastructure. The locations where these are offered one day per week are Alexandra Hills, Bracken Ridge, Eagle Farm and Acacia Ridge. For costings, further questions and to sign up please contact Schools.SkillsTech@tafe.qld.edu.au or visit their website at tafeqld.edu.au.



Skills for getting a job – full-time, part-time and casual

The following are resources you can access to help you gain the skills you need for your job search:

Applying for a Job on the Youth Central website has information and examples for developing a resume and writing cover letters as well as other tips to help you get a job and more.

I'm looking for a job on the Job Jumpstart website has information on most job search strategy. It can help you build your resume.

Advice and Tips on the Seek website is good to check out for tips on job search. Seek also has a job search function.

Career Advice on the Careerone website has useful tips on job hunting, interview preparation, resumes and job interviews.

The Job Hunting section on the Australian Apprenticeships Pathways website has a step-by-step approach to gaining an apprenticeship or traineeship.

Start an apprenticeship or traineeship on the Queensland Apprenticeship Info website has ideas on how to gaining an apprenticeship or traineeship.

Apprenticeship Central has a job search function specifically for apprenticeships.



Fee Free TAFE Queensland Qualifications for Year 12 Graduates

To support Year 12 graduates into work, the Queensland Government offers free TAFE in high priority areas. If you are getting ready to graduate Year 12 in 2020 or finished school in 2019 (if you start training by 31 December 2020), you can kick start your career by getting the skills employers want without the fees. Eligible Year 12 graduates must enrol and start training in a high priority qualification within the calendar year after leaving school to take advantage of this great opportunity. [Click here to find out about high priority qualifications](#) linked to the program.

Options has contacted the Department of Employment, Small Business and Training and although the links are for 2019 Year 12 leavers they assure us that the program is still going ahead for 2020 Year 12 graduates. Keep checking the links for updated information.

Sports Coordinator

Mr Scott Prickett

St James College vs Loganlea State High School

Last week St James started a partnership with Loganlea State High School. We started off introducing futsal to both schools and wasn't it a day to remember! There was some exceptional sportsmanship and futsal played by both schools and the start of a great relationship between the two schools was evident. I would like to thank Souths United for allowing us to use their AstroTurf futsal fields and Loganlea State High School for playing against St James.

The results were:

- Year 7 Boys – 6-3 Win
- Year 8 Boys – 7-4 Win
- Year 9/10 Boys – 13-1 Win.

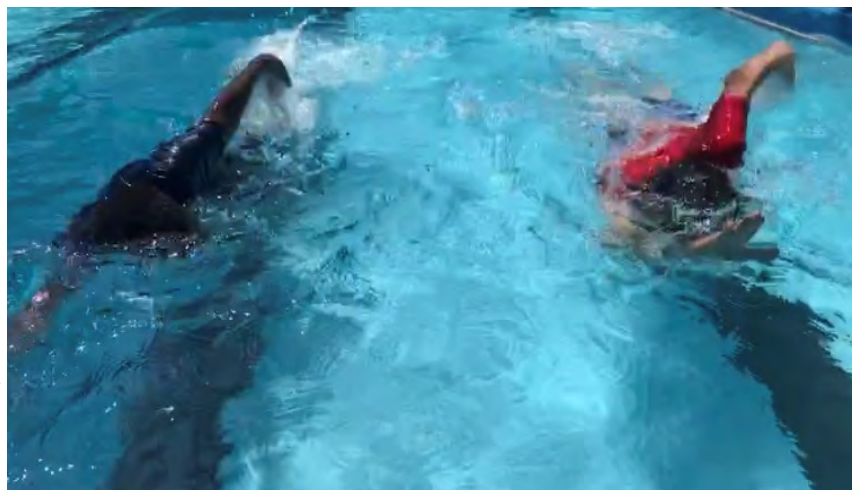


Swimming lessons have been a great success!

With students learning how to swim and feel more confident in the water on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday with Mr Ryan Chapman at Spring Hill Baths.

Students have been taught to use natural buoyancy techniques which have seen every student progressed greatly! From swimming with assistance to swimming all by themselves! The students have shown great progress in their own learning as they've demonstrated a great ability to swim safer, swim more confidently and swim more fluently within the water!

There are only two more swimming days left of the year, if you would like your son or daughter to learn how to swim please email Mr Ryan Chapman via email on; rchapman@stjamescollege.qld.edu.au



Congratulations to all our Graduating Yr 12s

2020 has been a year of adaptation and Senior students can be congratulated for self-managing their disappointment and fears, and developing confidence in problem-solving, technology and cooperation.

Book Recommendations for the Summer Vacation

A book recommendation for our graduates, and others who might be interested, is '21 Lessons for the 21st Century' by Yuval Noah Harari. How do we prepare for a very different future from the world we now live in now? The choices we make in the next 30 years are critical for all life on earth! Harari's probing and visionary investigation into today's most urgent issues is a guidebook for the uncharted territory of the future.

Two other book recommendations for all students and families are 'The Resilience Project: Finding Happiness through Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness' by Hugh van Cuylenburg and 'Atomic Habits: An Easy and Proven Way to Build Good Habits and Break Bad Ones' by James Clear. Both these books offer ideas of actions we can all take to facilitate our happiness and prosperity.

Your local library and Qld State Library - Visit in person or online

Free reading, information and entertainment resources can be found at your local library and State Library of Queensland. Do consider investigating these community gems. Staff at these libraries are very happy to assist you in accessing their resources, in person, on the phone or chatting online. Lots to See and Hear for Free.

Current Calendar Events

Road Ribbon for Road Safety - 19 November 2020 to 5 January 2021

Aligning with our Road Safety Sessions for Seniors by Qld Fire & Rescue

Individuals are asked to spread the messages to family and friends to help raise awareness of road safety. Coinciding with the World Health Organisation's World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims, the Road Ribbon for Road Safety campaign aims to raise awareness of the importance of road safety over the festive season.

Website: www.roadwise.asn.au/road-ribbon-for-road-safety.aspx



White Ribbon Day 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence 19 November - 10 December

The White Ribbon Campaign calls all Australians to speak out and pledge never to commit, excuse or remain silent about violence against women and children

16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence is an international campaign that began in 1991. From 25 November, the International Day of Elimination of Violence against Women, to 10 December, International Human Rights Day. All individuals and groups around the world are called to act to end all forms of violence against women and children

School resources must be returned by Tuesday 24 November

All library books, textbooks and musical instruments must be returned asap.

Computers for students in Yr 7 -11 can be kept safely at students' home for use on the vacation.

Failure to return school resources will result bills to pay for replacement.

For Yr 12 or students leaving St James debt collection will be pursued.

Abundant Blessings

Shelly, George and I wish you all a joyful and safe Christmas summer vacation.

Finance Manager

Ms Genevieve O'Sullivan

Please be aware that all 2020 fees are now OVERDUE (unless you are on a regular payment plan – if so, please just continue your payments as arranged).

All current account balances and fees statements are now available online by logging in to **Parent Lounge** (accessible via the **Network Access** link on our College website <https://www.stjamescollege.qld.edu.au/> , and following the **Accounts & Payments** tab. Please let us know if you need assistance accessing Parent Lounge.

Should you require a copy of your statement or have any queries or concerns relating to fees or payment plans, please don't hesitate to contact our Finance Department at any time on 3230 8600 or finance@stjamescollege.qld.edu.au

**** Please note that if your account is overdue and you have not made contact with the college, then you risk having your account sent to an external debt collection agency, which will incur extra costs to your account.**