



Dear Families,

Today we celebrate St Patrick's Day. Ireland has many saints, the stories of whom have come down to us from tradition, often wrapped in legend and myth, but Patrick is different; he tells his own story.

His brief autobiography, written in old age, begins with an introduction: *My name is Patrick* and goes on to recount how at 16 he was captured, taken hostage and sold to a Druid in the north of Ireland, how he worked there for six years as a herdsman exposed to all weathers and conditions and how he prayed, "up to a hundred times a day" and the same at night. He tells of a dream that prompted him to journey 200 miles to the coast where, miraculously, a ship was waiting and he found passage back to Britain and his family.

Many years later having become ordained as priest and bishop, Patrick did arrive back in Ireland. The year was 432. His teaching and example as he travelled the length and breadth of the country, inspired a faith in the Irish people, the depth of which carried them down the ages through occupation, dispossession of land and culture and the unspeakable horrors of famine and war.

But what do we know of Patrick himself? In his writings we see a man of immense humility, filled with passionate love of God, and the people. We see his respect for the indigenous people in his incorporation of their reverence for the land, waters, seasonal cycles and the heavens, with Christian principles and rituals. His administrative ability enabled him to set up councils and monasteries throughout the country and he showed enormous courage in his denunciation of the British mistreatment of the Irish Christians. And in all of this there is never a doubt as to the source of his strength: his total trust in the 'Triune God' and in Christ as his breastplate.

Little wonder then that each year in Ireland, 17 March, the date of Patrick's death, is a day of great celebration. Normal life is suspended while singing and dancing take over the streets. Traditionally families go to Mass in the morning, proudly wearing a sprig of shamrock, and then the party begins. And all this because Patrick, trafficked as a young boy to work in a foreign land, found it in his heart to forgive, and in answer to a call, returned to that foreign land to share with the people there a Light infinitely greater than the sun they worshipped, and to offer them a freedom beyond anything they had ever known.

Kind regards,

Bec Kollaris

[principal@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au)





## **INTRODUCING.....**

St James staff for 2022

### Michelle Whittaker - Physical Education Teacher

Hello,

My name is Michelle Whittaker and I have recently returned to teaching after having a family. I have 4 children, a cat and a new puppy. I'm very excited to be teaching at St James. I love sports and I love teaching kids new skills that will help them in all aspects of life. I have been teaching PE since 2011 all over Australia. I look forward to meeting everyone within the St James community in the future.

### Vanessa Wilson - LOTE (Japanese) Teacher



Konnichiwa! My name is Mrs Wilson and I am the new Japanese Sensei. I am really looking forward to meeting everyone and I think we will have a fantastic time exploring the Japanese language and culture. I studied Japanese for 8 years and have been to Japan twice. I have many Japanese friends and I am fascinated with Japanese culture. I taught Year 5 for 3 years at Pakenham Lakeside Primary School. I have been married for 4 years and for the last year I have been at home caring for my new baby daughter. I am looking forward to an exciting year of Japanese learning.

## **Student Leaders**

Year 6 students interested in fulfilling a student leadership position at the school all prepared and submitted thoughtful applications. In their interview with the leadership team each student spoke about what leadership meant to them and what they believed a good leader at St James would need to do. Mr Rebecchi, Mrs Kollaris and Mrs Synan were grateful for the wide interest in these positions and considered all the student applications and their presentations, to select six Student Leaders for St James Primary School in 2022.

We are delighted to announce to the school community our 2022 Student leaders:

- *Grace Katta*
- *Islah Priest*
- *John Pomeroy*
- *Brianna Lawlor*
- *Judah Koch*
- *Tom Dell'Oro*

We thank them for their outstanding preparation and delivery of their thoughts around leadership and look forward with great anticipation, to the wonderful contribution and example they will provide in our school this year.



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION – COVID19

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

#### COVID 19 At School

##### What happens if COVID-19 is at School?

The school will tell you if there is a case in your child's class.

##### What do you do?

Use a Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) on your child.

If they are well and a negative test has been received, they can come to school.

##### What do I do if my child tests positive?

Notify the school on 5942 5404 or email [office@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au)

Isolate at home for 7 days



## FACE MASKS

With continued restrictions, we remind parents that students are required to bring their own Face Masks to school.

Students in Year 3 and above **must** wear a face mask whilst indoors at school.

Students in Foundation to Year 2 are strongly encouraged to wear a face mask whilst indoors at school

Students over the age of 8 years old must wear a face mask when travelling to and from school on the School Bus.

**If your child has an exemption from wearing a mask please email [office@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au)**



## Religious Education News

### Enhancing Catholic School Identity Survey

St James Primary School is using a survey to better understand how our Catholic identity is expressed in work and practice and to support our school in its future development.

The main questions being explored are:

- How is Catholic identity lived and shaped at St James?
- What is the preferred situation?
- What is St James' potential to realise its preferred Catholic identity?

*To meet this goal, the involvement of the school staff, students and parents is needed.*

Participation in the online surveys and a Profile Questionnaire will enable our school to gather responses from students, staff and parents. Insights gained from this data will help us with the school's review process and action plans for the school in the coming years.

Staff and parents will receive a letter of invitation to participate in the anonymous online survey in the coming week. Older students at the school will participate in an anonymous student survey. Your thoughtful responses will be a great help to St James and very much appreciated.

### **2022 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM**

#### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

7.00pm – Tuesday 22 March - St James, Nar Nar Goon

#### **NAPLAN**

The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students is held in May each year. In 2022, NAPLAN tests will be delivered online between Tuesday 10 May and Friday 20 May.

NAPLAN tests assess student knowledge and skills in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. Over time, the NAPLAN tests provide parents/carers, teachers and the school with a rich source of information on how students are progressing in literacy and numeracy as they advance through their schooling. Individual student results will be provided to parents/carers later in the year.

In preparation for NAPLAN 2022, Year 3 and 5 students will be completing practice sessions. We commenced rehearsal this week with the School Readiness Test. Year 3 and Year 5 students sat an Omnibus Test (combination of Reading, Conventions of Language and Numeracy questions). This practice test allows students to become familiar with the types of questions they will experience in NAPLAN Online, as well as allowing staff and students to familiarise themselves with the functions of the online assessment platform and to test the online environment at school. The students' responses for this test are recorded.

More information on the school's NAPLAN Online schedule for May will be distributed early in Term 2. Until then, parents and students are invited to use the Public demonstration site to familiarise yourself and your children with the types of questions and the set-up of NAPLAN Online. The demonstration tests cover a sample of possible questions and do not reflect the range of literacy and numeracy content or skills NAPLAN Online will assess.

There is also a detailed Frequently Asked Questions page that you might find both interesting and helpful.

Donna Synan



### School Fees

School Fee statements have been emailed out to families (please check your spam/junk email). **Please be aware that Camp Fees for Year 3 – 6 students are not being billed at this stage, until booking confirmations are in place, once COVID restrictions have eased.**

For families that are paying their account via Direct Debit, the camp fee will still be incorporated in the calculations as we anticipate the camps will be proceeding this year.

If you have already made payment towards your 2022 Fees, please be aware that this will not appear on this statement, however, will be credited against your account prior to the next statement being issued.

If you hold a Pension or Health Care Card please contact the school office to obtain relevant paperwork to be completed and returned. Eligibility will then be assessed and an application for assistance to reduce your school fees will be applied for.



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### Help Needed

We have quite a lot of resources that require contact covering and bar coding. If you are able to help tomorrow (Friday) morning between 9am and 11am, please sign in at the school office and have your Vaccination Certificate available for sighting.

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### School Photos

Annual school photos will be taken on **Wednesday 23 March 2022**.

Students are to be in full **summer** school uniform. As students will have PE on this day, please send runners/sport shoes in their bags.

PRE-ORDER ONLINE (orders close at 5.00pm Tuesday 22 March 2022). See the packages available and place your pre-order online.

To order Sibling and Individual photographs, click on the following link:

[School Photographs Order](#)

School Access Key: [VMBC6WT](#)



## St James Catholic Primary School

Newsletter  
18 March 2022, Issue 39

**Sibling photos** are available for families with multiple children attending the school. **Sibling photos** must be ordered online before 5pm the day prior.

\*\* A complimentary family/sibling photograph is available for families who order an individual pack for 3 for more children at the same school. **To be eligible**, you must order all the individual packs first and then add the family photograph to the same shopping cart. The discount will be automatically applied.

**If you place your order online before 5pm the day prior, you do not need to return any paperwork.**

If you have any inquiries, please contact Darren Spargo Photos on (03) 5942 5234

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### **School Lunches**

School lunches will be provided by Nar Nar Goon Takeaway on a Wednesday and Friday.

Please place your child's Name, Class and Order on the front of a paper bag and secure payment inside.

2022 Menu is attached to this Newsletter.

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## **2023 Enrolments Foundation to Year Six – Spread the Word**

We are taking enrolments for 2023!

**If you have a student commencing in Foundation in 2023 please email,**  
[office@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au).

If you have family or friends who may be considering St James next year, please get them to contact the school as soon as possible to avoid a potential wait list. Enrolment forms can be collected from the office.

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### **Student Absences**

To avoid having UNEXPLAINED ABSENCES, Parents/Guardians are reminded to inform the School by 9am. Notification can be completed via PAM, phone – 5942 5404 or email to [office@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au).

Please provide your child's name, date and the reason for absence.

### **Late Arrivals/Early Departures**

If your child will be arriving late to school or you are collecting early you must visit the office and fill in the Sign In/Sign Out Register. Office staff will take your child through to their class to ensure minimal disruption is made to the classrooms.

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### **E-Safety**

When it comes to online safety, the [E Safety Commissioner Website](#) is there to help support parents and carers and ensure that together, we keep children safer online.

More advice and information is available at [Safety Parents](#).



**PAM**

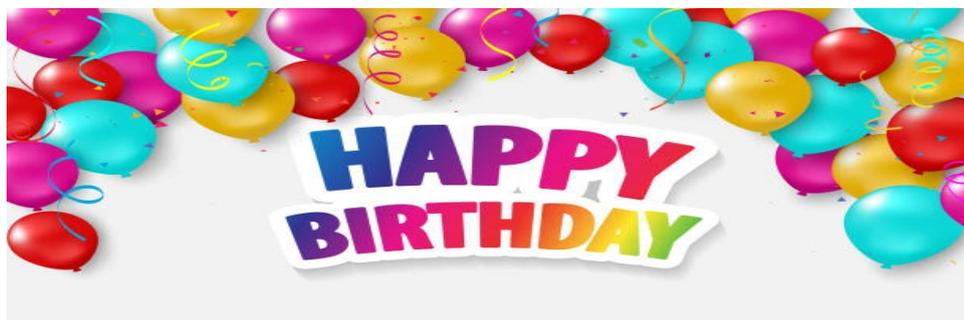
Here is the link for the St James Parent Access (PAM).

<https://pam.stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au>

Your username is the email address that you have registered with the school. The first time you log in, we ask that you use the forgotten password feature to set your own password.

ALL parents must access PAM to receive up to date information and grant necessary permissions.

**MEDICAL INFORMATION** – When you update your child’s medical information in PAM – **PLEASE** ensure this is accurate. The school must have current up to date asthma, allergy, anaphylaxis or medical plans for those students identified with these conditions and any other medical conditions such as diabetes or epilepsy. This is to ensure we have relevant information to assist your child with the management of these medical conditions.



<b>February Birthdays (to 25 March)</b>	
Dylan Healy	Jasmine Jarred
Scarlett Fisher	Lydia Urquhart

**2022 School Closure Days**

<b>Term 2</b>	
Tuesday	26 April
Friday	24 June
<b>Term 3</b>	
Monday	11 July
<b>Term 4</b>	
Monday	31 October
Monday	19 December
Tuesday	20 December



### Calendar – Term 1

<b>Week 8</b>	
Friday 18 March	Parents & Friends AGM (2pm – 3.15pm) (CANCELLED)
<b>Week 9</b>	
Tues 22 March	Sacrament of Reconciliation (St James) – 7pm – 8pm
Wed 23 March	School Photos No Whole School Assembly
Thurs 24 March	Parents & Friends AGM (2pm – 3.15pm)
<b>Week 11</b>	
Thurs 7 April	Hot Cross Bun Morning Tea (students only)
Friday 8 April	Last Day of School

### Calendar – Term 2

<b>Week 1</b>	
Mon 25 April	Anzac Day
Tues 26 April	School Closure Day
Wed 27 April	Students return for Term 2

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### **The Goon News**

Please click the link below to access The Goon News.

[The Goon News](#)

# 2022 SCHOOL LUNCH ORDER MENU



## PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY

YOUR NAME:

YOUR CLASS:

## SANDWICHES

(Made fresh)

Salad	\$5.50
Ham & cheese	\$5.50
Ham, cheese, tomato	\$5.90
Chicken, lettuce, mayo	\$6.50
Egg, lettuce, mayo	\$5.90
Vegemite & cheese	\$4.50
Fairy Bread	\$3.50

## ROLLS

(Made fresh)

Salad	\$5.90
Ham & cheese	\$5.90
Ham, cheese, tomato	\$6.40
Ham, salad & mayo	\$6.50
Chicken, salad, mayo	\$6.90

## HOT ITEMS

Pies	\$4.50
Sausage rolls	\$4.00
Skinless hot dog/sauce	\$4.50
Chicken breast nuggets (3)	\$3.00
Dim sim	\$1.20
Potato cakes	\$1.20
Hot chips	\$4.00

Chicken Burger \$6.90  
(Lettuce, cheese, mayo)

Beef Burger \$7.50  
(Cheese & sauce)

Souvlaki Jr \$8.50

**HOT JAM DONUTS** \$2.00



## ICE CREAMS

Calippo	\$3.30
Zooper Dooper	\$1.00



## DRINKS

Water \$2.00

Flavoured Milk \$2.80  
(Chocolate, Strawberry)

Fruit Box \$2.50  
(Orange, apple, tropical)

## ADDRESS:

Nar Nar Goon Takeaway  
1 Main Street Nar Nar Goon,  
3812

**PH: 59425042**

## PLEASE NOTE:

All orders must  
be in by 9:30am