

2018 Back to School

Dear St Martins family,

Welcome to 2018! While we are looking forward to the beginning of a new school year we also acknowledge there are a few big changes on the horizon. Beginning Term 3 we will be welcoming our new Principal, Mr Alan Connah who comes to us with a wealth of experience and knowledge both within Australia and abroad. In the meantime I will be stepping in as Interim Principal which actually brings about a roll on effect with Mr Phil Bond stepping in as Head of Primary for the first semester and his replacement will be Rachel Shigrov. We will also welcome Georgia Irvine and Swati Salvi into the secondary teaching team, Leanne Forbes into Learning Support and Year 5, Lisa Hill into Year 1 and Stuart Brown will join the grounds team in 2018. It did take Mrs Eckermann a couple days but she finally walked out of her office for the last time early January and we continue to keep her in our thoughts and prayers as she takes up a new role as Director of Leadership with Lutheran Education Australia based in Adelaide.

We wait with excitement to be able to move into the new rooms and facilities adjoining the Ark. This will also bring about some changes in what we are currently doing as we try to build a more structured middle school (Year 6-9) programme. To begin with we have divided a growing Year 6 cohort into three classes for the 2018 school year which hopefully will then support that move into middle school.

Wellbeing programmes across the school will continue to be a focus, particularly with Jayne Fulton and Shauni Cunningham appointed to leadership roles in Secondary and Primary. Wellbeing, positive education and a focus on developing our school values and values based culture continue to evolve through these coordinators, a wellbeing team and our Christ centred outlook.

There are a couple of initiatives we are starting in the middle school that we are very excited about. Our Year 8's will continue to have two home group teachers. A new feature however will be that each of their home group teachers will teach them for two subjects. We hope that this will help with the transition into the school for new students particularly, and the building of strong relationships with these key staff for the students in Year 8. Another new development next year will be with our Year 9 students. For a number of years our Year 9's have been separated into single sex classes for Physical Education and Christian Studies. With our focus on wellbeing and pastoral care, we have decided to make our home groups at Year 9 level single sex as well as we think there will be great benefits in the way we can work with these groups at a key stage of their development. They will continue to attend their core subjects (Maths, English, Science and Humanities) in mixed groups.

To compliment all of this we have also restructured the way we use our library, and while this is a work in progress we have begun by appointing a teacher-librarian, Zoe Elliot. Zoe will look to take the library in a different direction with the aim of making it a more interactive and multi-dimensional space as we continue to explore different ways of teaching, thinking and learning across the school.

On that note I would like to share with you our year 12 results from 2017. We congratulate our College Dux, Vimbisio Chiodze, who achieved an ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Ranking) of 94.75. We also extend our congratulations to the following students who achieved an ATAR above 90 – Jack Murrell 92.30, Hamish McKenny 91.30 and Lachie McGregor 90.45. This is an exceptional effort and reflects the hard work of both students and teachers and the excellent commitment to study shown by our senior students.

This letter also contains important information for the 2018 school year. Please read it carefully and if there is anything you are not sure about please contact the office between 8:30am-4:30pm from Monday 15th January.

The following dates are particularly important:

Mon January 15th	Uniform shop open 9:00am-3:00pm
Tues January 16th:	Uniform shop open 9:00am-3:00pm
Wed January 17th:	Uniform shop open 9:00am-3:00pm
Thurs January 18th:	Uniform shop open 9:00am-3:00pm
Fri January 19th:	Uniform shop open 9:00am-3:00pm
Mon January 22nd:	Uniform shop open 9:00am-3:00pm
Tues January 23rd:	Uniform shop open 9:00am-3:00pm
Wed January 24th:	Uniform shop open 9:00am-3:00pm
Thurs January 25th:	Uniform shop CLOSED – SchoolStream/phone order pickups only All Foundation students - orientation 11:00am-12noon in class (if your child is unable to attend, please let us know) Book pack collection 12noon-2:00pm (from student's classrooms – room numbers for secondary book collection can be found on the class lists)
Fri January 26th:	Australia Day (Public Holiday) - Office and Uniform shop CLOSED
Mon January 29th:	All students commence. School begins at 8:40am Opening worship service in the gym at 9:00am <i>New staff and College Captains will be installed at this service</i>

Uniform:

Summer uniform is required for Term 1. All students must wear a hat to participate in outdoor activities. Please note that appropriate shoes must be worn. Slip on shoes are not suitable for school wear as they do not give adequate protection or support. Please refer to the uniform guidelines on our website if you are not sure of appropriate requirements. Please note that students in **Years 7-12 must wear fully enclosed lace up black school shoes** for safety in the various specialist facilities.

NAPLAN Dates: The NAPLAN (basic skills) test dates for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are May 15th, 16th and 17th 2018.

Student Free Days: Staff will be undertaking professional development programs on these days. We do hope that the early notification of these dates will be helpful to parental planning.
In 2018 the following dates will be student free days:
Wed 21st March – **Primary Only** (Professional Development Primary/SESSA Secondary Interschool Athletics Carnival hosted by St Martins at Marist Park) – Secondary students are expected to compete, support or assist as needed (more information to come)
Mon 30th April (Professional Development-First Aid Training) – First day of Term 2
Tues 12th June (Report Writing)
Mon 23rd July (Professional Development)- First day of Term 3
Thurs 27th & Fri 28th September (Restorative Practice)
Fri 19th October (2019 Planning) MtG Show
Fri 23rd November (Report Writing)

Upcoming Special Dates:	Mon 29 th Jan 9:00am	Installation of new staff and College Captains
	Tues 6 th Feb 7:00pm	Compulsory Year 12 Parent Information Session
	Fri 9 th Feb 9:00am	Installation House Captains and SRC
	Mon 12 th Feb	SMLC Secondary Swimming Carnival (Years 7-12)
	Fri 16 th Feb	SESSA Swimming Carnival
	Tues 20 th Feb	Years F-11 Information Night
	Tues 6 th March	SMLC Secondary Athletics Carnival (Years 7-12)
	Fri 9 th March	SMLC Primary Athletics Carnival (Years F-6)
	Wed 21 st March	SESSA Interschool Athletics Day (St Martins/Marist Park)

Term Dates 2017:	Easter: 30 th March – 2 nd April	
	Term 1: Mon 29 th January - Fri 13 th April	2:15 dismissal (11 week term)
	Term 2: Tues 1 st May - Friday 6 th July	2:15 dismissal (10 week term)
	Term 3: Tues 24 th July – Wed 26 th September	2:15 dismissal (10 week term)
	Term 4: Mon 15 th October - Wed 12 th Dec	3:15 dismissal (9 week term)

Along with this letter please find the 2018 Class Lists (First name & initial of surname)

The following documents will be available with your book packs on book collection day. Please assist us by ensuring forms are returned on the first day of school.

- Health & information form for completion/alteration (highlight changes) – please sign both pages
- Transfer Authority (if you are transferring from another school – please sign at the bottom of page 1 only)
- Internet Users Agreement (Year 2 - Year 12)
- NAPLAN parent/student data collection form (Years 3, 5, 7 & 9)

Please note that other information (such as the canteen menu) and forms are always available on our website and SchoolStream.

I hope you all enjoy the remaining holiday time as we look forward to the new school year.



Robyn Teakle
Interim Principal

Foundation Orientation

Dear Foundation Students,

You are invited to a brief re-orientation on Thursday 25th January at 11:00am-12noon in your classroom at the College. You can wear your uniform or come in casual clothes. This is a chance to familiarise yourself with your teacher and the College grounds before starting on Monday 29th January. We do hope to see you there - book collection will follow.

Mrs Buckland & Mrs Gryn

Year 12 Study Skills – Getting off on the Right Foot

Year 12 Retreat Thursday February 1st - Friday February 2nd

All Year 12 students are required to attend these study skills sessions and retreat at Tarooki, Robe.

Installation of New Staff and College Captains for 2018

Dear Parents and Friends of the College,

You are invited to join us at the opening service of 2018 for the installation of new College staff and our new College Captains, both Primary and Secondary.

Monday 29th January
9:00am in the gym

Book Covering Guide - 2018

As a guide for purchasing book covering, please find a list below of the *approximate* amount of books your child will receive on book pick-up day (*Thursday 25th January between 12 noon & 2:00pm*). Book covering may be contact, slip on covers, plain paper, wrapping paper, or even photos you took on holidays! Please do not use offensive, rude or violence related book covering. (Scrapbook size is 335mm x 245mm).

	Scrapbooks	A4	A5	A6 Memo	A4 Binder Books
Foundation	9	2	2 A5L horizontal	1	
Year 1	8	7	1 A5L horizontal	2	
Year 2	6	10		1	
Year 3	6	10			
Year 4	2	10			
Year 5	1	15	1 228x175mm		
Year 6		10		1	
Year 7		9			
Year 8		7			
Year 9		11			
Year 10		11			
Year 11		2			6
Year 12		2			4