
ST JAMES PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT PROSPECTUS

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THE ST JAMES EXPERIENCE

2020

**ST JAMES PRIMARY SCHOOL
BANORA POINT**

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Welcome to St James Catholic Primary School. This booklet will offer an overview of our school community and all it has to offer.

Students learn best when they are engaged and stimulated to want to learn. The relationship that staff have with students is vital.

Should you be interested in enrolment at St James Primary, please contact our School Office and complete the enrolment application form. You are also most welcome to have a school tour and meet with me to discuss our school further.

Please read our prospectus, which details information about St James Primary and make contact with us if we can be of any further assistance.



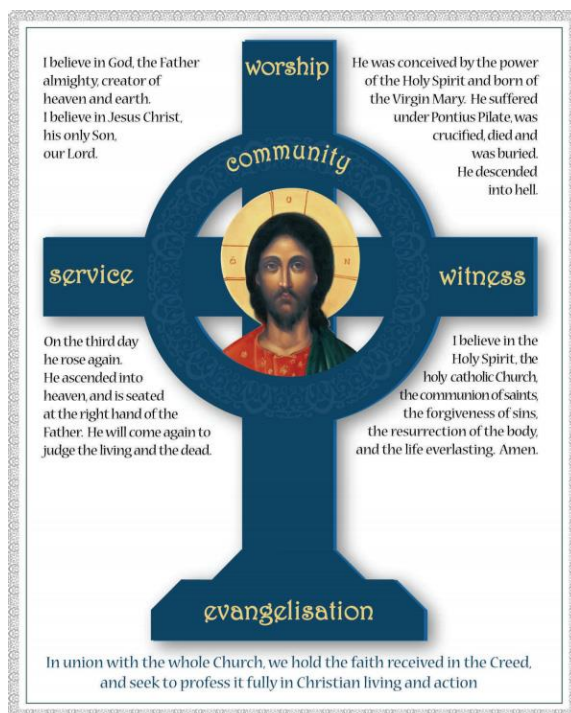
Principal



Catechesis/Religious Education

Religious Education helps students to learn the teachings of the Gospel and to develop a sense of the nature of Christianity and of how Christians are trying to live their lives.

Religious Education is a form of ministry and as an activity of evangelisation, it is a means of handing on the Christian Faith. For students at St James School it makes the Gospel present in a personal process of cultural, systematic and critical assimilation.



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Curriculum/Teaching and Learning

The Australian Curriculum describes the learning entitlement of students as a foundation for their future learning, growth and active participation in the Australian community. It makes clear what all young Australians are entitled to learn as they progress through schooling.

Teaching and Learning Philosophy

Learning Framework

Australian Curriculum

SOLO Taxonomy

Inquiry Process

Partnerships in Learning

Learning- Focussed Relationships

Learning Intention

Success Criteria

Assessment Together

Students Next Steps

Reflection

Teachers Next Steps

We also utilise a contemporary learning approach that is personalised, responding to the learning needs, interests and experiences of each student.

Contemporary learning is different to the way many parents of today's students were taught. It offers teachers and students many more options than the textbook driven approach to teaching. Contemporary learning aims to empower students with the knowledge, skills and capacities to respond creatively to the challenges of their world.

Learners thrive in environments that are safe, supportive and secure. Flexible and intentionally developed learning environments encourage innovation and inquiry and help create a sense of belonging and purpose that strengthens the learning culture; our learning environments are stimulating and appropriately resourced. They assist us to promote high expectations and respect diversity and difference, facilitating learning for all students. Adaptive learning environments are Information Communication & Technology (I.C.T.) rich, they are connected to the world beyond the classroom. At St James Primary we have I.C.T. rich, flexible and quality learning spaces that respond to the students' educational needs.

St James Primary recognises the critical importance of the early years (generally regarded as 0-8 years of age). Parents considering a Catholic education for their child should be aware that a solid foundation for learning in the future is laid in these years.

Learning in the early years at St James Primary (K-2) is inspiring and allows children opportunities to inquire, imagine, explore and create. These are years of wonder and delight.

St James Primary utilises the Best Start Kindergarten Program as a means to gauge the learning needs of incoming Kindergarten students. Best Start is a program that provides parents and teachers with a solid understanding of just where the child's learning in literacy and numeracy should start.

We use Literacy and Numeracy continuums from the Department of Education and Communities as a way to track and monitor students through the essential aspects of student learning and growth in these essential learning areas.



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St James Catholic Primary works in close collaboration with our community and is committed to the implementation of inclusive practices. Our systems recognise the child at the centre of decision making processes and in supporting all students to value themselves and to be valuable members of society.

St James Primary is committed to creating an environment whereby students develop a strong self-esteem and wellbeing. We have a wellbeing framework and structures that enable this area of school life. This is further enhanced by the connections we have with the wider community and external agencies, e.g. speech pathologist and psychologists.

St James Primary uses the Positive Behaviour in Schools (P.B.S.) framework to support student behaviour and social learning. This is a whole school approach to creating an environment that encourages effective learning through the development of a positive, calm and welcoming atmosphere. We encourage positive feedback between students and staff and endeavour to teach students appropriate behaviour.

- **Be safe**
- **Be respectful**
- **Be a learner**

All Catholic students in the Diocese of Lismore have an equal right to an appropriate and inclusive education in a parish school. At St James Primary students with disabilities may receive additional assistance through:

- Access to our school based Additional Needs Teachers
- Access to the Catholic Schools Office Additional Needs Officers
- Teacher Assistant/Teacher support.

Depending on needs and abilities students may require adjustments and/or a modified curriculum, which can be provided for students with additional needs at St James Primary.



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SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Parents, along with clergy, teachers and staff all share a common responsibility to be co-leaders at St James Catholic Primary. We believe in and encourage strong parental partnerships because this maximises student achievement and enables us to be an effective school through our high levels of parental and community involvement.

Parents – An Even Stronger Partnership with Parish Schools

St James Primary is committed to promoting clarity, unity, strategic direction and resourcing around the role of parents as partners in our school.

We make a concerted effort to clearly identify the responsibilities, capabilities and tasks of parents so that they may be even stronger partners in the great adventure of Catholic schooling.

The beliefs and practices of parents have undergone a major transition over the past thirty years and it is impacting on the nature and mission of parish schools. As well, government policy, Church teaching and educational research require that we continue to clarify and implement the partnership role of parents in Catholic education.

Parents – Partners in the Enterprise of Catholic Education

St James Primary offers a variety of opportunities for parents to be authentic partners in the enterprise of Catholic Education. These include:

- Parent helpers in the classrooms;
- Attending excursions;
- Membership in the Parent Forum;
- Opportunities to join various committees e.g.: fundraising;
- Canteen helpers;
- Working Bees.

The great success story of Catholic education over the past 100 years has been a direct result of parents, clergy, parishioners and parish school staff all working 'As One' in partnership for the good of the children. Parents have been integral to the growth and success of St James Primary, and we are committed to continuing this legacy.

LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

St James Catholic Primary School has outstanding facilities; the recently refurbished buildings provide modern, welcoming and enticing learning spaces, which are air-conditioned and full of wonderful resources. Our school has well managed grounds and gardens that provide ample room for play based activities.

Facilities:

St James Primary has quality classrooms that provide excellent learning spaces for students. The classrooms are resource rich and provide what our students need to flourish as learners. We have a Learning Resource Centre (L.R.C.) where students can access books from the Library. The L.R.C. also houses our Performing Arts and Science/Technology Areas. We also have a Multi-Purpose Centre (M.P.C) that accommodates the entire school and is used for community events.

The Doyle Centre

St James Primary has access to the College Hall (Doyle Centre), which also has a chapel that can be used for Mass.

Information Technology

All classrooms have Interactive Whiteboards. The school is also well equipped with computer resources:

Laptops and iPads. Students can access the internet throughout the school. Students in Year 3-6 have a 1:1 device and students in K-2 have access to iPads and Laptops.

Grounds

Students make good use of our internal grounds (play equipment) and the basketball/netball courts and oval spaces that provide for less structured activities.

Future Plans

St James Primary is planning to upgrade the Junior and Middle School toilets in the near future. We also plan to refurbish our MPC in the near future. We continue to apply for Capital Grants to ensure that we have an ongoing maintenance and development program so that our facilities remain first class.



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SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

St James Catholic Primary is inspired by the scripture of John 10:10, "I have come in order that you may have life – life in all its fullness" (John 10.10). Therefore, our educational program provides for all interests and abilities so that all may have life in all its fullness.

Sport

Students participate in sporting activities at the school level, and have opportunities to represent our school at the Zone, Diocese and State level in an array of sports, which includes:

- Swimming
- Athletics
- Cross Country
- Team sporting activities (Netball, Football etcetera).

Music

Students have an opportunity to take up private music lessons at school with a few instruments on offer.

Choir

The school has a student choir who develop an enjoyment of singing. They have opportunities to perform at various school and parish events.

Specialist Subjects

Students attend Specialist Learning each week in the Key Learning Areas of Physical Education, Science/Technology, Visual Art and The Performing Arts.

Extra Curriculum

There are numerous extra-curricular activities offered at St James. These include:

- Camps (Years K-6)
- Excursions
- Incursions
- Participation in various events such as: Jump Rope for Heart

After School Care

St James Primary has an After School Care program available each school day (3pm-6pm.) It is operated by an independent and accredited provider within the school grounds.

BEGIN THE JOURNEY

The St James Catholic Primary School Kindergarten class is set in a purposely designed learning space within the grounds of our school. In the early stages of school, children participate in a program where they play, investigate, communicate and develop all the skills necessary to make a successful transition to formal learning.

St James Primary is a Catholic primary school, under the Patronage of the Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Lismore, and of the Parish Priest of St Joseph's Parish Tweed Heads, Fr Michael Brady. New South Wales children can start Kindergarten at the beginning of the school year if they turn five on or before 31st July in that year.

St James Primary School's Enrolment Policy states that Baptised Catholic Children living in the school zone and siblings of children already enrolled in the school will be given first preference for enrolment.

Please note our procedures/dates for enrolment for this year:

- | | |
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| - Open Day: | March 16th |
| - Parent Information Evening: | March 16th |
| - Enrolment Applications Due: | April 9th |
| - Offers of enrolment interview: | Early Term 2 |
| - Interviews with the Principal: | Term 2 |
| - Offers of enrolment: | By the end of Term 2 |
| - Transition/Orientation Program: | Term 4 |

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How to Enrol

Step 1

Once you have made the decision to apply for enrolment at St James Primary, please complete the Enrolment Form and return it to the school office, with the \$50 application for enrolment fee.

Step 2

The Principal will decide if the application meets the criteria for enrolment and will either meet with the family to discuss the application or decline the application.

Step 3

If an offer of enrolment is made, this will be done in writing, to accept the offer you will need to reply to the offer of enrolment as directed in the letter of offer.

Step 4

Further instructions will be given by administration staff regarding transition and commencement dates.

School Fees:

2020 Schools Fees:

- Tuition Fees: \$2,020
- Resource Levy: \$240 per student
- Sport Level: \$150 (per student Year K-6) [Covers swimming and specialist sports]
- I.C.T. Level: \$40 (per student Year K-2) \$80 (per student Year 3-6)
- Excursion/ Incursion Levy: \$65 (per student K-6)
- Year 6 Graduation Levy: \$100
- Camp Fee: To be confirmed and invoiced separately

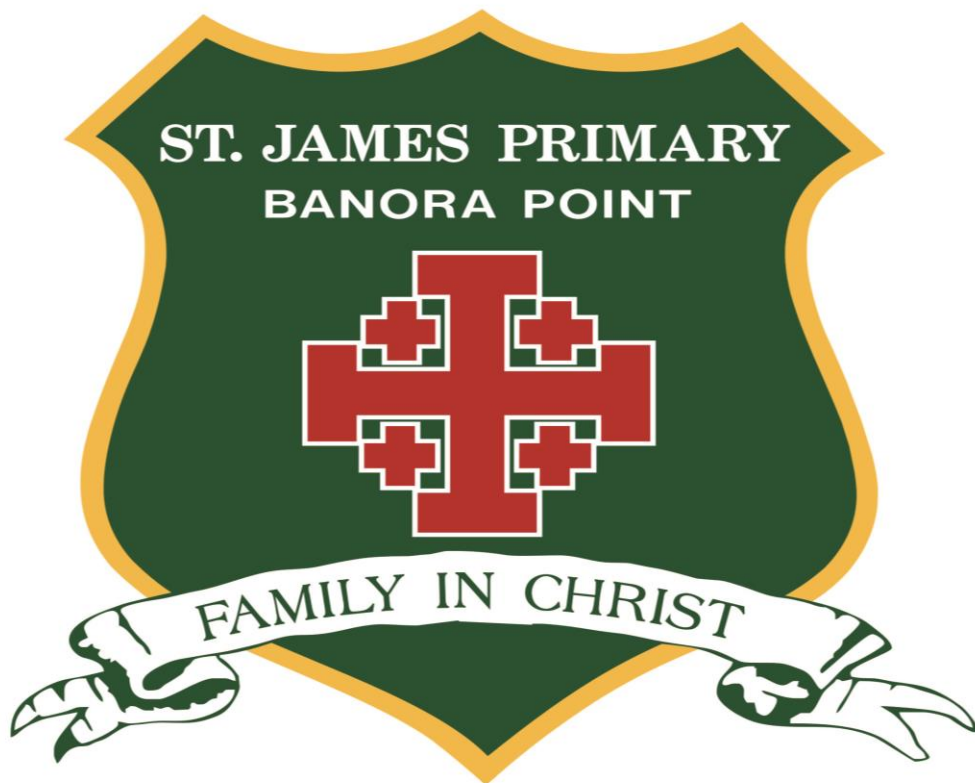
St Joseph's Parish (Tweed Heads) oversees the management and collection of school fees. The Parish has a family discount structure which applies to the tuition levy component of the school fees, and is based on a discount of 25% for the 2nd child, 50% for the 3rd child, with subsequent children only paying the levy components of the school fees.

Doyle Drive
Banora Point NSW 2486

A map of the Coolangatta area. A red pin marks the location of St James Primary School at the intersection of Doyle Dr and a road leading to the beach. Other labels include Greenway Dr, Tweed Coolangatta Junior AFL, and St Joseph's College. The beach is shown in light blue, and residential areas are in light grey.

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life in all its fullness.”
John 10:10**

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