

NEWSLETTER # 1

Thursday, 4th February 2021

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Students,

On behalf of our College Staff, we would like to welcome you back to St Joseph's International Catholic College for the 2021 school year, and a warm welcome to any new student attending our school for the first time.

St Joseph's International Catholic College observes the 150th Anniversary of the Declaration of St Joseph as the Patron of the Universal Church by Holy Father Pope Francis. He declared 'Year of St Joseph' period from December 8th 2020 to December 8th 2021. He encourages us all to pray together daily to St Joseph this prayer:

Daily Prayer to St. Joseph

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,
and defend us from every evil.
Amen.

Thank you for a good, positive start on the first day of the school year; the heavy rain on Monday 1st February did not deter us from working together to get our students safely to their classrooms. What impressed us the most about that day is the 'parental support and understanding', and the warm welcoming environment of our school.

This year, we will continue to implement and adapt our 2020 COVID-19 protocols on preventative and precautionary measures. The PNG National Controller Measure 10: *Mandatory Mask Wearing Nationwide Measure* of 20 January 2021 states "Children under 12 years are exempted from wearing masks." This means our Primary School students will not wear masks to school. We encourage parents to support your son and daughter in observing our School's COVID-19 Preventative and Precautionary measures, and also to remain involved in their education here. We appreciate your continued support.

We look forward to working with you and your child for the common goal of increased academic growth and also in our collective efforts to uphold our mission to educate our students to develop good, strong hearts and creative minds to deepen our faith.

Mr Swamy
Acting Executive Director

Mrs Igo
Principal - Primary

Acting Executive Director

On 15th January 2021, His Eminence Cardinal Sir John Ribat appointed Mr George Anthony Swamy, Secondary School Principal, to be the Acting Executive Director. Mr Swamy has spent 23 years in secondary teaching in Papua New Guinea and thirteen of these years has been here as the Secondary School Principal.

We are confident in his professional ability to lead our College Community this year. On behalf of our Teaching and Support Staff, we congratulate Mr Swamy on his acting appointment, and we will all work together to support him and work with him this year.

Mrs Igo
Principal – Primary School

Academic Information 2021

➤ 2021 Term Dates

	Weeks	Inclusive Dates	Term Break
Term 1	10	1 Feb – 9 April	(1 week) 12 April – 16 April
Term 2	10	19 April - 25 June	(2 weeks) 28 June -9 July
Term 3	10	12 July - 17 September	(1 week) 20 Sept – 24 Sept
Term 4	11	27 September - 10 December	

Secondary School Information

New Staff

We welcome 4 new staff to the College of Faith and Family community. We trust they will bring energy and passion to their work. These staff are:

1. Ms. Roseanna Sarea - RE and English
2. Mr. Bartholomew Patan – Geography and Social Science
3. Mrs. Lucy Haua – History and Social Science
4. Ms. Chermaine Umba – ICT

2020 Results

Congratulations to the 2020 Grade 8, 10 and 12 students and to the staff who have worked with them over the years.

Grade 8: **87.5 % (MRI)** of results were Very High and High

Grade 10: **97 % (MRI)** of results were Distinction, Credit and Upper Pass compared to 50% of the national average

Grade 12: **91.0 % (MRI)** of results were A, B and C compared to 75% of the national average

Tertiary Selection: 87 % of Grade 12 students were selected to tertiary institutions.

Some of the outstanding results included 5 of the Grade 8 students scored 50 out 50 in the Mathematics subject. They are, Miguel Joaquin Gatdula, Darlene Alessandra Louis, Daryl Israel Samson, Radhika Kumari Thakur and Shyra Keihly Velasco. 33 Grade 8 Students achieved “VERY HIGH” results in all three examinable subjects.

Three Grade 12 students ranked in the top 100 students. Shaniah Sivari Gaudi 50th rank, Stephanie Laki 54th rank and Roselyn Rayappan 91st rank. Congratulations to everyone who made these achievements possible.

Term 1 Important Events

➤ **Week 2 -**

Course Overviews will be distributed to parents next week . Please find time to read the document for your information and guide. Secondary Students' Parents Information Meetings will be deferred to Week 4 due to the unpredictable weather . You will be informed of when your child's grade meeting will be conducted.

➤ **Week 4-** Parent's Information Meetings

➤ **Week 5 -** Grade 11 Differential Aptitude Test (DAT)

➤ **Week 7 –** Numeracy and Literacy Trial Tests – NAPLAN Grades 7 and 9

➤ **Week 10 –** Term 1 Examinations

Note to Grade 11 parents that the Grade 11 Subject Selection Forms are DUE this week

We pray for a good year moving forward.

Mr Swamy

Acting Executive Director

Friday 5th February 2020 Program
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Please note that we will have the following activities tomorrow, Friday 5th February:

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|-----------------|--|
| 8:30 am | Opening Mass |
| 10:00 am | Student Leaders' campaign speeches for college captain candidates and elections |
| 11:00 am | Colour House Meetings |
| 12:30 pm | (lunch hour) Hometime for all students. |

Please collect your children at their respective gates. Our dress code for Friday is Colour House T-Shirts & brown sport shorts.