



## ST JOSEPH'S INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC COLLEGE

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Teachers Commissioning Photo

January 27, 2023

## PRIMARY SCHOOL SECTION

**Welcome to 2023 School Year**

Welcome to 2023 School Year to all continuing students and their parents, all new and continuing staff, and a special welcome to all our new students and their parents to our College of Faith and Family. We hope your Christmas break was enjoyable and relaxing, and this message finds you refreshed and ready for a year of learning and growing.

Our 2023 Parents' Information Evenings are scheduled for next week, Week 3. The dates and times for these meetings are in the timetable shown below. Please come and meet your child's 2023 teachers in the Primary School.

**2023 PARENTS' INFORMATION MEETINGS**

<b>Grades</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Venue</b>
Preschool	Wednesday	15 February	3:30 pm – 4:15 pm	Preschool
Prep	Tuesday	14 February	3:30 pm – 4:15 pm	Boardroom
Grades 1 & 2	Tuesday	14 February	3:30 pm – 4:15 pm	Grades 4 & 5 Weather Shed
Grades 3 & 4	Wednesday	15 February	3:30 pm – 4:15 pm	Grades 4 & 5 Weather Shed
Grades 5 & 6	Thursday	16 February	3:30 pm – 4:15 pm	Grades 4 & 5 Weather Shed

It was fantastic to see our students at school on Monday last week. We witnessed a smooth start to our first day back at school, and it was really wonderful to visit the classrooms and observe students' good learning noise back in their classrooms during the week. Our teachers planned their first week back at school with different activities ranging from daily classroom routines, classroom behavior expectations, revision lessons and giving other important information to the students.

Thank you to all our teachers for their preparations in the classroom, and also to our support staff for keeping and maintaining the school grounds/facilities clean and tidy in time for our students' returning to the classrooms last week. We were pleased to hear that our Pre-School students and their parents liked the improvements done outside the pre-school building areas during the school holidays. Thank you all!

We believe in continuous improvements, and our focus in teaching and learning this year is on improving literacy and numeracy skills and also on effective assessments from Pre-School to Grade 6. We have used our last two years of NAPLAN Tests in Grade 3 and Grade 5 to plan, teach and assess these skills this year.

The progress for all our students can be achieved through a strong and active partnership involving students, their families/carers, their teachers, and the school's administration.

We look forward to working with you for the good of our students' education and let us encourage in each child a desire to achieve in all areas of school life – spiritual, academic, creative, physical, and emotional this year.





## PRIMARY SCHOOL SECTION

## 2023 KIND REMINDERS

**Protocol on our college site:**

The college requests that if you do have an issue, a concern or grievance relating to a classroom programme, your child's progress, behavioral matters or school issue with another parent or child or staff you liaise and work with the school administration about this rather than approaching the child or parents and staff directly or via social media.

The college will not tolerate parents who display unprofessional and unacceptable behavior, that is, directly confronting students, staff and parents, in the classroom, offices, playgrounds and in the waiting bay areas and also those who use the social media to address school concerns without following our Grievance Policy Procedures.

This causes further issues and makes it harder for the college to deal with and resolve the situation. The college also asks that you do refrain from doing this as it makes others uncomfortable and is not really something that we want to promote with the children as we are sure you will agree.

Please use our Grievance Policy Procedures to address any concerns you have. A copy of this document is available on our College Website.

**Morning Drop-off and Afternoon Pick-up Venues**

All children are to be dropped off in the morning and picked up in the afternoon from their respective gates. Parents are not allowed to enter the school premises when dropping off and collecting their child except on rainy days, please follow the college Wet Weather policy on drop off and pick up. Please wait outside the gates in the morning and in the afternoon during normal good weather.

Parents are allowed to enter the school premises to go to the Administration Office for any queries, appointments, concerns or requests to see a staff member.

Parents are not allowed to go directly to any classroom without prior arrangements with the class teacher/subject teacher and school administration.

**School starting time for lessons**

All lessons start at 8.00am and all children are expected to be in class by 8.00am. Being punctual to school every day is important and allows the children to settle into their day and gain the maximum from their learning time.

Late arrivals after 8.05am are registered in the School's Weekly Punctuality Records and also recorded in the child's Student Home Diary. Ongoing punctuality problems will be brought to the attention of parents. A meeting will be arranged in Week 6 of this term with the concerned parents to discuss ways to help improve their child's poor punctuality.



## PRIMARY SCHOOL SECTION

## Afternoon pick up times

Daily Pick Up Times After School		
Day	Primary School	Secondary School
	Primary School Students without siblings in the Secondary School	Primary School students with siblings in the Secondary School
Monday	3.00pm-3.30pm	3.40pm - 4.00pm
Tuesday	3.00pm-3.30pm	3.40pm - 4.00pm
Wednesday	3.00pm-3.30pm	3.00pm - 4.00pm
Thursday	3.00pm-3.30pm	3.40pm - 4:00pm
Friday	3.00pm-3.30pm	3.00pm - 4.00pm

**Sick children**

Please keep your children at home if they are feeling sick in the morning, or felt unwell during the night.

They can return to class as soon as they are well. Teachers are not allowed to administer students' prescribed medication to sick students at school.

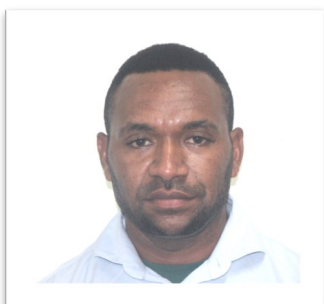
Class teachers must be informed of your child's absence from school due to illness by sending an e-mail or writing a note in the Home Diary when the child returns to class.



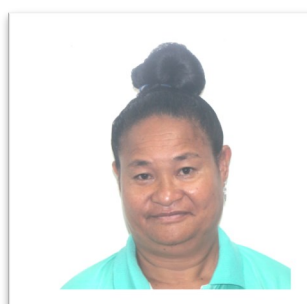
## SECONDARY SCHOOL SECTION

**New Staff**

Each year brings positive change. This includes a few additions to our staff. We are delighted to welcome Mr Charlie Thomas and Miss Betty Bala to our secondary teaching staff this year. Welcome on board our new teachers!



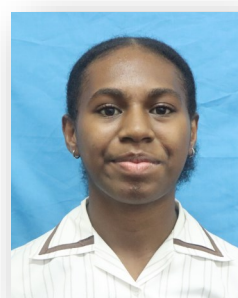
Mr Charlie Thomas



Miss Betty Bala

**SRC Leaders – Secondary School**

Last week we conducted our Student Leaders' elections, and are pleased to present the names of the student-elect leaders for this year 2023:

Nied Estandarte  
College Male CaptainCleopatra Tamari  
College Female CaptainXavier Vaz  
College Male Vice CaptainDarlene Alessandra Louis  
College Female Vice Captain

Congratulations to all our student -elect captains and Vice Captains and we look forward to working with you this year.



## SECONDARY SCHOOL SECTION

**Year 7 and 9 National Assessment Plan – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) - Term 1 - March 28, 29 and 30, 2023.**

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7, and 9. NAPLAN tests the important skills that are essential for every student to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy. The content of each test is informed by the Australian Curriculum. The literacy tests are based on content in the English learning area, and the numeracy tests draw content from the Mathematics learning area.

**Grade 7 parents information meeting:**

Grade 7 parents information meeting will be on Wednesday, 15 February 3:00 -4:00pm

**Kind Reminder - Wet Weather**

We have had wet weather recently here in Port Moresby and hope it will continue for the next couple days. We encourage our students to come to school with an umbrella to use during the day and in the afternoons for pick up. Our wet weather pick-up area will be between the grade 8s and Grade 4&5 classrooms. Please drive slowly into the school through Vaivai Gate to pick up your child(ren) and drive out of Mavaru Gate.

**2023 Term Dates**

TERM	START OF TERM	END OF TERM	NO. OF TEACHING WEEKS	TERM HOLIDAYS
1	January 30	April 07	10	April 10 – April 14
2	April 17	June 23	10	June 26 – July 07
3	July 10	September 22	11	Sept 25 – Sept 29
4	October 2	December 08	10	Dec 11 - Jan 19, 2024

Yours sincerely

**Mr George Anthony Swamy**  
Principal  
Secondary School

**Mrs Hua Igo**  
Principal  
Primary School