



## ST JOSEPH'S INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC COLLEGE

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Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

We thank our parents / guardians for entrusting your children to us to be educated at our school. We are already ending week 7 of this term and our students have settled in very well and into their learning. For this, we thank our teachers and staff for their commitment, in their work with our students, your children.

The pastoral plan of the Catholic Church in PNG SI focuses on three pillars:

1. We are Church sanctifying in Synodality
2. We are Church proclaiming in Synodality
3. We are Church serving in Synodality

As we commit ourselves into the education of our students, your children, we are called to live the spirit of Synodal Church, working together and listening to each other.

We are Church participating in the proclamation of the Gospel in new and creative ways. Pope Francis says, "The joy of the Gospel spring forth from the encounter with Jesus. We must not hold back the fear of making mistakes and our fear of following new paths" (EG).

The Church has its vision and mission. The school also has its vision and mission

As a college of Faith and Family, we will journey together to achieve our goals. Each of us have our own dream/goal; what do you want to become in the future? What do you want to achieve? Only way to achieve our goals is to journey together, work together, help each other, encourage one another to achieve the common goal and for sure our own goal. What will you do?

When we are in this journey together in working towards our goals, two things are happening: teaching and learning, learning and teaching, talking and listening from body to soul, mind and heart, praying and work.

Everyone is competing to conquer the world with its modern technology which changes every second. Education can help us to conquer it. Therefore, we are to work hard if we do not want to be spectator. Pope Francis said, "Do not be afraid to make mistake and do not be afraid to try new ways, following new path to success. Dream high and work hard and pray often.

There are things to remember as we (students, teachers, parents and school) journey together this academic year:

When we experience success and happiness, remember that they are gifts and blessings from God therefore remain humble, thanking God for the gifts and blessings we have received.

When we experience challenges and difficulties, remember that they are meant to help us to grow in love and faith in God

When we experience failure, remember that God is telling us to do our best and keep our hope alive because there are many gifts and blessings from God awaiting us.

When we fail into sin, remember to rise up again and seek his mercy to continue the journey because "God never get tired of forgiving us; we are the ones who are tired of seeking his mercy" (Evangelii Gaudium, 3)

When we are hurt, remember that forgiveness and love is the best medicine to keep our love shine and fill our heart with peace, joy and happiness.

Always focus on your goal and involve God in your struggles. Let us journey together, walk together. We are here to help each other. Love what you are doing, love yourself and love one another. God bless us all.

Fr Justin Nenat, SVD  
College Executive Director

JOEY NEWSLETTER

## Religious Education Department 2024 Schedule of the Celebration of Sacraments

### **Confirmation**

12 May 2024, 11:00 am, St. Joseph's Church, Boroko

Celebrant: His Eminence Archbishop Sir John Cardinal Ribat, MSC, DD, MBE

Recipients: Baptized Catholic Grade 6 students

### **First Holy Communion**

2 June 2024, 11:00 am, St. Joseph's Church, Boroko

Celebrant: Fr. John Curtis, CP, Parish Priest

Recipients: Baptized Catholic Grade 4 students and a number of Grade 5 students

### **First Reconciliation**

26 July 2024, 8:30 am, St. Joseph's Church, Boroko

Celebrants: Fr. John Curtis, CP Parish Priest and assisting priests

Recipients: Baptized Catholic Grade 3 students

### **Note:**

Sacramental Instructions/Preparations have commenced 3 weeks ago in their respective Religious Education classes.

## Primary School Information

As we end week 7 of term 1, we want to thank you for your support in the last six weeks of school. We are grateful for the immense support you have shown either through your responses to our notices or ensuring your children are equipped with the resources required for their learning needs.

As we approach Easter season and conclusion of Term 1, we also would like to highlight a number of areas for the sake of continuous collaboration and support for one another as parents and teachers working together. The success of our students academically, emotionally, socially and mentally hinges on a cordial partnership between us as parents and teachers.

In order to foster such harmonies and meaningful partnership, it is incumbent on everyone of us to play our various roles respectfully and consistently. In doing so, we want to highlight the following areas that can make our efforts become a reality.

## Attendance

Attendance to school is crucial as it plays an important role in the learning progress of students. Students frequently missing lessons struggle to catch up in class and creates a big gap in their learning. Absence from school also have psychological consequences in the life of a student which can lead to low self-esteem and related social behaviours. Students with very high absence either consecutively or cumulatively will struggle when moving to the next grade. We are encouraging all parents to send your children to school every day.

## Coming Late to School

Being on time is a fundamental life skill and defines one's character. Additionally, it has serious psychological implications on students' minds and affects their ability to focus on their learning. Students who come late disturb the whole class our students are very conscious of that. To help our students have a good start to their day of learning, we encourage parents to bring your children to school before 7:45 a.m. so they can be part of morning procedures in school.

## School Gates

For safety reasons we are hereby informing all our good parents that the Church and Mavaru gates will be closed at 8:00 a.m. Students who are late after 8:00 a.m. will have to be dropped off at the Vaivai Gate. This change will be effective as of week 8.

## Morning Drop Off/Afternoon Pickup

Kindly be informed that starting in week 8, drop off and pickup will be from the gate only. We are requesting your understanding and consideration to respect our students and teachers learning space and refrain from walking into corridors and classrooms. Exceptions will be made during wet weather and wet weather procedures will be followed.

## Afternoon Pickup Time

Our official pickup time for primary school is 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. We are very concerned that some students are being picked up as late as 5:30 p.m. from school. For safety reasons we would like to encourage all parents to pick up your child before 4:00 p.m. or organise for their pick up if you are unable to pick them up on time. We are looking at improving this particular procedure to bring some form of accountability to those concerned.

JOEY NEWSLETTER

## Invitation to School Activities

We are grateful to parents who have been supportive in attending our assemblies, sports and meetings. We are encouraging more parents to be part of our activities and be part of your child's celebration of learning either on Fridays and Mondays for assemblies or on Saturdays for sports. We currently have our weekend sports and we welcome parents who are willing to be coaches or trainers for our futsal teams and other sports going forward.

## Grievance Policy

We all have concerns and we want to make sure our children get the best of their time in school. This often leads to concerns with teaching and learning or extra-curricular activities. Kindly be mindful that there are established procedures in place to follow if you wish to raise your concern. It is important that we use positive example of good citizenship when raising our concerns. We request that parents be mindful of confrontational approaches to resolving concerns as it does not show good example to students. Kindly use the diary to communicate your concern.

If the matter is concerning a staff member, please contact the Deputy Principals through email or see the Office Administration Staff assist you accordingly and make an appointment to speak with them. If the issue is of serious nature, refer your concern to the Principal immediately.

## Weekend Sports (Futsal Games)

Please be informed that our weekend games for this week Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> of March 2024 have been postponed to next Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> of March 2024 due to unforeseen circumstances. We thank you for your understanding and we look forward to seeing you all next week Saturday. Below is the draw for the weekend games for your information.

## Saturday Futsal Draws 2024

Division	Grade	First Half	Half Time Break	Second Half	Team	Score	Court	Venue
Round 1 T1 Week 6 9 <sup>th</sup> March								
U6	Prep Mixed Teams	9:00 – 9:20	9:20 - 9:35	9:35 – 9:55	Blue Vs Green		1	Hall
					Red Vs Yellow		2	
Round 2 T1 Week 8 23 <sup>rd</sup> March								
U6	Prep Mixed Teams	9:00 – 9:10	9:10 - 9:12	9:12 – 9:22	Red Vs Green		1	Hall
					Blue Vs Yellow		2	
Round 3 T1 Week 10 6 <sup>th</sup> April								
U6	Prep Mixed Teams	9:00 – 9:20	9:10 - 9:12	9:12 – 9:22	Green Vs Yellow		1	Hall
					Blue Vs Red		2	
Round 4 T2 Week 1 20 <sup>th</sup> April								
U6	Prep Mixed Teams	9:00 – 9:20	9:10 - 9:12	9:12 – 9:22	1 <sup>st</sup> Vs 2 <sup>nd</sup>		1	Hall
					3 <sup>rd</sup> Vs 4 <sup>th</sup>		2	
Round 5 T2 Week 2 27 <sup>th</sup> April								
U6	Prep Mixed Teams	9:00 – 9:20	9:10 - 9:12	9:12 – 9:22	W1&2 Vs L3&4		1	Hall
					W3&4 Vs L1&2		2	
Round 6 Finals T2 Week 3 4 <sup>th</sup> May								
U6	Prep Mixed Teams	9:00 – 9:20	9:10 - 9:12	9:12 – 9:22	W Vs W		1	Hall
					L Vs L		2	

For further clarification on the rules and expectations please contact the Primary School Executive Team or leave a note in your child's diary or better still send an email to the administration on "admin@stjosephsinternational.ac.pg"  
 I thank you for your support and we look forward to working with you this year, 2024!

Sincerely,

**Mrs Perpetua Sagapuna**  
**Deputy Principal Administration – Primary School**

**NAPLAN Grades 3 and 5 – Week 9 Term 1 2024**

Monday 25 March	Tuesday 26 March	Wednesday 27 March
Language Conventions (45 minutes)	Reading Year 3 – 45 minutes Reading Year 5 – 50 minutes	Numeracy Year 3 – 45 minutes Numeracy Year 5 – 50 minutes
Writing (40 minutes)		

**Parent- Teacher Interviews**

Week 9 – Tuesday, 26 March - Wednesday, 27 March      3:10pm – 4:00pm  
 Week 10 – Tuesday, 2nd April – Thursday, 4th April      3:10pm – 4:00pm

## SECONDARY – ACADEMIC REMINDERS

### Term 1 - Assessment Tasks

A kind reminder to check and follow up your child on assessment tasks due for submission. Students are always encouraged to complete tasks on time and not to procrastinate. Non submission of tasks affects termly results and promotion at the end of the year if a student continuously breach the policy.

### Term 1 Examinations

Term 1 Examinations are scheduled in Week 10, Tuesday to Friday. Attendance is a must during exam week. As per our College assessment policy, no special exam is given outside the scheduled dates. If your child misses any test or exam, please communicate with the class patron and submit proof of evidence such as medical certificate and your child will be given an "estimate" mark.

### 2024 Naplan Tests

Grade 7 and 9 Naplan Tests will be conducted in Week 9, Monday to Wednesday. Please support your child and encourage to attend these tests. They will need a pencil, sharpener, biro and a simple calculator to use. Normal lessons follow after the Naplan tests.

### SRC Leaders – Secondary School

Earlier this term, we conducted our Student Leaders' elections, and are pleased to present the names of the student-elect leaders for this year 2024:



Cecil Koimo  
College Male Captain



Adasha Tamari  
College Female Captain

## SECONDARY - ACADEMIC REMINDERS



Meliandro Lasia  
College Male Vice Captain



Lanietta Elise Asa  
College Female Vice Captain

**Congratulations** to all our student -elect College Captains and Vice Captains and we look forward to working with you this year 2024.

### **Servant Leadership Training and Commissioning:**

On Thursday 29th of February 2024, our student leaders attended a one-day training on being a leader – focusing on Servant Leadership and their duties and responsibilities. We thank the Pastoral Care and Behavior Management Committee members for preparing and conducting the training.

On Friday 1st March 2024, whole college witnessed our student leaders commissioned at the St Joseph's Parish church, to take on their role as leaders in our school during the first Friday of the month mass. We commend these students for the courage they have in raising their hands to be elected as leaders and wish them the best this year. Let us all support them in their role as leaders of our college in this academic year.

### **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.



**SECONDARY – ADMINISTRATION NOTICES****Secondary School Friday Sports:**

College has organized House Challenge Ball Games to be played on schedule Fridays this term leading up to St Joseph's Feast Day Celebration in term 2 week 3 Friday. Two houses are scheduled to play on alternate Fridays. Students whose consent form has been signed by their parents / guardians will be playing. Students whose consent form not signed by their parents / guardians are advised to report to their pickup gates to go home. School is also organizing Chess Boards for students to play during small/big lunch, and at the gates while waiting for their pickup. Students are encouraged to bring their chess pieces to use the chess boards to play.

Pickup time on Fridays:

Students who are NOT playing will be picked up 3pm.

Students who are playing will be picked up at 4pm.

Dress Code for Friday Sports: House Colour T-Shirt and Brown Sports Shorts

It is the approved Secondary School dress code for Fridays Sports. Therefore, all Secondary School students who are playing or not playing are encouraged to come to school in their House Color T-Shirt and Brown Sports shorts. We seek parental support to get a house colour T-Shirt and brown sports shorts for your child if he / she did not have the uniform yet.

**Media Education Seminars – 2024:**

Six of our grade 11 students and our school animator Mrs Sheryll Extra-Isoaimo are currently attending these organized 5-series workshops by the Social Commissions for the Catholic Bishop Conference PNG SI. Guided by the theme: Dream to Care, our students including students from other Catholic Institution in Port Moresby are attending to learn about Media and be able to use the Media positively to respond to issues surrounding us, the need to listen to persons, situations and events with joy and happiness into the lives of people.

We thank Mrs Isoaimo for working and supervising our students and wish them the best in their Media Education training and we look forward to learning from them after completing the workshops.

**International Woman's Day Celebration:**

We thank our student leaders for a short but meaningful celebration last Friday 8th of March 2024 to remind everyone of how important women are and what they can do to contribute significantly towards making a difference every day wherever they are present, in the development of our country. Their dedication, passion, and hard work are truly admirable and greatly appreciated.

Belated Happy International Women's Day to all the amazing women teachers/parents. You are making a difference in the world, and we are grateful for all that you do. Keep shining bright and never stop breaking barriers.

**Happy 200th Birthday, Fr Jules Chevalier**

On Saturday 16th, March 2024, the Missionary of the Sacred Heart Congregation (MSC) and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Congregation (OLSH) will celebrate the 200th Birthday for Fr Jules Chevalier. The day will begin with a Mass at 10am, to celebrate his life at the St Joseph's Parish Boroko followed by other celebration activities at our College Centenary Hall after the Mass.

Therefore, our Primary School Saturday Sports games for this Saturday 16th March 2024, are now being postponed to a later date.

Fr Jules Chevalier MSC, is a French priest, who was born on March 15, 1824 i.e. 200 years ago this Friday 15th March 2024. He began a world-wide movement of Priests and Brothers, Sisters and other lay people that today we call the Chevalier family.

As teachers, students and parents of our school started by the sisters he founded, we too belong to the Chevalier Family. In our school, we have named our Houses and classrooms after these sisters:

- HARTZER House/classrooms are named after Sr Marie Louise Hartzler who is the first leader of the OLSH Sisters. Upon the request of MSC who had come earlier to PNG, she sent 5 of her only 7 sisters including herself to PNG
- CARTHAGE House/classrooms are named after Sr Carthage, the first Principal of St Joseph's International School in 1917.
- MARCELLA House/classrooms are named after Sr Marcella, who, with Sr Carthage founded St Josephs International Catholic College in 1917.
- CHEVALIER House/Classrooms are named after Fr Jules Chevalier.

We who work with the MSC and OLSH congregations are 'Partners in Mission. That mission is being expressed in the motto seen in all our classrooms around our school: May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be everywhere loved, to remind us all that if we can know the way God loves by knowing Jesus, it would change the world if everyone loved like Him!

As a part of the Chevalier Family, we are therefore invited too to come along and celebrate the life of Fr Jules Chevalier with the priests, religious brothers, sisters and other lay Chevalier members on Saturday 16th March 2024. Happy Birthday, Fr Jules Chevalier.

## Faith and Family Meeting

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2024 will be our first Faith and Family meeting. Starting time for the meeting will be at 9:00am. Venue will be the College Peace Theatre.

We invite all parents/guardians to attend the meeting. Please come along as it is a great way to meet other parents and to find out first-hand what is happening, be informed, to participate in working together, in making our school a conducive learning environment for our students, your children.

**Fr Justin Nenat, SVD**  
Executive Director

**Mr Victor Piniau**  
Principal- Primary School

**Mr George Swamy**  
Principal - Secondary School