



St. Joseph's International Catholic College

A Catholic Agency Permitted School

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NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS & GUARDIANS

#11/21 – 28th September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers, Students and Staff

Welcome back to school

We are glad to welcome you to Term 4. We hope that you all had a safe and wonderful break. This term is the last term of the academic year and we are well prepared for the term. Thank you for taking good care of your children during the one-week holiday break.

All teachers have set relevant learning activities towards ensuring that our students achieve their academic goals and expectations, and successfully complete the year. Your support and care for your children is essential again this term.

Rosary Month

October is Rosary month, and we will have our Opening Rosary month para-liturgy this Friday 1 October at the Peace Theatre. All our Grade Classes have been rostered for our Rosary month prayers each school day of the weeks in October at the Peace Theatre. May we invite all families to join us in the Rosary month family prayers in their family homes.

PNG National Examination Dates – Term 4, 2021

Our Grade 10, Grade 12 and Grade 8 students will sit their respective senior secondary certificate examinations this term. Hence students are encouraged to focus in their studies this week and the weeks leading up to their examination dates.

Week	Dates	National Examination Grade
3	11-15 October	Grade 10
4	18-22 October	Grade 12
5	25-29 October	Grade 8

NESA Certificate of Recognition for St Joseph's International Catholic College

We are pleased to announce that New South Wales Education Standards Authority (NESA) has approved our application for renewal for recognition outside New South Wales, Australia. NESA has e-mailed a copy of the Certificate of Recognition for St Joseph's International Catholic College to present candidates for the NSW Record of School Achievement and Higher School Certificate for the next five years, 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2026. Hard copies of the Memorandum of Understanding and the Certificate of Recognition will be provided following the easing of COVID-19 restrictions in New South Wales.

We acknowledge the hard work and commitment shown by all our Secondary school teachers to complete all the necessary documentation required for the renewal. THANK YOU ALL!

2021 Higher School Certificate (HSC) NSW Examinations

NSW HSC written examination start on **Tuesday 9 November 2021.**

COVID-19 UPDATE and our SCHOOL MEASURES

- **COVID-19** is still here in our country, and we all must continue to practice our Personal Health and Hygiene in our 'new normal' passin/guidelines every day at school. These guidelines were implemented at the beginning of last year and up to now are still in place. Please observe and help us implement these guidelines for the good of our community members.

Morning Checks at the Entrance Gates

- ✓ Temperature and hand sanitizing at the three gates in the morning
- ✓ "No mask, No entry" at these gates for all students and teachers,
- ✓ "No mask, no entry" at the gates for parents/friends wishing to enter our School Administration Building.
- ✓ Students with high temperature above 37.5 degrees during the morning checks will be sent home immediately.
- ✓ Two security guards will be on duty at Mavaru during morning drop off time, and afternoon pick up.
- ✓ The current number of security staff at Vaivai and Church Gate will remain the same.

During the day:

- ✓ Frequent/regular hand washing in our children, as a way of maintaining personal hygiene.
 - Washing hands before and after eating at recess and lunch time
 - No sharing of food and drinks at all
 - Using hand sanitizing container correctly to sanitize hands in the classroom under the supervision/guidance of class teachers. Please provide a small hand moisturizer for your child to use after using the hand sanitizer.
- ✓ Frequent/regular cleaning and sanitizing of all surfaces in the classrooms, toilets, hand rails etc by our cleaners during the day.
- ✓ Masks will be removed during physical education lessons, and also during recess and lunch time.
- ✓ Social distancing, 1.5m, at the Canteen and at the respective recess and lunch time areas monitored by duty teachers
- ✓ Remind students regularly to cover their mouth when they cough/sneeze with their bent elbow or a tissue or a handkerchief, and dispose the used tissue immediately in the bins provided.

After school:

- ✓ Late pick up: We expect students to be dropped and picked during the school stipulated time.
 - Primary School Students: Monday to Friday 7.40am – 3.00pm
 - Secondary School Students: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday – 7.40am – 3.40pm, Wednesday and Friday: 7.40am to 3.00pm.
- ✓ Late picking of children is child abuse and it's against the child's right.
 - Two security guards will be on duty at Mavaru and Church Gates during afternoon pick up time.
 - The current security manpower arrangement at Vaivai will remain the same.

Access to Classrooms/Canteen/Administration Building and Resource Centres/Staff Centre etc

- ✓ Access to School Administration building is permitted, and we expect parents to follow our entrance gate guidelines on hand sanitizing, temperature check, "No Mask, No Entry".
- ✓ No entry/access to any school buildings and Waiting Areas by parents/friends – includes all classrooms, Staff Centre, Resource Centres, Music Room, ICT Labs, Wonderland, Pre-School classroom, Centenary Hall, and Student Toilets without prior arrangement with School Administration.
- ✓ Service Delivery vans will also be checked using the 'No Mask, No Entry' policy.
- ✓ Teacher/parent interviews or meetings arranged by the teachers will be allowed using the daily protocols in place.

Sick Children

Please keep your child/ren at home if they are sick. This also includes children with contagious skin diseases such as scabies, impetigo and skin rashes. Write a note in your child's Home Diary when s/he is cleared from the sickness and is ready to return to school. This information is important for our teachers to note as 'Absent with Medical Reason' on your child's attendance records for the term.

REMINDERS FOR TERM 4

- **Punctuality at school:** We expect all students to be in school by 7:50 a.m. Please help the children get to school on time. If for any reason your child will be late, call the Reception Desk or the respective Deputy Principals/Principals on the following numbers: 325 3733 or 75641742/74328139.

We wish to advise that students with ongoing poor punctuality in the morning and very late afternoon pick-up recorded on our Punctuality Records during the first three terms of this year, and this trend continues during Term 4 this year will not be re-enrolled in 2022.

Next week, we will invite those parents whose child/ren have been dropped off late for school in the morning and picked-up late after school in the last three terms this year.

- **Bringing in lunch for your children**

For the parents who kept on bringing their children's lunch during school hours last terms, we wish to advise that we will not accept childrens' lunch packs this term because it disrupts the daily work routines for some of our support staff. We strongly encourage childrens' packed lunches be prepared at home, and they bring their home packed lunches with them to school in the morning.

Please do not bring lunch or send someone to leave food at the Reception Area to give to your child because the school will NOT allow children to accept lunch packs from house maids, drivers, uncles and aunties etc brought in during school hours. Food handling by too many hands is not hygienic.

- **School Car Park and Road Safety**

We've had some concerned parents speak to us recently about the lack of regard some parents are showing towards our students and parents' safety during morning drop off and afternoon pick up times

Please observe road safety rules around our school for the safety of all of our children, teachers and parents.

- Park your car with extreme caution and care outside Vaivai, Mavaru and Church Gate.
- Wait until the car in front of you has moved off before you move on.
- Children being picked up will wait near the gate entrance. **PLEASE** walk over and collect your child/ren from the waiting area and not call children down to your car.
- Co-operate and respect our Security Staff as they control the traffic flow and give parking directions.
- Use the children's crossings at Vaivai Street in the morning and after school
- For safety purposes, please avoid letting your child/ren exit or enter a car whilst on the road or stopped at the crossings. Please do not double park.

- No child is to be left unsupervised in the car park.
- Please note, doing 'U' turns in the school's driveway is strictly prohibited.
- Please note, speeding through our Vaivai Gate crossings, in the Church Car Park area and outside Mavaru Gate area is strictly prohibited, and it is also unsafe for the pedestrians – our students, teachers, parents.

Thank you for your co-operation.

➤ **Uniform Infringements**

Students who continue to ignore our school uniform and personal appearance expectations will be monitored this week. If they do not improve in this area, we will call their parents for a meeting next week, Week 2.

Condolence Message

One of our parents, Ms Rebecca Ikanau Habitein, mother of Dante Kiapen 6CH and Darren Kiapen 3CH, passed away on the 17th September. Our prayers and thoughts for Mr Kiapen, Dante, Daren and their immediate family members during this very difficult time. May her soul Rest in Eternal Peace.

Have a safe weekend and please take care when moving around.

Yours sincerely



Mr George Swamy
a/Executive Director, Principal - Secondary