

Issue 3 – 2nd March 2018

From our Principal....

The year here at St James has started in earnest, new staff have been inducted, returning teachers busily preparing for the year ahead all before the students returned on the 22nd of January.

And now we find ourselves six weeks into the year.

I am very proud of our College. I feel privileged to lead such a warm, professional and caring College. I think it is important to reflect on what we have and what we are thankful for. The College is blessed with dedicated staff to support our students. We have amazing growing facilities that are innovative and reflect contemporary learning environments to ensure that students get the best education that they can get.

This year the College will continue to build and grow its facilities. Three projects will occur through this year.

- 1) Renovation of our Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 classrooms into modern teaching spaces
- 2) An extension of our Resource Centre
- 3) An amenities block to service the COLA and Secondary Sports Field.

As with all building projects, these will cause some disruption. The College will work with its building partners to minimise disruption, but we do recognise that in order to renovate we will need to have some short term solutions for classes at times. The College has capacity to do this. As details of building timelines emerge the College will communicate in detail changes (if any) that will need to happen.

It is exciting that we are able to improve our environment. Our College Council is committed to ensuring that we have the best facilities, whilst keeping our College as accessible as possible.

Mrs Genevieve Clark shares some more detail about the Year 4-6 building renovations in her article in this week's newsletter.

Regards,

Luke Schoff
Principal

Upcoming events

6th March

**Hervey Bay District Trials
Touch & Basketball**
10 – 12 yrs

8th March

**Hervey Bay District Trials
Various sport**
13 – 19 yrs

16th March

AFL Gala day
Year 3 – Year 6

19th March

Open Day Tours

19th – 23rd March

Senior School Exam Block

22nd March

Mighty Minds

27th & 28th March

**JS Parent Teacher
Interviews**

From the Deputy Principal....

Relationships, Relationships, Relationships...

As a restorative school, St James works to ensure that all students at our school are in effective relationships for learning. There are many ways we build community here to ensure that all students are feeling positive and engaged in their learning. We value the strength in pastoral care at St James and the PC group is one way we ensure that positive relationships are built. By creating the vertical system this year, we have been overwhelmed by the success of these groups. We have kept families together in the same PC and the same PC teacher will follow their PC "family" for their entire journey in Secondary School. This process allows parents and guardians the opportunity to build a relationship with one PC Teacher for all their children and it allows students to bond with and develop a strong link with one teacher at school. It is our hope and aspiration that after a few years of being together in the same PC class that the students will make links across year levels and break down any barriers. Our older students have already become mentors for younger students and have been advocates for them at carnivals and in the playground.

Below are some reflections from our students about their favourite things about the new PC system:

Everyone interacts with each other, like if someone was upset, there are students who will comfort them. We do fun activities in the morning like saying positive things about each other. It's a nice way to start the day. - Romany Murray, Year 7

I like it when we mark the roll and my teacher always asks us a question about ourselves so we get to know stuff about each other a bit more. I like having older kids in our PC because you get to know the whole school better and now when we walk around the school in break times we see them and can say hi. - Emily King, Year 8

I like that everyone gets along... we all talk to each other and can crack jokes and that makes it fun. I love that everyone is always happy. - Lincoln Hill, Year 9

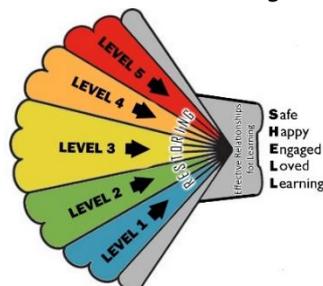
I love PC because of my teacher and all my new mates. We like to learn about all the different people in our class, it's fun. - Kanyan Turner, Year 10

I like PC because it gives older and younger students an opportunity to interact with each other in a comfortable environment. - Charlea Patroneyn, Year 11

Definitely getting to know the younger grades and bonding with them more. We sit together and mix more and our teacher gives us options to talk about to get to know each other better. - Mitch Ferrier, Year 12

Blessings,

Kelly Stirling
Deputy Principal



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From our Head of Junior School...

COLLABORATIVE TEACHING AND LEARNING in COLLABORATIVE SPACES

Teaching and Learning in collaborative spaces certainly can present a number of challenges that may not be faced when teaching in a 'single cell' classroom. However, purpose built collaborative spaces also present MANY advantages.

This year the Junior School is eagerly awaiting the renovation of the Year 4,5 and 6 rooms. This will begin at the end of Term 2 and during Term 3. Plans are in place as to where the children will have their classes during the renovations. Rooms in the secondary school will be utilized and parents of children in those classes will be given details closer to the time. We aim to do this with the least disruption possible.

The classrooms will be renovated so that the teachers of each year level have the ability to work together, leading the classes from anywhere in the room and moving from group to group, easily providing assistance or advice to individual students, learning groups, or the entire class. The renovation will see these rooms looking similar to the other collaborative classrooms in the Junior School. The added benefit in these classrooms will be glass walls and sliding doors both within the classroom and onto the decks. These internal glass doors will allow the double room to be split into two, according to the needs of the learning. Each double space has a withdrawal room. The classrooms will be able to reconfigure seating to accommodate a variety of teaching methods, including teacher directed and inquiry learning. Students will also have the ability to move around more easily, generating discussion and collaborative learning; sharing of ideas, being creative and solving problems together.

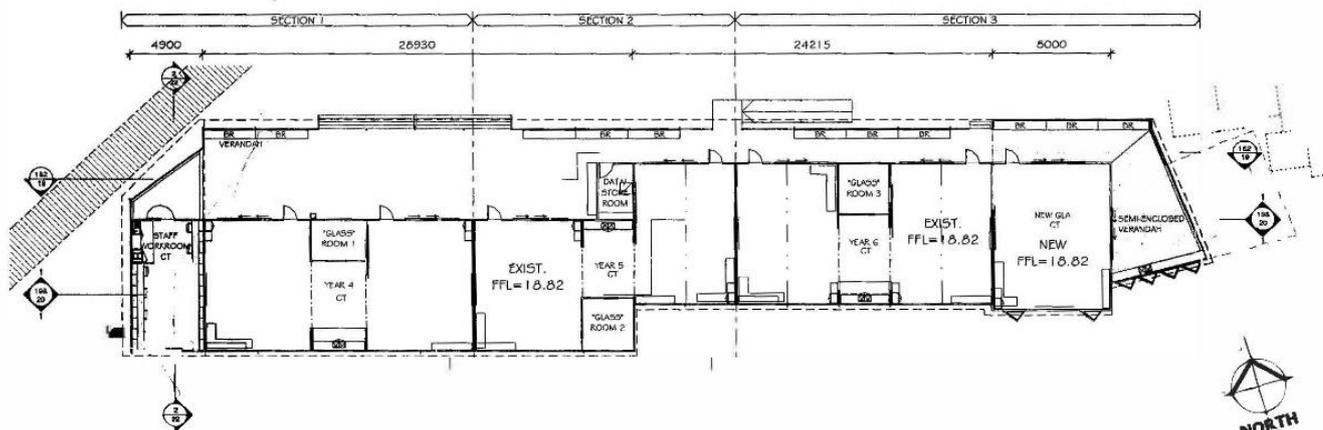
Here are just a few more of the advantages teachers experience from being able to teach in shared teaching spaces.

- Adds to the flexibility and agility of learning
- Multiple adults with multiple talents and areas of expertise
- High quality, co-planned teaching and learning
- Teachers professional practice developed daily (discussion and feedback)
- Discussion of students is enhanced and personalised
- More opportunities for relationships and connections
- Allows learning to be more seamless
- Consistency for children in the absence of a teacher
- Collaboration is modelled
- Allows for the differing needs of children at different times – more effective grouping for learning

The plan shows what the double teaching spaces will look like. The renovation also includes an additional classroom on the eastern end of the deck and a Junior School staffroom on the northern end. If you have any questions or concerns about the renovation, please don't hesitate to speak to me. We can't wait!

Mrs Clark

HOJS



From Our Pastor...

Suriname is a republic in South America. For 2018, it wrote and prepared the annual global prayer service: The World Day of Prayer. Every year the focus is on a different country. Globally people meet to celebrate together with that country their gifts, but also needs for prayer both locally and globally.

This morning St James Church hosted the World Day of Prayer service for Hervey Bay. Members from the different churches around the bay met together to remember and pray together for Suriname and the world.

Prayer is not only an individual activity - often we think of it as something we do as individuals. Prayer is also something that is corporate, where people joined together in faith, pray together to the loving God we know and believe. Prayer is not only for personal needs and experiences, but is done out of faith and love for people beyond ourselves. This is a special gift the Christian Church does continually for the world and local communities. Churches pray regularly for governments, cultures, economies, homes, marriages, families, individuals, health, suffering, injustice, bereavement, social cares and needs, for people in their various callings in life.

The college has its chapel services each week. The services spend time listening and reflecting on God's word, and then in faith and trust we pray for others. This year we are focussing on the theme of service. In our chapel services, we look outward from our own personal and individual needs, and through prayer and other practical forms of service, we seek to bring God's grace to others.

Prayer is part of God's promise to us, to listen to us, and to hear our cries for his help and need. As we grow in praying for others, we discover that he is using us to be a blessing for all people.

God bless you today.

Pastor Will

Policies and Procedures

A number of policy statements, procedures and guideline are available for parent and student reference on the College website or through the College Office.

<http://www.stjameslc.qld.edu.au/general-info/>

Junior School Parent Teacher Interviews 27th & 28th March

Parent teacher interviews for Junior school are fast approaching. More information to come. Secondary school interviews will be held in Week 1 next Term 18th and 19th April.

St James Congregation's Farewell to Pastor William

On Sunday 22nd April, at St James Lutheran Church, there will be a short service followed by a special farewell programme and tribute to Pastor William. The congregation invites all school families to attend.

There will be no morning tea following the programme (except for a caffeine fix if you need it), but we will enjoy a shared "brunch". Everyone is invited to bring a plate of finger food to share.

Drinks will be supplied.



Sunday 29th April will be Pastor William's last service with us at St James.



EVERYTHING IS ACHIEVABLE

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From Our Digital Resource Centre...

CAT Competition

Students in Year 5-12 are invited to register for the Computational and Algorithmic Thinking (CAT) competition held on March 27th. It is a 1 hour problem solving challenge which seeks to identify computer programming potential. There is no cost to the student, and it is held in the Resource Centre. For more information please visit <http://www.amt.edu.au/informatics/cat/>. Permission notes are available in the Resource Centre and are due back on Monday 5th March.



Book Club

New Book Club catalogues went home with students this week. Please have orders in by Monday 12th March to ensure they arrive before Easter.

After hours Library Opening times

Monday to Friday 8:10 – 8:35

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 3:00 – 4:00

Parent Library

We have a selection of books reserved just for the parents! Feel free to visit anytime to browse or borrow some books.



Author Visit - Cameron Stelzer

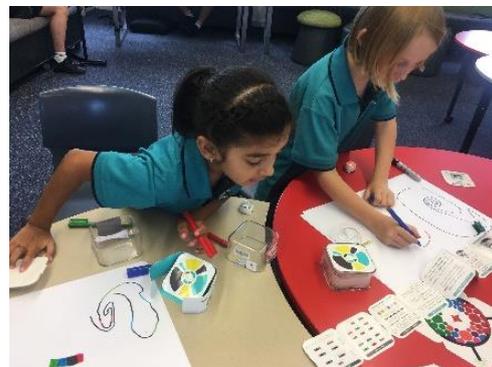
On Monday 19 March, we have a special visit from Author and Illustrator Dr Cameron Stelzer. Cameron is

visiting St James Lutheran College to run workshops with our students Year 3-6 students. Cameron will be engaging Year 3 and Year 5 students in a workshop to motivate and inspire students with their writing, and help prepare them for their own narrative and persuasive writing tasks. Year 4 and Year 6 students will be exploring exciting and descriptive language. Students and teachers are looking forward to a fantastic day!

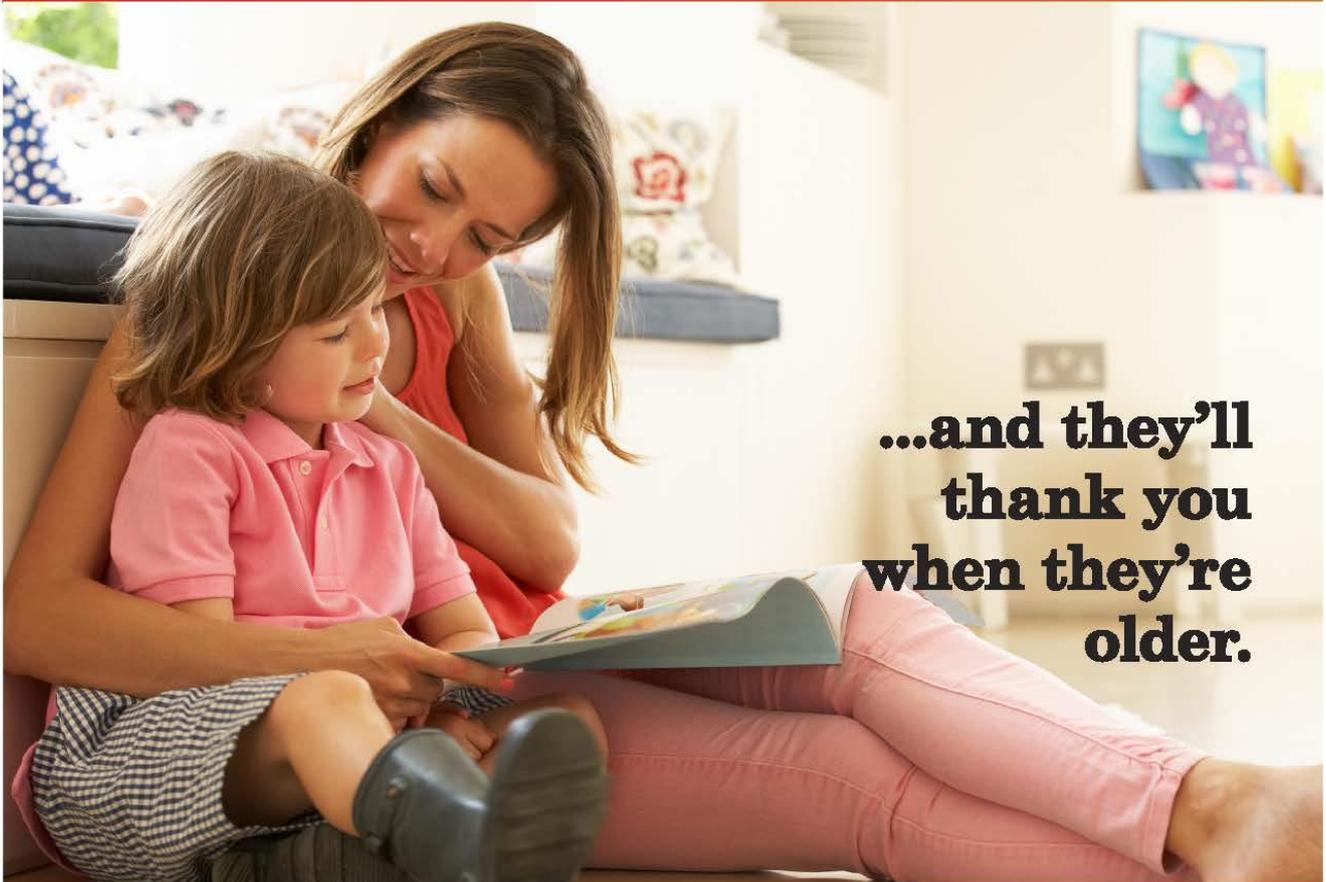
In conjunction with the Author Visit, St James Lutheran College families have a special opportunity to purchase **signed** and personalised copies of Cameron's books at special prices. Individual items are \$15 each and there are also exclusive book sets available. Students will receive an order form on the day of the workshops.

Forms and payment can be returned the following day, Tuesday 20 March, to the **Library**. Cameron will personally sign books (including the child's name and a message) and students will receive their books within the following fortnight.

Rachel Turpin Digital Learning Coach



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— Benjamin Franklin*



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