



ST ALOYSIUS

CATHOLIC COLLEGE

8th February 2019

Dear Kingston Parents/Guardians

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome new and existing families to the St Aloysius Catholic College community for 2019. We especially welcome our Kindergarten students and families. This letter is to inform you about key information in regards to the 2019 school year, as well as practical information for the first day of school at Kingston.

First Day Arrangements

Staff have been busily preparing for the first day for students, which is Tuesday, 12th February. All students and families should go directly to their respective classrooms, which will open at 8.25am. Any families who are unsure of the location of their classroom are asked to visit the College Office for assistance. Additional communication in regard to classroom allocation will be issued to Prep parents via School Stream. The Community Group is hosting morning teas at both campuses. Please look to School Stream for more information.

Parking

We have a staff member on duty in the morning and afternoon in the Parish car park. The staff member will be present to ensure that the car park is used safely and to welcome students each day. Please do not use the car park as a 'drop-off zone' as this has caused considerable problems in the past. Parents looking for a quick experience should consider a drop off at the Donohoe Gardens entry point. Please be aware that the driveway in front of the office at Kingston is not to be used as a thoroughfare by parents for dropping off, picking up or parking. We are very aware of the need to keep the children in our care safe and, for this reason, the area is designated for staff parking and a student crossing. We understand that our numbers have increased considerably and continue to grow and this has increased pressure on parking. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Before and After School Arrangements

All students arriving at school before 8.25am are reminded that they must wait on the asphalt area outside the Grade Three classrooms unless accompanied by their parent or guardian. Classrooms open at 8.25am with this being signalled by the school bell. Parents are welcome to enter the classroom at this time. Please note, due to the busy nature of the morning, it is not a good time for a parent/teacher conference. Classes commence formally at 8.40am and conclude at 2.55pm (2.40pm for Kindergarten). In order to ensure the safety of all students after school we are asking that students who are not picked up by 3.05pm wait at the front office where they can be adequately supervised. Parents are to pick students up from this area. It is extremely important that students waiting for parents are not playing on any equipment, as there is no teacher supervision in the playground after school. Students catching buses will line up outside of the Sisters of Charity Centre. Those students in Kinder and Prep attending After School Care will be picked up at their classroom by Blackman's Bay Childcare (Adventure Patch) staff.

New Deputy Principals –Mrs Susan McGann (KC) and Ms Susanna Bond (HC)

We welcome Mrs Susan McGann to the College. Mrs McGann brings a vast amount of experience across Tasmanian Catholic Primary Schools and will provide strong leadership at the Kingston Campus. Mrs McGann joins us from Corpus Christi Primary School. She will be responsible for the operations of the Campus and a good communication person for parents, as she will always be on site. We are also excited to have Ms Susanna Bond join the staff at the Huntingfield Campus.

New Staff

We welcome the following staff to the College Community:

Caroline Woolley	Marketing & Events Officer
Melissa Dance	Administration
Ottmar Helm	Facilities/Compliance Coordinator
Allison Jones	Teacher
Susan McGann	Deputy Principal KC
Tara Lewis	Teacher
Jessica Lewis	Teacher
Natalie Khoury	Teacher
Gemma Evans	Teacher
Susanna Bond	Deputy Principal HC
Amber Demir	Teacher
Harrison Loveless	AFL Trainee
Leslie Hall	Teacher Assistant
Jane Baker	Finance & Administration Officer
Tim Poulos	Senior ICT Technician

A full 2019 staffing summary is also attached for your information.

Curriculum Changes

Science P-4: We are excited to be offering Science as a specialist subject from Prep-4 in 2019. In a long-term strategy to increase the Science proficiency of the students at the College, Mr Matt Gardiner will be teaching all Science lessons. As Science teaching requires specialist knowledge and is resource and time intensive, we see great benefit in having one teacher deliver the curriculum. Students will have Science for a block once a fortnight. Science will still be a theme across the Curriculum in regular classrooms but the block per fortnight will really target the investigation skills and knowledge contained in the Australian Curriculum.

Physical Education P-4: Physical Education classes will increase from thirty minutes to forty-five minutes this year. Mrs White is very pleased that this has occurred! This allows more time for curriculum delivery and skill development.

Kindergarten Library: Kindergarten students will now have thirty-minute specialist Library lessons with our Library teacher, Mrs Grace Gardiner.

Music 3-4: Music classes for Year Three and Year Four students have increased to forty-five minutes.

Uniform

Please find attached a copy of the College Uniform Policy.

Please note:

- Classroom teachers will regularly check student uniforms each morning.
- Inappropriate earrings were an issue at the Kingston Campus last year.
- Students are required, as per the Uniform Policy, to **wear plain socks** without logos or brands.
- If there are any problems in regards to a student's uniform, please simply send a note to school with students advising the problem and the timeline in which it will be addressed.
- In 2019, we will be working with the College Board, Community Group, teachers, parents and students to review the College Sports Uniform. In 2020 the focus will turn to the College formal uniform. Parents can be assured that any changes will be well considered in terms of cost implications, transition periods and other issues currently relevant in school uniform debate in Australia.

New Facilities

We are very excited about our wonderful new facilities at the Kingston Campus. We have brand new Kinder classrooms, as well as three beautiful Prep classrooms, all with large break out spaces. We have also improved the suitability of our Kinder toilets.

In conjunction with Adventure Patch (afterschool care providers) work has been completed in the Convent as well as the fenced playground. There are still many improvements to occur. In 2019 our wonderful B-4 Program, Explorers, will be situated in the Convent.

Later in the year we will be, in conjunction with the Parish, upgrading the Parish/College car park. This will create additional car spaces, a 'kiss and drop' zone and much safer entry points at the Kingston Campus.

Strategic Plan

Please find attached a copy of our Strategic Plan 2019 – 'Plan on a Page'. This gives parents an overview of the main strategic initiatives of the College in 2019. The full Strategic Plan is available from the College Website.

2019 is an extremely exciting year, with so many opportunities being offered to the 960 students at the College.

We wish all families every blessing in the 2019 school year and promise to work tirelessly in the interests of the students in our care.

Kind regards

Brendan Gill & Joseph Sandric
Co-Principals

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