



Santa Clara School

91 Coolgardie Street ST JAMES 6102

Tel No.: (08) 9251-0400

Email: admin@santaclara.wa.edu.au

Fax No.: (08) 9451-4788

Web Address: www.santaclara.wa.edu.au

5 February 2015

Important Dates:

Friday 6 February:
> 9:00am Opening School Mass (Year 3)

Tuesday 10 February:
> 6:00pm P & F Meeting

Tuesday 17 February:
> Shrove Tuesday
> P & F Pancake Day
> 5:00pm Parent Information Night

**WEDNESDAY
18 FEBRUARY:
9:00am ASH
WEDNESDAY MASS
(Year 5)
Day of Fast & Abstinence**

Friday 20 February:
> 5:00pm – 7:00pm P & F Welcome Picnic & Car Wash

Sunday 22 February:
> Week 1 Lent

Tuesday 24 February:
> 8:45am Fr Chris to visit Year 2

Friday 27 February:
> 9:00am Year 6 Participation Mass

Sunday 1 March:
> Week 2 Lent

**MONDAY 2 MARCH:
LABOR DAY
PUBLIC HOLIDAY**

**TUESDAY 3 MARCH:
STAFF PD – PUPIL FREE
DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED**

Faith in our Future

As we begin a new school term we ask your blessing and help in all that we do together.

May we be friendly to everyone here – Staff, Teacher, Pupils and Parents.

Help us to always be cheerful and to smile, even when we don't feel like it.

Help us to be generous and helpful and to take the good with the bad.

Help us to hear you calling us in everything that happens this term.

Thank you Lord, for all that you have done for us in the past.

We look forward to all that you will do for us this term.

Dear Parents, Children and Staff

It is with great pleasure that I continue my role as the Principal of Santa Clara School. I am confident that with your continued encouragement and support, we shall endeavour to provide the best education, where opportunities will abound for all students to experience diverse curriculum opportunities – spiritual, academic, sporting, and cultural – in ways that allow them to experience success. I extend a particular warm welcome to all our new students, and know that you will quickly feel right at home.

I extend a warm welcome to our teachers, educational aides, and new families to Santa Clara School community. I hope you will be active participants in continuing the wonderful family support at Santa Clara.

A warm welcome back to staff, students and parents. I hope you enjoyed your Christmas holiday and had the opportunity to relax, refresh and renew your body, mind and spirit. I extend a special warm welcome to our new staff members Ms Lia Partington, Pre-Primary teacher, Ms Simone Carcione, Year 1 teacher, Mr Gerard Pol, Aboriginal Education Assistant.

I am looking forward to continuing my journey as Principal and working closely with all. I believe that together in spirit of collaboration, we can achieve great things as we build on the many wonderful things that already take place at Santa Clara School.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS

This year school commenced for the teaching staff, Educational Aides, and all other staff on Thursday 29 and Friday 30 January and all teachers were engaged in the two professional development days of the week, familiarising ourselves with school and curriculum matters. We continue our focus on a set of beliefs and values about teaching and learning:

- *that **all** students can achieve high standards given sufficient time and support*
- ***all** teachers can teach to high standards given the right conditions and assistance*
- *teachers need to be articulate what they do and why they teach the way they do*
- *data must drive instruction*
- *collaborative environments are essential for learning*
- *assessment and reporting must be linked to classroom teaching programs*

MEETING WITH TEACHERS

I cannot stress enough the importance of parents communicating with class teachers over any concerns they may have about their child's progress. Whether it is to do with homework, reading books, class work, behaviour etc. please make an appointment to see the class teacher so they are aware your child maybe experiencing problems. Successful and enjoyable school life requires positive and active participation by both parents and teachers in an open and trusting relationship.

WALKING/RIDING TO SCHOOL

Riding

National Health and Safety recommend that only children who are ten years of age should ride to school unaccompanied. Younger children should be accompanied by an adult. All children must wear a helmet. All

children must have a chain and lock to secure their bikes. Bikes left in the Bike Rack at rider's own risk. Please do not ride through the drop off and pick up area.

Walking

Children walking to school and home should also be accompanied by an adult. We recommend that students walk in groups for personal safety. If the school believes that the personal safety of a student is at risk, the parent/carer will be called prior to allowing the student to walk home.

Richard Win Pe
Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

I welcome back everyone for the school holidays and look forward to another year of learning for all our children at Santa Clara School. Term One brings many exciting opportunities for all community members.

WHOLE SCHOOL MASS – FRIDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2015

The first whole school Mass will be held tomorrow morning, Friday 6 February, at the Santa Clara Parish commencing at 9:00am. We look forward to seeing parents and friends coming to participate in the mass with the students. The Mass has been prepared by the Year Three students.

STAFF REGIONAL MASS – WEDNESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2015

The Santa Clara staff will be attending a Regional Mass at Sacred Heart Parish, Thornlie, next Wednesday 11 February after school. The Parish will be attended by many primary and secondary Catholic teachers within the Eastern metropolitan region. All staff will depart straight after school duties, at around 3:20pm, to attend this important Mass.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS – WEDNESDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2015



The Ash Wednesday Mass (Day of Fast and Abstinence) will be held at the Santa Clara Parish on Wednesday 18 February, commencing at 9:00am. We look forward to seeing parents and friends coming to participate in the mass with the Pre-Primary to Year Six students. The Mass has been prepared by Ms Temmen and the Year Five students.



Ash Wednesday is the beginning of the church season of Lent. Lent is a time of changing yourself to become more like Jesus. Our journey through Lent is a time for reflection on how we are living in response to God's love. Lent is a traditional time where we support the work of Caritas through their Project Compassion Mission to help disadvantaged countries. It is our mission of Baptised Catholics to continue the work Jesus began of showing compassion to others, especially those in need, Caritas works to make communities become independent in their ability to provide the basic needs such as clean water, education for the children and medical help.

We want to continue to open our eyes, our hearts and our hands as we respond to God's love through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Your generous donations to Project Compassion enable communities to be architects of their own developments.

PROJECT COMPASSION – CARITAS AUSTRALIA



Over the next few weeks, Santa Clara families will be given a Project Compassion box to assist families throughout the world. This year's theme is "Food for Life". As we know, food is essential to sustain life, yet many of the world's poorest people do not have reliable food source, or enough money to buy food every day. As Pope Francis says:

"It is a well-known fact that current levels of production are sufficient, yet millions of people are still suffering and dying of starvation. This is truly scandalous."

In 2015, Caritas will feature six stories and show what can happen when faith, commitment and hard work combine together. Commencing next Newsletter, I will highlight families from around the world who will be assisted by your donations to Project Compassion.

Larry King
Assistant Principal Religious Education

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL NEWS

Hello Everyone,

Welcome back to everyone, a very special welcome to new students, families and staff members, welcome to the Santa Clara Family. We have had a great start to the academic year. Students have returned refreshed and ready to learn, it is fabulous to see everyone in correct school uniform including wearing the school hat at play and sport. Well done to you all.

ABSENTEES: As per last year classroom roles are maintained electronically through SEQTA. Part of our pastoral responsibilities is to have notification when students are absent. If your child is not attending school please notify the school via email or phone call before 9:00am. A written notification, email is acceptable, is also a legal requirement in maintaining class roles so it would be greatly appreciated if parents could send in notes or emails for absentees as soon as practical.

SCHOOL START AND FINISH TIMES: Classes commence at 8:40am, and the gates are opened at 8:20am. Students are asked not to enter the school grounds through the side gate near the church or other entrances but to wait for the front gate to be opened to ensure duty teachers are aware of their presence at school. Finish time is 3:00pm. It is appreciated by all staff that students who are not enrolled in Out of School Care are collected by 3:20pm at the latest and do not arrive prior to 8:20am.

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING TUESDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2015: This is a very important evening for **ALL** Parents (at least one parent from each family) with children in Kindergarten to Year Six and will be held on Tuesday 17 February 2014. The format will be similar to previous years with **all classes held on the one night** and child-minding facilities will be provided in the hall. Children may bring a rug, pillow and book to read for your child's comfort. Please do not let children bring electronic games or mobile phones.

We understand that a small number of families will have some clashes with having two class meetings at the same time and for this we apologise. Following is the planned outline of the evening:

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 5:00 - 5:15pm | Parents of students in Kindergarten to Year 6 meet in the School Hall for a short prayer and information session with Mr Richard Win Pe (Principal) and some specialist teacher's information. |
| 5:15 – 5:45pm | Parents of students in Pre-Primary, Year 2, Year 3, and Year 6 move to respective classrooms for information particular to that year level by the class teacher. |
| 5:45 – 6:15pm | Parents of students in Kindergarten, Year 1, Year 4 and Year 5 move to respective classrooms for information particular to that year level by the class teacher. |
| 6:15pm | End of final sessions. |



Please make every effort to attend! It is vital that you hear procedures, expectations, student management plans and information regarding your child's year at school.

PARENT / TEACHER INTERVIEWS – TUESDAY 24 MARCH 2015 – COMMENCING AT 12:30pm:

Parents are reminded that the Parent / Teacher interviews will be held on Tuesday 24 March 2015. Students will depart school at 12:00pm and the Teacher / Parent interviews will commence at 12:30pm. Timetables for Parent / Teacher interviews will be displayed on Classroom doors from **Monday 16 March 2015**. Parents will be asked to select and write the time/s they would like to attend the interview. Further information will be provided closer to the week.

CYBER-SAFETY: It is very important that teachers, parents and students continue to build awareness and understanding of cyber-safety. This week I would like to revisit a topic covered several times in our newsletter last year; social media. Although children should be **13 or older before they have "facebook"** accounts I personally know of many students in primary years who are Facebook users. Even more alarming is the number of students who have their status set as "public" meaning anyone can access their information and follow feeds to the information of their friends. The link below has been included previously but for those who have missed it or have realised that their children are engaged in unsafe internet practices I have repeated it. This parent website is designed specifically for parents; it is a user friendly, interactive, online guide offering age-appropriate strategies to help keep your children and teens safe online and includes information in six languages. A reminder also that parents and students have agreed to the ICT Policy of our school in order to use electronic devices and laptops at school which does not include using devices for social media or personal use at school.

<http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/Parents/Resources/Educate%20yourself.aspx#sthash.SvdXYMYB.dpuf>.

I am really looking forward to working with students and their families this year. Welcome back and God bless.

☺

Ms Evelyn Temmen
Assistant Principal



P & F NEWS



**The first P&F Meeting for 2015
will be held on
Tuesday 10 February
at 6:00pm in the staff room.**

ALL WELCOME

Shrove Tuesday 17 February 2015

The P&F will be making and selling Pancakes at recess on Tuesday 17 February.

**Price 50c each
(with a limit of 2 per person)**

Funds raised will be donated to Caritas.

If you would like to volunteer your time to cook pancakes on Tuesday morning please see Sonia Thiel.

Thank you from the P&F

Welcome Picnic and Car Wash 2015 Friday 20 February 5:00pm till 7:30 on the school oval

Come and meet new parents in a relaxed atmosphere.

BYO Picnic, rugs and chairs.

Get your car washed for \$10 while you relax and enjoy catching up with friends.

Bouncy Castle, face painting and an icecream for the kids.

This is a family event funded by the Santa Clara P&F.

Please do not drop your children and leave as there is no supervision provided.

P&F Coming Events for Term 1

10 February	6:00pm P & F Meeting in the staffroom
17 February	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Day
20 February	Welcome Picnic 5:00pm - 7.30pm school oval
6 March	Tupperware Party Fundraiser 1.30pm in the school hall
Easter Raffle drawn end of Term 1.	

OSC NEWS

Keren & Stacey welcome all & new families back to O.S.C.

- Any bookings required please see Keren or Stacey or phone our landline on 9251-0405.
- Any account issues please see Richard Truscott (Wednesday to Friday).
- As our policy states No Cancellations are accepted once a booking has been made.
- PUPIL FREE DAY on 3 March - bookings are essential - opening will be if it is viable so please book now!!
- O.S.C. is in need of empty boxes, paper towel rolls, tissue boxes, patty pans, egg cartons etc for art.

Thank you

Keren & Stacey

CANTEEN ROSTER

Friday 6 February Julia Pearson	Monday 9 February Michele Webb
Friday 13 February Jo Mazzoleni	Monday 16 February Trisha Forte
Friday 20 February Laura Munut	Monday 23 February Trina Green

Santa Clara School Canteen Volunteer Roster Form

We are looking for volunteers to help in the Canteen.

Our Canteen is open on Mondays and Fridays from 8:30am to 1:30pm and time can be arranged to suit. We need at least two volunteers each day plus a few emergency helpers on call.

If you are able to assist in any way, we ask that you complete the attached reply slip and return to the school office by **Monday 16 February 2015**.

The Canteen cannot operate without your help.

A reminder is usually published in the newsletter prior to your roster.

Morning tea, lunch and a drink are provided.

For safety reasons, children are not permitted in the canteen.

This is a great way to get to know other members of the school community.

I look forward to meeting you.

Thank you for your help and support.

Sonia Thiel
Canteen Manager

Canteen Volunteers Reply Slip

Yes, I would love to help in the canteen.

Name: _____

Contact Telephone No.: _____

Email Address: _____

I am available: *(please tick)*

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> MONDAY | <input type="checkbox"/> FRIDAY | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH DAYS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> As Required | <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Once a Term | <input type="checkbox"/> Twice a Term | |



Santa Clara CALENDAR TERM ONE

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	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	W/END
	26 Jan AUST DAY HOLIDAY	27 Jan Administration open	28 Jan Administration open	29 Jan Staff PD	30 Jan Staff PD	31 Jan 1 Feb
Week 1	2 Feb Students commence 10:50am Assembly in undercover area	3 Feb	4 Feb	5 Feb	6 Feb 9:00am Opening School Mass (Yr 3)	7 Feb 8 Feb
Week 2	9 Feb	10 Feb 6:00pm P&F Meeting	11 Feb	12 Feb	13 Feb	14 Feb 15 Feb
Week 3	16 Feb	17 Feb Pancake Day (P&F) Shrove Tuesday (Caritas) 5.00pm Parent Information Night 5.00pm Principal Intro 5.15pm PP, Yr 2, 3 & 6 5.45pm <u>Kindy</u> , Yr 1,4,5	18 Feb 9.00am Ash Wednesday Mass Day of Fast and Abstinence – (Year 5)	19 Feb	20 Feb 5:00-7:00pm P&F Welcome Picnic & Car Wash	21 Feb 22 Feb Wk 1 Lent
Week 4	23 Feb	24 Feb 8:45am Year 2 Classroom visit by Fr Chris	25 Feb	26 Feb	27 Feb 9:00am Year 6 Participation Mass 10:50am-12:50pm Science Earthworm Incursion (Yrs 1 & 2)	28 Feb 1 Mar Wk 2 Lent
Week 5	2 Mar Labor Day Holiday	3 Mar Staff PD Pupil Free Day	4 Mar	5 Mar	6 Mar 9am-12pm Yr 3-6 Faction Super8's Carnival – <u>Wyong</u> Reserve 1:30-2:00pm P&F Tupperware Party Fundraiser	7 Mar 8 Mar Wk 3 Lent
Week 6	9 Mar	10 Mar 8:45am Year 1 Classroom visit by Fr Chris	11 Mar	12 Mar Yr 5/6 Cricket T20 Carnival (Raphael Park)	13 Mar 9:00am Year 3 Participation Mass	14 Mar 15 Mar Wk 4 Lent
Week 7	16 Mar	17 Mar St Patrick's Day	18 Mar	19 Mar	20 Mar	21 Mar 22 Mar Wk 5 Lent
Week 8	23 Mar	24 Mar 12:00pm Students dismissed 12:30pm start Parent/Teacher Interviews	25 Mar Whole School Mass The Annunciation of the Lord (Yr 2)	26 Mar	27 Mar 2:15pm Palm Sunday Assembly – Yr 6 RE Assembly)	28 Mar 29 Mar Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
Week 9 Holy Week	30 Mar 9:00am Last Supper & Garden of Gethsemane Assembly – Yr 4 (RE Assembly)	31 Mar	1 Apr <u>Footy Colours Day</u> (Caritas)	2 Apr 9:00am Stations of the Cross – Year 5 (RE Assembly item)	3 Apr GOOD FRIDAY	4 Apr 5 Apr

2015 TERM DATES (Students)
2016 TERM DATES (Students)

Term 1 2 Feb- 2 April
Term 1 1 Feb-8 April

Term 2 20 Apr-3 July
Term 2 26 Apr-1 July

Term 3 20 July- 25 Sept
Term 3 18 July- 23 Sept

Term 4 12 Oct- 11 Dec
Term 4 10 Oct- 15 Dec