A Student's Prayer at the Beginning of the School Year

We give you praise, O God, for everything that is new and beautiful, for everything which holds promise and brings us joy. Bless us as we start this new year with our friends and teachers.

Help us to make the most of every chance we have to start afresh.

May we show love to one another and to all.

May the new beginning of this school year remind us that you give us chances to start over again and again.

Help us to forgive others as we receive your forgiveness. Help us to learn and to work together. Help us to listen when we should and to know the best words when we speak and when it is better not to speak.

We thank you for our friends and help us to be good friends this year.

Help us to be patient with ourselves and with others.

Bless our school and keep us safe.

Be with us as we travel each day.

Help us to be aware of your love shown to us in the people around us.

Bless all those who care for us in school and at home.

Help us show our care for them and to say sorry when we need to.

May the Blessed Mother Mary protect us and help us to live as well as we can,

Giving thanks and glory to God as she did. Amen

DATES TO REMEMBER......

31st Jan - 2nd Feb   Kinder Best Start Interviews
Wednesday 1st Feb   School Leaders Induction Ceremony, 11.45am Primary Hall
Monday 6th Feb   Kinder students commence (half days only 8.45am-12.30pm)
Tuesday 7th Feb   Year 2 First Confession Parent Information Night, 6.30pm Infants Room 10
Thursday 9th Feb   Beginning School Year Mass (Yrs 1-6), 10.00am MHOC Church
Sunday 12th Feb   Year 2 Sacrament of Confession Enrolment Mass, 9.00am MHOC Church
Monday 13th Feb   PRIMARY Parent Grade Information Night, 7.00pm
Wednesday 15th Feb   INFANTS Parent Grade Information Night, 7.00pm
Friday 17th February   St Ed's Swimming Carnival for Yrs 3-6 & selected Yr 2 students, 9.30-2.00pm, City Pool, Kable Ave
Wednesday 22nd Feb   St Ed’s School Board & Parent Association AGM, 7.00pm Primary Library
Sunday 26th Feb   Family Mass Years 2 & 5, 9.00am MHOC Church
6th-10th March   Catholic Schools’ Week
Wed 29th March   Yr 2 Sacrament Confession, 4.00pm
Friday 7th April   Last day of Term 1

Welcome Back

Welcome to the beginning of the 2017 school year! I trust that the holiday break was relaxing and allowed you the time to enjoy each other’s company. A special welcome to the following new students and their families: Marlee Batty (1H), Brooke (2P) and Danny Madden (6M), John (3L) and Isabella Butler (KL), Luka Dellacroce (3L), Deacon Ale (4C), Joseph Barber (4L), Declan McMillan (4C), Kodie Pollock (4L) and Cody Turner-Bourke (4W). We hope you enjoy your time in our St Ed’s community! I would also like to take this opportunity to wish all students, parents and staff a productive and happy first term. Next Monday 6th February sees us welcome our

VALUE OF THE WEEK: “FRIENDSHIP”
Welcome to Staff for 2017
A warm welcome to our new staff for 2017: Miss Kellie Hudson (1H); Miss Zara Croaker (4C); Mr Philip Weston (4W); Mr Sean Killeen (5K) and Miss Shelley Stevenson (Education Assistant). We trust you will all enjoy your time with us here at St Edward’s!

Staff for 2017
Principal: Mr Gary McSweeney
Assistant Principal: Mrs Pauline Long
Religious Education Co-Ordinators: Mrs Sally Clarke – Primary; Mrs Tess Lewis – Infants
Infants Co-ordinator & Leader of Pedagogy: Mrs Claire Ryan
Primary Leader of Pedagogy: Mrs Trish Mitchell
Primary Co-ordinator: Mrs Amanda Sheridan
Sports Co-ordinator (Primary/Infants): Mrs Heidi Hardaker
KBC Mrs Belinda Barry-Cupplies
KL Mrs Tess Lewis
KP Miss Sallie Pilgrim
1H Miss Kellie Hudson
1P Miss Adrianna Purdy
1S Miss Stephanie Simmons
2A Mrs Alex Brownsmith & Mrs Amanda Scott
2B Miss Jodie Boyd
2P Mrs Kizzy Pearson
3G Mrs Julie Goodwin
3L Miss Emily Lowe
3R Mrs Deb Rafferty
4C Miss Zara Croaker
4L Mrs Belinda Lane
4W Mr Philip Weston
5K Mr Sean Killeen
5Q Mrs Belinda Quayle
5S Mr Karl Short
6C Mrs Sally Clarke
6M Mr Andrew Millman
6U Mr Tim Unwin

Student Support Teachers: Mrs Amanda Sheridan; Mrs Jessica Clery
Release from Face to Face Teachers: Mrs Andy Lockwood; Mrs Heidi Hardaker; Mrs Cecily Hankin; Mrs Marisa Cartan & Mrs Jackie Barratt
Executive Release Teachers: Mrs Heidi Hardaker – Primary; Mrs Cecily Hankin – Infants
Librarians: Mrs Jackie Barratt – Primary; Mrs Marisa Cartan – Infants
Educational Assistants: Mrs Judy O’Brien; Mrs Toni McIlveen; Mrs Amanda Allen; Miss Angie Downes, Mrs Katrina Ashford; Mrs Jenny Maloney; Mrs Melissa Salvestrin, Mrs Jo Munro, Mrs Priscilla Collins, Miss Shelley Stevenson
Aboriginal Educational Assistants: Mrs Lisa Smith – Primary; Ms Sarah Sampson - Infants
Senior School Support Officer - Primary: Mrs Leanne Richards
Assistant Support Officers – Infants: Mrs Angela Sauer; Primary (Mon & Tues): Mrs Sue Kellett
Infants’ Volunteer (Mon & Wed) – Miss Kylie Fairlamb
Canteen Supervisor: Mrs Clare Dubois

School Leaders Induction – this Wednesday 1st February, 11.45am Primary Hall
Congratulations to our new School Leaders for 2017. We are certain these students will be very confident leaders and role models of St Edward’s School. An Induction Ceremony for our new Leaders, including Years 3 - 5 SRC Reps, will be held this Wednesday 1st February at 11.45am in the Primary School Hall. Parents, grandparents and friends are most welcome to attend.
School Captains: Ben Chick & Alyssa Davis
Vice Captains: Innes Munro & Gillian McGrath
Sports Captains for 2017:
MacKillop Gold Ollie Fauchon & Chloe Bateup
Chisholm Red Robbie Lay & Evie Bower
Therry Blue Jake Salvestrin & Georgia Sheppard
Kennedy Green Nicholas Driscoll & Sophie Walker
SRC Representatives for 2017:
Year 3 – Matthew Jackson & Bree Ashton
Year 4 – Zac Whalan & Emily Dietrich
Year 5 – Aiden Lee & Demi Ashton

Beginning of Year School Mass
Our Beginning of Year School Mass will be celebrated on Thursday 9th February at 10.00am in Mary Help of Christians Church. Years 1 – 6 will be attending. We hope that many parents and friends will be able to join us for this special celebration.

Homework and Eddies Endeavours Survey
As Education is a partnership we value the opinion of all parties involved: Students, Parents and Teachers. To this end we would appreciate your feedback on Eddies Endeavours and Homework via the survey sent home today, Monday 30th January. We will collate the data from these surveys, as well as surveys from staff and students. This data will be presented in the newsletter in Week 3 and a plan for homework in 2017 will be developed. More information about what homework will look like at St Edward's in 2017 will be communicated at the Grade Information Evenings in Week 4.

Please complete this survey and return to school by no later than this Friday 3rd February to ensure your opinion is included in the data.

Family Packages
Keep an eye out for a package that will be sent home with the eldest child in each family this week. This envelope contains very important information, some of which is to be returned to school no later than Friday 10th February. We ask that you take time to go through the contents carefully and update information as required and complete and return forms/notes promptly. It will be appreciated if teachers and administration staff are not required to spend time chasing up notes etc. past the due date.

St Ed’s Swimming Carnival – Primary students only (Yrs 3-6)
Once again our annual School Swimming Carnival is being held during the school day, in place of our traditional Twilight Carnival. The Carnival will be for all PRIMARY students (Yr 3 – 6) and any Year 2 student who are 8 years old, or turning 8 in 2017, and able to swim 50m. It will be held on Friday 17th February at Tamworth City Pool (Kable Avenue) commencing at 9.30am and finishing at 2.00pm. PLEASE NOTE the Swimming Carnival is part of our school sports program and ALL Primary aged children are expected to be there. A Permission Note and a Parental Assessment Swimming Ability Note, went home today. Mrs Hardaker will be very appreciative of any parent helpers who are able to assist at the Swimming Carnival.

Paperless Newsletters & Parent Term Calendars
A reminder to our parents, carers, students and staff that again in 2017 the St Edward’s School Newsletter, Sports Newsletter and Term Calendar is in electronic form. Parents have the option of either:
Subscribing via our school’s website www.stedwardstamworth.nsw.edu.au. Just enter your “Name” and “Email” at the top right hand corner of the home page and then click the “subscribe” button. All subscribers will then automatically receive an email notification each Monday afternoon (with the school newsletter) and each Friday afternoon (with the sports newsletter). PLEASE NOTE OUR ST ED’S SPORTS NEWSLETTER WILL NOW BE EMAILD OUT EACH FRIDAY, INSTEAD OF WEDNESDAY AS PREVIOUSLY OCCURRED.
Alternatively you can access our school’s website each week www.stedwardstamworth.nsw.edu.au and click the “Newsletters” tab at the top of the homepage and view or print out both the School and Sports Newsletter. The Parent Term Calendar will also be accessed via our school website by clicking the “School Calendar” tab on the left hand side of the homepage.
As well as having a school website, we also have a school Facebook page (St Edward’s Primary Tamworth) to provide you with regular updates.

**School Hours and Supervision**

The school grounds are supervised from 8.30am until the last bus leaves in the afternoon. No child is to be at school before 8.30am and all should leave the school grounds as soon as possible after 3.00pm. School starts: 8.45am (first bell) Recess: 11.00am – 11.35am Lunch: 1.10pm – 1.45pm School finishes: 3.00pm Special arrangements will be made for authorised school activities outside these hours. In such cases parents will be notified.

**Office Hours**

Primary & Infants Office: 8.30am to 3.30pm daily when fee payments and general enquiries can be made by parents.

**Pedestrian Crossing Supervisors**

We welcome back our Crossing Supervisors for 2017. We ask that parents use the pedestrian crossing to show our children the correct procedure to follow in crossing the road at the designated pedestrian crossing.

**2017 Schedule of Fees & Levies**

School fees **PER TERM** for 2017 are:
- 1 child: $255 Tuition fees plus $55 SDF Levy = $310
- 2 children: $442 Tuition fees plus $110 SDF Levy = $552
- 3 or more children: $584 Tuition fees plus $110 SDF Levy = $694

School fees **ANNUAL** for 2017 are:
- 1 child: $1,020 Tuition fees plus $220 SDF Levy = $1,240
- 2 children: $1,768 Tuition fees plus $440 SDF Levy = $2,208
- 3 or more children: $2,336 Tuition fees plus $440 SDF Levy = $2,776

Fees can be paid for the full year in advance (by the 7th week of Term 1) in which case a 5% discount will apply to the Tuition fee ONLY.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEARLY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1020.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-51.00 discount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>969.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>220.00 SDF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1189.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saving $51.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION – Introduction of a new Sport & School Activity Levy**

2017 will see the introduction of a levy which will cover the cost of sport activities and extra-curricular activities that **ALL** students participate in.

This levy is in addition to Tuition Fees and School Development Fund Levy.

The Sport & School Activity Levy is expected to be paid no later than Week 4 Term 1 to avoid students being excluded from sport and activities until the levy is paid. This levy will not be included on School Fee Invoices.

The levy is to be paid direct to the classroom teacher or via the Qkr App (available to pay on App from early January 2017) or may be paid to either school office.

The Sport & School Activity Levy does not cover the cost associated with sport at a higher level such as Diocesan or Polding, Major or Individual Class Excursions and any activity that includes only selected students (such as Chess, Sacramental Program and Catholic Schools’ Celebrate).
The Sport & School Activity Levy will cover School Cross Country, Gym, Tennis, Eisteddfod, Swimming Carnival, Athletics Carnival, Presentation Night & transporting students between Campuses for Masses and all special whole school events.

2017 Sport & School Activity Levy per child is:
Primary Students $55.00 per student
Infants Students $35.00 per student

Payment of Fees
Accounts are sent out in Week 2 of each term and are payable by the end of Week 6. Overdue accounts are sent out in Week 7.
Payments may be sent with your child through the classroom teacher. Please enclose money in an envelope with the child’s name, class and the purpose for which the money is enclosed. A receipt will be sent home the following day. Parents may also pay in person at either the Primary or Infants Office with a receipt being issued immediately. Please note: Fees may be paid by cash, cheque, internet banking, Qkr, EFTPOS or direct debit (through the Armidale Diocesan Investment Group, at no cost to you). If you would like to pay by direct debit which is by weekly, fortnightly or monthly payments, please contact either school office for the relevant forms. Eligible families may also take advantage of making payments through Centrelink.

Appointments
If you wish to speak to the Principal at length on any matter, please ring either the Secretary (Mrs Richards) at the Primary or the Administration Assistant (Mrs Sauer) at the Infants between the hours of 8.30am and 3.30pm to make an appointment.

Teacher Availability Times
Teachers’ time before school is extremely limited as they are involved in staff meetings or supervision from 8.30am, therefore an interview at this time is inappropriate. Please avoid conferring with class teachers during lesson times as valuable teaching time is lost. Teachers are normally readily available after school. In addition to this we ask that teachers are not interrupted whilst on playground duty. It is imperative that while they are on duty their full attention is on the supervision of the children and this is impossible to do if parents interrupt them at this time. Please make all enquiries at the Office.

No Hat – No Play
Our policy of ‘No Hat No Play’ extends to all terms. This means the children must wear a school hat at all times when they are in the playground, otherwise they will sit in the shaded areas. All children are expected to wear a St Edward’s hat which is royal blue with the school emblem on the front. No substitute headwear is acceptable. Hats are available from the Infants’ Office and the Primary Canteen. Please ensure your child wears the correct St Edward’s headwear.

Visitors to the School
To protect students all visitors who come to the school must report to the front office. If you are to be involved in any activity at school you must sign the Visitors’ Book at the front office and collect a badge and wear it whilst you are on school grounds. This allows staff to know the identity of all visitors.

Student Attendance
The St Edward’s School day commences with the first bell at 8.45am. Students are expected to be in class ready for learning by 8.50am. Students who arrive late have a partial absence recorded against their name. We encourage all students to arrive at school before the 8.45am bell. Remember also that our school day ends at 3.00pm and parents should not be collecting children 10 - 15 minutes early for convenience or to avoid traffic congestion – frequent occurrence of this can add up to a lot of school time missed! PLEASE NOTE that all students arriving late, or being collected early for an appointment, MUST REPORT to Mrs Richards at the Primary or Mrs Sauer at the Infants Office. We have
implemented a Register Book which must be completed by an adult when a child arrives late and the Book must also be signed by an adult when a child leaves for an appointment. It is also MOST IMPORTANT upon returning to school to report to the Office and sign your child back in. Please also note that frequent late arrivals and partial absences will be questioned by the Principal.

**Electronic Rolls**

In compliance with Federal Government regulations, St Edward's School now operates using electronic attendance rolls. It is therefore essential that ALL WHOLE DAY ABSENCES are explained by a signed note & this note is handed to the classroom teacher within 7 WORKING DAYS. If no note is received after 7 days, the absence is noted as “Unexplained” & cannot be changed after this time.

**Leave/Exemption from School**

Regular attendance at school is essential if students are to maximise their potential. Schools, in partnership with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. While parents are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, school staff, as a part of their duty of care, monitor part or whole day absences. It is a NSW Government requirement that absence or leave from school be approved in accordance with State guidelines.

**Hannafords Bus Service - Important Note**

1) Please note that if your child is ineligible for free bus travel, Hannafords Bus Service offers discounted Term and Yearly Passes. Please contact our office on 6765 1900 to find out the cost for your child to travel on our school buses throughout the Term or Year - a Term or Yearly Pass saves you money and the hassle of paying every day for bus travel.

2) If you wish to track your child’s school bus with Hannafords Bus Service, you can do so through the free transportme™ passenger app. You can download the app from both the Apple App Store and Google Play Store - look for ‘Hannafords Bus Service’ and then your child’s Route Name, and track the bus in real time!

**LIBRARY NEWS**

*Library borrowing* will commence when class lists are finalised. Students will be advised of their borrowing day through the Grade Newsletter.

*Help Needed* – A huge thank you to all of the wonderful people who helped with the covering of books throughout 2016! Help is needed once again……parents, grandparents, anyone!!! We have many new books that urgently need covering. If you are able to assist at all, please contact Marisa Cartan, Librarian at the Infants Campus on 6765 8569.

**CANTEEN ROSTER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Primary</th>
<th>Infants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 31st Jan</td>
<td>No Help Needed</td>
<td>Jamie Boreham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 1st Feb</td>
<td>No Help Needed</td>
<td>Alicen Ward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 2nd Feb</td>
<td>No Help Needed</td>
<td>Bec Evans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 3rd Feb</td>
<td>No Help Needed</td>
<td>Natalie Studte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 6th Feb</td>
<td>Kirsten Scott</td>
<td>Nicole Williamson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CANTEEN NEWS**

Lunches are available daily and prepared at the Primary. Please ensure that your child’s name, class and order are written clearly on a paper bag with the correct money enclosed. Please also note lunch orders may be placed on-line via our school website up until 10.30am each school day. Apart from lunch orders, spending limits are $3.00 for Primary and Infants’ children. Parents are asked to help serve at the Canteen each term if at all possible. The Infants’ Canteen opens from 1.10pm to 1.40pm only and the Primary from 10.30am to 1.30pm. The Canteen is a very important facility which is unable to be run effectively without the generous assistance of
parents. Look out for the Canteen Helpers Note going home to parents next week. Please note hours for the Canteen Supervisor at the Primary are 9.30am to 1.45pm only. Please direct all enquiries in regard to Primary and Infants to Clare Dubois between these times on 67 657847.

RE NEWS

IMPORTANT DATES
First Confession Information Night

First Confession for our Year 2 Candidates is fast approaching. The First Confession (Reconciliation) Information Night will be held at the Infant’s Campus (Year 2 Classroom) on Tuesday 7th February. This meeting will begin at 6.30pm. Parents of those students preparing for the Sacrament are encouraged to attend.

Opening School Mass
Students from Years 1 - 6 will attend Mass at Mary Help of Christians Church on Thursday 9th February at 10.00am. All parents are welcome to celebrate the beginning of a new school year. We hope to see you there!

Your Prayers are asked for……..
Jack Reeves, Great Grandfather of Zali (3G) and Hannah Kapeller (1P) and Ashley (6C) and Charlie Missen (4C), who sadly passed away recently.

Sally Clarke & Tess Lewis

Notes Home Today
1. Canteen Menu (all families)
2. Parent Homework Survey (all families)
3. Swimming Carnival Permission Note (all Primary students & selected Year 2 students)
4. Student Swimming Ability Note (all Primary students & selected Year 2 students)