Thank you to staff, students and families for your contribution to a positive beginning to our school life. The learning spaces have taken on a busy, happy character and the feedback from many people is that children are very happy to come to school. We have begun our learning journey and embrace the ongoing developments and challenges.

Beginning of the School Year Mass
You are invited to attend our beginning of the School Year Mass on Tuesday 14th February at 9.30am. It will be held at St Francis of Assisi, in our shared learning area. You are all most welcome!

Congratulations to the Camungol family on the safe arrival of their new baby on 9th Feb. Jayden is baby brother for Jericho.

Traffic Management
Congratulations on the relatively smooth implementation of our traffic management procedures. I’m sure those parents using the car park & drive through are appreciative of the efficient and safe movement occurring at our peak times. It’s lovely to see many families walking & a few children riding to school.

Just a few reminders / alerts:
*Do not turn right into the school from Fairview Pde. Left turns only into school grounds from this street.

*Do not travel more than 15kms when turning into or moving within the school grounds.
*Be aware that the curbing from Manna Gum Dve into the carpark is quite long: several people have had a surprise as they have gone over the curbing there. Please be careful.

Time of Arrival & Pick Up
Children have been arriving in good time for their learning and are working and interacting well during the day. The best time to arrive in the morning is between 8.40 – 8.45am. This allows children time to greet staff & friends and for them to prepare for the day.

Children should not arrive earlier than 8.30: this is when supervision begins in the school grounds. On early arrival, access to learning spaces is through the doors from the verandah. Please only use the foyer door if you need to speak with Margaret.

If a student is arriving at school after 9.00am for any reason they should come in through the foyer and be signed in. An occasional late arrival is understood. However, we need to track any patterns of lateness and work towards regular punctuality for all students.

Children should not be leaving school early, unless there is a necessary appointment that cannot be arranged.

Week one of our new school has been a great success!
out of school hours. In this latter case, parents come to the office to sign the early dismissal book.

**Sports Uniform**
Children should wear their sports uniform on **Tuesdays**. Every other day, summer uniform should be worn.

**Ash Wednesday**
Yr 3-6 students will travel by bus to St James school to celebrate Ash Wednesday mass (11.30am). A permission note will be sent home next week for this activity. Ashes will then be brought back to St Francis for a liturgical celebration with Yr 1/2 students.

**Home Reading**
We have purchased a wide range of literacy (and numeracy) resources and these are currently being sorted. Children will complete a range of assessment tasks over the next few weeks. The targeted reading program (including home reading) will then begin. In the meantime, encourage daily reading of books you have at home.

**Uniform Shop**
The Uniform shop is open every **Tuesday, from 8am—10am**. They are set up in Learning Space 1 (Opposite the 1/2 Learning space).

**Thanksgiving program**
Letters/envelopes have been sent home with children today. Many thanks for supporting the work of the parish in this way. If your child does not bring a letter/envelope home, please contact the school office for the necessary forms. **It is an expectation that each family supports the life of the parish through the Thanksgiving program.**

Health Care Card holders are eligible to claim a benefit to support education costs for children. Prep students are entitled to a further benefit. The forms need to be collected from Margaret at the front office and returned by **Friday 17th February at the latest**. Please see the note on our school website if you need further information to check your eligibility to claim.

**Parent Teacher Meetings**
Thursday 23rd Feb 3.00—8.30pm. You are strongly encouraged to meet with your child(ren)’s teacher(s) for 10 minutes to further inform staff of your child’s strengths, needs, and response to school to date. This will provide staff with extra information to guide their programming for the children. Forms will be sent home next week to arrange appointment times.

**Building Program**
Our shade panels across the front verandas of school have gone up— It certainly adds color to our façade. The extra posts have been erected for the shade sails over the sand pit. Preparation work for our garden beds has started. Concrete will be poured tomorrow for the paths from the learning spaces to the footpath along front of school. Waiting for the next stage of the synthetic grass to be laid.

**Concluding Comment**
Thank you for your feedback this week—both complimentary and constructive. The mark of our success as a school is the way we work together for the benefit of all in the community. A very special thanks to the staff for working so hard to ensure that children are working in a positive learning environment.

Jan Keogh
Principal