TRANSITION DAY: Tuesday 4th December.
Students in Yr 6 who will be attending Thomas Carr College in 2013 will have a transition day at the college.
All other students Prep—Yr 5 will have a session (11.30—1.40) with their 2013 home group teacher.
We welcome Nicole Micallef and Tegan Lawless who will be joining our staff.
We are also pleased that Stella Lentini, Danielle Cuthbert and Matt Smith will be taking on new roles as home group teachers.
For family reasons, Narelle Cox will be reducing her working hours at school next year. Rather than being a home group teacher, Narelle will be available to replace teachers on their planning days.
We are very pleased that Narelle is able to continue her connection with the school as she is such a skilled and committed teacher.

Home group structure for 2013 will now be:
Prep: Andrea, Danielle & Merle
Yr 1: Chrissy, Glenda & Matt
Yr2: Chris, Tarryn & Tegan
Yr 3-6: Nicole, Stella & Susan

SHOWCASE of LEARNING: You are invited to come to school between 2.30—6.30pm on Thursday 6th December.
Children will have their work on display and/or be demonstrating their learning. You can come at any time and stay for 10 minutes or an hour.
Children will be dismissed at the usual time. Bring them with you when you come and they will guide you to their work and you can also see other children's work as well. Staff will be available throughout the showcase. This will be an opportunity to encourage your child's recent learning and to build community.
Hope we see you there! Any time between 2.30—6.30pm.
**END of YEAR CELEBRATION: 19th December from 1.00pm.** An invitation has been sent home today. Hopefully many families will be able to join us as we mark the ending of our wonderful first year together and celebrate the great feast of Christmas. It is so important to mark the achievements of this year; to thank those who have made a positive difference to our lives and to farewell our Yr 6 leaders and those families who are moving on. It is also important to celebrate the Christmas story with our children to enable them to grow in their understanding of the great miracle of God’s presence in our lives. Please consider our invitation to you and respond as soon as possible to allow us to plan effectively for this event.

**PARENT MAINTENANCE ROSTER:**
We have attached a roster for tasks to be carried out around the school to the newsletter today. We are wanting to create a master roster so we can put people to the jobs they would like to do and have a regular routine about the doing of the jobs. Please complete the roster with all the details and then return it to school. We will be contacting people in regard to the jobs before the end of the year.

**BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS:**
The staff have been working towards the development of a set of behaviour Expectations during this year. We have now finally reached a set of four behaviour expectations that we think will be suitable for us. The list is attached to the newsletter. All learning groups have had the Expectations explained to them and there has been some excellent feedback from the students. These Expectations are simple enough for all of our students to understand and they will apply both inside the learning spaces and outside in the playground. Staff are able to deal with all behavioural situations using these Expectations and we expect them to be effective. If you have any questions regarding these Expectations, please speak to your child’s teacher or any member of the leadership team.

**YR 5/6 CAMP:** Our Yr 5/6 students arrived safely at camp and are having a wonderful time. Lots of fun happening with water and clay! Take a look at a couple of pictures from camp.
ST JAMES PARISH NEWS:

Christmas Eve Family Mass Choir and Nativity Play: Practice for the Christmas Eve Family Mass Choir and Nativity Play will start on Sat 1 December. Choir members and nativity actors are needed from Grades 1-6 or older if interested. The First Practice session on Sat 1 December will take place in the Church and the following three practice sessions on Sat 8, 15 and 22 December will take place in the Hall/Gym at 2.00pm-3.00pm. Contact Mark Gleeson on 0432 177 709 or mcglee1966@gmail.com to let us know if your child is interested.

RSVP essential by Sat 1 December.

St Vincent de Paul: We will be putting together Christmas hampers for the needy families in our community. Your donations of non-perishable food, toiletries and new toys can be left at St James church from this weekend or you can leave them at the school. We hope to create the hampers on Tuesday 18 December, and so would appreciate the donations by Sunday 16 December.

AN AFTERNOON OF ENTERTAINMENT: St James Youth presents an afternoon of entertainment at the Community Hall (Gym) on Sunday 9 December from 3pm-5pm. Come along and witness the gifts and talents of our young parishioners followed by Eucharist (Mass) organised by our Youth at 6pm. See you there! Tickets for $2 on sale after each Mass. Proceeds go towards supporting children who are ill in our community.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM:

Sacrament of Reconciliation 1st Rite Wed 19 Dec 5.00pm-7.00pm 2nd Rite Thu 20 Dec 7.30pm

Carols by Candlelight Fri 21 Dec 7.00pm BBQ followed by Carols by Candlelight at 8.00pm in the Church.

Christmas Eve - Mon 24 Dec
6.00pm Carols in the St James Community Hall
6.30pm Vigil Mass (Family Mass) in the Community Hall
9.00pm Mass (some carols pre-liturgy)
11.30pm Carols in the Church
12.00 Midnight Mass in the Church

Christmas Day - Tue 25 Dec
7.30am Mass (some carols pre-liturgy)
9.00am Mass (some carols pre-liturgy)
10.30am Mass (some carols pre-liturgy)

New Years
Mon 31 Dec New Years Eve
6.00pm Mass (last for the year)
Tue 01 Jan New Years Day
10.30am Mass (first for the year)

OTHER NOTICES COMING HOME TODAY:

Thomas Carr College: Thomas Carr College monthly newsletter

Catholic Education Office “Today” November Issue

Porta Fidei: Pope Benedict XVI Apostolic Letter

Dates to Remember:
Dec 4: Transition day Yr 1-7
Dec 6: Show case of Learning 2.30 onwards.
Dec 19: End of Year Mass, Yr 6 Graduation & whole school celebration 1.00pm onwards.
Dec 20: Last day of year 1!
12.30 dismissal.

Jan Keogh,
Principal