



To Year 7 Parents and Carers

As the start of the 2023 school year draws near, I would like to wish you and your family a very happy new year. I hope that the Christmas break has provided you with an opportunity to relax and spend some quality time with your loved ones. For those families who are new to the College, I wish you a warm welcome to the St Edward's Community. For those parents with sons already at the College, I welcome you back and thank you for your ongoing support. In 2023, we celebrate the College's 70th anniversary and a number of special events are being planned to commemorate this milestone. I look forward to sharing information with you about these events throughout the year.

The first day of the school term for Year 7 students is Tuesday January 31. The day will begin at 8.30am in the Edmund Rice Centre, where your son will meet his homeroom teacher, his core class teacher and students in Years 11 and 12 who are in his homeroom class. He will be provided with his timetable of classes, his stationery pack and participate in a range of orientation activities to help him settle into secondary school life. We encourage parents to allow their sons to catch the school bus home at the end of this first day. Careful instructions are provided to students throughout the day to ensure that they catch the correct bus home. Parents who choose to pick their son up from school will be required to wait outside the gate on Russell Drysdale Street for their son to be dismissed.

I understand that starting high school can be an exciting but possibly anxious time for both you and your son - please be assured that the staff at St Edward's will do everything possible to ensure that his experiences are very positive. The Pastoral theme for Year 7 is *Belonging* and is based around welcoming young men into the St Edward's community. Throughout the year, students will be provided with a range of rich religious, learning and extra-curricular activities that introduces them to the history of Edmund Rice Schools. Students will become familiar with the Touchstones which underpin the values integral to all Edmund Rice Schools in our region. Most importantly, students will work with their teachers to establish learning goals based on the College Learning Profile. This profile outlines the expectations of students at St Edward's in relation to their application and effort to their studies. The Learner Profile is attached and will be available on the College website in the Curriculum and Learning section.

On Thursday February 16, an Information Night has been scheduled for Year 7 parents and students. The focus of this evening is to provide you with an opportunity to meet your son's Core class teacher and find out a great deal more regarding the Curriculum and Learning expectations of students at the College. It is an important night for you and your son, and I look forward to seeing you there. Further details regarding the evening will be distributed closer to this event.

An important event designed to assist students in socialising with the other boys in Year 7 is the camp that is scheduled for week 4, Wednesday February 22 to Friday February 24. This compulsory event will provide students with an opportunity to get to know their Core class teacher and other Year 7 teachers, as well as students who have come to St Edward's from other primary schools. Students will participate in a range of fun and challenging activities, which make up part of our Outdoor Education program. I am aware that attending these experiences can make some students very anxious, and I ask that you contact Mrs Heidi Englund, the Year 7 Pastoral Leader, if you have any concerns. Further details regarding the camp will be provided at an appropriate time.

I have provided with this letter an outline of the important dates for Year 7 students, and I hope this will assist you in your own planning for the year. Details regarding other events will be provided throughout the year via the College Newsletter on the website, the College App and direct emails to parents. I wish all Year 7 students every success in 2023.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Bonnici
College Principal



YEAR 7 IMPORTANT DATES

Term 1

Tuesday 31 January	Years 7, 11 and 12 Students return to school + new students
Wednesday 1 February	Years 8, 9 & 10 return to school
Thursday 2 February	Student ID card photos
Friday 3 February	College Swimming Carnival
Wednesday 15 February	Year 7 Immunisations
Thursday 16 February	Commencement Mass
Thursday 16 February	Year 7 Information Evening
Wed 22 Feb to Fri 24 Feb	Year 7 Camp
March 15 – 21	NAPLAN
Thursday 23 March	Student Led Conferences – Online 4pm – 7:30pm
Friday 31 March	Student Led Conferences – On campus 10am – 4pm
Thursday 6 April	Easter Liturgy and last day of Term 1

Term 2

Monday 24 April	Day 1 Term 2 – Staff Development Day – no students
Thursday 27 April	70 th Anniversary and Founders Day Mass
Tuesday 2 May	College Photos
Thursday 4 May	Mother's Day Liturgy
Tuesday 30 May	College Athletics Carnival
Friday 30 June	Last Day Term 2

Term 3

Monday 17 July	Day 1 Term 3
Wednesday 19 July	Semester 1 Academic Awards Assembly
Thursday 20 July	Student Led Conferences – Online 4pm – 7:30pm
Thursday 27 July	Student Led Conferences – Online 4pm – 7:30pm
Thursday 21 September	Last Day for students Term 3
Friday 22 September	Staff Development Day

Term 4

Monday October 9	Day 1 Term 4
Tuesday 24 October	Year 7 Immunisations
Monday 30 October	Year 7 Immunisations
Monday 11 December	Annual Awards Assembly Yr 7-11
Tuesday 12 December	Last Day for students Term 4

Please note: The information listed above includes all the key events and dates at the time of distribution of this correspondence. Events such as faculty based excursions, assessment tasks and sporting activities are not included in this list, but will appear in the College Newsletter on the College Website and College App at an appropriate time leading up to the event.