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Foundation & Year One Newsletter

Welcome to our First Class Newsletter.

Newsletters are sent home twice a term. Class newsletters are another way we keep you informed about what is happening at school along with our school newsletter, our St John's App, the P & F Facebook page and Seesaw. If you are unable to post personal messages to me using Seesaw can you please let me know so that we can rectify this issue.

Thank You

Thank you to parents who were able to attend our information evening on Sunday 11 February. I hope you found the information provided useful. Please feel free to contact me if you would like clarification at any time.

Emotional Wellbeing and Social Skills

Managing our feelings is important for all of us and something that takes time to learn. Children learn these things through positive communication with family members, good role models and gentle advice from trusted people. By the time children start school they can manage some feelings on their own but they still need our care and support. Children do better in all aspects of their school life if they are able to:

- be friendly without either giving in or being 'bossy', think about how others feel and stand up for themselves when they need to



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- Follow instructions and ask for help when needed
- Be willing to have a go when things go wrong or are difficult
- Wait for turns and not interrupt
- Share and take turns in games and activities.

Our Year One students have been working hard on these skills in 2017 and will continue to do so this year. Foundation students are beginning this process. As parents you are already experienced in teaching your child how to behave in different situations. Please continue to encourage and extend these skills in new social settings as children face challenges in their first years of schooling.

Packed Lunches

Each day we have a fruit break at approximately 10:00am. At this time students can eat a piece of fresh fruit or vegetable and have a drink of water.

Students have five minutes to sit and eat at the start of Recess. What they eat at this time is not monitored.

Students sit for ten minutes to eat at the beginning of lunch. After ten minutes the teacher on duty checks to see that students have eaten a sufficient amount of food before dismissing them to play.

It is a good idea to discuss what is packed for lunch with your child so that you pack items you know they will like and eat. We



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encourage students to bring home uneaten food so that you can monitor whether they're getting a balanced diet and can adjust their food intake if necessary.

Keep foods separate and well wrapped, making sure that your child can open each pack or container. Yoghurt is a nutritious choice but can sometimes leak, causing quite a mess in your child's lunch box. Please make sure you pack a spoon for items that need one. Disposable, plastic spoons are best.

Lunchtime Activities

This year our school library will be open at lunchtime on Monday, Tuesday and Friday each week from 1pm. Students can use the library to read a book, play a game or do some drawing on these days.

Skoolbo

Skoolbo is a computer program designed to assist children learn skills in reading and mathematics. Our school has an account which the children have been using on the PC's in the computer suite.

Your child's account gives them full free use of the program at home and at school, either on a PC or tablet. As a parent you are able to view your child's results via the parent dashboard by visiting <http://dashboard.skoolbo.com.au/>. Skoolbo is designed to motivate learning through an inbuilt rewards program. There is no



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advertising and no in-app purchases. Children are not able to communicate on Skoolbo and there is no possibility of unsafe interactions. Information on how to access Skoolbo at home is attached to this newsletter.

Dates for Term One

February	12th - 14th Swimming Lessons 13th Shrove Tuesday 16th House Meetings for Swimming Carnival 25th Staff Installation & Bible Presentation
March	1st House Meetings for Swimming Carnival 2nd Swimming Carnival 12th Adelaide Cup Holiday 21st Harmony Day 30th Good Friday
April	1st Easter Sunday 2nd Easter Monday 6th Upper Primary Assembly 9am in School Hall 9th & 10th Parent Teacher Interviews

Yours in Christ,
Sue Denholm

