



5 December 2018

THURS 6 DEC	FINAL ASSEMBLY
FRI 7 DEC	SCHOOL FINISHES 12.30PM
WED 30 JAN	SCHOOL RESUMES
FRI 1 MAR	CECC WELCOME BBQ

REFLECTION



FROM THE PRINCIPAL Mr Warren Bath



It has been a most extraordinary year, one on which I have reflected continually and have endeavoured to share in our Newsletters with you since joining Seton College. The last reflection I wish to share with you for the year – and if it resonates, it is one I invite you to keep with you over the holidays – is the extraordinary miracle of

Christ's birth and that, from very humble beginnings in a stable in Bethlehem, a manger for His bed, His enduring gift was one of love: the most powerful of gifts we can endeavour to bestow upon each other, particularly in this season of peace, hope and joy.

The story of Christmas is one of miracles, faith and humility. Imagine at the outset the faith of Our Lady, to accept, full of

grace, the blessing of a baby who was to be our Saviour: her words in reply to God, "Thy Will be Done". Joseph's faith in God and in Mary's goodness was an extraordinary act by a humble man, a carpenter who provided for and raised God's son. He led his wife on an arduous journey of 100 miles from Nazareth, travelling on foot while the heavily-pregnant Mary rode a donkey. Heraldic Angels appeared to shepherds in the fields on the night of Christ's birth. "Don't be afraid," the Angels said to them, "For tonight a King is born." And what of the cosmic miracle that occurred during Jesus' birth: the appearance of a star that led Kings to Bethlehem? Humble and noble men alike – the depth and breadth of humanity – were called upon to witness the birth of God's son.

How does this story of miracles, faith and humility play out in our lives at Seton College? I think it means that our journey is a humble one where each day we make earnest strides towards our goals; step-by-step as Joseph did. Sometimes the journey is not easy. It means that as humble servants of God we must invest our faith in the highest calling to love one another, and that from love great things can be accomplished. I think that little miracles – true moments of faith and inspiration – can happen every day at Seton College if we remain open to them. I find this very faith-affirming.

The Seton Community joins me in thanks and farewell to Mr Joe Tracey as he takes up a position at St Joachim's Primary School, Holland Park. Joe is a true gentleman who has led us in our teaching and journey of faith as a Community. We are very grateful for his wonderful work in guiding our Catholic Identity and in providing remarkable care for our students, and wish him well on the next stage of his journey. I would also like to wish all our departing staff a wonderful Christmas with their families and to thank them for their many years combined dedication to Seton College. To all our staff, my sincere thanks for your welcome this year and for your commitment to our Mission of providing the best educational experience for our students.

My best wishes to our Seton Family for a joyful, safe Christmas; a celebration of God's love and a time of togetherness. I look forward to welcoming you back in 2019.

Warren Bath

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL Mrs Helen McNamara



Another year comes to a conclusion and in true Seton style we have crowded a great deal into 2018 as we have sought New Horizons. Excellent Learning and Teaching, sporting and cultural experiences, and friendship journeys have all contributed to a successful year. Even the difficult moments have bought us tremendous opportunities for growth. It is important to feel the satisfaction of a job well done – there's

really no feeling like it! It's the little things that make all the difference, like the heartfelt good mornings from the students as you arrive to school each day or the person who goes out of their way to show support; all contribute to making Seton College one of the best schools in Brisbane.

I would like to thank all the staff and students for their contribution to 2018; there is no community like ours and I feel blessed to work in such a place where new horizons are imagined each day. Like the quote suggests we should regret nothing because all experiences add up to a life lived. I pray that 2018 has provided some wonderful memories for the entire Community. We are well into planning for 2019 and it provides a new landscape for change and renewed growth. In what will appear like a blink of an eye, we will welcome the new Year 7s into this growth community and we will begin again, experiencing new hope, new opportunities, new adventures and the best year ever. Until then, I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy and restful holiday.



Helen McNamara

FROM THE APRE Mr Joe Tracey



We Prepare for Jesus

During Advent, we prepare for Christmas as we wait to celebrate Jesus' birth. How do I welcome God into my heart to get ready for Christmas?

ADVENT

The Messenger

Jesus was sent by God to us to tell about His love: He is God's Messenger of Love.

He came into this world to give freedom to all he met: God's Messenger of Salvation.

Jesus would forgive all those who came to him and said sorry: God's Messenger of Forgiveness.

Jesus came to be part of our lives, in our moments of joy and sadness, in our times of trouble: God's Messenger of Caring.



This is a time when people are waiting for the arrival of Jesus at Christmas. We can almost hear people shouting out: 'Get ready! Jesus is coming! Get ready! Make a place for Him in your life! Get ready! To be like Him in all we do! Get ready! To love one another better!'

Mark 13:33-36

So, watch out and be ready! You don't know when the time will come. It is like what happens when a man goes away for a while and places his servants in charge of everything. He tells each of them what to do, and he orders the guard to keep alert. So be alert! You don't know when the master of the house will come back. It could be in the evening or at midnight or before dawn or in the morning. But if he comes suddenly, don't let him find you asleep.

Prayer

Be prepared! Be ready for him! Look out for his arrival! May our hearts be ready to proclaim the Messenger of God! Our saviour is coming, and we must be ready for him. Amen.

May all our families have a loving and peaceful time over Christmas. May you all experience the love of the Child Jesus. I hope that the new year brings many moments of pure joy and few heartaches.

**God bless,
Joe**

FROM THE APA Miss Karen Chandler



Curriculum

The 2018 school year has drawn to a close. The Brisbane Catholic Education system wide initiative, the Excellent Learning and Teaching strategy, has formed one of the most significant aspects of our Learning and Teaching journey this year. We celebrate learning growth and the positive

learning habits of our students. Our school wide response to student learning data, our review and response interventions and commitment to staff collaboration through shared practice underpins our work. A focused literacy approach across all key learning areas has provided opportunity for students to build both their skillset and confidence in all aspects of literacy. Here at Seton, quality and purposeful initiatives are highlighted and celebrated in classroom pedagogy and practice each day. Next year will bring further change and development as we continue to pursue excellence in learning and teaching.

Semester 2 Reports

Semester 2 Academic Reports will be made available to parents in the week commencing December 10 via the Parent Portal. These reports are cumulative results from Semester 2 and provide an opportunity to celebrate the academic success of our students. Thank you to students for your commitment and persistence to your studies this year.

Year 12 Students

Please be aware that Year 12 students do not receive a report at the end of Semester 2 but have received an individualised Exit Statement on behalf of the College.

Year 12 students and parents are encouraged to visit the QCAA website for key dates of results.

From 9 am, on Saturday 15 December, all results contributing to the Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) will be available in student learning accounts on the Student Connect website:

<https://studentconnect.qcaa.qld.edu.au/>

From Monday 17 December, students will begin receiving their Senior Education Profiles in the mail. Depending on students' individual circumstances, their profile will comprise one or both of the following documents:

A Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE);
Senior Statement.

As we enter the Christmas season, may this be a time to reflect on the year, both achievements and pitfalls. Please take the time to rejuvenate and be with family in the presence of Jesus. I wish you and your family a safe and holy Christmas season.

Karen Chandler



SUSTAINABILITY AT SETON Ms De-Anne Rand

Have a change this Christmas... Containers for Change...



Whilst enjoying Christmas with your family and friends, let the environment have a cheerful celebration over the festive season too.



Make some extra cash by dropping your drink containers, including beer & cider bottles, aluminium cans and plastic drink bottles at recycling points ...

There is a choice of:

Over the counter depots;
Drop offs;
Reverse vending machines.



Click on this link for recycling locations near you:

<https://www.containersforchange.com.au/where-can-i-return>

Thank you for your support of sustainability at Seton.

Have a safe and merry Christmas and New Year.

SETON STUDENTS ARE READERS

Congratulations to our students who combined have spent more than 4000 hours reading this year! Our Accelerated Reading program has clocked impressive results in our drive to advance school wide literacy. Special congratulations to Year 12 student Maddison Ballhause who has led the charge across the 2018 finish line with a remarkable 34 books read, amounting to hundreds of hours personal reading. Time well-spent!



Keep reading through the holidays!

2018 has been a remarkable year.
Engagement in our Accelerated Reader program and the
efforts of our students have set new records.
Figures paint 1000 words.

BOOKS READ THIS YEAR



3,613

WORDS READ



 49,034,225

QUIZZES TAKEN

4446 taken
82% passed

HOURS OF READING



Approx. 4086
hours of reading

BY THOMAS MCCORMACK - JOHN BREAKSPEARE RESOURCE CENTRE

A SAFE AND BLESSED CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Holland Park - Mt Gravatt Parish

St Joachim's Church
letide Street HOLLAND PARK

St Agnes' Church
Logan Road MT GRAVATT

★ MON 17 DEC, 7PM - Advent Prayer and Christmas Drinks
(inc Penitential Rites) ST AGNES'

CHRISTMAS EVE, MON 24 DEC - 6PM St Agnes' & 7.30PM St Joachim's

★ CHRISTMAS DAY, TUE 25 DEC - 8AM St Agnes

★ NEW YEAR'S DAY, TUE 1 JAN - 9AM St Joachim's

