

23 MARCH 2016

Dear Parents,

Term 1 has quickly come to the end, we are sure you are all looking forward to spending some time with your families over the Easter break. This term has been a busy one with students moving transitioning into their new classroom, challenging themselves at leadership camp and meeting the high demands of Senior Primary. We know that the skills sets required for young people now are very different from what they were when schools were first designed and we need to transform and meet the needs of the next generations. The work and effort we have seen from all students this term certainly reflects this notion. All students should be congratulated on their positive achievements this term.

HAPARA DASHBOARD

As previously stated at parent information nights, we are implementing Google Apps for Education into our teaching and learning. Part of this transition is the use of a digital platform called Hapara Dashboard. Hapara allows us to implement a cloud based instructional management tool to assist students in using technology to build their learning capacity and digital capabilities.

Part of the implementation of Hapara Dashboard is the introduction of a 'Parent Portal' that allows for parent login to view students files. The Parent Portal enables parents and carers to 'login' and access a 'read only' version of their child's Google Drive and subsequently their digital files. As you are aware, the students are using a Surface Pro 3 Device to assist them with their learning. By now, we would hope that your child has shown you how they access Hapara Dashboard on their device, where they build and work on 'workspaces' and how Hapara enables them to complete classroom tasks digitally. All students are very familiar with this process because it is completed daily in the classroom.

If you haven't had an opportunity to do this yet, the Easter break would be a great time to do this. We remind all families that the Surface Pro Device is for learning and students are reminded often at school that teachers, parents and carers are entitled to view all content on these devices.

Attached below is your Parent Portal login information. This information is created by the Hapara System, should you have any problem logging in, please let us know and we will assist you further. The link to the parent portal is <http://parent-portal.appspot.com/stjosephskpt.org> The login screen should be similar to the image below.

Welcome to the Parent Portal. Please log in below.

Username

Student Id

WINDOWS 10 UPDATE

Over the Easter Holidays, we have the opportunity for student Surface Pro 3 Devices to be updated to the latest Brisbane Catholic Education Windows 10 image. This update is proven to work more effectively than the current Windows 8 model on Surface Devices as well as having increased security. We recommend all tablets be left at school over the holiday period to be upgraded. If you would not like your student's device to remain at school, it will not be upgraded to Windows 10 and subsequently will operate with outdated software. This update must be completed at school to ensure 'domain policies' complete correctly. Families are reminded that students can still access their school data without their Surface Pro Device, provided they use a device with Google Chrome installed.

Thank you for a fantastic Term 1, we look forward to returning in Term 2.

Senior Primary Teachers

Mark Beiers, Lachlan Hull and Beth Musial.