



# James Sheahan Catholic High School Orange

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7 September 2017

## Dear Parents/Carers and Students of Year 12

This letter is to outline to you the types of activities and arrangements for Year 12 in their last school week, as well as indicate the standards of behaviour required throughout this week.

Over the years during the final week of their schooling, students of James Sheahan Catholic High School have developed a culture of respect and celebration and have not for a long time indulged in any form of "muck up" activities. Many years ago, students who participated in such events found themselves sitting their HSC elsewhere and any school reference requested were withheld. Their participation at the Graduation Ball was also called into question.

Fortunately, our students today have shown that their actions are driven by principle and do not see the need for displaying such disrespect to their school and their teachers. Therefore, we feel such consequences, though still available, will not be necessary as our students are responsible and trustworthy.

Our celebrations continue with our expectation that ALL students attend both the Graduation Mass and Graduation Assembly.

## Uniform and Grooming Expectations for the Graduation Mass and Graduation Assembly

The Graduation Mass and the Graduation Assembly are two very formal and respectful events that the Year 12 students are a part of. As such, it is an absolute expectation that all uniform and grooming requirements are met on these two occasions. Students must be in full school uniform, including their school blazer. The correct black leather lace-up school approved shoes are the only shoes permitted. No makeup or jewellery will be permitted and hair styles need to comply with the school guidelines. This means that girls' hair needs to be neat and a natural colour. Boys' hair must be cut to be above the collar and they must be clean shaven.

Please note the following important times and dates:

### **Monday 18 September and Tuesday 19 September 2017**

Students will be in class for the entirety of these two days.

## **Wednesday 20 September 2017**

Periods 1 and 2                      Graduation Mass practice at St Mary's

Periods 3 to 5                      Students will be in class. They will have no access to cars unless they have a leave note provided by Mrs Bell.

Period 6                              Ultimate Frisbee Year 11 vs Year 12

Students will be permitted to swap their uniforms if they wish to during lunch on this day.

## **Thursday 21 September 2017**

Periods 1 and 2                      Catch Bus to Tenpin Bowling

Periods 3, 4 and lunch              Graduation Mass practice at St Mary's Church and a pizza lunch in St Mary's Hall. Students will be transported by bus to and from St Mary's.

**Any student with special dietary requirements are to please email Mrs Calleja by Friday 15 September.**

Periods 5 and 6                      Graduation Ball and Graduation Assembly practice.  
Before final bell students will gather in quad for war cry.

5.30pm                              Students are to be back at St Mary's ready for the commencement of the Graduation Mass. Following on from the Mass there will be supper available in St Mary's Hall. All family and friends of the graduates are warmly invited to attend both the Mass and this supper. Students will be in full school uniform, including blazers, and with polished shoes.

Students will also be in full school uniform for all practices and out-of-class activities run during school time.

Please note: It is **very** important that students **DO NOT** take the opportunity between the end of the school day and the beginning of the Graduation Mass to attend any of the local hotels. Students found to be under the influence of alcohol will risk not participating in the Mass. I would ask that parents/carers be proactive in this regard and actively discourage their child from partaking of such behaviour.

## **Friday 22 September 2017**

7.30am - 8.30am                      BBQ Breakfast for Year 12 students under Mercy Hall on the oval side which will be prepared by staff for the students. School uniform is not required.

At the conclusion of this breakfast, students should go home and prepare themselves for their Year 12 Graduation Assembly. Students should wear full school uniform to this assembly. This includes the school blazer.

10.30am                                Year 12 students assemble outside Mercy Hall in preparation for Graduation Assembly

11.00am                                Year 12 Graduation Assembly begins. At this assembly the presentation of academic and special awards will take place. Year 12s will receive a portfolio in which will be their school reports and references (if requested). All Year 12s must attend this assembly. Parents/Carers, of course, are warmly invited to attend.

**Please note the Graduation Assembly will take at least 90 minutes.**

## **Monday 16 October 2017**

Graduation Ball tickets will be available to be purchased from the school office. The Graduation Ball is on Saturday 11 November 2017. There will be **four** tickets allocated to each family. The cost of these tickets is \$90.00. Families should advise Mrs Kennedy in the school office as soon as possible if they wish to sit with a particular family, or if they would like extra tickets should any become available.

## **Friday 3 November 2017**

Tickets for the Graduation Ball should be paid for and picked up from the school office by this date. Any tickets that are not paid for or collected by this date will be sold to families who have requested extra tickets. There will be no exceptions to this rule unless previously organised with Mrs Kennedy in the school office.

## **Saturday 11 November 2017**

### **Graduation Ball**

Students will begin to have their photographs taken in Cook Park from approximately 4.00pm. Students will need to book a time with Camera House to have their photographs taken and pay a non-refundable deposit prior to the event. A group photograph will be taken at 6.00pm in the rotunda of the park. Students will then be transported by bus to the Function Centre at 6.30pm. Students will be presented at 7.00pm. Students will receive a separate note home from Camera House giving more details about this process.

Please note: Cook Park is part of Orange City Council's alcohol free zone and drinking in the park is expressly forbidden. Again, the school would like to request that parents/carers actively discourage students from consuming alcohol prior to their presentation at the Function Centre in order to maintain the formality of the occasion.

I am looking forward to sharing Year 12's final weeks here at James Sheahan Catholic High School. I hope they are happy, productive and busy ones in which each student makes the most of the time they have left with their friends and teachers.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emily Bell', written in a cursive style.

Emily Bell  
Year 12 Coordinator