

15 January 2019

Dear Parents and Caregivers

I hope that the holiday season has been a wonderful experience for all of the Shalom community. Things are picking up pace here at the moment and we are looking forward to a great 2019. I hope that your child(ren) are looking forward to the start of a new school year. This year, as always, we will welcome many new students, families and staff members to Shalom. I have no doubt we will be a better community for their presence.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming our Year 7 students along with quite a number of new students in Years 8 – 12. This will be an exciting, but daunting, time for all of those people.

Year 12 Academic Results 2018: We were very pleased with the academic results of the Senior cohort. Three students achieved an OP 1 and 31% of eligible students received an OP score between 1 and 7 and 78% gained a score between 1 and 15. I hope that these young people will make the most of the foundation that they have received at Shalom to develop wonderful careers and lives.

Parent Lounge: The Parent Lounge is where you will find information such as the school calendar, daily notices, your child's assessments and school reports. The Parent Lounge will also be used to give permission for excursions and complete medical forms. You will have received an email from our IT Department with your Parent Lounge login details.

Parent Lounge Details Check January 2019: It is very important that all information in Parent Lounge is current as staff will use this information in case of an emergency and to support the wellbeing of your child.

To check your child's medical information is current, please click on the 'student details' tab and go to 'medical details'. Please make sure that **all** sections are completed. We will not be allowed to administer Panadol to your child unless the 'Panadol Allowed' section has been marked with a 'yes'.

Please also check that your contact details and phone numbers are current, as we will be using this information to contact you if needed.

Once you are happy with the information you have provided, click on the 'Tours and Excursions' tab and you will find '**Parent Lounge Details Check January 2019 (Student Name)**'. This will have to be accepted for all students attending the College for 2019. Once accepted please click **save**.

ICT Policy: Please login to Parent Lounge, once there, click on the 'Tours and Excursions' tab and you will find a link to '**Shalom College ICT Code of Practice 2019 (Student Name)**'. Here you will be asked to view and verify that you and your child(ren) understand and accept the Policy. This will have to be accepted for all students attending the College for 2019. Once accepted please click **save**.

Forms to be returned: Please find enclosed a purple Shalom College Parent Volunteer form. We are enormously grateful for parents who are able to offer some time to support the Shalom Parents & Friends Association in their endeavours this year. It would be greatly appreciated if your child(ren) could return this completed form on the first day of the school year to Student Reception, if you wish to volunteer.

SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT DATES

TUESDAY - 29 January 2019

First day of School for students in Years 7 and Year 12 only (and any new students in Years 8 to 11)

Year 7 and 12 Students

- What to Wear - Sports Uniform
- What to Bring - Sports Bag, Hat, Water Bottle, Notepad and Pen, Lunch and/or money for Tuckshop (iPads are not required on the first day)
- Arrive by 8.30 am at the under covered eating area (near the tuckshop)
- House flags will be set up so please congregate near your house flag
- On first bell -
Year 7 Students - will go to the Performing Arts Precinct. Parents are welcome to attend.
Year 12 Students - will go to the Sports Centre
Year 12 House Leaders - will go to the Performing Arts Precinct

The Year 7 students spend the day with their Year 12 buddy whom they met at the Orientation afternoon. They will also meet and work with their Pastoral Care teacher; there will be no formal classes on Tuesday 29 January.

New Students Years 8 to 11

- What to Wear - Please wear conservative plain clothes with closed in shoes (no thongs)
- What to Bring - Sports Bag, Hat, Water Bottle, Morning Tea, Notepad and Pen
- Year 8 and 9 students are requested to bring their **iPads** with all restrictions turned off. Year 10 and 11 students who have elected to partake in our Laptop Leasing Program will be issued with their laptop. Year 10 and 11 students, who have chosen **BYO device**, please bring your devices on this day.
- Report to Student Reception by 8.30 am.
- This briefer Orientation will be over by 12.00 noon.

WEDNESDAY - 30 January 2019

- All year levels attend
- What to wear - Formal Uniform (Boys are not required to wear a tie in Terms' 1 or 4)
- On first bell, students are to move to their respective House blocks to put their College bags outside their PC rooms
- Students then move straight to the Sports Centre for College Assembly and sit in House areas in their respective PC groups
- 9.10 am - 10.10 am - Extended Pastoral Care class
- Normal classes for periods 2 - 4; bring relevant books for those classes only (Day 3 on Student Timetable)

Student Presentation: as the new school year rolls around can I thank parents in advance for the efforts you will go to in ensuring that your child is well presented as they start school. Hair, uniform, make-up and jewellery guidelines are clear and have been in place for a long period. Traditional black leather college shoes should be cleaned and ready to go. Again, I am very grateful to parents for their support of the standards we expect at Shalom.

After School Activities: you will soon receive an email from our Student Welfare Coordinator, Mr Peter Robinson, outlining this initiative open to Shalom families. We will offer a range of activities to students after school. This initiative is being financially supported by the Shalom Parents & Friends Association. There is a nominal cost but hopefully this will be strongly supported by families looking for some additional activities for their children.

General Information: In this mail out, I have also included a brochure titled: '*What to do if ...*'. This brochure contains some basic information regarding procedures that you might need to know in the next few weeks. For those current families please read this information as some procedures may have changed since last year.

Newsletter: The College Newsletter is the primary means of communication with parents and I encourage every parent to read the Newsletter each week to keep up to date with what is happening at the College.

Additionally, please follow the Shalom College and Shalom College Sport Facebook pages. The Shalom College website is also a valuable resource of information - you can find extra **2019 Information** under the "Latest News" tab.

I hope that 2019 will be a great year for all in this community and for those times when it is not, I hope that each individual will feel the love and care that has come to characterise Shalom.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. McMahon', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dan McMahon
PRINCIPAL