



Santa Clara School

Dear Parents,

Welcome to 2020 at Santa Clara! I wanted to take this opportunity to write to you all and thank you for welcoming me into our beautiful community.

As I sit here, I reflect on the efforts of Richard and the leadership team, the staff, School Board, P&F, our Parish, led by Father Chris, and all members of our school community in creating the special place we have at Santa Clara. The journey of where Santa Clara is at this present moment is a massive undertaking and one that you all should be extremely proud of.

I am extremely grateful to be your new Principal and appreciate the responsibility that comes with playing a part in leading our community into the future. The one thing that I have loved about the start of the year has been meeting the amazing staff and our multicultural students. It is already so obvious the quality of students we have at Santa Clara. Their manners are impeccable and their ability to come and chat with me is impressive. They all seem to be naturals at engaging in a conversation. I am very much looking forward to getting to know our students, parents and staff in the coming weeks.

The start of the year is always filled with excitement and anticipation for our students, families and staff. Like so many of you, the past weeks have been hectic organising uniforms, booklists, lunchboxes and so on. My wife and I seem to now be finding our rhythm once again as I am sure you all are after having the long break. However, you must also remember to be gentle on yourself and your children. As you get into your routine it is important to remember that it is okay if things do not go perfectly to plan!

With that thought of being gentle on ourselves, I have also placed a personal focus on our school principle of Truth. Truth will play a major part in my role and time here at Santa Clara. As you get to know me you will notice I love a good quote as it keeps me motivated and makes me reflect on who I am as parent, husband and staff member. When I approached 'Truth' on Google I came across two quotes that really stood out to me. Can you imagine if we were all able to embrace this principle in its fullness across our school. As Mother Teresa says, it is not about how many, it is about starting with those closest to us. For me that is our students and staff. If we start small in 2020 with simple things momentum will occur.

I look forward to getting to know you all this year.

God bless,

Clinton Payne
Principal
6 February 2020

