



PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

7th February 2025

This week Years 2-6 celebrated our opening school Mass. Father John shared the following words as part of the Gospel from Mark 10: 13-16.

"Let the children come to me! Don't try to stop them. People who are like these little children belong to the kingdom of God. I promise you that you cannot get into God's kingdom, unless you accept it the way a child does."

These words resonated with me, as the best examples of humanity are often found in the youngest of our students. Last week you may have read how we started taking notice of the little 'Mercy Moments' that are unfolding in our community, as a way of reinforcing what 'spreading the green' means at St. Patrick's School as we continue to 'seek higher things'. Teachers and students alike have been taking the time to share 'Mercy Moments' with attention firmly focussed on the Mercy Education value of Hospitality. The unexpected bi-product has been a great wave of gratefulness, as our attention has been firmly focussed on the strengths our young people exude. I think this is the message Jesus was trying to give us in this reading. How naturally attuned children can be to care for others and to look at the world around them through a lens of wonder and awe. On assembly, Leo B was identified as a young man who stopped a game of soccer to ensure the safety of an injured player, whilst Matilda K from Prep was named as a young lady who showed hospitality in supporting Prep friends that were still finding mornings difficult.

Staff recently discussed how sometimes we are afforded a rich sense of hospitality and mercy from total strangers. When we started sharing examples, many realised they were speaking of the same person. A lovely lady called 'Liv' from King Kong sales. This lady managed to remember many of our staff and always mentioned something she liked about them or their outfit, each time they visited. This was an excellent example of someone who knew the value of making visitors feel welcome and noticed. This week, St. Patrick's and Anastasi Blooms sent her a posy of flowers identifying the impact her simple act of kindness had on our community. She was very gracious and said the flowers had reached her on a day when she needed some words of encouragement herself, which highlighted how important it is to take time to acknowledge the 'Mercy Moments' that make our life journey a whole lot 'greener'.

Tickets have been released for the Catholic Education Race Day which will occur on the 15th of March, 2025. This has not only been a great fundraiser for our Catholic Schools over the past 20 years, but a great way for our school communities to stand in solidarity under the banner of Catholic Education. This year the theme is 'Cheers to 20 Years'. Tickets will go very fast for this milestone Race Day and I can see from the brochure that they have dug deep into the archives to find some old photos, which do bring back great memories. It is a fabulous day out for Staff, Parents and past students alike, so please follow the link <https://www.trybooking.com/CYNQM> to purchase tickets if you want to join in on the fun. All welcome!



Kim O'Shea-Hard



Click our
school crest
to go our
school
website



Click the
Parish logo
to go to the
Parish
website



Click the
Facebook
icon to go to
our Facebook
page



Absentees

4994 8336

spb_absentees@rok.catholic.edu.au

ST PATRICK'S 2025 START OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS

OPENING SCHOOL MASS

Years 2-6

9am in the Church

Friday, Feb 7 2025



LEADERSHIP INDUCTION LITURGY



Whole School

9am in the Multi

Friday, Feb 14 2025

PREP 2026 ENROLMENT INFORMATION

Enrolments for Prep 2026 are already filling fast. If you are an existing family and haven't yet enrolled a child/children eligible for Prep 2026, please do so as soon as possible to ensure he/she is given priority. Should you know of others who are hopeful of beginning their St. Patrick's journey in 2026, please forward on this information.

Our Mercy Charism

A charism is a divine spiritual gift given to an individual or group for the good of the community. It helps us to express our Catholic identity and the assumptions, beliefs and values that our school community shares. We are a school founded by the Sisters of Mercy. The Sisters of Mercy were founded by Catherine McAuley, an amazing woman, who worked hard for the poor, uneducated and needy people in her community. This year we will continue to explore our Mercy Charism. You may have read in Mrs O'Shea-Hard's articles about **Mercy Moments**. These Mercy Moments are small instances where we see and acknowledge our community members for the good they do without thinking anyone is watching or noticing their actions, just as Catherine McAuley did. I will be sharing more about this amazing woman with you throughout the year. As a first step I would encourage you to watch this story of her life: <https://www.mercyworld.org/film-in-god-alone/>

Also, don't forget that this year's Sacramental Program is about to begin. If your child is 8 years or older they are most welcome to join in this year's program to complete their Sacraments. It is always such a special time for our students in their faith journey. Please see the image below for more details from the Parish.

Tracey Cook

APRE



Reconciliation



Confirmation



First Holy Communion

Sacramental Program for 2025

Preparation for children eight years or older, who are Baptised in the Catholic faith, begins in February.

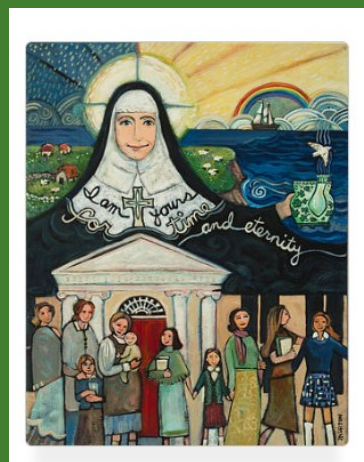
Enrol Now!
Starting soon!

Use this QR Code or go to our Sacraments page on our website (www.bundabergcatholic.net.au) to enrol now!

Enrol Now!



If your child is 13 years or older please contact Pauline at the Parish Office (4151 6666) for details for their preparation.



ADMINISTRATION CARPARK

Parking in the Mulgrave Street Administration Carpark is for staff only. This carpark has been specifically designed for a Pick Up and Drop Off Zone and Parents are not to park in this area from 7:45am – 8:45am and 2:45pm – 3:30pm, as parking and reversing severely disrupts the Pick Up and Drop Off process during these times. The only exception to this is for our families who use our designated Disabled Parks in the staff carpark. Please also be mindful of our neighbours and ensure that you do not park across driveways

MATHS CLUB

Maths Challengers Announcement!

Calling all Year 5 and 6 students! Are you ready to embark on an exciting journey through the world of numbers and puzzles? Join the St. Patrick's Maths Challengers, our fortnightly maths club, where fun and challenging math tasks await you! We meet every second Wednesday of the term (even weeks) from 8:00 to 8:30 AM. Come along to explore, solve, and conquer math challenges with your friends. Let's make math an adventure together!

This term we will meet in Week 4, 6, 8 and 10!

To sign up this week, students will find a sheet outside Mrs Salmon's classroom where students can write their names. (6S is the middle classroom of G Block)

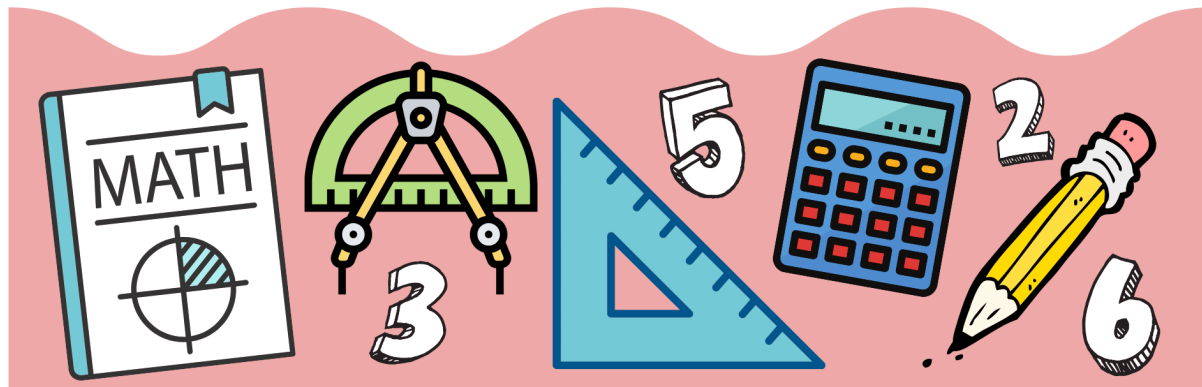


Year 5 and 6 MATH CHALLENGERS



*Do you love
a maths
challenge?*

Sign up to our Maths Challengers Club to join fortnightly meet-ups in Mrs Salmon's Year 6 classroom! The group will meet from 8-8:30am on the Wednesday mornings of even weeks of term (weeks 4, 6, 8, 10) to partake in team Maths activities and games!



PUPIL FREE DAY

Pupil Free Day

Please note the Pupil Free Day this term is Friday 21st February

ABSENTEEISM

Every day counts

MOST STUDENTS ATTEND SCHOOL EVERY DAY

It's important that children are at school all day, every day 📖📚📎📅

OK reasons to stay home from school

- sick
- natural disasters

It's **NOT OK** to skip school to shop, sleep in, finish an assignment, go on holidays

EVERY DAY AT SCHOOL COUNTS

Missing even 1 day can make a difference

1 day off school each fortnight = Missing more than a year of learning over 12 years

Each day's learning builds on what has been learnt before

Good attendance begins in Prep It's where good habits begin

ATTEND ALL DAY, EVERY DAY

Each 1% increase in student attendance may relate to 2-3 NAPLAN scale score points.*

What parents can do

- Promote the importance of school
- Get to know the teacher
- Go to school events
- Read the school newsletters
- Be organised at home
- Supervise homework
- Ask about your child's day
- Volunteer to help at school

Get involved in your child's school

WOULD YOU LET YOUR CHILD MISS A YEAR OF SCHOOL?

One day off each fortnight is equal to missing more than a year of schooling by the end of Year 12 for your child.

A reminder to our families to develop good habits with your child by ensuring they always attend school, unless there is a reasonable excuse. The more time your child has at school, the more likely they will achieve in their learning.

For more information Go to the Every day counts website: <https://education.qld.gov.au/initiatives-and-strategies/initiatives/every-day-counts>



OTHER UNIFORM POLICY

A kind reminder below about our grooming and jewellery:

HAIR

- All students**—Minimum cut is gauge 2 and no shorter. All hairstyles are to be natural in colour, conservative and graduated/blended in style. NO tracks, shaved patterns, mullets, 'horseys' and/or rat's tails are permitted. Part-line haircuts are acceptable with the fringe to be cut above the eyes.
- Boys** hair is to be collar in length and short on sides. Styles to be worn off the face and the fringe to be cut above the eyes.
- Girls** hair below shoulder length must be tied back with white, bottle green or black hair bands, ribbons, hair ties and clips. All styles must be worn off the face and the fringe to be cut above the eyes.

JEWELLERY

- Chain with cross or religious medallion under shirt/dress.
- Girls Earrings – one pair of studs or sleepers to be worn in the lobe of the ear (not permitted for boys).
- Additional body piercings are not permitted for any student. Culturally significant piercings must first be discussed with the Principal prior to procuring.
- Rings, bracelets and non-religious necklaces are not permitted.
- Make-up and nail polish are not permitted.

OTHER UNIFORM POLICY—SPORTS HATS



Please be reminded that our new Sports Bucket Hats are only to be worn when your child wears their sports uniform and not to be worn with the formal uniform.

SPORTS NEWS

BUNDABERG DISTRICT U12 SCHOOL SPORTS TRIALS—2025

Trial information will be advised in the school's newsletter each week detailing trial information for upcoming individual and team events.

Gaining selection in a Bundaberg District Team is the first step on the pathway to representing Wide Bay and Queensland. To represent Bundaberg District, students must be born 2013, 2014 & 2015 (only exceptional 10 year old students will be given permission to trial in team sports). The majority of team sport trials occur in February and March.

Please be aware of the following points:

- Team sports are selected in an U12 category and it is very unlikely that a 10 year old student would be selected, with the exception of Rugby League. Rugby League selects students in U10, U11 and U12 categories due to the contact nature of the sport.
- Bundaberg District trials are not 'have a go' trials. St Patrick's has a responsibility for sending students who we feel display high ability in the chosen sport and a high level of behaviour.
- Students wishing to trial must have a consent form issued by the school with authorisation from Mr Plumb, Ms Gollshewsky or Mr Egan. Students will not be able to participate in the trials without a **Bundaberg District Primary Schools nomination form**.
- Cross Country and Athletics nominations will be made by the school after our school carnivals. Swimming & Aquathlon are the exceptions – Wide Bay School Sport are responsible for the selection of these teams.

BDSS Sport	Age Group	Date	Venue	Time	
Netball	Girls	11-12 years	Thursday 27 February	Multi—St Luke's Anglican	3:30 to 5:00pm
		10-11 years	Thursday 6 March	Multi—St Luke's Anglican	3:30 to 5:00pm
	Boys	11-12 years	Thursday 13 March	Multi—St Luke's Anglican	3:30 to 5:00pm
Basketball	Girls & Boys	2013, 2014 & 2015	Thursday 27 February Monday 3 March	Bundaberg Basketball Stadium	4:15 to 5:30pm
Touch Football	Girls & Boys	2013, 2014 & exceptional 2015 players	Friday 7 March Friday 14 March	Shalom College	3:30 to 5:15pm
AFL	Girls & Boys	2013, 2014 & exceptional 2015 players	Monday 17 February Monday 24 February	ATW AFL Grounds	3:45 to 5:15pm
Golf	Boys & Girls Trials: Nominations close on Friday 7 March. A golf handicap will be required for nomination purposes. Please see Taryn Golschewsky if interested or for more information.				

WIDE BAY SCHOOL SPORT

Swimmers must be born 2015, 2014 & 2013. The 2025 Queensland 10-12 Years Schools Swimming Championships will be held at Chandler Aquatic Centre, Brisbane over 23–25 March.

Parents must ensure to submit nominations by survey link by Monday 17th February. Students selected will be notified directly on the parent email provided.

Nominate via this link

10-19 Years Nomination

<https://survey.qed.qld.gov.au/n/dBghgB1>



10-19 Years Multi-Class Nomination

<https://survey.qed.qld.gov.au/n/dLghJ4D>



Selection in the Wide Bay Regional Team is gained by submitting times swum in the 50 metre pool in a QSA sanctioned meet. When times are submitted, they must be verified by printouts from Meet Manager and then stamped and signed by the club's secretary or record keeper. If this procedure is not followed, times will not be accepted.

Tickets now on sale via the link

<https://www.trybooking.com/CYNQM>

ENJOY A DAY OUT AT THE
BUNDABERG

Catholic Schools

RACE DAY 2025
CHEERS TO 20 YEARS!



SATURDAY 15 MARCH
THABEBAN PARK RACECOURSE
MARQUEE GATES OPEN 11:30AM
LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE!

Admission \$85

INCLUDES ENTRANCE TO THE MARQUEE
PARTY, 2 FREE DRINK TICKETS,
FINGER FOOD & A BUS TO THE CBD

- ◆ FASHION PARADE
- ◆ HUGE RAFFLE



OUT AND ABOUT

S.C CORINTHIANS FOOTBALL CLUB

2025 CLUB OPEN DAY

REGISTRAR
COACHES
UNIFORMS

**SATURDAY
8TH FEB**
11AM - 2PM

COME & TRY
MINI GAMES
BBQ

AT MARTENS OVAL

+ THESE EXCITING PRE SEASON FRIENDLIES

U11 SPARTANS
VS KSS JETS
12 NOON
KICK OFF

FQPL WOMENS
VS KSS JETS
2PM
KICK OFF

U23'S
VS BINGERA
4PM
KICK OFF

FQPL MENS
VS BINGERA
6PM
KICK OFF

FAMILY. FRIENDLY. FUN



HOGS
NRL

NATIONAL TOUR

BUNDABERG

FREE
Goanna Academy
Community Clinic & BBQ

Tuesday 11th February 2025
4:00pm - 6:00pm
Salter Oval

Meet Special Guests: Brad Fittler, Petero Civoniceva, Greg Inglis and Ben Hannant

goanna academy

COME AND TRY DAY

23 February 2025 at 9am

New & Returning players welcome

Boys and Girls aged 5-12yrs

Boys u16's

Sign On for our Girls Teams (13's, 15's and 17's)

Come along and enjoy a fun morning meeting the coaches, volunteers and players

COLD SOFTDRINKS
AVAILABLE HERE

RAFFLE TICKETS FOR SALE

We are also seeking interest for coaching and volunteers for our girls teams please email brothersjuniorrugbyleagueclub@gmail.com

BROTHERS

BUNDABERG JR LFC

OUT AND ABOUT



WOMEN'S SOCIAL SMASH

Salter Oval, Bundaberg

Starts 14th February, 6pm



PLAY NETBALL

FUN FOR ALL

WANT TO PLAY NETBALL IN 2025?

Clubs that play Saturday Netball fixtures at Bundaberg Netball Association now have registrations open. To find out your local club scan the QR code below. Sign up now before registrations close!

JOIN THE FUN



AusBike

AGES 5 - 12



A new national program, designed by Australia's peak cycling body, AusCycling, is running at Bundaberg Cycling Club.

AusBike gives kids the essential skills to experience the freedom, fun and adventure of life on a bike.

AusBikers are safe & active kids!
Our accredited coaches will help build your child's competence and confidence on two wheels...and who knows where their love of riding will take them?!



REGISTER NOW

The AusBike program has been developed with the support of the Australian Government through the Australian Sports Commission.



TERM ONE PLANNER

WEEK 1	Week 27th January-31st January		
Monday	AUSTRALIA DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY		
Tuesday–Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	Mrs Cook &
WEEK 2	Week 3rd February-7th February		
Tuesday–Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	5P
Friday	Opening School Mass	9.00am	Years 3-6
WEEK 3	Week 10th February–14th February		
Tuesday–Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	5S
Friday	Year 6 Leadership Induction	9.00am	Whole School
WEEK 4	Week 17th February–21st February		
Monday	Parish Mass	9.00am	Year 6
Tuesday–Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	6M
Friday	PUPIL FREE DAY		
WEEK 5	Week 24th February–28th February		
Monday	Parish Mass	9.00am	Year 1 & 5
Tuesday–Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	6A
WEEK 6	Week 3rd March–7th March	Time	Year Level
Monday	Parish Mass	9.00am	Year 3
Tuesday–Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	6S
Wednesday	Ash Wednesday	8:40am	Whole School
WEEK 7	Week 10th March–14th March	Time	Year Level
Monday	Parish Mass	9.00am	Year 4
Tuesday–Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	2N
WEEK 8	Week 17th March–21st March		
Monday	St Patrick's Day Liturgy	9.30am	Whole School
Tuesday	Year 6 Leaders Announced (during Lit-	9.30am	Whole School
Tuesday–Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	2C
WEEK 9	Week 24th March–28th March		
Monday	Parish Mass	9.00am	Year 2
Tuesday–Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	2W
WEEK 10	Week 31st March–4th April		
Tuesday	Palm Sunday	8:40am	4M & 4K
Wednesday	Last Supper	8.40am	4F
Thursday	Good Friday	8.40am	5S
Friday	Easter Prayer	9:00am	Year 6 & Prep
	Easter Hat Parade	10:00am	Prep to Year 3
	Mini Fair	11:15am	Whole School

2025 SPORT DATES

2 May	Junior Obstacle Course	Prep to Year 2	St Patrick's
9 May	Cross Country	Years 3 to 6	Shalom College
20 June	Senior Athletics Day	Students born 2016, 2015, 2014 &	Shalom College
27 June	Junior Athletics Day	Students born 2020, 2019, 2018 &	St Patrick's
TBC	Swimming Carnival	Years 3 to 6	Bundaberg

2025 TERM DATES

TERM 1	Monday 28 January - Friday 4 April
TERM 2	Tuesday 22 April - Friday 27 June
TERM 3	Monday 14 July - Friday 19 September
TERM 4	Tuesday 7 October - Friday 5 December