



Principal's News

1 May 2026



Kim O'Shea-Hard
Principal

As a school community, we gathered last week to honour the significance of ANZAC Day. Through prayer, reflection and class discussions, our students were invited to remember the courage, sacrifice and service of those who have given so much for our country. In a Catholic context, this day reminds us of the Gospel call to lay down one's life for others (John 15:13), and to live with deep gratitude for the freedoms we enjoy.

At St Patrick's, we often speak of "spreading the green"—a visible expression of the Mercy Education Values of Justice, Compassion, Hospitality, Respect, Service and Courage. Last Saturday morning, we certainly did just that, forming a proud sea of green along Bourbong Street. It was a truly special St Patrick's moment to stand in solidarity with so many staff, students and families as we paid our respects.

Our Years 3–6 Cross Country on Monday and our P–2 Junior Obstacle Course on Friday were two further highlights of the week. Both events brought energy, determination and house spirit to the forefront. It was wonderful to see students encouraging one another, demonstrating perseverance and celebrating personal achievement. These moments remind us that success is not only found in winning, but in giving our best, supporting others, and finishing what we begin.

Together, these experiences reflect the heart of our mission—to learn, love God, live the Gospel, witness the faith and celebrate life. Whether in moments of quiet remembrance or joyful participation, our students continue to grow as people of faith, courage and compassion.

Thank you for your ongoing and consistent support of your children and our community. It is deeply valued and sincerely appreciated.



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



Religion News

Tracey Cook
APRE

Farewell and Thank You to Bishop Michael McCarthy

As our diocesan family prepares to farewell Bishop Michael McCarthy, we give thanks to God for his faithful leadership and pastoral care. Throughout his time as Bishop of the Diocese of Rockhampton, Bishop Michael has encouraged us to live the Gospel with courage, compassion, and hope — strengthening our communities in faith and our commitment to serve others, especially those most in need.

Bishop Michael's ministry has been marked by a deep love for Christ and the Church, and a steady presence among parishioners, clergy, religious, and Catholic schools and colleges. Many will remember his prayerful celebration of the sacraments, his warm engagement with students and families, and his ongoing encouragement to build communities shaped by dignity, solidarity, and stewardship of creation.

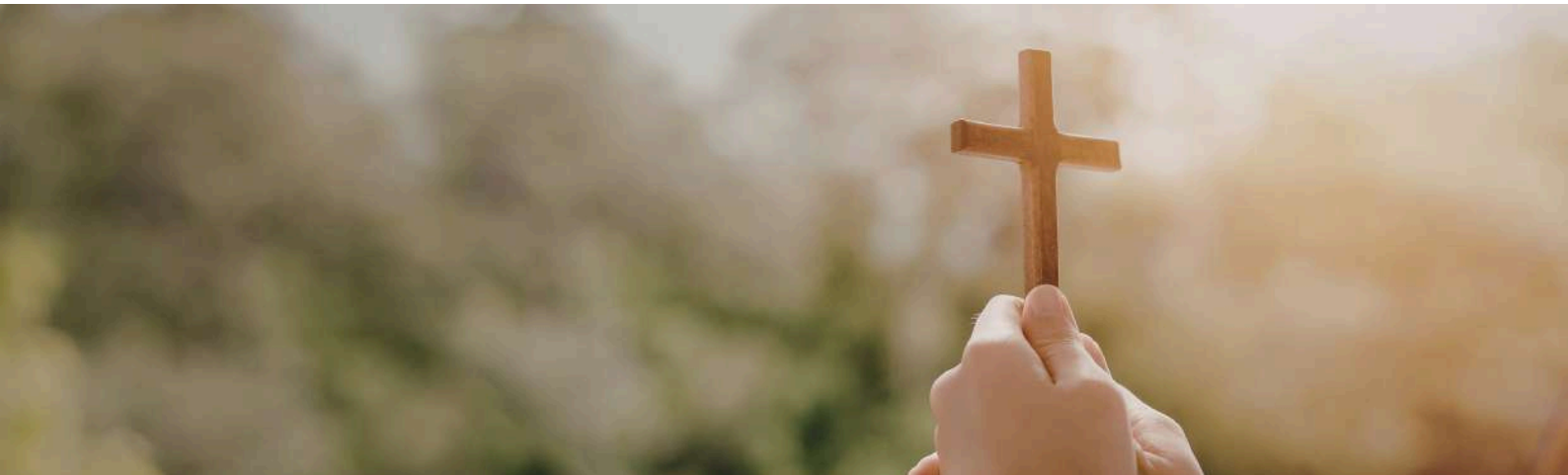
As Bishop Michael moves to retirement, we entrust him to God's care with gratitude for all he has given to our diocese. We also pray for our diocesan community in this time of transition — that the Holy Spirit will guide us in unity, wisdom, and peace.

Farewell Mass and Morning Tea for Bishop Michael:

- Date: Sunday May 3
- Time: 8.00am
- Location: Holy Rosary Church
- All are welcome. Please bring a plate to share for morning tea.

A short prayer of thanksgiving

Loving God, we thank You for the ministry of Bishop Michael. Bless him with peace and joy, and continue to guide our diocese as we journey together in faith. Amen.





Anzac Day 2026

Our Anzac Day commemorations this year included participation in the Bundaberg Civic Ceremony and March, our whole school Prayer Service and Courtyard Prayer led by 5G. We were blessed to have Sergeant Leon Hart be with us to read The Ode.

Our students were outstanding ambassadors for our school at such important events. Lest we forget.



Senior Cross Country

The school community congratulates and applauds all students on their individual performances, sportsmanship and team spirit at the Inter-house Cross Country held on Monday 22 April. All students showed their determination to finish and gain valuable points for their team.

Congratulations to Xavier House for winning the Senior Trophy for our Interhouse Cross Country and to our 2026 School Cross Country team who will represent St Patrick's at the upcoming District Cross Country trials at Avoca State School on Friday 15 May. The team consists of Emerson D, Ashton S, Sophia K, Audrey S, Chase L, Byron J, Georgia S, Immogen K, Kelan E, Reeve L, Lily P and Amira D. We wish all competitors the very best at this upcoming event.

Congratulations also to the students who ran their hearts out in the Junior Obstacle Course. Based on the efforts displayed by our Prep to Year 2 students today, we certainly look forward to seeing them in future years as they take on the longer distances involved with the Senior Cross Country. The winners of the trophy will be announced at Courtyard Prayer Tuesday morning, for the whole school to witness.

Also a huge thank you to Shalom College for the use of their amazing grounds for the Senior Cross Country carnival. Their support of this event is very much appreciated.

2026 Senior Cross Country Champions

Age Division	Name	House
8yrs Boys – Born 2018	Finley D.	Xavier
8yrs Girls – Born 2018	Abigail R.	Xavier
9yrs Boys – Born 2017	Joseph S.	Coolock
9yrs Girls – Born 2017	Isla R.	Xavier

Age Division	Name	House
10yrs Boys – Born 2016	Emerson D.	Xavier
10yrs Girls – Born 2016	Sophia K.	Xavier
11yrs Boys – Born 2015	Chase L.	Xavier
11yrs Girls – Born 2015	Georgia S.	Coolock
12yrs Boys – Born 2014	Kelan E.	Coolock
12yrs Girls – Born 2014	Lily P.	Coolock

2026 Senior Cross Country House Points

Position	House	Points
1st Place	Xavier	273
2nd Place	Coolock	271
3rd Place	McAuley	252
4th Place	MacKillop	221

Senior Shield



Reminder: Years 4-6 Families



Dear Parents and Carers (Years 4-6)

This term, St. Patrick's Catholic Primary School is participating in the Tell Them From Me® (TTFM®) student survey. This survey provides valuable feedback on students' perspectives from years 4 and up about school life, their engagement, and the ways teachers interact with them.

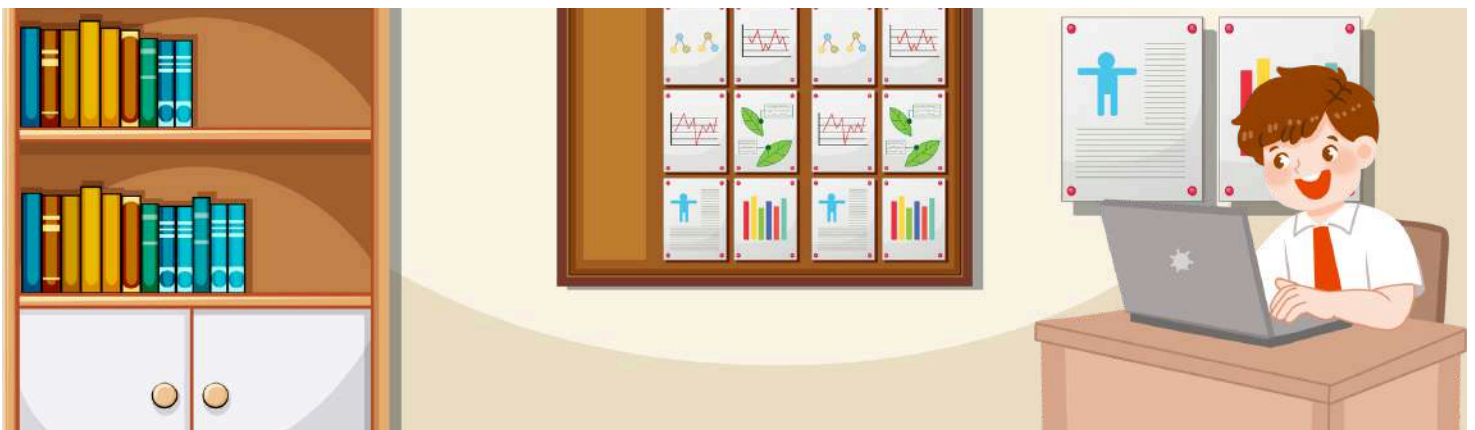
The surveys are rigorously validated and developed by The Learning Bar, an organisation specialising in educational research and survey administration. These surveys gather crucial data that help enhance student learning experiences and overall school environment.

Key Points:

- The survey is confidential, and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses.
- Participating students will receive a unique username and password to ensure confidentiality.
- The survey is online, takes 15 to 20 minutes, and will be conducted during school hours.
- Participation in the survey is voluntary. If your child feels uncomfortable with any question, they can skip it or stop the survey at any time.
- Teachers will remind students that they can talk to their teacher or guidance counsellor if they feel distressed or worried about the survey.
- The survey measures topics such as emotional and social well-being, physical health, and behaviours and attitudes that are predictors of student success.
- It also allows students to provide their thoughts and feedback through open-ended questions.



If you do not want your child/children to participate in the survey, please complete the opt-out form emailed to Years 4-6 families, and return it to the school by **Wednesday, 13 May 2026.**



Mother's Day



On **Friday, May 8** we will once again be holding our Mother's Day Prayer Celebration. We really value the mothers in our community and would love for you all to join us in celebrating them at our Liturgy on May 8, at **9.00am** in the Multi.

Please ensure you send one photo per family of mum and the kids to **spboffice@rok.catholic.edu.au** no later than **Wednesday May 6** to be included in the presentation.

We look forward to celebrating with all of the special ladies in our community.

Mum & Me 

BookClub

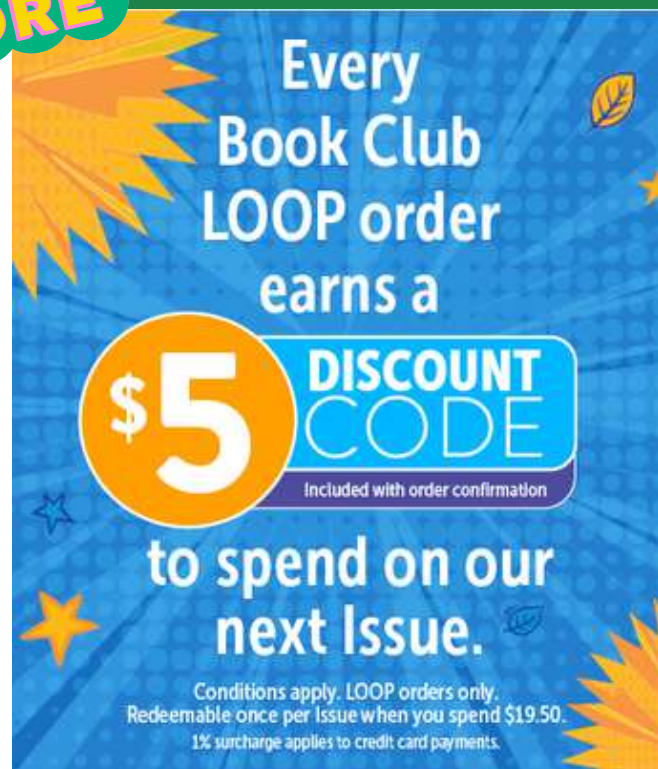
Issue 3



Book club catalogues, **Issue 3**, were sent home with your child this week.

A reminder that all orders need to be made ONLINE via LOOP payment on the Scholastic website via www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP. No cash will be accepted.

All orders are due by **Wednesday 6th May**. As soon as orders are dispatched to us, we will then send home with your child.



Every Book Club LOOP order earns a

\$5 DISCOUNT CODE
Included with order confirmation

to spend on our next Issue.

Conditions apply. LOOP orders only. Redeemable once per Issue when you spend \$19.50. 1% surcharge applies to credit card payments.

Mother's Day

Flowers and Chocolates

Friday 8th May



Flowers - \$5

Chocolates - \$2

**Selling at the gate on Mulgrave
St & Powers St at 3 pm**

Thank you for supporting Paddy's Patch

Health Reminder:

Remember to



When children are showing the symptoms of influenza (flu), COVID-19 and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) please keep them home sick.



Stay protected with free vaccinations

Practice good respiratory hygiene (cough/sneeze into tissues or the inside of your elbow, discard used tissues)

Clean your hands regularly and thoroughly

Clean touched surfaces

Ensure good ventilation at home and work

Maintain physical distance and consider wearing a mask



The Communicable Diseases Branch of Queensland Public Health have contacted schools reminding us all how quickly acute respiratory infections (ARIs) can spread in school settings. With parents, caregivers and school staff working together we can prevent ARIs from spreading rapidly.

Out and about

Why join our FQ&BR School Program at your school?

Make New Friends Learn New Skills Score Goals Meet Your Heroes Exclusive Offers

community@footballqueensland.com.au | (07) 3208 2677

Scan me to register!

FOOTBALL IN THE COMMUNITY

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Discover the joy of football in a safe, inclusive, and exciting setting where kids can learn, play, and have fun!

Football Queensland & Brisbane Roar Soccer Clinics

St. Patrick's will once again host the Football Queensland & Brisbane Soccer Clinics during Term 2 on Tuesdays from 3:15pm to 4:15pm over 4 weeks from 5 May to 26 May 2026.

Please refer to the final details of the program and register by scanning the QR code which will take you to the Football In Community Website.

CONNECT

4 Good

Join us for a dynamic day of networking & collaboration with professionals across the community sector.

- Yarning Circle Learning & storytelling experiences
- Hear from Education Precinct
- Gain insights from Street Law

2026 Network Event

Thursday, 11 June 2026
9:30am - 2:30pm
(Registration from 8:45am)

Salvation Army
110 McCarthy Road,
Avenell Heights, Bundaberg

\$25
(Includes morning tea & lunch)

RSVP: 3rd June 2026

Register Now!
Link: [Click Here](#)

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Leading change

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KEPNOCK Scout Group

For more information contact:
enquiries@scoutsqld.com.au
1800SCOUTS

www.facebook.com/kepnockscouts

WE ACCEPT PLAY ON! SPORTS VOUCHERS

Term 2 Planner: Weeks 1-5

WEEK 1		Week 20th April - Friday 24th April	
Tuesday-Wednesday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	2C
Friday	ANZAC DAY Liturgy	9:00am	5G
WEEK 2		Week 27th April - 1st May	
Monday	Senior Cross Country - Yrs 3-6	9:00am	Shalom
	Parish Mass	9:00am	Year 2
Tuesday-Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	3T
Friday	Junior Obstacle Course - P-2	9:00am	St Patrick's
	Interschool Sport	12:30pm	Years 5-6
WEEK 3		Week 4th May - 7th May	
Monday	PUBLIC HOLIDAY - LABOUR DAY		
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	3C
Friday	Mother's Day Liturgy	9:00am	Year 2
	Interschool Sport	12:30pm	Years 5-6
WEEK 4		Week 11th May - 15th May	
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00am	Year 6 and Prep
Tuesday-Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	3M
Friday	District Cross Country - no interschool sport	All Day	Selected Students
WEEK 5		Week 18th May - 22rd May	
Monday	Parish Mass	8:40am	Year 3
Tuesday-Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	4B
Friday	Interschool Sport	12:30pm	Years 5-6



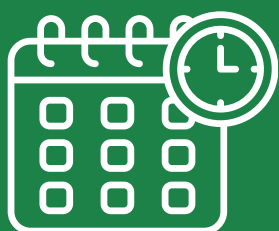
What's happening in Week 3?

- Mon** Labour Day - Public Holiday
- Tue** Football Queensland Brisbane Roar Soccer Clinic
- Tue-Thur** Courtyard Prayer - Year 3C
- Wed** Sacramental Session - Parent and Child
- Fri** Mother's Day Liturgy - Year 2
Friday Interschool Sport
- Sun** Mother's Day



Term 2 Planner: Weeks 6-10

WEEK 6	Week 25th May - 29th May		
Monday	Parish Mass	8:40am	Year 2
Tuesday-Wednesday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	Teachers
Thursday	BUNDABERG SHOW HOLIDAY		
Friday	Interschool Sport	12:30pm	Years 5-6
WEEK 7	Week 1st June - 5th June		
Monday	Parish Mass	8:40am	Year 4
Tuesday-Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	4F
Friday	Interschool Sport	12:30pm	Years 5-6
WEEK 8	Week 8th June -12th June		
Monday	Athletics HEATS (ALL students) & Field Events FINALS (Years 4-6)	All Day	St Patrick's
Tuesday–Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	4K
Friday	Sacred Heart of Jesus Mass	9:00am	Years 2-6
WEEK 9	Week 15th June - 19th June		
Tuesday–Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	1B
Tuesday	Music Retreat Day - Junior & Senior Strings students	All Day	Chaverim
WEEK 10	Week 22nd June - 26th June		
Monday	Senior Athletics Carnival - students born 2017, 2016, 2015 & 2014	All Day	Shalom
Tuesday–Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	1S
Friday	Junior Athletics Carnival - students born 2021,2020, 2019 & 2018	All Day	St Patrick's



2026 Term Dates

- Term 1** Monday 27 January - Thursday 2 April
- Term 2** Monday 20 April - Friday 26 June
- Term 3** Monday 13 July - Friday 18 September
- Term 4** Tuesday 6 October - Friday 4 December