



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

29 August 2025

Parent Engagement at St. Patrick's

At St. Patrick's, we know that when families and educators work in partnership, children thrive. Parent engagement is more than being present at school events – it is about nurturing strong connections at home and school that support each child's growth, learning, and faith journey.

The Scriptures remind us of the powerful role parents play in their children's lives:

"These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home, when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up." (Deuteronomy 6:6-7)

Deuteronomy 6:6-7

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When parents share in their children's education—listening, encouraging, and celebrating—students develop confidence and a deeper sense of belonging.

We are so grateful to our families for the many ways you contribute to the life of our community, whether it was supporting our girls at the netball this week, attending Parent/Teacher interviews, encouraging learning at home, or modelling Mercy values in everyday life. Together, we are building a community where faith and learning go hand in hand.

It was especially heartening to spend time with the wonderful parents who joined us for Parent Engagement Night on Tuesday. Each morning I am greeted by the amazing little humans in our community, and whenever I spend time with their parents, I am reminded that the apple truly doesn't fall far from the tree. While we have hosted many Parent Engagement Nights before, this gathering was particularly special as parents were invited to nominate items for discussion. This gave us the chance to hear different perspectives, reflect on what we currently do and why, and begin planting seeds for the future. It was a long evening, but one I thoroughly enjoyed – and one we will definitely do again.



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Absentees

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spb_absentees@rok.catholic.edu.au

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Recently, one of our resilient parents kindly loaned me a book called *Let Them* by Mel Robbins (2024). In it, Robbins reflects on her own parenting mistakes – many of which I could certainly relate. She writes about our natural desire to control everything, because control makes us feel safe, yet how this works against the reality of human nature: the only person we truly have control over is ourselves. I often say my own children were sent to teach me life's most important lessons, and this truth continues to unfold as they grow older. As much as we want to guide and protect our children, real growth happens when we learn to let go a little – allowing them to begin navigating their own path.

Over the next two weeks, we will see our Year 5 and 6 students engage in camp. This is an important step towards independence, as students are safely stretched outside their comfort zones to build resilience and add to their life experience in an environment different from their everyday routines. Next Thursday we will also celebrate the father figures in our students' lives with our annual Father's Day Liturgy. Please also note that the office will be closed next Friday, 5 September, for our Pupil Free Day. On this day, staff will be at Shalom College engaging in the next stage of the Strength-Based Learning Model, this time focusing on strategies to assist student stamina and engagement. OSHC will be open for those who have registered.



Kim O'Shea-Hard

PRINCIPAL

Mercy in Action: Living with Compassion

At the heart of our Catholic identity and Mercy tradition at St Patrick's are the Mercy Education Values of: Compassion, Justice, Respect, Hospitality, Service and Courage. We focus on these 'Mercy Moments' here both with individual and whole school acknowledgement.

This week I want to look closely at the value of Compassion - a call to respond with kindness, understanding, and love to those around us, especially those who are hurting or in need.

Inspired by Catherine McAuley, the founder of the Sisters in Mercy, our school encourages students to see compassion not just as a feeling, but as a way of life. It is woven into our relationships, our learning, and our actions each day.

In our classrooms, we talk about compassion through Gospel stories, prayer, and reflection. We ask questions like:

"How can I be a friend to someone who is lonely?"

"What can I do to make a difference in someone's day?"

Students are given opportunities to show compassion through:

- Acts of kindness towards classmates and teachers
- Supporting social justice projects and outreach programs
- Praying for others in need
- Listening with empathy and care

Compassion calls us to see the face of Christ in every person. It challenges us to be slow to judge and quick to love. Whether it's helping a friend, comforting someone who is upset, or reaching out to include someone who feels left out, compassion reminds us that small actions can make a big impact.

As a Mercy school, we are proud to nurture hearts that are open, generous, and ready to serve. Together, as a community of faith, we continue to learn what it truly means to act justly, love mercifully and walk humbly with our God.

Tracey Cook

APRE



YEARS 6 CAMP REMINDER

Reminder: Year 6 Camp —Wednesday 10 September - Friday 12 September

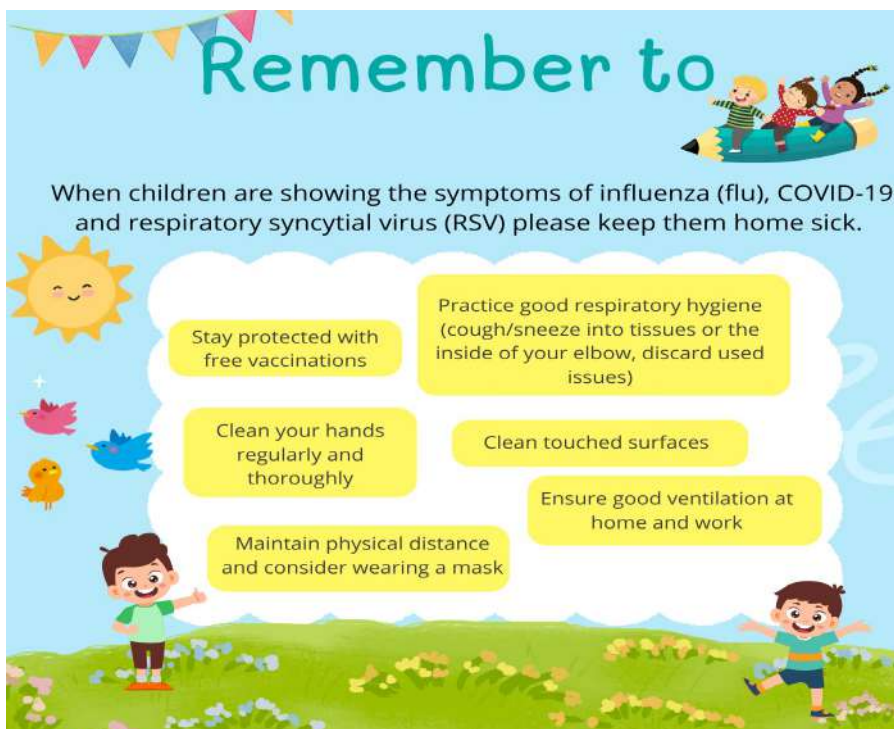
Due to Friday being a student free day, we ask that all Year 6 families to please send in any **labelled medication** (accompanied with the signed medication form available from reception) to the school office on **Thursday 4 September**. Please refer to the email sent to home for further information and the medication form.

A kind reminder that camp days are school days. If your child takes daily medication at home or at school, please ensure we have ample supply to be dispensed to them while at camp.

Thank you to those families who have already completed the form and dropped off medication. If you have not received the email, please check your spam or junk folder. For any questions, or further information, don't hesitate to contact the school office.



INFLUENZA CASES NOTIFICATION



We have recently had a spike in Influenza B cases here at school.

Queensland Health advises that people should stay away from work and school until their symptoms have resolved, which is usually **5-7 days**.

Remember, it is not too late to get a free vaccination. Cough etiquette and hand hygiene are particularly important during flue season.

Stay healthy.

PARENT REMINDER: PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS

When visiting the school for **Parent - Teacher interviews** over the next 3 weeks, please remember that supervision of your children of all ages is a parental responsibility.

We ask that they do not enter the OSHC areas of the school, especially the playgrounds. OSHC supervisors cannot be responsible for children not enrolled in their program.

Thank you for your support.



Congratulations to Sophia K!

Not only was Sophia the 9 year old Bundaberg 80m sprint champion at the recent District Athletics, she smashed the 21 year old record. Twice!

Well done Sophia!

AQUATHLON AND TRIATHLON



Interested in nominating to trial for the **2026 WBSS Triathlon and Aquathlon Teams?**

Trials will be held on the last day of the Spring school holidays—**Sunday 5 October at Scarness Park, Hervey Bay**. There is a \$20 nomination fee.

The Regional trial is to pick a team to represent Wide Bay at the State Titles.

Entry and payment can be made directly through the **Hervey Bay Triathlon Club** website via this link <https://raceroster.com/events/2025/109135/race-2-hbtc-series-and-wide->

FATHER'S DAY

We are excited to inform you that on **Thursday, 4 September** Year 3 will lead the school community in a special Prayer Celebration in honour of fathers and the special men in our lives.

To make this event more meaningful, we invite you to send a photo of 'dad-and-me' or a special man to the school office at spboffice@rok.catholic.edu.au by no later than **Monday, 1 September** to be included in the presentation.

Thank you for your support in helping us celebrate these important figures in our children's lives.



SPELLING BEE

ST PATRICK'S 2025



When: Monday September 15 (Week 10, Term 3)

Where: Maker Space

Who: Years 1-6

MRS COOK WILL VISIT CLASSES IN WEEK 9 FOR NOMINATIONS

OSHC REMINDER—FRIDAY 5 SEPTEMBER



A kind reminder that **Friday 5 September is a Student Free Day** for St. Patrick's.

If you are interested in booking your child in to OSHC for this day, spaces are filling fast. Hours will again be **7am to 6pm**.

The OSHC Enrolment forms can be accessed via this link:

<https://saintpatricks.qld.edu.au/out-of-school-hours-care/>

OSHC VACATION CARE TERM 3 HOLIDAYS

Term 3 Holiday Vacation Care— Book Now!

Vacation Care will be available during the Term 3 holiday at OSHC! Bookings are essential and can be made via the **Xplor parent app**. Please note that some excursion days have limited vacancies due to bus capacity.



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New families need to register and can find the enrolment form at [St Patrick's After School Care](#), while existing families who haven't attended in a while should contact the service for a re-enrolment form. The daily fee is \$63, with some activities at an additional surcharge (see vacation program for further details). All fees exclude any government subsidies. St Patrick's OSHC is an approved child care service and Child Care Benefit and the Child Care Rebate are available.

For any questions, email spbg_oshc@rok.catholic.edu.au or call **0417 199 586**. We can't wait to see you these holidays!

Please check the schedule below for Vacation Care activities and prices for the upcoming Spring school holidays.

Term 3 Holiday Program \$36 p/d

Mon, 22 Sept	Tue, 23 Sept	Wed, 24 Sept	Thur, 25 Sept	Fri, 26 Sept
Teddy Bear's Picnic  Bring along your favourite soft friend for a picnic on the deck under the big tree (we will provide lunch today instead of afternoon tea) \$15 surcharge	Giant Games - Incursion -  Play some GIANT versions of your favourite games! \$15 surcharge	Gymfinity - Excursion-  Jump, tumble, and swing still your heart's content at the Gymfinity indoor arena. (bus leaves @ 9:30am) \$20 surcharge	Dr Jo Travelling Scientist - Incursion-  This time Dr Joe will lead us in SPACE exploration! \$15 surcharge	Movie & Popcorn Day @ School - Smurfs -  Let's watch the newest Smurf movie and pop our own popcorn to munch on! \$15 surcharge
Mon, 29 Sept	Tue, 30 Sept	Wed, 1 Oct	Thur, 2 Oct	Fri, 3 Oct
Bargara Berries - Excursion -  Pick your own strawberries to take home & eat, plus choose your own strawberry jibbit for your crocks! (bus leaves @ 9:30am) \$20 surcharge	Mega Craft Day  A whole day filled with craft, craft and more craft! \$5 surcharge	Cube Sports - Karate - Incursion-  Have fun learning all about the very disciplined art of Karate \$15 surcharge	Reading Cinemas "Bad Guys 2" - Excursion -  A combined excursion with St Mary's OSHC kids. (bus leaves @ 9:15am) \$25 surcharge	Once Designs Art workshop - Incursion -  Miss Amy will guide us through another simple, yet enjoyable art workshop inspired by Spring! \$15 surcharge

OUT AND ABOUT

Mighty Mitts Boxing

School Holiday Program




Tues 30 th Sep	Wed 1 st Oct	Thurs 2 nd Oct	Fri 3 rd Oct
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10:00am - 11:00am

Heavy Boxing Bag Drills
Focus Pad Combinations
Body Strengthening Exercises
Agility & Coordination Skills
Footwork Drills

Ages: 7 to 13 years
Cost: \$10.00 per child, per session
 (includes sausage sizzle & a drink)
Location: Boxing Gym, PCYC Centre, Bundaberg

Limited to 16 children per program

✔ **To confirm your booking**, please make payment via bank transfer.
Bank: Westpac
Account Name: Mighty Mitts Boxing
BSB: 034-122
Account Number: 905532
Reference: Child's Name + Date/s Attending

Bookings Essential

BE YOUR OWN HERO



WHEN: 2/9/2025 - 18/9/2025
LENGTH: 6 sessions
TIME: Tuesday & Thursday 4.00 pm - 5.00 pm
AGE: 5-12 Years
COST: \$89
WHERE: Eastern Suburbs Magpies JRL Corner of Olsen & Ann St Bundaberg East QLD, 4670

LEAGUE STARS PACK INCLUDED

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Seen: The Film

Bundaberg, QLD Film Screening

📅 **Tuesday, 9th September, 2025**
 🕒 **6:00pm. Doors open from 5pm**
 📍 **MONCRIEFF ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE (MEC)**
 177 Bourhong St, Bundaberg Central

Hosted by

BUSHKIDS 90
 MAKING EARLY YEARS COUNT

Reserve your free ticket here



SCAN HERE



JUNIOR NETBALL COMPETITION



COMMENCING 2ND SEPTEMBER TO 18TH NOVEMBER

\$60 PER TEAM EACH WEEK

JUNIOR COMP - AGES 8-12 YEARS
SENIOR COMP - 12 - 16 YEARS

☎ (07) 4153 1911
 ✉ info@bundabergindoorsports.com

29 BOLEWSKI STREET, BUNDABERG

TERM THREE PLANNER

WEEK 1	Week 14th July - Friday 18th July		
Monday	Start Term 3 2025		
Tuesday - Thursday	Tuesday to Thursday - Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	4F
Wednesday - Friday	Challenge Cup	All Day	Selected Students
WEEK 2	Week 21st July - 25th July		
Tuesday - Thursday	Tuesday to Thursday - Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	4K
WEEK 3	Week 28th July - 1st August		
CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK			
Monday - Wednesday	Bundaberg Eisteddfod	All Day	Strings & Choirs/Yr 1
Tuesday - Thursday	Tuesday to Thursday - Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	4M
Thursday	NAIDOC Celebrations - Shalom	9.00am-1.00pm	Selected Students
WEEK 4	Week 4th August - 8th August		
Monday	School Photo Day		Whole School
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00am	Year 3
Tuesday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	Prep S
Wednesday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	Prep L
Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	Prep K
Thursday - Friday	District Athletics - St Luke's	All Day	Selected Students
WEEK 5	Week 11th August - 15th August		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00am	Year 4
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	6H
Tuesday - Wednesday	Prep Vision Screening	All Day	Prep
Wednesday	Year 2 Excursion - Historical Centre	All Day	Year 2
WEEK 6	Week 18th August - 22nd August		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00am	Years 5 & 1
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	6M
WEEK 7	Week 25th August - 29th August		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00am	Year 2
Tuesday	Patty's Parent Engagement Night	5:30pm	Parents
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	5P
WEEK 8	Week 1st September - 5th September		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00am	Year 6 & Prep
Monday - Wednesday	Year 5 Camp - Chaverim Outdoor Educational Centre	All Day	Year 5
Tuesday - Wednesday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	6S
Thursday	Father's Day Liturgy	9:00am	Year 3
Friday	PUPIL FREE DAY		
WEEK 9	Week 8th September - 12th September		
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	5G
Wednesday - Friday	Year 6 Camp - Hervey Bay/Campialba	All Day	Year 6
WEEK 10	Week 14th September - 19th September		
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	5S

2025 TERM DATES

TERM 3	Monday 14 July - Friday 19 September
TERM 4	Tuesday 7 October - Friday 5 December