PREP TO YEAR 6 P. 07 4152 1380 35 Mulgrave St Bundaberg West, QLD

PRINCIPAL'S NEWS 14th March 2025

This week, Year 2N shared a reading from Luke 'give and you will receive many gifts'. This message was timely, considering we are into our second week of Lent. This weekend we will celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> Bundaberg Catholic Education Race Day. 21 Years ago, I remember venturing to Rockhampton via bus, to attend the St. Patrick's Catholic Education Race Day in Rockhampton. I accompanied other parents and educators from our local Bundaberg Catholic schools. It was an excellent day and happily Mr. Rob Alexander (then St. Patrick's Parent and Shalom Leadership Team member) formed a committee and Bundaberg's own Catholic Schools Race Day was realised. Twenty Years on and this event continues to strengthen partnerships and raise funds for our schools and the Bundaberg community thanks to the leadership of Mr. Peter O'Beirne (former St. Mary's/Shalom Parent and Business Owner) and other interested parties.

Peter O'Beirne's story is an excellent example of the Gospel reading shared at courtyard prayer this week. Whilst he first engaged in the idea of Catholic Education Race Day as a parent, where his children would benefit, he has kept this venture going years after his daughters graduated from the Catholic Education system. Peter has selflessly 'given' 20 years of service to our communities. He is humble in nature and would never seek reward for his efforts, but when considering the 'gifts' he may have received as suggested from the gospel, he might consider the fact his daughters grew up to be successful young ladies and the life-long friendships that have grown from his family's own Catholic Education journey. Either way, this story resonates with the Lenten message from last week where I shared Oscar Romero's words that suggest we should 'aspire not to have more but to be more'.

Mr. O'Beirne will retire from his organisation of the Catholic Education Race Day after twenty years of service, so if you see him around, congratulate him and his team for this amazing effort. I believe Rob Alexander (The Cathedral College Principal) is also returning for this special milestone occasion. We hope there'll be another fearless leader ready to step up and take over this iconic event. Could it be you? Thanks also to the businesses who sponsor tables and support the day. We are especially grateful to our St. Patrick's families who have donated vouchers including; Stephanie Partridge Hair (Tomlin Family), Amanda Gear Make-up and Brown Artistry, Elders Insurance (Rogers Family), Anastasi Blooms Farm Fresh Flowers, Jane Hart Photography (Hart Family), Splitters Farm and Finemore Walters and Storey Solicitors (Dani Britton-Clarey Family). On behalf of St. Patrick's, I would like to congratulate anyone who has ever been involved in the Catholic Education Race Day which raises around \$5000 for St. Patrick's each year.

This year there's an opportunity to support the event without attending with the 50/50 Raffle. Mrs. Jessie Clarey, Mrs. Zana Hook and Mr. Jason Egan will join me out at the track this weekend, as we do our little part to assist. If you are attending, we look forward to seeing you there!







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

### PRINCIPAL'S NEWS CONTINUES

To grow and develop one sometimes needs to step outside of what might seem their 'safe space' to take on new challenges. Mrs. Amelia Morine has accepted the opportunity to do so next term, as she extends her career into the realm of secondary at Shalom College. We wish Amelia well for her next chapter and thank her for value-adding to this community throughout her years. She took on Acting APA in 2024 and has been an avid supporter of the Musical, but most importantly, a dedicated Classroom Teacher. Amelia's children also attended St. Patrick's and I'm sure they'll be keen to show her around the College. Amelia will prove a familiar face for our Year Six Students that follow at the end of the year. Gabby Lindeman (Monday and Friday) and Hannah Nasio (Tuesday-Thursday) have committed to taking on 6A for the remainder of the year. Gabby already teaches this class Design and Technology and Hannah works avidly at St. Patrick's and will be known to the students. Parents of 6A were e-mailed earlier this week.

On Monday we celebrate St. Patrick's Day starting with a liturgy at 9:30AM. The Year Six Students voted last week for the extra layer of leadership required for this school year. House Captain, Reef Guardian and Mini Vinnies leadership badges will be announced and presented at this liturgy. Due to there being more positions to past years, parents won't be notified ahead of time, but all are warmly welcomed to attend. Happy St. Patrick's Day when it arrives!

Kim O'Ghea-Hard Principal

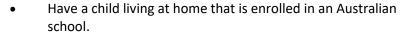
## SCHOOL STUDENT BROADBAND INITIATIVE (SSBI)

To provide education opportunities for families that have limited internet access at home, the Australian Government is providing free National Broadband Network (NBN) services for eligible families. This is called the <a href="School Student Broadband Initiative">School Student Broadband Initiative</a> (SSBI).

Families can self-nominate until the end of April 2025 to receive a free service, and they will receive this free service until **30 June 2028**. This is a wonderful opportunity for families that may have limited capacity to have home internet.

There are eligibility criteria for the initiative. To be eligible, a family must:

St. Patrick's Day



- Have no active broadband service over the NBN, and not had an active service in the past 14 days.
- Live in a premise that can access a standard NBN service.

Anglicare Victoria operate the National Referral Centre on behalf of the initiative, and families can check their eligibility by contacting the centre. If eligible, families will be provided further information and a voucher which can be used with participating Internet Service Providers (ISP) who will then arrange the NBN connection:

- Phoning the SSBI National Referral Centre on <u>1800 954</u>
   610; or
- Visiting the SSBI Referral Centre website at <a href="https://www.anglicarevic.org.au/student-internet">https://www.anglicarevic.org.au/student-internet</a> and completing an Enquiry form online.

Click on the link for more information on <u>SSBI and the National</u> <u>Referral Centre</u> and answers to common questions are listed <u>here</u>.





## **Big Water Walk**

This term during Lent, we have been learning about those less fortunate than ourselves through the stories of Project Compassion. As in previous years we will hold our annual Mini Fair as the major school fundraiser for Project Compassion.

In addition to our Mini Fair, our Mini Vinnies Team are busy organising a relevant and relatable fundraiser for our school. Because water quality and access are a focus of Project Compassion this year, we will be asking students to participate in our Big Water Walk.

Today students will receive their small Project Compassion donation boxes for each child to take home. We will ask that on **Friday, March 28** students bring back those donation boxes with a few coins in it and participate in our Big Water Walk. More details will follow on actual logistics, but the Mini Vinnies team are envisioning a walk around the school 'carting' water from one location to the next to highlight the lengths some children have to go to access clean water.

## St Patrick's Day

Don't forget that on Monday, March 17 we will have our St Patrick's Day celebrations. This will include a Liturgy at 9.30am in the Multi, announcement of our Student Leadership Teams (Mini Vinnies, Reef Guardians and House Captains) and a scavenger hunt for the students. Parents are most welcome to attend. Please also remember that students are encouraged to bring along ONE green accessory to wear on Monday to celebrate St Patrick's Day.

## Second Week of Lent (week beginning Monday 17 March)

**Toefuata'iga** - (*Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah*) is a 13-year-old primary school student from Samoa. Samoa may be a country surrounded by water, but access to clean drinking water is scarce in some areas, with many families facing extreme hardship as a result.

Toefuata'iga's school community struggled without reliable access to clean water, which impacted students' education and hygiene. Teachers often had to leave the school to fetch water from nearby homes, disrupting lessons and adding strain to the community. When the water ran out at the school, students were sent home which meant they missed out on valuable learning time.

Thanks to the support of Caritas Australia in partnership with Caritas Samoa, Toefuata'iga's school now has a 10,000 L water tank through a Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) program. Teachers and students are now able to focus on education and improved hygiene.

"Now that we have the water tank, things are so much better, we can stay at school all day, and I get to spend more time learning and playing with my friends. I'm happy that we don't have to go home early anymore." — said Toefuata'iga.

This transformative story is just one example of how Caritas Australia's Project Compassion creates waves of change around the world.

Watch Toefuata'iga's story here.

Will you stand with students like Toefuata'iga this Lent?

Tracey Cook



STUDENTS ARE ABLE TO WEAR

**ONE** green accessory

TO SCHOOL MONDAY FOR

ST PATRICK'S DAY

Photo credit: Caritas Australia

### SENIOR CROSS COUNTRY—NEW DATE

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the date of the St Patrick's Senior Cross Country Carnival has had to be changed to Term 2 and will now be in the morning of Monday, 28th of April at Shalom College.

You would have received via Parent Orbit a notification to nominate which event your child will compete in at the carnival. Please complete this by **no later than 28 March**.

Students will be transported to and from Shalom College. Buses will depart St Patrick's Catholic Primary School at 8:40am sharp.

Age Champions (10—12 years) and overall Champion House will be presented at Shalom after the event.



### ATTENDANCE—EVERY DAY COUNTS



THE IMPORTANCE OF ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL FOR YOUR CHILD'S DEVELOPMENT CANNOT BE UNDERSTATED.

At St. Patrick's we encourage families to send their children to school <u>every day</u>. We understand children get sick and issues occur which can affect school attendance.

If your child is unable to attend school, the Diocese requests families notify the school. No notification means school resources are often spent contacting families seeking explanation for absence.

We appreciate your support by continuing to inform the school about your child's absence via **spb\_absentees@rok.catholic.edu.au** or the **Orbit app**.

If there is an absence of which you are aware that is for 10 days or more, families can complete the Diocese "Request for Extended Leave" form. These can be accessed at the school front office.

Please note, family holidays would not be granted an exemption.

### KEEPING YOUR CHILD AND OTHER CHILDREN HEALTHY



**Notice: Tummy Bug Alert** 

We have recently noticed an increase in children being sent home with a tummy bug, which may indicate a potential outbreak. To help prevent the spread, please be reminded that, as per the *Public Health Regulation 2018*, children experiencing diarrhoea and/or vomiting must be excluded from school for at least **24 hours after their last episode** of vomiting or loose bowel movement.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our school community healthy.

### DIOCESAN PERSONALISED LEARNING PLAN (PLP)



We recognise that every student is unique, with their own aspirations, strengths and learning needs. To ensure all learners can thrive, teachers make adjustments or modifications to the curriculum as needed, helping students engage meaningfully with their education.

To support this, the **Diocesan Personalised Learning Plans (PLPs)** are developed for students who require tailored approaches. These plans outline strategies and supports designed to help each child succeed. Draft PLPs will be sent home next week, and teachers will discuss them with parents during upcoming interviews. Your partnership in this process is invaluable as we work together to create the best learning experience for your child. For more information, please refer to the **PLP information sheet**.

### PREP 2026 ENROLMENT FORMATION

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.



### TERM 2 FRIDAY AFTERNOON SPORT

This week children in Year 5 and 6 selected their Friday afternoon sport option for Term 2. Please discuss your child's selection with them. If you have any concerns, feel free to contact the school.

Dates, times, location and equipment details for your child's chosen sport will be sent to parents later this term.



## **BOYS**

- Rugby League
- Soccer
- Table Tennis
- Pickleball
- Stay at School Activities
- Netball (mixed)

## **GIRLS**

- Netball
- Table Tennis
- Pickleball
- Stay at School Activities
- Rugby League (mixed)

### VACATION CARE NEWS

#### Easter Vacation Care - Book Now!

Vacation Care will be available during the Easter Holidays at OSHC from 7:00 AM—6:00 PM! 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. The full program, permission forms, and additional details will be shared via a communications post on Xplor. Paper copies are also available from the OSHC room/junior library.



Xplor Home (4+)
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Xplor
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New families need to register and can find the enrolment form at <u>St Patrick's After School Care</u>, 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 OHSC is an approved child care service and Child Care Benefit and the Child Care Rebate are available.



## **Easter Holiday Program**

### Mon, 7 April

#### Easter Stufflers - Incursion-



Stuff your own special Easter friend to take home!

\$15 surcharge

#### Tue, 8 April

#### Can we build it?



Let's find out!

Put on your not-sohard hat and work together as a team to make OSHC's biggest ever cardboard box construction.

#### Wed, 9 April

## Cooking with Michelle - Incursion-





Make your own
Easter goody to
take home and also
something yummy
to share for
afternoon tea.

### Thur, 10 April

#### Reading Cinemas "Dogman"



A combined excursion with St Mary's OSHC kids.

\$20 surcharge

#### Fri, 11 April

#### Desing your own T-shirt



You provide the white/pale coloured 100% cotton t-shirt and we'll provide the iron-on transfer and pens to decorate your own t-shirt.

Fri, 18 April

#### Mon, 14 April

#### Cube Sports Dance Games - Incursion-



Some fun dance activities involving FUN and MUSIC!

\$10 surcharge

### Tue, 15 April

## It's Rocket Science! - Incursion -



Have some EXPLOSIVE fun with bottle rockets and other cool science stuff!

\$20 surcharge

## Easter Activities

Wed, 16 April





Enjoy some Easter activities which may, or may not, include an Easter Egg hunt!

### Chill-Ax Day

Thur, 17 April



A nice relaxing day to end our last week of vacation care.

## Good Friday



Happy Easter everyone!

### 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
Tennis	Girls & Boys	2013, 2014 & 2015 (only exception 10 year olds)	Wednesday 19 March	Rotary Tennis Courts, George Street (entry off Tantitha Street)	8:45 am to 3:00pm
Touch Football	Girls & Boys	2013, 2014 & exceptional 2015 players	Friday 14 March	Shalom College	3:30 to 5:15pm
Squash	Girls & Boys	2013, 2014 & 2015	Monday 24 March	Bundaberg Squash Courts—1 John Street	4:00 to 5:00pm
Hockey	Girls & Boys	2013, 2014 & 2015	Monday 24 March Monday 31 March	Hinkler Park, Thornhill Street	4:00 to 5:00pm
Rugby League	Girls & Boys	2013, 2014 & 2015 (Age appropriate girls of representative standard)	Monday 17 March Monday 24 March Monday 31 March	Waves Sporting Complex (Thabeban Road)	3:30 to 5:30pm
Soccer	Girls	2013, 2014 & 2015	Monday 17 March <u>and</u> Monday 24 March	Shalom College	4:00 to 5:30pm
	Boys	2013, 2014 (exceptional 10 year olds, 2015)	Tuesday 18 March (all boys invited back from previous week	Shalom College	4:00 to 5:30pm

### **School Sports Representatives**

Congratulations to Jett Irvine on his selection in the Wide Bay Swimming Team that will compete at the Queensland Championships.

Well done to Jack Mitchinson on his selection in the Bundaberg Schools AFL team.



Jett Irvine



Jack Mitchinson

### MESSAGE FROM QRSS



Queensland Representative School Sport (QRSS) offers students in Queensland an opportunity to referee/umpire at State and National Championship's.

Website information - https://queenslandschoolsport.education.gld.gov.au/officials/student-officials-programs

Please see the below links to apply to be a student referee/umpire at the State Championships in 2025 with the opportunity to be selected to officiate at the National Championships in 2025. Some sports may require adults and school students so if your sport is listed please register. Students will be invited as a priority and where required, adults may be sourced for officiating roles.

# REGISTER NOW 2025 calendar

- ✓ Australian football (12 years) <a href="https://survey.ged.qld.gov.au/n/enZhnkB">https://survey.ged.qld.gov.au/n/enZhnkB</a>
- ✓ Australian football (15-19 years) <a href="https://survey.qed.qld.gov.au/n/enZhnk8">https://survey.qed.qld.gov.au/n/enZhnk8</a> & <a href="https://survey.qed.qd.gov.au/n/enZhnk8">https://survey.qed.qd.gov.au/n/enZhnk8</a> & <a href="https://survey.qed.qd.gov.qed.qd.gov.qed.qd.gov.qed.qd.gov.qed.qd.gov.qed.qd.gov.qed.qd.gov.
- ✓ Basketball <a href="https://forms.gle/rEQ2CCUhGTz5VYLRA">https://forms.gle/rEQ2CCUhGTz5VYLRA</a>
- ✓ Football email referees@footballqueensland.com.au
- ✓ Hockey https://www.hockeyqld.com.au/events/283839
- ✓ Netball <a href="https://forms.office.com/r/qU8v8V8tXw">https://forms.office.com/r/qU8v8V8tXw</a>
- ✓ Rugby league <a href="https://forms.office.com/r/jgkgJyzsyM?origin=lprLink">https://forms.office.com/r/jgkgJyzsyM?origin=lprLink</a>
- ✓ Rugby Union to be confirmed with QRU
- ✓ Softball <a href="https://forms.gle/cNLhopc5jSqTu7Lz5">https://forms.gle/cNLhopc5jSqTu7Lz5</a>
- ✓ Touch football <a href="https://forms.office.com/r/Efi0yLCc1F">https://forms.office.com/r/Efi0yLCc1F</a>
- ✓ Water polo https://survey.ged.qld.gov.au/n/enZhnkB











## TERM ONE PLANNER

WEEK 1	Week 27th January-31st January		
Monday		LIA DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	Mrs Cook & Friends
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
Thursday	St Patrick's Dance Night	5:00pm for 5:30pm start	Whole School
WEEK 7	Week 10th March—14th March	Time	Year Level
<del>Monday</del>	Parish Mass	<del>9.00am</del>	<del>Year 1</del>
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 Liturgy)	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 & 4
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	11:00am	Whole School
		<u>-</u>	

2025 SPORT DATES					
28 April	Cross Country	Years 3 to 6	Shalom College		
2 May	Junior Obstacle Course	Prep to Year 2	St Patrick's		
20 June	Senior Athletics Day	Students born 2016, 2015, 2014 & 2013	Shalom College		
27 June	Junior Athletics Day	Students born 2020, 2019, 2018 & 2017	St Patrick's		
21 November	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	