



St. Patrick's Catholic Primary School

PREP TO YEAR 6

35 Mulgrave Street, Bundaberg West, Q 4670
T 07 4152 1380 | F 07 4152 7125

Term 4, Week 8

25 November 2016

Important Dates for Week 9

MONDAY

- Year 4 Guitar Performance—8.35am
- Prep and Year 1—Ymazing Excursion

TUESDAY

- Year 6 Graduation

WEDNESDAY

- Year 6—ANZAC Pool Excursion
- Year 5—Bundy Bowl Excursion
- Year 2—Chipmunks Excursion

THURSDAY

- Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 last day of swimming.
- Year 3—Gymfinity Excursion
- Year 4—Chipmunks Excursion

FRIDAY

- End of Year Liturgy—9.45am
- Year 6 Farewell—I am

Principal's News

Celebration Night showed once again what a great community we have. Almost every family was there. The children enjoyed sharing their talents, and made us all feel very proud of them. The staff were so very generous in preparing and supporting the students. Mrs Cook did a wonderful job on the microphone, and our staff performances were amazing. Our P & F were so good in organizing food, drinks, gifts, awards and prizes. The behaviour of our students was excellent. Parents and students sat with families and among friends in a relaxed and friendly fashion. It was easy to see that we simply enjoyed being together, enjoying each other's company and celebrating our students.

The night reminded me that our year was nearly at an end, and what a year we have had together. Everything from irrigating the senior oval, installing the senior playground climbing equipment, purchasing new property for a staff car park, six brand new classrooms, an extended courtyard area for the students, an amazing new Admin block, new work and sports shed, and a new pick up zone to make it easier for parents before and after school. We've enjoyed success in classrooms, in choir, in a range of sports, in Instrumental Music, and in OptiMinds. We've vastly improved student access to technology and integrated it successfully into classrooms. We've had excursions, camps, performances at school, a

Musical, a Cultural Night, wonderful liturgies and tremendous whole of school celebrations.

It really has been amazing, and I just wanted to say thank you for journeying through it all with us this year. It has been busy and stressful at times, but mostly it has been fun and exciting, and a year in which we can be very proud of what students, staff and parents have achieved together.

Sadly we farewell our Year 6 students, and along with them, families in which their youngest child is graduating. It was pleasing to see our Board Chair Jas Haster and our Adopt-a-Cop Paul Nash recognized on Wednesday night. These two parents have made enormous contributions over many years, and they symbolise for us all, the contributions that families make to all aspects of our school. We are very grateful, and we wish those families who graduate our school this year, all the very best for the future.

Next week provides more opportunities to be together with our End of Year liturgy at 9:45 on Friday, and our Farewell to Year 6 from 11:00. We look forward to seeing you then.

Thank you again for a wonderful 2016. Stay safe and enjoy a really special time with your families over Christmas.

God Bless

Mark Fox



Click our school crest to go our school website calendar.



Click the facebook icon to go to our school facebook page.



Click the Parish logo to go to the Parish Newsletter.



Click the Centacare logo to go the Group Programs Calendar.

2016 Christmas Mass Times



CHRISTMAS EVE
(Saturday, 24th December 2016)

5:00pm - Holy Rosary Church
~ Mass with Children

6:00pm - St Patrick's Church

7:00pm - Holy Rosary Church

Midnight - Holy Rosary Church

CHRISTMAS DAY
(Sunday, 25th December 2016)

7:00am - St James' Church

8:00am - Holy Rosary Church

9:00am - St Mary's Church

Children's Christmas Mass

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MASS, held this year at 5.00pm, Saturday 24 December, in Holy Rosary Church. Children can participate in this Mass either as a character in the Christmas dramatisation, a reader, or gift bearer. Parts are being allocated on **Wednesday, 30 November, 3.30pm in Novakoski Centre**, behind Holy Rosary Church. Just turn up if you're interested in being involved. More information, contact Anne at the Parish Office, 41516666.

Volunteering Opportunity

Communities in East Timor, PNG and Kiribati are asking for educators, health professionals and trades people. They will provide opportunities for those who have not had the advantage of an Australian education and assist to develop processes and programs of organisations in vital sectors of local communities. This is one of the most effective ways of assisting community self-reliance and sustainable **poverty reduction**.

There are very few costs for any who take up a mission placement with Palms. Orientation, living allowance and accommodation are provided. Catholic Bishops also support a Lay Missionary Gratuity Fund that provides an extra payment of \$2,500 for each year of service.

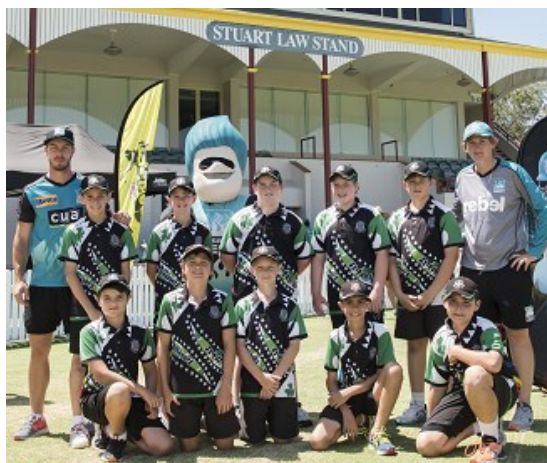
Palms has been recruiting, preparing and supporting Australian Catholics who volunteer to share their lives and skills. They will provide outstanding support during application, in the field and upon return home.

Application for 2017 placement is closing very soon. Please email palms@palms.org.au or call Christine on 02 9560 5333 now to learn more about this wonderful opportunity.

T20 Cricket

The St Patrick's Year 6 cricket team recently travelled to Brisbane to compete in the Milo T20 State Final. The team had previously won the Wide Bay final to progress to this event held at Allan Border Oval. In our pool games we played schools representing the Gold Coast (The Southport School), Far North Qld (Wonga Beach SS) and Brisbane North (New Farm SS). In our Division final St Patrick's defeated Rockhampton Grammar by 3 runs.

The boys had an amazing day and we are very proud of the way they represented our school.



**Student
of the
Week**

Week 8

VACATION CARE



SPORTS ITEMS TO RETURN TO SCHOOL

Could all senior students please return the following items;

- Jerseys (Union / League)
- Green and Black football socks
- Shin pads

Please email nicole_cooper@rok.catholic.edu.au for more information about the Vacation Care Program available at St Mary's Catholic Primary School and St Joseph's Catholic Primary School.

Places always fill very fast so please contact the centre you would like your child to attend as soon as possible.



His Holiness expresses his esteem for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Culture



As we prepare to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of St John Paul II's iconic words to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Alice Springs on 29 November 1986, we are strengthened and emboldened by a message of hope and a blessing received directly from the Holy Father, Pope Francis.

In recent weeks, NATSICC, with the assistance of the Bishops Conference used a video message to request a blessing from the Holy Father. Recorded in Alice Springs, the video features people that were present at Blatherskite Park in 1986. These people experienced firsthand the impact that St John Paul II's words made. A letter accompanied the video, along with Spanish translations, which expressed the power of the event in Alice Springs.

Pope Francis wrote, **“This anniversary affords me the happy opportunity to express my deep esteem for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and for your ancient cultural heritage”**. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture is built on mutual respect and dignity and his holiness' opening message is most appropriate.

Drawing upon St John Paul II's words, Pope Francis reminds us that the culture of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is precious, with much to offer the Catholic Church around the world.

“Your culture, which shows the lasting genius and dignity of your race, must not be allowed to disappear. Do not think that your gifts are worth so little that you should no longer bother to maintain them. Share them with each other and teach them to your children. Your songs, your stories, your paintings, your dances, your languages, must never be lost.”

“We are overjoyed upon the receipt of the letter and blessing from his holiness,” said NATSICC Chairperson John Lochowiak. “It is more than just a blessing, it is confirmation that we, as first Australians are appreciated and respected by the Catholic Church. “We, and the Church in Australia, are now challenged to continue to bring this respect to life for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholics.”

“Pope Francis' statement about his spiritual closeness with us is very important and we want this message to resonate across the length and breadth of this country,” Mr Lochowiak said.

This Sunday 27 November 2016, NATSICC calls the Church across Australia to come together in solidarity with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and use the power of faith and unity to bring to life Pope Francis' hope that “we offer a convincing and tangible sign that we are no longer strangers and sojourners, but ... fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God” (Eph2:19).

[The full letter and blessing from Pope Francis can be downloaded and printed here.](#)

Finance News

FEES

Term 4 fees have been issued and were due payable 02/11/16 unless you have a payment plan in place. If you are having difficulty in paying school fees, please contact the Principal to discuss alternative arrangements.

A final reminder to consider establishing a regular payment plan for 2017 and that payment plans are only current for the year in which they are established – they DO NOT automatically carry forward to the next year. Plans can be established under any of our payment options and relative forms can be found on our website under the communication tab. Please do not hesitate to contact me for assistance or if you have any queries.

If you currently have a concessional arrangement or are suffering financial hardship and need to apply for a concessional allowance in 2017, please contact me as soon as possible. Current concessional arrangements are also only relative to the year in which they are established and DO NOT automatically carry forward to the following year.

In 2017 an initiative has been announced by the Diocese of Rockhampton which allows an automatic 70% reduction in Tuition Fees (not school levies) to any parent or carer who holds an eligible means tested Health Care or Pensioner card. If you are an eligible cardholder, please present your card to Finance Secretary in the office as soon as possible. Further details on the new concession card discount eligibility criteria and general fee information for 2017 are available on the Catholic Education website

www.rok.catholic.edu.au

If you unsure if you are eligible or if have any queries, please contact me.

Document outlining 2017 fees and levies charged has been posted to the new website.

If you have any queries regarding your account or any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

Dental Van Visit

The school dental van is at St Patrick's. The school dental service offers a free dental examination and recommended treatment for all students whilst the dental van is at the school. Medical consent forms will be sent home to Grades 3-6 initially, then Prep-2 in coming weeks. Preps enrolling in 2017 will also be offered treatment. Please state on the form if you would like to be present for your child's dental examination, otherwise your child will be collected from class for their examination. A separate consent form will be sent home if any treatment is required. The dental van will be positioned next to the church hall at the Powers Street entrance. If your child has a toothache or if you have any questions, please contact 43038059 (office) or 0412516084 (van). The dental van will also be taking appointments in the December/January holidays.

BUNDABERG REGIONAL COUNCIL

Pageant of LIGHTS 2016

THURSDAY 1 DECEMBER
6pm - 9pm
BUNDABERG CBD

- ★ Parade commences at 7.00pm
- ★ Live performances by Bundaberg Vocal Academy, Pilolight Productions and TNT Dance Studio.
- ★ Miss Donna's Magical Christmas Show
- ★ Turning on the Christmas Lights – Buss Park
- ★ Live entertainment throughout the CBD and Buss Park ALL evening
- ★ Christmas markets & food
- ★ Santa comes to town

Bring your own chain!

For further information
PLEASE VISIT COUNCIL'S WEBSITE OR PHONE THE CALL CENTRE
T: 1300 883 699 W: bundabergregionevents.com.au

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SCHOOL BANKING

Final student banking day for 2016 is Monday 28th November. Last day for redeeming tokens for 2016 prizes was 21st November. Please **DO NOT redeem tokens this final bank day** as it is not certain that prizes will be able to be received and distributed before school ends.



It's nearly the end of the year and again it's time to start re-enrolling for ASC for 2017!

We have new forms again and it's imperative that we have your most recent information on file. Your child will not be able to start ASC in 2017 unless we have the 2017 forms. This is a legal requirement. These forms were due on 4 November but this serves as a reminder to those who have not yet submitted them. Also, the Diocese of Rockhampton has brought in a new Ezidebit direct debit system for 2017 which assists co-ordinators and services keep up to date with accounts.

A Christmas/New Year Road Safety message from your Wide Bay Burnett District police

It won't be long until you have a rest from the routine school drop-offs and pick-ups for the year.

At this time of year we also know how excited children are preparing for end-of-school year celebrations and their concentration may wander away from road safety.

We'd like to remind you about road safety around schools and ask you to revisit this with your children again at the start of the 2017 school year.

Adopt a Cops visit schools at various times and encourage everyone to use the safe environments provided to help keep the flow of traffic moving.



The children pictured above can teach everyone some safety tips:

- Designate the rear door closest to the kerb to be a safety door for children to enter or exit
- Use the drop-off and pick-up zones like a quick moving taxi rank
- Learn to recognise your vehicle and to get in and out quickly and safely when the vehicle has pulled into the signed area.

Parking safely around schools is what the majority of parents and carers do, although if you're rushed and not focused, you may find you have parked contrary to road markings or signage.

This behaviour may result in a traffic crash, reduced visibility for other road users and cause traffic congestion.

We also need to remember that children are unpredictable and may not understand the dangers associated with roads and vehicles.

The yellow line pictured in the next column is an area NOT to park or stop.

Failing to obey this can result in a \$48 Traffic Infringement Notice for Stop contrary to continuous yellow edge line.



The sign below says it all – NO stopping



Failure to obey this can result in a \$48 Traffic Infringement Notice for Stop contrary to 'NO STOPPING' sign.

Some additional tips from our colleagues at Transport and Main Roads are:

- Remember to say goodbye to your children on the school side of the road – never get them to cross the road alone to their school entrance
- Walk across the road and meet your children after school – never call out to them from the other side
- Always single park.

For more information please visit <https://www.qld.gov.au/transport/safetv/rules/schools/>.



Be observant of school zone speeds and times when travelling as a parent, carer or general motorist.

Why not see if there's a difference between this sign and the one at your school.

Police officers will be highly visible in and around school zones, especially at the commencement of the school year, and ask community members to be on

their best driving behaviour to ensure all students and teachers get to their playgrounds and classrooms safely.

Remember to say "Hi" to your school crossing supervisor when they are there to assist you cross the road safely to and from school.

Policelink

Many families are now using mobile electronic devices and we know technology is continuously improving. As a result you can now contact police via Policelink on 131 444.

Policelink is the easy and convenient option for community members to take an active role in improving frontline policing response times and enhanced client service by using the Policelink service or reporting matters online.

For example, if a community member chooses to report their stolen power tools from the back of their ute via Policelink, online or via the Policelink App instead of an officer attending the scene, this will directly enhance community safety through time being reinvested into other operational priorities.

You can contact Policelink by:

- Phoning 131 444
- Using the Policelink Smartphone Application to make an online report
- Visiting policelink.qld.gov.au to access online reporting. Fill in the form and hit submit. It's that easy!
- Online reporting can also be accessed via the Queensland Police Website at www.police.qld.gov.au

Photos and videos can also be uploaded to include in reports, as well as a number of reporting options including:

- noisy party reporting
- 'track-my-crime'
- stolen property updates
- hooning
- wilful damage
- taxi fare evasion
- graffiti and
- withdrawal of complaint forms.

The Policelink number to remember for non-urgent police contact is 131 444.