



## PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

17 November 2023

Cultural Night was a sure sign that we are fast approaching the end of another school year. This was a culmination of a lot of hard work and commitment, paying off in the shape of impressive performances. Duke Ellington once said *'The wise musicians are those that can play what they can master'*. In wisdom, my place on Tuesday evening was in the appreciation of the 'Masters' at work. Around 200 students performed, under the guidance of their talented tutors and teachers. I for one felt privileged to be surrounded by so much talent and to witness the enthusiasm that radiated from the young people involved. These young men and women made it look easy, but many hours are invested in order to arrive at what was a harmonious treat.

It seems a long time since last year's Cultural Night. It was shortly after my principalship had been announced. Curiosity had me think I would venture over from my then office, sneak up the back and be gifted with a sample of what St. Patrick's had to offer. This is not how the night transpired. As I walked in, I was embraced, welcomed and sat front and centre. The night started with me feeling a little uneasy. However, where words fail, music speaks and as soon as the tunes sprouted my heart was full and my soul bursting with anticipation to be joining such a talented and co-operative community. An observation now bolstered, realised and endorsed in so many areas of school life this year.

A big thank you goes out to Mrs Kate Hardisty, Mrs Bernadette Connolly, Mrs Jed Morley, Mr Michael Goodall, Mrs Christie McLucas and Mr Adrian Brookes who are musicians in their own right and not only excellent mentors, but role models for our young musicians. Thanks also to the generous staff who contributed front and back stage, to ensure the smooth running of the evening including; Tracey Cook, Annette Hammermeister, Jo Driver, Matt Plumb, Jess Cullinan, Rebecca Lovejoy, Sally French, Amelia Morine, Kelsie Newby, Amanda Modolo, Cathy Keegan, Andrea Tindall, Mellisa Doyle, Sean Killeen and Cristian Zandona who made the night a success and to the parents who have been their children's cheerleaders all year through. Guitar Performances were also held throughout the week under the preparation and supervision of Mr. Adrian Brookes. Adrian provides a safe and encouraging environment for our up and coming musicians, resulting in students willing to take on challenges in order to grow and develop.

They say life is like music, some high notes, some low ones but when put together always a beautiful song. For me, this perfectly describes the year that has been. I'd like to thank everyone in this community for helping me, the students and staff of St. Patrick's to orchestrate what I think has come together as a melodic 2024.

*Kim O'Shea-Hard*



Click our school crest to go our school website calendar.



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

## DIOCESAN DIRECTOR VISIT

Last week we welcomed Ms. Leesa Jeffcoat into St. Patrick's for her annual visit. She met the newest members of staff and specifically visited 6L, 3B and Prep W. Ms Jeffcoat asked a lot of questions and student responses reflected the deep learning that has occurred in these classes. I was very proud of the students, and I know the Director left suitably impressed with this wonderful community. We look forward to welcoming her back in the New Year.



## CELEBRATION NIGHT

# Celebration NIGHT

*Wednesday 29th November*

Our annual Celebration Night will be held on Wednesday 30th November, which is a wonderfully relaxed evening spent on our oval watching our children perform Christmas Carols. We also take the opportunity to farewell any staff that may be leaving us. Please note the following information:-

- Gates will open at 5pm
- All families are welcome to bring a BYO dinner and drinks. All students to wear Christmas colours.
- Performances begin at 6pm with our Prep classes
- We may even get a visit from the man in red at the end of the evening.
- Toilets—all adults and toddlers are to use the toilets at the back of the Parish Hall as student toilets are strictly for student use only.

### PLEASE NOTE :

Parents should be aware that school staff are not supervising students during this evening. All students attending should be accompanied by an adult who is responsible for their supervision, and this includes high school age children.

## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION 2024

Registrations are being taken now for the children's preparation for the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist next year. Expected numbers are needed now to aid planning.

Primary aged children who are baptised Catholic and are 8 years old or older are eligible to prepare. A Parent Information evening will be held early in Term One where program dates and details will be explained.

To register use the QR code, phone the parish office 4151 6666 for a form, or complete an online form through the link provided. <https://form.jotform.com/222899018048060>.

For more information contact Anne at the parish office.

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MASS

The Christmas Children's Mass, held each year at Holy Rosary and run by the Catholic Parish of Bundaberg, is such a special event. All students are welcome to attend and even invited to take part in the reenactment of the Nativity. If your child would like a part in this year's Nativity with the Parish, please attend the meeting from 3.30pm in the Novakoski Centre on November 30.

# Sacramental Preparation 2024

Children 8+ years

Registrations are being taken now.

Register online  
<https://form.jotform.com/222899018048060>

or

Phone the parish office  
4151 6666



PARTS SELECTION FOR

## Children's Christmas Mass

Thursday, 30th November  
3.30-4.00pm  
Novakoski Centre

[litecord.bundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au](mailto:litecord.bundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au)



41516666

## MINI VINNIES 2023 CHRISTMAS APPEAL

*Emmanuel*  
Our God is with us

*Our Mini Vinnies Team need your help to make Christmas special for those in need.*

*We would love your help with these donations.*

- Prep: Non perishable Christmas food and drinks
- Year 1: Toys (unused)
- Year 2: Books (unused)
- Year 3: Non perishable Christmas food and drinks
- Year 4: Board games, card games and sport equipment (new)
- Year 5: Christmas decorations (new)
- Year 6: Non perishable Christmas food and drinks

## MINI VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Every year the St Patrick's school community, led by our Mini Vinnies Team, donates items to assist those less fortunate at Christmas. St Vincent de Paul collects these donations from us and distributes them to families in need. We are asking each year level to donate specific items for our Christmas Appeal. By each year level donating something different we will be able to make Christmas hampers for local families in need. Please place donations in the white basket outside each year level.



## ADMINISTRATION NEWS

### CANDY CANES

At this time of year students like to exchange Christmas cards and treats such as candy canes to other students. We ask that children do not give gifts of candy canes to the other children. It is wonderful that children wish to give things to others, however we ask people to give non food gifts. Unfortunately candy canes can cause issues with a number of children on particular diets, children with allergies to some of the additives, not to mention the high sugar content. Cards, stickers and other small items can give the message that they are thinking of others.



### LAST DAY OF SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS

As previously communicated, there will be no formal classes on our last day of school Friday 1st December. We encourage parents to collect their children at 12:00pm at the conclusion of the Year 6 Farewell Assembly on this day. For those parents unable to collect their child/ren by midday, please register your child/ren via this [Google link](#) by today Friday 17th November to guide us in planning appropriate supervision of students remaining at school. More information regarding the last day of school will be communicated late next week.

### SCHOOL SHOES—REMAINDER OF TERM

If your child's shoes are coming to the end of their 2024 school life and pose a safety issue for your child, then the school fully understands and does not expect you to purchase a new pair with only two weeks to go. What we would appreciate and expect is a courtesy email or phone call alerting us to the reason why your child is presenting to school with different shoes to the school uniform policy. If possible, we ask that the shoes be predominately black in colour. Thank you for your support in this matter.

### PRAYER OF FAREWELL—MS CATH NASH

Next Thursday we will farewell Ms Cath Nash who is a very treasured and long time member of our St Patrick's community. Please join us in sending Ms Cath off with a prayer gathering. Everyone is welcome to attend and it will be held in the multipurpose area.



### TUCKSHOP—REMAINDER OF TERM

Friday 24th November	No Sausage Sizzle for Years 5-6 due to Senior Swimming Carnival. Sausage Sizzle available for Years Prep to Year 4. Lunch and Afternoon Tea—ZOOOPER DOOPERS available \$1 each	
Tuesday 28th November	No Tuckshop for Year 6 due to Year 6 End of Year Excursion.	
Wednesday 28th November	Tuckshop only open for Afternoon Tea due to End Year Excursions.	
Friday 1st December	NO TUCKSHOP AVAILABLE	

## PARENTAL CONSENTS

As part of Catholic Education Diocese of Rockhampton, St Patrick's has as its highest priority the safety and well-being of our students. One of our key processes for upholding student protection is seeking up-to-date parental consents to inform how we share student images and information in accordance with parent directives. In order to achieve this we have introduced an online consent system via Parent Lounge to enable parents to update consents at any time.

Some parents may have received an email this week asking to login to [Parent Lounge](#) and update consents for your child/ren. Note if you have more than one child, this update will need to be completed for each child.

Please note the following descriptions for the five consent areas:-

**Promo, Website, Ext Display** – refers to external displays, website and promotional material for the school, CEDR and the Queensland Catholic Education Commission.

**Social Media** – refers to Facebook for the school, CEDR and the Queensland Catholic Education Commission.

**In local, regional, state, and national media** – refers to outlets representing the school.

**Sharing my/our personal information** (limited to name, address, telephone numbers, occupation) – refers to sharing information to its associated supporting groups such as the P&F, sporting and cultural support groups.

**Disclosing data with ACARA** – refers to the school disclosing information to the Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) such as gender, date of birth, country of birth, background language, residential address, parental occupation, and parental education. The information provided is anonymous and will be used in formulating national reports consisting of aggregated data on school performance and assisting government to formulate policies in relation to education matters. CEDR encourages parents to provide this information as the exclusion of data could result in reduced funding for St Patrick's.

Thank you in advance for assisting us in enhancing our student protection processes. If consents are not updated by the end of the term, please note consents for your child/ren will be defaulted to No. Please contact the office if you require any assistance.

### HOW TO GUIDE

From the Parent Lounge home page, simply click on the **Student Details** heading, then **General Details** and scroll down to the **Consents** section. Click on the blue **Update** button and enter **Y** or **N** for each consent listed.

Update Consents

* Promo, Website, Ext Display	<input type="text"/>
* Social Media	<input type="text"/>
* In local, regional, state media	<input type="text"/>
* Sharing my/our personal inform	<input type="text"/>
* Disclosing data with ACARA	<input type="text"/>

Enter Y or N for each consent listed and then click **Submit Changes**.

Cancel Submit Changes

## SPORTS NEWS—SENIOR SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The Senior School Swimming Carnival will be held **on Friday 24th November at the Bundaberg Swim Academy, Fitzgerald Street.**

The format for the carnival will be as follows:

Years 3 & 4: 9:00am – 11:00am

Years 5 & 6: 11:00am – 1:00pm

Presentations: 2:00 pm at School (Overall Points and Age Championships for students born 2011-2013)

All students are encouraged to nominate for an A/B/C division race in Freestyle, Backstroke and Breaststroke events. Students must nominate in at least one event. Novelty events will be included in the program. The carnival will involve all students and the aim is to make the day enjoyable for all students with an emphasis on maximum participation.

**'A' DIVISION RACES** (Age Champion Event) – 50m event in Freestyle, Backstroke and Breaststroke. Students nominating for 50m events need to be able to swim correctly and confidently the entire 50m. **Please note that all children born 2015 are not eligible to enter A Division races and must nominate for either B or C Division only.**

**'B' DIVISION RACES** – 25m event in Freestyle, Backstroke and Breaststroke. Students nominating for 25m events will be starting in the pool and swim correctly and confidently the entire 25m.

**'C' DIVISION RACES** – 12m event in Freestyle, Backstroke and Breaststroke. Students nominating for 12m events will be starting in the pool and swim with or without the assistance of a kickboard to a half-way rope.

Children will travel by bus to the Bundaberg Swim Academy with their class teacher who will supervise students in travel and throughout the carnival. Students may wear their school sports uniform and House coloured shirt to school on this day. Year 3 & 4 students are required to wear their swimming togs under their uniform upon arrival to school. Year 5 & 6 students can elect to do the same, or alternatively change into their swimming gear, sun-shirt and thongs/sandals prior to leaving the school grounds. Underwear, uniform, shoes and socks will remain at school and children will change into their uniforms upon returning to school after the carnival. Please ensure all items of clothing are clearly named.

All students are required to wear a sun-shirt as this meets with sun-safety regulations. The school will provide sunscreen for students. The only items that students will take with them to the pool are goggles, towel/s, water bottle and a bag to carry their belongings. Lunch and afternoon tea will be at normal times at school with the Year 5 & 6 students eating before leaving the school.



## OUT AND ABOUT



# SHALOM ROWING COME & TRY

**OPEN TO ALL YEAR 6 STUDENTS  
GOING INTO YEAR 7 AT SHALOM IN 2024**

**MONDAY 13 NOVEMBER  
3.30PM TO 5.30PM**

**WEDNESDAY 15 NOVEMBER  
3.30PM TO 5.30PM**

**SATURDAY 18 NOVEMBER  
7AM TO 9AM**

**Bundaberg Rowing Club, Quay St**

**(at the back of the Rowers on the River Restaurant)**

*Please bring a hat, water bottle, sunscreen, thongs, fairly tight fitting clothes*

REGISTER NOW >



**ALL WELCOME!**



## SCHOOL SAVVY IS BACK FOR 2024

Bundaberg region residents can look forward to the School Savvy pop-up shops returning in 2024, with shops in Bundaberg, Childers and Gin Gin once again set to open.

From January 8, students from families facing financial struggles will be able to access quality second-hand uniforms and essential booklist stationery supplies at extremely affordable prices.

Uniform donations are now being accepted through donation locations across the area. For a current list of donation points, please visit [www.catholiccarecq.com/donations-points](http://www.catholiccarecq.com/donations-points)

Support your local community and make a difference in a school student's life. The School Savvy CQ team is looking forward to seeing you.

## TERM FOUR PLANNER

WEEK 8	Week 20th November - Friday 24th November		
Monday	Senior Strings—The Lakes Retirement Home	8:40am—10:40am	Senior Strings
	Parish Mass	9:00am	Year 2
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	4M
Friday	Senior Swimming Carnival	9:00-11:00am	Years 3 & 4
		11:00-12:30pm	Years 5 & 6
WEEK 9	Week 27th November - Friday 1st December		
Monday	Year 1 Nativity Play	9:00am	Whole School
Tuesday	Year 6 Graduation Liturgy	9:00am	Whole School
Wednesday	Celebration Night	6:00pm	Whole School
Friday	End of Year Liturgy	9:00am	Whole School
	Year 6 Farewell Assembly	11:15am	Whole School
	School Dismissed	12:00pm	Whole School