



Principal's News

17th July 2026



Kim O'Shea-Hard
Principal

Last weekend, I read a reflection by Fr Don White in the Bundaberg Catholic Parish Bulletin on the beautiful Gospel story of Zacchaeus and the Sycamore Tree (*Luke 19:1-10*). Zacchaeus climbed a sycamore tree so he could catch a glimpse of Jesus as he passed by. What happened next changed his life forever. Jesus noticed him, called him by name, and invited him into a deeper relationship.

This Gospel reminds us that God sees each one of us, values us, and continually calls us to grow closer to him.

In Week 3, we will celebrate **Catholic Education Week**. Like the sycamore tree that helped Zacchaeus gain a new perspective, Catholic Education seeks to do the same for our students and families. This week, our Year 1 students led Courtyard Prayer and encouraged us to remember that "God is everywhere." As I walked through the school afterwards, that simple message stayed with me, helping me approach the day with renewed positivity and gratitude for the wonderful people I encountered.

At the beginning of a new term, it is easy to think about what we have to do — returning to school, work, routines, and responsibilities. However, the holiday period reminded me of how quickly perspective can change. Knowing someone facing illness, loss, or significant challenges can often place us, metaphorically, up that sycamore tree, helping us see what truly matters.

Rather than beginning this term thinking, "I have to," perhaps we can choose to say, "I get to." Dr Keith Edwards (2012) suggests that this simple shift in language can move our minds towards a healthier and more grateful outlook. The sycamore tree teaches us that sometimes we need to rise above distractions and daily concerns to recognise God's presence in our lives.

As a school community, may we continue to help our children grow in faith, hope, and love, becoming people who welcome others just as Jesus welcomed Zacchaeus.



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

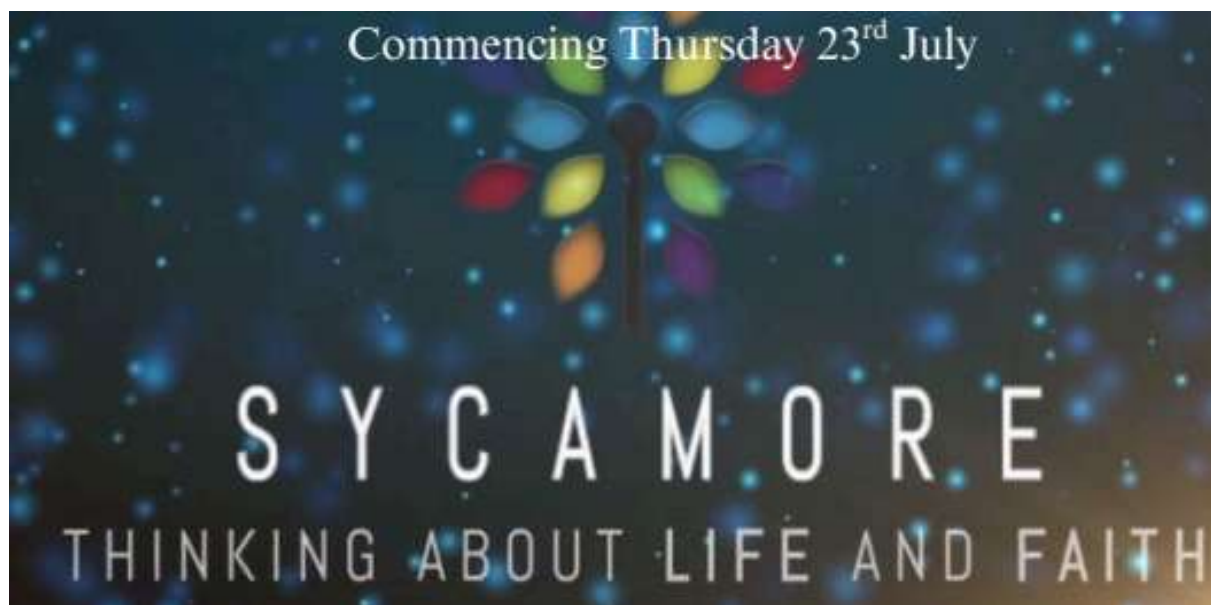
4994 8336

spb_absentees@rok.catholic.edu.au

Principal's News

Continued...

While much of our energy is devoted to helping our students, sons, and daughters gain perspective and grow in faith, it is also important that we nurture our own spiritual journeys. With this in mind, parents and friends from across our Catholic communities are invited to participate in **Sycamore**, a new faith-sharing initiative beginning on **Thursday, 23rd July, at 4:00 pm at Shalom College.**



Sycamore is designed for both Catholic and non-Catholic members of our community and provides an opportunity to explore faith, prayer, and life's deeper questions in an open, welcoming, and inclusive environment. It is also a wonderful opportunity to meet new people and engage in meaningful conversation.

If you would like to learn more, please contact our very own **Sarah Stewart**, one of the program hosts.

Together, may we continue to seek new perspectives, recognise God's presence in our lives, and embrace the many blessings we "get to" experience each day.





Religion News

Tracey Cook
APRE

Catholic Education Week 2026 – Share Your Light, Inspire Others

We are looking forward to celebrating Catholic Education Week 2026 from Sunday 26th July to Saturday 1st August. This is a special time when Catholic schools across Queensland come together to celebrate the heart of who we are: communities shaped by faith and lived through service, learning and love.

This year's theme, "Share Your Light, Inspire Others," invites us to reflect on the gifts God has placed within each of us, and how we can use those gifts to bring hope, kindness and encouragement to those around us. At St Patrick's, we see this 'light' shine each day in our classrooms, playgrounds, prayer gatherings and community events. Catholic Education Week is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the ways we support one another, grow together in faith, and reach out with compassion.

We warmly invite all families to join us for the All Schools Mass on Sunday 26th July at 5:30 pm at Holy Rosary Church. This special celebration brings together students, staff and families from Catholic schools across our region to begin Catholic Education Week in prayer and unity. We would love to see as many of our school families there as possible **(we would ask that students come dressed in their full formal uniform to this Mass)**. We also invite students to be part of the choir at the Mass; please see Mrs Cook if you are interested.

CATHOLIC
EDUCATION
WEEK
26 JULY –
1 AUGUST 2026

Share
your
light
inspire
others

Sunday July 26, 5.30pm
@Holy Rosary

COMBINED
SCHOOLS'
YOUTH LED MASS

St Patrick's, Shalom, St Mary's, St Joseph's

Throughout the week, students will take part in activities that deepen their understanding of our Catholic identity, including classroom challenges, prayer gatherings, creative projects and acts of kindness, all connected to the theme of sharing our light and inspiring others.

We are proud of our wonderful students, staff and families who bring our Catholic school community to life. Thank you for helping make St Patrick's a place where every child is known, valued and inspired to shine.

We look forward to celebrating this joyful week together.

Catholic Education Week

ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK

26 JULY –
1 AUGUST 2026

Share
your
light
inspire
others

2026 ACTIVITIES



SUNDAY MASS
@HOLY ROSARY 5.30PM



MERCY MONDAY MOSAIC
WITH LOCAL ARTIST PAUL PERRY



MONDAY
KINDNESS CHALLENGES SET



TUESDAY TO THURSDAY
COURTYARD PRAYER



THURSDAY MINI VINNIES
KINDNESS CUPCAKES ON SALE
\$2EA PRE ORDER AND PAY ON WED

Funds raised will go to assist homeless families in Bundaberg

Catholic Parish of Bundaberg



Catholic Parish of Bundaberg

Mass with Children

Sunday July 19, 2026

9am @ St Patrick's Church

Families are most welcome to attend

Morning tea will be available after Mass

BookClub

Issue 5

Book club catalogues, **Issue 5**, 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 **Monday 27th July**.

As soon as orders are dispatched to us, we will then send home with your child.



**READ
MORE**

Every
Book Club
LOOP order
earns a



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.

Sports News - Athletics Carnival 2026

In the final week of Term 2, St Patrick's held our annual Athletics Carnivals. Seven records were broken by several students, including Jate J, Sophia K, Immogen K, Layla G and Xavier House in the 11 Years Girls 4x100m relay. Congratulations to Xavier who won the carnival and the coveted Malouf Cup by 851 points, with McAuley in 2nd place with 788 points, Mackillop in 3rd place with 771 points and Coolock in 4th place with 733 points.

Well done to McAuley for winning the Jack Dwyer Spirit Award. The Field Events Shield and the Fr Meade Trophy for Ball Games victory were both won by Xavier.

Well done to all students who gave their all and congratulations to all winners. A big thank you to Shalom College for their facilities and support for the Senior Carnival and all our great staff who contributed to making both days a huge success.

Results from this year's carnivals are as follows:

 1st Place	 2nd Place	 3rd Place	 4th Place
Xavier	Mackillop	Coolock	McAuley

Age Champions

Age Division	Name	House
10yrs Boys 2016	Archie R	Xavier
10yrs Girls 2016	Sophia K	Xavier
11yrs Boys 2015	Chase L	Xavier
11yrs Girls 2015	Immogen K	McAuley
11yrs Boys 2014	Kelan E	Coolock
11yrs Girls 2014	Amira D	Mackillop

Shields and Trophies

Field Events Shield	Xavier
Ball Games - Father Meade Trophy	Xavier
Team Spirit Jack Dwyer Memorial Shield	McAuley

Record Breakers

Age Division	Name/House	Event/s
10yrs Boys 2016	Jate J	200m
10yrs Girls 2016	Sophia K	Long Jump, 200m, 100m,
11yrs Girls 2016	Immogen K	200m
11yrs Girls 2015	Layla G	Long Jump
10yrs Boys 2016	Xavier	4x100m Relay
11 yrs Girls 2015	Xavier	4x100m Relay



District Athletics Carnival 2026

Discus & High Jump Nominations (Years 4–6)

At the beginning of August, Bundaberg School Sport will hold the District Athletics Carnival.

The St. Patrick's team is selected based on student performances at our recent School Athletics Carnival. As discus and high jump were not contested at our school carnival, we are inviting eligible students to nominate for these events.

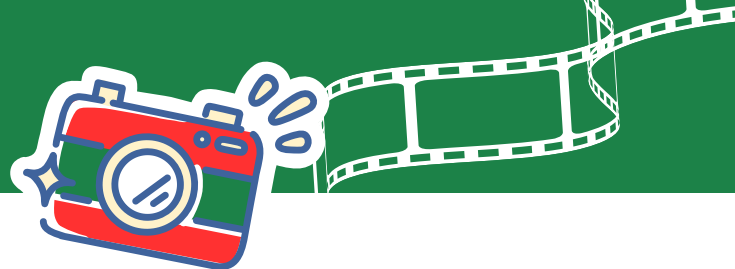
If your child participates in Little Athletics and has achieved a personal best in discus and/or high jump, please email their best throwing distance and/or jumping height to Mr. Egan or Ms. Gollshewsky at spboffice@rok.catholic.edu.au.

Ms. Gollshewsky will assess all submissions to determine whether your child's personal best meets the nomination criteria. Students who meet the required standard may be considered for inclusion in the St. Patrick's District Athletics team.

Please submit nominations by **Monday, 27th July 2026**.



School Photo Day



SAVE the DATE

Monday 3rd August

order your school photos now

to order visit: www.advancedlife.com.au

enter code: **K5C 1GB PD7**



scan to order

advancedlife
school photography & print specialists

School Photo Day is scheduled for Week 4, Monday 3rd August 2026.

Photo Orders:

Orders can be placed online via www.advancedlife.com.au using the unique code:
K5C 1GB PD7.

We prefer orders placed online, however if you are unable to order online, please collect an order envelope from the front office, complete the back of the envelope, and return your completed envelope, with the correct cash payment, to the photographers on photo day. Online orders do not require an envelope returned to school.

What to Wear:

All students are asked to come dressed in their **full formal school uniform**. Prep classes will wear the full sports uniform.

Sibling Photos:

Sibling photos can be ordered online and must be placed by midnight Sunday 2nd August. Only siblings attending St Patrick's Primary School are permitted to be photographed.

Opting Out:

If you do not wish for your child to be included in any school photos, please contact the school directly by email spboffice@rok.catholic.edu.au, so we can record your preference for photo day.

Thank you for your support, and we look forward to another smooth and successful Photo Day!

How to report serious cyberbullying

1

Collect evidence

Screenshot the harmful content, webpage address (URL), account username.



2

Report

Report to the online service - if they don't respond, report to [eSafety.gov.au](https://www.esafety.gov.au).



3

Prevent further contact

Use settings to ignore, mute or block the other person and check your privacy settings.



4

Get more help

Talk to a trusted adult or a counsellor about the impact.



If you are in immediate danger or at risk of harm call **Triple Zero (000)**.

If you need to talk to someone, visit kidehelpline.com.au or call them on 1800 55 1800, 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

Serious cyberbullying means sending or sharing harmful online content that badly upsets someone under 18. It may make them feel harassed (hassled), humiliated (embarrassed), threatened (unsafe) or intimidated (scared to do or say something).



[eSafety.gov.au](https://www.esafety.gov.au)

Shalom College Year 7 2028



SHALOM COLLEGE

Save the Dates

Year 7 2028

APPLICATIONS OPEN

December 2026

Online | *Semester Two Year 5 Report Card required

APPLY at www.shalomcollege.com

INFORMATION EVENING

Wednesday 10 February 2027

Shalom Performing Arts Precinct

Parents & Students Welcome

REGISTER NOW at www.shalomcollege.com

COLLEGE OPEN DAY

Tuesday 23 February 2027

Shalom College Sports Centre

Parents & Students Welcome

REGISTER NOW at www.shalomcollege.com

APPLICATIONS CLOSE

Friday 12 March 2027

Online | Applications Open December 2026

APPLY at www.shalomcollege.com

- **APRIL-MAY 2027:** Appointments for interviews
- **END OF JUNE 2027:** Notification sent to advise of acceptance outcome

Pathways to Excellence for all



Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton

Out and About



What's happening in Week 2?

Tue - Wed	Courtyard Prayer - 6B
Tue	NAB AFL Auskick & Superkick Centre (3:15 pm - 4:15 pm) Weeks 2-7
Thur	All Schools Futsal Competition Musical Rehearsal (3:15 pm - 5:00 pm)
Fri	Friday Sports - Weeks 2-6
Sun	Musical Rehearsal (1:00 pm - 3:30 pm in the Multi)

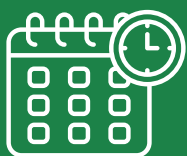
COMING
THIS
WEEK

Term 3 Planner: Weeks 1-5

WEEK 1	Week 13th July - 17th July		
Tuesday-Wednesday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40 am	1H
Tuesday - Friday	Challenge Cup	11:30 am	Selected students
WEEK 2	Week 20th July - 24th July		
Tuesday-Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40 am	6B
Tuesday	NAB AFL Auskick & Superkick Centre	3:15 pm - 4:15 pm	St Patrick's Senior Oval
Thursday	All Schools Futsal	All Day	Selected Students
Friday	Interschool Sport	12:30 pm	Years 5-6
WEEK 3	Week 27th July - 31st July - Catholic Education Week		
Sunday	All Schools Mass	5:30 pm	Holy Rosary Church
Monday - Wednesday	Bundaberg Eisteddfod	All Day	Strings Ensembles, Choirs & Year 1 Verse Speaking
Tuesday	NAB AFL Auskick & Superkick Centre	3:15 pm - 4:15 pm	St Patrick's Senior Oval
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40 am	6F
Friday	Interschool Sport	12:30 pm	Years 5-6
WEEK 4	Week 3rd August - 7th August		
Monday	School Photo Day	All Day	St Patrick's - MPS
Tuesday	NAB AFL Auskick & Superkick Centre	3:15 pm - 4:15 pm	St Patrick's Senior Oval
Tuesday-Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40 am	Tue (PK), Wed (PL), Thur (PS)
Friday	Interschool Sport	12:30 pm	Years 5-6
WEEK 5	Week 10th August - 14th August		
Monday	Parish Mass	8:40 am	Year 4
Monday - Tuesday	District Athletics	All Day	Selected students
Tuesday	NAB AFL Auskick & Superkick Centre	3:15 pm - 4:15 pm	St Patrick's Senior Oval
Tuesday-Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40 am	6L
Friday	Interschool Sport	12:30 pm	Years 5-6

Term 3 Planner: Weeks 6-10

WEEK 6	Week 17th August - 21st August		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00 am - 10:00 am	Year 5 and Year 1
Tuesday-Wednesday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40 am	5S
Tuesday	NAB AFL Auskick & Superkick Centre	3:15 pm - 4:15 pm	St Patrick's
Friday	Interschool Sport	12:30 pm	Years 5-6
WEEK 7	Week 24th August - 28th August		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00 am - 10:00 am	Year 2
Tuesday-Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40 am	5P
Tuesday	NAB AFL Auskick & Superkick Centre	3:15 pm - 4:15 pm	St Patrick's
WEEK 8	Week 31st August - 4 September		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00 am - 10:00 am	Year 6 and Prep
Tuesday—Wednesday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40 am	4K
Wednesday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40 am	Father's Day Liturgy - Year 3
Wednesday - Thursday	Year 5 Camp	All Day	Year 5
Friday	Pupil Free Day		
WEEK 9	Week 7th September - 11th September		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00 am - 10:00 am	Year 3
Tuesday-Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40 am	5G
Wednesday - Thursday	Musical Performance	tbc	Shalom College PAP
WEEK 10	Week 14th September - 18th September		
Tuesday-Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	4B
Wednesday - Friday	Year 6 Camp	All Day	Year 6
Friday	All Schools Touch	All Day	Selected Students



2026 Term Dates

Term 3 Monday 13th July - Friday 18th September

Term 4 Tuesday 6th October - Friday 4th December