



PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

25 July 2025

This week marks Grandparents Weekend, whilst merging with the cusp of Catholic Education Week in our Parish. The theme for Catholic Education Week is **Faith, Hope and Love**.

I saw this as the perfect marriage. I was Baptised, as a baby at St. Mary's Church, Bundaberg and my own Catholic Education journey started at St. Patrick's Primary School, largely due to my Grandmother's influence. Her name was Kitty (Kathleen) O'Shea. I've mentioned her before. Like so many Grandparents, she was integral in planting seeds of these three virtues. Whilst having a difficult life herself, she always transcended a strong **faith** in her God, **hope** for a better future and an intense **love** of her family. Her boys attended Christian Brothers and all her grandchildren attended either St. Mary's, St. Patrick's and Shalom.

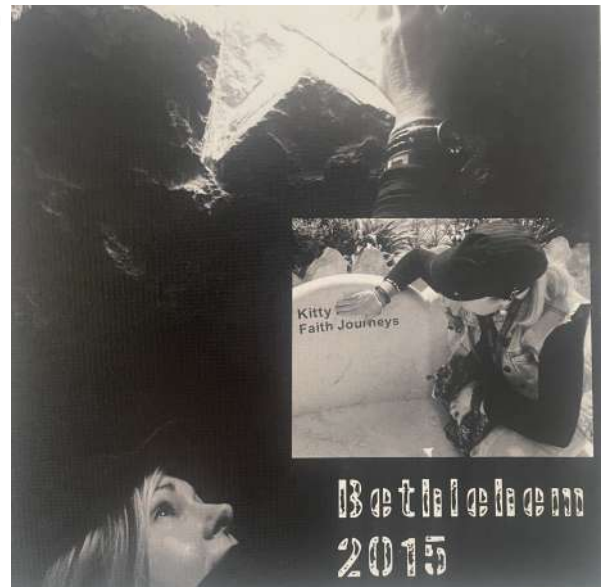
It seems I have come full circle, along with so many other teachers and families at St. Patrick's. I know Kitty would definitely approve, because she appeared in a recurrent dream, when I was at university in Brisbane studying Education. At that point in time, I had started to drift away from my own faith, as many teenagers do. In this dream she pleaded with me to return to the Catholic Church. It was different to other dreams. I would wake looking for her, as it seemed so real and repetitive. I did return to my faith and the rest is history.

Ironically, when attending Mass in Bethlehem many years after, during the Homily, we were asked to share who was most instrumental in our own faith journeys. My answer was obvious. Everyone then turned and looked at me when we walked out from the sacred cave and saw 'Kitty's' bench seat, which you can see pictured above.

Two clear signs that her influence was still being felt. My story, I am sure, is not in isolation and I share as a way to consolidate the role that our Grandparents and Parents play in our own formation. Jesus used the 'Parable of the Sower' to explain how Christians are encouraged to nurture their faith through prayer, scripture and good works. Grandparents and the elderly in our lives are often the ones who model this to the next generation, even when you think the young are not watching. Galatians 6:9 also highlights the importance of planting seeds of hope in the most difficult of situations.

On the weekend I witnessed some of our students make the Sacrament of Confirmation at the Holy Rosary, being celebrated by Father Don and Bishop Michael. Bishop Michael shared at the end of this celebration how he couldn't imagine a life without his belief in God. He suggested that in a world where there's always something negative to draw our focus, a faith in God for him, gives a strong sense of hope and an innate way of looking through a symbolic and grateful lens.

For me, this is the gift I believe we all want from a Catholic Education for our children, religious or not. To pass on a belief that we are all on a journey to be savoured. A journey that promises ups and downs, but not without purpose or reason and a belief that we do not go alone.



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to go our
school
website



Click the
Parish logo
to go to the
Parish
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Absentees

4994 8336

spb_absentees@rok.catholic.edu.au

PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

I guess this Catholic Education Week I want to reach out and say THANK YOU to the Parents, Grandparents and Great Grandparents that have or will, in some way help us to sow seeds of faith, love and hope. Thank YOU! Thank YOU! THANK YOU!

This Sunday, at the 5:30PM Mass at the Holy Rosary Church, the four Catholic schools will stand in solidarity, to celebrate the beginning of Catholic Education Week. We would love to see as many staff, students and families as possible there as we have much to celebrate. Thanks for the part you all play!



Last week I thanked Mr. Plumb, Mr. Zandona, Mrs. Medley, Miss Egan and Mr. Egan for their efforts in assisting our students to compete in Challenge Cup at Yeppoon. Mr. Plumb reported that the team grew in confidence each game. With a good number of younger students involved, we look to build on this great experience for next year. The Netball Team was very competitive, bringing home once more Challenge Cup Netball Shield. These young men and women wore the shamrocks with pride and integrity. Congratulations to the students, teachers and parents involved.

Thanks to those parents who added topics for conversation last week for our **Parent Engagement Night**. Please register your interest by [completing this form](#) and add a selection of suggested topics we will publish in an agenda closer to the evening. I look forward to seeing some of you there.

Kim O'Shea-Hard
Principal

Patty's *PEN*

Parents, it's time to connect. Join us for Patty's PEN (Parent Engagement Night) - a casual event for parents to connect and suggest discussion topics for conversation.

SAVE THE DATE

TUESDAY, 26 AUGUST

@ 5:30 PM

Staff Room

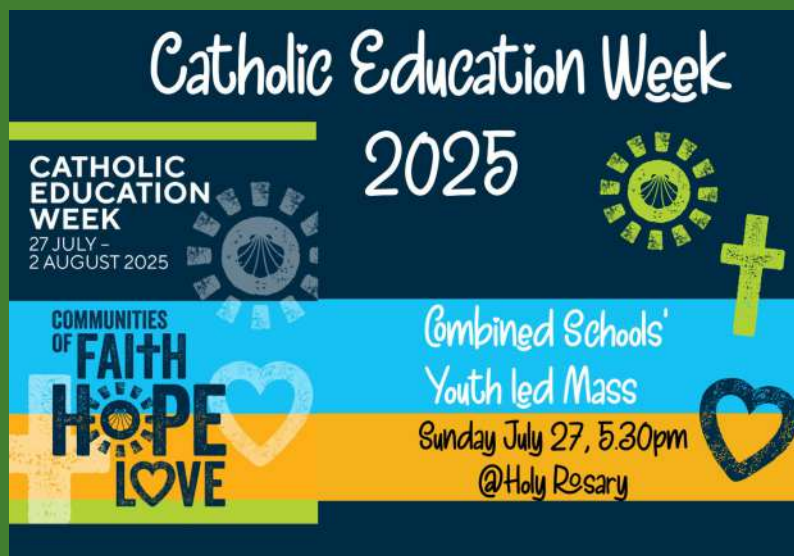
REGISTER YOUR INTEREST 

We are open to suggestions for agenda items.

- ✓ Casual and welcoming space to connect with other parents.
- ✓ Light snacks and beverages will be provided.

A perfect way for parents to engage!





Catholic Education Week
2025

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK
27 JULY - 2 AUGUST 2025

COMMUNITIES OF FAITH HOPE LOVE

Combined Schools' Youth led Mass
Sunday July 27, 5.30pm
@Holy Rosary



ST PATRICK'S

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK
2025 ACTIVITIES



SUNDAY MASS
@ HOLY ROSARY 5.30PM

MONDAY
KINDNESS CHALLENGES SET

TUESDAY TO THURSDAY
COURTYARD PRAYER

THURSDAY MINI VINNIES
KINDNESS CUPCAKES ON SALE
\$1EA PRE ORDER ON TUESDAY
WITH MONEY

Funds raised will go to assist families in Bundaberg

Catholic Education Week 2025

Next week, we look forward to joyfully celebrating **Catholic Education Week**, a special time to reflect on the gift of faith-based learning in our community. The theme this year, "*Communities of Faith, Hope and Love*", reminds us to live out our faith through acts of kindness, compassion, and service.

We warmly invite all families to join us for the **All Schools Mass on Sunday 27 July at 5:30pm at Holy Rosary Church**. This special celebration brings together students, staff and families from Catholic schools across our region to mark the beginning of Catholic Education Week in prayer and unity. We would love to see as many of our school families there as possible. We also extend an invitation to our students to join in as part of the choir at the Mass (please arrive at Holy Rosary at 4:30pm Sunday for a rehearsal).

As part of our celebrations, our Mini Vinnies Team are selling **Kindness Cupcakes (\$1 each)** - a sweet reminder that small acts of kindness can brighten someone's day and build stronger, more loving communities.

Students can pre-order their cupcakes (with payment) on **Tuesday July 29**, and the cupcakes will be delivered to classes on Thursday, July 31.

We are incredibly proud of our amazing students, dedicated staff, and supportive families who bring our Catholic school community to life. Thank you for making St Patrick's a wonderful Catholic school! We can't wait to celebrate this week with you all!

Tracey Cook

APRE

CHALLENGE CUP 2025

Last week the St. Patrick's netball and rugby league teams participated in the annual Rockhampton Diocese Challenge Cup competition. After months of planning and training the teams competed over 3 days against teams from across the region.

From a competition involving 32 teams, our netball team played 7 games during the pool stage, winning 6 matches. On the final day they successfully defended the Challenge Shield after winning their finals matches. Shield Champions for 2025! Quite a feat.

The rugby league team played 7 games over the three days facing highly experienced players in the 24-team competition. They had wins on Thursday and Friday and showed vast improvement the longer the tournament went.

Congratulations to all the players for their efforts during the Challenge Cup. A huge thank you to Ms. Medley, Ms Macey, Mr. Plumb and Mr Zandona for giving up their time to prepare and organise our students so they could successfully participate in the carnival. Thanks also to Mrs Zandona and Ms. Bone for all their administration support over recent months.



SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

order your school photos now

to order visit: www.advancedlife.com.au

enter code: **K5C 1GB PD7**



or collect a cash order envelope
from your school office



advancedlife
school photography & print specialists

School Photo Day is scheduled for **Monday 4 August**.

Photo Orders:

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

What to Wear:

All students are asked to come dressed in their **full school uniform**.

Sibling Photos:

Sibling photos can be ordered online and **must be placed by midnight Sunday 3 August**.

Prep and Year 1 will still depart the school for their excursion to see the Gruffalo at midday. If Prep and Year 1 families are after a sibling photo, they must be taken from **8:00am** on the day in the MPS. A reminder that only St Patrick's Catholic Primary School students are to be photographed, no other family members.

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 on their enrolment.

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

FLU AND INFLENZA ADVICE



As you are aware every year Queensland experiences an influenza or flu season. Parents and care-givers are reminded not to be complacent about the flu.

Flu is a virus more serious than the common cold and can be spread through talking, coughing and sneezing. Symptoms include sudden fever, dry cough, muscle aches and pains, fatigue, headache, sore throat and a stuffy or runny nose. There are some basic steps people can take to prevent the spread of flu. If your child has flu-like symptoms, the following is advised:

- Keep your child home from school
- Ensure your child washes their hands regularly with soap and water or sanitiser gel
- Encourage your children when coughing or sneezing, to cover their mouth and nose with disposable tissues which should be disposed of immediately
- Ensure they drink plenty of fluids and get lots of rest
- Consult your doctor if you are concerned about their symptoms

The school requests that anyone displaying flu-like symptoms **stay at home** until such symptoms have passed. Families should also reinforce the recommended protective actions listed above. Increased awareness and on-going attention to prevention and control measures, such as vaccination and good hygiene, are steps that we can all promote to reduce the impact of influenza.

REMINDER: EISTEDDFOD CHOIR AND STRINGS STUDENTS

As we prepare for the upcoming Eisteddfod, please note the following important reminders:

Performance Groups:

Monday, 28 July: Senior Choir & Junior Choir
 Tuesday, 29 July: Junior Strings & Senior Strings
 Wednesday, 30 July: Year 1 Verse Speaking Groups
Students will travel to the Moncrieff Theatre by bus.



What to Wear:

- **Senior Choir, Junior Strings and Senior Strings** students must wear **black performance uniform**. This can be worn to school on the morning of the performance - please bring uniform to change into.
- **Junior Choir and Year 1 Verse Speaking Groups** students must wear their **formal school uniform** (prep students can wear their sports uniform), including black shoes and white fold over socks to perform.
- Students from **Senior Choir who assist** the Junior Choir must bring their **formal school uniform** to change into to perform with the Junior Choir.
- Children without a performance uniform will not perform in the Eisteddfod.

Parents of Junior Choir students will need to be collected from the Civic Centre at **3PM on Monday 28 July**.

Rehearsals at school:

- Monday 28 July 7:30AM: **Choir and Junior Strings**
- Tuesday 29 July 7:30AM: **Senior Strings**

Tickets:

Parents can purchase tickets from the Moncrieff Theatre on the day to watch the performances.

FINANCE NEWS

2026 Schedule Fees - Coming Soon

We would like to inform all parents and carers that the 2026 Schedule of Fees will be emailed out next week. Please keep an eye on your inbox to ensure you receive the details promptly. If you do not see the email by the end of next week, we recommend checking your spam or junk folder, or contacting the school office for assistance.

School Fee Accounts

Our School welcomes families who respect and support our Catholic identity, and who seek our values. Choosing a Catholic education includes a commitment to paying School Fees, which together with Federal and State government funding, supports the ongoing provision of quality Catholic education for all students.

Enrollment at the School is contingent upon the payment of School Fees, as detailed in the School's Schedule of Fees. The following points will assist you in meeting the School's expectations.

Payment of Fees

School fees must be paid in full by the due date shown on the fee statement, unless an approved Payment Plan arrangement is in place.

For families with an approved Payment Plan arrangement, contact must be made with the school finance office immediately upon missing a payment to make a suitable alternative arrangement.

Our Principal will consider applications for School fee concessions for families experiencing genuine financial hardship, who provide appropriate supporting evidence. Application is made directly to the Principal to ensure confidentiality is maintained.

Overdue fees may be placed in the hands of a collection agency. If necessary, the School may take legal action to recover the debt to preserve the financial viability of the School. If this action becomes necessary, any costs or expenses incurred by the School will be charged to the parent account.

Joint + Several Liability

Each parent, based on the student enrolment agreement is responsible for ensuring full and timely payment of School Fees. To this end, both a joint and several liability, meaning both parents are collectively and individually accountable for the entire amount, irrespective of each parent's individual contribution.

If family circumstances change, please inform the School immediately. Both parents remain jointly and severally responsible for the full School fee amount, irrespective of the family's structure.

School Fee Billing

- Our School charges an "All Inclusive Education Fee" that covers the curriculum offerings of the School. "Specific Purpose charges" are applied for individual activities and resources.
- A Building Levy is charged for fund-raised works.
- No adjustments to fees will be made for late returns to School or student absence during a term.
- School fee statements are issued to the enrolling parents identified on the student enrolment agreement. Amounts are inclusive, including holidays, and are issued in Parent Lounge under the Accounts and Payments tab, next on the Parent Care app.

School Fees Explained

How is Education funded in Australia?

The Federal Government's "School Resource Standard (SRS)" funding model determines State and Federal Government funding to all schools in Australia:

- For Non-Government schools, the SRS model also identifies each School community's "measured" "Capacity to Contribute (CTC)" through School Fees.
- Unlike many Non-Government schools, Catholic Education - Diocese of Rockhampton (CEDR) schools receive School Fees by delivering education to students within the SRS.

School funding formula for all schools in Australia

Base Funding

Primary Students - \$55,477
 Secondary Students - \$97,561 (2024)

Levies

Additional funding for all types of students and schools in priority cohorts. **Student disadvantage:** Indigenous, Disability, Socio-Educational, Low-English Proficiency. **School disadvantage:** Size and Location.

Capacity to Contribute

% of base funding that Non-Government schools must raise privately, ranging from 10% to 30%, depending on the measured income of parents and the school.

School Resource Standard (SRS)

Per student funding is calculated on the unique characteristics of each school, its parents and its students.

Source: National Catholic Education Commission 2023

Examples of how CTC impacts School Fees

Where CTC of School community = 90, school fees contribute 10% of the base SRS

State Govt. Grant Funding	Federal Government Grant Funding	SRS School Fees
10%	75%	15%

Where CTC of School community = 105, school fees contribute 25.5% (primary) or 36.25% (college) of the base SRS

State Govt. Grant Funding	Federal Government Funding	School Fees
10%	59.5%	30.5%

How are School fees presented in CEDR schools?

School Fees are presented as one All-Inclusive Education Fee, that delivers the curriculum offering of the School, rather than a list of fee \$105, several School-based levies and charges.

All-Inclusive Education Fee

Per Student

Building Levy

Per Student

Specific Purpose Charges

(if applicable)

Discounts + Concessions

(if eligible)

BOOK CLUB

Book club catalogues have been sent home with your child this week. All orders need to be made [ONLINE via LOOP payment](#) on the Scholastic website, as no cash orders can be accepted.

Please go to www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP. All orders are due by **Monday 28th July**. As soon as orders are dispatched to us, we will then send home with your child.



SPORT NEWS

QLD School Sport Representative



Congratulations to Essie M. after winning the Queensland Cross Country Championship in her Multi Class division. Well Done!

Attention Touch Football Players

On the last day of Term 3 (**19th September**) we may have an opportunity to enter a Boy and/or Girl's Touch Team into a competition being run by the Bundaberg Touch Association. To gauge interest, we will hold a training session at **3:20 pm Monday, 28th July**, on the bottom oval. This is a one-off carnival, so we would need to call on students who already play Touch Football outside of the school, who are in Year 4-6. Parent Volunteer Brit Edwards has offered to share her expertise, playing representative Touch Football most of her life. Whilst we will have a teacher attend this carnival, we will be relying on the parents of participants to **transport their own children** to and from the event on the day, so please check the date before committing your child/ren for this extra-curricular activity. This training session will help us gauge interest only at this stage.



AFTER SCHOOL SPORT PROGRAM — New starting date: 29 July—19 August



Football in the Community Program: Football Queensland and the Brisbane Roar

St Patrick's is excited to announce that the Football Queensland & Brisbane Roar After School Program is coming to our school!

Key program details can be found via scanning the QR code.

All participants must be registered prior to the clinic starting, using this link:

FQ x Roar School Programs - Football Queensland

For any questions, please contact FQ x Roar team at community@footballqueensland.com.au.



The Girls United Schools Program will also run at St Patrick's at the same time.

This is exclusively for girls and subsidised to only cost \$20 for the full 4-week program.

Similarly, find details at the QR Code and all participants must be registered prior to the clinic starting using this link.

<https://registration.squadi.com/login>

For any questions, please contact the FQ team at womenandgirls@footballqueensland.com.au



Both Programs will run on Tuesdays from 3:15pm—4:15 pm during 29 July 2025 - 19 August 2025.



OUT AND ABOUT

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FRASER COAST**

Bundaberg	 Contact: Jacinta & Riley Gill  E: bundaberg@oztag.com  W: www.bundabergoztag.com	P: 0439 235 973
Hervey Bay	 Contact: Ryan Lenan  E: herveybay@oztag.com  W: www.herveybayoztag.com	P: 0411 098 087
Maryborough	 Contact: Ryan Lenan  E: maryborough@oztag.com  W: www.maryboroughoztag.com	P: 0411 098 087

OZ TAG
Queensland **GET YOUR TAG ON**



REGIONAL QUEENSLAND FOOTBALL CLUB LTD

Girls Only - U10 and U12 Talent Identification Tournament

This is a tournament style talent identification carnival with Regional QLD FC open for all Regional QLD Schools, Clubs and Academies from Wide Bay to Far North QLD to register.

Where: Mackay

When: 22nd Sept – 25th Sept 2025

Contact: admin@regionalqldfc.com.au

Register: <https://regionalqldfc.com.au/>

Format: 9v9

Players per team: Max 13

U10 Eligibility: Born 2015, 2016

U12 Eligibility: Born 2013, 2014

About Regional Queensland Football Club Ltd

Regional QLD FC is a Not-For-Profit Sporting club based in Mackay, Queensland. Our Focus is to develop Women and Girls in regional Queensland and provide an Elite pathway to A-League in regional QLD. The intent of this tournament is to commence talent identification for a future A-League team in regional QLD. This tournament will occur annually and expand in age groups each year to follow this cohort of Girls through to their adult years.

Strengthening Young People Against Anxiety

A Karen Young Live Webinar event for
Catholic School Parents

Tuesday 5 August, 2025
7.00-8.30pm

Click on the link to register:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_1F2ru7CCQy-Ey1hGpbn-vw

*After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

A recording of the webinar will be available for 3 days to registered participants only.



About Karen Young

Karen Young began her career as a psychologist in private practice and is now recognised as a leading authority on child and adolescent anxiety.

www.heysigmund.com

Catholic School Parents
AUSTRALIA



SUPERVISED EVENT

CANTEEN FACILITIES

SAUSAGE SIZZLE

\$5 ENTRY

BLUE LIGHT DISCO
FRIDAY 15TH AUGUST

5PM - 7PM PREP TO YR 6

7.30PM - 9.30PM YR 7 TO YR 12

THEME:

BRIGHT COLOURS



BUNDABERG CIVIC CENTRE,
BOURBONG ST, BUNDABERG CENTRAL

The Blue Light Disco is back again!

This time the theme is bright colours! Bring your friends along for a fun night of dancing, games and prizes to be won. Thanks to Rotary there will be a sausage sizzle available.

See you there!

Hosted by myPolice
Bundaberg and North Burnett



QPS Queensland
Police Service

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