



PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

17th October 2025

October marks World Mission Month. This is a way of acknowledging the work our church does globally in support of children and communities in need. Today St. Patrick's celebrated Mass with Fr. Don, in honour of this special cause with focus on the Catholic Social Teachings of Human Dignity, The Common Good, Solidarity, Subsidiarity, Preferential Option for the Poor and Stewardship of Creation.

Next Friday, 24th October, we will participate in our annual Socktober Activity, driven by our Mini Vinnies Committee. Students are encouraged to wear 'crazy socks' or just two mismatched socks in exchange for a gold coin donation. This donation is not only a fun way to support the work of Catholic Mission Australia, but to raise awareness of the social justice work our Church does internationally. By participating in these activities, St. Patrick's community is reminded of our own mission to live out the Gospel call to **"love one another as I have loved you" (John 13:34)**. This is a beautiful witness of faith in action and a reminder that even small acts, like wearing mismatched socks, can make a big difference in the lives of others. I will be looking for my own mismatched pair this weekend in preparation for Friday!

Stewardship is certainly something our Reef Guardians take seriously at a more local level at St. Patrick's. Recently, students entered the 2025 Eco Challenge. 165 students contributed to 72 submissions across 8 challenges. [Congratulations](#) to Caelan D, Isabella S, Lily T, Leonard L and Mason G who won Challenge 6 which involved a Drain Art piece of work. We are hoping to find a place in the school to use this design. We also received a Highly Commended for Challenge 8 which you can view here [Protect the Reef Skit](#). The Reef Guardians under the encouragement of Mrs. Gabby Lindeman and support of Jessie Clarey are presently working on a fundraising project which will see the continuation of the shared school garden that you may have seen pop up on our Powers Street side of the school. This is certainly a great way to harness the enthusiasm of such a wonderful group of students.



Kim O'Shea-Hard
PRINCIPAL



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Absentees

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Socktober 2025: Kicking Goals for Catholic Mission

At St Patrick's, we are proud to align with the Church's call to action during Mission Month by supporting the **Socktober Campaign**, an initiative of Catholic Mission. This year, our focus is on standing in solidarity with families in Zambia, who face significant challenges in their daily lives.

To raise awareness and funds for this important cause, our school community recently will hold **Odd Sock Day**, run by Mini Vinnies, on **Friday October 24**. Students and staff will have the opportunity to wear mismatched and colourful socks, a fun and creative way to highlight the serious issue of inequality and the struggles faced by vulnerable families in Zambia.



The Socktober Campaign invites us to think globally and act locally. By participating in Odd Sock Day, our students will learn about the realities of life in Zambia, where access to food, education, and healthcare is not guaranteed. Funds raised through this initiative will go directly to Catholic Mission's programs, which provide critical support to improve the lives of families in need.

Why Zambia?

This year's Socktober focus is on the people of Zambia, a nation where many families live in poverty and struggle to meet basic needs. Through Catholic Mission, the funds raised will support life-changing projects, such as providing education for children, improving access to clean water, and equipping families with resources to build sustainable futures.

Living the Spirit of Mission

Odd Sock Day is more than just a fundraiser—it is a tangible way for our students to live out the spirit of mission. It reminds us of our shared responsibility to care for others and to use the blessings we have to make a difference in the world.

At its heart, Mission Month is about recognising the **dignity of every human being** and answering the call to be the hands and feet of Christ for those in need. By participating in initiatives like Socktober, our students are learning what it means to stand in solidarity with others and to work for the common good.

Mission Month reminds us that we are called to act with love and compassion every day. As a Catholic school, we are committed to fostering a spirit of service and social justice in our students. Through initiatives like Socktober, we are helping our young people grow into thoughtful, compassionate individuals who care deeply about the world around them.

As we move through Mission Month, let us reflect on how we can live out the Gospel values of love, service, and justice. Together, we can be a light of hope for those who need it most.

"Whatever you do for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you do for me." – Matthew 25:40

Thank you for your continued support of Mission Month and the Socktober Campaign. Together, we are making a difference—one odd sock at a time!

Tracey Cook

APRE

BEFORE SCHOOL CARE 2026.....

We need your input — Before School Care Survey

We understand how hard our parents work, and we are always looking for ways to better support our families. This year, we were successful in expanding our Out of Hours School Care (OSHC) to include Vacation Care, which has been incredibly well-received for working families.



Recently, we've had growing interest from families in establishing **Before School Care**. In response, we have applied to extend our OSHC services to include this option.

To strengthen our application, we need your input. If your family would benefit from Before School Care, please complete this short survey to show there is demand for the service. Your responses will be reviewed by the relevant governing bodies to assess community need - and we're confident the need is there.

Please **complete this survey by Friday 24 October 2025** via this [link](#). Your responses will help us work towards launching this service at the beginning of the new school year.

We are proud of our wonderful OSHC Team, and their commitment to high-quality care gives us confidence as we look to grow our offering, with your support.

Thanks for your consideration and support.

SOCKTOBER 2025



S O C K T O B E R 2 0 2 5



 FRIDAY OCTOBER 24
 ODD SOCK DAY
 GOLD COIN DONATION

TO HELP SUPPORT THE WORK OF CATHOLIC MISSION

SENIOR SWIMMING CARNIVAL— FRIDAY 21 NOVEMBER

The Senior Swimming Carnival will be held on **Friday 21 November** at the Bundaberg Swimming Academy for Year 3 (born 2017) to Year 6.

Please refer to the email sent earlier this week for further information regarding how to nominate your child's race preference on the [Parent Portal](#) by **Monday, 27 October**.

All students are expected to participate in at least one event (maximum three events per child), unless there is a health matter that prevents their involvement in this carnival.

We look forward to an enjoyable and supportive event for all competitors.



BOOK CLUB



Book club catalogues 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.

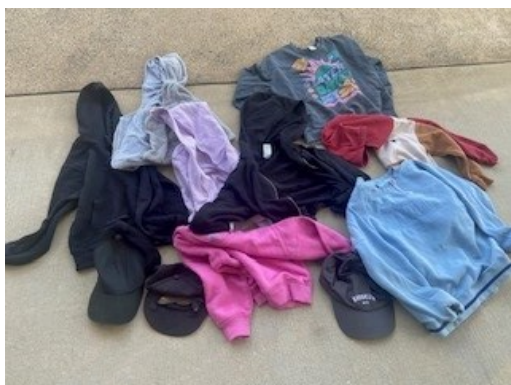
All orders are due by **Monday 22nd October**.

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

View the Issue 7 catalogue [here](#)!

LOST PROPERTY NOTICE

We have several items of lost property currently held at the administration office. Parents are encouraged to visit and claim any belongings **before Friday, 24 October**. After this date, unclaimed items will be donated to the school's secondhand clothing pool. Please note that all named or labelled clothes have been returned to the respective classes. To help keep track of lost items in future, we kindly ask parents to clearly label all school clothing with their child's name.



TERM FOUR PLANNER

WEEK 1	Week 6th October - 10th October		
Monday	KING'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY		
Tuesday	First Day Term 4		
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	Mini Vinnies
WEEK 2	Week 13th October - 17th October		
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	Reef Guardians
WEEK 3	Week 20th October - 24th October		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00am	Year 2
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	3L
Friday	Odd Sock Day (Socktober)	All day	All students
WEEK 4	Week 27th October - 31st October		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00am	Year 5 & 1
Monday	Prep Orientation Morning	9:00am-10:30am	Prep 2026
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	3T
Friday	Day for Daniel	All day	All students
Friday	World Teacher's Day	All day	All teachers
WEEK 5	Week 3rd November - 7th November		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00am	Year 4
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	3C
WEEK 6	Week 10th November - 14th November		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00am	Year 6 & Prep
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	2W
Tuesday	Remembrance Day Memorial	9:00am	5P
WEEK 7	Week 17th November - 21st November		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00am	Year 3
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	2N
Friday	Senior Swimming Carnival	9:00am	Years 3-6
WEEK 8	Week 24th November - 28th November		
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	2C
Thursday	Cultural Night - Year 3, String and Choir Ensembles	5:00pm-6:30pm	Music
WEEK 9	Week 1st December - 5th December		
Monday	Year 1 Nativity Assembly	9:00am	Whole School
Tuesday	Year 6 Graduation	9:00am	Yr 6 Families
Tuesday	Year 6 Excursion—Norville Pool	10:45am—1:00pm	Year 6
Wednesday	Year 1 & 4 Excursion—Shalom PAP—Movie	9:00am—11:00am	Year 1 & 4
Wednesday	Prep Excursion—Inflatable World	10:00-12:00pm	Prep
Wednesday	Celebration Night	5:00-7:00pm	Whole School
Thursday	Year 2 Excursion—Norville Pool	9:00am	Year 2
Thursday	Year 5 Excursion—Bundy Bowl & Leisure	9:00am	Year 5
Friday	End of Year Liturgy	9:00am	Whole School
	Year 6 Farewell Assembly	11:00am	Whole School
	School Dismissed	12:00pm	Whole School

2026 TERM DATES	
TERM 1	Tuesday 27 January - Friday 2 April (10 weeks)
TERM 2	Monday 20 April - Friday 26 June (10 weeks)
TERM 3	Monday 13 July - Friday 18 September (10 weeks)
TERM 4	Tuesday 6 October - Friday 4 December (9 weeks)

Note:

Information on end of year excursions will be confirmed once the final details are available.