Principal's News

16th October 2026

Kim O'Shea-Hard
Principal

This weekend, the Catholic Parish of Bundaberg celebrates a very special milestone, its **150th Anniversary**. It is an opportunity to pause and give thanks for the faith, commitment and service of the generations who have helped shape our Catholic community.

Our own story at St Patrick's is closely connected to the story of the Parish. Catholic education in Bundaberg grew from this faith community, beginning with the establishment of St Joseph's and, in time, St Patrick's and the other Catholic schools that now serve families across Bundaberg.

Today, our Catholic schools continue to play an important role in the life of the Parish, just as the Parish continues to support and nurture the faith formation of our students, staff and families. It is a relationship built on faith, service, belonging and a shared commitment to ensuring that our Catholic story continues for generations to come.

As part of the **150th Anniversary celebrations**, a number of special events will be held across the weekend. We warmly invite our St Patrick's families to be part of this significant moment in the life of our Catholic community.

Further details about the weekend's celebrations can be found below with all catered events requiring an RSVP.

Join Us!

CELEBRATE 150 YEARS 1876-2026

Friday 16th October - Sunday 18th October

Friday, 16th October
5.30pm Holy Rosary Church Eucharist with Bishop Danny presiding, followed by FREE light meal.
Memorabilia Display

Saturday, 17th October
10.00am "Do It For Cancer" Luncheon
Brothers Sports Club
Prizes & Entertainment
Ticketed event. $40 from the Parish Office

Sunday, 18th October
8.00am Mass Holy Rosary Church
Memorabilia Display in Novakoski Centre
Multi-Cultural Morning Tea to follow.

CONTACT US

07 4151 6666 | sbundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au | Rossolini Place Level 1, 66 Woongarra Street, Bundaberg

Religion News

Tracey Cook
APRE

Mission Month

We warmly invite all families, parishioners and friends to join us for our **Mission Month Mass on Monday 19 October**. As a Catholic community, gathering for Mass is where our mission is renewed: we listen to God's Word, we pray for the needs of the world, and we are sent out to live what we have celebrated.

When we look at Jesus, we see what mission looks like in real life. Jesus paid attention to people others ignored. He listened, healed, forgave, and restored people to community. He spoke with honesty and compassion. He challenged unfairness. He taught that God's love is for everyone, particularly those who are poor, burdened, or treated as if they do not matter. In other words, Jesus didn't only talk about God's love—he showed it, day after day, in the way he treated people.

At St Patrick's, we are proud to join the Church's call to action during Mission Month by once again supporting the Socktober Campaign, an initiative of Catholic Mission. In 2026, our focus is on standing in solidarity with children and families in **Malawi**, who face significant challenges in daily life.

Malawi, known as the "Warm Heart of Africa," is a country rich in culture, resilience, and breathtaking natural beauty. From the shores of Lake Malawi to the rolling highlands and vibrant communities, Malawi is home to people of remarkable strength and hope. In recent years, however, Malawi has faced severe hardship. Devastating floods have destroyed homes, farmland, and entire communities, forcing thousands of families to flee. Migration into already crowded areas has placed overwhelming pressure on food supplies, schools, healthcare, and employment opportunities. For many families, daily life has become a constant struggle for survival (https://www.socktober.org.au/about/malawi).

To raise awareness and funds for this important cause, our school community will hold Odd Sock Day, run by Mini Vinnies, on Friday 23 October. Students and staff are invited to wear mismatched and colourful socks — a fun and visible way to shine a light on the serious everyday pressures experienced by vulnerable communities.

Socktober invites us to think globally and act locally. As we learn about life in Malawi, students are encouraged to recognise that our lives are connected, and that solidarity becomes real when we choose not to be indifferent, but to respond with sharing and practical care. Funds raised through our Odd Sock Day will support Catholic Mission's work with communities in Malawi.

Socktober is a simple, joyful way for our students to act on the Gospel by choosing generosity, noticing the needs of others, and standing in solidarity with children and communities experiencing poverty. As the Church reminds us, we're not meant to stay on the sidelines. We're invited to "get our hands dirty" in building the common good, placing God at the forefront and the human person at the centre of our choices. Socktober helps us do exactly that—through prayer, learning, and practical action that makes a real difference.

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

A Message from eSafety Australia

Understanding and using parental controls to help protect your child online

Learn more

Wednesday 22 October 2026, 12.30pm (AEDT)

Parental controls can be a useful addition to the strategies you use to help protect your child online.

This 45-minute webinar covers:

- what social pressures they may be experiencing online
- how they can build digital resilience and critical reasoning
- how to talk to your young person about what they see and do online
- practical strategies for promoting positive peer interactions and help seeking behaviours.

Brand-new Online Safety Guide now available

Helping children and young people navigate the online world can be challenging. That's why we're thrilled to launch the Online Safety Guide, a practical guide designed to help parents and carers better understand the online environments young people use every day.

Read the guide

2027 Confirmation of Enrolment

All families were emailed the '**2027 Confirmation of Enrolment**' link this week. Please take the time to complete the form by scanning the QR code or clicking on this link 2027 Confirmation of Enrolment.

Please only complete this form **once** and if you have any issues in accessing the form or completing the form don't hesitate to reach out to the finance officer, Brooke Bone.

St. Patrick's Catholic Primary School Bundaberg Confirmation of Enrolment Form for 2027

Sports News

Wide Bay Acquathlon Trials

Congratulations to Byron J who competed at the Wide bay Aquathlon trials.

Byron finished in 4th place and will be representing the Wide Bay Team in State Championships next year.

Well done Byron!

All Schools State Athletics Track & Field

Congratulations to Sophia K and Chase L who are representing Wide Bay at the Queensland Track and Field Athletics Championships.

Results:
Sophia K - 1st in 100m
Chase L - 6th in Tetra, a multi event competition.

Well done!

2026 Senior School Swimming Carnival

Reminder

The Senior Swimming Carnival will be held on **Friday 20 November** at the **Bundaberg Aquatic Centre for Years 4 -6**.

Please refer to the email sent earlier last week for further information regarding how to nominate your child's race preference on the **Parent Orbit app** by **Monday, 26 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.

The carnival will involve all Year 4 - 6 students and the aim is to make the day enjoyable for all students with an emphasis on **maximum participation**.

Children will travel by bus from school to the Bundaberg Aquatic Centre, leaving 8:45am sharp.

What to bring to the pool:

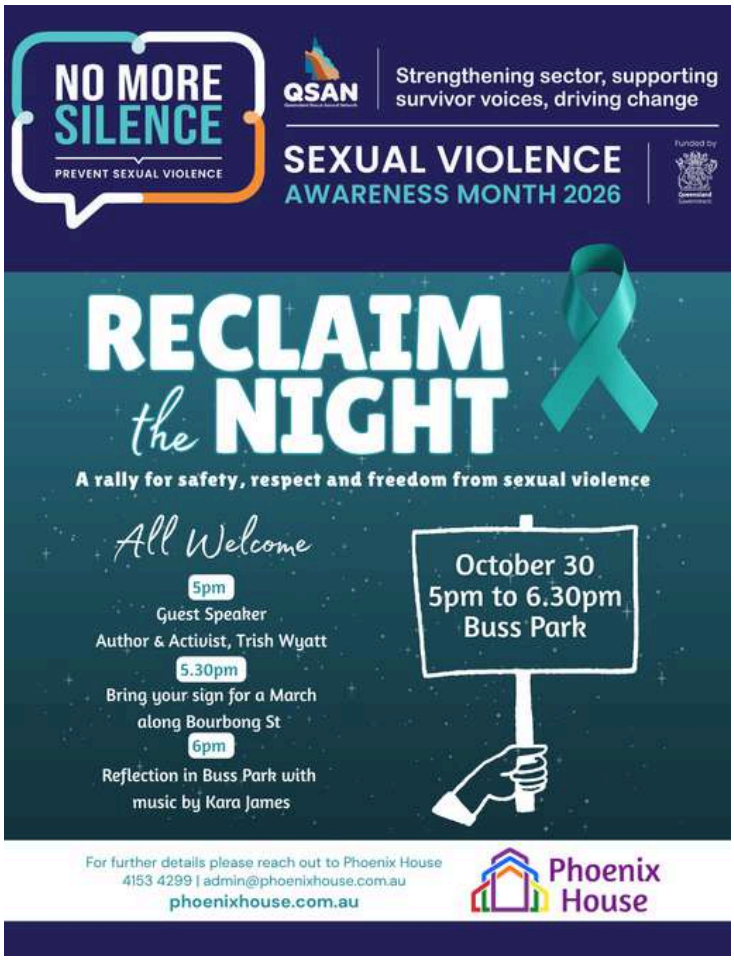
- goggles
- towel
- water bottle
- bag to carry their belongings.

Students may wear their sports uniform and House coloured shirt to school on this day. Students are advised to wear their swimming togs under their uniforms upon arrival at school. Please ensure all items of clothing are clearly named.

Please refer to the email for further information or contact the school office if you have any questions.

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

Out and About



Term 4 Planner: Weeks 1-5

WEEK 1	**Week 5th October - 9th October**		
Monday	**KING'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY**		
Tuesday	First Day Term 4	All Day	All Students
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:30 am	Mini Vinnies & Reef Guardians
WEEK 2	**Week 12th October- 16th October**		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00 am	Year 6 and Prep
Tuesday-Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:30 am	4F
WEEK 3	**Week 19th October - 23rd October**		
Monday	Mission Month Mass	9:00 am	Years 3-6
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:30 am	3C
Friday	Odd Sock Day (Socktober)	All Day	All Students
WEEK 4	**Week 26th October - 30th October**		
Monday	Prep Orientation Morning	9:00 am	Prep 2027
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00 am	Year 4
Tuesday-Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:30 am	3M
WEEK 5	**Week 2nd November - 6th November**		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00 am	Year 2
Tuesday-Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:30 am	3T

COMING THIS WEEK

What's happening in Week 3

Mon Mission Month Mass - Years 3-6
Tue - Thur Courtyard Prayer - 3C
Wed Reef Guardians Meeting - 3:00 PM - 3:50PM
Fri Odd Sock Day (Socktober)

Term 4 Planner: Weeks 6-10

WEEK 6	Week 9th November- 13th November		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00 am	Year 5 and Year 1
Tuesday & Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40 am	2C
Wednesday	Remembrance Day Memorial	9:00 am	5P
WEEK 7	**Week 16th November - 20th November**		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00 am	Year 3
Tuesday-Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:30am	2S
Friday	Senior Swimming Carnival	All Day	Years 4-6
WEEK 8	**Week 23rd November - 27th November**		
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:30 am	2W
Tuesday	Cultural Night 2026	5:30 pm	Shalom PAP
Friday	String Ensemble Performance	8:45 am - 10:45 am	Palm Lakes
WEEK 9	**Week 30th November - 4th December**		
Monday	Year 1 Nativity Play	9:00 am	Year 1
Monday	Prep End of Year Excursion	10:00 am - 12:30 am	Prep - Reading Cinemas
Tuesday	Year 1 End of Year Incursion	9:00 am - 11:00 am	Year 1
Tuesday	Year 6 Graduation	9:00 am - 10:30 am	Year 6
Tuesday	Year 4 End of Year Excursion	9:15 am - 12:15 pm	Year 4 - Bundy Bowl
Wednesday	Year 5 End of Year Excursion	8:45 am - 12:15 pm	Year 5 - Bundy Bowl
Wednesday	Year 3 End of Year Excursion	11:45 am - 2:45 pm	Year 3 - Reading Cinemas
Wednesday	Celebration Night 2026	5:00 pm - 6:45 pm	St Patrick's School
Thursday	Year 2 End of Year Excursion	5:45 am - 11:45 pm	Year 2 - BSA
Friday	End of Year Liturgy	9:00 am	St Patrick's School
Friday	Year 6 Assembly - Final Farewell	11:15am	Year 6
Friday	School dismissed	12:00 pm	St Patick's School

Term Dates

Term 1 Wednesday, 27th January - Thursday, 25th March *(9 weeks)*
Term 2 Monday, 12th April - Friday, 25 June *(11 weeks)*
Term 3 Monday 12th July - Friday 17th September *(10 weeks)*
Term 4 Tuesday 5th October - Friday 3rd December *(9 weeks)*