

PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

10 February 2023

Last week, I spoke of the Year 6 induction and the lessons learnt from geese around the theme of leadership. Geese are well known, for falling out of formation to assist those most vulnerable in the flock. This is for the betterment of all, as flying together increases the group's capacity by 71%. Similarly, the St. Patrick's Buddy program ensures that the youngest in our community are supported and nurtured, which ultimately strengthens our school community.

Whilst our Year 6 students were busily being badged, as student leaders last week, the Year 5 co-hort enjoyed a head-start, making connections with their Year 1 Buddies. I know firsthand how enthusiastic our Year Five students were about stepping up into this mentoring role, as the first question I was asked on my first day was 'when do we get to meet our little Buddy?'. A question I couldn't answer that day, but a question I knew worth exploring. Last week, this layer of leadership was realised, and it has been delightful to watch the commandment 'Love thy Neighbour' unfold. This program is an excellent example of students 'living out the gospel' which is a significant part of our school mission statement.

This week many of our students began the next step in their sacramental journey, in preparing for the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist. We wish these children all the best as they take a significant step forward in their own faith journey. This is a big commitment for students and their families. I am confident that the 'Gifts of the Spirit' will be well-received by these young people and will complement our St. Patrick's community. You will hear more from this group, as their journey unfolds over the coming weeks and months, but for now I would like to congratulate them on making a solid first step.

Kim O'Ghea-Hard













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



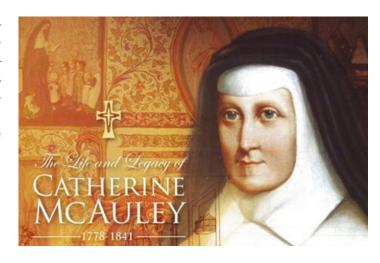
Absentees

4994 8336

spb_absentees@rok.catholic.edu.au

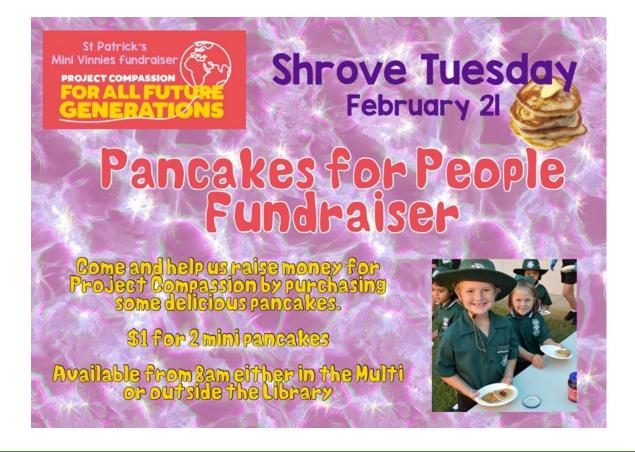
APRE NEWS

Next Friday, February 17, is our annual Bishop's Inservice Day. A day where staff from across the Diocese will gather and engage in Religious Education professional learning. We will hear from our Director, Miss Leesa Jeffcoat, our Bishop, Michael McCarthy and Professor Peta Goldburg. Our staff here at St Patrick's will also begin the journey learning about Catherine McAuley and our founding sisters; The Sisters of Mercy.





In week 5 Lent will begin. During the forty days of Lent we will be journeying together, preparing our hearts and our lives for the new hope that we are promised at Easter. Lent is a time of prayer a time for reflecting on the way we live our lives. During this period we take time to examine our hearts and be willing to make changes by being better people. It is a time for saying 'sorry' and asking forgiveness. We will be setting the children challenges throughout lent to help raise money to assist others in need; in particular, Caritas. Our first fundraiser, will be held on Shrove Tuesday (the day before Lent begins), February 21. Our Mini Vinnies Team will be hosting a Pancakes for People fundraiser. Students can bring \$1 to school from 8am on Tuesday (Feb 21) and purchase 2 mini pancakes with syrup or jam. There will be 2 locations to purchase the pancakes; near the Multi behind the stage area (as with sausage sizzle) and on the junior oval side of the library. This is always so fun and a great way to help support a good cause.



SAUSAGE SIZZLE VOLUNTEERS

Please note the Pupil Free Day this term is next Friday 17th February.

Seeking Volunteers-Each week we require volunteers to assist with the serving and clean up of the sizzle. If you are able to help out for your child's year level from approximately 10.45-11.45 on a Friday, please contact the office.

Week	Year Level	Volunteers Required
Week 5	Year 5	2 Volunteers Required
Week 6	Year 4	2 Volunteers Required
Week 7	Year 3	2 Volunteers Required
Week 8	Year 2	3 Volunteers Required
Week 9	Year 1	1 Volunteer Required

COUNSELLOR NEWS

This week I had a visit from a lovely Young Care Support Worker who told me about their Little Dreamers program.

They take a really broad definition of carers and this can include primary school age children who physically or emotionally care, support or assist siblings or other family members who have a diagnosis or disability. If you have such children in your household, then they are eligible for the Little Dreamers program!

The Little Dreamers initiative offers some really great (free) support to young carers including:

- Peer Support
- Fun holiday programs and excursions
- Fun weekly 1 hour Zoom sessions
- Dream experiences one-of-a-kind experiences to make their dreams come true

Please see the attached brochure or feel free to contact me further information.

Anita Katajamaki

About Little Dreamers

Our vision? A world where every single Young Carer is supported by someone or something by 2030.

 $Little\ Dreamers\ is\ Australia's\ leading\ Young\ Carer\ Organisation,$ supporting young people across Queensland through a range of in person and online programs.

We're working to improve the quality of life for Young Carers and Special Siblings and raise awareness for one of the most vulnerable youth populations in the country (Child Wellbeing Project, 2016). All Little Dreamers programs are FREE for participants. Funding for most programs in Queensland is provided through the Carer

OUR PROGRAMS

We offer a range of awesome programs to support and recognise Young Carers in our community. All of our programs are developed through lived experience, by Young Carers, for Young Carers:



Focusing on personal development, health, wellbeing and identity, the Peer Support program provides Young Carers with the opportunity to connect with other Young Carers in a safe and inclusive $\ensuremath{\mathsf{C}}$ environment. The program is offered in person and online and led by kind and friendly facilitators.



Providing Young Carers with a break from their caring role on the school holidays and chance to nake friends, whilst enjoying a fun day out. Activities include movies, sports, excursions and more!



Big Dreamers Personal Development Program A six month personal development and leadership program for groups of Young Carers aged between 13-18. Learn new skills, make new friends and attend impactful workshops and retreats.



Hour of Power Running weekly online via Zoom, Hour of Power is all about having a laugh, playing games and meeting other Young Carers! It's run in three age groups on weekday afternoons.



Join our 24/7 online community to participate in discussions, post content and connect and chat with other Young Carers. Access ongoing support in a safe and monitored environment.



Giving Young Carers a one-of-kind experience to make their Dream come true! Dream Experiences acknowledge Young Carers for the amazing work they do supporting their loved ones.

SPORTS NEWS

BUNDABERG DISTRICT U12 SCHOOL SPORTS TRIALS

BDSS Sport		Age Group	Date	Venue	Time
Netball Girls	Born 2012 Exceptional 2013 players	Tuesday 7 March Thursday 9 March	Multi—St Luke's Anglican	3:30-5:00pm	
		Born 2011	Tuesday 14 March Thursday 16 March	Multi—St Luke's Anglican	3:30—5:00pm

WIDE BAY SCHOOL SPORT TRIALS

Wide Bay Sc	hool Sport	Age Group	Date	Venue Time
Swimming	Boys & Girls	Born 2013, 2012 & 2011	Nominations close Friday 17 February Qld 10-12 Year Championships held on 26-28 March	Chandler Aquatic Centre

BUNDABERG DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

Congratulations *ADELINE SMITH* who has been selected to represent the Bundaberg District in Cricket. Well done Adeline and we wish you both an enjoyable and rewarding experience at the upcoming Wide Bay selection trials.



GIRLS POP UP CRICKET BLAST

A Girls only *Pop-Up Cricket Blast* event is coming to St Patrick's, inviting our female students to participate in a FREE 4-week afterschool Cricket program. This program is only open to St Patrick's students from Prep-Year 6. It will be held on the bottom oval on a Wednesday, starting on 22 February and concluding on 15 March. The clinic will run from 3:15 – 4:15 pm. 'How to register' details are outlined below. Students are permitted to change into active sportswear at 3 pm to participate.



ADMINISTRATION NEWS

Please be aware of the following points when collecting students from the three exit points of our school – Mulgrave, Powers & George Streets.

- Staff supervision duties end at all three exits at 3:20 pm. Gates will be locked at this time. The Mulgrave Street gate remains open for families accessing Outside Hours School Care (OHSC).
- If you arrive after 3:20 pm and find gates locked, then proceed to the School Office on Mulgrave St as students who have not been collected before this time will be directed by the teacher on duty to proceed to the Administration building.
- We fully understand that parents may be delayed on occasion, although this should not be a regular occurrence. Outside Hours School Care is provided by our school for parents who regularly cannot collect students before 3:20 pm. The contact information for OHSC is Claire O'Connell (0417 199 586). It should not be the expectation that our Office administration staff supervise your child regularly.
- George St (Bus Gate): This is predominately an exit gate for bus students. It is an extremely busy duty and your help to make this area as safe as possible for our students is greatly appreciated by considering the following:
- O If you choose to park and collect your child from George St, then it is expected that you meet your child at the gate and walk them to the car. Staff will not permit your child to cross George St unaccompanied.
- O If you park and wait for older siblings to arrive by bus from Shalom, then we ask that your child/children who attend our school and waiting in the pick-up area, are collected and supervised by you in your vehicle at 3:00 pm.

Only students catching buses at 2:45 pm are permitted to leave their classrooms on the bus bell. It has been noted that some children are being collected by parents before 3:00 pm at the George St exit. If you wish to collect your child before 3:00 pm, then you are expected to sign out your child from the front office. Please do not instruct your child to meet you at the gate before 3:00 pm.

NO DOGS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

Please note that dogs are not allowed on school grounds without the prior approval of the Principal.



ADULT TOILETS

Visiting adults and toddlers **ARE NOT TO USE** student toilets within St Patrick's during school hours or while attending school functions. If you require toilet facilities while on campus please seek direction from Administration staff to use the staff toilets in A Block. Your cooperation and attention to this matter is greatly appreciated to ensure and enhance the safety of our students.

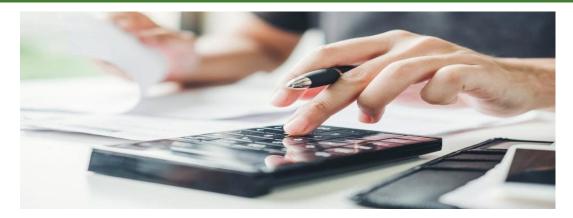


STAFF
PARKING
ONLY

ADMINISTRATION CARPARK

Parking in the Mulgrave Street Administration Carpark is for staff only. This carpark has been specifically designed for a Pick Up and Drop Off Zone and Parents are not to park in this area from 7:45am – 8:45am and 2:45pm – 3:30pm, as parking and reversing severely disrupts the Pick Up and Drop Off process during these times. The only exception to this is for our families who use our designated Disabled Parks in the staff carpark.

FINANCE NEWS



A reminder to all families that fees have been issued today and are payable by Friday 17th February unless you have a payment plan in place, in which case this merely serves as a statement for your records.

Upon receipt, please take time to review your invoice/statement and contact Finance Secretary, Brooke, if you have any queries or you wish to setup a payment plan.

Please make sure to check your junk box if think you haven't received your statement.

It is the responsibility of all parents to pay school fees when attending Catholic schools, your contribution through school fees is essential to the continued operation of our school. If you are having difficulty in paying school fees, please contact Brooke Bone to discuss alternative arrangements.

Please see below school fee payment options that are available. Alternatively, payments can be made at the school by cash, cheque, EFTPOS, Mastercard or Visa Card.

Direct Deposit

If you wish to pay by direct transfer from your bank account to ours, please ensure you use your parent code located at the top right corner of your statement as a reference. Our bank account details are noted at the bottom of your parent statement.

Recurring Credit Card Billing

If you wish to make regular recurring payments as you would normally from a bank account but prefer to use a Credit Card so as to gain advantages of frequent flyer points etc., it is as simple as completing a form. This form is available on the school website under Fees and Charges in the Menu tab, titled Direct Debit by Credit Card Form. Otherwise please contact St Patrick's School Finance Secretary Brooke Bone at brooke-bone@rok.catholic.edu.au to have the form return e-mailed or call in to the office to have a printed copy provided.

BPay

BPay is the electronic bill payment service offered by Australia's leading banks and financial institutions providing a convenient, fast and easy way for debtors to pay their bills anytime/anywhere through the security of your telephone or internet banking. A BPay logo with the school's biller id and account reference is on your statement, if you choose to pay this way.

Parent Lounge

Simply login to the Parent Lounge Portal, select Make a Payment tab and follow the prompts to pay by credit card. An amount outstanding is automatically selected but you can amend this to pay a different amount.

Direct Debit

If you wish to set up direct debit from your account on a periodic basis, please do not hesitate to contact Brooke Bone for assistance or simply download, complete and return the form titled Direct Debit by Bank Account Form available on the school website under Fees and Charges in the Menu tab.

Centrepay

Login to your Centrelink through the MyGov website to setup periodic payments. Our CRN is 555 053 656K and use your parent code located at the top right corner of your statement as the reference.









2023 SPORTING CALENDAR

CROSS COUNTRY				
Obstacle Course P-2	Friday 21 April	9:00-11:00am	St Patrick's Jnr Oval	
Cross Country 3-6	Monday 24 April	9:00-11:00am	Shalom College	
District Cross Country	Friday 12 May	12:00-2:30pm	Avoca State School	
ATHLETICS CARNIVALS				
Athletics—Field Event (born 2011-2014)	Monday 19 June	9:00-2:30pm	St Patrick's	
Senior Athletics (born 2011-2014)	Wednesday 21 June	9:00-2:30pm	Shalom	
Junior Athletics (born 2015-2018)	Friday 23 June	9:00-12:00pm	St Patrick's	
District Athletics	10 & 11 August	9:00-3:00pm	St Luke's	
1500m Trials	TBA	9:00am	St Luke's	
SWIMMING CARNIVALS				
Junior Swimming Carnival	Friday 24 November	9:00-11:00am	Bundaberg Swim Academy	
Senior Swimming Carnival	Friday 24 November	11:00-1:00pm	Bundaberg Swim Academy	

TERM ONE PLANNER

WEEK 4	Week 13th February–17th February		
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	5P
Friday	PUPIL FREE DAY		
WEEK 5	Week 20th February—24th February		
Tuesday & Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	3B
Wednesday	Ash Wednesday	8.40am	Year 6
Friday	Sausage Sizzle		Year 5
WEEK 6	Week 27th February—3rd March	Time	Year Level
Monday	Parish Mass	9.00am	Year 6
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	3C
Friday	Sausage Sizzle		Year 4
WEEK 7	Week 6th March—10th March	Time	Year Level
Monday	Parish Mass	9.00am	Year 5
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	3L
Friday	Sausage Sizzle	9.00am	Year 3
WEEK 8	Week 13th March—17th March		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00am	Year 3
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	2C
Thursday	St Patrick's Day Liturgy (Year 6)	9.00am	Whole School
Friday	Sausage Sizzle		Year 2
WEEK 9	Week 20th March—24th March		
Monday	Parish Mass	9.00am	Year 4
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	2L
Friday	Sausage Sizzle		Year 1
WEEK 10	Week 27th March - 31st March		
Tuesday	Palm Sunday	8.40am	4M & 4K
Wednesday	Last Supper	8.40am	4C
Thursday	Good Friday	8.40am	Year 5
	Easter Liturgy	9.00am	Year 6 & Prep
Friday	Easter Hat Parade	10.15am	Prep to Year 3
	Mini Fair	11.00am-12.15pm	Whole School