



PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

1 August 2025

What is Our Catholic Identity - and is it at the Heart of Our School?

Catholic Identity is more than what we say - it's who we are as a school community. It is seen in the way we live, learn, serve, and relate to one another. Our Catholic Identity is shaped by the person of Jesus and the Gospel messages of love, hope, justice, and compassion. It's present in our classrooms, our conversations, our prayer life, and our commitment to serving others.

As a Catholic school, we are called to be a **community of faith, hope, and love** - where every student is supported not only to succeed academically, but to grow as a whole person: spiritually, morally, and socially.

Over the last few years, we have taken time to reflect on what it means to be a Catholic school today. Through our participation in the **Enhancing Catholic School Identity (ECSI)** surveys, students, staff, and families have shared their experiences and perceptions of our school's Catholic character.

ECSI encourages us to ask:

- How visible is our Catholic identity in the life of the School?
- Is faith being lived out in ways that are authentic, inclusive, and meaningful?
- How do we engage with faith in a way that respects tradition and encourages dialogue?

Our goal is not to hold onto the past for its own sake, but to ensure that our Catholic faith remains **alive, relevant, and deeply rooted** in the everyday life of the school.

Through this process of reflection, we are reminded that Catholic Identity is not static - it is something we grow into as a community. Whether through prayer, liturgy, social justice initiatives, learning experiences, or relationships, we are continually shaping what it means to be a Catholic school in a changing world.

So, is our Catholic Identity at the heart of our school?

Yes - when we live with compassion, seek truth, dialogue, include others, and act justly, we bring our Catholic identity to life. Let us continue to nurture a school where we not only learn about faith, but truly experience it - where everyone is welcomed, challenged, and inspired to live out the Gospel each day.



Click our
school crest
to go our
school
website



Click the
Parish logo
to go to the
Parish
website



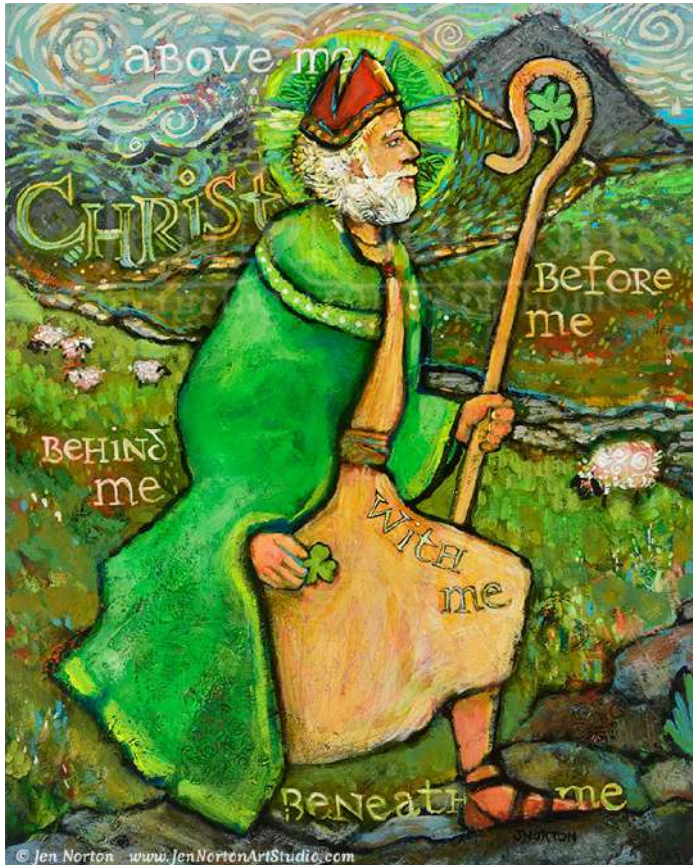
Click the
Facebook
icon to go to
our Facebook
page



Absentees

4994 8336

spb_absentees@rok.catholic.edu.au



Catholic Education Week - Something to Celebrate

This week we proudly celebrated Catholic Education Week across Queensland - a time for all 313 Catholic schools in our state to come in our state to come together and reflect on the rich mission, faith, and community spirit that define Catholic education.

This year's theme, "*Communities of Faith, Hope and Love*", reminds us that Catholic education is more than academic excellence. It is about nurturing faith, hope and love in every student, and empowering them to live out the Gospel in today's world.

Catholic Education Week also gives us the chance to thank the teachers, staff, clergy and families who contribute daily to the mission of our school. We are deeply grateful for the strong partnerships that help our children flourish in faith, learning, and life.

Our entire school has certainly been living examples of faith, hope and love this week. We have been busy showing gratitude to many and varied community groups through our acts of kindness challenges, selling kindness cupcakes to support homeless families, spreading joy with joy gems and coming together in prayer each morning at Courtyard Prayer, celebrating all things Catholic Education this week.

Let us continue to walk together as a community of faith, hope, and love, inspired by the teachings of Christ, the faith of St Patrick and the actions of Catherine McAuley.

Parent Webinar-Strategies to help with Dysregulation, Anxiety and Stress

St Patrick's has been committed to embracing a strength based approach to teaching and learning based on the Berry Street Model. Recently we offered a Parent Engagement Night here at school for parents wanting to know more. DCEO are now offering a free webinar for parents wanting to know how to adopt the same strategies at home, to support their children through stress and dysregulation. I would highly recommend this to all parents and caregivers.

Tracey Cook

APRE

Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton
Learning for Life

YOU'RE INVITED TO
A PARENT WEBINAR

This 60-minute session, facilitated by **Berry Street**, will give you practical strategies you can do at home to help your child manage their stress response.

Find out what is happening in your child's brain when they are dysregulated and ways you can help them to come back into calm.

6th August 2025

7:00-8:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 971 5410 8880
Passcode: 667247

Please note that this session will not be recorded

Celebrating Our Young Faithful: Confirmation and Holy Communion

This month, our Parish and School community joyfully celebrated a significant milestone as a number of our students completed the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion. These sacred rites mark an important step in their faith journey, deepening their relationship with God and the Church.

Confirmation is a special sacrament where students receive the Holy Spirit, strengthening their faith and empowering them to live as committed followers of Christ. Through prayer, preparation, and reflection, the students have embraced this gift with enthusiasm and reverence. They had the opportunity to be Confirmed by our Bishop; Michael McCarthy, along with Fr Don and Fr Anthony .

Similarly, the sacrament of Holy Communion allows students to receive the Body and Blood of Christ for the first time. This profound experience brings them closer to Jesus and the parish community, fostering a greater understanding of the Eucharist's central role in Catholic life.

Our dedicated staff, parish priests, and families have worked together to support the students through their spiritual preparation. The celebrations were marked by heartfelt ceremonies filled with joy, song, and prayer, witnessed by proud parents and community members.

As these young learners step forward in their faith, we are reminded of the importance of nurturing spirituality from an early age. We congratulate all our students on this beautiful achievement and encourage them to continue growing in faith, hope, and love.

Tracey Cook

APRE



Celebrating the Arts: Eisteddfod Success in Strings, Choir, and Verse Speaking

This week, our talented students have proudly represented our school at the Bundaberg Eisteddfod, showcasing their skills in **Strings**, **Choir**, and **Verse Speaking**. It has been a joy to witness their dedication, confidence, and love of the performing arts.

We are thrilled to share the outstanding results:

- ♦ Junior Strings - 1st Place
- ♦ Senior Strings - 1st Place
- ♦ Junior Choir - 2nd Place
- ♦ Senior choir - 1st Place
- ♦ Verse Speaking - 1B Highly Commended and 1H 1st Place

Our Strings Ensembles performed with precision and passion, demonstrating hours of practice and teamwork. Their musicality and stage presence earned them top honours in both the junior and senior sections.

The **School Choirs** sang with heart and harmony, with the **Junior Choir** earning **2nd place**, and the **Senior Choir** taking out **1st place** with a polished and emotive performance.

In the **Verse Speaking** sections, students showcased expressive delivery, clarity, and strong stage presence. With a **Highly Commended** and a **1st Place**, their performances truly brought the poetry to life.

We are incredibly proud of all students who participated. Their achievements are a testament to the strong culture of creativity and excellence we nurture at our school. A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated teachers, tutors, and families for supporting our students on their Eisteddfod journey.

Congratulations to all involved - you have made our school community very proud!



SCHOOL PHOTO DAY—MONDAY 4th AUGUST

Reminder!

order your school photos now

to order visit: www.advancedlife.com.au

enter code: K5C 1GB PD7



scan to order

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 mid-night 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.

CYBERBULLYING: PARENT WEBINAR

The changing face of cyberbullying: Protecting your child in 2025

eSafety is the Australian Government's independent online safety regulator. As the world's first government agency of its kind, it leads the way in tackling online risks, reducing harm, and shaping safer digital spaces for everyone.

Join eSafety's expert-led webinar to understand how cyberbullying is evolving - and how you can help your child stay safe online.

In just 45 minutes, they'll explore emerging online threats, including the use of AI, deepfakes, coded emojis, and subtle manipulation tactics.

Date: Tuesday, 5 August

Time: 12:30 PM to 1:15 PM (AEST)

You'll learn how to:

- spot signs your child may be experiencing or engaging in cyberbullying
- build protective strategies at home
- help your child respond, report and stay safe against online harms

This session is ideal for parents and carers of both primary and secondary school.

Click on this [link](#) to register.



YEARS 5 & 6 CAMPS

Reminder: Year 5 and Year 6 Camps—Parent Action Required

A friendly reminder to all Year 5 and Year 6 families to please check your email (sent earlier this week) for important information regarding the upcoming school camps. An information pack has also been sent home with your child this week.

Camp Dates:

Year 5 Camp: Monday 1 September - Wednesday 3 September

Year 6 Camp: Wednesday 10 September - Friday 12 September

What parents need to do:

1. **Parental Consent:** Please log in to the [Parent Orbit App](#) to provide consent for your child to attend and indicate if your child is a non-swimmer.
2. **Permission/Medical Form:** Return the completed form to the front office as soon as possible.
3. **Medication:** Any medication (accompanied with the medication form available from reception) must be signed in at the school office **the day before departure**.

If you have not received the email, please check your spam or junk folder.

For any questions, or further information, don't hesitate to contact the school office.



SPORTS NEWS

St Patrick's Got Tagged — and Loved It!

Week 1 was full of energy and excitement as the amazing crew from **Queensland Oztag** ran **FREE Oztag School Clinics** during our PE lessons! The kids had a blast learning the basics of Oztag — from evasive manoeuvres like twisting and spinning to mastering the perfect tag — all thanks to the awesome Development Officers who brought the game to life.

It was fantastic to see so many smiles, teamwork, and new skills on display. Queensland Oztag loved being part of it and are excited to see the kids again soon!



If your child enjoyed the clinic and would like to keep the fun going their **Junior Season 3** kicks off **Monday, Sept 8!**

Head to their website and Facebook page for more information.

<https://bundabergoztag.com/junior/>

<https://www.facebook.com/bundabergoztag>

All Schools Touch

It was wonderful to see so many avid Touch players turn up Monday afternoon to trial for the Wide Bay carnival being held on the last day of term, Friday 19 September. There will be another training/trial session **Monday, 4th August at 3:20PM** for anyone still keen to be considered. Unfortunately, we can only field one female and one male team and if we have enough players, we can put 1 team together in the mixed division. Teams will then be announced shortly after this next training session. A big **THANK YOU** to the parents and friends who attended to help run our first session. It brought together a great group of young men and women.



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



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.



Edmund Rice
Community Services

EDMUND RICE CAMPS QUEENSLAND

REACH CAMP

3 DAY, 2 NIGHT KIDS CAMP IN BUNDABERG

DROP OFF:
SEPTEMBER 30TH, 9AM
PICK UP:
OCTOBER 2ND, 9AM

ACTIVITIES:

- MESSY ACTIVITIES
- COOKING & LIFE SKILLS
- EXCURSIONS
- FUN GAMES

REFERRALS NECESSARY
NO COST

SCAN THIS QR CODE
TO START A
REFERRAL NOW:



REFER HERE: [BIT.LY/ERCOLD-REFER](https://bit.ly/ERCOLD-REFER) OR CONTACT US: 0403185988 OR ERCOLD@EDMUNDRICE.ORG

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