



PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

16th May 2025

In last week's newsletter, you would have noted a Queensland Public Health advertisement asking us to be prepared for the respiratory infections that pose a threat this winter season. Yesterday, we provided staff with a Flu Vaccination as another layer of protection. As flu season ramps up across Queensland, it's important to stay vigilant and important for us to remind our community to follow the tips below (at home and at school) to stay as healthy as possible

- **Stay home if you're unwell.** Don't risk spreading illness.
- **Practice good hygiene:** Wash hands regularly, use hand sanitiser, and cover coughs/sneezes.
- **Clean shared surfaces** frequently to reduce contamination.

When unwell it is difficult to see a silver lining, but this prayer reminds us of how it is often possible to find God's blessings in the strangest of situations.

*God bless those who suffer from the common cold.
Nature has entered into them;
Has led them aside and gently lain them low;
To contemplate life from the wayside;
To consider human frailty;
To receive the deep and dreamy messages of fever.
We give thanks for the insights of this humble perspective.
We give thanks for blessings in disguise.
Amen*

Staying on the theme of Workplace Health and Safety, please note that students are to be dropped off and collected from our Powers and Mulgrave Street collection zones only. These are designed with safety in mind. George Street does not have a Zebra Crossing and must be kept for those departing or arriving on buses only. Please refrain from using George Street unless your child is being collected from a bus. We appreciate that our collection zones can be quite congested, but these do clear out quickly of an afternoon. To save congestion it is appreciated if all siblings are collected from the one zone, where possible. Thanks so much for your continued support of St. Patrick's and the policy and procedures that encourage a safe culture. Enjoy a weekend full of 'blessings' even those that may come in 'disguise'



Kim O'Shea-Hard
Principal

PRIMARY SCHOOLING ABSENTEEISM

Absenteeism and Primary Student: Application from Compulsory Schooling

Travelling away during the term? Planning extended holiday? Medical operation booked?

Please read...

At St. Patrick's we value education and enabling students to reach their potential. Research and experience highlight how absenteeism has an enormous impact on student outcomes, including their well-being. When students miss as much as one day, it can impact their social connectivity to peers and class learning, which is why we keep a close eye on absenteeism across our school.

The Queensland Government has legislation around absenteeism, which we are compelled to follow closely. If your child/ren is/are unable to attend school for more than 10 consecutive days, but fewer than 110 school days, the class teacher needs to be alerted and an [Exemption from Compulsory Schooling form](#) completed at least 14 days prior to leaving. Once the paperwork is submitted via front reception, the principal will make contact, if an appointment is necessary.

As has been communicated at times around our school funding, Commonwealth and State Governments provide financial support for your child's education. Taking leave during census eligibility periods (January/February & July/August) can significantly impact the funding received by the school to support your child's education. Any leave booked during these times will require an interview in a way of planning ways of retaining contact during this period, via See Saw and/or other initiatives to provide evidence to show the student's connectivity to the school and learning. For longer periods (a term or longer) enrolment options will need to be considered, and alternative educational options explored by the family e.g. Distance Education. This can also be discussed. **Life happens** and we respect individual family's decision. As a school, we want to ensure we are following protocols, but also supporting families to navigate their individual needs and circumstances. Please click on the link provided to start the process, especially if you are planning to be absent for more than 10 days falling between **14th July and Friday 8th August, 2025** (Term Three, Weeks 1-4).

Thanks so much to the families who have already worked their way through this new process. Your communication and co-operation has been very much appreciated!

Every day counts

MOST STUDENTS ATTEND SCHOOL EVERY DAY

It's important that children are at school all day, every day

OK reasons to stay home from school

- sick
- natural disasters

It's NOT OK to skip school to shop, sleep in, finish an assignment, go on holidays

EVERY DAY AT SCHOOL COUNTS

Missing even 1 day can make a difference

1 day off school each fortnight = Missing more than a year of learning over 12 years

Each day's learning builds on what has been learnt before

Good attendance begins in Prep It's where good habits begin

ATTEND ALL DAY, EVERY DAY

Each 1% increase in attendance is significant

may relate to 2-3 HIGHER SCHOOL LEAVING POINTS

What parents can do

- Promote the importance of school
- Get to know the teacher
- Go to school events
- Read the school newsletter
- Be organised at home
- Get involved in school
- Ask about your child's day
- Volunteer to help at school

Get involved in your child's school

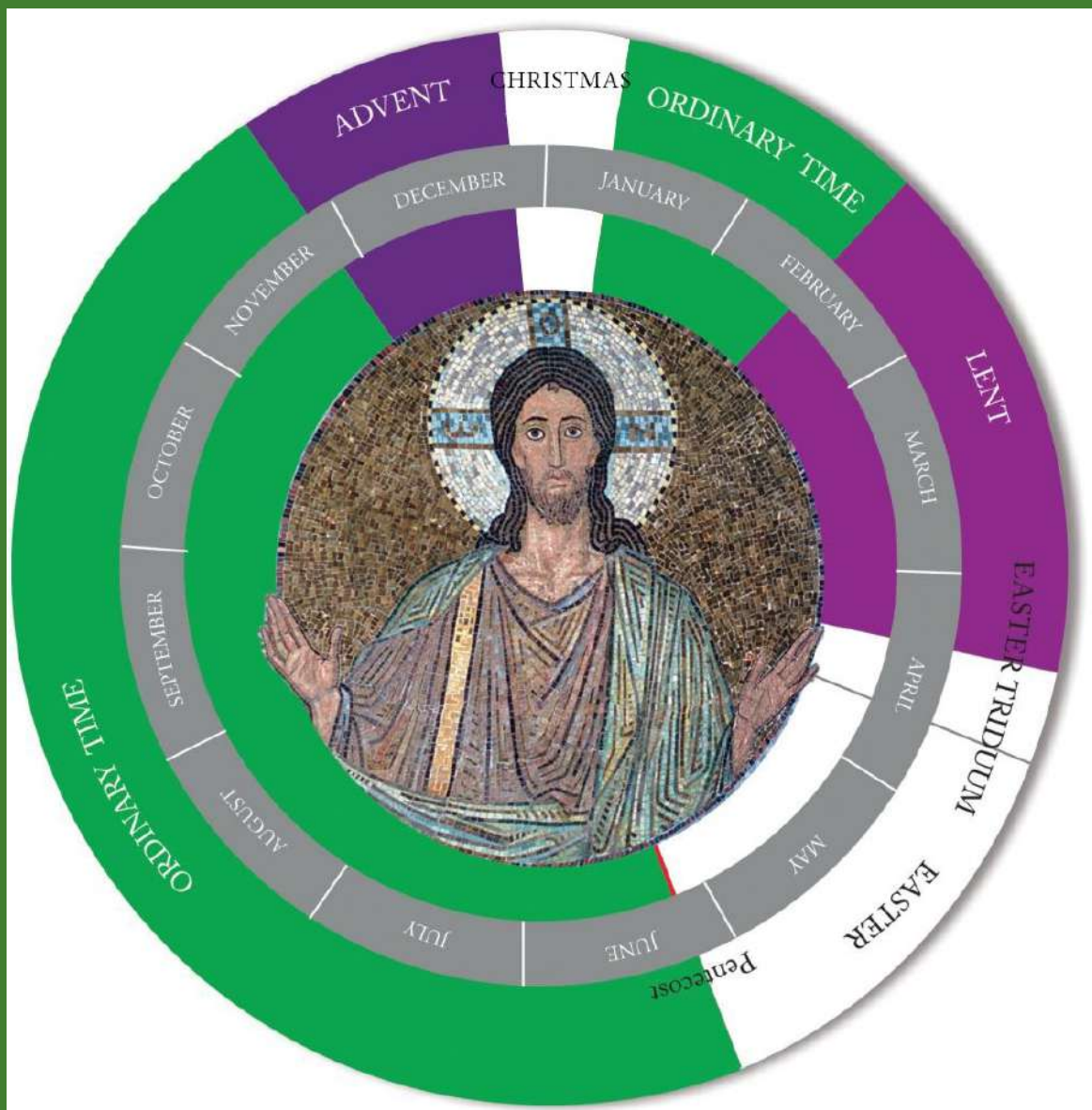
For more information Go to the **Every day counts** website: <https://education.qld.gov.au/initiatives-and-strategies/initiatives/every-day-counts>

The Easter Season

Most of us associate Easter with the conclusion of Holy Week and through to Easter Sunday (what a celebration that day is). The Season of Easter in our Church is actually 50 days long and extends through to Pentecost (with the coming of the Holy Spirit).

You will notice in our churches and in our classrooms the liturgical colour of Easter is white, representing Christ's victory over death. The music at Mass is filled with joyful alleluias and a celebratory feeling.

The liturgical year is a cycle that keeps repeating itself year after year, but, from a spiritual standpoint, it is always new because it continues to draw us more deeply into our relationship with Jesus. You can view the seasons of the church as a journey with Jesus.



TUCKSHOP NEWS



Please note the Tuckshop will be **closed** to orders for the second break Wednesday, 21st May and both first and second breaks Thursday, 22nd May.

Orders can still be placed for Monday 19th, Tuesday 20th and first break Wednesday 21st May.

SAUSAGE SIZZLE



NO SAUSAGE SIZZLE
FRIDAY 23RD MAY

MATHS CHALLENGE

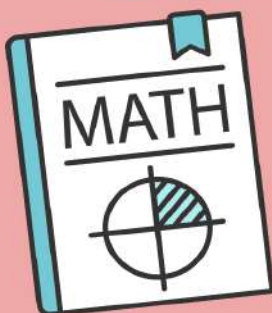


Year 5 and 6 MATH CHALLENGERS



*Do you love
a maths
challenge?*

Join our Maths Challengers Club to participate in fortnightly meet-ups in Mrs Salmon's Year 6 classroom! The group will meet from 8-8:30am on the Wednesday mornings of even weeks of term (weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10) to partake in team Maths activities and games!



PARENT ENGAGEMENT MINI CONFERENCE



CSPQ-Diocese of Rockhampton Parent Engagement Mini Conference

Key Speakers:

Mr Michael McCusker

Diocesan Director
Catholic Education,
Diocese of Rockhampton

Dr Kaylene Henderson

(MBBS (Qld) FRANZCP
Cert C&A Psych)

Jacqueline King

Counselling Services
Coordinator Catholic
Education,
Diocese of Rockhampton

All Catholic School Parents, Carers, Principals & School Staff welcome. A free event to support our children's learning and wellbeing.

When: Saturday 24 May

Time: 9.00am to 3.00pm

Venue: Kevin Castles Conference Centre Rockhampton -
152 West St, Allenstown

Morning Tea & Lunch provided

Join us for the whole day or come along to as many sessions as you can.

Information for parents/carers of all ages - Prep to Yr 12.

For more information and to register attendance, visit
<https://www.eventcreate.com/e/cspq-miniconf2025-rok>



CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF SERVICE
TO CATHOLIC EDUCATION & PARENTS
IN QUEENSLAND



SHALOM COLLEGE

Empowering WOMEN'S evening

THURSDAY 22 MAY 2025



WITH SPECIAL GUEST

Lauren Jackson

Australian Women's Basketball Great

Lauren Jackson is arguably one of Australia's top sportspeople - considered by many to be the country's greatest female basketballer in history. She was the first Australian in history to be selected as the first overall pick in an international and professional draft. She was crowned an All-Star in her first WNBA season.

Lauren has been on top for 15 years playing at the elite level. She has so many honours spanning across several leagues, including the Australian (WNBL), American (WNBA), European (EuroLeague) and Asian (WKBL) Women's Basketball.

In 2012, Lauren had the great honour of being flag bearer for Australia at the London Olympics. At the 2024 Paris Olympics, Lauren became a 5-time Olympic medallist helping the Opals take home the Bronze.

Away from the court, Lauren is a devoted mother to two boys - Harry & Lenny - and works at Basketball Australia as their Head of Women in Basketball and runs their She Hoops program, empowering women in sport.



TICKETS
\$35-50pp
+booking fees

www.trybooking.com/DAEBG

Join us for an inspiring and empowering evening

Thursday 22 May 2025 | 5:30-8:30pm | Shalom College Performing Arts Precinct



SIGNED SINGLET RAFFLE ON THE NIGHT

Money raised goes to Edon Place

All money raised from the event will be shared amongst Shalom College female sporting and performance teams.

The evening will include drinks and canapés in the Foyer from 5:30pm, then from 6:45pm guests will move into the Theatre to see an in-depth Q&A with **Lauren Jackson**.

Tickets include a drink on arrival and canapés.

All male and female students, parents, staff and members of the community are welcome to attend.

*Tickets can also be purchased with cash or EFTPOS from the Shalom College Finance Office

Thanks to our Sponsors








OUT AND ABOUT



66 Boundary Street Bundaberg
Ph: 41535354

Now accepting new enrolments for children from 15 months old to 5 years old.

FREE Pre-Prep Program for eligible families
(15 hours per week for forty weeks of the year and other terms and conditions apply)

BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Fully Air Conditioned
Open from 6am to 6pm Monday to Friday
Tertiary Qualified Pre-Prep Teachers
CCS Rebates Apply for Eligible Families

Large Classrooms with small class sizes to allow each child individual attention
Approved Kindergarten Funded Service- Eligible families receive 15 hours a week FREE Pre-Prep program
Privately Owned Local Family Business

The most popular and sort-after Kindergarten in town Awarded Bundaberg's most popular childcare for 2021 by 93.9 Hit FM
Business Awards- Nominated in the business Excellence Awards in 2022, 2021, 2019 and 2016 and the HESTA childcare Awards 2019
Specialised Pre-Prep, Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Programs



Cuddle Bugs Kindergarten & Pre-Prep
Where children learn to spread their wings!




SECOND HAND SALE

TUESDAY 27 MAY | 2.30PM - 6.30 PM
HELD AT THE OLD UNIFORM SHOP

BOYS FORMAL SHIRTS: \$15
BOYS FORMAL TROUSERS: \$10-20
GIRLS DRESSES: \$20
GIRLS BLOUSES: \$5-10
GIRLS SKIRTS: \$15

RED JUMPERS, BLUE JACKETS, HATS AND OTHER UNIFORMS IN VARIES SIZES AVAILABLE!!



EFTPOS ONLY



ALL ABILITIES RUGBY LEAGUE

FREE COME & TRY DAY



SUNDAY 25th May 2025

GIN GIN RUGBY LEAGUE
SPORTS GROUNDS
10AM-12 NOON

BRING HAT AND WATER BOTTLE






STEPS

ALL ABILITIES RUGBY LEAGUE
est 2022



You DO NOT have to have a disability to participate in ALL ABILITIES R.L.

Questions
Ph: 0427 137 885

Community Lifestyle Support

OUT AND ABOUT

medicare

Urgent Care Clinic

Bundaberg

Care when it's urgent,
but not an emergency.

Open 7 days, Monday – Sunday
8am – 8pm

Walk-in and online appointments.
Bulk billed services.

📍 53 Commercial Street
Kensington, QLD 4670

☎ 07 5316 3245

See us for treatment of urgent but non-life-threatening injuries and illnesses.
We are open 7 days a week until 8pm. Walk-ins are welcome.
Appointments are bulk billed.

We Treat

Minor injuries including:

- + Lacerations/cuts requiring stitches
- + Basic fracture management and sprains
- + Minor burns
- + Insect and animal bites
- + Dental emergencies
- + Removal of foreign body from ear, skin, nose or throat

Minor illnesses including:

- + Respiratory symptoms
- + ENT infections
- + Rashes
- + Urinary tract infections
- + Gastroenteritis
- + Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT)
- + Conjunctivitis

☎ 07 5316 3245

Scan here for opening hours and
to book an appointment online.



This service is supported by funding from:



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Parish logo
to go to the
Parish
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Absentees

4994 8336

spb_absentees@rok.catholic.edu.au

TERM TWO PLANNER

| | | | |
|-------------------|---|---------|---------------|
| WEEK 1 | Week 22nd April - Friday 25th April | | |
| Monday | PUBLIC HOLIDAY - EASTER MONDAY | | |
| Tuesday-Wednesday | Courtyard Prayer | 8:40am | 5G |
| Thursday | ANZAC DAY Liturgy | 8:40am | 5G |
| Friday | PUBLIC HOLIDAY - ANZAC DAY | | |
| WEEK 2 | Week 28th April - 2nd May | | |
| Monday | Parish Mass | 9:00am | Year 5 & 1 |
| Monday | Senior Cross Country - Years 3 to 6 | 9:00am | Shalom |
| Tuesday-Thursday | Courtyard Prayer | 8:40am | 4M |
| Friday | Junior Obstacle Course - Prep to Year 2 | 9:00am | St Patrick's |
| | Interschool Sport | 12:30pm | Years 5-6 |
| WEEK 3 | Week 5th May - 9th May | | |
| Monday | PUBLIC HOLIDAY - LABOUR DAY | | |
| Tuesday-Thursday | Courtyard Prayer | 8:40am | 4F |
| Friday | Mother's Day Liturgy | 9:00am | Year 2 |
| | Interschool Sport | 12:30pm | Years 5-6 |
| WEEK 4 | Week 12th May - 16th May | | |
| Monday | Parish Mass | 9:00am | Year 6 & Prep |
| Tuesday-Thursday | Courtyard Prayer | 8:40am | 4K |
| Friday | District Cross Country - no interschool sport | All Day | Avoca SS |
| WEEK 5 | Week 19th May - 23rd May | | |
| Monday | Parish Mass | 8:40am | Year 3 |
| Tuesday-Thursday | Courtyard Prayer | 8:40am | 3T |
| Friday | Interschool Sport | 12:30pm | Years 5-6 |
| WEEK 6 | Week 26th May - 30th May | | |
| Monday | Parish Mass | 8:40am | Year 2 |
| Tuesday-Wednesday | Courtyard Prayer | 8:40am | 3L |
| Thursday | BUNDABERG SHOW HOLIDAY | | |
| Friday | Interschool Sport | 12:30pm | Years 5-6 |
| WEEK 7 | Week 2nd June - 6th June | | |
| Monday | Parish Mass | 8:40am | Year 4 |
| Tuesday-Thursday | Courtyard Prayer | 8:40am | 3C |
| Wednesday | Questacon Science Circus | All Day | Prep - 6 |
| Friday | Interschool Sport | 12:30pm | Years 5-6 |
| WEEK 8 | Week 9th June -13th June | | |
| Tuesday-Thursday | Courtyard Prayer | 8:40am | 1H |
| WEEK 9 | Week 16th June - 20th June | | |
| Monday | Field Events Day - students born 2015, 2014 & 2013 | All Day | St Patrick's |
| Tuesday-Thursday | Courtyard Prayer | 8:40am | 1B |
| Tuesday | Music Retreat Day - Junior & Senior Strings students | All Day | Chaverim |
| WEEK 10 | Week 23rd June - 27th June | | |
| Monday | Senior Athletics Carnival - students born 2016, 2015, 2014 & 2013 | All Day | Shalom |
| Tuesday-Thursday | Courtyard Prayer | 8:40am | 1C |
| Friday | Junior Athletics Carnival - students born 2020,2019, 2018 & 2017 | All Day | St Patrick's |

| 2025 SPORT DATES | | | |
|------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| 2nd May | Junior Obstacle Course | Prep to Year 2 | St Patrick's |
| 16 June | Senior Field Events | Students born 2016, 2015, 2014 & 2013 | St Patrick's |
| 23rd June | Senior Athletics Day | Students born 2016, 2015, 2014 & 2013 | Shalom College |
| 27th June | Junior Athletics Day | Students born 2020, 2019, 2018 & 2017 | St Patrick's |
| 21st November | Swimming Carnival | Years 3 to 6 | Bundaberg |

| 2025 TERM DATES | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| TERM 1 | Monday 28 January - Friday 4 April |
| TERM 2 | Tuesday 22 April - Friday 27 June |
| TERM 3 | Monday 14 July - Friday 19 September |
| TERM 4 | Tuesday 7 October - Friday 5 December |