



PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

28th February 2025



Last Friday the staff of St. Patrick's engaged in Bishop's Inservice Day. Part of this day was dedicated to breaking open the Pope's most recent Encyclical Letter on Human and Divine Love of the Heart of Jesus Christ 'Dilexit Nos'. This text encouraged us to 'listen with the ear of the heart' which marries well with 2025 being a Jubilee Year of Hope. The Rockhampton Diocesan message described this as a time to 'allow us to find light in the midst of darkness'.

You only have to watch the news or scroll social media to find examples of darkness in our world, but it is important to remain firmly focussed on the 'light' that surrounds us each and every day. I often reflect on how privileged we are to be part of a Catholic Education community which is surrounded by so many little beacons of light (our students) giving us 'hope' for a promising future. This week we saw Year Six students accompany myself and new prospective parents around our beautiful school. They proudly engaged visitors in conversation around their own St. Patrick's journey. I dropped in to witness our Mini Vinnies group meeting with Mrs. Cook during their lunch break earlier this week. I look forward to their acts of service 'shining through' as they embark on their first Project Compassion fundraising and awareness activity next week, on Shrove Tuesday, preparing us for Ash Wednesday and the Lenten Season to follow. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning Courtyard Prayer, led by our students, is a light giving way to start the day for many in our community. These are all examples of the wonderful initiatives our students engage in increasing a sense of gratefulness and solidarity. Parents/Carers/Grandparents are always welcome to attend these short, sharp 'ear of the heart' assembly moments beginning shortly after the first bell.

Pope Francis has been dedicated to leading in a way that reminds us to celebrate the 'simple things in life' and his passion for Human Dignity and Stewardship have been most evident. This newsletter comes at a time when Pope Francis needs our thoughts and prayers, as his health has declined. It may seem like the Vatican is a long way from our little place in space, but the geographical distance seemed less significant in reading that the Honourable Keith Pitt will soon transition from his role in Federal Parliament to take on Ambassador of the Holy See. Keith's own children attended St. Patrick's and Shalom College, and he has championed the Bundaberg community throughout his entire life. I know he will carry our community in his heart, as he journeys into this next exciting chapter. We wish Keith well, knowing he will prove a strong connection for our community and country, on the global stage. Please read a [letter of congratulations](#).

Kim O'Shea-Hard
Principal



Jubilee 2025
PILGRIMS OF HOPE



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

Meet the Mini Vinnies Team

The Mini Vinnies Team is a group of our Year 6 Leaders who give up their time to help others. What they do is Social Justice in action. These students meet weekly and have already planned our Pancakes for People fundraiser and are busy working on our 'Big Water Walk' in aid of Caritas Australia. Our Mini Vinnies Team are all about living faith through action. The actions of our Mini Vinnies group generally involve three components:

1. **See** : Education and Awareness.

'Seeing' means becoming aware of some of the community's social ills and knowing that, whilst there are many beautiful things in this world, it can always be made a little better by good works. It is an opportunity for members of the Mini Vinnies Team to develop empathy for those in need. *"Be good, keep your feet dry, your eyes open, your heart at peace and your soul in the joy of Christ."* – Thomas Merton

2. **Think**: Formation.

'Thinking' is an opportunity for Mini Vinnies members to share their thoughts, to engage in thoughtful discussion and to consider and form their relationships with their peers, those in need and Christ. *"Small is the number of people who see with their eyes and think with their minds."* – Albert Einstein

3. **Do**: Community service and Fund-raising.

'Doing' is an opportunity for the Team to do something about the issues they have seen, thought about, and discussed. *"Consult not your fears but your hopes and your dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but about your unfulfilled potential. Concern yourself not with what you tried and failed in, but with what is still possible for you to do."* – Pope John XXIII



St Patrick's Mini Vinnies Fundraiser

Shrove Tuesday March 4

Pancakes for People Fundraiser



\$2 per serve of pancakes
Available from 8am



3 locations: E Block, outside the Library & behind the Multi

Shrove Tuesday

Don't forget next week (March 4) is Shrove Tuesday, which means our Mini Vinnies 'Pancakes for People' fundraiser will be held. Students can purchase a serve of pancakes for \$2 to aid in the first of our Project Compassion fundraisers. This year we are aiming to be able to provide a ten thousand litre water tank to a school in Samoa. You can read about Toefuata'iga's story here: <https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion/toefuataiga-story>

Tracey Cook

APRE

AN E-SAFETY MESSAGE FOR PARENTS



“Cyberbullying and the back-to-school surge: How we can protect our kids” is written by ESafety Commissioner, Julie Inman Grant.

New data from eSafety shows a staggering 450 per cent rise in cyberbullying reports over the past five years, with children transitioning into secondary school accounting for more than a third of all cases.

If [parents](#) can take away one message as you start the school year, it's don't wait for an incident to occur to have a conversation with your child about cyberbullying. Early conversations about online safety will provide your child with the social and emotional skills needed to reduce the risks and make our communities safer for all.

[Click here for more information.](#)



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 11 March 2025.

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



CHOIR REHEARSAL

A big thank you to all the children remembering to come to choir. We now have quite large junior and senior choirs who are starting to prepare for the eisteddfod in June.

Just a reminder that Senior Choir (grades 4-6) is held at 7:30am Wednesday mornings and Junior Choir (1-3) is held at 8:05am Wednesday mornings. Both groups rehearse in the music room at the stage area of the multi. If Junior Choir children could bring a folder to keep their music in, it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your support,

Jed Morley

Friendly Reminder

PREP 2026 ENROLMENT FORMATION

Enrolments for Prep 2026 are already filling fast. If you are an existing family and haven't yet enrolled a child/children eligible for Prep 2026, please do so as soon as possible to ensure he/she is given priority. Should you know of others who are hopeful of beginning their St. Patrick's journey in 2026, please forward on this information.

Enrol now for **Prep 2026**

Scan QR Code to apply.

First round enrolments close Monday 21 April 2025. Waitlists may apply.

DANCE NIGHT—THURSDAY, 6 MARCH

Dance Night will be held on Thursday 6th March. Our annual dance night is a wonderful way to welcome new families to the school and for our students to showcase the dancing talents they have developed through their Physical Education lessons.

Gates Open @ 5:00pm

Parents are welcome to bring a picnic dinner to enjoy with your family on the oval before the dancing begins.

Dance presentation begins 5:30pm – 6:30pm.

The dance presentation will be held on the senior oval. Students will be seated in designated areas and supervised by teachers in their respective year levels during the performances. Students will remain with their classmates in their designated areas for the duration of the performances, with parents sitting in an area behind the children. Folding chairs are recommended for parents. Each student will be involved in 3-4 dances. Our students have worked very hard to learn their dances and are looking forward to this performance to showcase their skills.

To create a great atmosphere, we encourage the children to dress in the themes to compliment their performances.

Thursday, 6 March
DANCE NIGHT

Gates open @ 5pm for 5:30pm start
on the Oval

Themes:
Prep and Year 1 - Pirates
Year 2, 3 & 4 - Minions
Year 5 & 6 - Dancers

SPORTS NEWS

BUNDABERG DISTRICT U12 SCHOOL SPORTS TRIALS—2025

Trial information will be advised in the school's newsletter each week detailing trial information for upcoming individual and team events.

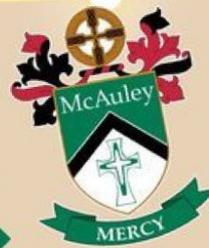
Gaining selection in a Bundaberg District Team is the first step on the pathway to representing Wide Bay and Queensland. To represent Bundaberg District, students must be born 2013, 2014 & 2015 (only exceptional 10 year old students will be given permission to trial in team sports). The majority of team sport trials occur in February and March.

Please be aware of the following points:

- Team sports are selected in an U12 category and it is very unlikely that a 10 year old student would be selected, with the exception of Rugby League. Rugby League selects students in U10, U11 and U12 categories due to the contact nature of the sport.
- Bundaberg District trials are not 'have a go' trials. St Patrick's has a responsibility for sending students who we feel display high ability in the chosen sport and a high level of behaviour.
- Students wishing to trial must have a consent form issued by the school with authorisation from Mr Plumb, Ms Gollshewsky or Mr Egan. Students will not be able to participate in the trials without a **Bundaberg District Primary Schools nomination form**.
- Cross Country and Athletics nominations will be made by the school after our school carnivals. Swimming & Aquathlon are the exceptions – Wide Bay School Sport are responsible for the selection of these teams.

BDSS Sport		Age Group	Date	Venue	Time
Netball	Girls	10-11 years	Thursday 6 March	Multi—St Luke's Anglican	3:30 to 5:00pm
	Boys	11-12 years	Thursday 13 March	Multi—St Luke's Anglican	3:30 to 5:00pm
Basketball	Girls & Boys	2013, 2014 & 2015	Monday 3 March	Bundaberg Basketball Stadium	4:15 to 5:30pm
Touch Football	Girls & Boys	2013, 2014 & exceptional 2015 players	Friday 7 March	Shalom College	3:30 to 5:15pm
			Friday 14 March		
Softball	Girls & Boys	2013, 2014 & 2015	Monday 3 March	Bundaberg Softball Grounds, Clayton Road	3:30 to 5:00pm
Squash	Girls & Boys	2013, 2014 & 2015	Monday 24 March	Bundaberg Squash Courts—1 John Street	4:00 to 5:00pm
Hockey	Girls & Boys	2013, 2014 & 2015	Monday 24 March	Hinkler Park, Thornhill Street	4:00 to 5:00pm
			Monday 31 March		
Rugby League	Girls & Boys	2013, 2014 & 2015 (Age appropriate girls of representative standard)	Monday 17 March	Waves Sporting Complex (Thabeban Road)	3:30 to 5:30pm
			Monday 24 March		
			Monday 31 March		
Soccer	Girls	2013, 2014 & 2015	Monday 10 March <u>and</u> Monday 17 March	Shalom College	4:00 to 5:30pm
	Boys	2013, 2014 (exceptional 10 year olds, 2015)	Tuesday 11 March (2013) Thursday 13 March (2014 & 2015) Tuesday 18 March (all boys invited back from previous week)	Shalom College	4:00 to 5:30pm
Golf	Boys & Girls Trials: Nominations close on Friday 7 March. A golf handicap will be required for nomination purposes. Please see Taryn Golshewsky if interested or for more information.				

McAuley House Mini Markets & Movie Night



**CALLING ALL
INTERESTED STALL
HOLDERS!**

Are you creative?
Would you like to earn a
few extra dollars?
Are you already a stall
holder?

We are looking for
anyone interested in
having their own stall at
our McAuley Mini
Markets and Movie
Night.

DATE: 21st MARCH 2025

TIME: 5:30-8:30

VENUE: Shalom PAP Foyer

This is our house major fundraiser for the year for our House Charity CARINBUNDI and we would you to join us with your stall. If interested and would like further details please email: vandalenp@shalomcollege.com by Wednesday 5/03/25

McAuley House Mini Markets & Movie Night



Friday 21 March | 5:30pm—8:30pm
Shalom Performing Arts Precinct



Free Movie for the kids while parents shop the 20+ stalls! Get something handmade as an early Easter or Mother's Day present!

Raffles, sausage sizzle, chips, popcorn, lollies, coffee and other drinks available to purchase

All Shalom families and members of the community welcome!

All funds raised go to House Charity, Carinbundi 

Entry via
Gold Coin
Donation



ENJOY A DAY OUT AT THE
BUNDABERG

Catholic Schools

RACE DAY 2025
CHEERS TO 20 YEARS!



SATURDAY 15 MARCH
THABEBAN PARK RACECOURSE
MARQUEE GATES OPEN 11:30AM
LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE!

Admission \$85

INCLUDES ENTRANCE TO THE MARQUEE
PARTY, 2 FREE DRINK TICKETS,
FINGER FOOD & A BUS TO THE CBD

- ◆ FASHION PARADE
- ◆ HUGE RAFFLE





St Patrick's
Catholic Primary School

BUNDABERG

Catholic Schools

RACE DAY 2025

50/50 RAFFLE

BUNDABERG CATHOLIC SCHOOLS RACE DAY

50 / 50

RACE DAY RAFFLE

WIN
MINIMUM

\$1000

FOR JUST
\$10

**YOU COULD WIN 50% OF
THE RAFFLE EARNINGS!**

*The more tickets sold,
the BIGGER the prize.*



RAFFLE DRAW DETAILS

15 March 2025

3:30 PM

Bundaberg Race Club

BUY TICKETS NOW!

www.raffletix.com.au/?ref=ym4v4

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS RACE DAY

ENJOY A DAY OUT AT THE
BUNDABERG

Catholic Schools

RACE DAY 2025
CHEERS TO 20 YEARS!



**SUPERVISED EVENT
CANTEEN FACILITIES**

**\$5
Entry**

BLUE LIGHT DISCO
FRIDAY 4TH APRIL

5pm - 7pm Prep to Yr 6 | 7.30pm - 9.30pm Yr 7 to Yr 12
Bundaberg Civic Centre, Bourbong St, Bundaberg Central

TERM ONE PLANNER

WEEK 1	Week 27th January-31st January		
Monday	AUSTRALIA DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY		
Tuesday–Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	Mrs Cook & Friends
WEEK 2	Week 3rd February-7th February		
Tuesday–Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	5P
Friday	Opening School Mass	9.00am	Years 3-6
WEEK 3	Week 10th February–14th February		
Tuesday–Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	5S
Friday	Year 6 Leadership Induction	9.00am	Whole School
WEEK 4	Week 17th February–21st February		
Monday	Parish Mass	9.00am	Year 6
Tuesday–Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	6M
Friday	PUPIL FREE DAY		
WEEK 5	Week 24th February–28th February		
Monday	Parish Mass	9.00am	Year 1 & 5
Tuesday–Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	6A
WEEK 6	Week 3rd March–7th March	Time	Year Level
Monday	Parish Mass	9.00am	Year 3
Tuesday–Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	6S
Wednesday	Ash Wednesday	8:40am	Whole School
Thursday	St Patrick's Dance Night	5:00pm for 5:30pm start	Whole School
WEEK 7	Week 10th March–14th March	Time	Year Level
Monday	Parish Mass	9.00am	Year 4
Tuesday–Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	2N
WEEK 8	Week 17th March–21st March		
Monday	St Patrick's Day Liturgy	9.30am	Whole School
Tuesday	Year 6 Leaders Announced (during Liturgy)	9.30am	Whole School
Tuesday–Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	2C
WEEK 9	Week 24th March–28th March		
Monday	Parish Mass	9.00am	Year 2
Tuesday–Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	2W
WEEK 10	Week 31st March–4th April		
Tuesday	Palm Sunday	8:40am	4M & 4K
Wednesday	Last Supper	8.40am	4F
Thursday	Good Friday	8.40am	5S
Friday	Easter Prayer	9:00am	Year 6 & Prep
	Easter Hat Parade	10:00am	Prep to Year 3
	Mini Fair	11:00am	Whole School

2025 SPORT DATES

2 May	Junior Obstacle Course	Prep to Year 2	St Patrick's
9 May	Cross Country	Years 3 to 6	Shalom College
20 June	Senior Athletics Day	Students born 2016, 2015, 2014 & 2013	Shalom College
27 June	Junior Athletics Day	Students born 2020, 2019, 2018 & 2017	St Patrick's
21 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