

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

22 August 2025

Book Week 2025 Reflection—St Patrick's

Book Week 2025 has proved a vibrant celebration across Australia this week. This year's theme, "Book an Adventure!", marks the 80th anniversary of Children's Book Week, organised by the Children's Book Council of Australia (CBCA). Book Week celebrates the power of stories to inspire, challenge, and transform through the lived experiences of colourful characters. This week, Year 6M shared stories built around renowned Biblical characters in their final Courtyard Prayer. Wednesday's prayer was hinged around a Jeremiah story, which I felt perfectly matched the spirit of Book Week.

Jeremiah's story is:

- An Adventure in Faith: He journeys through emotional and spiritual landscapes facing rejection, imprisonment, and exile, yet remaining faithful.
- A Voice for Justice: He speaks out against injustice and defends the vulnerable, echoing themes found in many children's books today.
- A Story of Resilience: His perseverance encourages young readers to stand firm in their beliefs and values

Reading is not just something we promote one week a year. It is pivotal to the learning process, equipping individuals with the skills and mindset necessary to navigate the life adventures that are sure to challenge our students, as they journey through one very complex world.

Throughout the week, themes from the shortlisted 2025 Books of the Year have emerged in classrooms, the Library, Maker Space, and even the playground. A big thank you to the Book Week Team (Jo Driver,

Andrea Tindall, Sally French, Kim Werchon, OSHC) and all who attended the jewel in the crown- 'Reading on the Deck'. It was a beautiful day to share sunshine, stories, and of course, a sausage sizzle.

Not all parents have the privilege of attending due to work commitments, and I love seeing students join in with staff or the families of friends. Some need a 'little' to get in to character and some need 'a lot' as can be seen in the photos, but either way Book Week at St. Patrick's is far more than dressing up. It is an opportunity to build a strong sense of community while providing a positive reading experience that is sure to be etched in the minds of our students for years to come.



Click our









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Absentees

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spb_absentees@rok.catholic.edu.au

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This coming Tuesday will be our next Parent Engagement Night at 5:30 PM in the Staff room. Thanks to those parents who added topics for conversation last week. Please register your interest by **completing this form** by Monday 25 August, and add a selection of suggested topics we will publish in an agenda. I look forward to seeing some of you there.

Kim O'Shea-Hard

PRINCIPAL



RELIGION NEWS

Second New Artwork Brightens Our Office Space

We are delighted to share that our school office has been graced with a second stunning new piece of art by renowned Catholic artist Jen Norton. This vibrant and expressive painting portrays Catherine McAuley, founder of the Sisters of Mercy, whose life and mission continue to inspire and shape the heart of our school community.

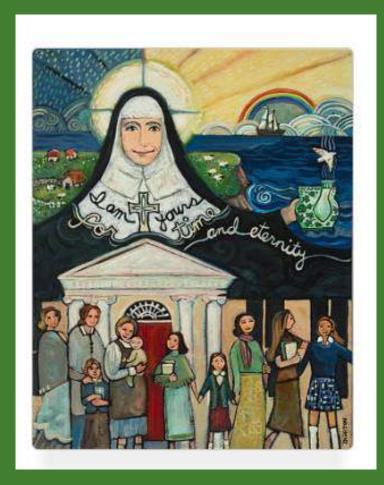
Catherine McAuley dedicated her life to serving others, particularly those in need, through education, compassion, and practical works of mercy. Her vision was one of hope, faith, and love in action - a vision we strive to live out each day at St Patrick's. The presence of her image in our office serves as both a warm welcome to visitors and a daily reminder to all of us to follow her example.

One of Catherine's well-known saying is:

"We should be shining lamps, giving light to all around us".

This artwork beautifully captures that sentiment - with radiant colour, gentle detail, and a sense joy that reflects the light Catherine encouraged each of us to share.

We warmly invite families to take a moment to view this meaningful addition next time you are at the school. May it remind us what even the smallest acts of kindness can brighten someone's day and help our Mercy values shine through in our words and actions.



Tracey Cook

APRE

YEARS 5 CAMP REMINDER



Reminder: Year 5 Camp — Monday 1 September - Wednesday 3 September

A friendly reminder to all Year 5 families to please send in any **medication** (accompanied <u>with the signed medication form</u> available from reception) to the school office on **Tuesday 26 August**. Please refer to the email sent to home for further information and the medication form.



A kind reminder that camp days are school days. If your child takes daily medication at home or at school, please ensure we have ample supply to be dispensed to them while at camp.



Thank you to those families who have already completed the form and dropped off medication. 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.

ALL SCHOOLS TOUCH FOOTBALL TRAINING

Touch Football training will be held on **Monday 25th August** at Bundaberg Touch Football Grounds from **4:30pm**— **5:30pm**.

All students participating are reminded to bring their sports gear along.

A big thank you to the parents and friends for your support.



FATHER'S DAY



We are excited to inform you that on **Thursday, 4 September** Year 3 will lead the school community in a special Prayer Celebration in honour of fathers and the special men in our lives.

To make this event more meaningful, we invite you to send a photo of 'dad-and-me' or a special man to the school office

at spboffice@rok.catholic.edu.au by no later than **Monday**, **1 September** to be included in the presentation.

Thank you for your support in helping us celebrate these important figures in our children's lives.

BUNDABERG CATHOLIC PARISH WELCOMES YOU



SPELLING BEE

ST PATRICK'S 2025



When: Monday September 15 (Week 10, Term 3)

Where: Maker Space

Who: Years 1-6

MRS COOK WILL VISIT CLASSES IN WEEK 9 FOR NOMINATIONS

BUNDABERG CATHOLIC PARISH WELCOMES YOU



Heavy Boxing Bag Drills Focus Pad Combinations Body Strengthening Exercises Agility & Coordination Skills Footwork Drills

payment via bank transfer.

Account Number: 905532

Bank: Westpac

BSB: 034-122

To confirm your booking, please make

Account Name: Mighty Mitts Boxing

Bookings Essential







LEAGUESTARS.COM





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	68
Thursday	Father's Day Liturgy	9:00am	Year 3
Friday	PUPIL FREE DA	Y	
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