



## PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

7th March 2025

This week Year 6S lead us through a beautiful ritual capturing the essence of Ash Wednesday and the Lenten journey we have now entered. The prayers, readings and lyrics shared reminded us that Lent is a time to reflect. A time of personal growth in preparation for the Easter Season, perfectly described by Oscar Romero as a time to aspire to 'be more' rather than to 'have more'. Week 6 has certainly provided enriching experiences that have encouraged our community, to strengthen bonds not only locally but globally. Our Year 6 Mini Vinnies group created awareness and funds for Project Compassion via their Shrove Tuesday initiative. Pancakes sold out fast in support of the work Caritas carries out on our behalf, for those most in need in communities and countries, not as fortunate as our own. This was also a firm reminder that we were approaching 40 days of the Lenten Season.

Then 'Dance Night' provided an opportunity for our community to stand in solidarity to celebrate the beginning of a new school year whilst providing a rich learning experience at the culmination of the student's 'Dance' unit in Physical Education. Miss Gollshewsky lead students through their performances and it was wonderful to witness such a strong sense of community. This was a wonderful opportunity for students and families to come together, whilst watching their sons and daughters build self confidence and strengthen relationships. We were forever grateful for the wonderful weather we were afforded, at a time when our southern friends and relatives were preparing for cyclone Alfred and we keep them firmly in our thoughts and prayers over the coming hours/days.



This week, Prep students have certainly shown growth, not only on the dance floor but socially. From Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> March, Prep students will be released at 3pm and collected like all other students in our school. Whilst we like to afford our newest students a buffer to transition them in to 'Big School' it is now important to take the next step and normalise end of day routines. If you need to collect your child prior to 3pm for an appointment or unavoidable commitment, please notify the office and organise an early departure ahead of time.

Last week we actioned our first Board Meeting of the year. The Chairperson of the Board is once again Tanya Wakely, whilst Ben Pollock is Vice Chair and Mrs. Lucy Storey our Secretary/Staff Representative . Other Board members include Kelly Dwyer, Katie Chadwick, Yesmin Dever, Stephen Dale and Bree Watson. Fr. Don White will be invited once again as our Spiritual Leader. I find this group a wealth of support and knowledge and very much look forward to meeting with them again this year. One of the topics we discussed was whether it was time to amend our Grooming Policy to align with our main feeder, school Shalom College and other brother and sister schools. In recent years, Shalom have allowed both girls and boys to have their hair tied back once it has reached the top of the collar. I have sought advice from Teachers/Staff/Board/Students and now you, to seek any reasons why we might not venture down this path. At this point in time, this amendment has been supported, but I'd be open to hearing from anyone who might feel strongly against this change in the coming days. If feedback remains positive we will continue work on the policy and will publish any amendments.



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

# Patty's PEN

Parents, it's time to connect. Join us for Patty's PEN (Parent Engagement Night) - a casual event for parents to connect and suggest discussion topics for conversation.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**13 MAY 2025**  
**@ 5:30 PM**  
**Staff Room**

**With Host:**  
**Bianca McLeish**  
 Student Wellbeing Coordinator  
*"Strength Based Educational Model"*

- ✓ Casual and welcoming space to connect with other parents.
- ✓ Share your ideas—suggest topics for future discussions.
- ✓ Light snacks and Beverages will be provided

**A Perfect way for Parents to Engage!**

**FUTURE PATTY'S PEN SESSIONS AND TOPICS REGISTER YOUR INTEREST**

## Parent Engagement Night (PEN)

At St. Patrick's we have a strong Board, as highlighted above, which meet regularly. The role of a P & F has changed over the years and essentially traditional formal meetings dissipated due to attendance and eventually COVID. However, it is important to keep parents engaged in creative ways. Over the past few years, we have held parent sessions that have value-added to the knowledge base of interested parents and care givers. This has included Channel 9's Parenting Psychologist, Justin Coulson, DCEO Math Consultant John Campbell in assisting young children to develop mathematically, learning about Zones of Regulation, and more.

Next Term, **Tuesday 13th May at 5:30PM**, we have booked in Diocesan Consultant **Bianca McLeish** to host a session for parents to learn about the '*Strength-Based Education Model*' St. Patrick's staff, teachers and students are presently embracing. In going forward I would like to introduce another opportunity for parents, **Patty's PEN**.

PEN is an acronym for Parent Engagement Night which will provide a low-key excuse to meet in a space where parents get to suggest topics for conversation. Our first session will happen in the staffroom, and it will be necessary to register using this [online form](#) for catering & seating purposes. There is also a place for anyone wanting to suggest a topic for conversation. We may not be able to cover all topics, but this will provide an excellent place to start. For now, please express your interest and the day/s that would suit, and I look forward to seeing where Patty's PEN might take us.

**Kim O'Shea-Hard**  
 Principal

# CHALLENGE

## Project Compassion Challenge

Next week students will receive their small donation boxes to take home and find a few coins to put in during Lent. Our first Lent challenge is called 'Big Water Walk'. Money we raise as a school community will go toward supporting a school in Samoa to install a 10,000L water tank. We will hold our 'Big Water Walk' during week 9 of this term (more details to follow next week). That will be the day for students bring in their donation boxes to add to our fundraising total. It's a fun way for our students to get involved in helping others during Lent.



## First Week of Lent (week beginning Monday 10 March)

This Lent, we're invited to *Unite Against Poverty* with Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. This year is especially significant as we celebrate the Jubilee Year - *a time of renewal and solidarity*.

Project Compassion 2025 shares three stories from around the world. We'll meet **Toefuata'iga** - (*Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah*) a young student from Samoa who faced severe water shortages at her school.

Thanks to Caritas Australia and the generosity of supporters like you, her school now has a 10,000 L water tank improving hygiene and allowing the teachers to prioritise education.

We'll get to know **Lam** from Vietnam, born with short stature, Lam faced social exclusion and limited employment opportunities – through the I-SHINE program, Lam is now a freelance graphic designer.

And we'll meet **Irene** from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (*DRC*) who faced immense challenges after losing her father to war and raising her children in poverty. With support from Caritas Australia, Irene received vocational training in sewing and farming and can now support her whole family.

Watch our Introduction to Project Compassion film [HERE](#) - be inspired by 3 powerful stories of resilience and strength, and learn the impact that your support can have on vulnerable communities around the world.



## St Patrick's Day

Don't forget that on Monday, March 17 we will have our St Patrick's Day celebrations. This will include a Liturgy at 9.30am in the Multi, announcement of our School Leadership Teams (Mini Vinnies, Reef Guardians and House Captains) and a scavenger hunt for the students. Parents are most welcome to attend.

## Mini Fair

Watch this space for information about the end of term Mini Fair. One of the students' favourite fundraising events of our year. All money will go toward our Project Compassion fundraising efforts.

*Tracey Cook*

APRE

## SENIOR CROSS COUNTRY—NEW DATE

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the date of the St Patrick's Senior Cross Country Carnival has had to be changed to Term 2 and will now be in the morning of Monday, 28th of April at Shalom College.

You would have received via Parent Orbit a notification to nominate which event your child will compete in at the carnival. Please complete this by no later than 28 March.

Students will be transported to and from Shalom College. Buses will depart St Patrick's Catholic Primary School at 8:40am sharp.

Age Champions (10—12 years) and overall Champion House will be presented at Shalom after the event.



**NEW DATE**

**MONDAY 28 APRIL**

**ST PATRICK'S SENIOR CROSS COUNTRY**

**NOMINATIONS CLOSE 28 MARCH**

3KM (11 - 12 YEARS)  
2KM (10 YEARS)

1KM (8 - 9 YEARS)  
1KM FUN RUN (10 - 12 YEARS)

The poster features a green background with a starburst graphic for 'NEW DATE'. Below the text, there are illustrations of five children running across a finish line.



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](http://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.



## SCHOOL SORES



### Advice from Queensland Health regarding School Sores

If your child has contracted School Sores, Queensland Health advises to exclude the child from others until 24 hours of appropriate antibiotics have been completed. Cover sores on exposed areas with a waterproof dressing until sores are dry and encourage handwashing.

For more information, see the link from Qld Health below.

[Staphylococcus aureus infection | Health and wellbeing | Queensland Government \(www.qld.gov.au\)](#)

## 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.



**St Patrick's Catholic Primary School**

Enrol now for **Prep 2026**

Scan QR Code to apply.

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

The banner includes a QR code and a collage of photos of children in school uniforms.

# 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
Tennis	Girls & Boys	2013, 2014 & 2015 (only exception 10 year olds)	Wednesday 19 March	Rotary Tennis Courts, George Street (entry off Tantitha Street)	8:45 am to 3:00pm
Netball	Boys	11-12 years	Thursday 13 March	Multi - St Luke's Anglican	3:30 to 5:00pm
Touch Football	Girls & Boys	2013, 2014 & exceptional 2015 players	Friday 7 March Friday 14 March	Shalom College	3:30 to 5:15pm
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 Monday 31 March	Hinkler Park, Thornhill Street	4:00 to 5:00pm
Rugby League	Girls & Boys	2013, 2014 & 2015 (Age appropriate girls of representative standard)	Monday 17 March Monday 24 March Monday 31 March	Waves Sporting Complex (Thabeban Road)	3:30 to 5:30pm
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



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



## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS RACE DAY

### Race Day Sponsor Table

Rare Opportunity exists with one Sponsor's Table made available for Catholic Education Race Day.

Table of 8 for \$1300. This includes 40 drink tickets (\$6 per ticket) in addition to the tickets given to individuals upon entry.

First in, best dressed! Call Peter Obeirne today on 0419 787 279 to secure your part in this milestone event.



## Have you got your 50/50 Race Day Raffle Tickets yet?



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](http://www.raffletix.com.au/?ref=ym4v4)

**Don't forget to buy your tickets to our new 50/50 raffle!!!!**

Minimum GUARANTEED prize money is \$1000!

HOW IT WORKS:

- \* Use the link below to purchase raffle tickets for \$10 each (CARD ONLY)
- \* QR Code links will be available on Race Day to purchase tickets
- \* The raffle will close at 3:30pm on the 15th of March
- \* A winner will be drawn at random after the raffle closes and that person will win 50% of the TOTAL money raised!!!!
- \* The other 50% will go directly back to our Catholic Schools!!!!

Can't attend the day but still want to support our local Catholic Schools or just love a good raffle??? This 50/50 Raffle is for YOU!

<https://www.raffletix.com.au?ref=ym4v4>

This new raffle is an added fundraiser for the day, we will still have the traditional major raffle. Tickets for the traditional raffle can be purchased on the day with cash or card.

## MESSAGE FROM QRSS

The graphic features a dark blue background with a pattern of small yellow and white dots. At the top, there are several circular images showing students in various sports uniforms. The main text is centered and reads: "Queensland Representative School Sport Est. 1920". Below this, there are two paragraphs of text. The first paragraph states: "In 2025, QRSS will work with State Sporting Organisations (SSO) to appoint mentors/educators for State Championships (SC) and select student officials for State Championships through their own registration process." The second paragraph states: "QRSS will work with the SSO's to ensure students have opportunities to be involved and continue to pursue their interest in officiating beyond the event." Below the text, it says: "For further information, please contact queenslandschoolsport@qed.qld.gov.au or the State Sporting Organisation." At the bottom, there is a row of logos for various sports: AFL Queensland, Basketball Queensland, Football Queensland, Hockey Queensland, Netball Queensland, QLD Rugby Football, Rugby Football Queensland, Softball, and Water Polo.

Queensland Representative School Sport (QRSS) offers students in Queensland an opportunity to referee/umpire at State and National Championship's.

Website information - <https://queenslandschoolsport.education.qld.gov.au/officials/student-officials-programs>

Please see the below links to apply to be a student referee/umpire at the State Championships in 2025 with the opportunity to be selected to officiate at the National Championships in 2025. Some sports may require adults and school students so if your sport is listed please register. Students will be invited as a priority and where required, adults may be sourced for officiating roles.

REGISTER NOW

[2025 calendar](#)

- ✓ Australian football (12 years) - <https://survey.qed.qld.gov.au/n/enZhnkB>
- ✓ Australian football (15-19 years) - <https://survey.qed.qld.gov.au/n/enZhnkB> & <https://www.cognitofrms.com/AFLQ.../QRSSAFLStudentUmpireEOI>
- ✓ Basketball - <https://forms.qle/rEQ2CCUhgTz5VYLRA>
- ✓ Football - email [referees@footballqueensland.com.au](mailto:referees@footballqueensland.com.au)
- ✓ Hockey - <https://www.hockeyqld.com.au/events/283839>
- ✓ Netball - <https://forms.office.com/r/gU8v8V8tXw>
- ✓ Rugby league - <https://forms.office.com/r/jqkqJyzsyM?origin=lprLink>
- ✓ Rugby Union – to be confirmed with QRU
- ✓ Softball - <https://forms.qle/cNLhopc5jSqTu7Lz5>
- ✓ Touch football - <https://forms.office.com/r/Efi0yLCc1F>
- ✓ Water polo - <https://survey.qed.qld.gov.au/n/enZhnkB>



# Sharks Camp

Join Australia's Largest Volleyball Clinic!

**8TH-11TH  
APRIL 2025  
GRADES 4-12**

**ALL SKILL  
LEVELS  
WELCOMED**



SCAN THE  
QR CODE

### EXCLUSIVE CAMP T-SHIRT AND WATER BOTTLE

School's out, Sharks Camp is in! These holidays for elite coaching, advanced drills, and more. Get the edge and start the new term stronger than ever!

**BRISBANE 4122 | GOLD COAST 4215 | SUNSHINE COAST 4551**



Date: Thursday 4 September 2025

Venue: Bundaberg Touch Fields

Convenor: Bundaberg SHS and Bundaberg Touch Association

The poster has a vibrant, stylized design. At the top, there's a logo for 'Blue Light Disco'. Below it, a DJ booth with two large speakers is set against a background of palm trees and a sunset. The text 'SUPERVISED EVENT CANTEN FACILITIES' is on the left, and '\$5 Entry' is in a pink circle on the right. The main title 'BLUE LIGHT DISCO' and 'FRIDAY 4TH APRIL' are in large, bold letters. At the bottom, the event times and location are listed.

**Blue Light Disco**  
SUPERVISED EVENT  
CANTEN 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

<b>WEEK 1</b>	<b>Week 27th January-31st January</b>		
Monday	<b>AUSTRALIA DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b>		
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	Mrs Cook & Friends
<b>WEEK 2</b>	<b>Week 3rd February-7th February</b>		
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	5P
Friday	Opening School Mass	9.00am	Years 3-6
<b>WEEK 3</b>	<b>Week 10th February—14th February</b>		
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	5S
Friday	Year 6 Leadership Induction	9.00am	Whole School
<b>WEEK 4</b>	<b>Week 17th February—21st February</b>		
Monday	Parish Mass	9.00am	Year 6
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	6M
Friday	<b>PUPIL FREE DAY</b>		
<b>WEEK 5</b>	<b>Week 24th February—28th February</b>		
Monday	Parish Mass	9.00am	Year 1 & 5
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	6A
<b>WEEK 6</b>	<b>Week 3rd March—7th March</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Year Level</b>
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
<b>WEEK 7</b>	<b>Week 10th March—14th March</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Year Level</b>
Monday	Parish Mass	9.00am	Year 4
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	2N
<b>WEEK 8</b>	<b>Week 17th March—21st March</b>		
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
<b>WEEK 9</b>	<b>Week 24th March—28th March</b>		
Monday	Parish Mass	9.00am	Year 2
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	2W
<b>WEEK 10</b>	<b>Week 31st March—4th April</b>		
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			
28 April	Cross Country	Years 3 to 6	Shalom College
2 May	Junior Obstacle Course	Prep to Year 2	St Patrick's
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	
<b>TERM 1</b>	Monday 28 January - Friday 4 April
<b>TERM 2</b>	Tuesday 22 April - Friday 27 June
<b>TERM 3</b>	Monday 14 July - Friday 19 September
<b>TERM 4</b>	Tuesday 7 October - Friday 5 December