

PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

14th November 2025



This week started with wonderful news from the Director of Catholic Education, Mr Michael McCusker, of the appointment of Mr Dean Wearmouth, as the next Principal of Shalom Catholic College. Shalom is a very special part of our Catholic Education Story, as we are one the largest feeder schools in this community. I am sure this would be news well-received by many. Dan McMahon, is one who has been eagerly awaiting this announcement, praying for someone who could continue to positively build on the wonderful story that has been consistently woven in to the fabric of this beautiful community. It was very affirming to read of the confidence Dan has shared in Dean after his self-proclaimed 'stalking' and a chance to recently meet in person. Dean is from all accounts an Englishman and is currently the foundation Principal of St Ignatius College in Auckland. Before that appointment, he was Principal of Marcellin College in Auckland. Dan, shared a snippet from one of Dean's newsletters to gain a sense of who Dean is and his vision for schools.

In the most recent Newsletter he wrote:

"As a college in the Catholic Ignatian tradition our motto of finding God in all things is a way of being that extends beyond the classroom to the everyday lived experiences of our community. It is understanding that God is within us, within others and within our relationships. God is within our midst. We aim to show our students and families to 'tune in' to find God".

I have reached out on behalf of St. Patrick's to welcome Mr. Wearmouth to our beautiful local area and we look forward to continuing the great partnership we share with Shalom under the Catholic Education banner. The message shared by Dean is a good one. 2W used Courtyard Prayer this week as a vehicle to consolidate this same message when they challenged us to 'be together...the way we are called to be'. I congratulated Year 2 for reminding us to work a little harder to achieve this unity, when we are starting to feel stretched and fatigued.

'Mercy Moments' have continued to be observed in our community this week which has helped us retain a sense of positivity and gratefulness. This week it was wonderful to hear of a young lady from Year 3, who stepped in to assist a younger student who was finding it tough to let go of her Grandmother at the school entrance. This young lady took the hand of the younger student and lead her out to the playground, which totally changed the mood and start to the day for that family. The Grandmother was very grateful and shared what she'd witnessed. When congratulated for this act her response was 'this was a chance to engage in a Mercy Moment...this is just what we do at St. Patrick's'. I loved hearing of this story and how humbly one of our own embraced the opportunity to quietly make a difference. I think it illustrates perfectly Dean's newsletter piece when he highlights the importance of 'tuning in' to look for God within each other in 'everyday lived experiences', even if it is the end of Week 6, Term 4. Enjoy the weekend, where ever it takes you!

Kim O'Ghea-Hard PRINCIPAL





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

APRE NEWS

Embracing the Mercy Value of Service

This week our focus is on the Mercy Education Value of Service—a value that calls us to generously share our time, talents, and care with others, just as Jesus did.

The spirit of service is at the heart of our Catholic faith and the mission of Catherine McAuley, the founder of the Sisters of Mercy. Catherine dedicated her life to serving the poor, educating the young, and caring for the sick, embodying Christ's message of love and compassion. Her example inspires us to see service not as a duty but as a joyful response to God's call to love one another.

At St Patrick's, we encourage students to live out the value of service in ways that are meaningful and age-appropriate. Some of the ways our students can embrace this value include:

- Helping a classmate in need: Offering assistance or encouragement during lessons or play.
- Taking care of God's creation: Participating in clean-up activities and showing respect for the environment.
- Supporting local charities: Contributing to food drives or fundraising efforts to help those in need.

Through these actions, students learn that service is not about grand gestures but about simple, everyday acts of kindness and generosity. They are reminded of the words of Jesus: "Whatever you do for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you do for me" (Matthew 25:40).

By modelling and encouraging service, we hope to inspire our students to develop a lifelong commitment to making a difference in the lives of others. As Catherine McAuley once said, "The poor need help today, not next week." Her words remind us of the importance of acting with urgency and compassion in service to those around us.

Let us continue to nurture a spirit of service in our school community, as we work together to bring God's love to those in need.

Tracey Cook

APRE



SPORTS NEWS—SENIOR SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The Senior School Swimming Carnival will be held on **Friday 21 November** at the Bundaberg Swim Academy, Fitzgerld Street. Parents are welcome to attend and reminded to bring a folding chair.

The format for the carnival will be as follows:

Years 3 & 4: 9:00am – 11:00am Years 5 & 6: 11:00am – 1:00pm

Presentations: 2:00pm at School (Overall Points and Age Championships for students born 2013-2015)

'A' DIVISION RACES (Age Champion Event) – 50m event in Freestyle, Backstroke and Breaststroke.

'B' DIVISION RACES – 25m event in Freestyle, Backstroke and Breaststroke.

'C' DIVISION RACES – 12m event in Freestyle, Backstroke and Breaststroke. Students who nominated for 12m events will be starting in the pool and swim with or without the assistance of a kickboard to a half-way rope.

Children will travel by bus to the Bundaberg Swim Academy with their class teacher who will supervise students in travel and throughout the carnival. Students may wear their school sports uniform and House coloured shirt to school on this day.

Year 3 & 4 students are required to wear their swimming togs under their uniform upon arrival to school.

Year 5 & 6 students can elect to do the same, or alternatively change into their swimming gear, sun-shirt and thongs/sandals prior to leaving the school grounds. Underwear, uniform, shoes and socks will remain at school and children will change into their uniforms upon returning to school after the carnival. **Please ensure all items of clothing are clearly named.**

All students are required to bring the following items:

- Sun-shirt
- Goggles
- Towel/s
- Water bottle
- Bag to carry their belongings

The school will provide sunscreen for students.

Lunch and afternoon tea will be at normal times at school with the Year 5 & 6 students eating before leaving the school. The canteen at the pool will **not be** available for the students.

We look forward to an enjoyable and supportive event for all competitors.



TUCKSHOP NEWS—Term 4

Please take note of the following Tuckshop schedule and updates for the coming weeks:

Week 5—Week 8 - Fun Fridays!

- Lunch: Sausage sizzle \$2 each
- Afternoon Tea: Ice blocks and snacks available to order through the app

Week 9 Schedule

- Monday—Wednesday, 1—3 December: Lunch and Afternoon Tea
- Thursday, 4 December: Lunch as normal, Afternoon Tea—ice blocks only!
- Friday, 5 December: CLOSED

Reminder:

Please ensure you do not order Tuckshop for your child on days when their class is on an excursion.



TERM 4 VACATION CARE PROGRAM

or skates AND

HELMET.

(please NO bikes)

Book now for Term 4 Holidays. Phone 0417199586 or email spbg_oshc@rok.catholic.edu.au.



CLOSED

contests, eat a lamington or two!

What else can we

do??

A movie date with St

Marv's OSHC.

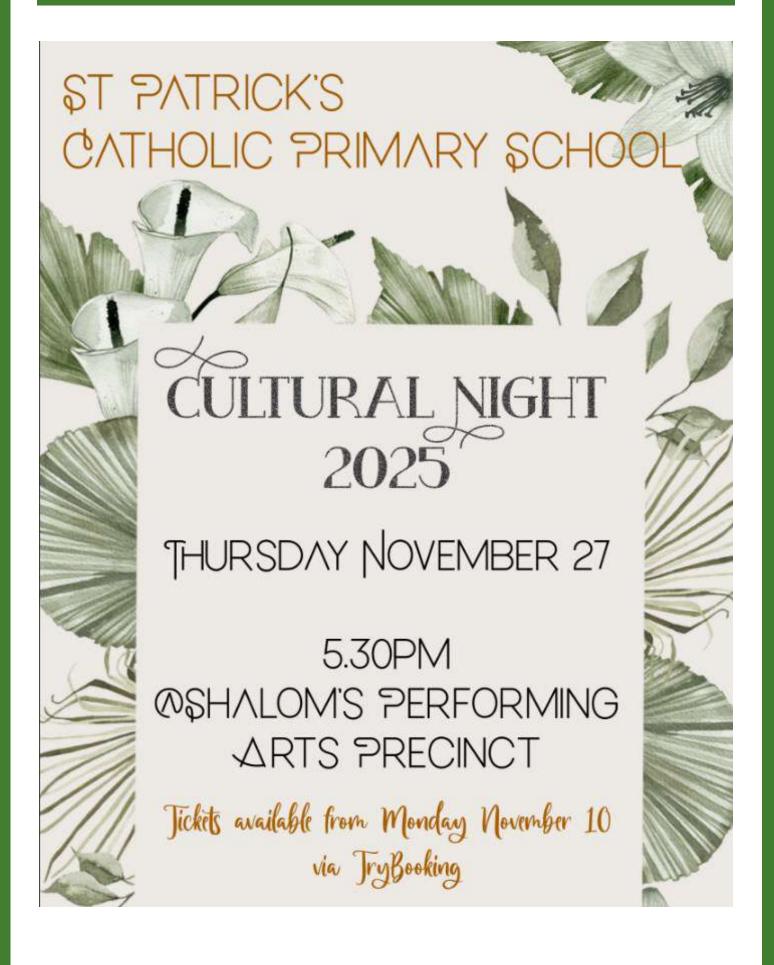
\$25 surcharge

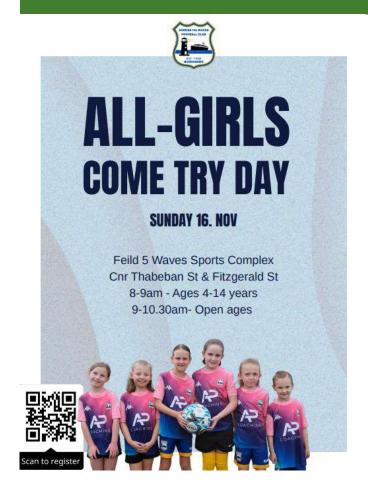
bottle, glitter and

stickers and we'll

do the rest.

\$10 surcharge









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APPLICATIONS OPEN DECEMBER 2025*

INFORMATION EVENING

Wednesday 11 February 2026 Shalom Performing Arts Precinct Parents & Students Welcome

Tuesday 24 February 2026

COLLEGE OPEN DAY Shalom College Sports Centre Parents & Students Welcome

APPLICATIONS CLOSE FRIDAY 13 MARCH 2026

APRIL-MAY 2026: APPOINTMENTS FOR INTERVIEWS END OF JUNE 2026: NOTIFICATION SENT TO ADVISE OF ACCEPTANCE OUTCOME

Year 5 Semester 2 Report must be uploaded with application Further information will be available at www.shalomcollege.com prior to applications opening.

LOWES



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SCHOOLWEAR



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Discount applies to original prices, not markdown prices.

TERM FOUR PLANNER			
WEEK 1	Week 6th October - 10th October		
Monday	KING'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY		
Tuesday	First Day Term 4		
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	Mini Vinnies
WEEK 2	Week 13th October - 17th October		
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	Reef Guardians
WEEK 3	Week 20th October - 24th October		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00am	Year 2
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	3L
Friday	Odd Sock Day (Socktober)	All day	All students
WEEK 4	Week 27th October - 31st October		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00am	Year 5 & 1
Monday	Prep Orientation Morning	9:00am-10:30am	Prep 2026
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	3T
Friday	Day for Daniel	All day	All students
Friday	World Teacher's Day	All day	All teachers
WEEK 5	Week 3rd November - 7th November		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00am	Year 4
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	3C
WEEK 6	Week 10th November - 14th November		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00am	Year 6 & Prep
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	2W
Tuesday	Remembrance Day Memorial	9:00am	5P
WEEK 7	Week 17th November - 21st November		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00am	Year 3
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	2N
Friday	Senior Swimming Carnival	9:00am	Years 3-6
WEEK 8	Week 24th November - 28th November		
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	2C
Thursday	Cultural Night - Year 3, String and Choir Ensembles	5:00pm-6:30pm	Music
WEEK 9	Week 1st December - 5th December		
Monday	Year 1 Nativity Assembly	9:00am	Whole School
Tuesday	Year 6 Graduation	9:00am	Yr 6 Families
	Year 6 Excursion—Norville Pool	10:45am-1:00pm	Year 6
	Year 3 Excursion—Reading Cinema	11:30am-2:15pm	Year 3
Wednesday	Year 1 & 4 Excursion—Shalom PAP—Movie	9:00am-11:00am	Year 1 & 4
	Prep Excursion—Inflatable World	10:00-12:00pm	Prep
	Celebration Night	5:00-7:00pm	Whole School
Thursday	Year 2 Excursion—Norville Pool	9:00am	Year 2
	Year 5 Excursion—Bundy Bowl & Leisure	9:00am	Year 5
Friday	End of Year Liturgy	9:00am	Whole School
	Year 6 Farewell Assembly	11:00am	Whole School
	School Dismissed	12:00pm	Whole School

2026 TERM DATES		
TERM 1	Tuesday 27 January - Friday 2 April (10 weeks)	
TERM 2	Monday 20 April - Friday 26 June (10 weeks)	
TERM 3	Monday 13 July - Friday 18 September (10 weeks)	
TERM 4	Tuesday 6 October - Friday 4 December (9 weeks)	