



PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

6 March 2026

Pope Leo's Lenten message this year centres on a simple but powerful call '*listen deeply, walk together, and re-discover the rhythm of fasting and feasting that leads us closer to God and to one another*'.

In a world that moves quickly and speaks loudly, listening can feel like a lost art. Furthermore, listening to the wrong messages, can be depressing. Yet Lent invites us to slow down. When we listen to God in prayer, to the needs of others, and to the quiet movements of our own hearts, we begin to notice where love, mercy, and healing are needed most.

Fasting is one of the Church's oldest ways of making space for that listening. Fasting reminds us that God is our true nourishment, but Lent is not only about restraint. It is also about *community*. Pope Leo reminds us that we are not meant to journey through this season alone. When we fast together, pray together, and serve together, we discover that faith grows stronger in shared experience.

And at the heart of the Christian story is the promise that fasting leads to feasting. The quiet, reflective days of Lent prepare us for the joy of Easter—the **celebration of life**, resurrection, and new beginnings. The journey through sacrifice opens the door to celebration.

Dance Night this week captured this spirit beautifully. It was a reminder that faith holds both rhythms: moments of reflection and moments of joyful celebration. Even during Lent, gathering in friendship, laughter, and music can be a sign of the life God calls us to share and why 'celebrate life' is so heavily featured in our school mission statement. This was a wonderful way to bring our large, yet close community together to celebrate the beginning of a new school year and the culmination of learnings that have already transpired throughout the first 6 weeks of our Physical Education Program. We are thankful to Miss Taryn Gollshewsky who prepared the children for one of our favourite nights of the year. Thanks to all the skeletons, neon dancers and the myriad of superheroes who provided a great night of entertainment. We have enjoyed a solid start to the school year and have so much to 'celebrate'!



Kim O'Shea-Hard

PRINCIPAL



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

Join Us for Our Mini Fair to Support Project Compassion!

This term during **Lent**, we have been learning about those less fortunate than ourselves through the inspiring stories of **Project Compassion**. These stories remind us of the importance of solidarity, compassion, and making a difference in the lives of others.

As in previous years, we are excited to announce our **annual Mini Fair**, which serves as the major school fundraiser for **Project Compassion**. The aim of the Mini Fair is to provide our students with the opportunity to actively participate in the planning and management of an event where their creative ideas and hard work can contribute to helping others in need.

Event Details:

- **Date:** Friday, 2 April 2026 (Last day of Term 1)
- **Time:** 11:00 AM
- **Location:** Multi and Courtyard

The Mini Fair will feature a variety of stalls, games, and activities, including:

- **Delicious Food Stalls:** A mouth-watering selection of treats
- **Games and Activities:** Fun for all ages, with opportunities to win prizes.
- **Craft and Gift Stalls:** Beautiful handmade items and unique treasures.

You will receive information about the fair from your child's class teacher. We warmly invite families to join us at this exciting event. Parents and carers are welcome to attend the Mini Fair with their children, and **students may leave with their families at the conclusion of the fair.**

By supporting the Mini Fair, you are helping us to make a real difference in the lives of people in need. All funds raised will go directly to **Project Compassion**, supporting their vital work in empowering vulnerable communities and creating sustainable futures.

Don't forget that on the last day of term is a **Free Dress Day** and we also have the following events planned:

- Easter Prayer (Led by Prep and Yr 6) @ 9:00 AM
- Easter Hat Parade (Prep to Yr 3) @ 10:00 AM
- Mini Fair (whole school) @ 11:00 AM in the Multi and Courtyard

We look forward to seeing you at the Mini Fair as we share in the joy of giving and the spirit of Lent.

Tracey Cook

APRE



PREP ENROLMENT FOR 2027



St Patrick's
Catholic Primary School

PREP TO YEAR 6
P. 07 4152 1380

35 Mulgrave St
Bundaberg West, QLD

Enrol now for Prep 2027



Scan
QR Code
to apply.

Applications made by **27 April 2026**
will be guaranteed an interview.

Join us **Patty's Walk-Through:**
19 March @ 9:30AM

BOOK CLUB

Book club catalogues have been sent home with your child this week. All orders need to be made [ONLINE via LOOP payment](#) on the Scholastic website, as no cash orders can be accepted.

Please go to www.scholastic.com.au.

All orders are due by **Wednesday, 11 March**.

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

\$5 savings for Families and Schools!

Online orders earn a

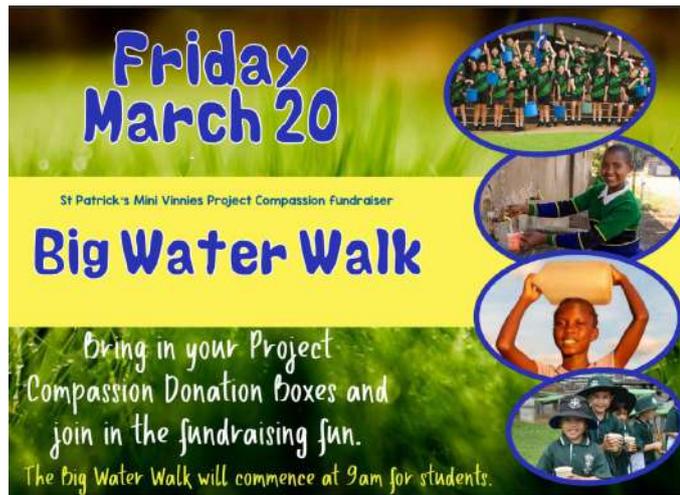
\$5 DISCOUNT CODE
Included with order confirmation

to spend on our next Issue.

Conditions apply. Book Club promotion valid on LOOP Orders only.
Teacher Essentials promotion valid on Book Club ordering platform orders only.
Offer is redeemable once per Issue when you spend \$19.50 on Issue 2.
1% surcharge applies to card payments.

An illustration of a woman with dark hair, wearing a pink blazer and a black skirt, holding a green book. She is standing in a tropical setting with palm trees and large green leaves. Several books are floating around her, including a yellow one and a pink one.

BIG WATER WALK—20 MARCH



Friday
March 20

St Patrick's Mini Vinnies Project Compassion Fundraiser

Big Water Walk

Bring in your Project
Compassion Donation Boxes and
join in the fundraising fun.
The Big Water Walk will commence at 9am for students.



Students and staff will participate in the walk, carrying water to symbolise the journey that so many must undertake every day.

Through this initiative, we hope to raise much-needed funds to support Caritas Australia's life-changing programs. These efforts will help provide clean water, sanitation, and resources to vulnerable communities in remote Tanzania, allowing individuals to thrive and build a brighter future.

Your child will have come home with a small donation box to find a few coins to put in during Lent. We ask that these boxes be returned on the day of our Big Water Walk to add to our fundraising tally.

PICK-UP REMINDER

- If you're picking up your child, please use **Mulgrave Street or Powers Street**.
- If students have older siblings who have travelled by bus to George Street, they can be **picked up** at George Street.
- Please ensure your child is **escorted to cross the road** as it can be quite busy with traffic.



After school Bus Drop-off zone

- George Street.
- **Only** cars to collect siblings from buses from other schools to park here.
- Parents to park their car and collect their child at the bus gate.



SPONSOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



Thank you!



St. Patrick's would like to thank PES Premium Electrical Solutions, Hallstone Constructions and Ian Stanley Plumbing for sponsoring our Challenge Cup Rugby League and Netball teams for 2026. Their support has allowed our players to don new Netball uniforms and Challenge Cup shirts at this year's carnival.



SPORTS NEWS

BUNDABERG DISTRICT U12 SCHOOL SPORTS TRIALS—2026

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 2014, 2015 & 2016 (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 |
|---|--------------|---|---|--|
| Students will only be allowed to participate when completing and handing in the forms to the coach/manager at the trials. Note: Tennis is an all day trial. Supervision provided by the Tennis Convenor and Parents (no St Patrick's staff present). | | | | |
| Football (Soccer) | Girls | Born 2014, 2015 and 2016 | 12 & 19 March | Shalom College 4:00pm - 5:30pm |
| | Boys | Born 2014, 2015 (exceptional 2016) | 10 March (only 2015 & 2016) 12 March (only 2014) 19 March (all boys invited back) | Shalom College 4:00pm - 5:30pm |
| Touch | Boys & Girls | Born 2017 or 2015 (only exceptional 2016) | 20 March 27 March | Shalom College Bundaberg Touch Grounds 3:30pm - 5:00pm |
| Basketball | Boys & Girls | Born 2014, 2015 and 2016 | 19 March 24 March | Bundaberg Basketball Stadium 3:45pm - 5:30 pm |
| Hockey | Boys & Girls | Born 2014, 2015 and 2016 | 16 & 23 March (players are expected to attend both days) | Hinkler Park, Thornhill Street 4:00pm - 5:00pm |
| Rugby League | Boys & Girls | Born 2014, 2015 and 2016 (exceptional 2017) | 16, 23 & 30 March | Waves Sporting Complex (please park at Western end) 3:30pm - 5:30pm |
| Tennis | Boys & Girls | Bon 2014, 2015 and 2016 | 13 March (new date) | Rotary Park Tennis Centre (69 George Street) 8:45am - 3:00pm |

SENIOR CROSS COUNTRY—NOMINATE BY 23 MARCH



Reminder to nominate your child.

Time to get ready for the 2026 St Patrick's Senior Cross Country Carnival at Shalom College on **Monday 27 April 2026**. Year 3-6 parents would have received an email notification to nominate which event your child will compete in at the carnival.

Nominations need to be made **by Monday, 23 March** via [Parent Orbit](#) for students born in 2014, 2015 and 2016 - for either the competitive 3km/2km OR 1km Fun Run event. All students born in 2017 and 2018 will compete in a 1km event. Parents are welcome to support their child/ren during this event.

FOOTBALL QUEENSLAND & BRISBANE ROAR SOCCER CLINICS—TERM 2

St. Patrick's will once again host the Football Queensland & Brisbane Soccer Clinics during Term 2 on Tuesdays from 3:15pm to 4:15pm over 4 weeks from 5 May to 26 May 2026.

Please refer to the final details of the program and register by scanning the QR code which will take you to the Football In Community Website.

FOOTBALL QUEENSLAND **BRISBANE ROAR** | **FOOTBALL IN THE COMMUNITY**

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Discover the joy of football in a safe, inclusive, and exciting setting where kids can learn, play, and have fun!

Why join our FQxRoar School Program at your school?

- Make New Friends
- Learn New Skills
- Score Goals
- Meet Your Heroes
- Exclusive Offers

community@footballqueensland.com.au | (07) 3208 2677

Scan me to register!

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS RACE DAY 2026

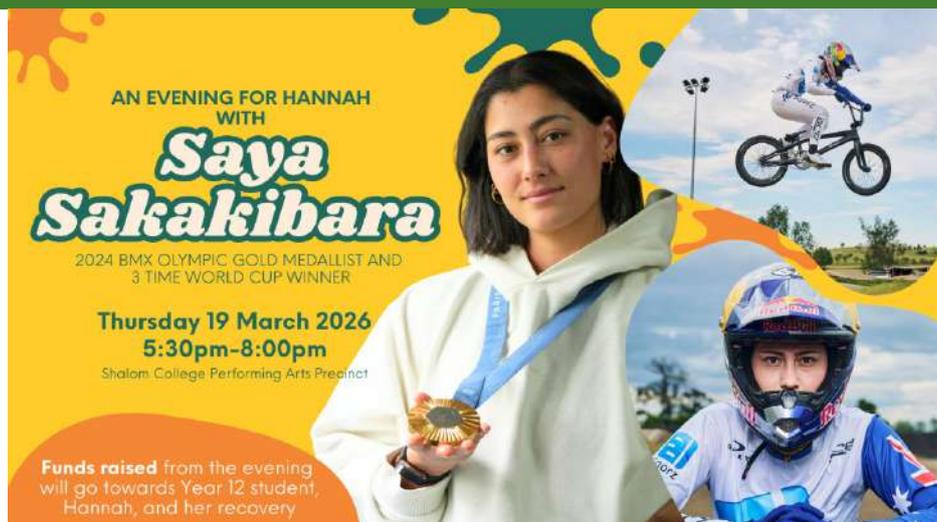
Bundaberg
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
Race Day 2026
50/50 Raffle
MINIMUM PRIZE \$1,000!
Admission \$85: <https://>
BUNDABERG CATHOLIC SCHOOLS RACE DAY
50/50
RACE DAY RAFFLE
WIN MINIMUM **\$1000** FOR JUST **\$10**
YOU COULD WIN 50% OF THE RAFFLE EARNINGS!
The more tickets sold, the BIGGER the prize.
RAFFLE DRAW DETAILS
14 March 2026
4:00 PM
Bundaberg Race Club
BUY TICKETS NOW! <http://www.raffletix.com.au?ref+m5nsr>

OUT AND ABOUT

SUPERVISED EVENT
CANTEN FACILITIES
SAUSAGE SIZZLE

\$5 ENTRY
BLUELIGHT DISCO
THURSDAY 20th MARCH
5PM - 7PM PREP TO YR 6
7.30PM - 9.30PM YR 7 TO YR 12
BUNDABERG CIVIC CENTRE
BOURBONG ST, BUNDABERG CENTRAL
THEME:
BRIGHT
COLOURS
POSTPONED

OUT AND ABOUT



An Evening for Hannah with Saya Sakakibara

Thursday 19 March 2026

5:30pm-8:00pm

Shalom College Performing Arts Precinct

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

Tickets include canapés

\$25 - \$45pp + Booking fees

All members of the community are welcome to attend.

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

All money raised from the event will go to Year 12 student, Hannah, and her recovery.

2024 BMX Olympic Gold Medallist & 3 Time World Cup Winner

Saya Sakakibara is one of Australia's most exciting cycling talents – widely regarded as one of the nation's premier BMX racing athletes. Known for her speed, skill and fearless racing style, she has become a dominant force on the international BMX Supercross circuit, proudly representing Australia on the world stage.

Competing at the Olympic Games, Saya fulfilled a lifelong dream and inspired a generation of young riders across Australia. Her courage, perseverance and passion for BMX have made her not only a champion athlete, but also a powerful role model in sport.

Away from the track, Saya is known for her positivity, humility and commitment to growing BMX in Australia. She continues to inspire young athletes to dream big, work hard and never give up.

BOOK TICKETS HERE: <https://www.trybooking.com/DJPFL>

Thanks to our Sponsors

**MHUGH
STEEL**



THE AGENCY

The waves

FOOTMOTION

**IWC
PHARMACY**
Community Pharmacy... Save Right!

TERM ONE PLANNER

| | | | |
|--------------------|--|-------------|-------------------|
| WEEK 1 | Week 26th January-30th January | | |
| Monday | AUSTRALIA DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY | | |
| Tuesday | Term 1 Commences | 8.40am | Whole School |
| WEEK 2 | Week 2nd February-6th February | | |
| Monday | Opening School Mass | 9.00am | Years 3-6 |
| Tuesday—Thursday | Courtyard Prayer | 8.40am | 5P |
| WEEK 3 | Week 9th February—13th February | | |
| Tuesday—Thursday | Courtyard Prayer | 8.40am | 5S |
| WEEK 4 | Week 16th February—22nd February | | |
| Monday | Parish Mass | 9.00am | Year 6 |
| Tuesday—Thursday | Courtyard Prayer | 8.40am | 6L |
| Wednesday | Ash Wednesday | 8:30am | Whole School |
| Friday | PUPIL FREE DAY | | |
| Sunday | Children’s Mass—St Patrick’s Mass | 9:00am | All welcome! |
| WEEK 5 | Week 23rd February—27th February | | |
| Monday | Parish Mass | 9.00am | Year 3 |
| Tuesday—Thursday | Courtyard Prayer | 8.40am | 5G |
| WEEK 6 | Week 2nd March—6th March | Time | Year Level |
| Monday | Parish Mass | 9.00am | Year 5 & 1 |
| Tuesday—Thursday | Courtyard Prayer | 8.40am | 6B |
| Thursday | Dance Night on oval | 5:30pm | Whole School |
| WEEK 7 | Week 9th March—13th March | Time | Year Level |
| Monday | Parish Mass | 9.00am | Year 4 |
| Tuesday—Thursday | Courtyard Prayer | 8.40am | 6F |
| WEEK 8 | Week 16th March—20th March | | |
| Tuesday | St Patrick’s Day Liturgy & Yr 6 Leadership Induction | 9:00 am | Whole School |
| Wednesday—Thursday | Courtyard Prayer | 8.40am | 2W |
| WEEK 9 | Week 23rd March—27th March | | |
| Monday | Parish Mass | 9.00am | Year 2 |
| Tuesday—Thursday | Courtyard Prayer | 8.40am | 2S |
| WEEK 10 | Week 30th March—3rd April | | |
| Monday | Palm Sunday | 8:40am | 4K & 4B |
| Tuesday | Last Supper | 8.40am | 4F |
| Wednesday | Good Friday | 8.40am | 5S |
| Thursday | Easter Prayer | 9:00am | Year 6 & Prep |
| | Easter Hat Parade | 10:00am | Prep to Year 3 |
| | Mini Fair | 11:00am | Whole School |
| | Term Concludes | 3:00pm | Whole School |

| 2026 TERM DATES | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| TERM 1 | Monday 27 January - Thursday 2 April |
| TERM 2 | Monday 20 April - Friday 26 June |
| TERM 3 | Monday 13 July - Friday 18 September |
| TERM 4 | Tuesday 6 October - Friday 4 December |