



PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

15th November 2024

Many years ago, I collected the following reflection written by Anthony de Mello.

A woman dreamt she walked into a brand-new shop in the marketplace and, to her surprise, found God behind the counter.

'What do you sell here?' she asked

'Everything your heart desires,' said God.

Hardly daring to believe what she was hearing, the woman decided to ask for the best things a human being could wish for.

'I want peace of mind and love and happiness and wisdom and freedom from fear,' she said. Then, as an afterthought, she added, 'Not just for me. For everyone on earth.'

God smiled. 'I think you've got me wrong, my dear,' he said. 'We don't sell fruits here. Only seeds.'

At this time of year, we certainly do start to see the fruits of our labour. This is especially true of the Year 6 students. I love hearing stories from proud, doting teachers of students who have 'grown' and 'blossomed' from sometimes shy or awkward little people into confident leaders of our school. Growth spurts are different for all and sometimes hard to measure and this will ideally continue into High School and beyond, but we certainly feel privileged to have been afforded the opportunity to be part of our Year 6 student's life journey.

Catherine McAuley once penned how **'A good beginning is of great importance'** so it certainly warms my heart to see seeds planted and nurtured in the simple daily rituals we encounter in this community. One very humble, yet effective strategy we have adopted this year is to employ Mrs. Deb Hess to start early to provide a safe space and a nice morning experience of **'Reading on the Deck'**. Each morning boys and girls huddle around Ms. Deb to hear her read a story. This week I noticed that this little seedling had sprouted into a reading fest where young students were taking the experience a step further, reading to each other. We very much look forward to celebrating the culmination of Primary School for our Year Six Students over the coming weeks.



On our last day of term, Friday 6th December from 9:00am we will hold our End of Year Liturgy. Students will then return to their class for a small snack and activities. The day will then end with a Year 6 Assembly from 11:00am-11:45am, which will involve the whole school in the multi-purpose area. At the conclusion of the assembly, all students will return to their classes for roll marking prior to being dismissed at 12:00pm. There will be no formal classes from 12:00-3:00pm. Parents are free and encouraged to collect their children at this time. From 12:00pm, teachers will be on gate duties at both Powers and Mulgrave Streets and our pick-up zones will begin operation. Any student walking or riding home must have a note from their parents.

We understand there may be circumstances where early pick-up may not be possible, and we ask for families to use this [Google link](#) to register their children for care from 12:00-3:00pm. This will occur from the OSHC space under the supervision of Claire O'Connell, Kim O'Shea-Hard and/or other members of staff, for those registered. We will have to close the link and finalise numbers on **Monday 25th November**, to ensure we have enough care in place. At 3:00pm the only pick-up zone in operation will be the Mulgrave St. carpark. The Powers Street gate will be locked and George Street only open for those requiring bus transport. There will be no Sausage Sizzle on the last day of school and normal sports/Year 6 leadership uniform must be worn by all students. If your child is absent for the last day, please email the absentee inbox spb_absentees@rok.catholic.edu.au or lodge via the Parent Orbit App. **OSHC will operate from 3:00pm as per normal.** Thanks so much for your communication and co-operation for what we hope to be a special and smooth end to what has been a wonderful school year.

Kim O'Shea-Hard

2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT—PEACE

This week we reflect on the second Sunday of Advent and its theme; Peace.

The second Sunday of Advent this year will be Sunday, December 8th. Remembering, there is comfort to be found when we pause to read, pray, and reflect during Advent... a time when Catholics, as believers, eagerly anticipate the celebration of Christ's birth.

During this second week of Advent, we pause to remember who God is and what He has done for us. When our lives are hurried, we only have the chance to focus on our to-do lists.

Making space in our schedules for prayer and meditation helps us to better see God at work in our lives and in our world. As we prepare our hearts for the celebration of Jesus' arrival as a gift to all humanity, you may want to keep these words from Pope Francis this in your mind:

'Let us continue to pray for peace without losing heart, to knock with a humble and insistent spirit at the ever-open door of God's heart and at the doors of humankind.'



MINI VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Every year the St Patrick's school community, led by our Mini Vinnies Team, donates items to assist those less fortunate at Christmas. St Vincent de Paul collects these donations from us and distributes them to families in need. We are asking each year level to donate specific items for our Christmas Appeal. By each year level donating something different we will be able to make Christmas hampers for local families in need. Donations can be placed in the labelled baskets outside classrooms.

**MINI VINNIES' 2024
CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

Our Mini Vinnies Team would love your help with these donations:

- PREP: NON PERISHABLE CHRISTMAS FOOD AND DRINKS
- YEAR 1: TOYS (UNUSED)
- YEAR 2: BOOKS (UNUSED)
- YEAR 3: NON PERISHABLE CHRISTMAS FOOD AND DRINKS
- YEAR 4: BOARD GAMES, CARD GAMES AND SPORT EQUIPMENT (NEW)
- YEAR 5: CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS (NEW)
- YEAR 6: NON PERISHABLE CHRISTMAS FOOD AND DRINKS

Donations can be left in the labelled baskets outside classrooms

We need your help to make Christmas special for those in need.

Please Donate

CULTURAL NIGHT



ST PATRICK'S ANNUAL CULTURAL NIGHT

Tuesday 19th November 2024 at 5:30pm
Shalom Performing Arts Precinct

LIMITED TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE via the Trybooking website



<https://www.trybooking.com/CWTIF>

\$5 per ticket

**No tickets will be sold at the school office.
Performing students will not require a ticket.**

STUDENTS TO ARRIVE BY 5:00pm for a 5:30pm START

Students performing at the 2024 Cultural Night include Year 3 students, Junior and Senior Choir and Junior and Senior Strings. All students will be required to wear the following uniforms for performances:

Group	Performance uniform
Year 3	Year 3 Strings performance uniform <ul style="list-style-type: none">• White dress shirt – long sleeve button up with collar• Long black dress pants• Black socks and school shoes
Junior Choir	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prep: School uniform• Years 1-2: Formal school uniform• Year 3: Strings performance uniform (see above)
Senior Choir Junior Strings Senior Strings	Performance Uniform <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Black shirt – long sleeve button up with collar• Long black dress pants• Black socks and school shoes• Year 3 students in Junior Strings will wear Year 3 Strings performance uniform

Following their performance, children will sit together in the Performing Arts block, under teacher supervision to watch other performances. At the conclusion of the evening all performing students will receive a small goodie bag from their tutors and be released to parents in the foyer of the PAP.

All performing students will travel by bus to Shalom from 11:30am onwards on Tuesday 19th November for a rehearsal on stage at the Performing Arts Precinct. Students will return to school by approximately 2:00pm. If your child is required to catch a bus at 2:45pm please inform the office or make alternative pick-up arrangements on that day in the event that the returning buses are delayed.

CELEBRATION NIGHT

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WEDNESDAY 4TH DECEMBER

Our annual Celebration Night is our last social event of the year to showcase our students perform Christmas Carols to their families. To ensure the event is weatherproof, we will hold the event in the MPS and due to limited space, it will be run over two sessions as follows.

Session 1 - Prep, Year 1 & Year 2

Arrive at 5:00pm for a 5:15pm start. Concludes at approximately 5:45pm.

Session 2 - Years 3, 4, 5 & 6

Arrive at 6:00pm for a 6:15pm start. Concludes at 7:00pm. We ask that you do not arrive before 6:00pm to allow students and parents of Prep - Year 2 to depart the school.

Please bring a folding chair for adults and siblings. Students will sit with their cohort at the front of the stage area. Parents and siblings will sit behind the seated students. Parents attending both sessions are welcome to bring dinner, however, please keep in mind we have limited space in the multi.

All students are to wear Christmas colours, unless classroom teachers have specified otherwise.

Parents should be aware that school staff are not supervising students during this evening. All students attending should be accompanied by an adult who is responsible for their supervision, and this includes high school age children.

WHOOPING COUGH NOTIFICATION

This is to advise we have been notified of a diagnosed Whooping Cough case (Pertussis) within our upper school.

Please refer to the attached image for more information on Whooping Cough, noting that Pertussis is contagious until 5 days of appropriate antibiotic treatment has been completed, or until 21 days after the onset of a cough.

Infants under 6 months of age and pregnant women are of particular high risk and should see their GP if they have had contact with a Pertussis case.

WHOOPING
COUGH (PERTUSSIS)



Queensland
Health



Queensland
Government

SPORTS NEWS—SENIOR SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The Senior School Swimming Carnival will be held on Friday 29 November at the Bundaberg Swim Academy.

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 2012-2014)

All students are encouraged to nominate for an A/B/C division race in Freestyle, Backstroke and Breaststroke events. Students must nominate in at least one event. Novelty events will be included in the program. The carnival will involve all students and the aim is to make the day enjoyable for all students with an emphasis on maximum participation.

'A' DIVISION RACES (Age Champion Event) – 50m event in Freestyle, Backstroke and Breaststroke. Students nominating for 50m events need to be able to swim correctly and confidently the entire 50m. **Please note that all children born 2016 are not eligible to enter A Division races and must nominate for either B or C Division only.**

'B' DIVISION RACES – 25m event in Freestyle, Backstroke and Breaststroke. Students nominating for 25m events will be starting in the pool and swim correctly and confidently the entire 25m.

'C' DIVISION RACES – 12m event in Freestyle, Backstroke and Breaststroke. Students nominating 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 wear a sun-shirt as this meets with sun-safety regulations. The school will provide sunscreen for students. The only items that students will take with them to the pool are goggles, towel/s, water bottle and a bag to carry their belongings. Lunch and afternoon tea will be at normal times at school with the Year 5 & 6 students eating before leaving the school.



IMPORTANT END OF YEAR EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	TIME	VENUE
Tuesday 19th November	Cultural Night	5:30pm	Shalom PAP
Friday 29th November	Senior Swimming Carnival		Bundaberg Swim Academy
Monday 2nd December	Year 1 Nativity Play	9:00am	MPS
Tuesday 3rd December	Year 6 Graduation	9:00am	MPS
	End of Year Excursion—Year 6	10:45am—12:30pm	Norville Pool
	End of Year Excursion—Year 3	11:30am—2:00pm	Reading Cinemas
Wednesday 4th December	End of Year Excursion—Prep & Year 1	8:45am—11:15am	Shalom Movies
	End of Year Excursion—Year 2	9:00am—11:15am	Inflatable World
	End of Year Excursion—Year 4	11:00am—1:30pm	Shalom Movies
	Celebration Night	5:00pm—7:00pm	MPS
Thursday 5th December	End of Year Excursion—Year 5	9:00am—12:00pm	Bundy Bowl
Friday 6th December	End of Year Liturgy	9:00am	MPS
	Year 6 Farewell Assembly	11:00am	MPS
	School Dismissed	12:00pm	More information to come

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE GROUP

**DO YOU WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE
IN OUR COMMUNITY? YOU'RE INVITED TO**

Join our Conference Group

Have a spare 1 to 2 hours a week?

We are passionate about assisting people in need.

HOW YOUR PASSION AND SKILLS CAN HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE

- Interviewing people in need, listening to their stories, giving them assistance
- Packing hampers, re-stocking shelves, updating the database
- Using computer skills
- You can also volunteer in the store or warehouse.
- Enhance and share your faith journey with other like-minded people and more...

Meetings are held fortnightly at 12:30pm (not necessary to join).
Training provided; no experience necessary.
Family Support is open Mondays, Tuesdays
and Thursdays (9am to 11:30am)

Express your interest by scanning the QR code
or emailing: bundaberg.office@svdpqld.org.au
National Police Check will be required.



St Vincent de Paul Society
QUEENSLAND
good works

“Have a spare 1 to 2 hours a week and want to make a difference in your community? You're invited to join our Support Centre and Conference/Group. How your passion and skills can help make a difference:

- Interviewing people in need, listening to their stories, giving them assistance etc.
- Answering phones, booking appointments, updating the database etc.
- Using computer skills

Enhancing and sharing your faith journey with other like-minded people.

Meetings are held monthly, 12:30pm. (Not necessary to join). Training provided, police check required, no experience necessary. Family Support is open: Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays (9am to 11:30am) There are other skills required not listed, why not enquire now? EMAIL: bundaberg.office@svdpqld.org.au Phone: 4339 3751 Forms: <https://forms.office.com/r/MHsttcDpq8>”

OUT AND ABOUT



Help give families a hand-up to get kids back-to-school ready

BUNDABERG POP-UP SHOP JANUARY 2025

Bundaberg Recreational Precinct Exhibition Room (Off Main Pavilion), Douglas Lane

Monday 13th – Friday 17th January

Open: Mon: 8am – 4:30pm | Tues to Thurs: 8:30am – 4:30pm | Fri: 8am – 12pm



www.schoolsavvyq.com

Find us on

What is school savvy?

As a *not for profit*, community-driven initiative, School Savvy takes the position that there is no place for casting judgement on anyone who needs to ask for help.

Program Overview

School Savvy CQ is an annual back to school resources initiative designed to assist both junior and senior school students from families who are struggling financially.

Basic stationery supplies and second-hand school uniforms are made available to families at very low-cost, during pop-up shops held throughout January of each year.

The goal of School Savvy is to ensure that all students have the opportunity to be well-equipped and ready to make the most of each new school year, regardless of their family's financial position.

CatholicCare has successfully run School Savvy CQ for the past six years, with pop-up shops opened across Bundaberg, Childers, Gin Gin, Gracemere, Mackay, Rockhampton, the Capricorn Coast, and Mount Morgan. In 2024, School Savvy CQ opened a brand new pop-up shop in Gladstone.

Eligibility

School Savvy does not individually assess pop-up shop attendees against any set eligibility criteria. Instead, an honesty system is actively promoted and encouraged where users:

- Only access the program if they are struggling financially
- Take only the resources they need
- Consider others when purchasing

School Savvy believes strongly in not setting an eligibility criteria because of the stories that attendees tell. The reasons for families needing to access School Savvy supplies vary greatly. From unexpected job losses to grandparents who take custody of children at short notice, a lot of School Savvy attendees are often in temporary situations where they do not qualify for alternative assistance programs.

School Savvy 2024 by the numbers



www.schoolsavvyq.com

Find us on



SHALOM ROWING COME & TRY

OPEN TO ALL YEAR 6 STUDENTS
GOING INTO YEAR 7 AT SHALOM IN 2025

MONDAY 11 NOVEMBER
3.30PM TO 5.30PM

FRIDAY 15 NOVEMBER
3.30PM TO 5.30PM

SATURDAY 16 NOVEMBER
7AM TO 9AM

Bundaberg Rowing Club, Quay St

(at the back of the Rowers on the River Restaurant)

Please bring a hat, water bottle, sunscreen, thongs, fairly tight fitting clothes

REGISTER NOW



ALL WELCOME!

Your crew becomes your family



Rowing is the ultimate team sport

HOT SHOTS

TENNIS FOR SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN

Our qualified coaches will provide personalised instruction to help your child to develop technically and tactically in a fun and nurturing environment. The program will foster sportsmanship and enhance their coordination, speed, strength, and agility.

Costs

Term Fee : \$70
Annual Club
Membership : \$20

All equipment provided!

When :

Tuesday: 3.30 pm - 4.15 pm

Thursday: 3.30 pm - 4.15 pm

Saturday: 9 am - 9.45 am

*One session may be attended by your child each week.

Where :

6C Powers St, Bundaberg West

For bookings and additional information

Phone : 0434345048

