



Principal's News

5th June 2026



Kim O'Shea-Hard
Principal

This week, 4F shared a wonderful message reminding us that “God’s way is better.” Accompanied by a catchy tune, the message has certainly stayed with me - I find myself still humming it while writing this newsletter!

The Gospel reading shared on Thursday came from Matthew 6:1–4. It presents a powerful challenge for all of us: to do the right thing not to be noticed or praised, but simply because it is the right thing to do. This was certainly Jesus’ way.

Interestingly, this message aligns with findings from contemporary research, including the work of The Resilience Project. Their research suggests that acts of kindness carried out without seeking recognition can release dopamine and oxytocin, helping to build self-esteem, resilience, and a stronger sense of wellbeing. By shifting our focus away from external validation and towards genuine empathy, we foster integrity, positive relationships, and improved mental health.

This understanding is one reason why we do not implement traditional “Student of the Week” awards, where every student eventually receives a prize. Instead, we encourage students to recognise one another through “Mercy Moments” across our school community. This practice helps train our minds to notice the good in others, while also reinforcing the positive impact that gratitude and kindness can have on our own wellbeing.

Most importantly, Mercy Moments provide real-life examples of students choosing to do the right thing for the right reasons - just as 4F reminded us this week. They also strengthen our connection to the Mercy Education Values of Compassion, Justice, Service, Hospitality, Courage, and Respect, which are grounded in our Mercy Charism.

When we see these values lived out in our community, we often speak about “spreading the green.” Green holds special significance at St Patrick’s for many reasons. It is the colour of our uniform and represents who we are as a community. It symbolises pride in our school and the way we choose to live and learn together. We also understand that we learn best when we are in the “green zone” and recognise our shared responsibility to help others remain there as well. Green reflects our Irish heritage through Saint Patrick and our connection to Catherine McAuley, from whom our Mercy Charism was born. It also reminds us to be responsible stewards of the natural environment around us as well.



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

Principal's News

Continued...

Last week, as I attended Bishop Daniel's Installation, I noticed that green features prominently in his family crest, symbolising many of these same connections and values. In a way, the green tiers represent the green that has been spread throughout his family's generations and heritage. This is not unlike the way we have been "spreading the green" throughout our own community for many months, years, and generations.

This weekend, Bishop Daniel will make his first visit to Bundaberg to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation with our students. This special occasion marks the culmination of many months of learning, faith formation, and spiritual growth.

Recently, we received an email from a family who joined our community at the beginning of this year. The email described enrolling at St Patrick's as the "best decision" they had made, sharing that their child had made many "lovely, kind and caring friends" and experienced a "happy" and "positive" growth in attitude towards school. The family also recognised that their child now comes home speaking about her teachers and learning that she now finds both 'interesting' and 'challenging'.

The email concluded:

"During our initial interview, Kim O'Shea-Hard spoke about 'spreading the green.' Since joining the St Patrick's community, we have felt it, experienced it, and witnessed it in action. For that, we are truly grateful and feel blessed to be part of such a wonderful community."

This semester, we have provided opportunities for our teachers and leadership team to take a deep dive into data to make informed judgements about student growth and learning in literacy. This type of data is very important. However, for those of us who have been part of this community for some time, feedback such as the email above reminds us of all the wonderful things we should never take for granted. School life is not always easy. Relationships can be messy, and challenges are inevitable. Yet messages like this remind us of the good that is happening in our community and the positive impact we must continue to strive to have on each other. Thank you for being a significant part of our story and for helping us continue to spread the green, especially at this pointy end of term.



The festival of Athletics has certainly started, so please be sure to take notice of the finer details for the coming weeks further on in this newsletter. A big shout out to Mr. Plumb, Mr. Zandona and the Rugby League Shamrocks who represented us well at Salters oval on Wednesday night at the culmination of the Kaufusi Cup. They may not have got the win on the scoreboard, but they certainly continue to represent us with a 'winning attitude'. We were pleased to see their growth and wish them well as they now set their sights on 'Challenge Cup' in Yeppoon next term.





Religion News

Tracey Cook
APRE

Living the Mercy Charism at St Patrick's



At St Patrick's, our Catholic identity is shaped by the Mercy charism, inspired by the life and vision of Catherine McAuley, founder of the Sisters of Mercy. Catherine believed that every person should be treated with dignity, compassion and respect, and her legacy continues to guide our school community today.

The Mercy charism calls us to be people of kindness, hospitality and service.

It encourages us to see Christ in others, especially those who may be experiencing hardship, loneliness or disadvantage.

Through our daily interactions, classroom learning, prayer and outreach activities, we strive to put mercy into action. One of these outreach activities is coming up soon.

Our Mini Vinnies Team has decided to dedicate this term's fundraiser to the Blackwater Parish, who lost their church to fire recently (see PJ Day promotion for more information).

Our students demonstrate the Mercy values in many ways: by welcoming others, showing empathy, helping those in need and caring for God's creation. These simple yet powerful acts reflect the Gospel message and help build a community where everyone feels valued and supported.

As we continue our journey together, we are reminded that mercy is more than a word - it is a way of living. By following the example of Jesus and the spirit of Catherine McAuley, we seek to be people who make a positive difference in the lives of others.

May we continue to grow as a community that lives, learns and leads with mercy at the heart of all we do.

Athletics Carnival Program Details

Monday 8th June

Only Finalists (invitations were sent):

Field events day at **St Patrick's Catholic School** (Students born 2014, 2015 and 2016).

Tuckshop is available all day.

9:00 am	Sprint Heats followed by Normal Classroom Routine and LUNCH			
	<i>Rotation</i>	<i>10yrs – Born 2016 - Boys</i>	<i>11yrs – Born 2015 - Girls</i>	<i>12yrs – Born 2014 – Girls & Boys</i>
12:00 pm	1	Long Jump Pit 1	Long Jump Pit 2	Shot Put
1:30 pm	Afternoon Tea			
1:50 pm	2	Shot Put	Shot Put	Long Jump Pit 1 & 2
2:50 pm	Return to Classroom / Departure			

Monday 22nd June

Senior Athletics Day (Years 4, 5 & 6) at **Shalom College**

Students born 2017 do not compete in the 200m and 800m events.

800m is a nomination event and students born 2014, 2015 and 2016 can nominate on the day.

No Tuckshop facilities are available for participating students at Shalom on this day.

8:30 am	Bus Departure to Shalom College	
9:00 am	200m Finals – winners determined on times	Students Born 2014, 2015 & 2016
9:45 am	Ball Games	All students across Years 4, 5 and 6
11:00 am	Lunch	
11:15 am	80 & 100m Run Offs, Semi Finals & Finals	1. All students compete in Run Offs and Semi Finals. 2. Finals – Top 8 sprinters born 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017
12:30 pm	Relays	Students Born 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017
1:30 pm	800m Finals	Students Born 2014, 2015 & 2016
2:30 pm	Bus Departure to St Patrick's	

Friday 26th June

Junior Athletics Day (Years Prep, 1, 2 and 3) at **St Patrick's Senior Oval**

Year 6 House Captains need to be at St Patrick's at 8:00 am to assist with the setting up of equipment.

Tuckshop will be a pre-order system from a limited menu.

JUNIOR ATHLETICS CARNIVAL	
9:00 am	50m, 60m & 80m Finals
9:45 am	Ball Games & Tabloids
11:00 am	Lunch
11:30 am	Relays
12:15 pm	Whole School Presentations in the Multi St Patrick's
	(Age Champion from the Senior Carnival will be awarded in the 2014, 2015 & 2016 age groups)
12:30 pm	Normal School Routine

Sports News

Uniform for Sports Carnival Days

- **Black shorts** (no other colours or a team's insignia);
- **House coloured shirt** (polo shirt is preferred for sun protection);
- **School sports cap, bucket hat or school formal hat** to be worn;
- Alternate **sport shoes** may be worn on the day, no spiked footwear is permitted;
- **Sunscreen** to be applied before arrival at school;
- Coloured zink and hair spray are **not permitted**;
- Please ensure your child has sufficient **water and food** for required days.



Schools Sports Representatives

Well done to Mila P. and Stevie P. at the Netball State titles on the weekend.

There sure was some very tough competition and the girls played so well and really gave them a run.

We are super proud of our regional girls, that's for sure!

Well Done!

Bundaberg District U12 School Sports Trials



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.					
Cricket	Boys	Born 2014, 2015 & 2016	Selected Students only: Tue 9th June (Session 3)	Brothers Cricket Club Nets (Parking at rear of Brothers Sports Club)	4:00 pm -5:30 pm
	Girls	10-12 years	Wed 10th June (Session 2)	Brothers Cricket Club Nets (Parking at rear of Brothers Sports Club)	4:00 pm -5:30 pm

OSHC - Term 2 Holiday Program

Daily fee: \$70

Book now for Term 2 Holidays. Phone 0417199586 or email spbg_oshc@rok.catholic.edu.au.

Mon, 29th June	Tue, 30th June	Wed, 1st July	Thur, 2nd July	Fri, 3rd July
<p>WAKKA BOY - INCURSION -</p>  <p>Adrian and Zahli return for some inspiring NAIDOC week art activities.</p> <p>\$20 surcharge</p>	<p>MAKE A T-SHIRT CUSHION</p>  <p>Let's make a cushion out of our favourite old T-shirt. You provide the t-shirt and we'll provide the cushion.</p>	<p>HIVE INFLATABLES - EXCURSION -</p>  <p>A high energy, FUN joint activity with St Joseph's OSHC kids.</p> <p>\$25 surcharge</p>	<p>GYMFINITY - EXCURSION -</p>  <p>Learn some new skills, improve other skills and have some FUN!</p> <p>\$20 surcharge</p>	<p>SCAVENGER HUNT (by request)</p>  <p>We enjoyed it so much last year we're doing it AGAIN! Work together as a team to find all the items on your list.</p>
Mon, 6th July	Tue, 7th July	Wed, 8th July	Thur, 9th July	Fri, 10th July
<p>NERF GUN BATTLE (by request)</p>  <p>Let's grab our goggles and our team mates again.</p> <p>LET THE BATTLE BEGIN!!!</p>	<p>CUBE SPORTS - INCURSION - Challenge Games</p>  <p>Enjoy some action-packed, challenging games with your OSHC friends.</p> <p>\$10 surcharge</p>	<p>PICKLE BALL - EXCURSION -</p>  <p>Let's walk across the road to try out Pickleball!! It's so much fun!</p> <p>\$10 surcharge</p>	<p>MAKE A PARACORD KEYCHAIN/ BAG TAG</p>  <p>Use your weaving skills to make your own bag tag/ keychain from parachute cord.</p>	<p>READING CINEMAS - EXCURSION -</p>  <p>A combined excursion with St Mary's & St Joseph's OSHC kids.</p> <p>\$25 surcharge</p>

COMING THIS WEEK

What's happening in Week 8?

Mon	Athletics HEATS & Field Events Final Day
Tue - Wed	Courtyard Prayer - 4K
Wed	Sacramental Session- Holy Communion Rehearsal
Fri	School Mass - Sacred Heart of Jesus
Sat - Sun	Sacrament of Eucharist



Out and About



Shalom College proudly presents Showcase 2026, 'All Seasons, One Stage' - an unforgettable celebration of dance, drama and music across two spectacular evenings.

Inspired by the beauty, energy and emotion of Summer, Autumn, Winter and Spring, this year's showcase will feature an exciting variety of performances from Shalom's talented students, bringing every season to life on stage through movement, storytelling and song.

Audiences can look forward to performances from the Shalom Choir and large ensemble music groups, alongside captivating dance performances and dramatic works from our emerging artists and performance teams.

Join us for a showcase of creativity, passion and talent at the Shalom Performing Arts Precinct on Friday 12th and Saturday 13th June at 7:00 pm.

Ticket Prices:

Adults – \$20

Students & Concessions – \$15

(plus booking fee)

Tickets on sale now - <https://www.trybooking.com/DMBAL>

Out and About



Bundaberg
Aquatic Centre

LEARN to SWIM!

Our GOswim program builds water safety and swimming skills through progressive levels for all ages – from infants and toddlers to teens and adults. Lessons are led by fully qualified teachers and focus on safe entries, movement, breath control, survival skills, and stroke development

GOswim | **SWIMMERS**



- 52-week annual membership
- 48 swimming and water safety lessons
- GOswim Welcome Bag to store your swim gear
- Unlimited student aquatic access outside of lessons
- 4 weeks of unlimited family swim access over summer
- 1-week Summer Holiday Swimming Program



ENROL TODAY!

No Joining Fee for the Month of May

Promo Code: MAYFREE



SCAN ME

*Membership conditions: Direct debit membership only. One-week holiday swim program consists of 5 x 30-minute lessons over 5 consecutive days at corresponding site. One week duration of the holiday swim program per new enrolment. Holiday program must be booked in advance and rebilled in the summer season.



BLUE LIGHT DISCO

CHRISTMAS IN JULY

\$5 ENTRY

SUPERVISED EVENT

CANTEEN FACILITIES

SAUSAGE SIZZLE

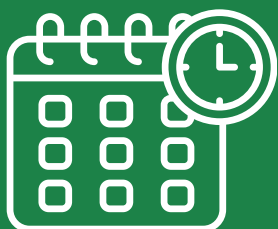
FRIDAY 17TH JULY | 5PM – 7PM | 7.30PM – 9.30PM
PREP TO YR 6 | YR 7 TO YR 12

MUSIC | **GAMES** | **PRIZES** | **GOOD VIBES ALL NIGHT!**

BUNDABERG CIVIC CENTRE | BOURBONG ST. BUNDABERG CENTRAL

Term 2 Planner: Weeks 6-10

WEEK 6	Week 25th May - 29th May		
Monday	Parish Mass	8:40 am	Year 5 and 1
	Patty's PEN (Parent Engagement Night)	5:30 pm	Parents
Tuesday-Wednesday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40 am	Teachers
Thursday	BUNDABERG SHOW HOLIDAY		
Friday	Interschool Sport	12:30 pm	Years 5-6
WEEK 7	Week 1st June - 5th June		
Monday	Parish Mass	8:40 am	Year 4
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40 am	4F
Friday	Interschool Sport	12:30 pm	Years 5-6
WEEK 8	Week 8th June -12th June		
Monday	Athletics HEATS (ALL students) & Field Events FINALS (Years 4-6, finalists will be notified)	All Day	St Patrick's
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40 am	4K
Friday	Sacred Heart of Jesus Mass	9:00 am	Years 2-6
WEEK 9	Week 15th June - 19th June		
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40 am	1B
Thursday	Music Retreat Day - Junior & Senior Strings students	All Day	Chaverim
WEEK 10	Week 22nd June - 26th June		
Monday	Senior Athletics Carnival - Years 4-6	All Day	Shalom
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40 am	1S
Friday	Junior Athletics Carnival - Prep - Year 3	All Day	St Patrick's



2026 Term Dates

- Term 1** Monday 27th January - Thursday 2nd April
- Term 2** Monday 20th April - Friday 26th June
- Term 3** Monday 13th July - Friday 18th September
- Term 4** Tuesday 6th October - Friday 4th December