

PRINCIPAL'S NEWS 21st March 2025

This week started with St Patrick's Day. Whilst many wore their very best green, shamrock-drenched accessory, the focus was more firmly on the theme of leadership and how this was modelled through the lives of 'Saint Patrick' and 'Catherine McAualey'. Patrick was separated from his family in Wales and taken to Ireland for slavery. Catherine lost both parents prematurely. Despite life's disappointments both grew in their faith which created a hopeful outlook on life, not just for themselves, but for those around them. Their stories are extraordinary when we consider how their faith spread all the way from Ireland to plant seeds of hope in the hearts of our very own St Patrick's Catholic school community.



Fr. Don delivered a thoughtful homily around this topic and one of the readings resonated with me from Prophet Jeremiah "Before I gave you life, and before you were born, I chose you to be a prophet to the nations". It made me wonder whether some disappointments and setbacks in life are strategically thrown in our path to prepare us for our destined life purpose, as we often see success born from hurdles and challenging beginnings.

On Wednesday we had our Diocesan leaders visit St Patrick's. Director Michael McCusker, Bishop Michael, Stephen Dale and Fr. Sijo happily engaged in a Q & A session run by Year 6 students and attended by Year 5. The guestions were scripted by the Mini Vinnies team. All Year 6 students have been badged leaders, but some students engage in an extra layer of service in roles of House Captains, Mini Vinnies and Reef Guardians. These were announced and presented at the culmination of our St Patrick's Day Liturgy. This week we have already engaged Student Leaders in some discussion around how to assist this community to realise a positive 2025 experience. I also acknowledge the fact that some amazing young men and women might be disappointed from the experience of missing out. At my stage in life, I have come to realise that it is the disappointments experienced in life that sometimes sharpen our character and make us stronger. However, with the benefit of hindsight these now seem insignificant but just as important as the successes and wins they endured along the way. It is the juxtaposition of life. My mother would always say 'things happen for a reason' and maybe she was right, but when you are young it is much harder to accept. During this Q & A session I asked, despite being successful leaders, if the Bishop and Director had ever experienced disappointment which made them stronger. Mr McCusker shared some insight on missing out on sporting teams, but then shared a very good story from which he could draw motivation. He spoke of Aerospace Engineer Clayton Anderson. He was rejected from NASA 15 times before his perseverance eventually paid off, taking him all the way to the moon and back. I thought this an excellent story for our young men and women in the audience to hear, as we pray they will always retain a sense of 'hope' and 'faith' throughout the twists and turns life unapologetically promises to make them take. Congratulations to all Year 6 Leaders, pictured further in the newsletter, we can't wait to see the impact you will make on this community.

Kim O'Ghea-Hard Principal





Click the
Parish logo
to go to the
Parish



Click the Facebook icon to go to our Facebook page



Absentees

4994 8336

spb_absentees@rok.catholic.edu.au

St Patrick's Day

Monday was our feast day – St Patrick's Day where we celebrated our patron saint. Patrick was born in Roman Britain in the 4th century and was kidnapped at the age of 16 and taken to Ireland as a slave. He escaped slavery and returned to convert the Irish to Christianity. By the time of his death on March 17 461CE he had established many churches and schools. Most famously Patrick used the shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity to the people he preached to.

Our students had a wonderful day starting with our Liturgy, followed by presenting our Year 6 Leadership Teams and then had fun trying to complete a challenge set by our resident leprechaun. Thank you to the many parents who were present to help us celebrate.





Mini Fair

This term during Lent, we have been learning about those less fortunate than ourselves through the stories of Project Compassion. As in previous years we will hold our annual Mini Fair as the major school fundraiser for Project Compassion. The aim of the Mini Fair is to have our children be involved in the planning and management of an event in which their ideas can help out others. The Mini Fair will be held on the last day of school this term (April 4th at 11.00am). You will have received information letters about the fair from class teachers. You are most welcome to attend the Fair with your children and they are permitted to go home with you at the conclusion of the fair.

Please note that prizes and some items sold at the Mini Fair, including cupcakes may contain nut traces, egg, cow's milk, dairy and gluten.

Third Week of Lent (Week beginning Monday 24 March)

Lam is 27 years old from a small village in rural Vietnam who faced significant challenges due to his short stature. Growing up, Lam often felt isolated due to limited job opportunities and difficulty moving around his community. While his friends started jobs after high school, Lam stayed home with his parents, unsure if he could ever achieve his dream of becoming a graphic designer.

Everything changed when Lam joined the I-SHINE program, supported by Caritas Australia. Through this initiative, Lam completed a six-month course developing his graphic design skills. Along the way, he built confidence, made friends and gained a sense of connection.

Today, Lam runs a successful freelance graphic design business from home, serving clients worldwide and earning a steady income. Lam hopes his storywill encourage other young people with disabilities to overcome obstacles and pursue their dreams.

Lam's journey shows how your support of Project Compassion empowers individuals to break barriers and transform their lives.

Watch Lam's story here

Will you walk alongside people like Lam this Lent?

Tracey Cook



Photo credit: Caritas Australia

VISIT FROM BISHOP MICHAEL McCARTNEY AND DIRECTOR MICHAEL McCUSKER

On Wednesday, St Patrick's was blessed to have Bishop Michael and our Diocesan Director Mr Michael McCuster take some time out of their busy schedules to be with us. They toured the school and answered some hard-hitting questions posed by our students about their faith journey, the Jubilee Year of Hope, stewardship of creation and social justice. We hope they both enjoyed their time at our school as much as we enjoyed hosting them. We are looking forward to their next visit.



















STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAMS

On St Patrick's Day, we acknowledged our student leadership teams; House Captains, Reef Guardians and Mini Vinnies leaders. These students demonstrate servant leadership, by giving their time, energy and talents for the greater good. They work quietly behind the scenes fundraising, supporting and raising awareness within our school community. Congratulations to all of these dedicated young leaders.

House Captains



Coolock House CaptainsCamden C, Jackson O, Essie M & Stephanie D



MacKillop House Captains
Theo S, Anderson K, Laynee M & Natalia A



Xavier House CaptainsDaniella H, Ivy L, Parker H & Kobi H



McAuley House CaptainsOliver B, Caelan D, Giorgi P & Florence B



STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAMS



Reef Guardians

Mason G

Zoe P

Ida N

Gracie C

Kate G

Lily T

Indiana M

Amelia J

Connor B Jax S

Leonard L

Elsie L

Thomas H

Theo S

Ivy L

Caelan D

Giorgi P

Leaonard L

Mini Vinnies

Mini Vinnies Executive

Ariana E (President)

Addison P (Vice President)

Amelia N (Secretary)

Sophia L (Treasurer)

Mini Vinnies Marketing Team

Sonia S

Indiana P

Leilani H

Taylisha B

Kenzie S

Natalia A

Mini Vinnies Communication Team

Paige F

Emanuel M

Charlotte H

Laynee M

Cailee B

Alexi J

Hailee A

Kimberley C

Madeline M

Amelia H

Hyeyong J

Oliver B

Florence B

Mini Vinnies Pastoral Care Team

Tori W

Beren T

Aria W

Olivia T

Elliet H

Elizabeth B

Maliah L

Eloise C

Georgia C

Kael K

Stephanie D

Essie M

Daniella H



SENIOR CROSS COUNTRY—REMINDER

Reminder to go via the **Parent Orbit** and nominate which event your child will compete in at the Cross Country Carnival next Term.

Options are as follows (only choose ONE event within the year your child is born):

3km - Born 2014 & 2013

2km - Born 2015

1km - Born 2016 & 2017

1km Fun Run - Born 2013, 2014, 2015

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.



TERM 2 FRIDAY AFTERNOON SPORT



BOYS

- Rugby League
- Soccer
- Table Tennis
- Pickleball
- Stay at School Activities
- Netball (mixed)

GIRLS

- Netball
- Table Tennis
- Pickleball
- Stay at School Activities
- Rugby League (mixed)

Children in Year 5 and 6 selected their Friday afternoon sport option for Term 2. Please discuss your child's selection with them. If you have any concerns, feel free to contact the school.

Dates, times, location and equipment details for your child's chosen sport will be sent to parents later next week.

TUCKSHOP NEWS



Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Tuckshop will be <u>shut</u> on **Monday, 24 March**, and will re-open on Tuesday 25 March.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused.



The last sausage sizzle for this term will be **Friday 28th March**. The Tuckshop will also be offering Zooper Doopers on this day.



It will be the same process of \$2 for a sausage at Lunch and \$2 for a Zooper Dooper at Afternoon Tea. All payments are to be made to the Classroom Teacher by not later than **9:00 AM**.

VACATION CARE NEWS

Easter Vacation Care - Book Now!

Vacation Care will be available during the Easter Holidays at OSHC! Bookings are essential and can be made via the **Xplor parent app**. Please note that some excursion days have limited vacancies due to bus capacity. The full program, permission forms, and additional details will be shared via a communications post on Xplor. Paper copies are also available from the OSHC room/junior library.



Xplor Home (4+)
Connect with those who matter
Xplor
Designed for iPad
#8 in Education
***** 4.8 - 15.5K Ratings

New families need to register and can find the enrolment form at <u>St Patrick's After School Care</u>, while existing families who haven't attended in a while should contact the service for a re-enrolment form. The daily fee is \$63, with some activities at an additional surcharge (see vacation program for further details). All fees exclude any government subsidies. St Patrick's OHSC is an approved child care service and Child Care Benefit and the Child Care Rebate are available.



Easter Holiday Program

Mon, 7 April

Easter Stufflers - Incursion-





Stuff your own special Easter friend to take home!

\$15 surcharge

Tue, 8 April

Can we build it?



Let's find out!

Put on your not-sohard hat and work together as a team to make OSHC's biggest ever cardboard box construction.

Wed, 9 April

Cooking with Michelle - Incursion-



Make your own Easter goody to take home and also something yummy to share for afternoon tea.

Thur, 10 April

Reading Cinemas "Dogman"



A combined excursion with St Mary's OSHC kids.

\$20 surcharge

Fri, 11 April

Desing your own T-shirt



You provide the white/pale coloured 100% cotton t-shirt and we'll provide the iron-on transfer and pens to decorate your own t-shirt.

Mon, 14 April

Cube Sports Dance Games - Incursion-



Some fun dance activities involving FUN and MUSIC!

\$10 surcharge

Tue, 15 April

It's Rocket Science! - Incursion -



Have some EXPLOSIVE fun with bottle rockets and other cool science stuff!

Easter Activities

Wed, 16 April



Enjoy some Easter activities which may, or may not, include an Easter Egg hunt!

Chill-Ax Day

Thur, 17 April



A nice relaxing day to end our last week of vacation care.

Good Friday

Fri, 18 April



Happy Easter everyone!

\$20 surcharge

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
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)	rls of repre- Monday 31 March		3:30 to 5:30pm
Soccer	Girls	2013, 2014 & 2015	Monday 24 March	Shalom College	4:00 to 5:30pm

School Sports Representatives

Congratulations to Lily and Giorgi on their selection in the Bundaberg Schools Touch Football team, and Madeline, Amira, Laynee and Jackson on being selected in the Bundaberg Schools Netball team.



Lily P & Giorgi P



Jackson O, Madeline M, Laynee M & Amira D

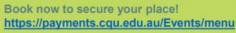
School Holiday

Ages: 8 to 16 years

Where: CQUniversity Bundaberg Makerspace (Building 5)

Cost: \$20 per child per workshop





Tip: click on "events" or refresh if you see an error message











MAKERSPACE Workshops Ages: 8-16 years



		MyC3. U-IU yCal 3	-
Date & Time	Workshop	Description	
9th April 2025 10:00am – 11:30am	LEGO® Robotics (Amusement Park) Max 12 participants	Designed for beginners, this workshop will introduce participants to the world of coding. During this workshop, participants will learn to use programming blocks to add things such as light and sound to their LEGO* Amusement Pacreations.	rk
9th April 2025 12:30pm – 2:00pm	Drones (Basic) Max 15 participants	Designed for beginners, this workshop will introduce participants to the world of drones. During this workshop, participants will learn about different types of drones and how drones are used in today's world. By the end of the workshop, each participant will have learned about drone safety, how to fly a drone and how to code a drone for automated flight!	
11th April 2025 10:00am – 11:30am	Max 8 participants NEW workshop for 2025!	Get ready to think outside the box and spark your imagination! Unleash your creativity and dive into the exciting world circuits with our Makey Makey workshop! Perfect for young inventors and tech enthusiasts, this hands-on session will teach participants how to transform everyday objects into amazing game controllers.	
11th April 2025 12:30pm – 2:00pm	Robot Mania Max 18 participants	Join us for an exciting and interactive workshop where creativity meets technology! In "Robot Mania," participants will dive into the fascinating world of robotics using Ozobots, Dash and Blue-bots. They will use robots that respond to colourful codes drawn with markers, engage with simple coding apps to complete fun challenges, and program robots create unique, robot-assisted drawings.	
14th April 2025 10:00am – 11:30am	LEGO® Robotics (Dragster Dash) Max 12 participants	Rev up your engines and get ready for an exhilarating experience! In this high-octane workshop, participants will unlear their creativity to design, build, and race their very own LEGO® dragsters. Throughout the workshop, participants will develop problem-solving skills, enhance their creativity, and experience the thrill of racing.	sh
14th April 2025 12:30pm – 2:00pm	Drones (Advanced) Max 9 participants	Get ready to soar to new heights and conquer the skies! Designed for young drone enthusiasts, this advanced session offers an exciting opportunity to sharpen skills, tackle obstacles, and compete in fun drone challenges. Important: Participation requires prior attendance at the Drone (Basics) Workshop.	
16th April 2025 10:00am – 11:30am	Ozobots Max 10 participants NEW workshop for 2025!	Explore the exciting world of robotics and coding in this engaging workshop featuring Ozobots! Using colour codes, participants will guide Ozobots along tracks while also exploring more advanced programming techniques that will alle them to create customised commands and behaviours for the robots.	ow
16th April 2025 12:30pm – 2:00pm	Drones (Ocean Science Adventure) Max 9 participants NEW workshop for 2025!	Dive into the fascinating world of marine science and drone technology! This engaging workshop transforms participar into marine researchers, combining science, technology, engineering, and math with flying drones in an ocean mission important: Participation requires <u>prior</u> attendance at the Drone (Basics) Workshop.	

HOLIDAY CLINICS

DATE: 11/4/2025

TIME: 3.00pm - 5.00pm

AGE: 5-12 years

COST: \$49

WHERE: 25 Fred Courtice Avenue, Bargara







Autumn School Holiday Program

APRIL 2025



Our program runs 9am-3pm with pick-ups between 8am-9am and drop-offs between 3pm-4pm. Please contact IDSS on 1300 4377 669 by close of business Friday 21/3/25 with your requested days. An invoice will be sent with the total cost to be paid by 1/4/25.

All activities are subject to weather and availability and subject to change if needed. Please bring a hat, water bottle, towel and change of clothes each day.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS



ENGINEERING, ROBOTICS & ELECTRONICS 2 DAY CAMP WONDER KIDZ

CQU Bundaberg Campus

Monday 14th April 2025 to Tuesday 15th April 2025

Eligibility	Date	Time	Fee	No. of Days	Book online*
Yr 1 - 9	14 Apr- 15 Apr	9:00am to 3:00pm	\$181	2	www.trybooking.com/CZZTF

* Always consult the booking link for any changes. Every effort is made to ensure this brochure is accurate but all changes are reflected online.

rom Sustainable farming to self-driving cars, Advanced Engineering & Robotics model a range of real-world situations that teach students a omplete understanding of how the technology works and used to solve the issue at hand. The engineering lessons engage kids with a ands-on learning environment and immerse them in the applications and possibilities of modern technologies. Through PBL (Project-based learning), students combine hardware, Lego® compatible building blocks, and coding to create a prototype and solve real-world problems. The projects are designed to encourage students to invent other viable solutions to these real-world issues and explore ways to utilize xisting technology. The completion of these projects will boost confidence and create problem solving ability in students to overcome any hallenge from working in their future jobs to solving our world's current or future problems. All activities are adjusted to the student age and



e tadde different challenges on each day.



Limited spots available! Early bird discounts apply for a short time.





Are you traveling through Central Queensland these holidays? Check out our other locations on our main web page.

For more information please call 0424 985 172

pavle@young-engineers.com.au cq.young-engineers.com.au Engineering & Robotics Program provides theoretical knowledge in software and mechanical engineering combined with mathematics and physics.

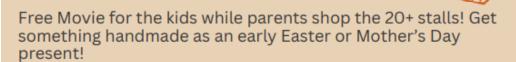
Electronics: Our electronic kits are specifically designed to minimise assembly time which creates more opportunity to explore the learning's behind how each experiment works. Learn to build circuits in the classroom.

Build Your Tomorrow. Today!

Build-Up Program is designed for little children where they start from learning the basics of building Lego Models including improving them and end up building models independently with a friend and enjoying group game.

McAuley House & Mini Markets & Movie Night

Friday 21 March | 5:30pm-8:30pm Shalom Performing Arts Precinct



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











VOLUNTEER TODAY

BE PART OF THE TEAM TO SUPPORT SOMEONE TODAY!

Would you be willing to dedicate just one hour a week or fortnight to brighten the day of an elderly person in an Aged Care Facility or in the home of a client who receives a Home Care Package. Whether it's sharing a conversation over a warm cup of tea, playing a game together, or simply enjoying some music, your regular visits can have a profound impact on their quality of life.

Ph. Heather 0448 035 891 or IMPACT on 4153 4233



WWW.IMPACT.ORG.AU

OUT AND ABOUT



Saver Plus Information Sessions

We are running Information sessions for anyone thinking about joining the program and wants to learn more about how Saver Plus works.

Eligibility, income and participation criteria. To find out more head to https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/.

To Register please use the QR Code or Zoom Link Below.



Click here to Register

saverplus.org.au 1300 610 355



Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St. Laurence and is delivered in partnership with The Smith Family and Berry Street It is funded by ANZ and Department of Social Services.



Do you have a health care card? You could be eligible for Saver Plus.

For every dollar you save, you'll get a dollar from ANZ to spend on educational costs, up to \$500.

To join, you need to meet all of these requirements:

- ✓ Be 18 years or older
- ✓ Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
- ✓ Have a child in school, starting school next year, or be studying yourself
- ✓ Get a regular income (can be you or your partner)
- ✓ Agree to join in free online financial education workshops



Does your 8-14 year old child struggle with reading?



GRIFF LINC READING RESEARCH



FREE ONLINE TUTORING FOR 6 MONTHS

Students must be available 2 -3 times per week for 30 mins

The Griff Linc Reading Research team has developed a new tutoring method for middle years students struggling with reading. The tutors use artificial intelligence to write short texts specific to your child's interests and reading level, and use a six-step teaching method during each tutoring session. The researchers collect data on your child's reading assessments at the beginning and end of the project, as well as video recordings of the tutoring sessions. This data will be used to evaluate the impact of the project on middle years students struggling with reading.

RESEARCHERS:

Professor Beryl Exley & Dr Frances Hoyte TO APPLY:

Email - f.hoyte@griffith.edu.au GU Ethics Reference Number: 2024/201



Annual Parish Fundraising Luncheon

Saturday, 5 April at the Brothers Sports Club 11.30am for 12.00pm start







Two Course Luncheon and continous raffle













TERM ONE PLANNER

WEEK 1	Week 27th January-31st January			
Monday	AUSTRALIA DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY			
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am Mrs Cool Friend		
WEEK 2	Week 3rd February-7th February			
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	5P	
Friday	Opening School Mass	9.00am	Years 3-6	
WEEK 3	Week 10th February—14th February			
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	5S	
Friday	Year 6 Leadership Induction	9.00am	Whole School	
WEEK 4	Week 17th February—21st February			
Monday	Parish Mass	9.00am	Year 6	
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	6M	
Friday		PUPIL FREE DAY		
WEEK 5	Week 24th February—28th February			
Monday	Parish Mass	9.00am	Year 1 & 5	
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	6A	
WEEK 6	Week 3rd March—7th March	Time	Year Level	
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	
WEEK 7	Week 10th March—14th March	Time	Year Level	
Monday	Parish Mass	9.00am	Year 4	
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	2N	
WEEK 8	Week 17th March—21st March			
Monday	St Patrick's Day Liturgy Year 6 Leaders Announced (during Liturgy)	9.30am	Whole School	
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	2C	
WEEK 9	Week 24th March—28th March			
Monday	Parish Mass	9.00am	Year 2 & 4	
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	2W	
WEEK 10	Week 31st March—4th April			
Tuesday	Palm Sunday	8:40am	4M & 4K	
Wednesday	Last Supper	8.40am	4F	
Thursday	Good Friday	8.40am	58	
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 & 201	3 Shalom College
27 June	Junior Athletics Day	Students born 2020, 2019, 2018 & 201	7 St Patrick's
21 November	Swimming Carnival	Years 3 to 6	Bundaberg

2025 TERM DATES		
TERM 1	Monday 28 January - Friday 4 April	
TERM 2	Tuesday 22 April - Friday 27 June	
TERM 3	Monday 14 July - Friday 19 September	
TERM 4	Tuesday 7 October - Friday 5 December	