



St Patrick's
Catholic Primary School

PREP TO YEAR 6
P. 07 4152 1380

35 Mulgrave St
Bundaberg West, QLD

PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

28th November 2025

This week 2C reminded us of how 'blessed' we truly are to be part of this community. As a school, we have grown together in faith, formation, and purpose. Throughout the year, we have celebrated achievements, supported one another through challenges, and strengthened the bonds that make our community a place of welcome, mercy, and belonging. None of this is possible without the dedication of our staff, the trust of our families, and the enthusiasm of our young people, who fill our days with energy and joy. A great example of this unfolded at our annual Cultural Night on Thursday evening. The talent and growth witnessed through our students instrumental and choir pursuits was extremely impressive and entertaining. I took the opportunity to thank our wonderful teachers and tutors in Kate Hardisty, Bernadette Connolly, Jed Morley, Bridget Perry and Christie Jacobsen. They are passionate in sharing their love of music and St. Patrick's are certainly blessed with the best. I am as equally grateful to the number of staff who joined us in bringing this night to life, especially Mrs. Cook who does an amazing job as the MC and our enthusiasm co-ordinator!

As we prepare to farewell the year and enter a season of rest and renewal, I offer my heartfelt thanks to every member of our community. Last week, we held a special Board Dinner to farewell three long-standing members of our committee. Bree Watson, Brendon Croft, and Yesmin Dever will graduate with their children to Shalom next year. Each has given so generously of their time and wisdom over the years, and we will deeply miss their insight and steady presence. Our Board provides invaluable support and thoughtful advice, for which I am personally very grateful. We will be inviting a couple of fresh faces to join us next year. If you would like to nominate a parent who is passionate about St Patrick's, positive, professionally minded, confidential, and insightful, please forward your suggestion to the school office for the Board's consideration in the new school year.

Next week, we will also farewell our Year 6 students and those families whose youngest child is moving into their next chapter of life. You have all contributed light and shade to our story. May the light of Christ continue to guide your steps, and may the spirit of Catherine McAuley continue to inspire your life decisions.

Mentioned in an earlier newsletter we are retaining the majority of our staff for 2026, only farewelling our CAP Teacher Assistants, who have recently graduated as Teachers and leave our nest to pursue their own teaching careers in the new year. Both ladies have been afforded wonderful mentors in the shape of Lucy Story, Andrea Tindall and Sally French over the past two years. We will miss Bianca and Jessie who have grown in to amazing educators. We will welcome Clare Ferris (Clarke) and Brooklyn Stone back to St. Patrick's next year. Both teachers have already visited over the past few weeks, with one saying her return felt like 'a big warm hug'. We are so fortunate to have such slight changes in our staffing for next year and I have a good feeling about 2026. Our final 2026 Staff List can be found in this Newsletter. Report Cards will be e-mailed on Friday, 5th December along with Class Lists. There has been an extraordinary amount of time and effort poured into class lists and I'd like to congratulate Jo Driver for overseeing this process. We are never going to be able to meet everybody's requests, but feel we have a solid plan which will now be locked down for the new school year.

I pray that the coming Christmas season brings all of our families peace, hope, and the gentle presence of God's love. I look forward to welcoming you back in the new year as we continue to grow, serve, and shine together.

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

The Season of Advent: A Time of Hope and Preparation

As we journey together through the season of Advent, we are reminded of the beauty and significance of this special time in our liturgical calendar. Advent, which begins four Sundays before Christmas, is a season of waiting, preparation, and joyful anticipation for the celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas. It is also a time for us to reflect on the hope, peace, joy, and love that Jesus brings into our lives and our world.

What is Advent?

The word "Advent" comes from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "coming." During these weeks, we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of Jesus Christ. Each week of Advent has a special focus, symbolised by the lighting of one candle on the Advent wreath:

- **Week 1: Hope**—We reflect on the hope that Christ brings to the world.
- **Week 2: Peace**—We pray for peace in our hearts, our families, and our world.
- **Week 3: Joy**—Known as Gaudete Sunday, we rejoice in the joy of Christ's coming.
- **Week 4: Love**—We focus on the love of God, shown to us through the gift of His Son.

How You Can Celebrate Advent at Home

Advent is a wonderful opportunity for families to come together in prayer and reflection. Here are some simple ways you can celebrate this season at home:

- **Create an Advent wreath:** Light a candle each Sunday and spend time reflecting on the week's theme.
- **Practice acts of kindness:** Encourage your children to perform acts of kindness for family members, neighbours, and friends.
- **Read scripture together:** Share the story of Jesus' birth from the Bible and discuss its meaning as a family
- **Engage in service:** Find ways to give back to those in need, such as donating to a charity or helping a neighbour.
- **Pray together:** Set aside time to pray as a family, giving thanks for the blessings in your lives and asking for God's guidance during this season of waiting

A Message of Hope

Advent reminds us that even in times of darkness, there is always hope. The birth of Jesus brought light into the world, and we are called to share that light with others through our words and actions. As we prepare for Christmas, let us open our hearts and reflect on how we can bring His love to those around us.

May this Advent season be a time of peace, joy, and hope for your family. We look forward to celebrating the birth of Christ with our school community as we journey toward Christmas together



Tracey Cook

STAFF LIST 2026

Year 1	Zana Hook (Mon-Thu) Jed Morley (Fri)	Christina Brimelow (Mon-Thur) Hannah Nasio (Fri)	Brooklyn Stone
Year 2	Andrea Wust	Jessie Salmon	Jessie Clarey
Year 3	Jessica Cullinan	Rachel Medley	Andrea Tindall
Year 4	Cathy Keegan	Sally French	Peggy Booth
Year 5	Larisa Green	Matt Plumb	Sara Salmond (Mon-Thur) Gabby Lindeman (Fri)
Year 6	Clare Ferris	Rebecca-Lee Lovejoy	Claire Baillie (Mon-Wed) Kat Harrington (Thur-Fri)
Specialist Teachers	Gabby Lindeman (Design and Digital Technologies)	Taryn Gollshewsky (Physical Education)	Jed Morley (Music)
Instrumental Music	Kate Hardisty	Bernadette Connolly	Bridget Perry
Learning Support	Leah Walton Bec Holden		
Administration	Carly Zandona	Estelle Pretorius	Brooke Bone
Support Staff	Carissa Begeda, Ali Botha, Donna Delaney, Kiera Doherty, Macey Egan, Megan Evans, Daisy Henden, Debra Hess, Deb Hughes, Dannii Jacobsen, Luke Jacobsen, Anita Katajamaki, Carla Kellaway, Leanne Krebs, Marlou Malnegro, Barry McConnell, Elke McCrystal, Chris McMahon, Sonya McMillan, Jodie Philips, Lauren Smith, Taitum Staley, Kim Werchon, Ivan Williamson, Cristian Zandona, Renee Reeves, Reggae Fernandes.		

2026 CONFIRMATION OF ENROLMENT

All families were emailed the '2026 Confirmation of Enrolment' link on Tuesday 18th November, if you haven't already, could you please complete the form by scanning the QR code or clicking on this link [2026 Confirmation of Enrolment](#).

Please only complete this form **once** and if you have any issues in accessing the form or completing the form don't hesitate to reach out to the finance officer, Brooke Bone.



CATHOLIC EDUCATION RACE DAY 2026



Catholic Education Race Day 2026

The Bundaberg Catholic Schools Race Day, to be held on Saturday, 14th March, 2026 is an annual fundraising event held by St Joseph's, St Mary's, St Patrick's Primary Schools and Shalom College. The Race Day is a very popular community event and funds raised from this year are presently going towards the purchase of new classroom furniture. We are seeking support with regards to Raffle Prize vouchers and sponsors for our upcoming Catholic Schools Race Day. Your donation would contribute to our raffle and day being a huge success. As a raffle sponsor, your business name and donation would be displayed on A3 flyers in the marquees on Race Day. Your business would also be mentioned on the raffle prize list included in our Race Day Program. While the raffle takes place your name will be announced by the MC as a raffle prize sponsor.

We also have an opportunity for any interested business to sponsor a race (\$1960) or to be a major sponsor (\$1300). These sponsorships attract a lot of advertising and benefits including entry, table, drinks and eats on the day. If any of our St. Patrick's business owners are interested in these opportunities please send your name and contact details to spboffice@rok.catholic.edu.au.

Thanks for your support and consideration.

Kim O'Shea-Hard

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION

In 2026, Catholic Education – Diocese of Rockhampton (CEDR) will implement Respectful Relationships Education (RRE) for all students from Prep to Year 12, as mandated by Australian Education Ministers. Since 2002, CEDR schools have delivered Personal and Social Development Education guidelines, and since 2015 we have implemented a Child Safety Curriculum from Kindergarten to Year 12. RRE will replace these programs and continue our commitment to providing holistic, high-quality education for every student. The RRE curriculum is informed by the Australian Curriculum P–10 Health and Physical Education (HPE) Version 9.0 (2022) and the Queensland Government's RESPECT program (2022).

To support its delivery, CEDR has developed curriculum documents, teaching and learning materials, and professional learning opportunities for staff. St. Patrick's will receive Professional Development in January next year. Please follow the [link](#) for more information.



ST PATRICK'S 2025

WEEK 9 EVENTS

Yr 1 Nativity Play



Monday Dec 1
9am in the Multi

Yr 6 Graduation



Tuesday Dec 2
RSVP via Parent Orbit
9am in the Multi

Celebration Night



Wednesday Dec 3
P-Yr 2 5.15pm
Yr 3-6 6.15pm
In the Multi

End of Year Liturgy & Yr 6 Assembly



Friday Dec 5
Liturgy 9am
Assembly 11.15am
In the Multi
School concludes @12pm

2026 TERM DATES

TERM 1

Tue, 27 Jan -
Fri, 2 April
(10 Weeks)

TERM 2

Mon, 20 April -
Fri, 26 June
(10 Weeks)

TERM 3

Mon, 13 July -
Fri, 18 Sept
(10 Weeks)

TERM 4

Tue, 6 Oct -
Fri, 4 Dec
(9 Weeks)

2026 Public Holidays

Thursday, 1 January – New Year's Day
Monday, 26 January – Australia Day
Friday, 3 April – Good Friday
Monday, 6 April – Easter Monday
Saturday, 25 April – ANZAC Day
Monday, 4 May – Labour Day
Monday, 5 October – King's Birthday
Friday, 25 December – Christmas Day
Saturday, 26 December – Boxing Day (public holiday – Monday, 28 December)

SOCIAL MEDIA AGE RESTRICTIONS

Preparing for social media changes

From **10 December 2025**, some social media platforms must prevent Australians under 16 from creating or keeping accounts.

eSafety has [updated its guidance](#) on which platforms are likely to be **age-restricted**. These include Facebook, Instagram, Kick, Reddit, Snapchat, Threads, TikTok, X, and YouTube.

Platforms we consider do not currently meet the criteria for 'age-restricted social media platform' and are therefore **not age-restricted** include Discord, GitHub, Google Classroom, LEGO Play, Messenger, Roblox, Steam, WhatsApp, and YouTube Kids.

Technology changes quickly, so this list isn't fixed. We'll keep sharing updates on [our website](#).

To help young people, families and educators prepare, eSafety has released a package of resources on a [dedicated online hub](#) and will run [live webinars](#) to provide information and answer questions.



From 10 December, you will need to be 16 or over to have an account on social media.

For more details go to **eSafety.gov.au**

Authorised by the Australian Government, Capital Hill, Canberra

TUCKSHOP NEWS—Week 9

Reminder:

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



TUCKSHOP

news

Week 9

- ➔ **WEEK 9 - LAST WEEK OF TERM 4!**
- 🕒 **Monday - Wednesday**
LUNCH & AFTERNOON TEA
- 🕒 **Thursday**
LUNCH AS NORMAL
AFTERNOON TEA: **ICE BLOCKS ONLY**
- 🕒 **Friday**
CLOSED



TERM 4 VACATION CARE PROGRAM

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

Mon, 8 Dec Tie Dye Hat Day (as requested)  Let's tie dye our very own bucket hat to wear to OSHC these holidays! \$10 surcharge	Tue, 9 Dec Wet Play Day  Bring your togs, towel & water pistol. We'll provide the zooper doopers, water, water pistols & balloons! \$10 surcharge	Wed, 10 Dec Silent Disco in the Multi  Put on your headphones and get your dancing shoes on ready for our silent disco. \$10 surcharge	Thur, 11 Dec XMAS Craft Day  As much Christmas craft as you can squeeze into your day! \$5 surcharge	Fri, 12 Dec - Incursion - Safety Squad - Cube Sports  A fun and informative session with your own mini first aid kit to take home. \$20 surcharge
Mon, 15 Dec - Excursion - Reading Cinemas Zootopia 2  A trip to the movies with our friends from St Mary's OSHC. \$25 surcharge	Tue, 16 Dec Christmas Movie Day  Let's see how many Christmas movies we can watch in ONE DAY! \$10 surcharge	Wed, 17 Dec - Incursion - "LEGO" - Xmas Kits (as requested)  Choose a Christmas kit or ornament trio to assemble, then take home to decorate your house. \$15 surcharge	Thur, 18 Dec - Incursion - Cooking  Help make some yummy Christmas food for us to eat tomorrow at our Christmas party! \$10 surcharge	Fri, 19 Dec Secret Santa & Xmas Party  Choose a secret santa gift from under the OSHC tree. AND enjoy Christmas lunch together.
SERVICE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR				
Mon, 12 Jan Do Nothing Day (as requested)  Let's just chill-ax today and do nothing "special" at all.	Tue, 13 Jan Wet / Messy Day  You bring your togs & towel and we'll provide the messy fun! \$10 surcharge	Wed, 14 Jan - Incursion - World Cup Soccer - Cube Sports  Enhance your soccer skills with this fabulous soccer session. \$10 surcharge	Thur, 15 Jan Yoga & Spa Day (as requested)  Relax & feel pampered OR try a (yoga) pose.	Fri, 16 Jan GYG for Lunch!  Let's order our lunch and get it delivered to oshc for a special treat. (still need morning tea) \$15 surcharge
Mon, 19 Jan Wheels Day (as requested)  Bring your own scooter or skates AND HELMET. (please NO bikes)	Tue, 20 Jan Make Your Own Drink Bottle Workshop  You choose the bottle, glitter and stickers and we'll do the rest. \$10 surcharge	Wed, 21 Jan STUDENT PROTECTION TRAINING AND OFFICE/SHED CLEAN UP DAY SERVICE CLOSED	Thur, 22 Jan Australia Day Activities  Thong throwing contests, eat a lamington or two! What else can we do??	Fri, 23 Jan - Excursion - Reading Cinemas Grand Prix of Europe  A movie date with St Mary's OSHC. \$25 surcharge

OUT AND ABOUT



Join the friendly club!

Come and Try Day

Discover netball with Alloway and join us for an exciting day full of fun, friendship, and fitness.

All children turning 7-10 in 2026 are welcome

Saturday 31 January

BNA Netball Courts

Regular season details:
Saturdays
11.30am – 1.00pm
10 weeks (dates tbc)




 allowaynetballclub@outlook.com


 BNA Courts


 Lyn Newport – President

 0407 408 966



Scan to register!






All-Girls Come and Try Day

30 November | The Waves Sports Complex Field 5
All abilities/experience levels welcome!
U9 – U14 | 8.00am – 9.00am
U14+ | 9.00am – 10.30am

AN INVITATION IS EXTENDED TO ALL STAFF AND STUDENTS
TO BE PART OF THIS YEARS
CATHOLIC PARISH OF BUNDABERG FLOAT



PAGEANT OF LIGHTS

**4TH
DEC**

**PARADE STARTS AT 6.30PM
- BE AT CORAL COAST FORD
BETWEEN 5.45PM - 6.00PM**

Please let the parish office know if you would like to be involved!
Costumes available on the night or come in something Christmassy.
(Other than Santa, the only Santa allowed is the Official Santa)

Meet at Coral Coast Ford between 5.45pm - 6.00pm