



Principal's News

4th September 2026



Kim O'Shea-Hard
Principal

This week, I was privileged to spend quality time with our Year 5 students out at Chaverim for their first school camp encounter. The camp provided many opportunities for students to challenge themselves, build new friendships, and develop teamwork skills through a variety of outdoor activities. Whether participating in group challenges, adventurous activities, or sharing meals together, students demonstrated enthusiasm, resilience, and a spirit of cooperation.

We are incredibly proud of the way our Year 5 students embraced every aspect of the camp. Their positive attitude, kindness towards one another, and willingness to step outside their comfort zones reflected the values we strive to nurture at our school. We certainly witnessed the students 'spreading the green'.

We thank Mr. Egan, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Salmond, Mr. Plumb and Mr. Zandona who joined me overnight, and the staff of Chaverim to make this camp possible. The Year 6's will be stretched just that little bit further, as they build on their own Year 5 encounter, heading to Hervey Bay, exploring all that the Fraser Coast and K'Gari have to offer in Week 10 of this term.

We hope to see many of you at the School Musical next week, at the culmination of a lot of hard work and a commitment to creating a collective masterpiece by our Year 5 and 6 students.

"May the strength of God guide us, the wisdom of God instruct us, and the hand of God protect us." – St Patrick's Breastplate.



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



Religion News

Tracey Cook
APRE

Fathers

During today's Father's Day Prayer Celebration, I had the honour of presenting a reflection based on a reading from Luke's Gospel (2:41-51) to the large number of community members who came in support of our students and to celebrate with us.

This Gospel reading shows Jesus as a boy with Mary and Joseph. They go to Jerusalem, and then Joseph and Mary realise Jesus isn't with them. They search everywhere. Any parent would feel worried. That's what loving parents do: they look after their child.

In relating this to Father's Day, we can notice Joseph. The Gospel doesn't give us lots of Joseph's words, but it shows his heart. Joseph stays close, takes responsibility, and doesn't give up when things are hard. A good father doesn't have to be loud to be strong. He's strong by being present, calm, and faithful.

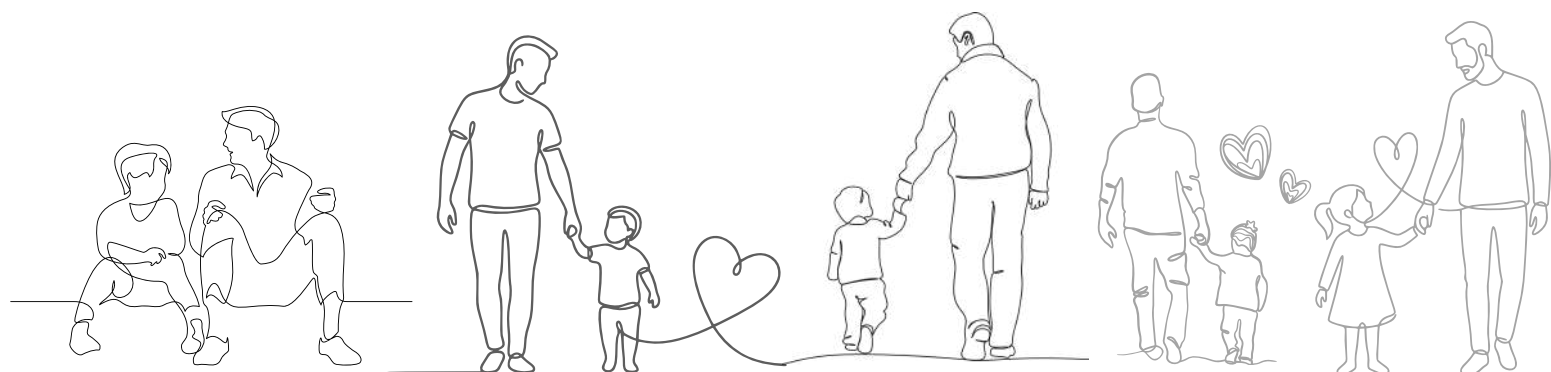
When they find Jesus in the Temple, Jesus says, "I must be in my Father's house." Jesus is teaching us that God is our loving Father too. Fathers on earth help us learn what fatherly love can look like: protecting, guiding, forgiving, and encouraging.

We say thank you to dads, step-dads, grandfathers, uncles, and all the men who care for children. We also remember that some people find Father's Day hard — maybe they miss their dad, or their dad isn't able to be close. God our Father never forgets us, and the Church and our school is meant to be a family that cares for one another.



So let us keep some special prayers in our hearts for all fathers: that, like Saint Joseph, they will be steady, loving, and brave. And let's pray for ourselves too: that we will listen to God, stay close to Jesus, and grow in wisdom and love.

I hope you get to spend Sunday with a special man who has made a difference to your lives, I certainly will.





Growing Joy: Our Sunflower Journey

At the end of May, our Year 1 and Year 2 students planted something very special — tiny sunflower seeds!

Over the past few months, our students have carefully nurtured their seeds, watching with excitement as they grew from tiny beginnings into beautiful, magnificent sunflowers. Along the way, we have learned that growing a flower takes patience, care and plenty of sunshine. Our sunflower garden has also become a wonderful place to observe nature. The students have watched bees busy collecting pollen and doing their important work. It has been wonderful to see how something as simple as a sunflower can bring so much joy, curiosity and wonder to our students.

As our sunflowers have blossomed, students have had the opportunity to choose a flower to take home and share that joy with their families. We are now nearing the end of our sunflower season, and soon we will replant and begin the growing cycle again.

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Keep growing,
keep nurturing
and keep spreading joy –
one sunflower
at a time.



We love sunflowers!

This week, our Year 1 and Year 2 students will be coming home with a few sunflower seeds of their own to plant at home. We hope this little at-home experience brings sunshine, joy and happiness to every household as students watch their very own flowers grow.

Students from other year levels are also welcome to join in the fun. Packets of sunflower seeds can be collected from the school office for anyone who would like to plant some at home.

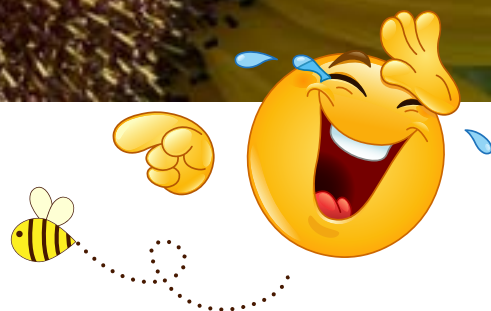
We would like to extend a big thank you to Tammy Anastasi for her continued support and generosity. Tammy kindly provided the sunflower seeds for everyone to enjoy, and we truly appreciate her kindness.

We can't wait to see where our little seeds take us next!



Why is a sunflower like the letter 'a'?

Because a 'b' always goes after it.



FUN FACT

Did you know young sunflowers can turn their heads to follow the sun across the sky?

This movement is called **heliotropism**.



Year 6 Camp - Medication Reminder



A friendly reminder to all Year 6 families to please submit any **medication required for camp** to the school office as soon as possible, together with the completed and signed **Request to Administer Medication at School form**, available from Reception.



Submitting medication and forms in advance will help us prepare for camp and ensure we have clear instructions about what medication is required, when it needs to be administered, and how it should be given.

We understand that some medication may need to remain with your child until the day of departure. In these cases, the medication can be handed directly to staff on the morning of departure. However, the **completed medication form must still be submitted to the school office by Friday 11 September**.



Sports News

11 - 12 Years Boys & Girls Aquathlon Trials

Interested in nominating to trial for the 2027 WBSS Aquathlon Team?

Trials will be held **Sunday 11 October 2026** at Scarness Park, **Hervey Bay**. There is a \$35 nomination fee (\$45 after 1 October).

The Regional trial is to pick a team to represent Wide Bay at the **QRSS State Titles on 7 - 9 February 2027** at **Bribie Island**.

Entry and payment can be made directly through the Hervey Bay Triathlon Club website **via [this link](#)** or by scanning the **QR Code**.

Entries close on 8 October 2026.



Child Protection Week: 6-12 September



QUEENSLAND
**CHILD
PROTECTION
WEEK**

As **Child Protection Week** approaches, the Bundaberg Child Protection Week Action Group (CPWAG) invites you to join in a week of connection, learning and celebration.

From **6-12 September 2026**, we are reminding everyone that Protecting Children is Everybody's Business.

Please take a look at the upcoming 2026 Bundaberg Child Protection Week Events.

Safer Communities Workshop



Families are invited to **Alexandra Park Zoo Playground** on Wednesday, September 9 (2pm-4pm) for an engaging, play-based workshop that uses storytelling, movement and creative activities to help children understand personal safety in a fun and interactive environment.



Rainbow Day

A much-loved community event returns on Friday, September 11 (9am-12pm) at Bundaberg PCYC. Designed for children under five and their families, Rainbow Day offers free activities, games, entertainment and a special appearance from mascot Sunny, the Rainbow Lorikeet.

Annual Child Protection Week Award Dinner



The week concludes with the Annual Awards Dinner on Friday, September 11, celebrating local champions who have made an outstanding contribution to child protection and family wellbeing throughout the Bundaberg region. Special Guest speaker Kelly Humphries, will bring an engaging presentation and participation in a panel discussion to challenge and encourage us to think differently about safety, connection, belonging, and community responsibility.

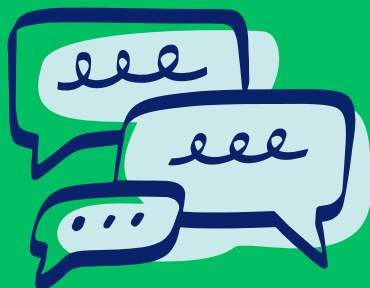
With inspiring conversations, award presentations, live acoustic music from Kara James, a delicious two-course meal, and raffles this will be an evening well worth taking part in. Leave with new connections, fresh perspectives, and a renewed commitment to making child protection everybody's business.

Dinner will be held at the Bundaberg RSL Club from 5.30pm-9pm.
Tickets are now selling - <https://www.trybooking.com/DNDKB>

Every Conversation Matters: Shifting Conversation to Action

It reminds us that meaningful change begins with the conversations we have every day. By speaking up, listening, learning and taking action, we can all play a role in creating safer environments where children can thrive.

The Bundaberg Child Protection Week Action Group extends its sincere thanks to the many volunteers, partner organisations, sponsors and community members whose ongoing support makes these events possible each year.



A Message from eSafety Australia



Build healthy online habits over the break

As the school term winds down and holidays begin, it's the perfect moment to pause and refresh your family's online safety basics. With more free time, children are likely to spend extra hours online – whether that's chatting, gaming or exploring new apps – so a quick check-in now can make a big difference to reduce risks and build their confidence to ask for help.



Start with connection

Take a few minutes to ask what your child enjoys doing online and be engaged, open and supportive. Keeping conversations ongoing and judgement-free helps children feel comfortable speaking up if something goes wrong.

From there, you can set clear expectations by agreeing on boundaries for device use, online behaviour and where screens are used in the home. Tools like [parental controls](#) and privacy settings can help, but your ongoing involvement is what really counts.



Create a safe gaming environment

You might also find [gaming](#) plays a bigger role these holidays. It can be a great way for kids to build skills and stay connected with friends but it's important to stay involved. Know what games they're playing, who they're playing with, and set boundaries. Check out our advice on [how to create a safer gaming environment](#).

And when it comes to screen time more broadly, aim for balance – encourage creative, interactive use of tech alongside plenty of offline activities.

A few small steps now can help support safer, more positive online experiences for your family over the holidays.

For more, explore our online safety basics and tips for every age group.

Explore online safety basics



Out and About


OFFICIAL
ATTEMPT

AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST STRAWBERRY *Pick 'n' Day*

ONE DAY.
ONE FIELD.
TWO RECORDS. ♥

SATURDAY
19TH
SEPT 2026

 **SSS STRAWBERRIES FARM**
11 Rosedale Road, Oakwood QLD 4670

GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS™ **TITLE ATTEMPT**

 Most people picking strawberries simultaneously (single venue)

 Most strawberries eaten in one minute

REGISTER NOW!
BE PART OF HISTORY!

TICKETS FROM \$10 • EVERYONE WELCOME!
sss-strawberries.com.au/picknday



SCAN HERE
TO REGISTER

 **SSS Strawberries**

 **Gina's table**

Out and About

Queensland Bus Driver of the Year Awards 2026

Nominations are now open!

Do you know a bus driver who turns an ordinary trip into a great one? Maybe they've helped a fellow passenger in need, shown kindness and care, or consistently delivered great customer service. Whatever makes them special, give them the recognition they deserve by nominating them for the Queensland Bus Driver of the Year Awards.

These annual awards celebrate bus drivers who go above and beyond to make travel safe, friendly and reliable for everyone. Customer nominations and votes help recognise the positive impact drivers have on their local communities.

Parents and guardians can nominate a driver of a school route service on behalf of their child. Nominate before 11:59pm on Sunday 6 September 2026 and you'll go into the draw to win one of ten \$150 gift cards.

Submit your nomination here:

<https://translink.com.au/news-and-media/competitions-and-offers/bus-driver-awards>



**QUEENSLAND
BUS DRIVER
OF THE YEAR
AWARDS**

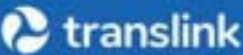
**Let your driver know
they make a difference**

Nominate them for your chance to win
one of ten **\$150 gift cards***.

 **Bus driver awards**


Scan for more info or
visit [translink.com.au/
driverawards](https://translink.com.au/driverawards)

*Nominations close 6 September 2026. Terms and conditions apply.
See translink.com.au/driverawards for details.

 **translink**

**DELIVERING
FOR QUEENSLAND**

 **Queensland
Government**

Vacation Care - Holiday Program

September/October School Holiday Program - \$70 p/d

Mon, 21 st Sept	Tue, 22 nd Sept	Wed, 23 rd Sept	Thur, 24 th Sept	Fri, 25 th Sept
Bargara Berries - Excursion -  Pick your own strawberries to take home & eat, and receive a special "strawberry" treat! Bus leaves 9:15 AM \$25 surcharge	Dr Joe Travelling Scientist - Incursion -  What fascinating area of science will Dr Joe reveal to us this time? \$15 surcharge	Mon Repos Turtle Centre - Excursion-  Let's visit the turtle centre/Mon Repos beach and meet one of the Park Rangers. Bus leaves 8:45 AM \$25 surcharge	Cooking Day  Today we are making all our food for tomorrow's Teddy Bear's picnic.	Teddy Bear's Picnic (as requested)  Bring along your favourite soft friend for a yummy picnic lunch (we will provide lunch today instead of afternoon tea)
Mon, 28 th Sept	Tue, 29 th Sept	Wed, 30 th Sept	Thur, 1 st Oct	Fri, 2 nd Oct
Giant Games Day - Incursion -  Play some GIANT versions of your favourite games! \$15 surcharge	Spring Pot Of Colour (as requested)  Paint your own terracotta pot, fill it with soil, choose a plant to put in & take home.	Cube Sports Bootcamp - Incursion -  A variety of fitness challenges and team challenges to get your heart pumping! \$15 surcharge	Reading Cinemas - Excursion -  "Shaun the Sheep" A combined excursion with St Mary's OSHC kids. Bus leaves 9:15 AM \$25 surcharge	Make Your Own Ice Cream (as requested)  Use this very unique method to make your own icecream, add some toppings and ENJOY!

COMING
THIS
WEEK

What's happening in Week 9?

Mon - Fri

Parent Teacher Interviews

Mon

Parish Mass - Year 3

Tue - Thur

Courtyard Prayer - 5G

School Musical 2026 FROZEN 

Tue

St Mary's Day

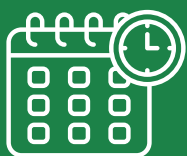
Tennis: Primary Schools Cup

Bundy Cup Netball (4:00 PM - 6:00 PM)



Term 3 Planner: Weeks 6-10

WEEK 6	Week 17th August - 21st August		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00 am	Year 5 and Year 1
Tuesday-Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40 am	5S
Tuesday	NAB AFL Auskick & Superkick Centre	3:15 pm - 4:15 pm	St Patrick's
Friday	Interschool Sport	12:30 pm	Years 5-6
WEEK 7	Week 24th August - 28th August		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00 am	Year 2
Tuesday-Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40 am	5P
Tuesday	NAB AFL Auskick & Superkick Centre	3:15 pm - 4:15 pm	St Patrick's
WEEK 8	Week 31st August - 4 September		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00 am	Year 6 and Prep
Tuesday—Wednesday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40 am	4K
Thursday	Whole School Liturgy	8:40 am	Father's Day Liturgy - Year 3
Wednesday - Thursday	Year 5 Camp	All Day	Year 5
Friday	Pupil Free Day		
WEEK 9	Week 7th September - 11th September		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00 am - 10:00 am	Year 3
Tuesday-Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40 am	5G
Wednesday - Thursday	Musical Performance	5:30 pm	Shalom College PAP
WEEK 10	Week 14th September - 18th September		
Tuesday-Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	4B
Wednesday - Friday	Year 6 Camp	All Day	Year 6
Friday	All Schools Touch	All Day	Selected Students



2026 Term Dates

Term 3 Monday 13th July - Friday 18th September

Term 4 Tuesday 6th October - Friday 4th December