



PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

10 November 2023

Recently, I had a family reach out who wanted to donate money to be credited toward school fee accounts. They did not want to be identified as the creditor, nor did they want to know who would be receiving the funds. They trusted that we would make these decisions on their behalf. This reminded me of **Matthew 6:1-13** which suggests that we should not do great deeds publicly to be admired by others, but rather wait to be rewarded by our father in heaven. I heard that Monday is Act of Kindness Day, so it was fitting that the funds were allocated this week in preparation for what is a lovely reminder of how the little things we sometimes do can make all the difference to another's life. This was evident with how well-received the donations were with one responding 'I am struggling to reply with tears of gratitude and sincere thanks. It would be a very big help to have this support ... From the bottom of my heart, thank you' and another 'Words can't describe how grateful I am'. Thank you so much for thinking of us'. This week our Year 6 students went off to Shalom for their induction afternoon. As the above story was unfolding, some of the students shared with me how they were in Adams House. Adams, was also my House when I was a Shalom Student in the school's formative years. The comment received in thanks, took me back to the paying it forward Walter Adams did when he donated the parcel of land upon which Shalom was later built. Not only was this generous donation of land significant, but the hands that worked voluntarily on this campus to provide the wonderful Catholic Education secondary campus it is today. If ever you are visiting the Catholic cemetery, adjacent to Shalom, look for Walter Adams and his family's grave-stones. They would suggest that Walter experienced a lot of sadness and tragedy in his life, losing family members at very young ages. However, he was able to find gratitude in his heart to give it forward to students past, present and future, that will go on to enjoy the fruits of this gesture. A beneficiary added to the bottom of her e-mail 'if ever I am in the position to do the same, I certainly will'. I found this comment to powerfully illustrate for me, the true essence woven in to the 'paying it forward' experience. This week it has been difficult not to catch 'giving' in action, as students bring in donations for our St. Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal, launched by our Mini-Vinnies group last week. There is a very visual display of St. Patrick's own generosity unfolding in the Library and it is wonderful to see the true meaning of Christmas clawing its way into the fabric of this wonderful community. Thank YOU!

P & F BOARD

Recently we enjoyed a pleasant and informative evening with a Parent and Friend's focus on the Zones of Regulation. A survey was completed by the parents who attended. Feedback received suggested that this style of P & F engagement, along with Justin Coulson earlier in the year, was their preference when compared to the traditional style of meeting. Parents present also suggested some great topics that they would like to see massaged into the 2024 schedule. Our P&F AGM will be held at **5:30pm on 21st November** in the staffroom at St. Patrick's. This promises to be a short meeting to look at the 'year that was' and to spill and fill positions for the new school year. Positions to be filled include P & F President (Damien Botha) and Chair of the Board (Daniel Reeves) at the end of this year. Damien and Daniel have both held a long-esteemed relationship with the St. Patrick's community and have carried out their roles for some time. I am immensely grateful for their commitment to see me through my first year, before exiting their distinguished roles and have enjoyed their support and wisdom over this past year. They are both wonderful men and we are blessed to have them contribute so much to this community over past years. I am also grateful to Mrs. Cath Nash. Cath is a St. Patrick's icon, and we will also lose her from the Board at the end of this year, as she reaches her well-deserved retirement. Parents are getting busier, but it is important for us to stay connected to ensure we have new members filtering through. Watch this space to see the up and coming parents, who will see us through the next 12 months and in to the future.



Click our school crest to go our school website calendar.



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

PREP 2024

Thank YOU Prep Families 2024 for returning paperwork pertaining to your son/daughter's transition in to St. Patrick's. I am sure you are excitedly anticipating the beginning of their formal school chapter. The Prep teachers enjoyed reading through the comprehensive paperwork provided and we have considered your wishes around interviews and how you would like 2024 to transpire. Responses were mixed and varied, but we have taken into consideration the number of working families and have decided to transition Prep straight in to a **full day format, rather than half days, in Week 1 for 2024.**

To make interviews possible for those who require them, we will release teachers to carry out interviews. For our Prep 2024 families, you would have received an email late this week which includes a Google link to access your child's class to book an interview. If you didn't express an interest in an interview, but would like to take up this opportunity, you are also most welcome to book a 15 minute interview via the link. Teachers may also reach out to parents of students where they wish to seek further information. If you have trouble booking an interview, please communicate this with your teacher via Seesaw or call the office to pursue their assistance.

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS

On our last day of term, **Friday 1st December from 9am** we will hold our End of Year liturgy. The day will then end with a **Year 6 Assembly from 11:10am-12pm**, which will involve the whole school in the Covered Area. The finer details will follow in next week's newsletter, but please note that there will be **no formal classes from 12pm on the 1st of December**. Parents are free and encouraged to collect their children at this time. We understand there may be circumstances where this is not possible. If you require care on this afternoon from 12pm-3pm, **please register your child via this [Google link](#) by next Friday 17th November** and we will notify parents of plans for this small group of students in next week's newsletter. From 12pm, teachers will be on gate duties at both Powers and Mulgrave Streets and our Pick-Up Zone will begin operation. Any student walking or riding home must have a note from their parents. Thanks so much your support and co-operation.

Kim O'Shea-Hard

2024 TERM DATES

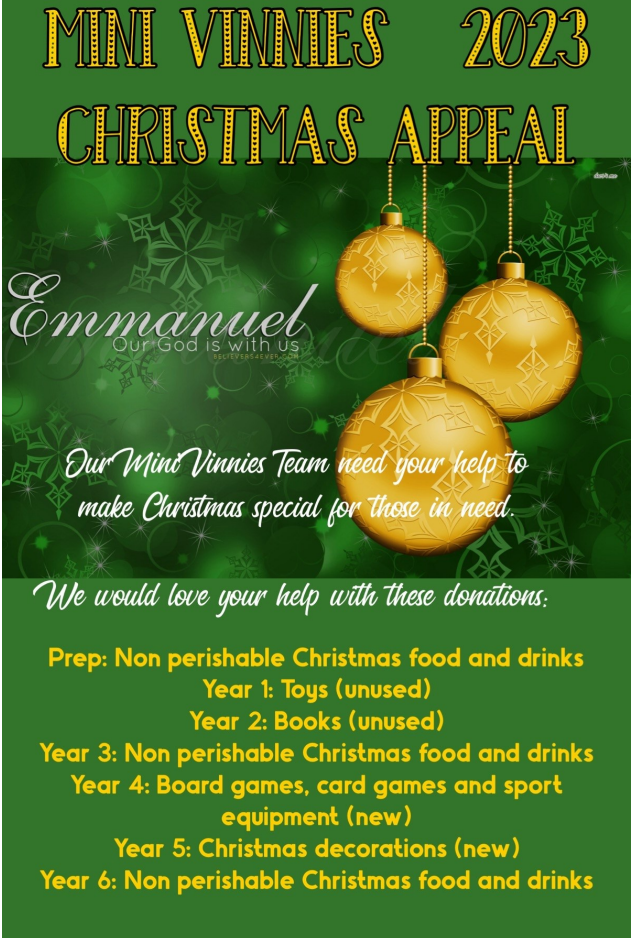
2024 TERM DATES	
TERM 1	Monday 22 January - Thursday 28 March Pupil Free Day—Friday 16 February
TERM 2	Monday 15 April - Friday 21 June
TERM 3	Monday 8 July - Friday 13 September Pupil Free Day—Friday 30 August
TERM 4	Monday 30 September - Friday 6 December

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. Please place donations in the white basket outside each year level.



Please
Donate



MINI VINNIES 2023 CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Emmanuel
Our God is with us

Our Mini Vinnies Team need your help to make Christmas special for those in need.

We 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

FAREWELL—CATH NASH AND DEB HANDLEY

This year we will be farewelling two treasured members of our staff. Both long time members of the St Patrick's Community. Both Mrs Deb Handley and Mrs Cath Nash are so special to us and we would like to send them off with a prayer gathering for each of them. Please find details below regarding the prayers of farewell for both Ms Deb and Ms Cath. Everyone is welcome to attend both celebrations, which will be held in the Multipurpose Area over the next 2 Thursdays.



CARITAS AUSTRALIA—GLOBAL GIFTS CHRISTMAS CARDS



Global Gifts Christmas cards are a great way to spread joy and hope this Christmas season and to make a life-changing impact.

www.globalgifts.org.au



Give a gift card that represents a donation



SPORTS NEWS

WIDE BAY SCHOOLS CRICKET BLAST REGIONAL CHAMPIONS

Recently the St Patrick's Cricket team traveled to Maryborough to compete in the Wide Bay final of the Cricket Blast School Cup. After some very close games, the team made it through to the final and defeated Bundaberg Christian College. The team showed great sportsmanship and determination throughout the day. Our school should be very proud of these boys who represented our school so admirably. Many thanks to the number of parents and grandparents who travelled with the team. Your support was very much appreciated.



CULTURAL NIGHT

**TICKETS
SOLD OUT**



St Patrick's
Catholic Primary School



St Patrick's Annual Cultural Night Tuesday 14th November 2023 5:30pm

at Shalom Performing Arts Precinct

STUDENTS TO ARRIVE BY 5:00PM FOR A 5:30PM START

Students performing at the 2023 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	<p>Year 3 Strings performance uniform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• White dress shirt – long sleeve button up with collar (supplied by school)• long black dress pants• black socks, 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	<p>Performance Uniform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Black shirt – long sleeve button up with collar• long black dress pants• black socks, school shoes <p>* Year 3 students in Junior Strings will wear Year 3 Strings performance uniform</p>

Following the performance, Year 3 children (who are not in other performance groups) will sit together at the front of the PAP to watch other performances, under teacher supervision. They will be released to parents at the conclusion of the evening and their instruments will be available for collection at the left side of the foyer area of the PAP. All other students will sit together in the Performing Arts block, under teacher supervision.

All performing students will travel by bus to Shalom from 11.30am onwards on Tuesday 14th 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.

PARENTAL CONSENTS

As part of Catholic Education Diocese of Rockhampton, St Patrick's has as its highest priority the safety and well-being of our students. One of our key processes for upholding student protection is seeking up-to-date parental consents to inform how we share student images and information in accordance with parent directives. In order to achieve this we have introduced an online consent system via Parent Lounge to enable parents to update consents at any time.

Some parents may have received an email this week asking to login to [Parent Lounge](#) and update consents for your child/ren. Note if you have more than one child, this update will need to be completed for each child.

Please note the following descriptions for the five consent areas:-

Promo, Website, Ext Display – refers to external displays, website and promotional material for the school, CEDR and the Queensland Catholic Education Commission.

Social Media – refers to Facebook for the school, CEDR and the Queensland Catholic Education Commission.

In local, regional, state, and national media – refers to outlets representing the school.

Sharing my/our personal information (limited to name, address, telephone numbers, occupation) – refers to sharing information to its associated supporting groups such as the P&F, sporting and cultural support groups.

Disclosing data with ACARA – refers to the school disclosing information to the Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) such as gender, date of birth, country of birth, background language, residential address, parental occupation, and parental education. The information provided is anonymous and will be used in formulating national reports consisting of aggregated data on school performance and assisting government to formulate policies in relation to education matters. CEDR encourages parents to provide this information as the exclusion of data could result in reduced funding for St Patrick's.

Thank you in advance for assisting us in enhancing our student protection processes. If consents are not updated by the end of the term, please note consents for your child/ren will be defaulted to No. Please contact the office if you require any assistance.

HOW TO GUIDE

From the Parent Lounge home page, simply click on the **Student Details** heading, then **General Details** and scroll down to the **Consents** section. Click on the blue **Update** button and enter **Y** or **N** for each consent listed.

Update Consents

* Promo, Website, Ext Display	<input type="text"/>
* Social Media	<input type="text"/>
* In local, regional, state media	<input type="text"/>
* Sharing my/our personal inform	<input type="text"/>
* Disclosing data with ACARA	<input type="text"/>

Enter Y or N for each consent listed and then click **Submit Changes**.

Cancel Submit Changes

SPORTS NEWS—SENIOR SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The Senior School Swimming Carnival will be held **on Friday 24th November at the Bundaberg Swim Academy, Fitzgerald Street.**

The format for the carnival will be as follows:

Years 3 & 4: 9:00am – 11:00am

Years 5 & 6: 11:00am – 1:00pm

Presentations: 2:00 pm at School (Overall Points and Age Championships for students born 2011-2013)

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 2015 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.



OUT AND ABOUT



SHALOM ROWING COME & TRY

**OPEN TO ALL YEAR 6 STUDENTS
GOING INTO YEAR 7 AT SHALOM IN 2024**

**MONDAY 13 NOVEMBER
3.30PM TO 5.30PM**

**WEDNESDAY 15 NOVEMBER
3.30PM TO 5.30PM**

**SATURDAY 18 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!



SCHOOL SAVVY IS BACK FOR 2024

Bundaberg region residents can look forward to the School Savvy pop-up shops returning in 2024, with shops in Bundaberg, Childers and Gin Gin once again set to open.

From January 8, students from families facing financial struggles will be able to access quality second-hand uniforms and essential booklist stationery supplies at extremely affordable prices.

Uniform donations are now being accepted through donation locations across the area. For a current list of donation points, please visit www.catholiccarecq.com/donations

Support your local community and make a difference in a school student's life. The School Savvy CQ team is looking forward to seeing you.

TERM FOUR PLANNER

WEEK 7	Week 13th November - 17th November		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00am	Year 4
Tuesday	Cultural Night	5:30pm	Year 3/String & Choir Ensembles
Wednesday	Shalom Instrumental Inspiration Concert	8:40am - 10:15am	Junior & Senior Strings
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	4K
WEEK 8	Week 20th November - Friday 24th November		
Monday	Senior Strings—The Lakes Retirement Home	8:40am—10:40am	Senior Strings
	Parish Mass	9:00am	Year 2
Tuesday - Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8:40am	4M
Friday	Senior Swimming Carnival	9:00-11:00am	Years 3 & 4
		11:00-12:30pm	Years 5 & 6
WEEK 9	Week 27th November - Friday 1st December		
Monday	Year 1 Nativity Play	9:00am	Whole School
Tuesday	Year 6 Graduation Liturgy	9:00am	Whole School
Wednesday	Celebration Night	6:00pm	Whole School
Friday	End of Year Liturgy	9:00am	Whole School
	Year 6 Farewell Assembly	11:15am	Whole School
	School Dismissed	12:00pm	Whole School