Recently I have been involved in Financial Planning. Some of you will be familiar with the process. What are your long term financial goals? Where do you want to be in ten years? Have you considered risks to your health and how you would cope financially if something happened to you? It was a good process, and certainly caused some reflection.

As I returned to school with my head full of long term thoughts and possible scenarios, I was quickly brought back to the present by our students. I love watching the way so many of our students absolutely embrace every opportunity, and I often ask students about what they are excited about, and what good things are happening for them. Their answers varied. One little man was excited because his class was leading Courtyard Prayer today. Another was smiling because he was about to leave for Mon Repos on excursion with Year 3. Others were on their way to the Stop Go Animation workshop and another group of students with Miss Kate were super excited because they were learning to play “Clocks” by Coldplay – and they were fabulous. The difference between all these children and myself, was that they were all totally focused upon today, and more than that they were making the most of every moment, and completely enjoying it.

I wonder how many of us are just filling in time waiting for ‘one day’ when we’d be so much better off, just enjoying each moment of every day. We can learn a whole lot from the kids at our school.

Mark Fox

Principal’s News

Within St Patrick’s community we have a number of students with a life threatening allergy to peanuts and nut products. Eating these products or even touching equipment or other hands that have been in contact with peanut butter can literally be fatal. As a Catholic school we support all our community members with the challenges they face. While we cannot take away the challenge of this allergy, each of us can take actions to make school safer for these students.

All parents are asked NOT TO include peanut butter and nuts in school lunches.

Important Dates for Week 4

- Tuesday-Thursday Morning Prayer 8.40am—2B
- Thursday—Qld Youth Parliament
- Thursday Healing Mass—6W
- Friday Assembly 10.40am— Awards
- Friday Interschool Sports.
- Friday Sausage Sizzle

St Patrick’s Catholic Primary School Presents

Cultural Night 2016

Wednesday, 9th November 5.30pm
Shalom Performing Arts Precinct

Tickets on Sale Monday 24th October $8 Each
Following their success at the Wide Bay Optiminds in August, our ‘Dramatic Unicorns’ travelled to Brisbane to participate in the two day State and National finals at the University of Queensland. The ‘Dramatic Unicorns’ are Meg Freeman, Lili Haster, Zali Haster, Tamae Marschke, Emma Nash, Zahara Reeves and Bailey Ward all from Year 6.

On Saturday the team set up an information booth for the public to view promoting the sustainability of the turtles at Mon Repos, providing research facts about the turtles and highlighting the impact of pollution on the turtle population. On Sunday the team was given their language literature task. The team had just three hours to create a performance that would meet the judging criteria followed by a presentation of their solution to an audience of friends, family and supporters. This was followed by a discussion about their performance with the judging panel. The presentation by the girls was so polished, it was difficult to comprehend what they had achieved in only three hours.

The judge’s feedback was very positive:

- Very enthusiastic team performance.
- Great portrayal of characters – very convincing and engaging… great audience involvement… effective use of the performance space … good use of musical knowledge and terms… Creative… and highly effective use of rhyme… Subtle humour was enjoyable throughout…
- Obvious enjoyment by all team members.

Needless to say their performance was most enjoyable. Well done to all of the girls, not only for their Optiminds success, but also for their hard work and their responsible approach and commitment to their tasks as well as their wonderful behaviour on the weekend. A great time was had by all. Many thanks to the parents for all of their support and especially to Jas Haster and Mel Marschke who also attended the weekend.

Terry Whan
Team Facilitator

The new Drop Off and Pick Up Zone is open to all students and is working extremely well. In order for the Drop Off and Pick Up Zone to continue to work effectively and safely, we need your full support.

- The Pick Up Zone can only be accessed by cars travelling north on Mulgrave Street, turning left into the Pick Up Zone. Cars are not permitted to cross traffic on Mulgrave Street to enter the Pick Up Zone from 3.05pm until 3.20pm. When exiting the Pick Up Zone, please consider turning left on to Mulgrave Street to assist with traffic congestion. A map is attached for your attention.
- Parking in the Mulgrave Street Carpark is for staff only. Parents are not to park in this area before 9am and between 3:00 – 3:20pm, as it severely disrupts the Pick Up and Drop Off process. The one exception to this is for our two families who use our designated Disabled Parks in the staff carpark.
- If you park on Mulgrave St and walk into the school to wait for your child please avoid walking across the car park driveway. We have two pedestrian paths either side of the carpark, so that no-one needs to walk across the busy driveway.
- You may continue to collect your children at the George and Powers Street gates. There is a teacher on duty at all gates until 3.20pm. Any child not collected from Powers and George Streets at 3:20pm will be directed to Ms Nicole in the Administration block.

St Patrick’s Catholic School is having a plant sale on Saturday, October 22 from 7am-10am behind the multi-purpose area. All funds raised goes to the Drought Appeal and Mini Vinnies

ALL PLANTS $10 each

Sprout your garden with these amazing native plants for your yard.
Sports News

Wide Bay Regional AQUATHLON Trials
Wide Bay School Sport will be nominating a team of 10 Boys and 10 Girls in the 11 & 12 Years age group to compete in the Queensland School Sport AQUATHLON State Championships being held at Hervey Bay on Saturday 25th February 2017. The Aquathlon State Championships will be held in conjunction with the Queensland School Sport 13 – 19 Years Triathlon State Championships at the same venue on 23-25 February 2017. The Hervey Bay Triathlon Club “Hundy Kids” Triathlon being held at Scarness, Hervey Bay, on Saturday 12th November will be used as the Regional Trial.

REGIONAL TEAM SELECTION
Students must register for this event online at the link below: https://regonline.activeglobal.com/2016hundykids

There will be no specific Wide Bay Regional Nomination Form. When students nominate online at the Hervey Bay 100 “Hundy Kids” website, they will be required to indicate then whether they want to be considered for selection in the Regional team. Students must indicate this when they nominate to be eligible. The Region is able to nominate 10 male and 10 female competitors per age division to compete at the State Championships.

NB: Only students who will attain the ages of 11 or 12 years in 2017 (i.e. born 2005 or 2006 are eligible for selection in the Regional Team).

Entries close Monday 7th November.

Finance News

Term 4 fees have been issued and are due payable 02/11/16 unless you have a payment plan in place. Statements were emailed and published to Parent Lounge 17th October. For Mrs Hardisty’s Instrumental Students, credits for any missed music lessons will be applied once I have received advice and credits for the participation levy rebate were applied 18th October.

Now is the time to consider establishing a regular payment plan for 2017 and as reminder, payment plans are only current for the year in which they are established – they DO NOT automatically carry forward to the next year. Plans can be established under any of our payment options and relative forms can be found on our website under the communication tab. Please do not hesitate to contact me for assistance or if you have any queries.

If you currently have a concessional arrangement or are suffering financial hardship and need to apply for a concessional allowance in 2017, please contact me as soon as possible. Current concessional arrangements are also only relative to the year in which they are established and DO NOT automatically carry forward to the following year.

Finally, commencing January 2017, an initiative has been announced by the Diocese of Rockhampton which will allow an automatic 70% reduction in Tuition Fees (not school levies) to any parent or carer who holds an eligible means tested Health Care or Pensioner card. Click the link icon for details of the initiative. If you consider you are eligible or have any queries, please contact me.

If you have any queries regarding your account or any of the above, please contact Maria Davies.

Dental Van Visit

The school dental van will be arriving at St Patricks on Wednesday 26.10.16. The school dental service offers a free dental examination and recommended treatment for all students whilst the dental van is at the school. Medical consent forms will be sent home to Grades 3-6 initially, then prep-2 in coming weeks. Preps enrolling in 2017 will also be offered treatment. Please state on the form if you would like to be present for your child’s dental examination, otherwise your child will be collected from class for their examination. A separate consent form will be sent home if any treatment is required. The dental van will be positioned next to the church hall at the powers street entrance. If your child has a tooth-ache or if you have any questions, please contact 43038059 (office) or 0412516084 (van). The dental van will also be taking appointments in the December/January holidays.

Netball Come and Try Day !!!-
Brothers Netball Club will be holding a come and try day at St Patrick’s School on the 28th of October from 3pm until 5pm. All girls and boys turning 11 or 12 in 2017 are welcome to come along and have some fun participating in drills, exercises and games run by accredited coaches. To hold your spot for this workshop please email brothersnetballclub@gmail.com or alternatively give your name to Miss Trolani. Flyers with more detailed information will be given out at assembly on Monday.

Hat Hero clips are back. Now available through the office—$5 each.