



Our Vision

An inclusive community committed to high levels of learning for all.

Our Mission

In the spirit of Saint Mary Mackillop, we strive for excellence with love, dignity, integrity and justice.

Dear Families

It is hard to believe that we have reached the halfway point of Term 2. As you would be aware, Principal Forums are held every term throughout the 2021 academic year. The recent forum was held in Stanthorpe. The theme that was used to structure the week centred on our Catholic identity. Dr. Pat Coughlan in his keynote address centred on Catholic Education as either being different or distinctive from other contexts.

In terms of our Catholic Identity, Dr. Coughlan suggested that being different was easy to do. An example of renaming buildings was provided as a point of difference. This change could be done in 4 hours. Whereas the notion of being distinctive referred to the special qualities of being Catholic. Being distinctive certainly provides challenges which of course, take time, but are crucial and need to be visible in our Catholic schools.

Dr. Coughlan also revisited the mission of Catholic Education. "Being created in the image and likeness of God accords everyone an equal and inherent dignity. We believe in an innate original goodness and a universally shared dignity. This belief shapes a hope-filled and life-giving outlook on life for self, others and the created world" (Catholic Identity Position Paper). With this in mind, being distinctively Catholic boils down to how we treat people and each other. If we are truly distinctive then all students, staff and parents feel a sense that they belong, are valued and are successful.

200 Years of Catholic Education in Australia

A National Mass will be celebrated concurrently across the country on the Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians on 24 May 2021. In Toowoomba, the National Mass will be celebrated at 10.30am at St Patrick's Cathedral, Toowoomba. St Patrick's School Allora will send a group of Year 6 students to represent our school community. Whilst this Mass acknowledges the importance of Catholic Education in Australia, it also highlights the notion that as part of a Catholic community, we are 'a part of something bigger' which is both unique and very special.

The acknowledgement of 200 years of Catholic Education will also be the focus of our school on Tuesday 25 May. Like the Diocesan Mass, our theme will centre on Mary help of Christians. **Mass will commence at 9:30am in the Parish Church. You are most welcome to attend.**

School Improvement Survey

This year our school will be participating in a School Review and Improvement survey managed by Research Australia Development and Innovation Institute (RADII). As well as school staff and students from Years 5 to 12, all parents are invited to participate in the survey. The survey provides valuable feedback for the future directions of our school.

It would be appreciated if parents could update their contact details prior 25 June 2021. This will ensure delivery to the correct parent email addresses are available. On Monday the 26 July 2021, RADII will send all parents a personalised invitation to complete the survey online. If both parents' email addresses are on file at the school, the invitation will be sent to both parents. However, the survey will close once the first person has completed it. If you do not wish to complete the survey, simply delete it. The survey will take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete. You can complete the survey from anywhere you have access to the internet.

The survey will close on Sunday, 08 August 2021. We encourage you to be very honest in your responses to the surveys. All responses go directly to RADII so they are confidential and anonymous. When the surveys are completed, and responses aggregated by RADII, overall data is sent to us so that we can then share the findings with you.

Feeling Safe

Our School Student Protection Contacts are:

Ms Donnelly
Mr Blaikie

Ms Jayne Farquharson

Reminders

Uniform Days

Sports

Wednesday, Friday.

Formal

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday.

Winter Uniform from Tuesday 4 May 2021

Please remember that we are a **'Nut Aware' School.**

Church Times - Celebrations are up and running again with social distancing measures in place. Times for Masses are as follows:

**1st Sunday - 9am,
2nd and 3rd Sunday - 5.30pm**

4th & 5th Sunday - Liturgy of the Word with Communion - 9am



Mission and Identity

Now that the Lent-Easter cycle is drawing to a close with the arrival of Pentecost on 23 May, the Church returns to Ordinary Time which lasts until the end of November. The weeks of Ordinary Time, especially Sundays, are devoted to the mystery of Christ in all its aspects. Sunday is the weekly commemoration of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus and for this reason it stands at the centre of our week. Throughout the weeks of Ordinary Time, we also keep holy, the memory of Mary, Mother of God, the apostles, the martyrs, and all the saints. Our liturgical traditions present these women and men to us as intercessors and models. Children are open to the power of stories, and ready listeners to the stories of our saints and martyrs.

Sacramental Program

The Sacramental Program will restart on Wednesday 2 June. The program will focus on the sacrament of Confirmation. Sessions will be held at either 3 or 4pm in the St Patrick's School Library. For more information, please contact Ms. Karine Preston.

Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office (TCSO) - Speech Language Pathology Service (SLP)

Please see the attached document which outlines some changes to the delivery of speech pathology services across the Diocese of Toowoomba. SLP Advisors provide support to school staff and students utilizing an educational therapy model with a priority focus on building teacher capacity and early intervention. The primary clients of the SLP Advisors are the Class teacher (CT) and the Learning Support Teacher (LST). SLP Advisors provide support to teachers and other school staff to identify students with communication needs and build their capacity to support individual student learning in the classroom.

Student Voices—Around the Grounds

On Friday last week, Dalrymple and Glengallan went down to the Allora State School for our annual Gala Day. Playing rugby league in the junior team was Dustyn, Jake, Billy, Arthur, Tom, Mili and Gus. In the senior rugby league team was Hugh, Kaleb, William, Angus, Jonte and Eddison. They all played very well. Both the senior and junior teams won all four games. **Hugh (Year 6)**

Last Friday, Ruby, Jenna, Zara, Alicia, and Maggie competed in the Senior Netball team. We were short on players so we joined with Greenmount State School. All players tried their best, and luckily, we won all our games! Next Friday we will compete once more to determine the winner. Priseis, Amelie, Saphia and Molly competed in the junior team. They combined with the Pilton State School. The junior team picked up a lot throughout the day and managed to win 2/3 of their games. Everyone behaved really well and tried their very best throughout the day. We can't wait to go back next Friday. **Jenna (Year 6)**

Gala Day was very exciting for our junior team Emilia, Noah, Beau, Abbie, Mellina, Esther, Cassie and Oscar and senior team Alana, Matilda, Douglas, Riley, Harry, Amos, Jacob and Jett. Both teams showed great sportsmanship and teamwork. Seniors won 4 out of 4 and juniors won 1 out of 4 of their games. Everyone had heaps of fun, enjoyed the day and can't wait to go back and do it all again next Friday to determine the winner. **Alana (Year 6)**

God Bless

Keith Blaikie—Principal



DATE CLAIMERS

Term 2

- 19 May—P&F Meeting 6pm
- 21 May—Assembly at 8:50am
- 24 May—200 years of Catholic Education Mass (Toowoomba)
- 25 May—Mary Help of Christians Mass, Allora Church 9:30am.
- 28 May—Gala Day (Years 3 to 6) at Allora State School. Under 8's Day at Clifton.
- 11 June—Assembly at 8:50am
- **24 June—Athletics Carnival (St Patrick's)**
- **25 June—Last day of Term 2**