



## 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.

## 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.

### Summer Uniform

Starts Monday  
6th September

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**

## Dear Families

Welcome back to the start of Term 4. As we all draw our collective breath before the start of another busy term, we hope the holidays provided your family with a plethora of opportunities to spend quality time together. Speaking with relatives who reside in Melbourne, everyday we must be forever grateful that our lives and the education of our students can continue relatively unaffected by COVID 19 and the associated lockdowns.

It was extremely positive to witness many parents taking up the opportunity to attend a Parent/ Teacher Interview at the end of Term 3. These interviews are extremely important in fostering a positive relationship between the school and home. It is this notion of parental engagement which can only enhance the academic progress of our students. If you still need to touch base with your child's teacher, please contact the school to arrange a suitable time.

In terms of staffing, preparations are well underway for the 2022 academic year. It is the school's goal to maintain the current structure of four classes. Hopefully more information will be confirmed in the Week 3 Newsletter in regard to 2022. In other staff news, Mrs. Lyn Geyle has decided to transition into retirement in 2022. Mrs. Geyle will take long service leave in 2022 prior to officially resigning from the TCSO. As a result, Term 4 will be Mrs. Geyle's final term in Cunningham. From a school perspective, we would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge Lyn's commitment to St Patrick's School Allora over the last 26 years. Lyn has not only been a parent, but has assumed the role of School Officer and Teacher over her many years of dedicated service. The school will formally farewell Lyn and acknowledge her years of dedicated service during our End of Year Liturgy and Award Ceremony on Friday 3 December.

**In terms of planning for 2022, the school would appreciate a courtesy email if you intend to leave St Patrick's and your child is not in Year 6. This will assist the school in planning for 2022 classes.**

### Leading by example: Pope Francis

For those who are avid fans of our national broadcaster the ABC, the Gruen Transfer recently analysed the profile of Pope Francis in terms of marketing and the evolution of the papal brand. The Pope's ability to reach the marginalised in all walks of society has reengaged the mind set of all people that our core business whether we are Catholics or hail from other beliefs, is to help the poor and marginalised in our society. As a result, the Pope's brand is one of humility. The Gruen Transfer also discussed the 'unscripted moments' as being potentially the most powerful. In an age where spontaneity is frowned upon due to a wide range of factors, Pope Francis' recent trip to Washington DC where he stopped the motorcade to visit and embrace a wheelchair bound young boy highlights the Papal Brand. It was this single unscripted and spontaneous act that will be the Pope's enduring legacy of his trip to the USA. His humble and compassionate approach resonated with many different people throughout the world. As Noel Connolly (2015, p. 14) suggests "(Pope Francis) dreams of a Church with room for everyone not just the perfect, the holy and the approved. With his emphasis on mercy and healing wounds he is stressing the importance of pastoral flexibility and realism in walking with Christians through their (and our) imperfect lives". Let us all aim to recalibrate our own lives to include more of these unscripted moments.

### Changes to St Patrick's School – Term 4

Due to the refurbishment, there will be a number of changes to the normal routine of school. These changes include:

1. There will be **no access to the school** using the **normal front entrance off Arnold Street**.
2. **Access to the school and administration** will be **via the doors** near the **Prep Classroom**.
3. Student drop-off and collection will still remain on Arnold Street.
4. **Students** are asked to **enter the school grounds via the bus stop** and proceed to the doors at the rear of the school. There will be a **staff member on duty from 8:15am to supervise** the safe transition of **students** into school.
5. **Parents** will still need to **collect their children** via the **bus stop gates** at the conclusion of school.
6. There will be no change to the bus routine.
7. **Prior to 8:25am**, students will meet in the **Prep Classroom** before moving outside with the designated teacher on-duty.



## St Patrick's Fete

Our annual Fete will be held on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October starting at 5pm. The level of parental representation in the setup, running of stalls and the clean-up has been truly amazing and the parish are forever grateful (especially us senior parishioners).

Set up is usually around 5pm on the Wednesday. This is when we desperately need some extra Strong hands to put up the marquees. Please contact Paul Morris or Peter Cavanagh if you wish to confirm times and what's needed.

The partnership that exists between school and parish is not to be underestimated. We are very unique to have such a close working relationship.

A convenor has been found for the Tea and Tarts, but if anyone can offer up half an hour to help Cathy Cowley, this would be appreciated. We may have forgotten to mention that the co-ordinators role for the tea and tarts will be just to do a quick setup and then working there on the night with your friends. The cooking of the tarts is done by the wonderful parish ladies and not to forget the gentlemen.

One of the biggest stalls of our Fete is the Bottle Stall. What is a bottle stall you might ask? Essentially a massive Lucky Dip. Jars or bottles can be filled with all sorts of items and brought to school, tickets are then purchased on the night and the lucky tickets ending in 0 or 5 will be able to claim their prize!! So, get out your old bottles / jars / small containers and fill them with goodies for the Fete bottle stall. Please remember that drinks are not permitted.

Please return your Art Union tickets to the school or church plate. More books are available from Elizabeth at the school or inside the Church entrance.

Thanks once again—**St Patrick's Fete Committee**

## Holiday Sporting Roundup

The September holidays proved to be a very busy time for some of our students. Both Will and Angus represented the Warwick and District Chargers Blue Team at the 2021 Mustangs Challenge held in Clifton during the holidays. They played South Burnett, Western Downs, Warwick and District Red. Angus and Will's team were undefeated for the carnival.

Tom represented the Darling Downs Regional Swimming Association at the Patron's Shield carnival in Toowoomba against the top two swimmers from the Wide Bay, Gold Coast and Brisbane regions. He swam in the 50m Backstroke and 50m Butterfly events and managed personal best times in both events.

Jonte represented the Darling Downs in the Junior Rugby League Carnival held in Townsville. Whilst the wins were few and far between, Jonte really enjoyed the experience and learnt some new skills. Alana was selected to play in the South West Queensland Under 12 Soccer team. Alana really enjoyed the experience of playing against some highly skilled players. The location of the carnival at Maroochydore on the Sunshine Coast was also very hard to take. Congratulations to all the students involved.



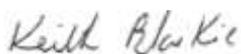
## Sensory Impairment Advisor – Mrs. Anna Chandler

Good hearing health is essential for children to reach their full potential in all life areas, especially when it comes to school performance. Quite often, hearing loss has a profoundly negative effect on academic performance and social and emotional wellbeing. Research indicates that approximately 15% of children between the ages of 5 and 19 have mild hearing loss of at least 16 dB in one, or both ears. This potentially means that in every classroom there could be 3 or 4 students experiencing hearing loss.

Most commonly, hearing loss in children is temporary and treatable, but if left undetected, it can have a significant negative impact on a child's development. Often the signs of poor hearing can be overlooked and mistaken for other behaviours or conditions. It is recommended that children have an Audiology test every 1-2 years. This is to ensure that a child's hearing health is being monitored on a regular basis, and early intervention is available if required. Children with a history of ear infections, grommets or other poor hearing health are particularly encouraged to have an Audiology test. **Other concerns may include: Academic difficulties, irrelevant responses to questions, difficulty following directions and remembering information, speech language concerns, phonological awareness delays, ongoing illnesses such as regular colds and runny noses and auditory processing concerns.**

A particular concern for rural students is permanent hearing loss from exposure to noise. This includes listening to music through headphones, recreational activities such as motorbiking, shooting and other machinery, and other activities such as gaming. Parents are asked to be mindful of their child's exposure to this sort of noise induced trauma, and ensure that proper hearing safety is worn. One event could result in permanent hearing loss. St Patrick's School Allora has facilitated Audiology testing during Week 10. We thank the families who have participated in this program.

Kindest regards



**Keith Blaikie—Principal**



**OLD LONG ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2021**

**OCT 23 & 24**

**LONG DISTANCE GRANITE BELT CHAMPIONSHIPS 2021**

**ENTRIES OPEN**

**THE EVENT**

- STARTS from 12:30pm SAT and from 9am SUN
- PRE-ENTRY ESSENTIAL
- 20 mins EAST OF STANTHORPE
- ALL WELCOME

**TERRAIN**

Challenge your navigation on a fantastic new map featuring a combination of former tin mining plus scattered granite in grazing land and forest.

**INFORMATION & REGISTRATION**

<https://oq.orienteering.asn.au/events/10830>  
<https://oq.orienteering.asn.au/qld-long-champs-2021>

## DATE CLAIMERS

### Term 4

- 5 October—Term 4 commences
- 6 October—Newsletter
- 6 October—Prep Vision Screening
- 6-8 October—Year 5/6 Camp at Tallebudgera
- 11 October—Board Meeting at 6pm
- 15 October—Assembly at 8:50am
- 15 October—St Patrick's Parish Fete from 5pm to 9pm
- 20 October—Newsletter
- 20 October—Prep Transition #2 from 2 to 3pm
- 29 October—Day for Daniel Walk during HPE classes