

## 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

Teachers and students from both St Patrick's School Allora and St Francis de Sales Clifton joined together on Tuesday 2 November for a Digital Technology Enrichment Day. Not only does a day like this allow students to develop collaborative and problem-solving skills, but it also provides an opportunity to showcase an authentic and rich curriculum within a small rural context. It was an action-packed day with students exploring Bee Bots using 'Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy' in the younger years, to creating and analysing data using Microsoft Excel, exploring Padlet and learning about binary notation in the context of digital images in the older years. It was a most engaging and enjoyable day. The students from Cunningham would like to share some of their experiences:

- William — "I really liked the Bee Bots because you could program them to move"
- Aurora — "We got to play with the Bee Bots and used them to go on different cards about the story"
- Skye — "I liked how the Bee Bots went into different places".

## 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**

## Day for Daniel FUNraiser

We are pleased to announce that our *Day for Daniel FUNraiser* held on **Friday 29 October** was a wonderful success. Whilst the weather did not allow students to access the school fun run course, students still worked hard during their HPE lesson. Currently, the school has raised \$1900 for the Morcombe Foundation which is attributed to online sponsorship and money donated on the day. Just a reminder that the online fundraising event will close on Friday 5 November. There is still time to chase some more dollars. During our HPE lesson students also revised the importance of remaining safe and secure. The school's Student Protection Contacts were highlighted and 'My Safety Network' was also revised and discussed. From all reports, the refreshing ice block each student received was the real highlight of the day.

## School Attendance

As we move towards the end of the year, as a school community, we would like to reinforce the importance of school attendance. Every day counts and as a school, we like to bring it back to the importance of every minute. Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office aims for an 85% attendance rate. Please check the Parent Portal for an up to date attendance rate for your child.

*A new report from the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) reinforces the strong correlation between school attendance and student achievement, and highlights the importance of forming good attendance habits early. Nevertheless, there remain areas of concern including that 25% of Australian school students attend less than 90% of school days, and that school attendance decreases as remoteness increases. Highlighting that 'every day counts' when it comes to attendance, the report reinforces the negative correlation between absence from school and achievement, which is cumulative and can affect academic outcomes in future years of schooling. Given the importance of early learning experiences on academic and social achievement, the report identifies school attendance should be prioritised in the formative years, and that strategies for addressing chronic absenteeism must take a holistic approach.*

Source: [Media Release - Attendance matters when it comes to student achievement \(aitsl.edu.au\)](https://aitsl.edu.au)



## Swimming Lessons

As part of the school's HPE Program, all students will participate in swimming lessons over the course of the next three weeks. Swimming lessons will be held on a Friday and will run as part of our normal HPE lessons. Lessons commence on Friday 5 November and will run on Friday 12 November and finish on Friday 19 November. The annual Interhouse Swimming Carnival will be held on Friday 26 November, 2021. All students are expected to participate in these sessions which will be aimed at their current skill level. These lessons will focus on basic water awareness and fundamental stroke techniques associated with swimming. Swimming lessons will be conducted by Mr Spranklin and Mr Blaikie, with the support of a parent volunteer and various school officers. **Staff will nominate students for individual events at the Interhouse Carnival dependent upon their ability and skill level.**

**Students will require a towel, one-piece swimmers (for girls), shorts/swimming briefs (for boys- suitable for swimming), goggles, sunscreen, water bottle and a swim shirt. A swimming cap is optional. It is recommended that students bring a designated swimming bag which will be used to carry their wet gear. Please ensure that all items are clearly named.**

Students will walk to and from the Allora Pool under the supervision of their classroom teacher and designated school officer. We look forward to your child's participation in our swimming lessons and our annual Interhouse Carnival.

## World Teachers' Day

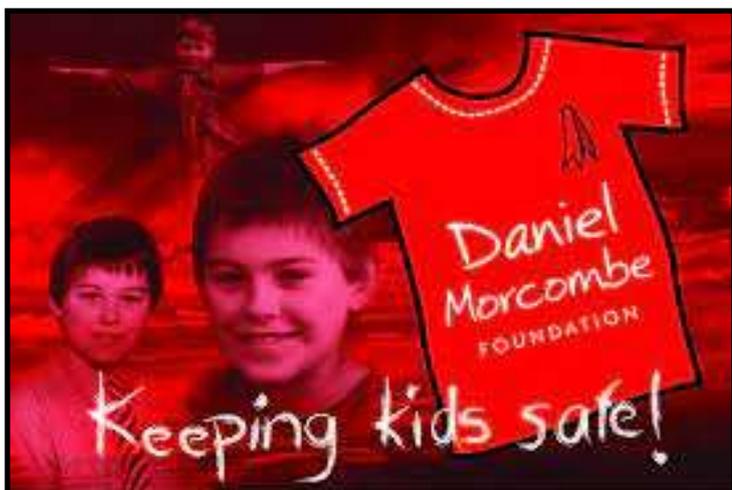


World Teachers' Day is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate and thank our teachers for their important role in our communities and for the positive impact they have on the lives of students. On behalf of the St Patrick's School Community, we would like to acknowledge the important work teachers and our school officers undertake every day to educate the young people in their care. As a school we formally celebrated World Teachers' Day on Friday 29 October during our Assembly. Each teacher was presented with a Mary Mackillop Award in recognition of their valuable contribution to living out the values of Saint Mary of the Cross throughout school life. Happy World Teachers' Day. We would also like to thank the many kind donations of chocolates and home baking which adorned the staff room on Friday morning. Your generosity was much appreciated!! The impact a teacher has is immense, just ask Dalrymple.

- Oskar—"In Dalrymple we are learning lots of Maths and Literacy. I am really learning lots this year."
- Amelie—"I like the fact that if we don't know it we take the time to work it out. We also have fun!"

Kindest regards

**Keith Blaikie—Principal**



## **DATE CLAIMERS**

### **Term 4**

- 3 November—Newsletter 3pm
- 5 November—Swimming Lesson #1 commences at Allora Pool
- 11 November—Remembrance Day Liturgy 9am in the Church. This will include Class Awards.
- 12 November—Swimming Lesson #2
- 12 November – No Assembly
- 17 November—Prep Transition Day #3 and Parent Information Session from 8:45 to 11:00am.
- 17 November—Principal of Assumption College to visit.
- 18 November—Grandparents Morning 8:50 to 10:00am.
- 18 November—School Musical 6pm