

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:

Mrs Shooter
Mr Blaikie
Mrs Jennifer Fenn

Reminders

Uniform Days

Sports

Wednesday, Friday.

Formal

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday.

Summer Uniform

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

If you were to ask any of our students or staff about the start of the school, it would be a massive tick in the success column. Our students have been focussed and attentive. As I walk down the hallway I see abundant small groups, focussed work, explicit teaching and positive engagement. The students of Talgai in particular, need a massive pat on the back. Whilst Week 2 was a full week, each child made it through to the end of the week and was able to maintain a positive mindset. Given their age and the warm conditions, this is no mean feat.

As you would be aware, student leadership is central to our core values at St Patrick's School. The Year 6 students of Glengallan have assumed this leadership role with ease and diligence. In particular, the bond that is beginning to form with their prep buddies is extremely strong, gentle and caring. The Year 6 Leaders were formally inducted into their roles as part of the school's Induction Mass on Tuesday 7 February. This celebration is a special one, as the Year 6 students asked God to bless and guide them, as they journey through 2023 as School Leaders of St Patrick's School, Allora. The school community prayed for each other as individuals and as a group, that we all develop and use the gifts that God has given us to lead wisely and with a positive example. Together as a community, we look forward to the challenges and rewards that 2023 have in store for us all and the personal and academic growth we will all share. As leaders, may they always display a positive attitude in what they do and in their relationships with others, and may they persevere in actions to do what is right and just. Let us all show courage as we face the many challenges presented to us.

As a leadership group, the Year 6 students were asked to reflect on the opportunities to lead that will be presented to them in 2023. Some common themes emerged:

- "That I take care of all the children in the school."
- "My goal is to guide the Prep students with spirit."
- "To inspire the younger children to do the right thing."
- "My goal is to show dignity to all."



Sacramental Preparation— 2023

Celebrating the sacraments is an important step in the life of a child and a vital expression of Catholic life. There is a need to prepare for each sacrament, so that they may be received thoughtfully and thoroughly.

This year, the Sacramental Program will be run over three terms. During Weeks 6-10 of Term 1, St. Patrick's Parish will undertake the Sacrament of Reconciliation for any child in Year 3 or above. During Weeks 2-5 of Term 2, we will run the Sacrament of Confirmation and during weeks 2-5 of Term 3, we will run the Sacrament of First Eucharist. The Bishop will conduct Confirmation and the children will receive their First Eucharist at the end of August. (Dates to be confirmed.)

Please see Karine Preston if you would like to register your child for this year's Sacramental Program. If you have any questions regarding the programs, don't hesitate to ask.



A chance to be more in 2023—Angela Travers | Senior Leader: Mission and Identity TCSO

One of my favourite authors is Sr Joan Chittister, an American Benedictine nun, she has a real knack of getting right to the issues of the day and speaking with boldness and courage about matters of the world and the Church. As we move back into the world of work, her words which connect our life to our work are worth pondering.

“What we do to beautify the world is a service of the soul that touches the souls around us as well as fulfills our own...to work at what we love to do is a kind of richness no salary at another kind of work can possibly provide. It's one thing to make a living; it's another thing to make a life.” Joan Chittister, Aspects of the Heart, 2012.

In the last few weeks, I've worked with our newest teachers and visited several school communities for spirituality days. This has been a real privilege to meet with people and share story – each individual's story, our school story and our Catholic story. In sharing these stories, we had opportunity to reflect at a deeper level on the Gospel values, which are fundamental to the way we live and work in our Catholic school communities and workplaces. What shone through for me on these days was the enthusiasm and desire from people to be their best selves in their classrooms and offices, so that they can make a difference in the lives of their students. We really are our best selves when we think of others and do what we can to make their lives better. Each day we have that chance to be more in the lives of those we teach and those we work with. In so doing, making a living becomes making a life, as we continue to become persons who 'produce good from the treasure of the heart' (Luke 6:45).

As the year starts to unfold before us and the days get busier, remember to create a 'gratitude' list next to your 'to do' list, to remember the real 'riches' that touch the soul each day.

ALLERGIES AND NUT AWARE SCHOOL

Currently in 2023, we have one student in our school with a life-threatening food allergy – anaphylaxis to nuts. This is a medical condition that causes a severe /even fatal reaction to specific foods. These reactions can be triggered by contact, ingestion or inhalation. There is also a huge concern in regard to contamination of equipment whether this is play equipment, desks or other classroom materials.

Schools that identify themselves as 'Nut Aware' will usually ask for the parents of every child, whether they are allergic to nuts or not, to consider peanut and tree nut alternatives when planning individual packed lunches.

Management of a 'Nut Aware' school will include:

- Parents and caregivers being requested NOT to send food to school that contain nuts. This includes peanut paste, nutella, all nuts and cooking oil containing peanut oil, as well as foods containing nuts.
- Students being encouraged NOT to share food.
- Students being encouraged to wash hands after before and eating.
- Staff supervising eating at lunchtime. When teachers notice a nut product being consumed the child will be personally reminded to wash their hands when finished.
- Staff being made aware of students and staff who have anaphylactic responses, including nut allergies.
- Staff participating in first aid training in understanding and dealing with Anaphylaxis (severe allergic reactions) as the need arises.
- Parents and caregivers being requested NOT to send boxes for craft purposes that have previously contained nut products, e.g. cereal boxes, muesli bars with nuts, cake boxes, biscuits.

Social Media

The use of social media within our modern society is widespread and is often seen as necessary to function in our normal everyday lives. As you may not be aware, there are a number of families at St Patrick's School who have requested that their children not be included in any material published via the school's Facebook account. These families have DECLINED permission to the school for their children to be included in our Facebook posts and other media avenues.

As a school, we need to respect the wishes of all parents. Therefore this extends to images taken throughout the year by other parents or friends who have then uploaded images via their own Facebook page which innocently contains children from St Patrick's who do not have permission to be posted via social media. Can we please request that if you take any images that contain students other than your own children that they **are not** published via social media applications, unless you have personally asked parents for their permission.



St Patrick's P&F Care and Concern Group

The Care and Concern Group is once again ready to spring into action around the township of Allora. The aim of this group is to engage our school families twice per term in order to support a number of local residents to manage and tidy various gardens around Allora. All parents or grandparents are welcome and encouraged to participate. Together, we can make a huge difference. Our next outings will be:

- **Saturday 25 February and Saturday 18 March.** Please meet at St Patrick's at 9:00am and bring garden tools, lawn mowers and trailers for rubbish removal. Everyone is welcome to attend!!

Date Claimer: P&F Meet and Greet Parent Engagement Night

Tuesday – 28 February from 5:00 until 7:00pm

As a school community, we are committed to continual improvement. Building on the success of our Meet and Greet in 2022, staff will provide a number of opportunities to provide practical ideas to support both you and your child on their educational journey. Workshop topics will be based on the St Patrick's Reading, Writing and Spelling Scope and Sequence, Zones of Regulation, the NCCD process and early years education. For this night to remain pertinent and of interest to all families, we are asking for your feedback. What would you like explained or demonstrated by our talented staff? A feedback form will be sent via Sentral Parent Portal to gather your areas of interest. Effective feedback is not only at the centre of our visible learning at St Patrick's School, but needs to be extended to include our parents. An agenda for the night includes:

- ◆ 5:00pm to 5:55pm – P&F facilitated BBQ
- ◆ 5:55pm – Staff supervised disco will commence in the Sports Shed where all children will be welcome to attend. This will provide an opportunity for all parents to participate in the information sessions.
- ◆ 6:05pm - Principal's address with school's vision for 2023. (Church)
- ◆ 6:20pm – Parents will move to individual classrooms to participate in workshops of their choice.
- ◆ 6:45pm – Disco concludes in the Sports Shed
- ◆ 7:00pm – Evening finishes.

Please don't hesitate in providing suggestions for workshops, as these sessions are designed to provide an avenue for parents to target specific areas of interest, which can only improve the educational outcomes for all concerned.

Enjoy the rest of your week and the Allora Show public holiday. As always, if you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate in contacting the school.

Kindest regards

Keith Blaikie—Principal



DATE CLAIMERS

Term 1—2023

- 9 February—Staff Set Up St Patrick's School Display at Allora Show
- 10 February—Allora Show Holiday
School Closed
- **15 February—P&F AGM/ Meeting in the library or via Zoom at 6:00pm**
- 16 February—CD Swimming Carnival Allora
- 16 February—Board Meeting (AGM) in the library at 6:00pm.
- 17 February— Whole School Assembly at 2:15pm in the Church.
- 21 February—Shrove Tuesday
- 22 February—Ash Wednesday
- 25 February—Care and Concern 9am meet at school
- 28 February P&F Meet and Greet
- 15 to 27 March NAPLAN Year 3 and Year 5



26 January - 2023

Dear Parents,

St Patrick's School is scheduled for a School Renewal and Improvement quadrennial school review. This review will take place from the 6th to 9th of March, 2023.

The Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office has a School renewal and improvement framework in place which has as a key element a quadrennial school review. In this review a panel consisting of senior staff from the Toowoomba Catholic Schools (TCS) Teaching and Learning Directorate and a peer principal from another school in the Diocese visit the school for three days.

Through a process of appreciative inquiry, panel members interview staff, parents/carers, students and community members. The questions asked are "In your opinion, what is going well at the school?" and "What could be done better?" The purpose is for the panel to report to the school community its findings and suggested improvement strategies. These inform the process of strategic plan development and the annual action plans which are also linked to the TCS Strategic Plan.

The aim is to assist schools to strategically plan to improve teaching and learning and these reviews occur in all TCS schools.

The review team would like to hear from the school community and we encourage anyone who is interested to have their say. Your feedback is important and will help us to continue to achieve the two pillars of TCS: that all students will come to personally know Jesus and that all students will achieve academic success.

Feedback can be provided to the review panel in person or by telephone. All feedback remains confidential.

Please contact the school office if you are interested in speaking to a reviewer. You may also register your interest by emailing Keith.Blaikie@twb.catholic.edu.au.

As always, please contact the school if you have any questions or would like some further clarification in regard to the review process.

Kind regards

Keith Blaikie
Principal

Providing outstanding education since 1916

FREE ONLINE PARENTING SUPPORT

Triple P Online has some exciting new features, such as more personalised tips and tools, more downloadable resources, and new videos.

Support your children to get the most out of school in 2023, with fewer arguments over screen time, homework, and morning routines. Tailored, personalised, easier-to-use online modules allow you to select what you want help with to bring out the best in your kids.

The Triple P – Positive Parenting Program® is a FREE program available to all parents, 24/7. For more information and to get started visit [Happier, healthier, less stressed kids & families | Triple P \(triplep-parenting.net.au\)](https://triplep-parenting.net.au)

PARISH OF ST. PATRICK ALLORA

5th Sunday Ordinary Times – Year A –05 February, 2023

SUNDAY MASS TIMES:

1st Sunday - 9am, 2nd and 3rd Sunday – 5.30pm
4th & 5th Sunday - Liturgy of the Word with Communion - 9am

Weekday Mass – Tuesday 9:30am St Patrick’s Allora

LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK: Stephen Kent, Fr Don Murray,
Fr. Brian Sparksman, Sr Christine Symonds, Owen Crothers

RECENT DEATHS: Julia Tutty, (Fr David Tutty’s mother)

ANNIVERSARIES: Rev Fr Raymond White (2000), Most Rev James Byrne DD (1938), Edna Hill

LITURGY ROSTER

	5 February	12 February
Reader 1	C. Cowley	P. Cavanagh
Reader 2:	B. Blashak	K Preston

Offertory:

Welcome:	K. Mullins	J. Cowley
Counters:	S.&J. Duggan	T. & K. Mullins

Banking for February: J. Cowley

Preparation for Sunday Mass for February: A Balmain, I Chandler

Bulletin Preparation for February: Kaye Mullins 0448666132/46663330

NOTICES FOR BULLETIN email to - stpatricksallora@gmail.com

PARISH OFFICE: 4666 3377 (leave a message)

PRIEST DIRECTOR: Fr Warren Padilla Clifton Presbytery 4697 3177

Fr. Brian Redondo 0488147734

Emergency Contact: Warwick Presbytery 4661 1033

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Peter Cavanagh 0429666160 John Cowley 0409823147

Kaye Mullins 4666 3330 School Principal 4666 3551

Funeral Contact: Helen Smith 0429005609

SVDP: contact number is 1800 846 643 SVDP meet 3rd Wednesday
monthly at 3.15pm in the Function Room MacKillop House

P.P.C. meets 3rd Tuesday monthly following 9.30am Mass.

MEETINGS/DATE CLAIMERS

Josephite Companions Meeting, Tuesday 7th February after 9:30am
Mass/morning tea.

PLANNED GIVING via Direct Debit

For anyone wishing to make their planned giving payment via direct debit the details are:

Warwick Credit Union – BSB 817001, Account No. 100009371,
Name – Allora Catholic Church. Reference: your name, also please let the parish know you are now taking up this option.

St. Patrick’s School:

7 February – 2023 Leaders Induction Mass 9:30am in Church followed by morning tea – ALL welcome.

This year Lent commences on Ash Wednesday, 22 February.

2023 Ecumenical Lenten Studies at St Andrew's Community Centre on Monday afternoons at 3.30pm commencing Monday 20th February – Monday 27th March, 2023. Please place name on sheet at front door. Please see poster on notice board for more details.

Let Your light Shine.

The most important thing about each of us is our capacity for goodness.

We can be a source of light.

We have hands that can care, eyes that can see, ears that can hear, tongues that can speak, feet that can walk, and above all hearts that can love.

Unfortunately, through laziness, selfishness, and cowardice, our light can be dimmed, so that we become shadows of the people we could be Lord, help us to believe in our own goodness and to let the light of that goodness shine.

On seeing this light others find their way, and you will be glorified.

“Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus” (1 Thess 5:16–18).