

## 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

Whilst the negative spectre of the COVID 19 pandemic still lingers in 2023, one positive aspect or reset of this pandemic is that the space for parental engagement in schools is ripe for a new blueprint. It is wonderful to witness the afternoon pick-up where parents are now moving inside the front gate and taking a seat on the sandstone benches awaiting the 2:55pm bell. Please remember that we are an inclusive community where everyone needs to feel they belong, are valued and can succeed.

With this refinement of parental engagement at our core, Mr Blaikie together with Mrs Hoey (St Patrick's P&F Treasurer) attended a workshop facilitated by Dr Janet Goodall, who is a leading academic from the United Kingdom in 'Parent engagement in student learning'. In summary, there are two models of parental involvement. One model centres on parental involvement with school, where parents are seen as helping the school, agency rests with the school with an emphasis on parents coming into the school. The second model sits with parental engagement with learning, where parents are seen as supporting learning, agency is shared between school and home with an emphasis on the home learning environment.

St Patrick's School is keen to explore the adoption of model two of parental engagement, where learning is the focus and supports the finding... *"Above all, it is parents who, in these earliest years and beyond, shape their child's future opportunities. What parents do has far greater effect than any intervention at primary or secondary school"* (Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission, 2015).

## How Can You Help?

Practice makes progress! We have some readers who would benefit greatly from the opportunity to read with an adult to improve their reading skills and fluency. We are looking for some volunteers to come and help with our reading program in the afternoons from 2:30pm. If you can spare half an hour one day a week, between Monday to Thursday, we would love to hear from you. Please let your child's teacher or the school office know by **Friday, 12 May**, if you are able to help out. We will provide volunteer induction and reading support training on **Tuesday, 23 May from 1:55 - 2:50pm**. Thank you!

## Feeling Safe

Our School Student Protection Contacts are:

**Mrs Shooter**  
**Mr Blaikie**

## 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**



## ANZAC Day

ANZAC Day is such a sacred and special time when we, as a school and local community, stop and reflect on the notion of self-sacrifice. I was extremely proud of the students and staff who marched to represent St Patrick's School during the annual ANZAC Day march. It was a wonderful turnout! Glengallen student's participation in the Allora State School ANZAC ceremony together with our own ANZAC Day liturgy on Monday 24th April will hopefully engage all our students in fostering an understanding of the meaning behind the ANZAC Legend. Our special guest Flight Sergeant Symon Yeates, who spoke about her time spent as a Medical Technician Paramedic in the Royal Australian Air Force provided an authentic link to our ANZAC values of mateship, endurance and self-sacrifice.

Some Glengallan students were asked to write a reflection on their ANZAC Day experiences:

*On ANZAC day, we commemorate the soldiers that died for our freedom at war so that we could live happily in Australia.*

*St. Patrick's is very thankful for Flight Sergeant Symon Yeates that attended our school ceremony. Flight Sergeant Symon Yeates was speaking about life in the air force and going to all different classrooms to speak to all younger and older grades about her experiences.*

*ANZAC Day means a lot to me and others. It means a lot to me because my grandfather was in the Vietnam war and passed away. I marched on this day to celebrate his bravery and others that got sent out to war to fight. Kaleah S—Year 5*

*Every year at ANZAC Day St Patrick's commemorates however they can. This year, the students attended many ceremonies all over Allora.*

*On Monday, the 24th of April, the students of Glengallen walked to Allora cenotaph to attend a small ANZAC ceremony with the Allora State School. Towards the end, the students received ANZAC biscuits to remind them about how families sent ANZAC biscuits to the soldiers. Later that day, the entire school gathered in front of the shrine to commemorate in a solemn ceremony. Our guest, Flight Sergeant Symon Yeates talked to us about being a medic in the air force before and during the ceremony. She travelled long journeys to rescue injured soldiers and to bring them back to their homes.*

*On ANZAC Day, schools gathered at the sports museum, ready to march to the cenotaph. Once we got there, we attended the Allora ANZAC Day ceremony. Well done to them and all of the students who attended the march. Emelia H—Year 6*



ANZAC Day is also a day when we remember some past students of St Patrick's School and the Allora district:

**Private Timothy Lynam (42<sup>nd</sup> AIF)** - Born in Allora and educated at St Patrick's School Allora. He was killed in action near Corbie in France on 8 August 1918. He is buried in the Villars-Brettonneux Cemetery in France, is honoured on the St Patrick's Shrine and remembered as one of the school's sporting houses, **Lynam House**.

**Trooper James Hughes (5<sup>th</sup> Australian Light Horse Regiment)** - Born in Allora and attended Forest Plain State School. He died of wounds at Kantara, Egypt on 10 August 1916. He is buried at the Kantara War Memorial Cemetery in Egypt. He is honoured on the St Patrick's Shrine and remembered as one of the school's sporting houses, **Hughes House**.

**Trooper John Michael Rynne (11<sup>th</sup> Australian Light Horse Regiment)** – Born in Dalby and attended St Mary's School in Warwick. He was killed in action on 24 September 1918. He is buried in the Haifa Military Cemetery in Palestine and remembered as one of the school's sporting houses, **Rynne House**.

### 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 initiative is to engage our school families 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 6 May and Saturday 4 June.** 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!!



## Glengallan Sport Update

Central Downs tennis was a thrilling and wonderful experience for both Tom P and myself. Although it was hot, we had a great time. We played seven rounds with two minutes in between each round with one BYE before the final match. We met lots of new people and discovered new abilities, techniques, and weaknesses to practise on. We trained hard every Monday for an hour with our coach Mrs Much. By the end of the day, both Tom and I had learnt to not give up, being more persistent and identified the skills which require more practise, even though we improved throughout each game. The requirements to make it to the next level where to get 90% of our serves in and doing a full serve and not a simple easy drop serve. We tried our very best and pushed ourselves to the limit but out of the 35 kids who attended only 2 made it in. Sadly, we were not one of those two lucky people but we enjoyed ourselves and thought it was worth every second. **Amelie S—Year 6**

In regard to Cross Country, a number of students attended the Southern Downs trails held in Warwick during Week 2. These students included Noah S, Saphia G, Tom P, Katelyn P, Oscar C, Lachlan E and Emilia H. Three students were lucky enough to be selected to attend Darling Downs trials. These trials will be held in Toowoomba during late May.

In other sports news, Dustyn M recently attended Southern Downs Rugby League trials which were held in Goondiwindi. From all accounts, Dustyn really enjoyed the experience and will return to club league a more skilful player.



Enjoy the rest of your week. Hopefully we can either touch base in person at school or next week with our Mother's Day Celebrations. 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 2—2023

- 4 May—Glengallan Leadership Day
- **6 May (Saturday) - P&F Care and Concern home visits meet at school 9am**
- 8 May—Board Meeting at 6pm in library
- 9 May—Darling Downs Soccer
- 11 May—Mothers' Day Liturgy at 9:00am with Student Awards in the Church
- 11 May—Author visit (Sami Bayly)
- 16 May—Darling Downs Cross Country
- 17 May—Newsletter
- 23 May—Mary Help of Christians Mass at 9:30am in the Church. All are welcome!!
- 24 May—P&F Meeting at 6pm in the library or via Zoom.
- 24 May—National Simultaneous Storytime in the library
- 25 May— Whole School Assembly at 2:15pm
- 26 May—Gala Day 1 (Years 3 to 6 only)





# Student Travel Rebates



## Semester 1



### Bus Fare Assistance

- Does your child attend a **non-state school outside the Brisbane City Council** boundary?
- Does your **family** spend more than **\$35/week\*** on bus/ferry fares to and from school (\*\$25/week if you hold a concession card)?
- Does your child travel on a **publicly available service** not owned or associated with the school?

### Students With Disability

- Does your child have a **verified disability** that requires **transport assistance** to and from school?
- Has your school's learning support teacher assessed your child's **travel capability rating** as 'semi-independent' or more dependent?

Visit our website to see if you qualify for our financial assistance to help with the cost of transport and **apply at [SchoolTransport.com.au](http://SchoolTransport.com.au) during May.**

**Late applications cannot be accepted after 31<sup>st</sup> May.**