

St Patrick's School Allora— Newsletter



“Never see a need without doing something about it.” - Mary MacKillop

Vision—We are an inclusive community committed to high levels of learning for all.

Our School Student Protection Contacts are:

Miss Donnelly, Mr Maher and Karen (school counsellor)



Reminders and To Do List



URGENT—Please bring your donations into school tomorrow (Wed 3rd) for banking.

Easter Liturgy 9.30am Thursday 4th April—all welcome.

Pupil Free Day —Friday 5th April

Winter Uniform from Tuesday 7th May

Watch Out! Earn & Learn Stickers coming in May



St Patrick's School – A Nut Aware School.

We are aware that

children may have a severe anaphylactic reaction to peanuts. Parents are requested to be diligent with items packed in lunch boxes.

Dear Families,

Not a Magic Trick — A little while ago, a parent commented to me on a teacher's ability to have their child do exactly what they wanted them to do in a positive and timely manner. I pointed out to the mother that this was not magic, it was hard work; for both teacher and student. A combination of routines, expectations, and positive and negative consequences, form the basis of this 'hard work'.

Teachers know the importance of behaviour towards increasing student engagement. This increased engagement results in high levels of learning for all students.

How To Get More Of What You Want At Home— the following are techniques that teachers use with students on a daily basis. How could we apply these at home? Let's use homework as an example;

→ **Establishing Expectations**— you might set up some household rules for the completion of homework. These are best done with your child/children. Rules should be no more than five in total and no more than five words in length. Stick them on the fridge and refer to them regularly. For example;

- Start homework straight away
- Try before asking for help
- Complete all work neatly
- Be prepared

→ **Giving Instructions**—keep these short and clear and don't make them open ended by phrasing them like a question. 'Get your homework out and start work thank you' is far better than 'How about we do our homework?' or 'Would you like to start your homework?'.

→ **Wait Time**— this simply means that you should give an instruction and then allow some 'take up' for your child. This avoids filling thinking time with unnecessary noise.

→ **Descriptive Encouraging**— teachers at St Patrick's are very aware of the power of proving students with descriptive feedback of their positive behaviour. It acknowledges what it is that a child is doing well and reinforces expectations. For example;

- "I like how you started your work straight away."
- "I can see you've really concentrated on being neat—well done!"
- "Hey, you had a go before coming to see me—great job!"

Don't forget to **list the positive and negative consequences** of the expected behaviour for your child and follow through on these. You'll be amazed with the results!

Keeping the learning going— Your children have learnt many new skills this term when it comes to reading. Please maintain the reading routine over the Easter Break. Reading for enjoyment establishes and builds on these life long skills. Not reading over the next two weeks will see your child taking a step backwards before going forwards in term 2.

I would like to thank our entire staff for their professionalism and commitment to improving the learning of all of our students. Thank you too goes to our families who continue to support their child's learning through their positive engagement with their child's teacher.

Have a safe and restful Easter Break.

God Bless

Tyrone Maher
Principal

'Only I can change my life. No one can do it for me.'

Carol Burnett

Read more at: https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/carol_burnett_371189?src=t_change



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Assembly Term 1 Friday 8.50am

Week 9: Leaders

Week 10: No Assembly
Pupil Free Day



Happy birthday this week and over the

holidays to:

- Ruby Wright
- Jake Burns
- Bridey Breen
- Seth Donovan
- Alani Scotney
- Brett Shelton
- Oscar Coker

Student of the Week Awards—Week 9

TALGAI —

Katelyn Peters for being organized and ready to go when given new tasks.

CUNNINGHAM —

Thomas Peters for persisting in all areas of his learning during Term 1!

DALRYMPLE —

Angus McArthur for improving your learning by persisting through challenges.

GLENGALLAN —

Axil Mathie for being confident to persist on difficult tasks, giving yourself the time you need to achieve.

Mary MacKillop Award Reverent

Talgai—

Oscar Coker

Cunningham—

Cassandra Ryan

Dalrymple—

Amos Jacklin

Glengallan—

Ivy Coker

School News Supporting– Not Coaching - Our children thoroughly enjoy your support at any type of event. Supporting includes clapping, cheering or a kind hug (from a loved one) or pat on the back. However, when we start telling them what to do and how to do it, we're coaching. If you're not the coach, this becomes embarrassing and humiliating for a child. If your child asks for some feedback or if you'd like to give them some, do this in the privacy of your home. Chances are, your child is already doing their best. Coaching from the sideline is not going to help them.



Sight words and spelling champions! Well done to James, Jemimah, Max and Oscar on their work in learning their sight words and spelling. This many Prep students achieving so well, so early, is unprecedented. Keep up the good work children.

Parental Engagement Tool— St Patrick's has begun using the 'FlexiBuzz' App. This has been set up and paid for by the school, all you need to do is download the free App.

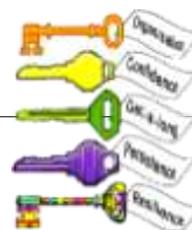
The FlexiBuzz App enables teachers to send parents whole class messages or personalised parent messages. When children talk about their learning, their learning is enhanced. We're hoping that this App will help us to assist you in doing this. (more on page 3)



Glengallan News

Learning Fun

Last week for homework, the children were asked to consider their greatest learnings for the term. The answers were varied and included such things as: how to work a division algorithm, completing tables with speed and accuracy, how to use number lines to calculate maths problems, that mathematicians are lazy (ask your child what this means), how to be persuasive when writing, how to organise a piece of writing, what strategies to use to remember spellings, how to write a good conclusion, how to perfect a backhand and a forehand, why Australia became a federated country, just to name a few. I was impressed that when they wrote about their learnings, they also included things they had learnt about writing, like the correct use of a topic sentence and the use of metaphors and even a 'hook' to engage the reader. Many children have been so engaged with their homework that they have presented plays, quizzes and PowerPoint presentations about their learning to entertain us while they have revised what they have learnt. So it is fair to say that the children of Glengallan are stepping up very well to the task of knowing what they are expected to learn, knowing when they have learned it, and being able to identify their next steps in learning. Congratulations Glengallan on an excellent term of growing your learning.



You Can Do It!

Because it is the end of term, the Glengallan children have been involved in some quite difficult assessment tasks which have tested their ability to be confident and persistent learners. The most impressive results have come from children who had a belief that they could succeed when work became challenging, and persisting until they were satisfied that they had done all that they were capable of doing to achieve.

Did you know?

One of the least expected predictors of life success is one's reading ability in primary school. Reading for pleasure, and especially reading fiction, is far more important than we have ever imagined. Reading **to** children can help to meet this goal. Please consider reading to and with your child these holidays. Even the 'big kids' love these interactions with their parents.

Notices

If you are coming up for the Easter Liturgy on Thursday, you might like to also consider staying a bit longer to pop into Glengallan to see what we have produced this term. We think you'll be impressed!



Parish News

LITURGY TIMES

**1ST SUNDAY OF MONTH –
MASS 9AM**

**2ND, 3RD SUNDAY OF MONTH
– MASS 5.30pm**

**4TH, 5TH SUNDAY OF MONTH –
LITURGY OF THE WORD –
9 AM**



Easter Mass Times

**Palm Sunday 14 April at
5.30pm**

Holy Thursday 6pm

Good Friday 10am

Easter Vigil 5.30pm



St Patrick's School Parents & Friends Association

"... as many hands build a house, so many hearts make a school"



Trivia Night Friday 31st May 2019 Update

Thank you to everyone who has let me know that they can help out at Trivia Night. I am still looking for 2 more helpers for the kitchen.

Please text me if you have some time.

Thanks Alana (0421208654)

Next P&F Meeting

7pm in the Library on Wednesday 15th May 2019

St Patrick's School Board - Our School Board recently held it's first meeting for the year. At the end of his two year tenure as Board Chair, David Burton stood down and Felicity Philp took up the position of Chair. We thank Felicity for accepting this role and David for his commitment to our School Board. We look forward to his continued membership of this group.

Kylie Brasch has been a long standing member on our School Board. Kylie stood down from her position on the board this week. We thank Kylie for her years of dedication to this important role.

Expressions of Interest— Our School Board drives the school improvement continual renewal agenda. It is consulted with on many changes affecting our school community. The board is now calling for expressions of interest. Contact the Tyrone if you would like some further information.

FlexiBuzz is used by many schools, not to mention numerous businesses. We are using FlexiBuzz to:

- Engage our families in their child's learning- We know that when children can talk about what they've been learning, their learning is accelerated. To assist you in these conversations, teachers will soon be able to send you notifications straight to your phone about what your child has been up to.
- Enhance positive communication between home and school - The App will also be used to send reminders or last minute changes to routine. Teachers will also have the ability to send you personalised communications. Flexi-Buzz will not replace the important face to face communication important to building positive and productive relationships. This is why the opportunity to 'Chat' with the teacher, will not always be possible. We are very excited about the opportunities that using this App will offer. In the meantime - stay tuned.



If you have child or children on any of the following bus routes; BERAT, HENDON, SPRING CREEK or TALGAI WEST, please request to join our Facebook Page by searching ALLORA SCHOOL BUSES & LOCAL CHARTER. This page will only be used to send out notification to parents and carers in the event of the buses being delay or not able to complete the bus route due to floods, flat tyre, breakdown etc. Permission to join this facebook page, will only be given to a parent or carer of a passenger on these buses. If you decided to join our page, please remember to turn your notifications on so you receive them. Thanks Mathew & Tracey Heslin BUS OPERATORS

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What's Happening?

SCHOOL BELL TIMES

8.40am Start of School
 10.45am Break start
 11.25am Break finish
 1.30pm Snack start
 1.50pm Snack finish
 2.50pm Pack up
 2.55pm End of School



UNIFORM DAYS

Monday — Formal
 Tuesday — Formal
Wednesday – Sports
 Thursday – Formal
Friday – Sports

FAST THIS LENT?

- † Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- † Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- † Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- † Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- † Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

'Like' us on Facebook— To engage more of our community in the wonderful work that staff and students are doing here at St Patrick's, we have branched out into the world of social media. Media consent forms were returned by families recently that sort parent permission in having their children pictured on the world wide web.

Please let us know if you would prefer not to have images of your children on Facebook.



SOON TO BE RELEASED— 2019 ONLINE ANNUAL CALENDAR

DATE CLAIMERS- 2019

- 3 Apr** CD Cross Country, Pilton & SD Tennis, Clifton
- 4 Apr** Easter Liturgy 9.30am
- 5 Apr** Last day of term—Professional Learning Day (Pupil Free Day)

Term 2

- 23 Apr** Term 2 begins
- 25 Apr** Anzac Day— School Marches with the community
- 30 Apr** School Athletics (half day) - 9-12yrs—200 and 800m

Note—Change due to clash with Darling Downs Selection Trials

- 3 May** School Athletics (Full Day) - whole school
- 7 May** Winter Uniform for students
- 8 May** CD Athletics—half day (qualifying students)
- 10 May** CD Athletics—first day (qualifying students)
- 13-17 May** School Renewal Improvement Process
- 13 May** Naplan Online opens (closes 24 May)
- 31 May** Trivia Night
- 28 June** Last Day of Term 2—Professional Learning Day (Pupil Free Day)

Stacey Harm is undertaking this Walk for Autism
 Donations can be made through her Facebook page



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