



# Newsletter- St Patrick's School Allora

Providing quality education since 1916

"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:

**Miss Donnelly and Mr Maher**



## Reminders for this week:

**Gala Day— Allora State School (8-12yrs students) - from 9am. Sunscreen, water, hats, lunchboxes/ money for tuck shop.**

**Under 8's Day—Clifton State School. Students and teachers traveling by bus. Sunscreen, water, hats, (lunchboxes if not purchasing the 'meal deal')**

**Trivia Night from 6.30pm**

### 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 Parents and Carers,**

**Assessment Capable Learners**— This Thursday, teaching members of our team will be engaged in the next steps of the 'Light House' project in 'Visible Learning'. We are aiming to be a 'Light House' School for other schools at a diocesan, state and national level; a big but a very exciting task that our students will reap the benefits of for a lifetime.

One of the most important elements of this approach, is the forming of 'Assessment Capable Learners'. For this to happen, we need to explicitly train the skills that students require.

### **What are the key characteristics of assessment capable students?**

Students who :

- Co-construct learning with the teacher
- Understand the learning intentions of lessons
- Are active participants in learning
- Self assess accurately and successfully against the success criteria of and know their next steps in learning.
- Students who can peer assess accurately and successfully, giving feedback and feed forward against the success criteria
- Students who can set goals in learning, then self-monitor and evaluate their progress towards achieving them.

**Why?** Research from across the world indicates students that have the above skills, will not only succeed in learning progression in their primary years, but will continue their rate of progression into their future secondary and tertiary learning.

**How can parents grow 'assessment capable learners'** - Many parents ask our children ;'How was your day at school?' Depending on the age of your children you might get a 'Good!' or a grunt. Change this up by asking them what they learnt. **Caution! They will often confuse this with what they did.**

**For example:**

Parent: 'What did you learn today Sally?'

Sally: 'We wrote a story' (this is what Sally did—not what she was learning)

Parent: 'What did you learn about writing a story?'

Sally: 'We learnt that the introduction needs to catch the reader's attention'

If learners can articulate what they are learning, we know that they are more likely to be engaged in the learning. At the same time you as a parent, will be engaged in what is being learnt—another highly effective approach to advancing your child's learning.

**Spread the Word**— Next Tuesday, all under 5s and their parents are invited to attend our annual 'Early Years Expo'. Children, teachers and early years support staff from our local childcare and kindergarten providers will be attending the morning from 9am.

This is a great opportunity for children to socialise and for parents to enjoy some morning tea while their children are involved in some fun, supervised activities. Obstacle courses, playdough, painting, construction and book reading; led by our student leaders; will be sure to keep students engaged.

The structured activities conclude at 10:50am however parents and children are welcome to bring their hat and lunch and stay on for a play with the St Patrick's students until 11:30am. See you there!

**God Bless**

**Tyrone Maher  
Principal**





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## School News

### Assembly Roster

#### Term 2 Friday 8.50am

- Week 6: Gala Day & U8's
- Week 7: Leaders
- Week 8: Broncos Cup
- Week 9: Leaders
- Week 10: Athletics Day
- Week 11: Dalrymple - NAIDOC Week



Happy Birthday to:  
Lewis May

**Gala Day Fun**— Last Friday was the first of two days of competition for our 8 to 12 year old students. Students from schools in the area competed in league, soccer and netball competitions. Sportsmanship and team spirit were evident in all teams and the beautiful weather was the icing on the cake. The junior and senior league teams won last week's trophies while points from the netball and soccer competitions will carry on into the final day this Friday. Thank you to all of our parents who were able to assist teachers and students on the day with the management of teams. Last Friday we were also assisted by past students; Sophie Otten and Cooper Seng from Assumption College; who were able to come along and assist in refereeing and umpiring duties. We thank these students for their time and look forward to another day of competition this Friday.



**St Patrick's Care Group** — This year, as a sub-committee to the P&F '*St Patrick's Care Group*' is being formed. St Patrick's Care Group will provide support to new and existing families of our school. If you are interested in being a part of this group, please contact Lisa Hansford (lisaj.hansford@hotmail.com). We look forward to hearing about the school and community relationships this group will nurture.



### Student Protection at St Patrick's School —

One of the most important concerns of our school community is the health, safety and wellbeing of our students. St Patrick's has a number of specific child protection responsibilities which are detailed in the Student Protection Processes and Guidelines, available on the Toowoomba Catholic Schools Website along with other information for parents and caregivers: <https://www.twb.catholic.edu.au/parents-and-community/student-protection/>

In addition to **all** staff being trained in student protection, we also have two staff members specially trained to assist with student protection concerns. These 'School Student Protection Contacts' are Miss Donnelly and Mr Maher. Students can speak to these teachers if they have any worries about their own safety or wellbeing, or that of a classmate. They can also speak to our school counsellor—Jayne.

### Learning Support News

By Debbie Groombridge -

Learning Support Teacher

#### Around the Classrooms

Last week, I enjoyed being able to work with our year 4 students while the year 3's were out for Naplan. During Stamina Reading in their Literacy Rotations I had the absolute pleasure of being able to listen to students read who I don't normally get a chance to listen to, and was reminded of the importance of listening to our older and more capable readers read.

While listening to one of these students read, we came across the word "monotonous" she misread the word but kept reading regardless. At the end of the paragraph I had her come back to the word "monotonous" and asked her if she knew what it meant. She said, "I think it is just a made up word. It just doesn't look right." I told her the base word "monotone" and we proceeded to break it up into it's pieces— mono meaning one and tone meaning the tone of your voice—without expression.

Understanding this one word gave so much more meaning to what she was reading allowing her to make much more meaningful inferences about the characters and what they were feeling and thinking - Improving her comprehension of the book immensely.

Being able to be there with your older more competent readers and discussing words and meanings with them while they read is very, very powerful and opens them up to a whole new level of understanding.

#### Helping your child

Reading at home with older children is a very rewarding experience. There is so much good quality literature available for children of this age group that reading with them should be a pleasurable experience for all. Older readers, especially those who get the chance to read aloud frequently with Mum or Dad are very fluent and expressive and listening to them read can be very enjoyable and entertaining.

I recently heard one parent refer to home reading with their older children as a form of escapism—how beautiful does that sound? This family look upon reading as a reward, something to look forward to at the end of a busy day. A time that they can enjoy being together as a family, reading and discussing great literature before their children go to bed.

Promoting reading as a form of escapism—escaping from the general pressures of school and their busy lives where they can travel to wondrous unknown places encourages children to see reading as a form of self-indulgent relaxation, something to look forward to rather than as a chore that they have got to do.





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## Parish News



### LITURGY TIMES

**1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF MONTH –  
MASS 9AM**

**2<sup>ND</sup>, 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF  
MONTH – MASS 5pm**

**From Sunday 13th May for  
Winter**

**4<sup>TH</sup>, 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF  
MONTH – LITURGY OF THE  
WORD – 9 AM**



## St Patrick's School Parents & Friends Association

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

### Trivia Night 2018

**Only 3 days to go !!!** Please see the letter and volunteer list attached (blue)

Could all families please:

1. Donate a box of chocolates. 19 families have done this already, thank you.
2. Donate items, products or vouchers that we could use in the Multi draw raffle, please leave items at the office. 2 families have done this, thank you
3. Organise your team and book a table by calling the office on 4666 3551.  
15 Table Bookings received to date.

Thanks Alana 0421208654

### Mother's Day Stall

— Thank you to those Mothers that were able to organise and run our Mother's day stall. The children thoroughly appreciated your efforts and enjoyed buying gifts for their mothers and grandmothers.



**Next P & F Meeting Wednesday 20 June**

### SCHOOL BELL TIMES

8.40am Start of School  
 10.50am Break start  
 11.30am 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**



### Tuck Shop Dates:

Friday 8th June  
And  
Friday 22nd June

St Patrick's, Allora P&F presents

# Rattle of the Brains



**Friday 25th May**  
**Allora Community Hall**

*Entry includes pizza, nibbles  
and supper with tea and coffee*

1st place \$300  
 2nd place \$200  
 3rd place \$100

And a prize  
for wooden spoon

**\$15 per person**

**Doors Open at 6.15pm**

**Round 1 starts at 7pm**

**Max of 8 per table**

**RSVP by 21st May**

Thank you  
sponsors! Your help  
makes this night  
so successful!



*Multi-Draw Raffles and  
Auctions throughout the night*

To book a table phone  
St Patrick's school office on 4666 3551



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What's Happening?

*Providing quality education since 1916*

*Wanted!!*

*Preloved sandpit toys; Buckets, shovels,  
and trucks.*

*Please bring all items to the office.*

Save the Date

**19th October—St Patrick's Parish  
and School Fete**



**PLEASE SEE OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE FOR OUR  
2018 ANNUAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

## **DATE CLAIMERS- 2018**

- 25 May Gala Day2—Soccer, Netball and League, Under 8s Day—Clifton
- 25 May Trivia Night
- 29 May Early Years Expo—open to all under 5s and their parents. Come and have a morning of fun.
- 7 June School tour & information night—5pm
- 8 June Broncos Cup— Soccer, Hockey, Netball and League—10-12 Years for all sports except league (2006 and 2007 only) .
- 19 June Day 1 School Athletics
- 22 June Day 2 School Athletics
- 28 June Semester reports sent home
- 29 June Term 2 Ends
- 17 July Term 3 Starts
- 23 July CD athletics—Day 1
- 27 July CD athletics—Day 2
- 29 July Catholic Education Week
- 30 July School Improvement Surveys emailed to parents.
- 3 Aug Bishop's Professional Development Day (School Closed)
- 6 Aug 2019 Prep interviews begin
- 10 Aug SD Athletics
- 21 Sept Term 3 Ends
- 8 Oct Term 4 Starts
- 19 Oct St Patrick's Parish and School Fete
- 22 Oct Staff PD day—Student Free Day
- 7 Dec Term 4 and School Year Ends

## Prep 2019 – taking enquiries now

**29<sup>th</sup> May Early Years Expo 9-11:30am**

**7<sup>th</sup> June - School tour and information night**

5pm : Open to families of all school aged children

**6<sup>th</sup> August – Prep interviews** Contact the school

**'An inclusive community committed to high levels of learning for all...'**