

St Patrick's School Allora — Newsletter



Dear Families,

2021 Plans - At the end of 2019 a report was published as a result of the quadrennial review that our school undertook with members of the Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office. All of our school staff, students and many of you, our school families, played a big part in this report by way of the feedback you provided to the panel. From this report, our schools strategic plan (2019 to 2022) was published. Each year, we assess where we are in regard to our progress towards achieving the goals outlined in the strategic plan. The goals for Saint Patrick's in 2021 include:

- Continuing to build the capacity of all staff in collecting and analysing student progress data to inform 'next steps' in learning .
- Continue to embed high impact strategies in reading, responsive to the needs of learners.
- Continuing our work as a 'Lighthouse School' in developing our visible learning culture (based on the research of John Hattie). This includes:
 - ◇ Being involved in learning impact cycles responsive to learning needs.
 - ◇ Ensuring all learners know the intention of every lesson and the criteria they must fulfill to be successful (success criteria).
- Continue towards our goal of making Jesus real in our school, by ensuring that our values of love, dignity, integrity and justice are lived actions.
- Developing a school wide sequence of learning in information technologies to ensure our learners are progressively enhancing their skills towards making them better learners today.
- Completion of building works to enhance learning areas within the school. This will include:
 - ◇ A refurbishment of the existing library space to create a more open, flexible learning area.
 - ◇ Refurbishment of the existing multipurpose room to become the new reception area complete with sickbay and meeting room.
 - ◇ Re-purposing of existing office space to provide areas for specialists to work with learners (Learning Support Teacher, School Counsellor, Speech Language and Occupational Therapists).
 - ◇ Extension of the current staff room to provide more room for staff to collaborate.

We firmly believe that in progressing towards the goals outlined in the school's strategic plan, that we guarantee the continuous renewal of our school and our practices so that we can continue to provide the very best education.

2021 Class Structures - We are very excited to announce our class structures for next year. Kathryn Lucas has been a long standing member of our school teaching team. Many of our families will remember Kathryn working in the early years in our school. Since then she has been teaching for one day per week in our school in different capacities. She looks forward to teaching two days per week next year alongside Mrs Lyn Geyle. These two teachers have already spent considerable time planning collaboratively for our year 1/2 learners next year.

Classes and Teachers are as follows:

Prep (14 learners)	Katie Hickey
Year 1/2 (19 learners)	Lyn Geyle and Kathryn Lucas
Year 3/4 (15 learners)	Karine Preston
Year 5/6 (24 learners)	Mary Donnelly

(Please see page two for the remainder of our team in 2021)

God Bless

Tyrone Maher
Principal

"The journey is never ending. There's always gonna be growth, improvement, adversity; you just gotta take it all in and do what's right, continue to grow, continue to live in the moment.

Antonio Brown

Read more at <https://www.brainyquote.com/topics/improvement-quotes>

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:

Miss Donnelly,
Mr Maher and Jayne
(school counsellor)

Reminders and To Do List

- **Please remember that we are a 'Nut Aware' School.**
- **Church Times - Church 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

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School News

2021 Staffing Announcement (Continued from Pg 1)

Learning Support Teacher	Debbie Groombridge
Teacher Aides	Emma Heit, Andrea Lewis and Amanda McCosker
Workplace Health and Safety	Andrea Lewis
Teacher Librarian	Debbie Groombridge
Teacher Librarian Officer	Julie- Anne Flynn
Music	Lesley Telford
Science Teacher	To be announced
Administration and Finance	Elizabeth Partington
ICT Tech	Jeeva Rajapakshage
School Counsellor	Jayne Farquharson
Cleaner	Judy Allen
Principal / APRE/ Middle Leader (Some PE teaching)	Keith Blaikie



'Lights, camera, action!' Our year 3 and 4 students put on quite the show for our families last Friday when they presented the 'Reader's Theatre' they've been working hard on in class. Thank you for your support.

Last Day of Term Arrangements— Following our final assembly (see dates) the school will close for 2020. Students will need to be collected by 12pm by a responsible adult. All families must complete the [online form](#) to outline your intentions for your child/children at this time.

Swimming— Our swimming carnival will begin at 9am this Friday at Allora Swimming Pool.

Some things to note:

- Students can be taken directly to the pool but must be supervised.
- Children may dress in their house colours—Rynne (red), Lynam (green) and Hughes (blue)
- There are no actual times of events. The program that will be provided is a guideline.
- Children must stay in their house areas unless they have permission from a teacher to leave the area.
- RSL Cafe and pool kiosk – **no purchases by or for students until the end of the carnival.** Families are welcome and encouraged to sit on the road side of the pool (same side as toilets).
- Unless timekeeping, no parents should be in the timekeeping area.
- Times may be requested via email to the Principal.
- Teachers will indicate when it is time for morning tea and lunch. Lunch may be staggered to get students through.
- Children must have a buddy when going to the toilet
- Our P&F association will be providing a BBQ lunch for our students on the day. Students should have sufficient water and food .

Positive, family support has always been a hallmark of our wonderful school. We look forward to seeing you all there on Friday in support of your children's efforts and progress.

DATE CLAIMERS

- **23rd - 24th Nov** - Swimming lessons
- **27th Nov**- Swimming Carnival (Allora Swimming Pool)
- **2nd Dec** - Prep Transition Afternoon
2-3pm (NEW to 2020 in response to family feedback)
- **3rd Dec** - Semester 2 Reports issued
- **3rd Dec** - 5:30 - 7pm - Graduation Ceremony - All children to attend
- **4th Dec** - Last Day of School
10:30am - End of year assembly in the church (to conclude by 12noon)
12noon - School closure for 2020—All families must complete the [online form](#)

2021

- Professional learning and development days - 19,20,21,22 and 25 of January.
- 26th January—Australia Day Holiday
- 27th January— First day of term 1
- 9th Feb - Opening School Celebration (including Yr 6 Leaders Induction)
- 10th Feb - Meet and Greet- Children's Disco
- 12th Feb - CD Swimming, Allora Pool
- 26th Feb - CD league, soccer and netball trials.
- 17th Mar - Tennis trials