



"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

School finishes at 12 noon on Friday 7th December 2018

School resumes on Tuesday 29th January 2019 at 8.40am.

Over the holidays please gather shoe boxes and Woman's Weekly magazines for school craft projects

A student lost a blue pencil case while on the camp bus, please let the office know if you have found it.

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

Dear Families,

End of Year Celebrations - 2018 has been a wonderful year of learning and achievements for all of our families and learners and last night's celebration was a wonderful culmination of this.

Along with our expected year 5 and 6 families were numerous families that were simply there to support their school. For our students to look out at a full church was truly a testament to the sense of community we hold dear here at St Patrick's School.

We would like to acknowledge the work and organization invested by all of our staff and parents in making last night the special celebration that it is. Thank you to the Gilmour, Shaw and Ekerick families for serving our barbeque last night. A special thank you to Miss Preston, Miss Donnelly, Mrs Partington and Mrs Telford, for the time and energy that they invested in ensuring that the occasion was the special one that it was.

Last night, the progress that all students have made this year in their learning was celebrated. This progress is in no small part a direct reflection of our professional, collaborative efforts.

We have accomplished:

- Growth in almost all areas of The National Assessment Program — Literacy and Numeracy, or NAPLAN, was achieved
- The effective implementation of data driven interventions
- Over 90% of our learners reaching the diocesan target in reading – numerous students identified at the beginning of this year will now move out of intervention. Some of these learners have achieved more than a year's growth in reading progress.

We thank our teachers and support staff for their dedication to the goal of high levels of progress for every child at our school. We thank you our families too, for their engagement in this learning.

Focus on 'Effort'— Your child's semester reports have been sent home today. This report is of no use to you or your child if a positive and productive conversation is not had with your child. This could focus on what they have improved in, their effort scores how these relate to their final score, and what they could focus on over the break and/or as they lead into the new year. At all costs, do not allow your child to blame external factors that they perceive to have hindered their progress. Learners must own their progress in order to get better. And we can all get better!

School Fees - The school's 2019 annual budget was presented to the School Board last week and was subsequently approved. Part of this plan included future enhancement of resources for our learners and costs for future planning. All of which will be revealed in the final draft of the school's master plan.

2019 will also see a rise in tuition fees in line with the current consumer price index (inflation) in addition to an increase in the 'building levy'. "A portion of the Capital/Building levy may be utilised for other capital educational purposes within the Diocese; for example—the provision of 'Kindergarten and /or Outside School Hours Care" (Dr Patrick Coughlan - Executive Director Catholic Schools Office).

While there are no plans for our school community in the immediate future for either of these services, this levy would support the funding of such a project.

A fee schedule has been included with your child's report that has been sent home today.

Happy Holidays - On behalf of the staff here at St Patrick's School I would like to wish you all a safe and happy Christmas with your family.

God Bless

Tyrone Maher
Principal

Have your say! - What does an effective learner look like?

Click on the link [here](#) or go to our school's homepage online

"Maybe Christmas, the Grinch thought, doesn't come from a store."

Dr. Seuss

Read more at: https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/dr_seuss_102623?src=t_christmas

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Assembly Term 4 Friday 8.50am

**Week 9: Christmas
Liturgy and music
concert**



Happy Birthday this
week and to the end
of 2018:

Douglas Ekerick
Emilia Hoey
Esther Coker
Riley Burton
Dustyn May

Graduating Class of 2018-

Congratulations to all of our year 6 students on having (almost) completed their primary years of schooling. These students have done a remarkable job both in their own learning journeys and in being positive role models to all of our students.

Award Recipients— The process of arriving at our award recipients involves firstly voting by their year 5 and 6 classmates, before these potential students are scrutinised by all teachers against the award criteria.

Congratulations to:

- Atticus Sullivan—
'Due Diligence Award'
- Sarah Brown and Seth Esson -
'Christian Living Award'
- Amy Morris and Claudia Barton-
'Academic Award'
- Lewis May—
'Sporting Achievement Award'
- Aliza Schelbach-
'Christian Living Award'
- Amy Morris—
'Cultural Award'.



Graduating 2018 Year 6 Students (back row from left) Mia McArthur, Seth Esson, Lewis May, Amy Morris, Mackenzie Seng, Darcy Pitstock, (front from left) Atticus Sullivan, Jack Phelan, Sarah Brown, Ashlee Henry, Aliza Schelbach, Claudia Barton.

Advent

Last Sunday, was the first Sunday of Advent. Advent comes from the Latin word meaning "coming." Jesus is coming, and Advent is intended to be a season of preparation for His arrival. While we typically regard Advent as a joyous season, it is also intended to be a period of preparation, much like Lent. Prayer, penance and fasting are appropriate during this season.

No one is sure when Advent was first celebrated, but it dates back to at least 567 when monks were ordered to fast during December leading up to Christmas.

There are several ways that Advent is counted down, but the most common is by a calendar or candles. There are many types of calendars used, with the most common ones being made of paper, or card with 24 or 25 little windows on them. A window is opened on every day in December and a Christmas picture, or chocolate is displayed underneath. Each Sunday during Advent, a candle is lit on the Church Advent wreath until all the candles are lit. The candles represent hope, faith, joy and peace, whilst the evergreen circle of the wreath represents everlasting life.

No matter how you and your family celebrate Advent and Christmas this year, I pray that the blessings of the festive season include love, joy and happiness.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Karine Preston - APRE



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Parish News

LITURGY TIMES

**1ST SUNDAY OF MONTH –
MASS 9AM**

**2ND, 3RD SUNDAY OF MONTH
– MASS 6pm**

**4TH, 5TH 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"

Help Wanted— Heritage Weekend Soft Drink Stall. Can you spare 3 hours? Follow the link on our website under 'Newsletters' or [click here](#) (if you are accessing this newsletter electronically)

**Our first meeting for 2019
will be on Wednesday 20 February,
7pm in the Library. All welcome.**

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

2018 Swimming Carnival

—A wonderful day of competition was experienced by spectators and swimmers alike last Friday. These days are truly made more enjoyable by the presence of our families. Our students thrive on your support. The overall points winner was team Lynam with Rynne being awarded the 'Team Spirit' trophy. Thank you to those families that were able to be in attendance. A special thank you to our P&F for providing our barbeque lunch.



Congratulations to our Age Champions!

8years:

- Jonte May and Ruby Wright

9years:

- McKinley Keogh and Will Peters

10yrs:

- Brett Shelton and Matilda Gasson

11yrs:

- Lewis May and Aliza Schelbach

12 yrs:

- Mackenzie Seng

What's Happening?



SUMMER READING CLUB

1 December 2018 – 31 January 2019

Sign up at your local library to receive your passport and start reading

Get an entry into the prize draw for every 3 hours of reading

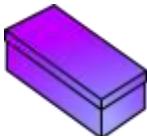
Grab a Mystery Read, join in the Treasure Hunts and try out the Holiday Activities at your local Library Branch

Southern Downs REGIONAL COUNCIL

The Summer Reading Club is led by State Library of Queensland in partnership with the Australian Library and Information Association and Australian Public Library Alliance.

2019 School Craft Donations

Over the holidays please collect empty shoe boxes and Woman's Weekly magazines and bring to school at the start of the new school year.



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

DATE CLAIMERS- 2018

5 Dec Final Newsletter and Report Cards issued

7 Dec 10am—Christmas Liturgy and Music Concert in church
12pm—School Year Ends

2019 Term dates

Term 1 Tuesday 29 January to Friday 5 April
Term 2 Tuesday 23 April to Friday 28 June
Term 3 Monday 15 July to Friday 20 September
Term 4 Tuesday 8 October to Friday 6 December

Date Claimer – 2019

12 Feb Opening School Mass 9.30am



• ALLORA •

Bush Christmas

FRIDAY 14TH DECEMBER

STREET OPENS @ 4PM OFFICIAL OPENING AT 5PM

- SUPER SLIDE • PONY RIDES • ANIMAL FARM • TRACKLESS TRAIN • MARKETS STALLS
- CHRISTMAS CAROLS • LOCAL STORES WILL STAY OPEN • ENTERTAINMENT BBQ & RAFFLES
- LIVE MUSIC AT THE RAILWAY HOTEL FROM 8PM

AND A VISIT FROM SANTA

  **WARWICK**

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