

St Patrick's School Allora — Newsletter



Our Vision
An inclusive community committed to high levels of learning for all.

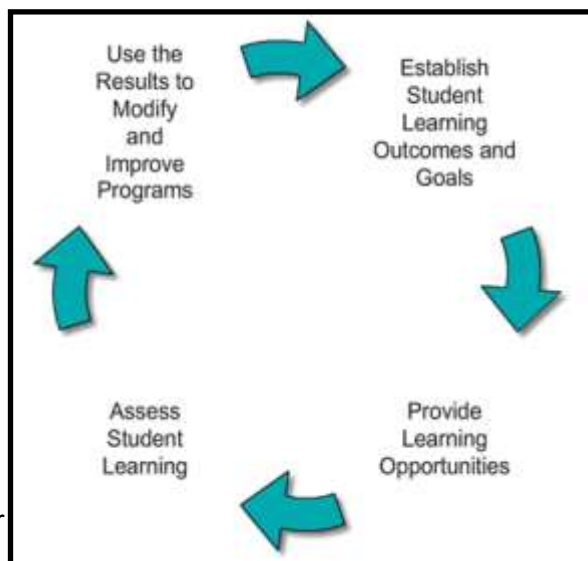
Our Mission
In the spirit of Saint Mary Mackillop, we strive for excellence with love, dignity, integrity and justice.

Dear Families,

Improving learning— In our newsletters, I've highlighted many times the massive effect parents have on the learning progress of their children.

Research shows that when parents talk to their children about school, expect them to do well and ensure out-of-school activities are constructive to learning, students make greater gains.

Teachers at St Patrick's are working in impact cycles to improve learning towards meeting specific goals. This is a process of assessing, planning, teaching and evaluating before moving into the next cycle.



Assessing students means that teachers start with identifying where students are in the learning journey to identify what needs to be the focus. Feedback is provided to learners as to what their next steps in their learning (their goals) should be.

Planning requires teachers to address the identified need with planned teaching. These interventions include work done both in and out of the classroom. These goals and interventions are shared with all teachers and parents during meetings so that a team approach to progressing a child's learning can occur.

At the end of the cycle the teacher **evaluates** the child's progress to work out if the focused support for the child worked. If it did, new goals are set and the cycle starts again. If goals are not met, the new plan addresses new ways for the child to progress towards the goal which may include different strategies or taking the learning back a step.

Parents are key to the process. When parents know what their children struggle with, they are better equipped to support them by working with them and their teachers. Having improvement conversations with our children and teachers, sends a clear message that learning is important. As always our teachers are happy to discuss your child's progress.

Online Surveys— On Tuesday 25th August (Wk 7 Term 3), I will be engaging in a 'Principal Summative Performance Appraisal' in line with Toowoomba Catholic School's focus on professional development. This survey has now been emailed to families. I thank you in advance for your time in completing these surveys. My role is to lead our school community towards achieving our vision (top left of this page). Your feedback on my leadership will go a long way towards helping our community achieve this.

Feeling Safe

Our School Student Protection Contacts are:

Miss Donnelly, Mr Maher and Jayne (school counsellor)

Reminders and To Do List

All parents/carers will be informed of any changes to school activities via FlexiSchools and Email.

Change to FlexiSchools—please note that we have now changed over to 'FlexiSchools'. You will need to delete 'FlexiBuzz' and register using the email sent to you from FlexiSchools (please check your 'junk' file in your email account)

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.



God Bless

Tyrone Maher
Principal

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."
Helen Keller

School News

Uniform Expectations – The word uniform means ‘the same’. Weak expectations regarding uniform can result in poor learning attitudes and the formation of trends that exclude others (leading to ‘bullying’). The standard uniform can be purchased from Lowes or Hannas. Note that branded shorts like ‘Canterbury’ or ‘Nike’ are not part of our uniform. Our uniform policy which can be found on our school’s website.

Sacramental Program 2020/2021—Due to the interruptions and restrictions of COVID19, the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion have been cancelled for this year. These sacraments will now be held during 2021.

Fr. Rod has decided that we can run a ‘Sacrament of Reconciliation’ program during this term and allow these students to make their Sacraments of Confirmation and Communion with next year’s group. Therefore, any student in Year 3 is eligible to participate in the Sacramental program next term.

Please email Tyronne if you would like to register your child for this year’s Sacramental program or have any queries (Tyronne.Maher@twb.catholic.edu.au)

Church Times - The St Patrick’s Allora Parish are happy to announce that church celebrations are up and running again. 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

2021 Enrolments—Please note that interviews for 2021 Enrolments (including Prep Enrolments) will be held in the last 2 weeks of this term starting the 7th September. If you are planning on enrolling your child in 2021 or you know someone who is, please let them know. It’s your recommendation of our school that families considering St Patrick’s value the most.

St Patrick’s Athletics Carnival—While school athletics trials beyond the school level have been cancelled, we acknowledge the fun that these days hold for our students. For this reason, we will hold our Athletics Carnival for this year on the 3rd September. More details regarding the flow of this day will be released soon.



St Patrick’s Students look ‘ready to learn’ - when students are in uniform they feel like they are part of the team and can concentrate on what matters most—their learning progress.

DATE CLAIMERS- 2020

26th July—Catholic Education Week

30th July— Assumption College
Transition Day

31st July—Bishop’s Inservice Day—**school closed** (Planning and Professional Development Day – Catholic Schools only)

4th August— School Mass—celebrating the Feast of St Mary MacKillop

17th August—Parent teacher meetings this week (requested only).

25th August—Principal’s Review

2nd September— Early Years Morning—
9am—11am

3rd September - St Patrick’s Athletics
Carnival.

7th September - 2021 Prep Interviews
Begin

11th September— Central Downs Gala Day
(League, Netball and Soccer).

11th September—Under 8’s Day (TBC)

17th September— Term 3 Ends (school
closed Friday the 18th September for
Professional Development of Staff)

21st October—First Prep Transition Day

2020 Term Dates

Term 3- Mon13 July—Friday 18 September

Term 4 -Tues 6 October—Friday 4 December