



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

- **Change to FlexiSchools**— please note that we have now changed over to 'FlexiSchools'. [Click here for instructions](#)
- **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

Dear Families,

In recent years, parents have expressed their concern about the capacity of schools to prepare their children for high school. One of the key foci for our work with your children is the forming of 'Assessment Capable Learners'. We know that learners that become assessment capable, go on to be successful learners in high school. For students to become assessment capable, we need to explicitly teach the skills that students require.

Assessment capable learners are those who:

- Understand the learning intention of the lesson or unit of work.
- Co-construct learning with the teacher - they are able to deconstruct the intention down to the steps required to successfully reach the learning intention.
- Are active participants in learning—they ask questions, seek feedback and don't give up when challenged.
- Self assess accurately and successfully against the success criteria so they know how they're going and what their next steps in learning are.
- Can peer assess accurately and successfully, giving feedback and feed forward against the success criteria
- Can set goals in learning, then self-monitor and evaluate their progress towards achieving them.

Why do our children need to be assessment capable? Research shows that students who have the above skills in their primary school years will continue to progress in their future secondary and tertiary learning at a faster rate than those who do not have these attributes.

How can you as parents help? See if your children can answer these questions:

- **What were you learning today?** Don't let them confuse this question with what they were doing. 'We baked a cake' was not the learning intention; 'Following a instructions or a procedure' was most likely the 'intended learning'.
- **How did you go?**
- **How do you know?** They should make reference here to the success criteria. A good response might sound like: 'I could do the first 2 (success criteria), but I need to work on being able to do..... (the next of the criteria);
- **What's your next step?** (the next of the criteria)
- **What will you do if you get stuck?** They should be able to list 2 or 3 strategies here. 'Checking with the teacher' should only be one of these strategies.

These are the questions we ask your children during classroom lessons. If learners can articulate what they are learning, we know that they are more likely to be engaged in the learning.

God Bless

Tyronne Maher
Principal

"I follow three rules: Do the right thing, do the best you can, and always show people you care."

Lou Holtz

Read more at: https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/lou_holtz_629648?src=t_rules

St Patrick's School Allora— Newsletter

School News

Stop the Spread—While there are no confirmed cases of Covid 19 in our immediate area, developments south of our state border are a reminder of the importance of good practices to ensure everyone's safety. These practices include; social distancing (school children are exempt in the school grounds); good hand hygiene—hand washing and the use of a sanitizer; keeping yourself and your children at home when feeling unwell; and good coughing and sneezing etiquette—into the elbow.

Principal's Review— Tyronne will be undergoing a review of his leadership at our school on the 25th August. The feedback gathered from this process will inform his professional development for the next four years. Mr Jim Midgely— Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office (TCSO) Director of Teaching and Learning; Mr Marty Savage - Senior Education Leader (TCSO) and Mr Chris Bartlett— Principal Mater Dei Primary; will form the panel visiting our school. On this day the panel will interview parents, staff and community members. A link will be emailed to families for those who would like to provide their feedback on the day (in person, video or telephone option available).

Parent Teacher Interviews—Requested parent-teacher meetings for all students will take place from the 6th week of this term starting on the 17th August. Only those parents/carers who request a meeting or those who have been invited by the teacher will be attending meetings in this week.

Teachers will send home meeting requests in the next week for those parents/carers of students that they need to see. Not receiving one of these requests indicates that your child's learning progress is to the teacher's expectations. However, if you would like to meet with your child's teacher during this week complete the forms that can be accessed via the link emailed yesterday.

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 on 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.

Under 5s Welcome! — Our annual 'Early Years Morning' will be held on the 2nd September. Starting at 9am, all children under 5 and their families/carers are invited to be a part of a morning of fun. Children will be engaged in painting, story readings and a visit from our local Fire and Rescue Officers in their fire truck. The morning is a great opportunity for families to find out more about our school.

Central Downs Gala Days—Each year, children aged 8-12 years participate in two 'Gala Days' at Allora State School. This year children will participate in one Gala Day on the 11th September. Students will choose between soccer, netball or rugby league (9-12yrs only). Students wishing to play league will require a mouth guard. Consent forms will be issued in the coming weeks. Unfortunately, due to the current Covid 19 restrictions, only school staff and those parents enlisted to assist on the day will be allowed to attend.



DATE CLAIMERS

- **17th August** - Parent/Teacher Meetings begin
- **19th August** - P&F Meeting (through Zoom video link up - see invite in emails coming soon)
- **25th August**—Principal's Review
- **2nd September** - 'Early Years Morning', 9-11am - all under 5's and their families are welcome.
- **3rd September** - St Patrick's Athletics Carnival. Information out soon.
- **4th September** - **School Closed** Planning & Professional Learning Day.
- **7th September** - Prep Enrolment Interviews begin - Click [here](#) to arrange.
- **11th September**— Central Downs Gala Day (League, Netball and Soccer).
- **11th September**—Under 8's Day (TBC)
- **17th September**— Term 3 Ends
- **17th September**—Assumption College Transition Day
- **18th September** - **School Closed** Professional Development of Staff
- **6 October**—Term 4 Starts