

ST BRIGID'S NEWSLETTER

WEEK 5

TERM 3

2025

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is hard to believe that we are already halfway through this term! Time seems to be flying by as we continue to share in the joy of learning, growing, and celebrating together as a school community.

Last week, I had the absolute privilege of accompanying our Year 6 students on their camp to the beautiful Magnetic Island. This experience was not only a wonderful opportunity to immerse ourselves in the natural beauty of Queensland, but it also provided our students with a chance to develop invaluable leadership and team-building skills.

We were also blessed to have seven students from Our Lady of the Sacred Heart (OLSH) in Springsure join us on this journey. It was heart-warming to witness the friendships that blossomed between our students and theirs, as they worked together, encouraged one another, and truly embodied the spirit of teamwork.



Throughout the camp, I was incredibly proud of the way our students conducted themselves. Their behaviour exemplified respect, kindness, and a willingness to learn. They embraced every challenge with enthusiasm and determination. Whether it was navigating group tasks, exploring the island, or participating in hands-on activities, they showed leadership qualities that will serve them well in the future.

A camp of this nature would not be possible without the dedication and support of our staff. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Mrs Carew and Mr Senini, who gave so generously of their time and energy to attend the camp with us. Their guidance and care ensured that every student felt supported and safe throughout the trip.

As we continue through the term, I encourage everyone in our school community to reflect on the importance of teamwork and leadership in our daily lives. Just as our Year 6 students demonstrated on camp, we all have the ability to work together to create a positive and uplifting environment where everyone can thrive.

Warm regards,

Tegan Green

Principal

FROM THE A.P.R.E

Catholic Education Week

Catholic Education Week was a rich celebration of faith, hope and love at our Catholic school. Thank you to the students and parents who donated to our faith community of St Patrick's Parish and contribute in a small way to the valuable work they do for our local area.

You may have noticed our new installation in the round meeting room window. This was a vision for a few years as we looked to celebrate St Brigid's role in bringing the message of Jesus and the Catholic faith to the young people in the Emerald community. Thanks must go to Jaslyn from Designer Stained Glass for her time, vision and beautiful craftsmanship.

During Catholic Education Week, our staff and students were invited to reflect and analyse the artwork and make meaning from the symbols, colours and textures. I was blown away with the connections that were made. Catholic education in 2025 is very much about making our own meaning as we bring forward our personal and cultural experiences when we hear, see or feel examples of faith around us, and the student responses below are a true reflection of this.

- ~ The cotton might represent life and death because cotton starts as a seed then grows into a pretty flower, then the flower dies and grows again into the cotton. This represents that Jesus grew and shared the Word of God, almost like cotton seeds, then died then came back to life Year 5 student.
- ~ Cotton grows on the side of the road so it can symbolise following Jesus' footsteps, or the sunflower follows the sun just like we follow in Jesus' footsteps. - Year 5 student
- ~ The sun could represent the bright actions Jesus made Year 5 student

 The cross is in the middle and the sunflowers and cotton are on different sides so it kind
 of represents life and death Year 5 student
- ~ The cotton could represent the clothes that Jesus gave people when they were cold or had no clothes Year 5 student
- ~ Jesus' Masterpiece Year 1 student
- ~ The Rainbow Glass Year 1 student









CURRICLUM NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers.

What a joy it has been to see the enthusiasm and hard work from our students so far this term. Whether it's in the classroom, on the sports field, or in creative pursuits, our learners continue to amaze us with their energy and dedication. A heartfelt thank you to you, our families, for the encouragement and support you give every single day —it makes all the difference.

As we head into the busy second half of the term, we want to help our students avoid the dreaded "end-of-term crash." One of the most effective ways to do this is by establishing healthy routines that prioritise **good nutrition**, regular exercise, and plenty of quality sleep.

A simple, calming **bedtime routine** can work wonders. Try:

- 1. Getting into pyjamas
- 2. Brushing teeth
- 3. Reading a book together

When reading with your child, you might:

- Take turns reading a page each
- Pause to ask, "What do you think might happen next?"
- Discuss how a character might be feeling and why
- Connect the story to your child's own experiences "Have you ever felt like that?"

This routine isn't just about improving literacy—it's a beautiful opportunity to strengthen your bond with your child. Consistency in this time together can rapidly boost both **attitudes towards reading** and **reading ability**. And remember, this works just as well when your child is reading to you—listening carefully and asking them questions will help deepen their understanding and enjoyment.

We're looking forward to an exciting finish to the term, with ICAS testing, the Steven Bell/Josh Hannay Rugby League event, and of course, the mighty StoryFest still to come. Thank you for being such vital partners in your child's learning journey—we couldn't do it without you.

Warm regards,

Mr Francey

SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Hours (Term Time Only)

Tuesday afternoon 2:00pm - 4:30pm

Thursday morning 8:00am - 10:00am

Email: stbrigids@wearitto.com.au

TUCKSHOP

Every Friday
Orders close 10am Thursday

Wednesday- Subway
Orders close Wednesday 8am



LIBRARY NEWS

Book Week!!!

In Week 6 on Wednesday the 20th August we will hold our annual Book Week Parade! Book Week is an initiative of the CBCA (The Children's Book Council of Australia) to celebrate Australian children's literature. Our main event is the costume parade where we invite students and staff to dress up as their favourite book characters and join in the fun. It's always a fantastic event with lots of amazing costumes on show. Costumes can be as simple as wearing your own weekend clothes as long as they represent a character from a book. Using or recycling items from around the house to express your creativity is strongly encouraged. We can't wait to see everyone's amazing costumes on parade day! For more information about book week, please follow the link below.

https://cbca.org.au/childrens-book-week/





Book Week is coming!



Our annual Book Week Parade will be held in Week 6 on Wednesday the 20th August. Students and staff are invited to dress up as their favourite book characters and join in the fun.



Premier's Reading Challenge

Premier's Reading Challenge forms have gone home with each student. All the instructions are on the form and will need to be returned to school by Monday 25th August. Extra forms can be collected from the library. For more information about the challenge you can click the following link.

https://readingchallenge.education.qld.gov.au/

If you have any enquiries, please email me. Kristy_strong@rok.catholic.edu.au

Happy Reading!

Mrs Strong

UPCOMING EVENTS

TERM 3

- Wednesday 16th July Friday 18h July Challenge Cup
- Wednesday 23rd July NAIDOC Mass with Bishop Michael
- Thursday 24th & Friday 25th July CH Athletics
- Sunday 27th July Sat 2nd August Catholic Education Week
- Tuesday 29th July Whole School Mass led by 6S
- Monday 4th Aug Friday 8th August Year 6 Camp
- Tuesday 12th Thursday 14th August Think U Know presentation to Years 4, 5 and 6
- Monday 18th August Dr Dan Pronk parent information session - The Resilience Shield (Marist College)
- Saturday 23rd & Sunday 24th August First Holy Communion
- Friday 5th September Pupil Free Day
- Monday 8th Sept Friday 12th Sept Parent Teacher Interview week
- Monday 8th Sept Friday 12th Sept Student Protection Week
- Monday 15th Sept & Tuesday 16th Sept Storyfest
- Friday 19th Sept Last Day of Term 3

STUDENT PROTECTION

At St Brigid's any concerns or reasonable suspicions about a student's safety and wellbeing or the behaviour of a staff member or volunteer which a student considers to be inappropriate, will continue to be managed in accordance with Rockhampton Catholic Education Student Protection Processes.

The Student Protection Contacts at St Brigid's are:

Mrs Tegan Green - Principal Mrs Meaghan Tucker - APRE Mrs Josephine Carew - Year 6 Teacher Mr Michael Smale - Counsellor

Further information about Rockhampton Catholic Education's commitment to Student Protection is available on the link below.

https://www.rok.catholic.edu.au/our-schools/student-protection/





CHALLENGE CUP NETBALL - 2025

In the latter half of week 1 of this term, Miss Marks and myself had the privilege to attend the 2025 Challenge Cup carnival in Yeppoon as joint netball coaches.

We had a very successful first day of competition with three very convincing wins against Western Wave, St Anne's Sarina and Sacred Heart (3) Yeppoon having a 86 to 8 for and against. Day two started with another win against St Joseph's Mackay 30 – 4. Our next game was against eventually runner-ups St Benedict's Yeppoon (1) team and we started strong having a small lead at half-time. With some goals that didn't sink and great team work by St Benedict's we went down 23 – 18.

Our next game was against home town rivals, St Patrick's. St Patrick's played extremely well and we couldn't take a break and at half-time we were down 6 nil. The game was still there for the taking and we sunk two quick goals to close the gap. St Patrick's continued with their great teamwork and the final score was 12 - 4. The girls had one final game for the day against Emmanuel Mackay and they dug deep to take the win 13 - 10.

We finished third in our pool of eight teams and this meant we played against St Mary's Rockhampton on Friday to gain a position in the Plate Grand final. A determined defensive effort led by Grace Grant and some amazing shooting by Heidi Herman and Maggy Adams secured the win 17 – 7. We then faced off against St Mary's Mackay and despite not winning the vital centre pass at the start of the game, we scored the first goal which can determine the eventual winner if there is a draw.



In last year's Shield final we missed scoring the first goal and St Patrick's Bundaberg got the Shield with a 16 – 16 draw, St Brigid's went into the break with a small lead but St Mary's knew they were still within reach. Both teams wanted the win and that vital first goal came to fruition and we were awarded winners with a 11 – 11 draw at the final whistle.

The nine netballers below represented our school with pride and showed great sportsmanship being gracious in defeat and humble in success.





CHALLENGE CUP RUGBY LEAGUE - 2025

A recent highlight on the school calendar was the annual Challenge Cup Rugby League and Netball Carnival. Mr Hay and I had the pleasure of coaching the Rugby League team, and we were delighted with the growth across our season. The team played with incredible determination, aggression and intensity, outcompeting teams with far greater physical attributes. The team finished second in their pool, progressing to the Cup Division for the second time in our school's history. We finished the carnival with five wins, two losses and a draw on our way to 8th place overall. As a school, we should be incredibly proud of this group of young men and the way they displayed the very best of St Brigid's throughout the carnival. Defence, line speed and intensity are in this groups DNA and they have set an incredibly high standard for every group of players following them to aspire to.







WESTERN 7'S RUGBY UNION - 2025

On Friday 1st August 12 students in year 5 and 6 played in the Western 7's Rugby Union gala day at McIndoe Park in the Under 12 division and won the first ever championship flag for St Brigid's.

We were very lucky to have two assistant coaches from The Glennie School, Charlotte and Claudia volunteer to help our team for the day's competition. Our day started with a convincing win over Emerald North State School 35 – 0 with tries to Thomas Pulford, Braxtyn Gray, Jarrod Jensen and Cooper Gledhill.

Our second game was a much tighter affair and we went down 15 – 10 to Blackwater North State School. In the warm-up before our third game, our two assistant coaches, Charlotte and Claudia, taught the team a rucking drill that they could do to gain possession of the ball by working as team of two.

Our third game was another tightly contested game against St Anthony's Rockhampton but we used our newly learnt skill so effectively that we were able to secure the win 10 - 5. This gave us two wins and one loss and a good for and against. Once the other two pools games had finished all teams were ranked from 1st to 12th.

St Brigid's with a good for and against ended in the 3rd overall position and had to play the 2nd overall team in the semi-final which was Blackwater North State School, the team we had narrowly lost to earlier in the day. Again, after a great warm up and some focus activities led by Charlotte and Claudia, the boys came out firing in the first half to be up 20 nil. In our half-time chat we said we needed to keep the momentum moving forward as the game was not won yet. The Blackwater side came back very strong in the second half, scoring three tries in quick succession before a massive tackle and steal from game captain, Jonathan Butler and a 40 metre run to secure the win on the buzzer which put us in front by 10 and into the Grand Final. We won the Semi-Final 25 – 15 against Blackwater North State School.

We then had to wait an hour for the Grand Final. Another great warm up with some motivation music pumping through the boombox and a dance circle to lighten up the moment, the team were ready for the final game of the day. In a game where our nerves were tested with five back to back penalties and a yellow card to one of our players we went into the halftime break ahead by one try. We started a player down for the first minute of the second half. Both teams gave their all in attack and defence before a gutsy performance by captain of that game, Braxtyn Gray. He showed sheer determination to break their defensive line and score with his speed. We won the Grand Final 15 – 10 against Capella State School.

A huge thanks to Charlotte and Claudia from The Glennie School for their assistance throughout the day and sharing their knowledge and expertise on Rugby 7's with us.



YEAR 6 CAMP - MAGNETIC ISLAND



































