

ST BRIGID'S NEWSLETTER

WEEK 5

TERM 2

2025

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

It has certainly been a busy and exciting few weeks here at school, with a number of important events and activities keeping us all on our toes! From parent information sessions, P&F discos, school photos and excursions – there has been no shortage of opportunities to connect, engage and celebrate our school community.

A sincere thank you to those parents who were able to attend the Think U Know information session last week. It was an incredibly relevant and practical evening, offering valuable insights into the ever-evolving world of technology and how it impacts our children. One of the key messages was the importance of building open, honest and trusting relationships around the use of technology. Rather than focusing solely on restrictions or bans, the session encouraged us to work alongside our children—taking time to understand the games and apps they are using. This approach helps reduce secrecy and builds stronger partnerships between parents and children. If you were unable to attend and would like more information, I encourage you to visit the Think U Know website for helpful resources.



Friday night's P&F Disco was an absolute success! A heartfelt thank you to all of the students and families who came along to support our P&F and enjoy a fun evening together. We are grateful to the dedicated staff and parent volunteers who assisted with set-up, food service and pack-up—your time and effort are greatly appreciated. A special thank you must also go to our Year 6 students, who did a fantastic job helping prepare the music and running the games throughout the night. It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces and a true sense of community spirit.

Looking ahead, students will soon begin competing in distance running and selected track and field events in the lead-up to our Athletics Carnival. Please ensure you have read the communication from Mr Francey and submitted nominations by the due date.

Finally, a reminder that I will be away from the end of Week 7 through to the middle of Week 10. During this time, if you have any questions or concerns, please speak with your child's classroom teacher in the first instance, or contact the leadership team to arrange a meeting if needed.

Thank you all once again for your continued support of our school – it is through working together that we create such a positive and nurturing learning environment for our children.

Warm regards,

Tegan Green

Principal

FROM THE A.P.R.E

Welcome Pope Leo XIV

Earlier this month, we woke to the news that there is a new leader of the Catholic Church, Pope Leo, XIV. "Peace be with all of you," he said in his first address to the faithful. He urges Catholics to "move forward, without fear, united, hand in hand with God and with each other".

Pope Leo brings a wealth of experience to the Church and, like his namesake, Pope Leo XIII, is passionate about social justice and compassion.

We pray for Pope Leo XIV with hearts full of hope. May the Holy Spirit guide him always.



Blessed Carlo Acutis: An Inspiration for the Digital Age

Carlo Acutis was born in 1991 and died in 2006 at just 15 years old after a battle with leukaemia. He was born in London to Italian parents but moved back to Italy when he was only a few months old. Although his parents were Catholic, they did not practice regularly, however, this did not stop Carlo from developing a deep interest in the faith. Carlo was compassionate, kind, and selfless in his short lifetime, guided by the message of Jesus.

Like many young boys, Carlo enjoyed video games and was intrigued by computers and technology. At around 11 years old, Carlo taught himself computer coding and technology skills, leading him to catalogue Eucharistic miracles from all over the world. After his death on October 12, 2006, he was buried in Assisi.

In 2018, Pope Francis declared Carlo "Venerable." His first miracle was attributed to him in 2013 when a young Brazilian boy was healed after praying to Carlo. Carlo was beatified in 2020 after another miracle was recognised. He is on the path to being canonised and will be known as "the first millennial saint" because he is the first of the millennial generation to be beatified. Because of his interest in computers and Eucharistic miracles, he is also known as "the patron saint of the Internet."

For further details, you can read more about Carlo Acutis on <u>Britannica</u>. Encyclopaedia Britannica. (n.d.). Carlo Acutis. In <u>Encyclopaedia Britannica</u>. Retrieved from https://www.britannica.com/biography/Carlo-Acutis

Before he died, Carlo put together a Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition, which has travelled around the world in recent years. This exhibition will be at **St Patrick's Church from Saturday**, **24 May to Monday**, **26 May**. This will be the first time the exhibition and a relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis has been to Queensland. **St Brigid's School will lead Mass on Saturday**, **24 May at 6 pm to mark this special event**, and some of our classes will travel to the church to see the **exhibition**.

How wonderful it is that in this time, there is a young Catholic person who had an interest in technology like many of our children. May Blessed Carlo inspire young people in Emerald and all over the world to be people of faith, spreading the message of Jesus in interesting new ways.

I hope to see some of our students and families at Mass on Saturday evening.

God Bless Meaghan Tucker

CURRICLUM NEWS

Dear St Brigid's Families,

As we move through Term 2 at St Brigid's, I want to take a moment to celebrate the fantastic efforts and achievements of our students so far. Classrooms have been buzzing with energy, curiosity, and a strong sense of purpose. From literacy leaps to mathematical breakthroughs, it's been a joy to witness the growth and commitment of our learners.

A special congratulations to the student who represented our school at the recent STEM Challenge at the Outback Exploratorium. Their teamwork, creative thinking, and problem-solving skills were truly impressive and showcased the spirit of excellence we nurture here at St Brigid's.

As we approach the mid-point of the term, it's also a good time to reflect on the importance of healthy routines. Quality sleep, balanced nutrition, and regular movement are key ingredients for sustained learning and wellbeing. The habits we build now will pay off when energy levels dip later in the term.

Reading is a priority at St Brigid's and you can support this at home. Even something as simple as reading a book to or with your child before bed can have powerful academic and emotional benefits. It's a small ritual that strengthens relationships, supports literacy, and helps everyone unwind at the end of the day.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support. Let's keep working together to help our children thrive.

Mr Francey

LIBRARY NEWS

National Simultaneous Storytime

'The Truck Cat' by Deborah Frenkel is this year's book for National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS). Each year we sit after first lunch in the MPA and listen to Mrs Strong read the story. For more information about NSS you can visit https://www.alia.org.au/nss.



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

Happy Reading!

Mrs Strong

GRIEVANCES

At St Brigid's, our teachers and staff are committed to working in the best interests of every student. Each day, they dedicate themselves to supporting the wellbeing, safety, and educational growth of the children in our care.

We understand that from time to time, concerns may arise. In these instances, there is a clear and respectful grievance process that must be followed. This begins with addressing any concerns directly with the classroom teacher in an appropriate and respectful manner. Should the matter remain unresolved, parents are encouraged to make a time to speak with a member of the leadership team.

At no point is it appropriate to use social media platforms to raise or discuss grievances (even anonymously), nor to reference staff members or individual classes. Such actions are not in line with the values of our school community and can cause unnecessary harm and misunderstanding.

Please also note that the school does not support the creation or use of "class" social media or messenger groups. All official communication, including notices and updates, is distributed through the school app, email and Seesaw. If you have any questions or require further information, we encourage you to contact us through these approved channels. If any unofficial social media groups have been created, we remind families that the use of the school name or logo in group names or images is not permitted.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we continue to work together in partnership, supporting each other for the benefit of all students.

To view the full Grievance Policy, please click the link: St Brigid's Grievance Policy

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







School Fees Explained



The Federal Government "School Resource Standard (SRS)" funding model determines State and Federal Government funding to all schools in Australia.

- For Non-Government schools, the SRS model also identifies each School community's means-tested "Capacity to Contribute (CTC)" through School Fees.
- Unlike many Non-Government schools, Catholic Education -Diocese of Rockhampton (CEDR) schools minimise School fees by delivering education to students within the SRS.

School funding formula for all schools in Australia

→"School Fees"

Base Funding

Primary Student = \$13,977 Secondary Student = \$17,565 (2025)

Loadings

Additional funding for six types of students and schools in priority cohorts. **Student disadvantage:** Indigeneity, Disability, Socio-Educational, Low-English Proficiency. **School disadvantage:** Size and Location.

Capacity to Contribute

% of base funding that **Non-Government schools** must **raise privately**, ranging from 10% to 80%, depending on the median income of parents at the school.

School Resource Standard (SRS)

Per student funding is calculated on the unique characteristics of each school, its parents and its students.

Source: National Catholic Education Commission 2023

Examples of how CTC impacts School Fees

Where CTC of School community = 90, school fees contribute 10% of the base SRS

18% State Govt Grant Funding

72%
Federal Government Grant Funding

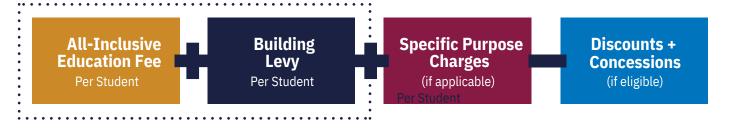
10% School Fees

Where CTC of School community = 105, school fees contribute 25.5% (primary) or 36.25% (college) of the base SRS

State Govt Primary (14.9%) College (12.75%) Federal Government Primary (59.6%) College (51%) School Fees Primary (25.5%) College (36.25%)

How are School fees presented in CEDR schools?

School fees are presented as one **All-Inclusive Education fee**, that delivers the curriculum offering of the School, rather than a tuition fee PLUS several School-based levies and charges.



Base SRS

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Wednesday 21st and Thursday 22nd May Regional League Stars (after school sessions - registration required) 3:00 - 4:30
- Thursday 22nd May Prep Vision screeners
- · Thursday 22nd May EDSS Cricket trials
- Friday 23rd May Year 5 mass St Patrick's church
- Week 6 National Reconcilation Week
- Monday 26th May National Sorry Day
- · Monday 26th May CAP Union trials
- Friday 30th May Year 6 and Prep mass St Patrick's church
- Wednesday 4th June SHOW HOLIDAY
- Friday 6th June Athletics Carnival
- Wednesday 11th June School Officers Day
- Wednesday 11th June P&F meeting 5:00pm
- Friday 13th June Readers Cup
- Friday 13th June Year 1 mass St Patrick's church
- Friday 13th June EDSS Track & Field
- Saturday 14th Confirmation ceremony
- Sunday 15th June Year 6 Avalon
- Tuesday 17th June Mass led by 2P 12:00pm MPA
- Week 10 Footsteps Dance (daily)
- Friday 27th June NAIDOC Prayer assembly led by 1P
- · Friday 27th June Footsteps dance concert
- Friday 27th June Last Day Term 2
- Friday 27th June report cards can be accessed from 3:00pm on Parent Lounge or through Orbit.



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 - Assistant
Principal – Religious Education
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/

P&FASSOCIATION





CHAMPIONS OF THE WEEK

WEEK 2 - TERM 2

Prep Blue - Evelyn

1M - Jaxon

2P - Akyrah

3P - Mackenzie

4H - Hayden

5C - Nick

6C - Grace.S

Perfect Performer - Gracie-Leigh (Year 1)

Prep Red - Maisy

1P - Evelyn.B

2J - Reece

3I - Reid

4R - Skye

5S - Mollie

6S - Maggie.A

Awesome Athlete - Meredith (Year 4)

WEEK 3 - TERM 2

Prep Blue - Karter

1M - Macie

2P - Elsie

3P - Ruby

4H - Aliza

5C - Leo

6C - Charlotte.H

Prep Red - Angus

1P - Kacey

2J - Byron

3I - Matthew

4R - Theo

5S - Lucy

6S - Charlie

Perfect Preformer - Isabelle.S (Prep) Awesome Athlete - Lane (Year 2)



Athletics Carnival Friday 6th June







An opportunity for you and your children to meet the staff at St Brigid's Catholic Kindergarten is being offered Monday 16 June from 3:15pm – 4:30pm.

RSVP: kindergarten@rok.catholic.edu.au Please include your name and your child's name



Year 1 Living Historians Exhibition













more than just a school...