



ST BRIGID'S
Catholic Primary School
EMERALD

ST BRIGID'S NEWSLETTER

WEEK 2

TERM 2

2025

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

As we begin Term 2, our school community joins the world in mourning the recent passing of Pope Francis. A humble servant and advocate for peace, justice, and compassion, Pope Francis leaves behind a powerful legacy of hope and love. In honour of his memory, I share with you this short reflection:

"Rivers do not drink their own water; trees do not eat their own fruit. The sun does not shine for itself, and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature." – Pope Francis

We pray:

Loving God, we thank you for the life and leadership of Pope Francis. May his gentle wisdom and deep faith continue to inspire us to walk with humility, serve with love, and lead with hope. Amen.



Term 2 promises to be an exciting and active time in our school calendar. Students will have the opportunity to engage in a variety of extra-curricular activities including the upcoming STEM excursion, the much-loved P&F Disco, our Athletics Carnival, and the Footsteps Dance Program – just to name a few! A full calendar of Term 2 events can be found later in this newsletter, so please take a moment to mark important dates.

I would also like to inform you that I will be away for two periods throughout this term. In Week 3, I will be participating in a professional training course, followed by a Professional Renewal Program from 6th June to 24th June. During my absence, Mrs Meaghan Tucker and Mr Mark Francey will be available to support students, staff, and families. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to them.

Wishing all of our students and families a joyful, productive and faith-filled Term 2. Let's continue to work together in creating a vibrant and nurturing learning environment for all.

Warm regards,

Tegan Green

Principal



FROM THE A.P.R.E

Many of the symbols of Easter represent new life and gratitude, offering us a chance to reset and renew our lives. I hope the Easter school holidays were a time of rest and recharge for you as we head into a very busy Term 2.

We begin the term with the sad news of Pope Francis' passing. Pope Francis guided our Church with humility, compassion, and unwavering faith. He dedicated his life to the service of God and continually challenged us to care for creation, the poor, and the marginalized. He was not just a man of words but a man of action—as we saw through his visits to prisons, the sick, and the outcast.

On Easter Sunday, the day before he died, Pope Francis shared these words in his final Easter message:

"Christ is risen!

These words capture the entire meaning of our existence, for we were not made for death but for life."

May we continue to be inspired by the good work of Pope Francis.

Eternal rest grant unto Francis, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen

There are many opportunities this term for our community to join together for prayer. Parents will be advised of dates and time via classroom Seesaw notices, Facebook and the Orbit calendar. You are more than welcome and I hope to see you there.

God Bless

Meaghan Tucker

St Patrick's Parish Mass Times
Cnr Anakie and Ruby St Emerald
Saturday 6pm
Sunday 8am
All Welcome

CURRICULUM NEWS

Dear St Brigid's Families,

Welcome back to Term 2! We are already feeling the positive energy and excitement from our wonderful students, and it's a joy to see them return to school with such enthusiasm. This term promises to be full of amazing opportunities for our students to shine, with highlights such as the STEM competition in Week 3, the Athletics Carnival in Week 6, and a variety of other exciting activities across the school.

As we continue to foster a thriving learning environment, we want to highlight the critical role that the home environment plays in preparing our students for success. Consistent routines, such as regular bedtimes, mealtimes, and designated times for homework and reading, are key to helping students feel focused and ready to engage each day. We understand that establishing and maintaining these routines can be challenging, and it's important to remember that they won't always be perfect – but they do make a world of difference in how students present at school.

We'd also like to encourage you to shift the way you ask your child about their day. Instead of the usual "How was your day?", try asking, "What went well today?" This small change can help your child reflect on the positive aspects of their day and promote a sense of wellbeing and a more optimistic attitude towards school.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Together, we can make Term 2 a time of growth, learning, and success for all our students.

Mr Francey

Parent Information Session

Think U Know, developed by the Australian Federal Police around online safety, addressing crucial topics such as:

- Privacy,
- Inappropriate contact, and
- Help-seeking behaviours.



Register through
Google Forms,
link below



REGISTER NOW



Tuesday 13th May
St Brigid's Meeting Room
5:30pm – 6:30pm
Light refreshments provided

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



**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

CLICK HERE



How is Education funded in Australia?

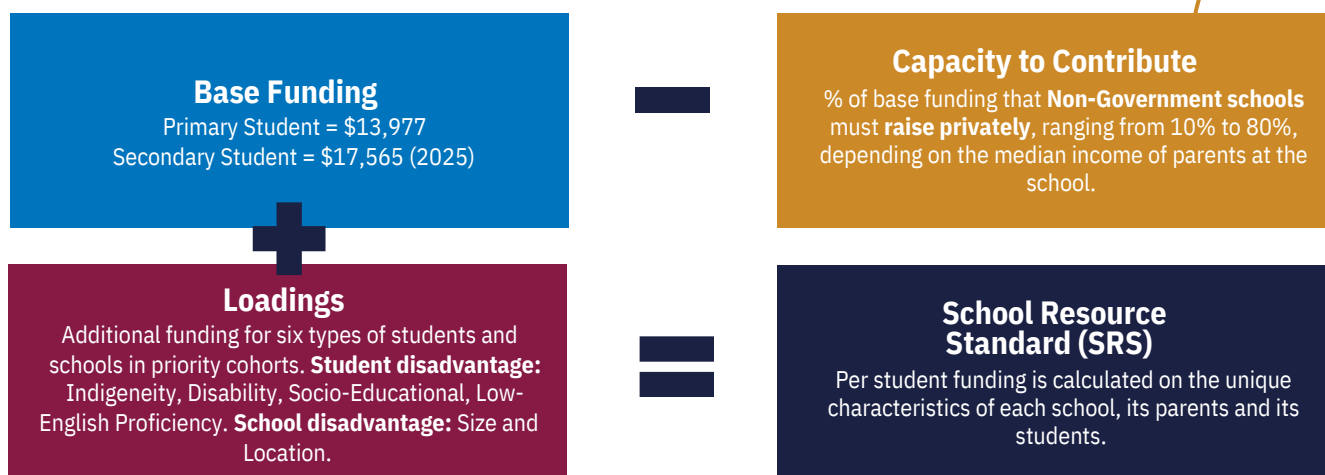


The Federal Government “School Resource Standard (SRS)” funding model determines State and Federal Government funding to all schools in Australia.

- 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

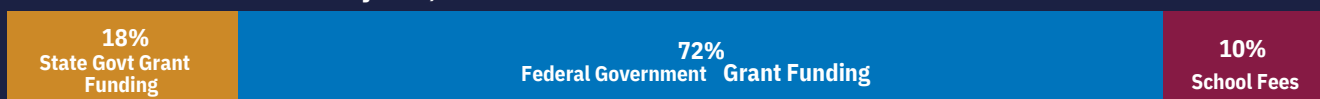
“School Fees”



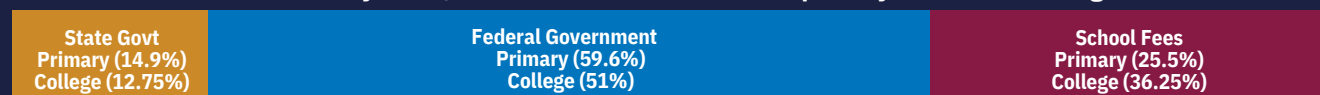
Source: National Catholic Education Commission 2023

Examples of how CTC impacts School Fees

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



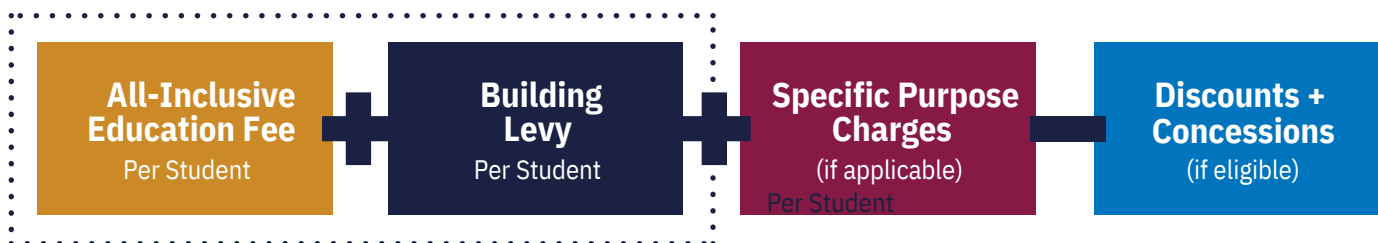
Where CTC of School community = 105, school fees contribute 25.5% (primary) or 36.25% (college) of the base SRS



Base SRS

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.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Friday 2nd May - CHSS Cross Country
- Friday 2nd May - Yr 3 & 4, Mass St Patrick's Church
- Monday 5th May - PUBLIC HOLIDAY
- **Tuesday 6th May - Friday 9th May: Mother's Day Stall**
8:15am - 8:30am & 2:45pm - 3:10pm
- Tuesday 6th May - Year 6 leaders Mayoral Summit (Springsure)
- Thursday 8th May - Mother's Day assembly led by Prep Red
- Thursday 8th May - STEM excursion (Outback Exploratorium)
- Friday 9th May - Festival of Bands performance
- Friday 9th May - League Star development sessions (Years 4 & 5)
- Sunday 11th May - Mother's Day
- Monday 12th May - Year 4-6: Evolution Archery
- Tuesday 13th May - Mass led by 4R 12:00pm MPA
- Tuesday 13th May - P&F Parent Information session: Think U Know 5:30 - 6:30
- Thursday 15th May - School Photos (no assembly)
- Friday 16th May - Year 2 mass St Patricks church
- Friday 16th May - P&F school disco 5:00 - 7:00
- Sunday 18th May - 5C Avalon
- 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 Reconciliation 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 & F ASSOCIATION

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

CLICK HERE



CHAMPIONS OF THE WEEK

WEEK 10 (TERM 1)

Prep Blue - Macie

1M - Elias

2P - Caleb

3P - Armarni

4H - Ivy.S

5C - Toby

6C - Maxwell

Prep Red - Aavni

1P - Lucy

2J - Selena

3I - Kalina

4R - Amaris

5S - Kip

6S - Bailey

Music Maestro - Noah (Year 4)

Awesome Athlete - Charlie (Year 5)

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>.



Book Fair – Week 4 12-16 May

Book Fair is like having our very own book shop at school! There will be lots of books and of course stationery items available to buy. Purchasing at Book Fair earns our school reward points and these points are used to buy new books for our school library. Dates and Times will be coming soon and be on the lookout for a competition to win a Book Fair voucher!

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

Happy Reading!

Mrs Strong

**"THE MORE THAT YOU READ, THE MORE THINGS YOU WILL KNOW.
THE MORE YOU LEARN, THE MORE PLACES YOU'LL GO."
DR. SEUSS**

Screen time

We hope that you all had an enjoyable and restful holiday and long-weekend. As we help our students ease back into their school routines and ready them for another busy term, we wanted to raise an important topic for discussion: How much screen time does your child have?

Today's children have grown up with a vast array of electronic devices at their fingertips and today's parents are the first generation who have to figure out how to limit screen time for children. While digital devices can provide endless hours of entertainment and educational content, unlimited screen time can be harmful to children. Research shows that children who usually spend more than 2 hours a day on electronic devices are more likely to struggle with emotional, social, behavioural, and attention problems. Other negative factors that can be linked with excessive screen time can include obesity, sleep problems, and educational struggles.



It is not uncommon to notice that during the school holidays this amount of time may increase, which can sometimes make the adjustment back into normal routines more difficult for children. Therefore, we believe that understanding these negative effects and knowing some helpful tips may assist in making any necessary changes to help promote good mental health for children.

Some useful tips to help manage this are:

- Establish no-tech zones (e.g: dinner table, while eating, bedrooms and bathrooms).
- Enforce the 20/20/20 rule to reduce risks of eye damage (e.g.: for every 20 minutes of screen time, you should look at something that is 20 feet (approx. 6 meters) away for 20 seconds).
- Encourage time outdoors and away from screens. Ensure all screens are switched off at least 60 – 90 minutes before bedtime.
- Don't use screen time as a reward or punishment.
- Consider implementing an occasional digital detox for the whole family. Create a screen-free night once a week or one weekend a month. This could be good for everyone's physical and emotional health and can help improve family relationships.

Miss Galloway & Mr Smale

Kelsey Galloway - Kelsey_Galloway@rok.catholic.edu.au

Michael Smale - Michael_Smale@rok.catholic.edu.au





**Our Mother's Day Stall
is coming up in
Week 3 (May 6–9)
and we need volunteers
to help our students
pick the perfect gift for
their mums!**

**Just 20–30 minutes
before or after school
can make a BIG
difference.**

**Volunteers
needed**



Thanks for supporting our school community!

**#MothersDayStall #SchoolVolunteers #PAndFEvent
#SupportOurSchool #WeLoveOurMums**

2025 HARMONY DAY

On Wednesday, 19th March St Brigid's celebrated our first Harmony Day Concert. Harmony Day is a special time for us to recognise and celebrate the incredible cultural diversity that makes our school – and Australia – so vibrant and unique. We were fortunate to have Marist College students join us, and together we enjoyed cultural dances from our First Nations, Filipino and Zimbabwean friends. Our St Brigid's students presented a cultural fashion parade, video presentation about their countries of origin and our school choir led us in a heartfelt rendition of "We are Australian". A special thanks to all our parents who helped gather costumes, assisted with slideshow presentations, cooked traditional foods for our students to enjoy, or talked to our classrooms about their countries. We all learnt a lot and we look forward to celebrating Harmony Day again next year!



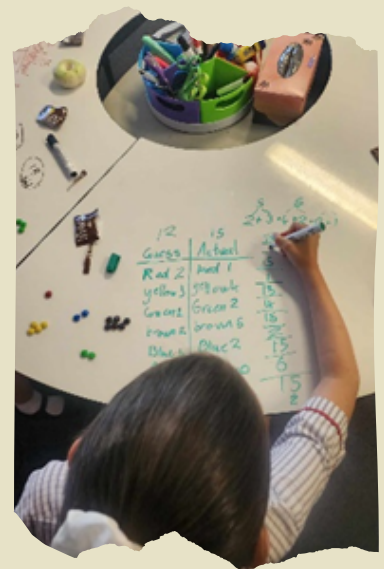
AROUND THE SCHOOL

Year 4 Kicks Off the Term with a Sweet Start to Fractions! 🍬

This term, Year 4 students are diving into the world of fractions—and what better way to get started than with M&Ms! Using these colourful treats, students have been exploring concepts like equal parts, halves, quarters, and tenths in a hands-on (and tasty!) way.

By sorting, grouping, and sharing M&Ms, students are gaining a concrete understanding of how fractions work in real life. This engaging activity not only helped bring maths to life but also sparked plenty of excitement and teamwork in the classroom.

It's shaping up to be a fun and fruitful term of learning, with many more fraction adventures to come!



more than just a school..