August 25 - Term 3 Week 7

Dear Parents/Carers,

Professional Learning Communities: This year at St Patrick’s we have begun developing the culture necessary for a professional learning community to thrive and improve student learning. For the last two days all of our classroom teachers have been involved in a professional learning experience with leading Professional Learning Community practitioner and author Colin Sloper. Colin’s experience is drawn from his last seven years as Principal at Pakenham Springs Primary School in Victoria, which became the first recognised model of a professional learning community (PLC) in Australia. But what are professional learning communities?

Richard DuFour, one of the world’s leading authorities on this subject, outlines the three guiding principles of professional learning communities. These include; a focus on student learning, collaboration and results.

A focus on student learning means that all students will learn. DuFour highlights a common scenario of schools feeling pressured to move onto the next area of content regardless of the needs of those students who have not gained the necessary skills to move forward in their learning. In identifying the needs of our students DuFour (2004) asks teachers to have these questions embedded in their professional conversations; What do we want each student to learn? How will we know when each student has learned it? How will we respond when a student experiences difficulty in learning? The challenge for schools here is to create a structure that draws on all human and material resources available to fill learning gaps while extending those students that have acquired the knowledge. Rising to this challenge requires collaboration.

DuFour suggests that when a school staff and community collaborates they realise that they must work together to achieve learning for all. “The powerful collaboration that characterizes professional learning communities is a systematic process in which teachers work together to analyze and improve their classroom practice.” Working in teams and asking questions of one another regarding classroom practice based on research proven techniques improves teaching and therefore student learning. Student achievement becomes the work of everyone in the school and the success of our professional learning communities is judged on the basis of student results. Teachers participate in an evolving process of identifying current level of student achievement. Teachers then establish a goal to improve the current level of learning and then work together to achieve that goal before reflecting on student progress. (DuFour, 2004)


School Accreditation- Our 5 year accreditation was conducted on Monday with independent validator; Ms Susan Seaton; and Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office Senior Education Officer; Mr Paul Murphy. Both were very happy with the schools processes, procedures and future planning and wanted to convey their gratitude for the warm welcome they received from staff, students and parents alike during their visit.

‘The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today.’

H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

Read more at: http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/h/hjacksonb382774.html?src=t_inspirational

God Bless

Tyronne Maher
Principal

St Patrick’s School - A Nut Aware School.

We are aware that a child and/or children has/have a severe anaphylactic reaction to peanuts. Parents are requested to be diligent with items

Important for this Week

Book Week Dress Up Tomorrow at assembly

TUCKSHOP
Next Friday
Orders in the Blue Bin
By TUESDAY 11am
NO late orders accepted

Our School Student Protection Contacts:
Miss Donnelly and Mr Maher

Never see a need without doing something about it.”

Children’s Mission Statement: 
Just like Mary MacKillop we use Jesus as our touchstone to try our very best to learn and to care. That is why we show respect to all. We: Speak and act kindly, gently and politely; Keep our hands, feet and objects to ourselves; and Follow directions straight away.

Adult’s Mission Statement: 
Just like Mary MacKillop we use Jesus as our touchstone to provide a learning and caring community. We will strive to ensure that all children develop their gifts spiritually, socially, academically, physically and emotionally to nurture lifelong learning.

St Patrick’s Allora School Newsletter
Celebrating 100 years of Education in 2016

35 Arnold Street (PO Box 47) Allora Qld 4362
Phone: 4666 3551 Email: allora@twb.catholic.edu.au
Website: http://www.allora.catholic.edu.au
Book Week

Book week this week began with our school’s ‘Reader’s Cup’ competition on Monday. Our teacher librarian, Mrs Watkins has reported that the children and teachers had prepared impeccably for the rigor of this annual quiz. Several students have received tuck shop vouchers for their champion efforts. Celebrations continued with the running of the ‘Book Fair’ in our library. Students were pleased with the bargains they were able to purchase with their hard earned pocket money. Thank you to Mrs Flynn (library officer) for coordinating the display and sale of the books. Tomorrow’s book week dress up parade will be conducted before assembly in the undercover area. Costumes will be judged later in the morning on the arrival of our guest judge – Father Rod. We look forward to you coming and sharing in the wonderful costumes that will be paraded.

Author visit

Next week author and illustrator Stephen Axelsen (pictured below) will be visiting the school and talking with the students about his life as an author and illustrator. His latest book ‘The Nelly Gang’ is a graphic novel set in 1859 Victoria and is about an accidental gang of children having adventures, defeating bad people and getting into mischief around the goldfields. We look forward to Stephen’s visit and the inspired work of the students to follow.

Dress up parade for book week: Tomorrow morning—Friday 26th August at 8:40am.
Parish News

Liturgy Times

1st Sunday of Month – Mass 9am

2nd, 3rd Sunday of Month – Mass 5pm (for winter)

4th, 5th Sunday of Month – Liturgy of the Word – 9am

2016 Fete - 21 October
If anyone can assist with donation of / or towards the meat prizes for the Art Union, please contact Roy Nott or any other committee member. Over the decades history of the Fete, these prizes have traditionally and generously been donated by parishioners and school families. As well as one side of the beast being the first prize of Art Union, the second side is the meat used for the BBQ, the Savoury Mince Stall and the Chocolate Wheel Raffles. All of this contributes substantially to the overall profit of the Fete.

All are welcome at the next Fete meeting to be held on Monday 12 September 6.30pm at MacKillop House

Sacramental Preparation 2016
Sarah Brown, Ashlee Henry, Mia McArthur, Georgia Pendergast, Jack Phelan, Aliza Schelbach, Mackenzie Seng and Atticus Sullivan are participating in this year’s Sacramental Program and they are all making great progress in developing their faith. Please keep them in your prayers.

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on Friday 2 September 6:00pm Clifton St James and St John’s Church
For more information contact Ros Hibberd 0409 277 510

Next Meeting- Wednesday 14th September from 7pm in the Library.

Tuckshop Next Week

Friday 2nd September
Orders in the BLUE BIN no later than 11am on Tuesday 30th

August

Sweet Treat—Apple Crumble Muffins $1.00

Last Tuckshop for Term 3
Friday 16th September Sweet Treat baker required, please contact Kirsty Gibson or the school office.

St Patrick’s Church Cleaning

Thank you to Allison Denny for the time she spent cleaning the church last Thursday afternoon, unfortunately no other helpers turned up.

St Patrick’s families are requested to assist with the second round of church cleaning in preparation for First Communion Celebrations (Sunday 4th September). If you are available on the afternoon of Thursday, 1st September then please feel free to lend a hand for just 1 hour after school. There is some cleaning gear at the church but if you have anything that will make the job easier then feel free to bring it along. It is already a well-maintained space but the main duties include:

♦ Dusting/wiping all pews
♦ Cobwebbing windows
♦ Sweeping of porch entrances
♦ Vacuuming floors (vacuum available at school)
♦ Tidying the cry room
♦ Cleaning outside toilets

If you are unable to make it on that date, there is a key held at the school and you can just leave a note with Elizabeth to outline what has been completed. It is everyone’s responsibility to maintain the magnificent standard of this sacred space.

For more information please contact Allison Denny 0419195004.

Diary Date 9am Family Mass Sunday 6th November
**DATE CLAIMERS - 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 29</td>
<td>Prep 2017 interviews begin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 2</td>
<td>Confirmation—6:00pm Clifton St James and St John’s Church.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 4</td>
<td>First Holy Communion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 13</td>
<td>Next Early Years Play Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 14</td>
<td>P&amp;F Meeting 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 16</td>
<td>End of Term 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 4</td>
<td>Start of Term 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 17</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
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<td>Oct 21</td>
<td>FETE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 6</td>
<td>Family Mass 9am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 2</td>
<td>End of Term 4</td>
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**What’s Happening at St Patrick’s Allora?**

**Free 1-2-3 MAGIC® & EMOTION COACHING PARENT COURSE**

A three session program for parents and carers to be held at:

1. St Patrick’s Allora School
   - Location: Warwick Centre - 191 Wood Street
   - Dates: Wednesday 24 August
             Wednesday 31 August
             Wednesday 7 September
   - Time: 6:00pm to 8:00pm

**BushKids Warwick Centre**

Contact: 0466 75 1200

**Spring Fair**

**10th Sept**

- Market Stalls @ 3pm
- Club the Clown
- Jumping Castle
- Show Bags
- Face Painting
- Kids & More
- Food & Beverages
- Ice Cream Van
- Photo Booth

**BIKE GIVE-AWAY**

- Disco Starting @ 6pm
- Tug of War Comp
- Bar Open From 5pm
- Live Music from Marsh
- Multi-Draw Raffle
- Olympian Matt
- Drink Meet 'n' Greet

**Bonza Bike Giveaway**

@ the Allora S.S P&C Spring Fair

10th September

**Drawn on the Day!**

One lucky school-aged girl or boy will win a bike of his/her choice* from Redback Cycles Warwick.

* Donated by Redback Cycles Warwick & The Allora S.S P&C

**Website:** http://www.allora.catholic.edu.au
TUCKSHOP MENU
2016

*Tuckshop will be each Friday fortnight
Orders need to be in by Tuesday of the tuckshop week

AUSSIE HAMBURGER
Homemade meat patty, lettuce, tomato, cheese and beetroot $3.50

PLAIN MEAT PIE $2.50

SAUSAGE ROLL $2.00

MINI PIZZA $1.50
Supreme or Hawaiian

TOASTED HAM, CHEESE AND TOMATO SANDWICH $2.50

HAM or CHICKEN and SALAD WRAP $2.50

*Some gluten free bread options available upon request.

____________________________________________________________________

HOMEBAKED TREAT of the Week (listed in newsletter each week) $1.00

APPLE SLINKY (or bring your own apple to slink) $0.50

PLAIN POTATO CHIPS (Packet) $0.50

PLAIN MILK $1.00

FRUIT POPPER $1.50

____________________________________________________________________

Example of Order on brown paper bag

Orders Due by Tuesday of Tuckshop week.
Orders to be written clearly on a paper bag with Child’s Name and Classroom Name, followed by Items and total cost. The bag, with correct money enclosed, is to be placed in the Tuckshop Blue Bin on the desk in the hallway no later than Tuesday.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Aussie Hamburger</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini Pizza</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treat of the week</td>
<td>.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plain Milk</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL: $7.00