November 10 — Term 4 Week 6

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

“Never see a need without doing something about it.” - Mary MacKillop

Mission—We are an inclusive community committed to high levels of learning for all.

Important for this Week
RSVP tomorrow to the office if coming to the Book Covering morning tea in Library.

Term 4 School Fees
Thank you to families who have promptly paid accounts. Payments are due and can be made by Bank Direct Credit or cash and cheques at the school office.

Our School Student Protection Contacts:
Miss Donnelly and Mr Maher
Feeling Safe
Everyone has the right to feel safe.

Dear Parents,

Supporting Reading Development – As holidays approach it is important to start thinking of ways that we can continue to reinforce and develop the reading skills and strategies that your child has learnt over the course of the year. Seven weeks without reading can lead your child to regress, therefore requiring them to relearn skills as they begin their new year of school.

Research tells us that reading to your child and listening to your child read, from an early age and well into their high school years, is hugely important to the development of this core, lifelong skill.

These reading occasions do not have to be programmed or timetabled. These moments should be part of your everyday interactions. These could include:

- Having your child read a recipe while you cook;
- Talking to them about the book that they are reading and getting their thoughts on the book;
- Reading the signs on a long road trip;
- Reading age appropriate stories from the newspaper;
- Sharing in a laugh over the comics section from the newspaper;
- Joining your local library.

Importantly, your child should see you read. In this way they see how reading is important and how reading is for a range of reasons such as entertainment or gathering information. Please see our teachers for any further advice regarding reading development.

Diabetes awareness day – Next Monday the 14th of November is World Diabetes Day. Diabetes effects many people from across our community. In support of those in our community and as a way of raising awareness children are encouraged to wear something blue on their uniform. This could be a blue scarf, hair band, socks, ribbon shoes or shoelaces. According to the International Diabetes Foundation, Type 2 Diabetes in particular, goes largely undiagnosed. The message this year; ‘Eyes on Diabetes’; is a prompt for all of us to be screened by our general practitioner. The day is about raising awareness for the many people and their families that live with diabetes every day. Your child may come home on Monday with a blue circle on their cheek – the international symbol for diabetes awareness since 2007.

God Bless
Tyronne Maher
Principal

“Health is the greatest gift, contentment the greatest wealth, faithfulness the best relationship.”

Buddha

Read more at: http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/b/buddha140966.html?
src=t_inspirational

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November 10 — Term 4 Week 6

School News

Swimming – Swimming lessons will begin next Thursday and will continue through to the following Thursday. Students will need to have their togs (one piece for girls) a swim shirt, goggles, a towel and a swimming cap for those students with long hair. Please help/remind your child to label all of their belongings.

P&F Disco and Gathering – All families are invited to share in some St Patrick’s hospitality on Thursday the 17th November. A disco will be put on for the students starting at 5pm in the Multi-purpose shed and a barbeque will be provided for those attending. For a gold coin, students can dress up and be part of a competition running for the best dressed celebrity or superhero. Proceeds from the competition will go towards the purchasing of the farewell gift which will be presented to the school community from the departing Year 6 students.

Remembrance Day – Tomorrow is Remembrance Day. The armistice, signed at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month ended the First World War in 1918. This day, marks the 98th anniversary of the signing of this historic document.

Our weekly school assembly will be held tomorrow outside of our school Shrine at 9am. Our Shrine, a one of its kind in Australia, was built by local parishioners under the guidance of Father Carol to commemorate local soldiers who lost their lives in this war. We look forward to sharing this prayer service with you. Lest we forget.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS Term 4 Week 5

Talgai — Riley Burton for being an enthusiastic learner who is always ready to help his peers.

Cunningham — Alexander Kotsopoulos for wonderful improvement in his handwriting.

Dalrymple — Jace Carmichael for very thoughtful insight into school work.

Glengallan — Reuben Sullivan for always being the type of person upon whom others can rely.

Mary MacKillop Award - Inclusive

Cunningham — Alana Burton

Dalrymple — Ziggy Gibson

Glengallan — Daniel Morris

Happy Birthday this week to:

Billy Mutch
Elizabeth Jones
Parish News

LITURGY TIMES

1ST SUNDAY OF MONTH – MASS 9AM
2ND, 3RD SUNDAY OF MONTH – MASS 6pm
4TH, 5TH SUNDAY OF MONTH – LITURGY OF THE WORD – 9 AM

Next Meeting - Wednesday 8th February 2016 from 7pm in the Library.

Proposed School Uniform Changes (School Board)
Information and a response form have gone home to families attached to this newsletter. Below are photos of the display in the multi-purpose room at the school.

Thank you to all of those families who attended the final School Family Mass last Sunday.

BOOKMARK THIS!!

We have catalogued 100’s of new books for your children’s classroom. Come and join us for a social morning of cake, coffee and book covering. Let’s have some fun while we do something worthwhile for the school.

If you want to be a part of this intimate little group. We are meeting in the library on TUESDAY 15th NOVEMBER.
What’s Happening at St Patrick’s Allora?

DATE CLAIMERS - 2016
Nov 17 – 24 Swimming Lessons
Nov 17 St Patrick’s Disco—5pm
Nov 22 Blue Care Choir Performance — Yrs 3-6:10am
Nov 23 Ecumenical Christmas Service— St David’s Church
Nov 25 St Patrick’s Swimming Carnival
Nov 29 9.30am End of Year Mass Followed by morning tea 6pm Graduation
Dec 2 10.30 am to 12 noon. Whole School Christmas Liturgy, parents are welcome to take students home at the conclusion.

End of Term 4

Term Dates for 2017
Term 1 Mon 23 Jan to Fri 31 March
Term 2 Tue 18 April to Fri 23 June
Term 3 Mon 10 July to Fri 15 Sept
Term 4 Tue 3 Oct to Fri 1 Dec

Public Holidays for 2017 (School Closed)
Australia Day Thurs 26 January
Allora Show Day Friday 10 February
ANZAC Day Tues 25 April
Labour Day Mon 1st May

What’s Happening at St Patrick’s Allora?
9th November, 2016

Dear Parents and carers

A consultation process with parent/guardians was started in July this year with a school uniform survey. Based on survey responses proposed changes have been identified. Attached is a copy of the St Patrick’s School Uniform Policy which has been part of our school board review this year.

Based on the survey results, the following options have been sourced as proposed uniform changes/adaptions. A display board has been set up in the school multi-purpose room to show a sample of proposed changes for your viewing. Also attached is a blue response form to be completed and placed in the uniform feedback box on the hall table at school.

We invite parents/carers to call into the school to view the display of proposed changes and respond on the attached form with their opinion:

    no later than, MONDAY 21st NOVEMBER 2016.

This gives sufficient time to finalise adjustments, suppliers and notify parents/carers of voted changes. A Uniform List of Requirements for commencement of 2017 school year will be sent home with the school booklists towards the end of term.

If for any reason you cannot make it into view the proposed changes, please access the school website for colour photographs on this week’s issue of the school newsletter.

We thank you in advance for your feedback.

St Patrick’s Allora School Board.

[Signature]

Tyronne Maher
Principal
St Patrick’s School Allora
A Place of Learning – A Community of Care

Uniform Policy

St Patrick’s school is a place of learning – a community of care.

Just like Mary MacKillop, we use Jesus as our touchstone to provide a learning and caring community. Staff and parents strive to support all individuals to develop their gifts spiritually, socially, academically, physically and emotionally to nurture lifelong learning. Developing sense of pride in our achievements includes presentation of one’s self and wearing our school uniform with pride.

Rationale
The St Patrick’s School dress code stipulates wearing of the full correct school uniform and commitment to a high standard of personal grooming. The school uniform contributes in a meaningful way to ensure that each student has pride in being a member of the St Patrick’s School Community. As such there are rules in reference to the school uniform.

Values
At Patrick’s School, we recognise that wearing of the school uniform is an important part of creating a sense of community. We are a school with proud traditions and the wearing of our school uniform represents the pride we have for our children and our school. A smart, neat well-presented uniform promotes a sense of pride, respect, dignity, honour and self-discipline, reflecting our Catholic tradition and beliefs. It also ensures equality of expectation for each child, and supports the School’s position with regards to being ‘sun safe’.

Statement
At St Patrick’s School our community supports the notion that all students are required to wear the full and correct uniform always, as stipulated in uniform requirement list (Appendix 1). The school uniform is compulsory and an expectation upon enrolment. Uniforms must be well fitting, in good condition and must be worn with pride and respect. The policy includes, but is not limited to, personal grooming and personal accessories, jewellery, hair ties and colour, length and styling.

The St Patrick’s School uniform comprises of a Formal and Sports uniform for girls and boys, with adaptations for Summer and Winter. All clothing is to be labelled with the student’s name.

If, for any reason, the full and correct uniform cannot be worn, a letter or note of explanation must be provided to the Principal or classroom teacher.

Some modifications of the uniform are permitted if specified by the Principal. Such modifications include the Prep student’s uniform; special events such as house sports days or feast days; fund raising or awareness days as designated by the school and stated on school calendar of events. On these nominated days, parents may receive written notification advising the option to wear ‘free dress’ instead of school uniform, to support such activities. Clothing on such days should still support ‘sun safe’ principles, and be appropriate for a school environment; for example, by not displaying inappropriate slogans or messages. Appropriate footwear must be worn.
Hair
It is expected that hairstyles reflect the code of dress required by the school. The colouring of hair and inappropriate and unusual hairstyles are not supported. Shoulder length hair is to be tied back with school coloured bands or ribbons. The Principal will discuss such situations with parents or guardians as deemed necessary.

Personal
No jewellery is to be worn except for watches, religious medallions, one pair of stud or sleeper earrings. Nail polish and make-up are not to be worn.

Collaboration
A collaborative decision will be made between the Staff, Parents & Friends, Board members and Principal to facilitate any necessary changes to the uniform. If such changes arise, it will be brought forward and discussed at a leadership meeting. Permanent changes to the school uniform will be phase in over a two year period.

Responsibilities and Consequences
Principal and Staff
St Patrick’s Primary School will inform parents of the Uniform Policy when they enrol their children and include a copy of the Uniform Policy in the Parent Handbook and on the school website.

St Patrick’s School will inform parents of uniform changes in accordance with events, such as excursions, carnivals, or other activities.

Staff members at St Patrick’s P School are conscious of their role in implementing the Uniform Policy by setting an example in their own neatness, presentation and appropriate professional attire.

The Principal may grant an exemption for an individual student from wearing all or part of the uniform for a designated period of time, in the course of a satisfactory and reasonable written explanation from the parents.

Parent/Carers Responsibilities
Parents or carers are to ensure that students are in correct uniform. All uniform items are to be clean, ironed where appropriate, in good condition and well-fitting. Dress length should be no shorter than mid-knee, and tunic falling just below knee length.

Student Responsibilities
Students need to take a shared responsibility in wearing the school uniform in its entirety and with pride, at all times both in school and out of school hours.

Breeches of uniform policy may result in a discussion with the Principal.

St Patrick’s School Uniform Policy, revised and endorsed by St Patrick’s School Board, 11/10/2016
ST PATRICK’S SCHOOL, ALLORA
PROPOSED SCHOOL UNIFORM CHANGES

PARENT/VCARER RESPONSE FORM

PROPOSED BOY’S WINTER UNIFORM
Introduction of:
Long college grey trousers (reinforced knee and elastic back)

Option of wearing:
Long sleeve school blue collared button up shirt  OR  Short sleeve school blue collared button up shirt

☐ Yes I support these changes

Comment: __________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________

PROPOSED GIRL’S WINTER UNIFORM
Option of wearing:
Long sleeve white collared button up shirt             OR    Short sleeve white collared button up shirt
Navy opaque tights or navy knee high stockings  OR    White ankle sock with fold over cuff (as per summer)
(At the Principal’s discretion stockings maybe required for formal occasions)

WITH

Option 1:
Current navy pinafore/tunic  (We are looking into an alternate placement of zipper in pinafore to the back of tunic. This may lead to a different cut in the tunic. We have a sample if anyone is interested to see)

Option 2:
Long navy skirt  (with a band and back elastic waist)

My preference is:  ☐ Option 1 Tunic                      ☐ Option 2 Long Skirt

Comment:
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
UNISEX FORMAL SWEATER
Introduction of Unisex Poly/Cotton Knit V-neck Sweater  
(Possibility of embroidery included)

☐ Yes I support this addition  ☐ No I do not support this addition

Comment:  
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

SPORT UNIFORM
Proposed new style of skort  
(Due to difficulty with supply of the current school sport skort, we have provided an alternative style. We are still trying to source a suitable unisex short option for both boys and girls as a possibility)

☐ Yes I support this change

Comment:
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

Further comments:
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

Thank you for taking the time to view the proposal and provide your response.

Many thanks,

St Patrick’s Allora School Board

Tyronne Maher
Principal