Dear Parents,

Celebrating a year — It is hard to believe that our year is almost at its completion. Tuesday was a day of thanks giving and celebration of achievements. During speeches on Tuesday, on behalf of the community, I gave thanks to the many groups of people that combine to make St Patrick’s School Allora the unique place of learning that it is. The following is an excerpt from my address during Tuesday’s end of year school mass;

“This year, in our 100th year as a school, we have been truly blessed as a school community to have a vast network of friends in the form of our families, our parish, our volunteers, our classmates and our teachers.

We thank our teachers and school officers, in their tireless efforts to design and deliver engaging and enjoyable lessons to our students. All of our students have progressed in their learning this year and this is in no small part a direct reflection of their efforts. Their efforts in professional learning and in working with the Toowoomba Catholic Schools office have guided decisions in teaching and caring for our students. This year we extend a special thank you to those teachers that have enriched our school in the last twelve months who will continue on in other capacities next year. Namely, Mrs Cindy Dowdle and Mr Mark Spranklin. As a school community we have appreciated their professional insights and the wealth of knowledge they have shared and we look forward to working with them again in the future. At this time I would also like to thank Miss Lauren Ciantar for her work with our Prep students in the last 6 weeks and her continued collaboration with Mrs Geyle during her absence. We wish Miss Ciantar well and look forward to Mrs Geyle’s return in 2017.

We thank the students and the classmates that they have been to one another. In our religious education lessons we learn about Jesus and how in his life he cared for all. We acknowledge our students for the care they apply to their learning and the care that they have for one another. Our year 6 students have led our school well and have provided wonderful role models for our students. We thank them for their leadership and wish them well and everything that they do. Our past students are always welcome to return and our school doors are always open. As a special way to thank all of our students and in the same way to commemorate our centenary year, each student will receive a special badge as a gift from our parish.

We thank our volunteers for the time they have given and the difference that they have made to the learning of our students. Learning for children is real when we see real people using the skills we practice. The wisdom and happiness that our volunteers bring to our school is of great benefit to our students and to our community and we look forward to working with them again in 2017.

We thank the friends that we have in our parish, and are thankful for the parents of our students that have been able to support the parish in many and varied ways. It is the sense of community created by this partnership that sets St Patrick’s, Allora apart from other school settings and something that should not be taken for granted. This same sense of community contributes to the sense of support, safety and welcome that our students feel.

We thank the first educators in the lives of our students, their parents. Parental engagement in the learning of our students is high. We know that when parents and teachers have open communication and work together that great things have and can be achieved. As a community we look forward to continuing and building that relationship into the future.

Finally we thank Father Rod for his guidance and leadership this year. He can regularly be seen around our school and has seen us through the challenging times of our year. We thank Father for the kind words of encouragement he offers to all members of our community.

I wish you a peaceful, safe and blessed Christmas with family and look forward with great anticipation, to continuing the journey with you in 2017.

God Bless

Tyronne Maher
Principal

Congratulations to the our Year 6 students and their families on completing their years of primary schooling.

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
December 1—Term 4 Week 9

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

School News

Assembly Roster
Term 4 Friday’s 8.45am

Week 9: Christmas Liturgy

Happy Birthday this week and to the end of the year to:

McKinley Keogh
Douglas Ekerick
Riley Burton
Ambrose Barton

Report Cards – Report cards have been sent home with the children today. It is important to note that the learning taking place every day in your child’s life is a journey. Your child will be quite hard on themselves and it is important for us as parents not to further compound this with our comments. Conversations around improvement should be growth based and in this way encourage the effort that they have invested and the belief that they can improve. This building of self-belief that we can always improve will set them up positively for the learning to come in 2017. Please contact your child’s teacher if you have any questions about your child’s report and their efforts. Be reminded that a ‘C’ indicates that your child has reached the required standard for their year level and that this is a very positive achievement while a ‘D’ indicates that they are slightly below (not a ‘fail’).

Last Day and Christmas Play - Tomorrow at 10:30am, students will be performing a Christmas play in the church. It is expected that the play will conclude by 12pm. Students are able to leave with an adult at this time. Parents are asked, if they have not done so already, to indicate departure arrangements by completing the note that went home with the newsletter last week. While classes will cease at 12pm, suitable supervision will be provided for those children still present at school until 2:55pm. This is a school day and therefore the school must be notified of intended absences as per normal procedure.

Swimming Carnival—Congratulations to all students, parents and family members on a successful swimming carnival. The high level of encouragement, participation, team spirit and sportsmanship ensured that the day was a complete success. Thank you again to our parents and past students for their help on the day and to the P&F and our helpers for providing the children with food to sustain their amazing efforts.

Age champions were:

5 years: Sophia Fein; Billy Keogh
6 years: Ruby Wright; Hugh Denny
7 years: Matilda Gasson; Will Peters
8 years: Sarah Morris; Harry Wright

Thank you to Vanessa Mason for donating our age champion medallions. The successful winning team for this year was the blue team—‘Hughes’.

Graduation— Thank you to all that were able to attend the celebration of our year 6 students on Tuesday night. A special thank you to Miss Preston, Miss Donnelly, Mrs Dowdle and Mrs Telford and (behind the scenes) Mrs Partington. Wonderful celebrations such as these occur only by the hard work and positive energy of all involved.

Congratulations to the our Year 6 students and their families on completing their years of primary schooling. We know, as a school community, that the many gifts of learning provided to them by their teachers and parents over the many years will place them in good stead to face any challenge that they encounter in their secondary and future schooling. We wish all of our Year 6 students well and look forward to hearing of their successes in the future.

Congratulations to those students (listed on this page) for being awarded the year’s various awards. Selection of these students was a hard task with all of the students being worthy nominees.

2016 Year 6 Graduation Awards

Congratulations again to the following students on receiving the annual graduation night awards. Many of the awards are chosen by the students’ peers before the endorsement of all teachers.

Christian Living:
Alexandria Bender

Community Spirit:
Reuben Sullivan

Diligence:
Sophie Summerell
Emily Jones

Academic:
Alexandria Bender
Joshua Hagenbach

Cultural Award:
Daniel Morris

Sporting Award:
Georgia Denny
Joshua Hagenbach

9 years: Aliza Shelbach; Jason Deehan
10 years: Casey-lee Shelton; Jack Wright
11 years: Alex Bender; Daniel Morris
12 years: Charlotte Close; Josh Hagenbach
Parish Christmas

Timetable

6pm Sunday 11th December
Mass St Patrick’s church
followed by 7pm
Ecumenical Christmas Carols
at the Homestead

6pm Sunday 18th December
Mass and Christmas
Reconciliation

Saturday 24th December
Christmas Eve Vigil 5pm
Leyburn, 7pm Allora
and 9pm Clifton

Sunday 25th December
Christmas Day Mass, 9am
Greenmount

Sunday 1st January 2017
9am Mass Allora.

TRIBUTE to PHIL HIGGINS

In honour of the late Phil Higgins (1967 – 2016)
and his baking prowess, we invite you to make
a sponge cake (of any sort) to add to a special
display at the 2017 Allora Show. This is non-
competitive and the school holidays may be
the perfect opportunity to spend some time in
the kitchen creating memories with young
ones making a cake (that could be frozen until
the show). The sponge cake needs to be
presented on a disposable tray or plate and
covered in a clear plastic bag and delivered to
the pavilion at the Allora Showgrounds by 9am
on Friday 10th February 2017. For every cake
on display, Grant and Janette Lollback will
donate $1.00 to the Melanoma Institute
Australia.
DATE CLAIMERS- 2016
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

St Francis de Sales School Centenary
Dates: Saturday 18th and Sunday the 19th March, 2017
Events: Saturday evening from 7:00pm
Celebrating a Centenary Dinner at F.E. Logan Hall Clifton.
Sunday 9:00 am Mass, followed by celebrations at the school. A Barbeque lunch, display of memorabilia, entertainment and games will be part of the day. Souvenir items will be on sale.

Updates on Face Book: St Francis de Sales School Centenary 2017, or contact Lisa: Ph 0407254078 email: lisamlucas@bigpond.com
Pat: ph: 0410415067 email: patricia.tickner@bigpond.com

CALL OUT TO ALL THE COOKS OF ALLORA AND THE SURROUNDS
The hunt is on for your favourite or never before published recipes to add to our Recipe Book for our Allora State School 150yrs Celebration. We are looking for if possible, a recipe and a sentimental story to be included. A reason why this recipe is special can also be included, for example Auntie Mag's Powder Puffs always made their way to the table for family celebrations.

Email your recipes or any queries to cchan5.eq.edu.au
lharr281.eq.edu.au
Or phone Kaye Mullins 46663330
Or drop off typed recipes to the School Office
Recipes are required no later than the 20th January 2017.
Regards Lee Harrison and Cathy Chandler
December 1—Term 4 Week 9

Congratulations to our instrumental music students for their hard work in 2016 and a wonderful performance yesterday.