



ST BRIGID'S
Catholic Primary School
EMERALD

ST BRIGID'S NEWSLETTER

WEEK 10

TERM 4

2024

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As we close the final chapter of 2024, I am filled with gratitude for the incredible journey we have shared this year. It has been a year of challenges that have shaped us, triumphs that have united us, and countless moments of success that remind us why we do what we do. I have been privileged to witness the remarkable growth of our students—watching them overcome obstacles, celebrate achievements, and embody the values of resilience and kindness. It has been a joy to work alongside an exceptional team of staff whose dedication and passion continue to inspire our school community.

While we say goodbye to 2024, we also look ahead to the opportunities of a new year—a fresh chapter where dreams can grow, new goals can be set, and our community will continue to shine brightly. Together, we have achieved so much, and I am excited for all that awaits us in 2025.

Wishing all our families a safe, restful, and joy-filled holiday season. Take this time to recharge, create precious memories, and celebrate all you have achieved this year. I look forward to welcoming you all back, refreshed and ready for another wonderful year together.

"Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined." – Henry David Thoreau

God bless,

Tegan Green

Principal



FROM THE A.P.R.E

Jesus Is the Reason for the Season

As Christmas draws near, our school community is filled with excitement and anticipation. The classrooms are decorated, the Christmas concert is over and Santa craft is everywhere! While these are fun, memory-making traditions, it's essential to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas: the celebration of Jesus Christ's birth.

Over 2,000 years ago, Jesus came into the world to bring love, hope, and peace to all humanity. His birth in a humble stable in Bethlehem shows us the power of humility, kindness, and faith and these virtues continue today in Catholic schools like ours.

At St Brigid's, we are committed to helping our students understand the deeper significance of this season and we encourage families to think about ways they can embody the spirit of Christ—whether through acts of kindness, sharing with those in need, or simply showing gratitude for the blessings in their lives.

- Thank you for volunteering and/or attending the Christmas concert
- Thank you for the generous donations to the Emerald Neighbourhood Centre's Linking Alms for Christmas appeal
- We look forward to our Mass of Thanksgiving, Awards and Graduation Ceremony
- We look forward to holidays and Christmas with our families and remember that Jesus is the reason for the season!

Thank you for helping to make 2024 another successful and rewarding year. I wish all our families a Christmas filled with peace, joy and love and look forward to seeing everyone in 2025.

God Bless

Meaghan Tucker



CURRICLUM NEWS

As 2024 draws to a close, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate our wonderful students on an outstanding year at St Brigid's Catholic Primary School. From their academic progress and sporting achievements to their creative endeavors and community spirit, our students have truly shone in every aspect of school life. Their growth is a testament to their resilience, hard work, and enthusiasm for learning. To our parents, guardians, and community members, thank you for your unwavering support. Your involvement—whether through volunteering, cheering on our teams, or supporting learning at home—has played a pivotal role in making this year such a success. Together, we've created a vibrant, nurturing environment where our children thrive. As we approach the Christmas break, I encourage families to allow children some well-deserved downtime to relax and explore their interests. At the same time, maintaining healthy routines around sleep, diet, and movement is essential. Encourage outdoor play and activities, which support mental and physical health, and aim to limit screen time to no more than 120 minutes per day. A balanced holiday is one where fun and well-being go hand in hand!

On behalf of all the staff at St Brigid's, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude for your trust and partnership this year. May your Christmas be filled with joy, peace, and love, and may the New Year bring safety, happiness, and blessings for all. Merry Christmas and see you in 2025!

Mr Francey



STUDENT WELLBEING

As we are fast approaching the end of term 4, there are some big changes on the horizon for us all – some of our students are finishing their primary school careers and heading into high school in 2025 (for those students heading to Marist College Emerald, we look forward to speaking to you again; and for those heading off to boarding schools and elsewhere, we wish all the best in your high school endeavours); some of our families will be departing us at the end of this year – it has truly been a pleasure to have had to opportunity to know you all and I wish you the greatest success and happiness in the future) and as student's final day of school is Wednesday of week 10, Miss Galloway, Mrs Hardgrave and I would like to say farewell and a Merry Christmas / Happy New Year to our staff, students and families and we look forward to seeing you all again at St Brigid's in 2025.

If you feel that your child needs some additional support or counselling during the school holidays, you can access support in the community (and online) through the below service providers:

- Kids Help line provide information on a variety of subjects and have resources for children aged 5 all the way to 25 as well as resources for parents. <https://kidshelpline.com.au/>
- Beyond Blue offer supports and information in relation to anxiety, depression and suicidal issues. They have a variety of resources for a very wide audience. <https://www.beyondblue.org.au/>
- Headspace offer a variety of information aimed at young people aged 12 to 25 as well as friends and family. <https://headspace.org.au/>
- Locally there are services available for assistance as well including Anglicare who provide youth services, mental health services and other supports, UnitingCare Community who provide assistance to families, Centacare who provide family supports and counselling services.
- The Emerald Neighbourhood Centre is also available as a support for families. If you are worried about your young person over the holidays, you can contact your local doctor for more supports and they will be able to provide further recommendations for you. Emerald Neighbourhood Centre – 4982 1696 – Yamala Street, Emerald
- Anglicare: – 4897 0201 – School Lane, Emerald (servicing the Central Highlands)
- Unitingcare Community – 4982 3730 – 142 Borilla Street, Emerald (servicing the Central Highlands)
- Catholic Care CQ – 1300 523 985 – Servicing Emerald and Blackwater

Again, we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and safe 2025.

Michael Smale

School Counsellor.

SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP

2025 Extended Hours

Monday 20 Jan	9:00am - 12:00pm
Tuesday 21 Jan	9:00am - 12:00pm
Wednesday 22 Jan	9:00am - 12:00pm
Thursday 23 Jan	3:00pm - 6:00pm
Friday 24 Jan	3:00pm - 6:00pm

Email: stbrigids@wearitto.com.au

ST BRIGID'S
2025

**MEET AND GREET
BOOK DROP OFF**

FRIDAY 24TH JAN

1:45PM - 2:30PM



LEARNING INCLUSION

Christmas Cooking

Cooking is one of the best ways to teach everything from life skills, social skills, Maths, Science and English. Cooking is a daily activity for everyone. It is a wonderful activity to teach at ALL ages and stages. Cooking is an activity families, schools, community groups indeed anyone can do and it provides long time recreation and independent living skills. If you are talented enough with this passion, it can take you all over the world – think Nigella Lawson, Gordon Ramsey, Jamie Oliver and Donna Hay to name a few.

10 Benefits of Cooking with Children

1. Sequencing: cut up recipes and get the child to put it in the correct order.
2. Writing: write out the recipe, record observations/modifications for your family
3. Reading: read recipes, comprehension of instructions
4. Social Skills: turn taking, waiting for a turn, requesting help, request a taste
5. Maths: counting, measuring, fractions, volume
6. Motor skills: cutting, opening containers, stirring
7. Sensory: tasting, smelling, texture of different foods
8. Conversation Skills: talking about different foods, likes and dislikes
9. Categories: where items go in kitchen – fridge, pantry and
10. Hygiene: hand washing, cleaning dishes, wiping down surfaces

As the holidays approach and some of the organised after school activities are finished, maybe doing an afternoon baking session or doing some Christmas cooking together (Rumballs, Rocky Road, Apricot Balls, White Chocolate) will be an enjoyable activity that the family does together to create some Christmas holiday traditions.

Happy baking and cooking.

Shannon Butler

Learning Support Teacher



TUCKSHOP

2025

Wednesday Subway
School Tuckshop Friday



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/>



LIBRARY NEWS

Book Returns

Please return any library books ASAP. They can be very shy and like to hide under lounge chairs and beds, on bookshelves and in cars. Home Readers also like to hide in homework folders and school bags so please return any of those when you find them (even if it is next year). I'm always happy to be reunited with a long lost book – even if it's been a few years! All our books will have a St Brigid's barcode like this on the front cover.



Have a fantastic holiday break!

Mrs Strong



CHAMPIONS OF THE WEEK

Week 5

Prep - Evelyn. M & Harvey
Year 1 - Cooper. R & Kruz
Year 2 - LJay & Makayla
Year 3 - Chloe & Lottie
Year 4 - Pratika & Toby
Year 5 - Koby & Maggie. A
Year 6 - Georgina & Meghan
Sports & Music - Jackson (4) & Franki (1)

Aussie of the Month - Mac (6)

Week 6

Prep - Everly. G & Althea
Year 1 - Lennox & Lilly
Year 2 - Indy & Frankii
Year 3 - William & Harriet
Year 4 - Harrison & Kadence
Year 5 - Courtney & Piper. S
Year 6 - Mia & Logan
Sports & Music - Mac (6) & Miabella (6)

CHAMPIONS OF THE WEEK

Week 7

Prep - Isabelle. L & William
Year 1 - Rachel & Flynn
Year 2 - Connor & Isabelle
Year 3 - Malia & Lincoln
Year 4 - Sam & Lachy. M
Year 5 - Maggie. M & Siam
Year 6 - Addison & Sylvie
Sports & Music - Oliver (PB) & Bradi (PB)

Week 8

Prep - Lachlan & Callie-Rae
Year 1 - Kellie & Lucy
Year 2 - Sianna & Nirmaan
Year 3 - Amity & Ariana
Year 4 - Isla & Annie-May
Year 5 - Brady & Grace
Year 6 - Jack & Miabella
Sports & Music - Elijah (1) & Cooper. N (4)

Week 9

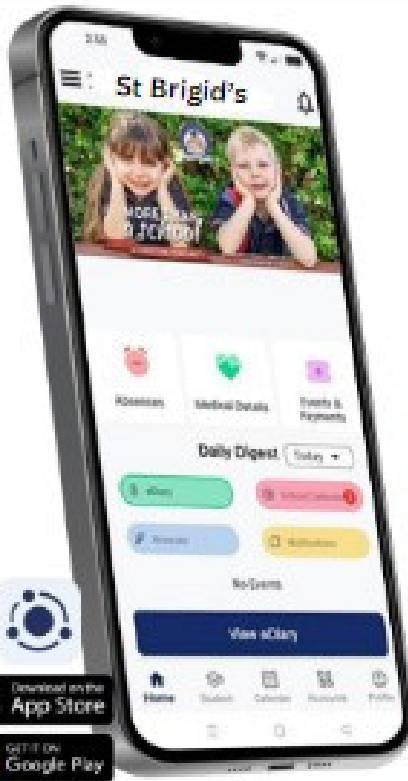
Prep - Savannah & Bronte
Year 1 - Chloe & Elijah
Year 2 - Matthew & Holly
Year 3 - Kaden & Theo
Year 4 - Lola & Isobel
Year 5 - Cascade & Jack
Year 6 - William & Miller
Sports - Piper. D (2)



ST PATRICK'S PARISH ANAKIE ST EMERALD

Weekend Mass Times:
Saturday 6pm
Sunday 8am

CHRISTMAS MASSES
CHRISTMAS EVE - MIDNIGHT MASS
CHRISTMAS DAY - 9AM
ANAKIE - 11AM



Orbit

- STEP 1** Download our ParentOrbit app on your mobile
- STEP 2** Log in using Parent Lounge credentials
- STEP 3** Access targeted communication & essential school info
- STEP 4** Enjoy staying up to date with all communication in the one place!



**Don't
Forget!**

PARENT ORBIT

Swapp app will no longer be used from Wednesday 4th December at 3:00pm.

To ensure you don't miss any important notifications please download ParentOrbit, school code: sbe and use your parent lounge details to log in.

