



# Newsletter

## FROM THE *Principal*



**WELCOME BACK** | Most of our communication recently seems to have been COVID-19 and the impacts that this has had upon our school and our community, Queensland, Australia and the world. March 2020, was certainly a month pitted with uncharted territory and decision-making. A month where events were cancelled, final week of term became pupil free days and many people found they no longer had a job. We know and understand that this has been a challenging time for everyone. In the midst of these uncertain times, we try to remain people of hope, to remain optimistic but at the same time, realistic. I hope that amongst your stress, loneliness, anxiety and frustration, you are able to take the best of what these times have taught us – to slow down, to spend time with family, to reset.

I am very proud of the hard work, dedication and commitment of our staff here at St Anne's. In a few short weeks the teachers have prepared a whole new online learning platform. Prior to this very few classes had used Google Classroom or Zoom so it has been a whirlwind of learning for staff, students and parents. The staff have produced high quality, relevant and holistic learning activities and resources for the students during this period of Learning from Home and I thank them for their professionalism with this.

I also thank all families for your patience, support and flexibility during these challenging times. I would like to remind parents we are all in this together, and we are here to support and assist students and parents in any way we can. Communication is very important during this time. We are endeavouring to update families with information via email, newsletter, school facebook page, through Zoom meetings and Google Classrooms. We are only a phone call or email away, whether it be with technology issues, additional resources needed, management of student wellbeing or academic issues or if you just need a listening ear.

We also have our Teaching & Learning Help Desk operational each day. I encourage you to contact the teacher of your child as your first point of call. I have been made aware of class facebook pages and chat rooms that are in operation and I discourage the use of these for support with Learning From Home. Please contact the school in the first instance. I know that together, we can navigate our way through these uncharted waters.



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[www.sasrok.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sasrok.catholic.edu.au)  
<https://313sas.rok.catholic.edu.au/parentlounge/>

**A LETTER FROM YOUR TEACHER** | Dear Parents, Don't stress about school work. When school returns to normal I will get your children back on track. I am a teacher and that is my superpower. We understand that anxiety prevents children from learning. So right now, I just need you to share your calm, share your strength and share your laughter with your children.

Research around the NZ experience with their major earthquake suggests that students will pick up when they return to school. With the NZ experience, schools were closed for weeks and most students did not have the opportunity for online learning or discussion with teachers as our students do. The link to this article is [here](#).

No kids are ahead. No kids are behind. Your kids are exactly where they need to be.

**ENROLMENT APPLICATIONS FOR 2021** | We are currently accepting 2021 Enrolment Applications for Prep and all other year levels in preparation for interviews in Term 3. Generally, enrolment interviews would have been conducted this term however, with the current COVID-19 restrictions, interviews have had to be postponed.

To submit an application you must complete this online via this link:

<http://sasrok.catholic.edu.au/documents/enrolment.html>

If you have difficulties submitting an application for 2021 please contact the school office phone 4994 8285 as soon as possible and they will guide you as to next steps.

**STA TEACHING & LEARNING HELP DESK** | Since the inception of our Help Desk we have assisted a number of people. Each day we will let you know the time and who is available to take your calls for the following day. We hope this is of service to you and that it is of great support.

**TERM 2 SCHOOL FEES** | **Term 2 School Fee invoices will be emailed to parents in Week 4.** To assist families, the normal collection term will be extended to 28 days thereafter. For those with an eligible government health concession card, the automatic discount on the tuition fee component of Term 2 school fees will increase from 70% to 100%. **(Please note:** All other levies, such as Building Fund Levy and Technology Levy, will still apply).

Two new concession card categories will also be eligible for the 100% tuition fee discount for Term 2 - the Job Seeker Payment (JSP) and the Farm Household allowance (FH). In addition, all Carer, Disability and Mobility card holders are now eligible, regardless of their relationship status.

**We ask that you please present your concession card or Centrelink digital evidence to the school office as soon as possible, so that records can be updated before Term 2 invoices are issued.**

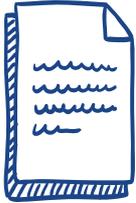
Families without a concession card but who are experiencing financial stress are encouraged to contact Mr Oches. These discussions will be strictly confidential and respectful. A simplified concession application form is available. To commence actioning an application please see Mrs Barnard or hit this link [here](#).

**If you have any further fee queries, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Barnard (Finance Secretary).**

NO HAT



NO PLAY



### NOTES

| Date  | To          | Topic                           | Author   |
|-------|-------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| 22/04 | All parents | Week 2 Care Arrangements Survey | Mr Oches |
| 23/04 | All Parents | Counselling for Parents         | Admin    |
|       |             |                                 |          |



### BIRTHDAYS

|       |           |       |              |
|-------|-----------|-------|--------------|
| 29/04 | Lucas Cox | 01/05 | Dylan Grundy |
|       |           |       |              |

Tuckshop  
Helpers

This week Tuckshop will be open on Thursday 30th April only. No helpers are needed.

*"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself" - (Luke 10:27)*



### **Making Jesus Real @ St Anne's**

- Donate small items such as pencils, pens, school supplies, food, clothing to our giving box
- Donate money to the Mission Box located in the office
- Prepare a cooked meal to be frozen and passed on to individuals and families in our community
- Support our school recycling program by collecting cans, bottles, plastic lids

**Our efforts go a long way to improving the lives of people in our school, local and wider community. Thank you for your ongoing support of this important work.**



## **Student Protection Contacts**



**Mr John Ballinger-Oches**  
*Principal*



**Mr Stuart Presley**  
*APRE*



**Mrs Linda Holmes**  
*APC*



**Mrs Dee Trannore**  
*School Counsellor*



# FAMILY PRAYER

## WEEK BY WEEK

### The Scriptures

**A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke**

**24:14-16, 28-31**

As two of Jesus' disciples were talking and thinking about what had happened, Jesus came near and started walking along beside them.

But they did not know who he was.

When the two of them came near the village where they were going,

Jesus seemed to be going farther. They begged him,

"Stay with us! It's already late, and the sun is going down."

So Jesus went into the house to stay with them.

After Jesus sat down to eat, he took some bread.

He blessed it and broke it. Then he gave it to them.

At once they knew who he was, but he disappeared.

**The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### The Story

This is a post-resurrection story from Luke's gospel. The disciples are disillusioned and disappointed because Jesus died on a cross, was buried in a tomb, and now his body is missing and they have been told 'he is risen from the dead'. Into this gloom walks Jesus, who walks with the two disciples along the road to Emmaus but the disciples do not recognise him.

### Something to Think About

The disciples in today's story don't recognise Jesus at first - even when he is walking beside them. We need to recognise Jesus in all people in our daily activities, in our family, friends, and even those people we don't know very well. Let's give a joyful welcome to those we meet each day!



## Masses from St Joseph's Cathedral, Rockhampton

Our chief shepherd, Bishop Michael McCarthy, continues to lead the Rockhampton Diocese in mass on weekdays and on Sundays. Whilst we can't be together physically for mass, we are as one church connected spiritually. All parents, families and parishioners are invited to join Bishop Michael for mass. Access to the St Joseph's Cathedral YouTube stream can be found at

<https://www.youtube.com/user/StJosephsCathRton/videos>

## Making Jesus Real (MJR)

As we enter our second week of Learning from Home, it's important for us to continue making Jesus real no matter where we are. Jesus wants us to live like **WESTie**.

For our families with students at home, feel free to contact Mr Presley or Mr Oches if you see your child showing the spirit of Jesus by being a **WESTie**!

### **Welcoming Encouraging Sorry Thanks (WEST)**

Our school and community is a great place to be when we feel welcomed, encouraged, are thanked and apologised to when appropriate. It is easy to live the **WEST** way each day!

**Welcoming words:** Hi, Good Morning, Great to see you, G'day, Good Afternoon, Hello

**Welcoming actions:** smile, wave, handshake, high five, fist pump, thumbs up, good eye contact

**Encouragement:** amazing, good for you, well done, super job, remarkable, terrific, sensational

**Sorry:** I am sorry for, I apologise, (it takes strength of character and humility to admit mistakes)

**Thanks:** Thank-you, I appreciate, I am grateful for, thanks

The **WEST** way is the **BEST** way to live. Be a **WESTie** today!

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# ACROSS THE Curriculum



## LEARNING FROM HOME

Learning from home is different to learning at school. While some learning will be expected, we do not expect your children to be sitting and working all day, and neither should you. Take regular breaks and take the opportunity to cook with your child, do some gardening, learn to use some tools, build forts, play and most importantly read, read and read some more! Teachers know the challenge of catering to a range of individual needs, interests and abilities. We know that some children will require more support than others.

Please do not feel the need to purchase resources or apps. There is a plethora of advice on social media at the moment about how to learn from home. Ignore it! Let us guide you and support you. If things are not working or if you need advice, support or guidance, please reach out and let us know. We remain, as always, passionate about our profession, and most importantly our students.

**SCHOOL IN A BAG RESOURCES** | Our next round of 'School in a Bag' resources were ready for collection last Friday. There are still some in the office waiting to be collected. If you have not yet collected your Week 2 work please do so as soon as possible, to enable your children to continue learning this week.

## INDIGENOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Hello and welcome to Term 2.

While I am not physically at St Anne's I continue to support students, families and staff from my desk over at CEO Mackay Staff Offices on the school grounds at Mackillop Catholic Primary School.

We will commence weekly zoom meetings creating opportunities to discuss challenges and offer support as well as planning for future activities when the restrictions are lifted. Next month would see us planning activities around National Sorry Day (26<sup>th</sup> May) and celebrating National Reconciliation Week (27<sup>th</sup> May -3<sup>rd</sup> June). As resources become available I am sending them out to teachers so that hopefully we can continue to acknowledge these significant cultural dates.

Last term the students participated in the Deadly Choices Healthy Lifestyle Program, with only 2 lesson left to complete before a celebration! Looking forward to that resuming when we can. I am only a phone call or email away and welcome any enquiries or even just to touch base .

"You're braver than you believe, and stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think." -- Winnie the Pooh  
(*Pooh's Most Grand Adventure*)

**Karlie Tatchell Regional Indigenous Education Liaison Officer Catholic Education Office**

**Email: [Karlie\\_Tatchell@rok.catholic.edu.au](mailto:Karlie_Tatchell@rok.catholic.edu.au)**

**Mobile : 0488180031**

# From the Counsellor



Sometimes  
**heroes**  
need helping too!

## Feeling the pressures of ISO life?

As a parent, keeping you and your family's **mental wellbeing** in check is **important**. We are here to help you through these challenging times.

- Isolation getting too much
- Kids are bored at home
- Learning from home is a struggle
- Tensions are building at home
- Unrealistic expectations of life
- Feelings of hopelessness
- Feelings of loneliness
- Depression or anxiety
- Missing distant family members
- Relationship troubles

**Centacare** offers professional and confidential **counselling** and **psychology** services. Sessions can be conducted over the **phone** or via **video chat**.



To make an appointment, call **1300 523 985**  
or visit: [centacarecq.com/counsellor-booking/](https://centacarecq.com/counsellor-booking/)

\*Psychology appointments can be arranged as Telehealth and Bulk Billed through Medicare.

 **Centacare**  
A Member of the Catholic Service of Queensland



# COVID-19

"Support from our School Counsellor"

30 March 2020,

Dear Parent/Guardians,

Though school is looking very different at present and the access to the school counsellor may be limited to phone and email, please be assured that I am still available to assist your students with their social/emotional needs, and offer support to you and your family during this challenging time.

If your child has been referred prior to COVID 19 partial closure of, I will be in contact this week. However, if you have not accessed the school counsellor this year and would like extra support, you can contact me through the school or my email ([donnetta\\_trannore@rok.catholic.edu.au](mailto:donnetta_trannore@rok.catholic.edu.au)).

My availability is limited to school hours as per usual, however if you have immediate concerns for your child's well-being there are a number of organisations available to you.

These include:

- ✦ Kids Helpline – 1800 551 800
- ✦ Eheadspace - <https://headspace.org.au/eheadspace/> (be advised this is for young people aged 12 to 25)
- ✦ The Brave Program - <https://brave4you.psy.uq.edu.au/> (this is a great program for all ages and parents surrounding anxiety)
- ✦ Parent line – 1300 130 052
- ✦ Centacare – 1300 523 985
- ✦ Financial counselling (free through National Debt Hotline) – 1800 007 007

I pray that you and your family stay safe during this challenging time and if there is any support that you require during this time, please contact me on the above email.

Kind regards,

Dee Trannore  
Guidance Counsellor

*Please turn over for a complete list of correspondence from St Anne's regarding COVID-19 and its impacts*

# Finance NEWS



Catholic Education  
Diocese of Rockhampton

Dear Parents and Caregivers and all members of our Catholic school communities,

## UPDATE ON TUITION FEE RELIEF IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION - DIOCESE OF ROCKHAMPTON SCHOOLS FOR TERM 2 IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

As the economic impacts of the COVID-19 response are being increasingly felt by our school communities, Catholic Education - Diocese of Rockhampton, is fast tracking a range of school fee changes to commence from the start of Term 2.

- For those with an eligible government health concession card the automatic discount on the tuition fee component will increase from 70% to 100%.
- Two new concession card categories will be eligible for the 100% discount – the Job Seeker Payment (JSP) and the Farm Household allowance (FH). In addition, all Carer, Disability and Mobility card holders are now eligible regardless of their relationship status.
- For those yet to receive their cards, schools will accept as proof the digital version of the card from the MyGov app or a printed confirmation page from Centrelink.
- The concession will be automatic on presentation of the relevant concession card. Families should present their card or evidence to their school or college administration as soon as possible so that records can be updated before Term 2 invoices are issued. Invoicing will be delayed until Week 4 of Term 2 to allow for this. If an eligible concession card is presented after Term 2 invoicing in Week 4, the concession card discount will be applied retrospectively for Term 2 tuition fees.
- Although families are encouraged to pay their fees on time if they have the capacity, schools will extend the normal collection term to 28 days so families have the ability to delay their payment until their circumstances allow them to do so.
- Processes for the collection of unpaid fees have been suspended for families facing financial difficulty.
- Families without a concession card but who are experiencing financial stress are encouraged to contact their school Principal – fee concessions are available. These discussions will be strictly confidential and respectful.
- A simplified concession application form is available. To access this, please click [here](#).
- These arrangements will be reviewed again late in Term 2 for the remainder of the year.
- These automatic arrangements are in place for the tuition fee component of school fees which is set by Catholic Education. Further concessions may be available on school levies through the Principal on an individual basis.

As you would understand, these fee concessions will place a considerable strain and burden on our Catholic school budgets and will require very careful stewardship of our available financial resources. We will do all we possibly can to ensure that the faith-based, quality Catholic education we currently provide for all our students is not in any way compromised.

The Director  
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**Catholic Education**  
Diocese of Rockhampton

To assist us in this endeavour, we respectfully ask those families who have secure and ongoing employment to continue to support your Catholic school by meeting your school fee commitments as you are currently doing. We thank you for this support which I reiterate is crucial for the ongoing delivery of Catholic education throughout the Diocese of Rockhampton. I take this opportunity to thank you most sincerely for your support of our Catholic schools and in so doing your support of those many families in our schools who currently are experiencing financial hardship.

To those families in our schools who are facing very tough circumstances at present, we want you to know that you are part of a caring Catholic school community and that despite the current challenges we are committed to the ongoing education of your children. Catholic Education's Policy commitment that no child will be denied access to a Catholic school education because of genuine family financial stress is a Policy to which I am firmly committed as are your School Principals. We pray that these Tuition fee relief initiatives to assist those currently experiencing financial distress that I have detailed in this correspondence will help alleviate some anxiety and concern and will be welcome, practical assistance to families at this time.

If you have further questions, please contact your school or refer to a support document with Frequently Asked Questions that can be accessed [here](#). Also please do not hesitate to contact your school administration to make the necessary arrangements in relation to any Tuition fee relief that you may require as soon as staff return to school on 20 April 2020.

I would like to conclude by assuring you that our Principals, teachers and support staff are all working very hard to develop *Learning from Home* resources and enhanced ICT provision to deliver a faith-based, quality Catholic education to those students who may be presently learning from home. At the same time everyone is working with great commitment to ensure the continuation of all that a Catholic education entails for those students who are still in attendance at our schools. Your support as parents and care givers of our endeavours is sincerely appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Leesa Jeffcoat AM  
DIOCESAN DIRECTOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION

13/4/2020

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# Community NEWS



**RDE** Regional Disability expo



## Free Entry

Free Come and Try Sport and Recreational Activities throughout the day  
Over 40 Exhibitors



**McDonald Mackay  
Multisport Stadium**

**107 Juliet St Mackay |  
19 May 2020 |  
9:30 AM - 4pm |**

<https://www.disabilityexposc.com.au/register-your-attendance/>



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