



St Patrick's College Mackay

*A coeducational Catholic college
in the Diocese of Rockhampton*

Janelle Agius – Principal

Enrolments for 2020

Next week we start meeting Year 10 students who are enrolling for Year 11 in 2021. These students will be notified regarding their acceptance at the end of this term. Our Leadership Team members are looking forward to meeting with students and their parents and talking with them about their future at St Pat's. If you know of someone who is thinking of enrolling at St Patrick's, please ask them to contact the office urgently, so enrolments can be finalised. It is very important that students select their required subjects early, as our 2021 timetable is generated by student demands.

Study Plans and Assessment Preparation

I would like to remind students that this is the time for those timetables and effective study plans to be put into operation. Students should reduce extra outside work and social commitments, so that they can adequately complete their assignments and prepare for their exams at the end of term.

QATSIF Graduation Celebrations

On Wednesday, the College celebrated the graduation of our Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Foundation (QATSIF) recipients. This was wonderful opportunity to come together and celebrate the achievements of our QATSIF students. I would like to thank those who joined us from the community for taking the time to congratulate our students. A special thank you to our staff members for organising this event, Mrs Karlie Tatchell, Mrs Deborah Millar, Mr Stephen Mortimer, Mrs Kelsey Wallace, Mrs Mary Vassallo and Mrs Rose Christensen.

2020 Early School Leavers survey

The Queensland Government is seeking the support of the school community for the annual survey of Year 10, 11 and 12 students who left school in 2019, before completing Year 12. This short, confidential survey collects information about what young people are doing the year after leaving school. The results of the survey help provide valuable information to improve services available to school leavers in the future.

Between August and September, these school leavers can expect to receive instructions to complete a web-based survey or a telephone call from the Queensland Government Statistician's Office. Please encourage them to take part. If their contact details have changed, please assist the interviewer with their updated details or forward the survey to their new address so they can participate.

Thank you for your support of *Next Step* post-school destination surveys in 2020.

For more information, visit www.qld.gov.au/nextstep/ or telephone toll free on 1800 068 587.



21 August 2020

Dates to remember

AUGUST 2020

24-28 Year 11 2021 Enrolment Interviews Start

28 Rats of Tobruk Ceremony

SEPTEMBER 2020

1-2 Year 12 Retreat

1-3 Year 11 2021 Enrolment Interviews

4 Student Free Day Confirmation Event

9-18 Year 12 Mock Exams

10-18 Year 11 Exam Block

16-21 CBSQ Basketball Tournament

18 Last Day of Term 3

OCTOBER 2020

5 Queens Birthday Public Holiday

6 Term 4 Commences

7-8 Artist in Residence

9 Year 11 Retreat

10 Year 12 Formal

12-16 Year 11 & Year 12 Industry Placement

15 St Patrick's College Cultural Awards Evening

16 St Patrick's College Sports Award Evening

17-18 Mackay Orchestra & Bands Festival

20 Valedictory Evening

26 Year 12 External Exams Start

27 Year 11 Awards Night

NUMBER FOR SMS

The number to send
SMS Messages
regarding
student absence is

0416 906 288

Excellence in Senior Schooling

Enrolment Processes for 2021

Enrolment applications for Year 11 2021 at St Patrick's College are now open and can be accessed through the Quick Links area on the Home Page of our website - <http://www.stpats.qld.edu.au/index.php/2012-07-06-00-31-36>

Dates in relation to the enrolment process are listed below for your information if you have a student in Year 10 or you know of others who may be interested in enrolling in the College next year.

24 August	Formal enrolment and subject advisory interviews with a member of the College Leadership Team will begin during the week of 24 August.
End term 3	Notification of acceptance.
26 November	Orientation Day.

Whitsunday Schoolies 2020 - Cancelled

Due to the continuing ongoing issues and uncertainty due to COVID-19 restrictions, it was decided at a recent Ordinary Council Meeting, that this year's seven day safety response program will not go ahead, Whitsunday Schoolies 2020 has been cancelled!

Those students who have registered with Whitsunday Schoolies will be refunded the full amount of their registration fee and this will occur over the next few weeks.

We encourage everyone to closely monitor and follow advice issued by Queensland Health over the coming months and information is available on the Queensland Health website <https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19>

We wish all the Year 12 School Leavers all the very best for the future and we apologise for any inconvenience.

For any further enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact Elizabeth Youd 07 4945 0291 or alternatively via email at schoolies@whitsundayrc.qld.gov.au

Stephen Mortimer – Assistant to the Principal: Religious Education

Readings at Mass, Sunday 23 August 2020 – Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading, Isaiah 22:19-23 The Lord appoints Eliakim over the house of Judah.

Psalms 137, Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

Second Reading, Romans 11:33-36 Who knows the mind of God?

Gospel, Matthew 16:13-20 ... Jesus asks, "Who do people say I am?"

Readings at Mass, Sunday 30 August 2020 – Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading, Jeremiah 20:7-9 Despite discouragement, God's word burns in Jeremiah's heart.

Psalms 62, My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Second Reading, Romans 12:1-2 Offer yourself as a living sacrifice.

Gospel, Matthew 16:21-27 Jesus reveals his future death, rebukes Peter.



Year 12 Retreat

Earlier this year we had to reschedule our annual year 12 retreat, due to the restrictions in place for COVID 19. The purpose of the retreat is to provide the students an opportunity, in their final year of schooling to come together and reflect upon their relationships with one another during the senior years of their education. This has always been a moving experience for the students. The retreat provides a time and place where we can pause and consider that school is more than a place where we learn subjects.

The retreat has now been scheduled for Tuesday 1 and Wednesday 2 of September. Year 12 students will be attending the retreat led by Mr Michael Fitzpatrick. This will be a follow on retreat for those who have attended a Michael Fitzpatrick retreat in Year 9 or 10, it will not be the same. Students should be aware of the following details:

The retreat on the 1 and 2 September is compulsory

- Venue: St Patrick's Hall
- It will be run by Michael Fitzpatrick
- It is a two day retreat being held at school, in normal school time starting at 8:30 am and finishing at 3:00pm
- Students are to wear non-uniform; appropriate casual clothes with closed in shoes
- Please bring a cushion to sit on. You will be using a combination of chairs, floor and standing for the activities
- Bring a pen on the Tuesday
- Normal school tuckshop will be available for lunches

Parish Mass Update – Churches are open

Through the collaborative efforts of a number of Faith communities around Queensland, a plan for Church services has been developed with the approval of the Queensland Government. An industry COVID safe plan for places of worship is in place to minimise the risk of the spread of the disease.

Each parish has a COVID Team which is responsible for implementing the Industry Plan which Bishop Michael has agreed to for our Diocese. Thanks to members of our parish councils, liturgical teams and parishioners who make up these teams. Regular Catholic Church services have resumed in Mackay. Within the Southern Cluster of Mackay, the organisation for each of the different Churches may differ due to the physical size of the Church space. For example, numbers for each service may be restricted to less than 100 for smaller Churches, such as St Mary's. St Patrick's Church, on River Street is able to accommodate over 100 people.

To facilitate organisation and determine numbers for each mass, we have been asked to book a ticket for masses, this can be done through a booking service. However, most services are not full and you are able to sign in at the door before the start of the service. If you would like to book ahead (which does help the parish team):

<https://www.trybooking.com/BKACF> or you can book through the Southern Cluster of Mackay Website:
<https://www.mackaycatholics.net/>

Tracey McLeod – Assistant Principal Welfare Administration

Exams Blocks

Due to the large number of mock exams, the Year 12 exam block will now commence earlier than indicated. It will commence on Wednesday September 9 and finish Friday September 18. The Year 11 exam block will commence as scheduled on Thursday September 10. The exam timetable will be published in the next newsletter.



Special Report: Riding the Corona Coaster

Across Victoria, students and their families are experiencing challenging times with the state being in various stages of lockdown yet again. However, this second wave of the pandemic is now also beginning to impact other areas of Australia and New Zealand. Riding this corona coaster and navigating the ups and downs of the current reality, is proving to be confronting for many people. The coronavirus has turned our lives upside down, with some students returning to remote learning and parents continuing to juggle the home environment.

The uncertainty of not knowing what will happen next may have an impact on many students and their families. There is a concern that mental health issues such as anxiety, depression and substance abuse will increase, especially amongst young people. In the coming weeks, it will be vital for adult carers to reduce the stress levels at home and make life seem more manageable.

As an adult carer, it will also be essential to look after your own wellbeing during this time. Ensure you make time to de-escalate your own nervous system and maintain your sleep routine, healthy eating habits, get some regular exercise and reach out virtually to friends and family.

In this Special Report, families are encouraged to embrace the guidance offered to help minimise the impact of this corona coaster. We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered in this Special Report, and as always, we welcome your feedback.

If you do have any concerns about the wellbeing of your child, please contact the College for further information, or seek medical or professional help.

Here is the link to your special report https://stpats.qld.schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/special-report-riding-corona-coaster

Danika Hurley – College Counsellor

James Cook University – Early Offers

Students who have received Early Offers for their preferred university course were recently presented with a gift. James Cook University (JCU) kindly provided the students with a voucher to pay for their QTAC applications as a good will gesture, which was well received and appreciated by all. The Early Offer Program is a new initiative in selected courses, offering an opportunity for students to apply through certain universities to receive an early offer for the program. Miss Danika Hurley has presented an information session to students in their lunchtime around how to apply, but if anyone is interested in learning more, feel free to contact her.



Simon Korneliussen – Vocational and Educational Training Coordinator

Mackay Mater Careers in Health Care Information Evening – Cancelled

With the current environment surrounding Coronavirus, the decision has been made not to hold the Careers in Health Care Information Evening this year.

Thank you for your support in this matter.



Chad Buckby – Sports Coordinator

Whitsunday School Futsal Titles

On Friday 7 August, we were fortunate enough to have two teams of boys compete in the Whitsunday School Futsal Titles held at McDonald's Multisport Stadium. The boys played well and represented the College with pride. Mr Skipper's St Patrick's College Blue team came sixth overall. Miss Wootton's St Patrick's College Red team won all of their games, but drew their semi-final against Mackay Northern Beaches State High School. Sadly, they lost in the penalty shootout by one goal, but the boys held their heads high as they finished third overall.



A special congratulations to Denzel Bobongie, Braxis Kretschmer, Seth Holsted, Harry Walz, Joshua Dogao, Jayden Bovero and Matthew Kelly who were selected to compete in the upcoming National School Futsal Competition in Brisbane. Well done to all participants, it was a great day.



Maria Blakey and Cathy Le – Geography Teachers



On Monday 27 July, students from both the Year 11 Geography classes embarked on a field trip to a number of creeks around the Mackay region. These creeks were: Bakers Creek (two locations), Sandy Creek at Dunrock, Cabbage Creek at Grasstree Beach and Plane Creek at Sarina. Though we prepared for the potential weather challenges to our fieldwork, we were able to leave our raincoats and gumboots at home. Prior to the field trip, Mrs Rayleen Graves taught us how to use the equipment that will test the water for levels of heavy metals and minerals, turbidity, salinity and dissolved oxygen.



With the data collected on this day, students will then write a field report in which they must analyse the results and discuss reasons for the poor or healthy quality of the water.

In preparation for this adventure, students have been learning about the challenges facing places in Australia and how human impact on the natural environment can be minimised. This includes maintaining healthy waterways while minimising impacts from human activity. For example, we have found that the Thomas Borthwick and Sons Abbatoir next to Bakers Creek and the Sarina Sugar Mill next to Plane Creek, are amongst the many places to consider. Places such as these will be identified on interactive maps, created through GIS technologies.

Overall, students worked efficiently in their groups to collect meaningful data for their reports, making it a very successful field trip.



Shelby Barbe – Japanese Teacher

Japanese 2020 Mackay-Matsuura Speech Contest

At the recent 2020 Mackay-Matsuura Japanese Speech contest, our Japanese students spoke well and placed in both the Year 11 and 12 categories. I am very proud of the students and congratulations to all competitors on their great work, especially in a year with so many unforeseen obstacles. The judges in Matsuura have given high praise for Mackay's very talented young group of Japanese language speakers!



Congratulations to our St Patrick's College place winners of the 2020 Mackay-Matsuura Japanese Speech Contest:

Year 11 Category - 1st: Katie Wood; 2nd: Casey Wood

Year 12 Category - 2nd: Alice Pattemore; 3rd: Emma Vickers

I wish the students well and hope they continue with their impressive Japanese speaking ability and take advantage of any opportunity that comes their way.



1st Katie Wood



2nd Casey Wood



2nd Alice Pattemore



3rd Emma Vickers

Community Notices



Mercy College Mackay

OPEN NIGHT

Wednesday 2 September 2020

4:00 – 7:00pm

Everyone is welcome

come along and see what we have to offer

A Catholic Co-educational College • Years 7 – 10

Enquiries: T 4969 4199 • W www.mercymackay.qld.edu.au

COVID-19
safe procedures
will be
followed

