

Message Stick

To all members of the Catholic Education family



Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton

Reflection from Pope

Francis



If we forget the good, our hearts shrink. But if, like Mary, we remember the great things that the Lord does, if at least once a day we offer a short prayer of praise, our hearts will expand, and joy will increase.

Please remember in your prayers those members of our extended Catholic Education Family who have recently deceased.

Frances Windress, mother of Lynne Conlon, St Mary's Catholic Primary School, North Rockhampton.

Maureen Cromack, mother of Connie Iddles, Marist College and grandmother of Renee Williams, The Cathedral College Rockhampton.

Please remember in your prayers those members of our extended Catholic Education Family who are unwell.

Hayden Row, Year 12 student, The Cathedral College, Rockhampton.

Kevin Kenny, father of Natalie Kingston, teacher Sacred Heart, Yeppoon.

Jodi Zahmel, teacher St Patrick's College, Mackay.

Friday 4 June 2021

Good morning everyone

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) continued this week concluding on Thursday (June 3), the anniversary of the Mabo Decision in the High Court of Australia in 1992. This decision led to the establishment of the 1993 Native Title Act which acknowledged land rights for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. I was very pleased to join with Bishop Michael and our Catholic Education Office staff for a special morning tea and gathering to commemorate NRW and to hear from our Reconciliation Action Plan committee. I am aware that many schools took the opportunity to help build awareness and share positive messaging with their communities on the importance of journeying to reconciliation through action and understanding. My sincere thanks to all those who worked to make the week meaningful and productive.

On behalf of all in Catholic Education I extend to Bishop Michael our sincere congratulations on the seventh anniversary of his Episcopal Ordination celebrated last weekend. I take this opportunity to thank Bishop Michael most sincerely for his pastoral guidance and his great care and compassion for all in our school and parish communities. We ask our loving God to bless and protect Bishop Michael and grant him strength and wisdom as he continues to provide wise, pastoral leadership of our Diocese.

I was delighted to be present at a special farewell for Jennifer (Jennie) Harris, Principal St Mary's Catholic Primary School, North Rockhampton as she concludes her time at the school at the end of this term. I am sure you join with me in thanking and congratulating Jennie for the tremendous contribution she has made to the St Mary's community since 2006 and to the ministry of Catholic education in this Diocese and in other dioceses in Australia and PNG for over 30 years.

The recent COVID outbreak in Victoria is a stark reminder that we need to remain vigilant in our efforts to keep our communities safe. We have seen authorities warn of the virulent nature of the new strains of the virus and the heightened threat of greater community transmission should a case emerge outside of quarantine. I would ask that we continue to abide by all recommendations from health authorities and keep updated with our Catholic Education Workplace Health and Safety directives. Let us continue to pray for all those who face such dire circumstances due to COVID and to ask the Holy Spirit to guide our leaders, healthcare workers and those working to chart a path out of the grip of the pandemic.

God bless,

Leesa

Where's Leesa: Monday 7 and Tuesday 8 June, Office; Wednesday 9 June, School visit Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Springsure, St Patrick's Emerald; Thursday 10 June, Blessing and Opening St Joseph's Clermont and School visit St Brigid's; Friday 11 June, Marist College Emerald, Feast Day Mass.

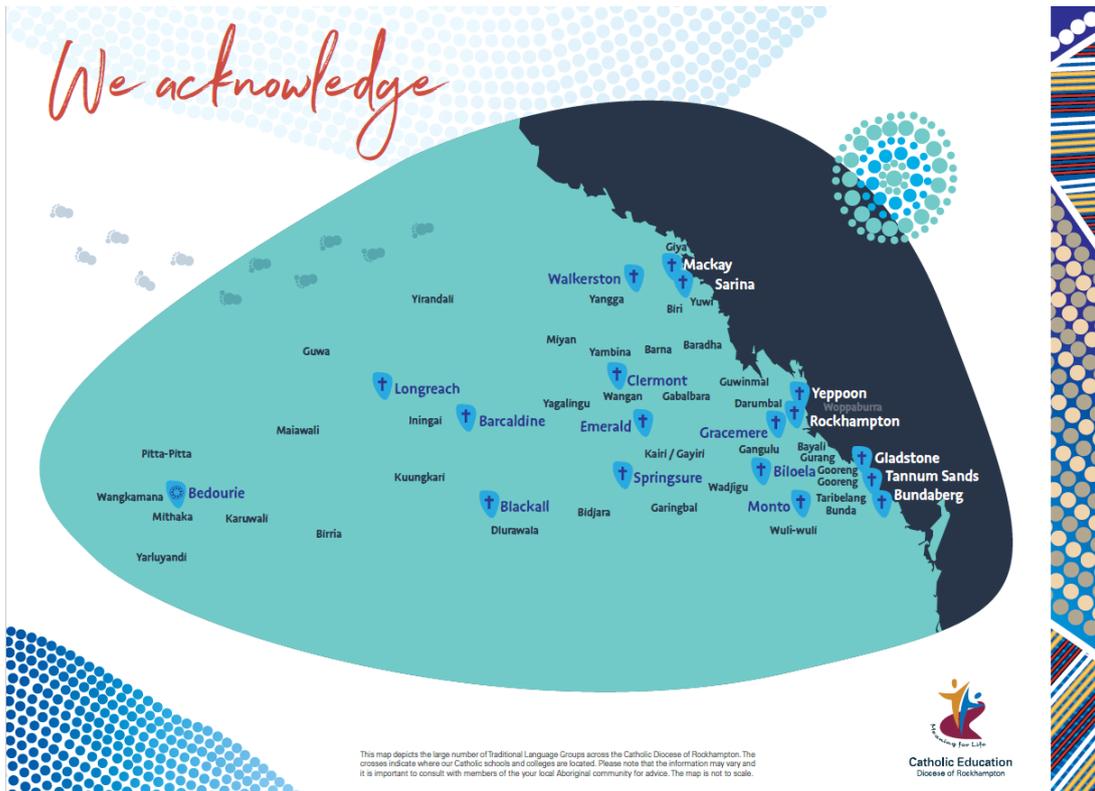


Pictured left: Fr Marcel Kujur, Parish Priest, Jennie Harris, Principal St Mary's North Rockhampton, and Leesa at Jennie's farewell at the school on Monday.

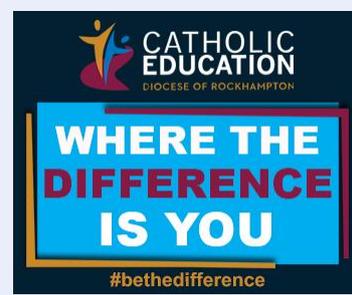
Best wishes to St Patrick's College Mackay Year 11 student Thomas Henderson who swam two qualifying times at the recent National Titles, enabling him to now swim at the Australian Olympic team selection trials this month. The upcoming trials are qualifiers for the Tokyo Olympics and Tom will be using this as a means to gain experience against not only Australia's best swimmers, but also current world champions. Tom has his eyes on the Commonwealth Games in 2022, World Championships in 2023 and the Paris Olympics in 2024 as further potential events to swim at.



Pictured below: The Acknowledgement Map of our Diocese, developed by the Catholic Education Office Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) Committee.



Bernadette Kay (Executive Officer) and Charmaine Stevens (Executive Officer) Catholic School Parents Queensland (CSPQ) visited schools in Bundaberg, Gladstone, Biloela, Monto, Springsure, Emerald, Rockhampton and the Capricorn Coast regions last week, meeting with Principals and Parents and Friends representatives. Pictured below from left: St Patrick's Emerald, St John the Baptist Gladstone; Emmaus College North Rockhampton; St Anthony's North Rockhampton; St Therese's Monto and Chanel College Gladstone.



Employment opportunities:

Experienced and Graduate Teachers: Applications are now open for full-time teaching positions for the 2022 school year. Applications close 11 July 2021.

Assistant Teaching and Learning Principal: Catherine McAuley College, Mackay. Applications close Sunday 13 June 2021.

Assistant Director: Mission Catholic Education Rockhampton. Applications close Friday 18 June 2021.

Principal Positions: St Mary's Catholic Primary School, North Rockhampton and Our Lady's Catholic Primary School, Longreach. Both commencing January 2022. Applications close 27 June 2021.

For further information and to apply please click [here](#)

Congratulations to:

Ross (former AD Schools: Western Region) and Mary Jones on the safe arrival of their first grandchild, Grace.

The Cathedral College presents The Addams Family, a new musical comedy. Friday 11 and Saturday 12 June at the Pilbeam Theatre. Tickets on sale now – seetlive.com.au

