

# Message Stick

To all members of the Catholic Education family



Catholic Education  
Diocese of Rockhampton

## Reflection from Pope Francis



Education is one of the most effective ways of making our world and history more human. Education is above all a matter of love and responsibility handed down from one generation to another.

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

**Beverly (Bev) Catlin**, grandmother of Cooper Diplock, CEO.

**Len Schneider**, father of Leisa Gardiner, St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Bundaberg.



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

**Khiana Blakey**, Year 8 Holy Spirit College, Mackay and daughter of Allison Blakey, Principal MacKillop Catholic Primary School, Mackay.

## Friday 17 September 2021

Good morning everyone

I extend my heartfelt thanks to all who have joined in the Novena and continued prayers for Khiana Blakey (student Holy Spirit College, Mackay) as she continues to undergo extensive medical treatment. It was wonderful to hear that Khiana and her mother, Allison Blakey (Principal MacKillop Catholic Primary School, Mackay) were able to return home to Mackay for a while. Please continue to hold Khiana and her family in your prayers.

Congratulations to Joe Kelly (AP: Mission St Patrick's College, Mackay) on his recent investiture as a Knight of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem in Brisbane. The investiture ceremony is rich in symbolism and tradition with its origins dating back to 1099. Candidates require Vatican approval to join the Order, which has a special commitment to protecting and supporting the Catholic presence in the Holy Land. Best wishes to Joe on this wonderful recognition and every blessing as he continues in this special way to give witness to the Church's mission.

Student Protection gatherings concluded this week. This comprehensive training has been developed to ensure our staff are well-equipped to respond to student protection matters and is a significant component in our continued efforts to safeguard all in our school communities. There is no higher priority than the safety and well-being of our students and I commend all who work so hard to protect and care for each and every child in our kindergartens, primary schools and colleges.

I am pleased to share with you the good news of recent Principal appointments for 2022. Congratulations to Bernadette Brennan who has been appointed as Principal of St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Wandal from the commencement of 2022. Bernadette is currently the Assistant Principal: Religious Education at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Park Avenue.

I also extend my congratulations to Peter Smith who has been appointed as Principal of St Peter's Catholic Primary School, Rockhampton. Peter is currently the Principal of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Springsure. Peter has very much enjoyed his time at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, and he is sad to be saying farewell to the community at the end of this year. However, Peter and his family are looking forward to moving to Rockhampton and to serving the St Peter's Catholic Primary School community as Principal from 2022.

Finally, as Term 3 concludes and we enter the student vacation period, I draw your attention to the email correspondence you would have received from me at the start of this week detailing issues to be considered regarding travel interstate and to 'impacted areas' in Queensland ([LINK](#)). As we know situations can change rapidly and can result in restrictions and requirements being in place for those who have travelled to these areas, including the possibility of quarantine. Thank you most sincerely for your ongoing support for, and awareness of, our workplace health and safety requirements in the interests of the welfare of our communities.

Thank you for the significant contribution you have made to your respective communities during the past term. Catholic Education is blessed to have such dedicated and committed staff and please know your great work is sincerely appreciated. I wish each of you a safe and refreshing time over the student vacation period as we prepare for the final term of 2021.

God bless,

*Leesa*

### Where's Leesa: Week One Term Four

Monday 4 October, Public Holiday; Tuesday 5 October, school visits, St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School and Emmanuel Catholic Primary School, Mackay; Wednesday 6 October, school visits, St Anne's Catholic Primary School, Sarina and St John's Catholic Primary School, Walkerston; Thursday 7 October, school visits St Joseph's Catholic Primary School and St Brendan's Catholic Primary School, Mackay; Friday 8 October, Office.

**Employment Opportunities** For additional vacancies and to apply please click [here](#)

**Principal St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Barcardine**, commencing in 2022. Applications close 19 September 2021. [View](#)

**Assistant Principal: Religious Education (APRE) St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Barcardine**, commencing 2022. Applications close 19 September 2021. [View](#)

**Primary School Teachers (Full Time) Mackay Region** commencing 2022. Applications close 3 October 2021. [View](#)

**Deputy Principal Holy Spirit College, Mackay** commencing 2022. Applications close 8 October 2021. [View](#)

**The Cathedral College Rockhampton: Academic Dean (Food Technology & Textiles), Teacher (Food Technology & Textiles) and Head of House Boys' Boarding**, commencing 2022. Applications close soon <https://www.tccr.com.au/employment/>

Students from **The Cathedral College, Rockhampton** recently participated in a wool collection for the Rockhampton Mater Hospital Volunteers. Pictured below Sr Maria rsm (centre left) and Jan (centre right) from the Mater Hospital collecting the wool for the Mater Volunteers.



**Our Lady's Catholic Primary School, Longreach** recently held their St Vinnies sleepout and sincerely thank Samara Thompson (pictured above second from left) from St Vincent de Paul, Rockhampton, for being there and conducting the night.

Queenslanders are reminded to Get Ready for extreme weather. For more information on Get Ready Queensland visit <https://www.getready.qld.gov.au/> To read the media release from the Deputy Premier click [here](#). Get Ready Queensland Ambassador Johnathon Thurston is reminding everyone to take the 3 steps: prepare an emergency plan, pack an emergency kit and make sure you are insured.

In a ceremony rich in symbolism and tradition with its origins dating back to 1099, **Joe Kelly AP: Mission St Patrick's College, Mackay** (pictured below second from left) was admitted as a Knight of the Equestrian order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem during an investiture Mass at St Stephen's Cathedral in Brisbane. Joe was one of five candidates received into the Order following notification of Vatican approval earlier in the year.



Simon Andreoli from Marquis Macadamias (pictured above left) recently visited **Shalom College, Bundaberg** to donate a Macadamia Nut Tree, known as Macadamia or "Bush Nut" in honour of World Macadamia Nut Day, helping to preserve one of Australia's threatened species. Pictured above with Simon are Shalom students, Walsh House Captain James, and College Captain Brigette.

*Congratulations*

**Bernadette Brennan**, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Park Avenue on her appointment as Principal St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Wandal commencing 2022.

**Peter Smith**, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Springsure on his appointment as Principal, St Peter's Catholic Primary School, Rockhampton commencing in 2022.

**Date Claimer**

**Building Mentally Healthy Kids**

Catholic School Parents Queensland invite Catholic School Parents and Carers, Principals and School staff to attend a free online evening webinar with Andrew Fuller on **Thursday 7 October from 7pm to 8pm via Zoom**. Andrew is a Clinical Psychologist, Family Therapist, Author, Speaker and Creator of 'Learning Strengths'. For more information and to register please click [here](#)



**Catholic Education Teacher Touch Footy Day** will be held on Saturday 23 October at Yeppoon. Registrations close Friday 8 October. The day is open to all employees of Catholic Education – Diocese of Rockhampton. For further information please contact Lisa List at Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Yeppoon.

[Lisa\\_list@rok.catholic.edu.au](mailto:Lisa_list@rok.catholic.edu.au)

Diocesan Catholic Education Office

143 West Street | PO Box 524

Rockhampton Queensland 4700

1800 228 433

[www.rok.catholic.edu.au](http://www.rok.catholic.edu.au)

Twitter @RockyCathEd