

Message Stick

To all members of the Catholic Education family



Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton

Reflection from Pope Francis



Love not only means we wish others well or that we are good to others, but first and foremost, that we welcome others and make room for them.

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

Joyce Perry, mother of Lee-Anne Perry, Executive Director, QCEC.

Mick Holmes, husband of Linda Holmes, APC St Anne's Catholic Primary School, Sarina.

Lisa Grogan, mother of Nicole and Nicholas Year 11 Holy Spirit College, Mackay.

Phillip Dempsey, father of Lachlan, Year 11 Holy Spirit College, Mackay.

Grahame Dell, New Zealand, grandfather of Selena Cutting, Principal Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Springsure.

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

Madonna Harris, mother of Maggie Goodman, Catholic Education Office, Rockhampton.

Vinod Kumar, teacher The Cathedral College, Rockhampton.

Friday 17 June 2022

Good morning everyone

I am very much enjoying getting back to visiting schools regularly and the opportunity to catch up with staff and students to see firsthand the wonderful teaching and learning happening in our dynamic and vibrant Catholic schools. Last Friday, I visited St John's Catholic Primary School and Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School in Gladstone and on Tuesday I visited St Anthony's Catholic Primary School, North Rockhampton. The chilly winter winds were no match for the warm welcome and kind hospitality I received and I extend my sincere thanks to Jamie Emerick (Principal, St John's) and Jennett O'Mullane (Principal, Star of the Sea) and Michael Roach (Principal, St Anthony's), staff and students for making my visits so enjoyable.

I was also delighted to attend the Blessing and Official Opening of new facilities at Emmaus College on Tuesday. The \$7.5million capital development, funded by Catholic Education, included a new administration block, a new fitness centre and an extension to the Industrial Design and Technology Centre. My thanks to Bishop Michael for making time in his busy calendar to attend and conduct the Blessing and to all involved in the preparation and presentation of this important ceremony.

On Wednesday I was able to spend some time with staff from our Catholic Schools who were attending CHRISTOS. We have 20 participants this year who have gathered to reflect on their personal journey and to take some time out to explore their spirituality and faith. This highly successful Leadership formation program has been instrumental in assisting many of our current and emerging leaders on their professional journey. Sincere thanks to Kellie Jenkinson (Assistant Director: Mission) and the FIARE team for the preparation and organization of these important days.

I was delighted to join with our Primary Principals as they took their turn to host the Queensland Catholic School Primary Principals Association State Conference held at Yeppoon this week. My thanks to Chair of our Diocesan Association, Kathleen Watt (Principal, St Francis Catholic Primary School, Tannum Sands) and all who assisted in organizing this year's conference.

Our School Board Chairs from around the diocese gathered virtually for their Term 2 meeting this week and I offer my thanks to Nigel Wadsworth (Chief Information Officer) for his cybersecurity presentation to participants.

The Diocesan Education Council meets today for its Term 2 gathering and I thank all involved for their work in reviewing and revising a range of policy statements. The Council also heard presentations from Leadership Team members Carmel Kriz and Amanda Houston on Early Development Census data and Needs Based Funding Arrangements, respectively. My thanks to Carmel and Amanda for providing these insightful sessions.

As we near the end of Term 2, excitement is building in Mackay as final preparations are undertaken for the staging of this year's CQUniversity Queensland Independent Secondary School Rugby League and Netball Carnivals hosted by St Patrick's College. Known as Confraternity (Confro) and QISSN, the event is the largest school-based carnival in Australia. We wish the organisers and all competing teams a successful and safe competition.

God bless,

Leesa

Where's Leesa: Monday 20 June, Office; Tuesday 21 June, QCEC Commission Meeting Brisbane; Wednesday 22 June to Friday 24 June, Office.

Queensland Catholic Schools have a chance to win a visit from rugby league legend Jonathon Thurston as part of the 2022 Get Ready Queensland competition to help children learn about and prepare for disasters. For more information visit <https://www.getready.qld.gov.au/>

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Catholic Kindergarten, Springsure had some success at the recent Springsure Show. Their scarecrows took out the people's choice award and their jam drops won 1st prize in the baking.



The **Blessing and Opening Emmaus College, North Rockhampton** of Capital works was held this week. Bishop Michael is pictured with students below.



Pictured below during a visit to St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Bundaberg last week from left are Dr Christian Rowan MP Shadow Minister for Education (Queensland), Stephen Dale Assistant Director: Schools - Southern Region and Monica White, Principal.



Pictured below on a recent visit to St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School, Gladstone, Leesa (left) and Jamie Emerick, Principal (right) with student leaders.



Pictured below on a recent visit to Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School, Gladstone, Leesa, and some of the Prep students.



Employment opportunities:

Inclusive Curriculum Coordinator
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Wandal.

Applications close Friday 1 July 2022.

Secondary Teachers
Holy Spirit College, Mackay.

Secondary Teachers
St Patrick's / Mercy College, Mackay.

We are hiring in Central Queensland
Graduate and Experienced Teachers K – 12.
Recruiting from June 2022 to January 2023.

Relief Teachers (all regions) visit our website and apply today.

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

Congratulations to:

Meredith Grove on her appointment as Acting Principal St Francis Catholic Primary School, Tannum Sands for Semester Two 2022.



Catholic Education Week 24-30 July 2022
COMMUNITIES OF FAITH, HOPE, LOVE

Date Claimer: Our Catholic Education Week Mass will be live streamed from Holy Family Church, North Rockhampton on Wednesday 27 July at 12 noon. Further details will be provided closer to the date.

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