

# Message Stick

To all members of the Catholic Education family



Catholic Education  
Diocese of Rockhampton

## Reflection from Pope Francis

God entrusted human beings with the responsibility of being stewards of creation. Care for the Earth, then, is a moral obligation for all men and women as children of God.

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

**Maureen McCosker,**  
Rockhampton, grandmother of Kristin Honeyball, Catholic Education Office.

## ANZAC Day photos from St Joseph's Catholic Kindergarten, Bundaberg.



**Friday 28 April 2023**

Good morning everyone

I hope everyone had the opportunity to participate in some way in the various ANZAC Day ceremonies that were held in local communities. It was very pleasing to see the significant participation of our schools and colleges in this year's ANZAC Day services around the Diocese. My sincere thanks to all those who assisted by coordinating and supervising students and by joining in the various services, marches, and community commemorations. Through your commitment to ANZAC Day and to honouring the special place it holds in our national calendar, our students are learning the importance of gratitude, respect and remembrance. Some photos from around the regions can be found on Page 2 of today's *Message Stick*.

I was delighted to spend time visiting staff and students at St Brigid's Catholic Primary School, Emerald and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Springsure, this week. My thanks to Principals Tegan Green (St Brigid's) and Selena Cutting (OLSH) and their respective communities for the very warm welcome I received which certainly showcased country hospitality at its best. It was wonderful to experience firsthand the quality teaching and learning happening in these dynamic communities.

A further highlight of my visit to Emerald this week was meeting staff new to Catholic Education at Marist College. Sincere thanks to Mark Green (Principal) for organizing this wonderful opportunity to spend time connecting with those new to our community and hearing about their personal goals and experiences.

Next week, Professor Janet Goodall from the Department of Education and Childhood Studies at Swansea University UK, will present staff and parent workshops on *Engaging Families in Learning and Wellbeing* to communities in our Gladstone and Rockhampton region schools. Prof Goodall's extensive research on parent engagement in young people's learning is widely regarded and she has worked with numerous schools, governments, and governmental bodies in support of families. We have partnered with Catholic Schools Parents Queensland (CSPQ) to provide this opportunity to our communities and I offer my great appreciation to Carmel Nash, (CSPQ Executive Director), for leading our collaboration. Information has been provided to schools on registering for workshops and I would strongly encourage staff and parents to attend. I extend sincere thanks to Kathleen Watt (Project Officer) for her work in coordinating this event for CEDR.

On Saturday evening, four members of the Sisters of Mercy Congregation who are celebrating the Diamond Jubilee (60 years) of their Profession will be recognised at the 6.00pm Vigil Mass at St Joseph's Cathedral, Rockhampton. Our congratulations and very best wishes to Sr Beryl Amedee, Sr Mary Badger, Sr Rita Connor and Sr Margaret Graves. The Sisters have made a remarkable contribution to Catholic Education in our Diocese and we owe them a tremendous debt of gratitude for their dedicated and committed service. We ask our loving God to bless the Sisters as they continue their life of service and we offer our praise and thanks for the wonderful blessing they have been in our schools, parishes and various local communities.

Finally, I offer thanks and extend best wishes to Rob Alexander and The Cathedral College (TCC) community who will hold their *Party in the Park* celebration at Callaghan Park Racecourse this coming Sunday 30 April. The *Party in the Park* event is a major fundraiser for TCC, and it will be held on the same day as *The Archer* which is set to be richest race ever run in Rockhampton.

God bless,

*Leesa*

**Where's Leesa:** Monday 1 May, Labour Day Public Holiday; Tuesday 2 May Office; Wednesday 3 May, Office; Thursday 4 May, School visit St Anthony's Catholic Primary School, North Rockhampton; Friday 5 May, School visit St Paul's Catholic Primary School, Gracemere.



**Congratulations and thank you to Angela McKenzie** OSHC Coordinator St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School, West Mackay who celebrates 20 years working in Catholic Education. Pictured below with Principal, Olivia Rostirolla.



**Holy Spirit College, Mackay** Principal Alison Wales has been visiting Catholic Primary Schools in North Mackay recently, with former students from each of our Primary schools, who are now students at Holy Spirit College. Pictured below at Emmanuel Catholic Primary School.



**ANZAC Day photos from across our schools**



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QUEENSLAND COLLEGE OF TEACHERS

The QCT is running an online webinar on Thursday 15 June regarding **transitioning from provisional to full registration**. Register at: <https://events.qct.edu.au/Detail/507>

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