

Message Stick

To all members of the Catholic Education family



Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton



Friday 18 August 2023

Good morning everyone

I was delighted to spend time at the annual Curriculum Gathering this week which saw curriculum leaders come together with a shared focus on Vision and Mission, School Curriculum Guide and Schoolwide Pedagogical Models shaped around the dimensions of our Teaching and Learning Framework. Presentations from Nick Parkinson (Grattan Institute) on the importance of whole school curriculum planning and Dr Matt Capp on Universal Design for Learning, linking curriculum planning to fully inclusive instructional practices, gave participants much to consider. I very much valued the opportunity to present some perspectives on Catholic Education's Vision and Mission within our framework while an exploration of the Eight Ways of Aboriginal Learning by our Indigenous Education Coordinator, Phillippa Johnson, provided exceptional insights for those present. My sincere thanks to Carmel Kriz (Assistant Director: Teaching and Learning) and all those involved in planning the Gathering and providing such warm hospitality for all participants.

Our Pathways Forum was held earlier this week with a variety of presenters including pathway experts and support organisation mentors as well as industry and tertiary representatives to strengthen career opportunities for our students. Today's skills and technology landscape, renewable energy opportunities and careers in space technology, education and agriculture were some of the areas covered during the two-day forum as well as an industry visit to Stanwell Power Station. My thanks to Marie Martin (Secondary Curriculum Consultant) for coordinating the forum.

Madonna King, Australian journalist and media commentator recently delivered presentations to educators and parents in Emerald and Mackay on 'Raising Remarkable Adults'. My sincere thanks to Catholic School Parents Queensland (CSPQ) for partnering with us to provide this valuable opportunity to our communities and for their work in coordinating Ms King's visit to our diocese. The presentations provided insights and strategies for nurturing and developing exceptional young individuals, highlighting the importance of holistic education and parental involvement in shaping the next generation. My thanks also to Kathleen Watt (Project Officer) for assisting CSPQ and to Marist College, Emerald and St Patrick's College, Mackay for hosting these events.

Our Primary School Staffing conversations for 2024 commence next week and I am aware of the significant work involved in the lead up to this critical planning. My sincere thanks to Gary Cooper (Employee Support Services Manager) and the ESS team for the excellent and detailed work in preparing data and materials for this important meeting. Please keep us in your prayers as we undertake the important work of staffing all our Primary schools for 2024.

I was very pleased to be present at the 8:00am Parish Mass at St Joseph's Cathedral celebrated by Archbishop Mark Coleridge from Brisbane, on Thursday together with Bishop Michael and the Bishops of Queensland ahead of their gathering in Rockhampton.

As mentioned in last week's *Message Stick*, today, on Vietnam Veterans' Day, we commemorate 50 years since the end of the Vietnam War. At a time in history, when opinion on Australia's involvement was divided, our veterans have not always received the appreciation and gratitude owed them for their remarkable service to Australia. On this day, we remember and pray for all men and women who served in the Vietnam conflict and wholeheartedly give thanks for their bravery and self-sacrifice. May God bless them.

What an exciting time in Australian women's sport. Congratulations to the Matildas on their outstanding World Cup performance.

God bless,

Leesa

Where's Leesa: Monday 21 August, Office; Tuesday 22 August, Primary School Staffing Meeting; Wednesday 23 August, Indigenous Education Workers (IEW) Gathering; Thursday 24 August, Primary School Staffing Meeting; Friday 25 August, Diocesan Education Council.

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

Fr Pat Mooney, Priest of the Diocese, who served in parishes in Mackay, Bundaberg, Rockhampton, Blackall and Mt Morgan.

Patricia (Pat) Warnock, former staff member, Christian Brothers College (now TCC) and Emmaus College, North Rockhampton.

Alan Bell, grandfather of Sarah Reiman and Tom Reiman, The Cathedral College, Rockhampton.

Veronica Gilbert, mother of Mary Boulter (formerly CEO) and John Gilbert, Shalom College, Bundaberg.

Donald Ross, Brisbane, father and father-in-law of Helen (APRE, St Benedict's, Yeppoon) and Bill (relief teacher) Langdon, and grandfather of Eliza Langdon, (CAP student, St Peter's, Rockhampton).

Congratulations to:

Mick Roach, Principal St Anthony's Catholic Primary School, North Rockhampton on his appointment to the role of Acting Assistant Director: Schools (Northern Region) for the period 21 August to 9 October 2023.

The Career Assistance Program (CAP) is an innovative approach to building the capability and skill of pre-service teachers through coaching and mentoring. It is designed as a way of both “future-proofing” our workforce and “paying it forward” to the teaching profession. The goal is classroom ready teachers upon graduation, so they are confident and capable when they start their careers as educators. A key part of the CAP is the mentoring provided by expert teachers. Thank you and congratulations to the Mentor Teachers for the 2023 cohort of CAP pre-service teachers. They are: Kasey Gilbert (St Paul’s Gracemere), Kate MacGregor (St Anthony’s North Rockhampton), Sharon Upton (St Benedict’s Yeppoon), Nicole Hargreaves (St Peter’s Rockhampton), Donna Berardi (St Mary’s Mackay), Shannon Cross (St Francis Xavier Mackay), Hayley Kaddatz (St John’s Walkerston), Alicia Wardrop (St Joseph’s Mackay), Kristy Cundell (St Brendan’s Mackay) and Angela Robinson (St Joseph’s Bundaberg). Expressions of Interest from primary schools seeking to host a CAP pre-service teacher in 2024 close soon so please contact Jessica Gorman (Jessica.gorman@rok.catholic.edu.au) with any questions. Applications from pre-service teachers wanting to become part of the CAP open shortly and we look forward to recruiting another first-class cohort to meet our schools’ ongoing staffing requirements. View our recent video [here](#)

Pictured below at the **Australian Primary Principals Association (APPA) Conference in Hobart** are Primary Principals (L-R) Wes Rose (St Mary’s Mackay), Mick Roach (St Anthony’s North Rockhampton), Peter Smith (St Peter’s Rockhampton), Jamie Emerick (St John the Baptist Gladstone) and Chris Ferguson (St Patrick’s Emerald).



Students from **Emmaus College, North Rockhampton** recently participated in the ATYP (Australian Theatre for Young People) Intersection Festival in Sydney. The two groups from Emmaus College were the first Queensland groups to be chosen to participate in the festival. Students travelled to Sydney to perform at the Rebel Theatre and gave two outstanding performances closing the first night of the festival.



Our Lady’s Catholic Primary School, Longreach celebrated Book Week in creative style.



Staff and students from **MacKillop Catholic Primary School, Mackay** celebrated their Patron’s Feast Day last week with a trip to the beach and Prayer time during the day.



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Reflection from Pope Francis

While in Ukraine and other places in the world there is fighting, *WYD* showed everyone that another world is possible: a world of brothers and sisters, where the flags of all people fly together, without hatred, without fears, without closing up and without weapons.

National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence

Official **BUILDING NO WAY!** school

Date Claimer:
Providing safe and inclusive learning environments to prevent bullying. Friday 18 August marks the 2023 [National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence](#), Australia’s key school bullying prevention initiative. [Free resources](#) are available for schools.