

Message Stick

To all members of the Catholic Education family

9 August 2024



Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton

What Do You Worship? Do you spend your **time, energy and focus** on the things that really matter? Author, Dermot Crowley, suggests that our capacity to produce quality, productive work is influenced by how we manage our three limited resources – time, energy and focus. When it comes to the priorities and goals we set in our Catholic schools, are we being purposeful and deliberate in identifying the things that really matter, and are we using our limited time, energy and focus to bring about real growth and progress for our students? I have a quote on my wall from John Wimber that states, **‘Show me where you spend your time, money and energy and I’ll tell you what you worship.’** It reminds me to reflect on my day, recognise what I have prioritised and to look for the ‘gaps’. Such big questions require our attention so that each of us can continue to strive to use our limited resources well, and to be the person God has called us to be.

Reflection from Pope Francis

What would happen if we prayed more and complained less? Let us ask for the grace to be able to pray for one another.

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

Martine Hoch, sister of Leeza Arnold, Principal’s Assistant, Holy Spirit College, Mackay.

Dear Colleagues

We have reached the halfway point in Term 3, undoubtedly a very busy time in our kindergartens, schools and colleges. Thank you for all you do each and every day for the students and families in our communities, even at these times of heightened activity.

Next week, the VET in Schools Pathways Forum will be held in Rockhampton featuring a wide range of experienced speakers with important insights on tertiary and vocational options for students. For the first time, the event is being co-hosted and held in regional Queensland. CEDR and Queensland Catholic Education Commission (QCEC) have collaborated to jointly present the gathering which is open to staff from State, Catholic and Independent education sectors across Queensland. The forum brings together VET practitioners, school leaders, industry partners and policymakers to discuss the latest developments and directions in VET across the state. I acknowledge and thank QCEC for partnering with CEDR to present the forum in the Diocese of Rockhampton and my thanks to Maree Martin (Secondary Curriculum Consultant) for her leadership and involvement in presenting this initiative for participants.

Also, next week, I am very much looking forward to joining curriculum leaders from our primary schools and colleges as they come together in Rockhampton for the annual Curriculum Gathering. The program includes engaging presentations from leading educationalists on a range of approaches and practices. Sincere thanks to Carmel Kriz (Assistant Director: Teaching and Learning) and the Curriculum team for their work in coordinating this valuable gathering.

On Thursday 15 August the Catholic Church commemorates the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary when, according to our faith, at the conclusion of Our Lady’s earthly life she was taken, body and soul, to her heavenly home. Other than Sundays, the Feast of the Assumption is one of two holy days of obligation for the Catholic faithful – the other being Christmas Day. Mary holds a significant place in our Catholic faith tradition and we honour her great example of how to live a life of faith and service.

The Olympic Games in Paris have entered the final days of competition, having delivered many memorable performances showcasing inspirational athletic endeavours and Olympic spirit. Included among them was our very own Taryn Gollshewsky (teacher, St Patrick’s Bundaberg) who threw a Personal Best 62.36m in the Women’s Discus Throw finishing 15th overall. A remarkable achievement on the world stage representing Australia. Congratulations Taryn from your Catholic Education family.

God bless

Michael

Where’s Michael: Monday 12 August, Office; Tuesday 13 August, QCEC Commission Meeting, Brisbane; Wednesday 14 August, School visit, St Joseph’s Kindergarten and St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School, Park Avenue, Office; Thursday 15 August, Office; Friday 16 August, Office.



Catholic Kindergartens are located in the following areas: North Rockhampton, West Mackay, Mount Pleasant Mackay, Northern Beaches Mackay, Bundaberg, Springsure, Emerald, Blackall and Biloela. To find out more, check out our recent Catholic Kindy Video [here](#)

St Mary's Catholic Primary School, South Mackay

commenced their Centenary Celebrations this week with a Mass with Bishop Michael.



Students from **St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Bundaberg**, dressed in green and gold last week to show their support for staff member Taryn Gollshewsky who competing in the Paris Olympics.



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Barcaldine, in keeping with the Olympic theme, held a soccer and badminton tournament last week with each team representing a different country.



Our Lady's Catholic Primary School, Longreach held a Book Fair this week. Families had the opportunity of purchasing books during the fair.



Entries for the Premier's Coding Challenge close on 2 September 2024 at 5:00pm. Students from Year 3-10 have the chance to showcase their coding skills and win robotics and electronics kits from a \$15,000 prize pool. Find out more [here](#)

Notification of Intention to Apply for Highly Accomplished and Lead Teacher 2025 certification. Teachers looking to apply for teacher certification in 2025 complete their Notification of Intention to Apply via the QCEC Highly Accomplished and Lead Teacher Certification [website](#). This link will be open from 5 to 19 August 2024. To find out more about Certification 2.0 click [here](#).



we are hiring
Assistant Payroll Coordinator
Catholic Education Office,
Rockhampton

**Assistant Payroll Coordinator,
Catholic Education Office,
Rockhampton.**

Applications close Friday 16 August

Expressions of Interest are invited for the position of **Respectful Relationships Education Project Officer.**

For further information and to express your interest in this position, please send an email outlining your suitability for the role to Kellie Jenkinson (Assistant Director: Mission) CEDR no later than 3:00pm Monday 12 August 2024.

For further information and other employment opportunities please click [here](#)

Prayer:

Ever generous God, you inspired Saint Mary MacKillop to live her life faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and constant in bringing hope and encouragement to those who were disheartened, lonely and needy. With confidence in your generous providence and through the intercession of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop we ask that our prayers be granted, and our faith and hope be fired afresh by the Holy Spirit. May we too, like Mary MacKillop, live with courage, trust and openness. Through Jesus Christ. Amen

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