

Week 4 Term 1 2024



Yesterday we kick-started our annual Caritas fundraising with **PANCAKE TUESDAY**. Thank you to all those who donated pancakes and supported this event traditionally held the day before the Lenten season begins. The Year 6 leaders did a great job helping to serve and with everyone's help, we raised almost \$400!



## ASH WEDNESDAY

Today we held a liturgy for **Ash Wednesday** which signifies the first day of LENT. Lent is the season of preparation for Easter and during this time we are encouraged to pray, fast and give to focus our minds and hearts on the values of Christ. Giving can take many forms and during this time we encourage the students to support CARITAS and the annual **Project Compassion**. CARITAS does great work here in Australia and around the world assisting those less fortunate than us and are more than worthy of our generosity.



### A Prayer for the Virtue of Respect:

Lord Jesus, we ask you to give us all around peace in our mind, body, soul, and spirit. We want you to heal and remove everything that is causing stress, grief, and sorrow in our lives. Please guide our path through life and make our enemies be at peace with us. Amen. **St Paul:** Pray for us.

Dear families and friends

This week students in Years 1 to 6 will start **DRA** (Developmental Reading Assessment). One of the main purposes of this assessment is to provide valuable information to teachers regarding a student's strengths and areas for development in reading.

The teachers will use this information to guide their teaching and learning to ensure they are providing purposeful reading instruction that will target their areas for development.

At St Paul's, children and teachers regularly talk about **what good readers do**. One of the main topics that arises from these discussions is that good readers, read everyday. They don't need to read large books, but they need to **read a variety of books for pleasure and for knowledge**. By reading for pleasure they learn to foster a love of reading and by reading for knowledge they gain a better understanding of the world around them.



Ensuring your child is **reading each night** and discussing what they are reading is a simple way that you can assist your child in becoming a better reader. By reading together at home you will help your child develop a love of reading and greatly increase their literacy skills. The above infographic is quite powerful in demonstrating the importance of children reading on a daily basis.

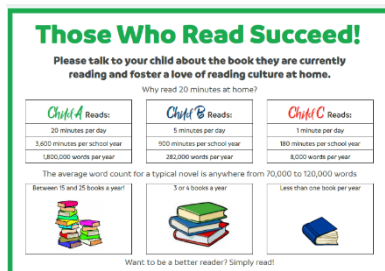
Over the next couple of weeks Prep to Year 2 students will be completing **Oral Language** screeners which allows the teachers to observe, monitor and track the receptive language component of their oral language skills. Oral Language is a crucial component of **developing fluency in reading, writing, speaking and listening**. You can assist your child in developing their oral language skills in the simplest form, by doing a lot of talking, having conversations, playing listening games such as Simon Says and asking them to respond to questions using full sentences. Developing these skills in the early years will allow students to develop into **effective readers and strong communicators**.

Have a great week

God bless,

Nicole Anderson

Assistant Principal Curriculum



Important Dates	
15 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Year 6 Leadership Assembly
16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Bishop Inservice Day – Student Free Day
22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	10am Ordination Peter Doherty
8 <sup>th</sup> March	P & F Welcome Disco
13 <sup>th</sup> March	P & F AGM

### Year 5

The Year 5 design technology unit for this Semester is to design a new gardening tool. The learners have looked at existing gardening tools, and written about the positive and negative feature of 3 tools. Then they thought about changes that they would make to one of these tools, to suit a particular group of people (children, tall people, people with a sore back, elderly, disabled etc). The next stage to draw and describe the changes they are making and why. They will be sharing their designs during an oral presentation to their class.



Working With CATHOLIC EDUCATION  
DIOCESE OF ROCKHAMPTON

## WE ARE HIRING

### OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE COORDINATOR

### ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, GRACEMERE

▶ TERM-TIME, FOR UP TO 38HPW

APPLY TODAY

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 26 FEBRUARY 2024

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

#bethedifference

Catholic Education is committed to best practice in student protection policies and procedures and is an equal opportunity employer. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply.

Upcoming Events/Save the Date	
28 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Cross Country
24 <sup>th</sup> May	Trivia Night
10 <sup>th</sup> June	Photo Day
12 <sup>th</sup> June	Athletic Carnival
21 <sup>st</sup> June	Colour Run
10-12 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Challenge Cup
9 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Family Fun Night
30 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Pupil Free Day
3 <sup>rd</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Year 6 Camp
7 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Swimming Carnival





**8<sup>th</sup> August 2024**  
*More details to come soon!*

**You're Invited**  
**Year 7 2025 Enrolment Evening**

We invite all intending Year 7 2025 parents to attend our Enrolment Information Evening on **Monday 26 February at 5:30pm** in the College Mercy Centre. Applications for Year 7 2025 Enrolment close on **Wednesday 27 March 2024**. Visit our website to apply online.

[www.fccr.com.au](http://www.fccr.com.au)

A Catholic Co-educational Boarding College in the Diocese of Rockhampton

*With praise and thanksgiving to God*  
 Most Reverend Michael McCarthy  
 Bishop of Rockhampton  
 invites the people of the Diocese of  
 Rockhampton to the  
 Presbyteral Ordination of  
**Rev Peter Duncan Doherty**  
 10.00am, Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024  
 St Joseph's Cathedral

For those unable to join in person, the event can be  
 watched online at:  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/StJosephsCathRton>

# ST PATRICK'S DAY RACES

## Sat 16 March

Catholic Education—Diocese of Rockhampton



*Winner's Circle*

# LUNCHEON

**TICKET \$100**

- ✦ 2 Course gourmet sit-down luncheon includes complimentary drink on arrival
- ✦ TAB and Bookie facilities
- ✦ Spot prize draws
- ✦ Air-conditioned comfort

RSVP to Lauren Atkinson at CEO by  
**1 MARCH 2024**  
ph: 4994 8010  
e: [lauren\\_atkinson@rok.catholic.edu.au](mailto:lauren_atkinson@rok.catholic.edu.au)



**AMATEURS GRANDSTAND**  
CALLAGHAN PARK, ROCKHAMPTON

Luncheon commences at 12noon  
Doors open 11.30am

*Dress standards apply*