



**SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**Enriching Spirits ~ Educating Minds**

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**NEWSLETTER**

30th November 2023

### From the Principal's Desk

A little concerned about the Christmas list this year? Have a friend or relative who has everything? Well the suggestions below, may be of help.

How about:

- A \$10,000 toilet seat which is warmed to a suitable temperature, weighs you, does a medical check and closes automatically.
- A \$16,000 mini panzer tank that shoots paintballs whilst making appropriate noises.
- A handcrafted pool cue with a medieval double axe head attached, only \$160,000.
- A diamond fishing lure for catching a discerning fish. 4,753 diamonds and rubies encased by 1.3kg of gold and platinum, a steal at \$2 000 000.
- The ultimate Christmas gift, only \$20-35 million US, a seat on a tourist shuttle into space.

As the years march on, it becomes more difficult to purchase that 'perfect' gift, particularly for older children in their twenties/thirties (We have three).

Once all the cricket bats, rugby league and netball gear, the makeup and jewellery are purchased, over a series of Christmases, there's not much left to stuff into a stocking. Money is generally not appropriate because they are all employed.

Older children may forget your birthday or to purchase that Christmas present but, as attested by many of their entries on Messenger, they never forget any money their parents owe them.

The greatest gift to give at Christmas is good memories.

We never quite know who will be sitting at the table with us next year.

Money and celebrity status cannot protect you – Matthew Perry (Actor)  
Great talent cannot protect you – Tina Turner (Music artist)  
Fame and importance cannot protect you – Queen Elizabeth II

All of these people were not expecting to miss Christmas dinner this year.

Just as the cycles of families can affect who is at that table. Older children or those with their own littlies, may choose a Christmas day far from family.

Treasure the Christmases you have.

So take that photo, be pleasant, celebrate with joy.

And remember, it is all about the birth of a little baby two thousand years ago. An extraordinary beginning to a life journey, of only 33 years, which transformed our world.

We hope your day is one of peace, generosity and a recognition of the importance of family.

Travel safely, have a well deserved break and return well rested.

A special farewell to our Year 6s as they continue on their life journey. On behalf of our school family, we thank them for their leadership and enthusiasm for Sacred Heart this year. Their exuberance, willingness to be involved wholeheartedly and pride in all they have done, have been greatly appreciated.

To the many families also who have their final child completing their primary school education at Sacred Heart or may be leaving us, thank you for your support and commitment. All the very best for the future.

Take care and have a joy filled Christmas, everyone.

Max Martin



### From Our APRE

As parents/carers, we can all relate to the moments spent waiting for our children, whether it's at school, sports activities, playdates, or various appointments. It often feels like we're in a perpetual state of anticipation, with mental to-do lists and dinner plans taking shape during these periods. This period of expectancy, or what we may aptly term the "advent" of something, is indeed a familiar experience for many of us. In this case, it's the joy of being reunited with our beloved children.

Soon, our Catholic community embraces a special season known as Advent. These four weeks leading up to Christmas offer us a valued opportunity to prepare ourselves for the arrival of Christ and the festive Christmas season.

For our children, however, patience during Advent may seem elusive as they eagerly await the arrival of Christmas day.

So, how can we, as families, actively engage in the celebration of Advent?

One beautiful tradition is the use of an Advent wreath placed on your table. Crafted or purchased, this wreath adorned with greenery features four candles—three purple and one pink. Each candle symbolises a unique aspect of the Advent season:

1. Hope (Purple Candle): Often referred to as the Prophets' candle, it represents the anticipation of a promising future.
2. Peace (Purple Candle): Known as the Angels' candle, this purple flame embodies the peace that the Christmas story brings.
3. Joy (Pink Candle): The Shepherds' candle, symbolising the sheer joy the Christmas message brings to our lives.
4. Love (Purple Candle): Represented by the Bethlehem candle, it signifies the love embodied in the birth of Jesus.



As we embark on this Advent journey, let's reflect:

God of patience, help us to remember that Christmas is a time to celebrate the birth of Jesus. May his birthday bring joy and happiness as we spread peace and joy to all. Amen.

May this Advent season be filled with meaningful reflections, cherished moments, and the warm embrace of love and joy within our families and community.

Blessings to all this Christmas season

Melissa Collins

## From Our APC

As another School year comes to an end, looking back I marvel at the amazing accomplishments of our students.

The talents they possess covers a range of areas from academic prowess, musical talents, sporting achievements and community service.

This year, I have seen students step out of their comfort levels to participate in a myriad of curricular activities and others push themselves to reach their very best.

While it is important to take time to relax and unwind, it is also important to keep our children's minds stimulated over the holidays.

Some ways to do this include, encouraging your child to keep reading over the holidays, use educational apps and games, and get creative with art activities.

The links below give useful information to help keep your child engaged in fun learning activities for the holidays.

<https://www.literacyforboys.com.au/5-simple-tips-to-keep-kids-reading-over-the-holidays/>

<https://www.education.com/activity/arts-and-crafts/>

<https://thestemlaboratory.com/stem-activities-for-kids/>

### Book Lists

Below are links to the 2024 book lists. Some items will be added to school fees, as these resources are ordered in bulk or are a yearly subscription.

The following local businesses offer a 5% discount on book lists being filled for Sacred Heart families.

- Keppel Bay Plaza News
- Office National Xpress Yeppoon
- Emu Park Newsagency
- Capricorn Educational Resources Allenstown

[PREP](#)

[Year 1](#)

[Year 2](#)

[Year 3](#)

[Year 4](#)

[Year 5](#)

[Year 6](#)

Wishing you a lovely Christmas with your family

Lisa List.

## From Our APA

As Assistant to the Principal Administration, my contributions to the newsletter each week are more of the 'for your information' variety - the pop-up uniform shop, the regional sports calendar, the swimming lesson information, the excursion update.

This week, I take the opportunity to say thank you to the amazing students and families of Sacred Heart.

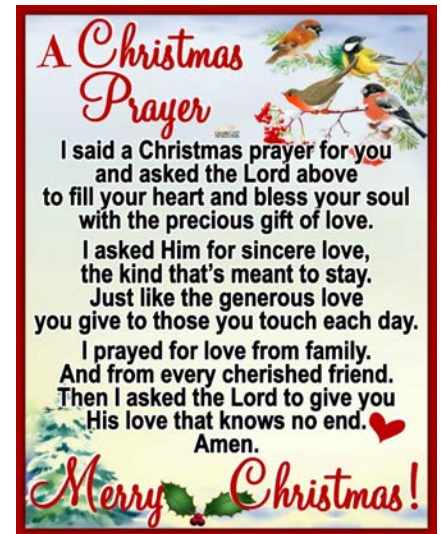
Coming into this role, I have been so grateful to be surrounded by a community of colleagues and families who have been so supportive.

I wish everyone a safe and relaxing Christmas. I say this as I am about to embark on many weeks out of school with 4 children of my own. I don't think relaxing is on the cards, but it is certainly a time I cherish very much, spending time with family and friends.

Safe travels if you are venturing away this holiday and I look forward to seeing you all on the first day of school next year (Monday 22nd January, 2024).

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas.

Jennifer Kenny



## Important Dates

### December

Friday 1st - Final day term 4. End of year assembly 8.40am.

Thursday 7th - Our school office closes at 12.30pm.

### January

Monday 15th - Our school office reopens at 9am

Monday 22nd - First day of school for 2024

## Capricorn Coast Catholic Parish

Here is the Sacred Heart Church bulletin for this week. Stay connected and enjoy. [Link to Bulletin](#)

Please also find attached an [article on the Australian Plenary Council](#), for your information.

## Lantern Awards

Kevin Zhong	Year 1	Compassion	For being a loyal friend and always looking after your classmates.
Mila McKenna	Year 1	Compassion	For looking after a classmate who was feeling sad at lunch time. You are a wonderful friend.
Lewis Cauchi	Year 2	Being just	For including everyone in your lunch time games and making sure no one missed out. Thank you.
James Muller	Year 3	Compassion	For being so caring of others and making sure everyone is looked after and included.
Eibhlin Timlin	Year 4	Compassion	For being a loyal friend and always keeping an eye out for your friends who may need help.
Charlie McKeown	Year 5	Being just	For giving of your time to make a genuine effort to assist with the Year 6 dinner set up. Your groundsman skills were greatly appreciated.
Dayna Cook	Year 6	Compassion	For your willingness to always accept added responsibilities and to show concern for your peers.
Frankie Mouglin	Prep	Courage	For showing resilience and determination during all PE lessons this term. You have tried your best at all activities. Well done.



## Sacred Heart Colour Run



Last Friday, Sacred Heart held a colour run. It was a great afternoon with the students' participation and behaviour being amazing.

Thank you to the Queensland Fire Service for assisting on the day.

Well done to our Parent Connect group for organising this event.

Over \$500 was raised for this year's St Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal.

Thanks to Marogallery photography who captured the day. See below link and password to access photos.

If you do access photos for social media purposes, can you tag or mention Marogallery in your posts.

Link to the Colour Run Gallery: <https://marogalleryphotography.shootproof.com>

Password: ColourRunFun2023

## Tuckshop

There will be no tuckshop for our Year 4s to 6s tomorrow Friday.

We thank Mrs Kaylee Hance for her great work operating this facility at our school.

## Prep Nativity Assembly

Well done to our Preps who did an outstanding job presenting the Nativity story at assembly this week. Their acting and singing were amazing. Such an important story told reverently and with passion.



## Farewell To Staff

We farewell the following staff and wish them all the very best for the future. Thank you for their professionalism and commitment to our school.

Mr Christopher McIntosh will be teaching at St Brendan's College.

Mrs Katie Bain is teaching at St Ursula's College.

Mrs Eryca Rawiri is semi-retiring and looking after her grandchildren.

Miss Madelaine Ward is teaching in Rockhampton.

Miss Bridget Campbell will be teaching at St Ursula's College.

Mr Brad Hay is teaching at St Brigid's, Emerald.

Mrs Kerry Lewis, our crossing supervisor, is retiring and spending more time with her great grandchildren and grandchildren.



## Children's Classes for 2024 Important Message

Families will be made aware of their child/ren's class and teacher for 2024 on Tuesday 16th January.

Our Preps for next year will know their classes by Wednesday next week via email.

If you have any concerns with accessing this, do not hesitate to contact our office.

## 2024 Sports Trial Calendar

Rockhampton District sports calendar for 2024 is now available. See the link below for trial dates and important information pertaining to these.

[2024 RDS 10-12 Years Trial Calendar](#)

## Sacramental Program 2024

Our Sacramental Program information (inclusive of dates for 2024) is [available here](#) for any families who are wishing for their child/ren to receive Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation.

If you have queries regarding this, contact Mrs Collins at school. Thank you.

## End of Year Concert

Videos of our concert and the Prep assembly will be available to view via Parent Lounge from this Friday afternoon.

Thanks and appreciation go to Mr Ian Rendell for filming and editing these.





# End of Year Thanksgiving Mass



## Musical Performance



Yesterday, our singing students under the tutelage of Mrs Kate Ellis performed for the school their musical entitled, "Elflandia".

The audience was captivated as they danced, sang and showed great courage and confidence.

Well done to all involved. (Sarah, Maya, Noah, Alex, Aria, Tiarna, Emersyn, Molly, Sophie, Keira and Mrs Ellis)

## Community News

The Capricorn Coast Catholic Parish

### CHRISTMAS MASSTIMES

*4th Sunday Advent*

**Saturday 23 December 2023**  
5:15pm Mass Mary Immaculate

**Sunday 24 December 2023**  
9:00am Mass Sacred Heart

*Nativity of the Lord*

**Sunday 24 December 2023**  
4:30pm Carols Mary Immaculate  
5:00pm Mass Mary Immaculate  
6:30pm Carols Sacred Heart  
7:00pm Mass Sacred Heart

**Monday 25 December 2023**  
9:00am Mass Sacred Heart

**Sacred Heart Church 7 Tabor Drive Yeppoon**  
**Mary Immaculate Church 38 Archer Street Emu Park**