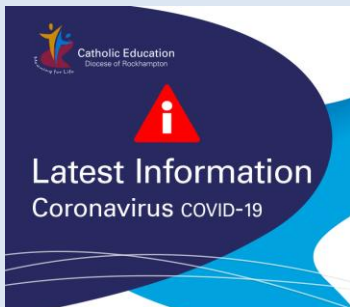


Information is available on the Staff Portal under the following graphic



Please continue to reference updated [COVID-19](#) information on the [Queensland Health](#) website or [Australian Government](#) website.

Also available via the Staff Portal are **Counselling Resources**

Download the COVIDSafe App with information via the following [link](#)

Reflection from Pope Francis



Jesus challenges us to put aside all differences and, in the face of suffering, to draw near to others with no questions asked.

Date Claimer:

Ashwin Acharya will be ordained Deacon for the Diocese of Rockhampton on 18 November 2020.

The ordination will be live streamed, and information will be provided closer to the date. We continue to keep Ashwin in our prayers.

Friday 6 November 2020

Good morning everyone

This week I am pleased to share with you the announcement that the Foundation Principal of Catherine McAuley College, our new secondary school in South Mackay, is Jim Ford. As many of you would be aware Jim is currently the Principal of Mercy College, Mackay, a role he has held for the past 15 years. Jim commences his new role from the beginning of the 2021 school year as extensive planning and preparation gets underway in readiness to welcome students and families in 2022. Those in our Mackay region may have noticed building works are now well advanced and in response to recent advertising we are already taking enrolment enquiries for 2022 and well beyond. These are exciting milestones in the College's development, and I offer my appreciation to all involved in contributing in so many and varied ways to the establishment of Catherine McAuley College.

Catholic Education's Reconciliation Action Plan is currently being reviewed and updated with support from Reconciliation Australia. As one of the first Catholic Education authorities in Australia to take up this initiative and formally adopt a documented plan 11 years ago, I am very pleased to see this great work continue. It is in keeping with our vision for Reconciliation that we reaffirm our continued commitment to strengthen relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples through an *Innovate - Reconciliation Action Plan*.

I was delighted to hear of the many schools who undertook activities and special fundraising efforts during October for Mission month. There was a wonderful response in particular to the Socktober initiative with many testing their *goal kicking* and *goal keeping* skills and raising much needed funds for Catholic Mission for their work with disabled children in Cambodia. To the many teachers and staff who worked to organise and run these activities, I offer my grateful thanks for your worthwhile and much appreciated efforts.

I wish to acknowledge and thank two of our Regional Board Liaison Officers, who will be finishing in their roles at the end of this year for their dedicated service to each of their communities. Caryll Schofield has provided strong and enthusiastic support to Boards at St Patrick's College and Emmanuel Catholic Primary School in Mackay, and Lyn McGuire's many years of wise counsel for Boards at Marist College, St Patrick's and St Brigid's Catholic Primary Schools, Emerald will be sorely missed. I extend my deep appreciation to both Caryll and Lyn for their valued contributions to Catholic Education.

Finally, our Year 12 ATAR students have completed the second week of external examinations and these will continue, finishing on Tuesday 17 November. Our students have been inspirational in their efforts to achieve their potential and like me, I am certain teachers and parents are incredibly proud of the application, diligence and focus this cohort has demonstrated. Please keep them in your prayers as they undertake these final important steps.

God bless,

Leesa

National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC) has launched the 200 Years Catholic Education Website for the Bicentenary of Catholic Education in Australia November 2020 to December 2021.
<https://200years.catholic.edu.au/>

Additional information will be provided over the coming weeks.

Day for Daniel was once again acknowledged across our schools last Friday

Pictured below: Staff and students from The Cathedral College, Rockhampton were involved in the day in various way ; St Joseph's Biloela walked around the town; St Patrick's Emerald held a fun run obstacle course raising funds for the Daniel Morcombe Foundation and St Mary's Mackay who had a visit from their Adopt a Cop and participated in the World's Biggest Safety Lesson.



The Hon. Michelle Landry MP visited **St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Wandal** this week to see the new Yarning Circle, funded by a Local Schools Hub grant. Yarning Circles are a traditional part of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, used to promote collaboration, communication and the sharing of knowledge. Pictured below with students from left: Kellie Jenkinson (Principal), Michelle Landry MP (Federal Member for Capricornia) and Rheanna Starr (APRE).



National Recycling Week Monday 9 to Sunday 15 November. Now in its 25th year, Planet Ark's National Recycling Week provides an important opportunity for schools and individuals to improve their recycling knowledge, build better recycling habits and build trust in recycling. To find out how you can be involved click [here](#)



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

John Mott, father of Lisa Castro and Catherine Pearson, Shalom College, Bundaberg.

John Hinchcliffe, father in law of Christine Hinchcliffe, The Cathedral College, Rockhampton.

Please remember in your prayers those members of our extended Catholic Education Family who are unwell.

John Hinton, former principal, and CEO Leadership Team member.

Deb Campbell, Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Yeppoon and wife of John CEO.

Del Rowan, mother of Di-Anne Rowan CEO.

Rosemary Weilharter, Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School, Gladstone.

Nadene Hottes, St Mary's Catholic Primary School, North Rockhampton.

William Piacentini, former student of St Paul's Catholic Primary School, Gracemere.

Congratulations to:

Kristi Bourke on her appointment as AP: Mission Chanel College, Gladstone commencing in 2021.

Clare Clarke, on her appointment as Acting APRE for 2021 at St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Bundaberg.

Employment:

For further information and to apply click [here](#)