



ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL WINTON

TERM 4 | Week 7 | 2025

Friday November 28th
Annual Community Fete

Monday December 1st
End of Year Mass

All are welcome, St Pat's Church,
8.45am in the St Pat's Church

Friday December 5th
Last Day, Half Day

Free Dress with a 12pm Finish.
Students are asked to bring a
shared plate for a celebratory
Morning Tea.

Monday December 8th
Report Cards Published
Via COMPASS

Wednesday January 28th
Term 1 Commences

P&F UPDATES

UPCOMING EVENTS
St Pat's Fete

Friday, November 28th

There are several opportunities to be involved and we encourage as many parents as possible to help out.

Parish Bake Sale – We are seeking baked goods. These can be delivered to the St Pat's Staffroom anytime on Thursday or Friday of the fete.

P&F Canteen – If you can help with food prep, serving in the canteen, or selling drinks and food tickets, please let Tracey Mutton or Wendy Searle know.

Raffle Tickets – If you are keen to help write raffle tickets on the night of the fete, please let Vickie or Bridget know.

Newsletter

A Message from Our Principal

On Tuesday evening, we proudly came together to celebrate Presentation Night in the big hall for the very first time—a wonderful sign of the growing size of our little St Pat's family. It was a pleasure to gather as a community and reflect on a year filled with learning, growth, and achievement. Along with acknowledging those students who received awards for exceptional accomplishments or remarkable personal development, we also took the time to farewell some cherished members of our community, including our wonderful Year 6 graduates. Their departure marks the end of a special era—one in which both our school and our children have continued to grow and blossom. Thank you to everyone who joined us in support and helped make the evening such a memorable occasion.

Move Up Day was a wonderful success across the school and has set our students up beautifully for an exciting start to 2026. Early Years enjoyed an un-bear-lievably fun 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' adventure, exploring obstacle courses, developing fine-motor and early writing skills, creating maps, and even discovering a cheeky bear hidden in a tree. Middle Primary embraced a day of creativity and teamwork with 'Stories About Me' crafts, team-building games, and a magical 'Room on the Broom' experience that included discussion, writing, and a much-loved lava-lamp potion experiment. In the Upper Primary, students explored the theme 'Keys to the Future' through goal-setting scrapbooks, a challenging escape room full of literacy, numeracy and problem-solving tasks, and collaborative story writing that unlocked the power of teamwork. Our students left Move Up Day buzzing with excitement and they simply can't wait to step into their new classes in 2026!

I am absolutely delighted to share that Mrs Dayna Curtis has been appointed as Acting Principal during my maternity leave next year. Dayna is an exceptional educator who brings over 15 years of experience in Catholic education, along with a proven record of leadership, innovation, and deep commitment to student learning and building staff capability. Because she already plays such a significant role in our school, her appointment ensures continuity, stability, and a seamless continuation of the work we value so deeply. Our community can feel confident that it will be very much business as usual at St Pat's in 2026. Our team is thrilled to have one of our own stepping into this role and are confident in Dayna's ability to lead our community forward. We have begun the recruitment process to backfill Dayna's current position.

Just like that, we're on the ONE WEEK COUNTDOWN to St Pat's Annual Community Fete! This year we've teamed up with Winton Shire Council to bring a FREE KIDS ZONE, featuring Laser Tag, Face Painting, a Jumping Castle and Christmas Craft. Be sure to bring plenty of cash for our Upper Primary Sideshow Alley and all the fantastic stalls. Don't worry adults, we've got you covered too! Boulia DJ Belly's Beats will be making his fete debut and of course, a crowd favourite, the ShopRite Ham Wheel, is back! It's not too late to be involved if you'd like to be a sponsor or be involved in the evening's festivities just reach out to our school. In the interim get those fingers and toes crossed to finally jag a year with clear skies.

This year for our Last Day Half Day, we've teamed up with Marvellous Miss Mary & The Happy Helpers (who you'll also see at our fete) to host The Amazing 2025 Christmas Party. Students are invited to come in free dress and throughout the morning they'll enjoy festive crafting and receive a special message from Santa to help bring a little extra Christmas magic to the day. All students are encouraged to bring a shared plate for our celebratory morning tea/lunch before the 12pm pickup.

We'll be putting out our final newsletter at the end of our last with all the information you'll need to help you have a smooth start to 2026.

Bridget Tully

Early Years (P&1) News

What a wonderful week it's been for our littlest learners! We kicked things off with Presentation Night, a special chance to celebrate all the incredible achievements of our St Pat's kids. Our Early Years crew beamed with pride as they shared their hard work with parents, carers and loved ones. Mid-week brought the excitement of Move Up Day, transformed by a magical We're Going on a Bear Hunt theme. Meanwhile, our fabulous Year 1s enjoyed a sneak peek into Miss Warry's class—by all reports, the experience was bright, bold and totally colour-ific.

In English, the past two weeks have been bursting with creativity as the classic tale The Three Billy Goats Gruff has been completely reinvented- think foxes, vampires, dolphins and more! The Writing Process has truly come alive as each storyteller takes their ideas to new heights. Last week was filled with planning, drafting and editing story-map illustrations to support the writing ahead. Prep writers began crafting simple sentences to match their pictures, while the Year Ones focused on sentence fluency and choosing spectacular words. This week brought conferencing, sentence editing and typing up final pieces on Chromebooks as publishing gets underway. A huge highlight was Presentation Night, where everyone proudly showcased their place in The Writing Process- it was a joy to see such excitement and ownership of their work.

In Maths, our learning has been all about sequencing and comparing events by their duration. There's been plenty of rich talk happening as mathematical language grows- words like longer, shorter, seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks and years are popping up everywhere. And since this is our final Maths focus for the year... well, let's just say time really does fly when you're having fun! Next, we'll be using our time (pun absolutely intended!) to revisit and revise key concepts so we're feeling confident, connected and ready to launch into 2026.

In Science we've been busy investigating how different objects move- discovering which ones roll, which ones slide and how their round or flat surfaces make all the difference. To wrap up the year with a bit of sparkle, the classroom has been transformed into a blackout zone! Over the next few lessons, we'll be diving into the world of natural and man-made light sources, experimenting with shadows and even exploring how sound travels. It's set to be an illuminating finish to our Science adventures!

- Miss Hawke

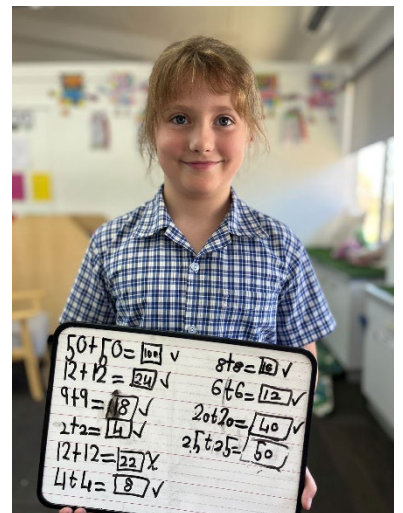
Middle Primary (2&3) News

Over the past two weeks, our students have been busy exploring a wide range of learning experiences across the curriculum.

Students have been working on texts of their own choice, applying the 6+1 Writing Traits we've focused on this term. This has encouraged them to think carefully about ideas, organisation, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, conventions, and presentation. Alongside writing, we've been revising important spelling rules and continuing to build confidence and stamina in reading.

Our focus has been on chance and probability. Through engaging games such as PIG and discussions about everyday events, students have been learning to describe outcomes as likely, unlikely, inevitable, or impossible. For Year 2 learners, this means recognising chance in everyday situations and using simple language to explain outcomes. For Year 3 learners, the challenge extends to representing chance with fractions and exploring fairness in games. This way, each group builds on their prior knowledge while stretching into new skills.

We have continued our learning about the sacraments, exploring their meaning and importance in the life of the Church. Students have reflected on how these special celebrations connect us to our faith and community.



Middle Primary (cont.)

Our science unit has centred on heat. Students have been investigating how heat is produced, transferred, and used in everyday situations. They are beginning to understand how heat can change materials and why it is such an important energy source in our lives.

Last week we had a very exciting visit from the local firefighters. This was a highlight for many students! We interviewed them with thoughtful questions about their role in the community, explored their uniforms and equipment, and even had the chance to see the fire truck up close and spray the water hose. This experience gave students a real-world understanding of community helpers and the vital role they play in keeping us safe.

We also welcomed our 2026 learners for Move Up Day. To get to know one another, students completed an About Me activity, sharing their interests and strengths. Together, we read and responded to stories through discussion and writing, building connections and confidence. The day finished with a hands-on science experiment, creating colourful lava lamps and mixing up a magical potion inspired by 'Room on the Broom'. It was an excellent opportunity for students to experience the excitement of learning at their new year level.

- Miss Warry



Upper Primary (4/5/6) News

What an exciting fortnight it has been in Upper Primary! Alongside all our learning, we were thrilled to welcome our future Year 4 students for a special "taste" of Upper Primary life. They joined us for the day, met their new classmates, and experienced what learning will look like next year.

Our Upper Primary writers proudly presented their final writing projects for the term at Presentation Night. Some students showcased beautifully published pieces, while others shared the important steps in the writing process - planning, drafting, revising, editing and conferencing- celebrating every milestone along the way. For the remainder of the term, students will continue to strengthen their skills in text structure, paragraphing, word choice and sentence fluency. Ongoing work in spelling, punctuation, reading comprehension and fluency will also continue.

Students are wrapping up their Statistics and Probability unit and shifting their focus to shapes in the environment, nets of 3D objects and identifying parallel cross-sections of prisms. Just like in English, the last two weeks will be dedicated to reinforcing key mathematical concepts to ensure all learners finish their year level confidently and successfully.

In Religion, students have been exploring church communities past and present. Through scripture from St Paul and the teachings of St Mary MacKillop, students have been making real-world connections to how Christians live out their faith today, both within our school and wider community.

Upper Primary have finalised their business plans for the fete - and we are excited to announce that four Side Show Alley games have been selected! Students will now be working closely with Ms Dayna to prepare, design and refine these games, ready to engage and entertain our community at what will be our fourth year of Side Show Alley at the St Pat's Fete.

Our final Science topics for the year are well underway.

Year 4 are investigating contact and non-contact forces and how these influence the movement of objects.

Year 5 are exploring the fascinating phenomenon of light.

Year 6 are stepping into the shoes of young electricians- learning how electricity is transferred and transformed in power generation.

Although subject awards have now been presented, our learning does not stop. Students will continue strengthening their knowledge and skills in all subject areas. With this in mind, it is vital that your child maintains strong school attendance to ensure their learning remains continuous and uninterrupted. These last weeks are filled with opportunities for growth, celebration and confidence-building, and we look forward to seeing every student give their very best right until the final bell of 2025.

- Miss Stacey





St Patrick's Annual Community Fete

28 Nov 2025
St Pat's Shed, Winton

Food • Bar • Raffles
Live Music • Ham Wheel

KIDS ZONE:
Jumping Castle • Face Painting
Laser Tag • Sideshow Alley

STALLS:
Homemade Goodies
Cakes • Toys • Lucky Dips

*** CASH ONLY**



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