

# LOVE

OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS  
DIOCESE OF TOWNSVILLE



Diocese of Townsville

Catholic  
Education



TERM 3 2015

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

# CONTENTS

Indigenous Spaces	3
St Michael's Palm Island	4
Indigenous Youth Leadership Project	6
Mungalla	7
New Look Team	8
Exploring Indigenous Spirituality	10
Term 4 Calendar	12
Traditional Owners Map	14
Aunty Joan Hendriks Award Winners	15
Mulkadee	16
Catholic Education Awards	17
Northern Schools	18
Southern Schools	19
Townsville Schools	20
Western Schools	23
Kindergarten	24

Cover: Students from St Teresa's College, Abergowrie in Brisbane for the Indigenous Youth Leadership camp

Townsville Catholic Education acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.

All information and images are subject to copyright. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored or transmitted without the prior permission of the Townsville Catholic Education Office. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information at the time of print, TCEO takes no liability for any errors, omissions or subsequent consequences on information within this publication.

(C) Copyright 2015



# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

TERM THREE IS always a busy time for our schools and we celebrated two very important events during this period. Our Mulkadee Youth Arts Festival was held in July, and with more than 1,000 students participating, it was an outstanding success for performers, teachers, mentors and our staff. While our final, spectacular performance was delivered to a sell-out crowd, Mulkadee has its foundations in the gift of learning that our students receive in the preceding week, as they work with eminent performers and musicians from around our country and overseas.

We celebrated all that is good about our schools during Catholic Education Week, recognising our 21 local Spirit of Catholic Education Award nominees. We also boasted two state winners who received their awards from the Governor of Queensland in Brisbane. The accolades continued with the awarding of our inaugural Deus Caritas Est medals to ten outstanding year 12 students who exemplify our Christian values in their school communities.

There is much to be proud of within our Catholic schools and in this term newsletter, we recognise the achievements and outcomes of our Indigenous students. We are very blessed to have some amazing staff working in our schools who are in charge of the Indigenous Education Program and who give so willingly of their culture and faith. They ensure we fulfill our aim of fully respecting the important roles that our first nation people play in our history and entrench this rich culture in our schools. This month we feature St Michael's School, Palm Island.

Please join me on a journey through this term's magazine and help us to celebrate our Indigenous education program and the achievements of our students and staff.



Dr Cathy Day  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## Congratulations



### Deus Caritas Est Award Winners FROM CATHOLIC SCHOOLS ACROSS THE TOWNSVILLE DIOCESE

Hannah McNeale, *Ryan Catholic College*; Jasmine Rawlinson, *St Margaret Mary's College*; Brooke Stevenson, *Columba Catholic College, Charters Towers*; Chelsea Langdon, *Burdekin Catholic High School*; Tiffany Ann Alfred, *St Patrick's College*; Shane McArdle, *St Anthony's Catholic College*; Clare Patmore, *Good Shepherd Catholic College, Mount Isa*; Adriana Di Bella, *Gilroy Santa Maria College, Ingham*; Jarvis Connolly, collecting the award for Allan Wosomo, *St Teresa's College, Abergowrie*; Brett Kittle, *Ignatius Park College* with Fr Mick Lowcock, *Diocesan Administrator* and Dr Cathy Day, *Executive Director*

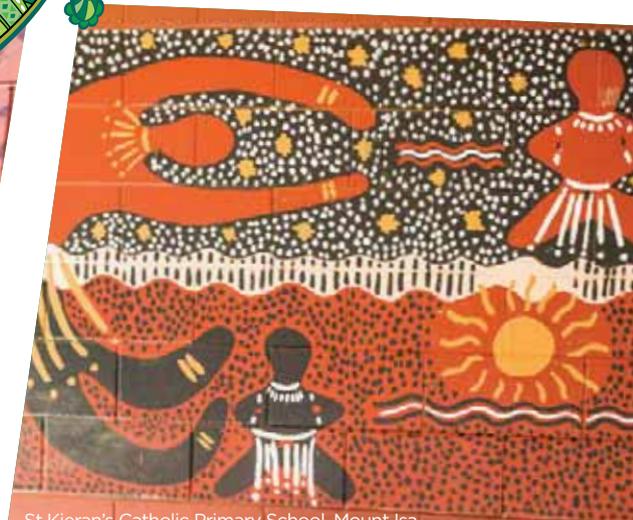


"Let us go forward in peace, our eyes upon heaven, the only one goal of our labors."

-St. Therese of Lisieux



An Indigenous wall at Marian Catholic School, Currajong



St Kieran's Catholic Primary School, Mount Isa  
Indigenous mural



# INDIGENOUS

## SPACES WITHIN OUR SCHOOLS

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT the Townsville Diocese are developing Indigenous Spaces, as part of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Action Plan.

These spaces play an important role in acknowledging Traditional Owners, providing school communities with a designated area to share culture and knowledge.

Many schools use these spaces for Indigenous and non-Indigenous students to reflect on Indigenous spirituality.



Indigenous celebrations and learning at St Joseph's Catholic School, Mundingburra



St John Bosco School, Collinsville  
Indigenous cross

# St Michael's School

## PALM ISLAND

“ WE TRY TO INSTIL IN THE CHILDREN FROM AN EARLY AGE AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE IMPORTANCE OF AN EDUCATION, AS WELL AS LIVING OUT THE VALUES OF TRUTH AND LOVE - OUR SCHOOL MOTTO. ”

- PRINCIPAL GARY RECKLIES



### DID YOU KNOW:

On Palm Island, 48% of residents identify as Catholics, 22% as Anglican, 24% as other Protestant, 5% no religion and 1% as Baptist



Principal Gary Recklies



**FOUNDED** IN 1938 by the Sisters of Our Lady Help of Christians and later the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary Sisters, St Michael's School has grown to become an educational community offering quality Catholic education to more than 120 students from Prep to Year six.

Principal Gary Recklies first moved to Palm Island in 2003 to take up a classroom teaching position and in 2009 was appointed Principal.

“I WAS LOOKING FOR A CHALLENGE, SOMETHING DIFFERENT AND SOMETHING EXCITING.

ST MICHAEL'S PROVIDED ME WITH JUST THAT. I APPLIED FOR THE ROLE KNOWING THAT IT WOULD BE A ONCE IN A LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY!”

Since commencing his principalship at the school, Gary has managed more than \$5 million of capital works projects, including refurbishments to classrooms, the staffroom, administration and playground spaces. Has also constructed the lighthouse building (with a resource and parent centre), the school tuckshop and multipurpose hall.

“Anyone who has been involved in any type of capital construction at a school would understand there are a range of challenges. But there is a whole new level of complexity building on Palm Island,” Gary says.

“We've had our fair share of challenges, including sinking barges, but I'm incredibly proud to stand back and see the facilities that are

now available to the young people of our community.”

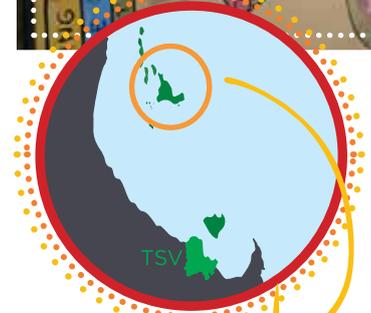
St Michael's School services the local Indigenous community by offering a literacy and numeracy focused curriculum, based on the new Australian Curriculum.

“Over the past few years we have had a focused effort on improving our students' ability to read and write. In doing so, we have worked collaboratively with Townsville Catholic Education and Australian Catholic University in the implementation of the Accelerated Literacy and the RoleM Mathematics programs,” Gary says.

Recognition and respect of the local Indigenous culture is at the core of the school's character and this is typified by the unique leadership structure which includes a Senior Community Liaison Officer, a position long held by Doris Watson.

“Our Island faces major challenges, however the people do want to move on from the pain of the past and the best way we can do this is through education,” Gary says.

“Education on Palm Island is effective when it is a genuine partnership between the student, school, parent and community. This is when we will see our students succeed and change occurring. We will continue to develop and deliver a robust curriculum that will challenge and inspires our students to learn, so that they will hopefully go on to further their education and up-skilling and become the community leaders of the future.”



## Palm Island

**A TROPICAL ISLAND** located off the coast of Townsville, Palm Island is home to more than four thousand people, known as the Bwgcolman People - a term meaning 'many tribes, one people' in acknowledgement of the Island's history.

**CLEAR BLUE WATER** and green hills of tropical rainforest welcome you as you arrive on Palm Island, just 65km north-west of Townsville and a 20 minute flight. The island is glorious, with large stretches of pristine beaches and views across the Coral Sea. Indigenous people first began living on the island in 1918 when it was established as a mission, and for many years, Aboriginals from throughout Australia were sent to Palm Island. They came from different tribes and places, spoke different languages and had different customs. Now more than 100 years since it was settled, Palm Island is still very much a community of communities.

# Indigenous YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM



At Griffith University with Professor Roianne West and former IYLP students Tayla West-Chong, Tyla West-Chong and Vernon Armstrong.



At QUT with Fiona Smallwood, Recruitment Officer from the Oodgeroo Unit



At ACU with Jake Hardiman, ACU Equity Pathways Officer & current ACU student Francis Nona

## What is the Indigenous Youth Leadership Projects?

THE INDIGENOUS YOUTH Leadership Projects (IYLP) is a Secondary Scholarship program that aims to provide Indigenous students with the opportunity to pursue quality educational and leadership opportunities.



At the Wheel of Brisbane



At Parliament House, Brisbane



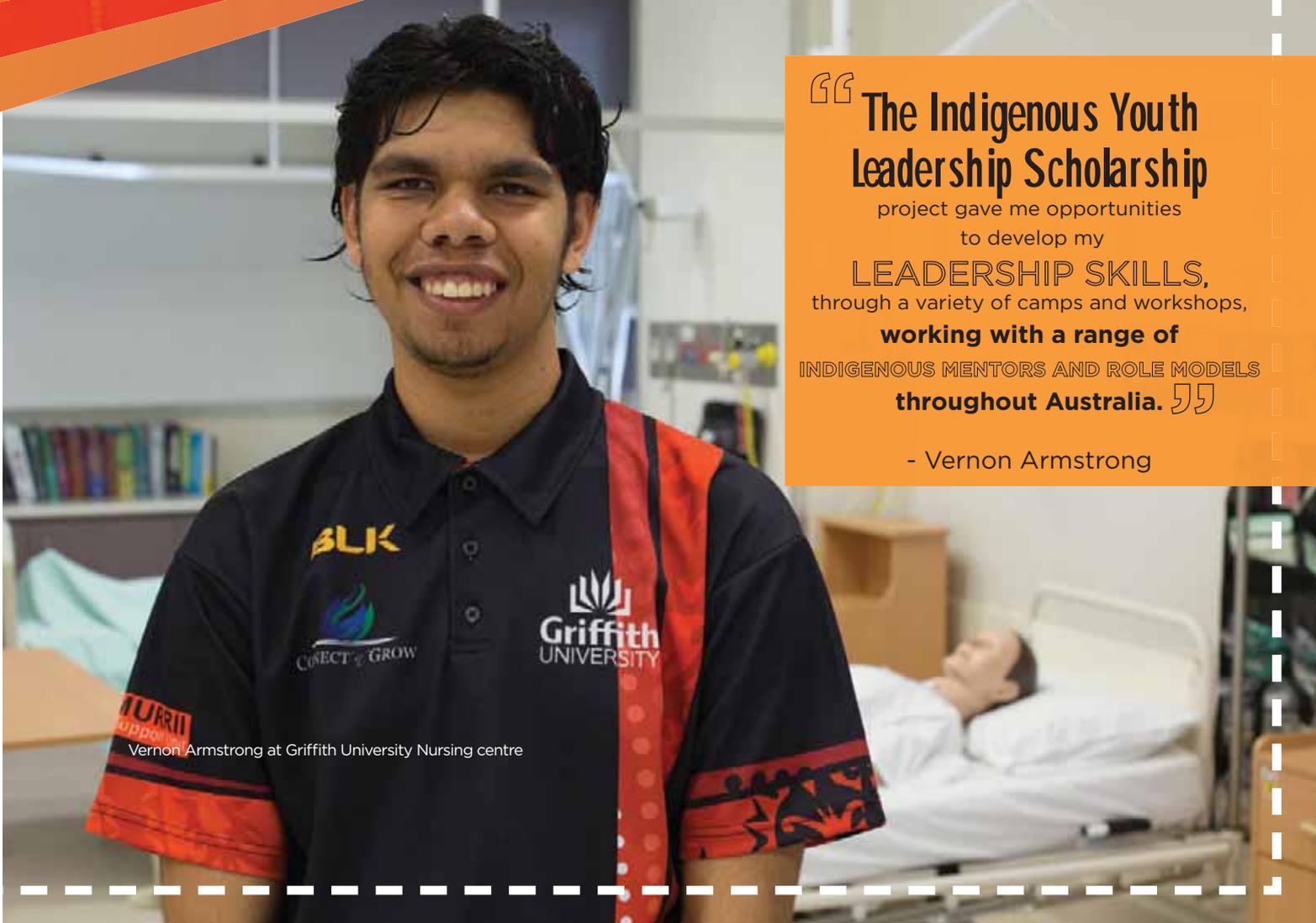
At the Cathedral of St Stephen, Brisbane



At the Cathedral of St Stephen, Brisbane



At Parliament House, Brisbane



Vernon Armstrong at Griffith University Nursing centre

“**The Indigenous Youth Leadership Scholarship** project gave me opportunities to develop my **LEADERSHIP SKILLS**, through a variety of camps and workshops, **working with a range of INDIGENOUS MENTORS AND ROLE MODELS throughout Australia.**”

- Vernon Armstrong

MOUNT ISA STUDENT Vernon Armstrong is on track to achieving his dreams of being a Nurse, studying a Bachelor of Nursing at Griffith University.

Vernon graduated from St Teresa’s College Abergowrie in 2014, as College Vice Captain and recipient of the Indigenous Youth Leadership Project (IYLP) scholarship.

Whilst at school, Vernon studied a Certificate II in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, in Australia’s First Remote Health Education Centre.

“Learning about the statistics at school made me realise why it is so important to improve Indigenous health” Vernon says.

Travelling over 1,800 kilometres to relocate to the Gold Coast, Vernon has been successful in the completion of his first semester at university,

“**I wanted to study health because I want to better the health outcomes for**

**MY PEOPLE.**”

“When I first arrived at Griffith it was so surreal, with many big buildings and people everywhere. Now it feels real and I am proud of my achievement of being the first person in my family to ever attend university,” Vernon says.

Townsville Catholic Education, in partnership with the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet supports over 140 students through the Indigenous Youth Leadership Project.

Indigenous Youth Leadership Project Coordinator, Megan Harrison says, supporting students like Vernon is what the IYLP is all about.

“The program started with 18 students in 2010 and today remains a valued program within the Indigenous Education team, supporting a network of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and their families throughout Queensland,” Megan says.

“We want to inspire young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to realise that they have the potential to reach their goals and that we can support them to make their dreams a reality.”



“Intense love does not measure . . . it just gives.”  
-Blessed Mother Teresa



INTRODUCING

# Indigenous

## Youth Development Program

TOWNSVILLE CATHOLIC EDUCATION Office has been successful in gaining funding for two programs under the Indigenous Advancement Strategy, with the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet guaranteeing 2.5 years of funding for the Indigenous Youth Development Program (IYDP) and the Indigenous Pathways Program (IPP).

The IYDP offers scholarships to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander secondary students who have the aspirations to further develop their skills in the arts, sport and to achieve academically. The IYDP also gives students the opportunity to study at an IYDP secondary school within the Townsville Diocese.

The scholarship will provide wrap around support and implement programs and events to support attendance, culture and identity, post school pathways, academic achievement, sport and the arts.

The Indigenous Pathways Program (IPP) is a program to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander secondary students with their Year 12 attainment. They will have the opportunity to successfully transition to a tertiary or vocational pathway through support to complete their QCE, school based training, certificates or apprenticeships and be able to exit school with a genuine job, career or study pathway.

## MUNGALLA ABORIGINAL TOURS

A GROWING NUMBER of schools are organising excursions to Mungalla Station near Ingham. Mungalla is a working cattle station which in 1999 was purchased by its traditional owners, the Nywaigi Aboriginal People. Prior to this it was a famous cattle and horse stud owned by the pioneering Cassady and Atkinson families. Students can learn about indigenous culture, examine artifacts, listen to the didgeridoo and throw boomerangs. They also learn about European pioneering history and environmental care during their excursion. Mungalla has had a successful partnership with the CSIRO to control invasive weeds in the wetlands.

They can view the Captive Lives museum exhibition which tells the story of two groups of indigenous people from the area who were taken from their homeland to tour the USA and Europe in circuses and shows.

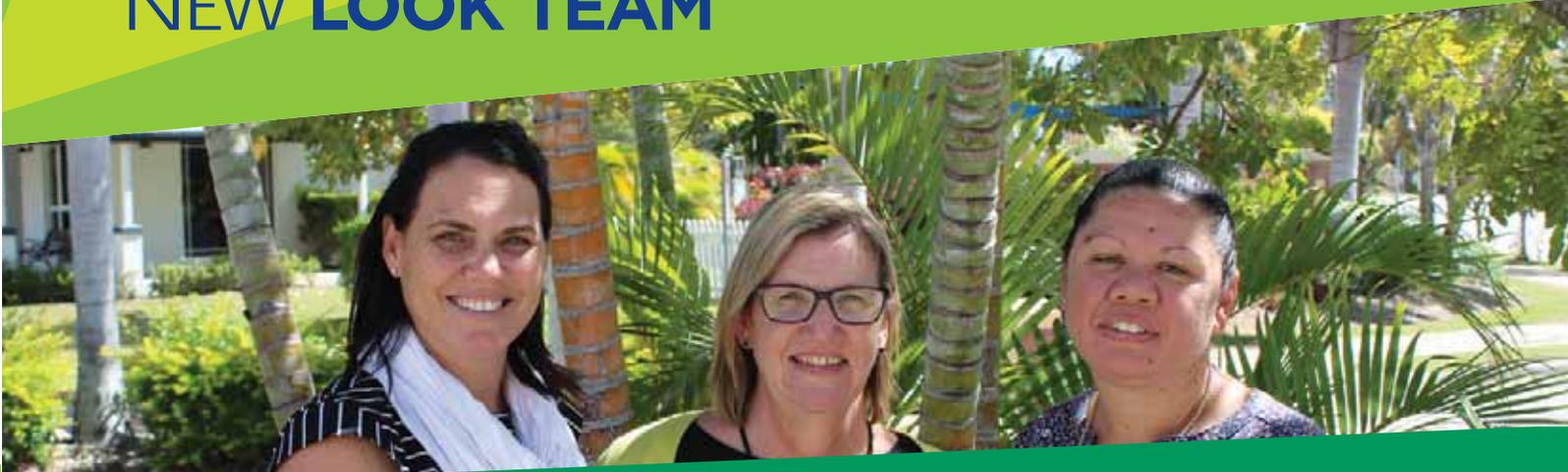
More information and resources are available on the website:  
[www.mungallaaboriginaltours.com.au](http://www.mungallaaboriginaltours.com.au)



Among the Catholic schools which have visited this year are Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School, Ingham and Gilroy Santa Maria, Ingham enjoying their time at Mungalla.



# NEW LOOK TEAM



“**TOWNSVILLE CATHOLIC EDUCATION'S ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER EDUCATION TEAM PROMOTES AND SUPPORTS**

**EDUCATION OF INDIGENOUS STUDENTS IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT THE DIOCESE.**”

Recent staffing appointments have seen a new-look team driving the strategic directions of the department.

## Tammi Webber

INDIGENOUS EDUCATION ADVISER, Tammi Webber was born and raised in Mount Isa on Kalkadoon country. Tammi has worked with Townsville Catholic Education for 15 years.

Currently, Tammi is studying for her Masters of Indigenous Education through Macquarie University and earlier this year, her research saw her travel to Chicago, USA, to present at an international culture, language and heritage conference. Tammi will be based in Mount Isa to provide a new service delivery to the west and will be overseeing various exciting projects including Stronger Smarter, the JCU Research Project into Effective Indigenous Pedagogy, and Indigenous Spirituality Retreats.

## Janelle Knack

FOLLOWING A LONG career with Education Queensland in transition support, Janelle Knack has joined the team at Townsville Catholic Education in the role of Indigenous Education Adviser where she is project managing the IYDP and Pathways Program. Janelle is a Gungarri woman and has worked with students from Cape York to Palm Island, supporting them in their move from community to boarding school. Through this role, Janelle has worked with several Catholic schools, including St Teresa's College, Abergowrie, Columba Catholic College, Charters Towers and St Patrick's College, Townsville. Janelle is now focused on working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in Catholic schools in the Diocese.

## Megan Harrison

MEGAN HARRISON DESCENDS from the Bindal and Wulgurukaba Traditional Owner groups and has been employed with Townsville Catholic Education since 2009 as an Indigenous Education Adviser. In this role, Megan oversees the Indigenous Youth Development program across the diocese and has long standing relationships with Catholic schools in the diocese. Currently, Megan is the Chair of the Townsville Indigenous Catholic Committee.

Townsville Catholic Education is very pleased to welcome this new team and looks forward to the positive outcomes they will deliver for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in Catholic schools in the Townsville Diocese.



**Geoff Lui**  
Indigenous  
Education Support  
Officer



**Hayley Mazzoni**  
Project Officer,  
Indigenous Youth  
Leadership Program



**De'arne French**  
Project Officer,  
Indigenous Youth  
Development  
Program



**Vanessa  
Blackman**  
Indigenous Education  
Administration  
Assistant



**Renee Reibel**  
Indigenous Education  
Administration  
Assistant

*"The things that we love tell us what we are."*  
-Saint Thomas Aquinas

# EXPLORING INDIGENOUS Spirituality



*EARLIER THIS TERM, Uncle Peter Smith took time to sit down with Townsville Catholic Education Indigenous Education Adviser, Tammi Webber to share his views on Indigenous Spirituality.*

## About Uncle Peter

PETER IS A Kamilaroi man; Kamilaroi country is around South West Queensland North West NSW.

Peter was born in Murrurundi in the Upper Hunter Valley of NSW and moved to Queensland in 1960. He served 23 years in the Australian Regular Army with active service in Malaysia in 1956/57 and in Vietnam in 1966/67.

After being discharged from the army in 1978, Uncle Peter became a ranger in the Aboriginal Ranger Service. He served in areas from Injune, Rockhampton, Bamaga and the Torres Strait Islands and Mount Isa. This involved locating, recording and protecting local Indigenous sites including artworks, ceremonial grounds, burial grounds and artifacts.

He is married with nine children (five girls and four boys) and has 24 grandchildren and 32 great grandchildren. Peter was a member of the National Aboriginal and Islander Catholic Council for nine years from its formation. He is a member of the Mount Isa Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council and for the past four years he has been the World Council of Churches Australian representative at the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

## How do you describe Aboriginal spirituality?

I must firstly point out that the following is my understanding and beliefs regarding our spirituality, and are not necessarily agreed to by everyone. Aboriginal people have always had a belief in a Creator Spirit, some power which created all that exists, often using stories to explain how this came about, for example rainbow serpent stories, the coloured sands of Rainbow Beach and of course many others.

By being an Aboriginal man who has experienced the presence of our ancestors at sacred sites, I see how our Christian faith and our traditional Aboriginal beliefs come together as one for me, and make my faith complete.

## What is the connection between the Bible's Book of Genesis and the creation story?

Genesis 2 verse 7 *"The Lord God took a handful of soil from the ground and formed a man. He breathed life giving breath into his nostrils, and the man began to live."* This confirms our Aboriginal beliefs that the earth is our mother, and confirms our connection to the land. Almighty God gave us our culture and our belief in a creator spirit long before colonisation.



## What are some of the Similarities?

Since God was with our people at the beginning, then Jesus was with our people at the beginning. We may not have known Jesus, but Jesus knew us. And in the fullness of time, made himself known to us. I recall the story told to us by Pastor George Rosendale from Cape York Peninsula of the 'Maladigera' whose responsibility was to protect a person accused of a tribal offence. He would stand in front of the accused person to protect them from being speared. When the Maladigera was speared, and his blood flowed, the accused person was forgiven for his offence. When told of Jesus and his sacrifice of his blood by the Missionaries, our people recognised Jesus as being a 'big' Maladigera.

In your opinion, what is the connection between

## the Traditional Catholic Faith and Aboriginal spirituality?

I believe that Aboriginal spirituality is not contrary to the teachings of the Catholic Church. It is part of my whole belief, not a separate entity. They both reaffirm my own spirituality.

## The church is much more open to our beliefs and our spirituality today.

### What are your hopes for the future of the Catholic church?

Since my baptism in 1934, there have been a number of changes that I have experienced. As a child attending Mass in Murrurundi, the Masses were always in Latin and as an altar boy I had to learn a certain amount of Latin. One was required to fast from midnight before communion also. For 200 years the church had been telling us what was best for Aboriginal people, and where they seen us in the church, but today, with the formation of local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups and the National ATSI Council, we now have moved from passive participants to active participants in the Church. It is my hope that this acceptance will continue, and the Church will comply with the suggestions made by Pope John Paul II to Indigenous people in Alice Springs in 1986. "You are part of Australia and Australia is part of you. And the Church herself in Australia will not be fully the Church that Jesus wants her to be until you have made your contribution to her life and until that contribution has been joyfully received by others". For others to joyfully receive our contribution, then we as Indigenous Christians have to be actively engaged and offer our gifts to the Church.



## How important is it for us to teach students the difference between traditional Catholic and Aboriginal spirituality?

I think we should teach them the similarities. It is good for our Indigenous students to be aware of our own spiritualities and for non-Indigenous students and people to be aware that there are other ways of explaining our beliefs. Here in Mount Isa, the Catholic Church acknowledges that the Kalkadoon people are the traditional owners of the land on which our Church is built. This is on the screen prior to Mass, and displayed on a plaque at the entrance of the Church. During NAIDOC week we have specific Indigenous input into the Church services.

## How do we best embed Indigenous Spirituality into our Catholic schools?

By inviting Elders into our schools to speak to our children. By participating and promoting Liturgies, assemblies and prayer gatherings regarding Indigenous spirituality, not just during NAIDOC week, but all throughout the year. By using Indigenous symbols such as crosses, prayer stones, artwork, music and storytelling.

The Coming of the Light is a holiday celebrated by Torres Strait Islanders on 1 July each year. It recognises the adoption of Christianity through Island communities during the late nineteenth century.



**DID YOU KNOW:** 22.2% of Indigenous Australians identify as Catholic



# TERM 4 2015

## Calendar of Events



	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<b>WEEK 1</b>	Public Holiday 05 OCT	First day of Term 4 06 OCT	07 OCT	08 OCT	09 OCT	10 OCT	11 OCT Feast of St Francis of Assisi 04 OCT
<b>WEEK 2</b>	12 OCT	13 OCT	14 OCT	15 OCT	16 OCT	17 OCT	18 OCT World Mission Day National Water Week
<b>WEEK 3</b>	Pupil Free Day National Water Week 19 OCT	National Water Week 20 OCT	National Water Week 21 OCT	National Water Week 22 OCT	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Education Awards National Water Week 23 OCT	Mark Mappas Awards Evening National Water Week 24 OCT	25 OCT All Saints

WEEK	Day	01 NOV	31 OCT	30 OCT	29 OCT	28 OCT	27 OCT	26 OCT	Day	08 NOV	15 NOV	22 NOV
WEEK 4												
WEEK 5							Melbourne Cup	All Souls Day				
WEEK 6												
WEEK 7												
WEEK 8												
WEEK 9												

"Lord, grant that I might not so much seek to be loved as to love."  
-Saint Francis of Assisi

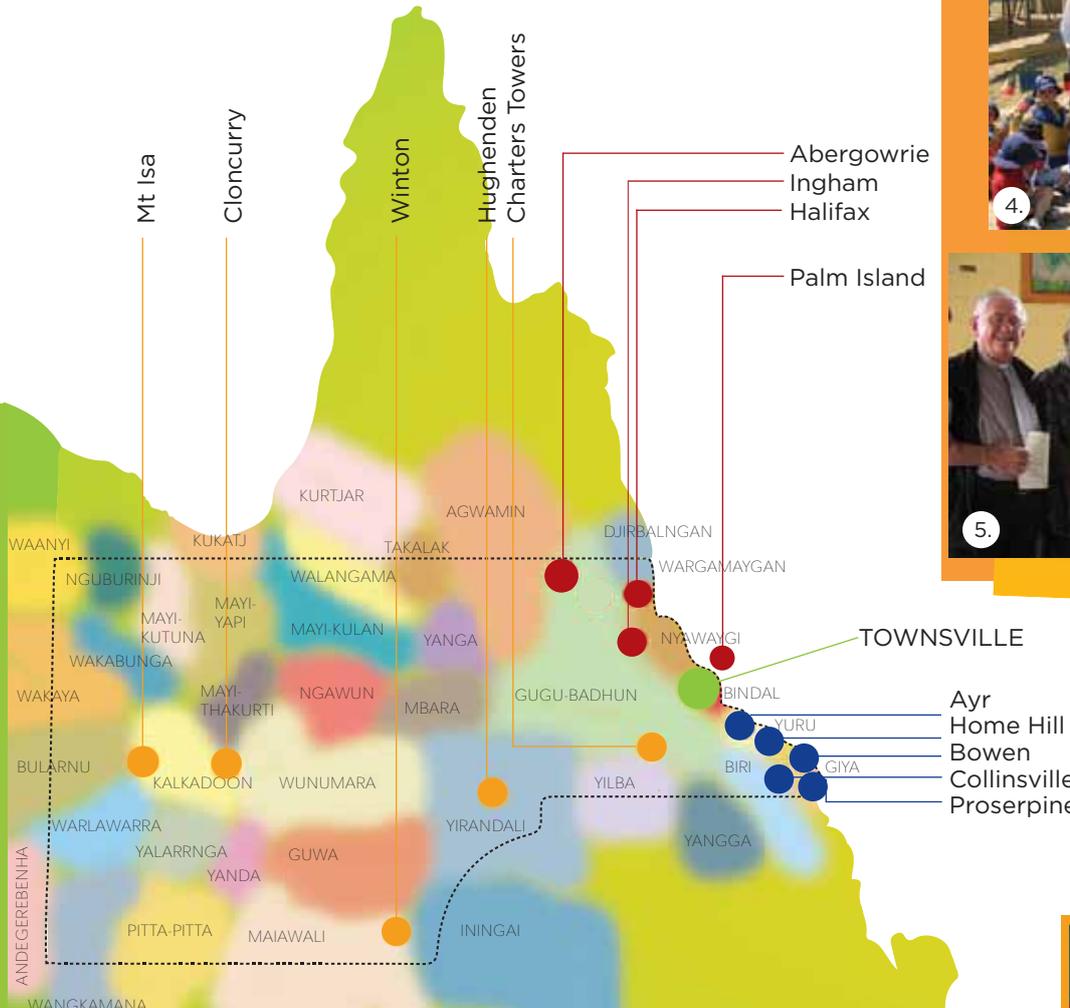
[www.tsv.catholic.edu.au](http://www.tsv.catholic.edu.au)





# TRADITIONAL Owners

THIS MAP INDICATES the Catholic Diocese of Townsville and the Tribal/Language Group Names.



## QUEENSLAND

*Townsville Catholic Education acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.*

Images from the Heritage Acknowledgement Program facilitated by Townsville Catholic Education

1. St Peter's School, Halifax
2. St Teresa's College, Abergowrie
3. Gilroy Santa Maria College, Ingham
4. St Patrick's School, Winton
5. Marian Catholic School, Currajong
6. Ryan Catholic College, Kirwan
7. St Michael's School, Palm Island

Diocese of Townsville  
**Catholic Education**

# AUNTY JOAN HENDRIKS Award

STAFF FROM THE Townsville Diocese have been awarded the Aunty Joan Hendriks Award for Reconciliation three out of the past four years.

The Aunty Joan Hendriks Spirit of Catholic Education Reconciliation Award, initiated in 2012, recognises an outstanding contribution to Reconciliation by a member of a Queensland Catholic education community. Indigenous and non-Indigenous members of Catholic education communities are encouraged to nominate for this award.

## Karl McKenzie Catholic Education Week 2012



As an Indigenous person, Karl has lead the way in facilitating change within many levels of Catholic Education. Karl is the current chair of the Townsville Diocesan Indigenous Education Committee, Bishop's representative on the Indigenous Catholic Committee, member of the Queensland Catholic Education Commission Indigenous sub-committee and Chair of the Federation of Parents and Friends association State Committee, just to name a few. The work Karl does on all levels is always with the utmost integrity and respect for all people. Karl has the unique ability to bring people together by talking about his Indigenous heritage and his stories in a very subtle way.

Pelly Morganson originates from Darnley Island in the Torres Strait. She worked at St Teresa's College, Abergowrie from 2005 (originally as a kitchen hand, then teacher aide, then Residential Secretary) going on to become the Indigenous Program Officer, as well as Enrolments Officer.

Pelly completed an Indigenous Cadetship at the Australian Catholic University graduating with a Bachelor of Education (Primary) and is currently employed as a teacher at Good Shepherd Catholic College, Mount Isa.

Pelly embraces her cultural heritage and is an inspiration to many. She epitomises everything it means to work within Indigenous Education at a Catholic school. She has high expectations and outstanding relationships.

## Pelly Morganson Catholic Education Week 2014



Born and bred in Mount Isa on Kalkadoon country, Tammi has been with Townsville Catholic Education for 15 years, the last 10 years at St Kieran's Catholic Primary School, Mount Isa. This year Tammi has taken on the position of Indigenous Education Adviser at the Townsville Catholic Education Office.

Tammi established St Kieran's Catholic School Indigenous Family Support group, and project managed the development of the Community Partnership Agreement with the Kalkadoon Community, which aims to recognise and engage the local Elders into the school community. Delivering crosscultural awareness programs across the three Catholic schools in Mount Isa, Tammi has a leading role in the professional development of all staff. She is also a valued member of the Diocesan Indigenous Education Committee. Tammi is currently studying a Masters of Indigenous Education, undertaking ground breaking research on effective teaching practices for Indigenous students.

## Tammi Webber Catholic Education Week 2015





Mulkadee  
TOWNSVILLE CATHOLIC EDUCATION  
YOUTH ARTS FESTIVAL  
2015



Thankyou to our specialists, staff, crew and students who made Mulkadee 2015 such a

# huge success!



### SPECIAL THANKS TO



SIXTEEN

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



# CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK 2015

## DURING CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK, We recognised Townsville Diocese recipients on the 2015 Spirit of Catholic Education Awards:

Aleesha Rockemer	Southern Cross Catholic College, Annandale
Dawn Allen	Ryan Catholic College, Kirwan
Diane Lee	Holy Spirit School, Cranbrook
Ellen Beams	St Margart Mary's College, Hyde Park
Emma Thorne	St Anthony's Catholic College, Deeragun
Geraldine Feaver	Southern Cross Catholic College, Annandale
Jan Oram	St Joseph's School, The Strand
Leanne Rowbotham	Holy Spirit School, Cranbrook
Paula Duffy	Ryan Catholic College, Kirwan
Petreaah Carroll	St Joseph's Catholic School, Mundingburra
Susan Philips-Koshy	Holy Spirit School, Cranbrook
Suzy Sherrif	St Margart Mary's College, Hyde Park
Terri O'Connell	St Clare's Catholic School, Burdell
Narelle Bird	Holy Spirit School, Cranbrook
Russell Bird	Holy Spirit School, Cranbrook
Jeanette Kennedy	St Teresa's College, Abergowrie
Lawrence Zanella	Burdekin Catholic High School, Ayr
Fr Bill Busuttin	St Catherine's Catholic College, The Whitsundays
Mary Frederichs	St Catherine's Catholic College, The Whitsundays
Daniel McShae	Columba Catholic College, Charters Towers
Tammi Webber	St Kieran's Catholic Primary School, Mount Isa



## Well done to Tammi Webber and Suzy Sherrif

who were named

**STATE AWARD**

winners at the

**State launch of**

**CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK**

**in Brisbane.**



Catholic Education Week Mass, Spirit of Catholic Education Award Nominees



"Real love is demanding. I would fail in my mission if I did not tell you so. Love demands a personal commitment to the will of God."

-Pope John Paul II

# Love our SOUTHERN SCHOOLS

## St Francis School, Ayr MINI VINNIE'S

THIS TERM, STUDENTS from St Francis School, Ayr supported a winter clothing appeal, fundraising for the St Vincent de Paul Society. The brisk morning was complemented with a dress up day and a special morning pray gathering providing the students with an understanding of the issues many people face in winter. The school raised \$346.50.



## Burdekin Catholic High School, Ayr FOOTBALL FESTIVITIES

THE BURDEKIN CATHOLIC High School under 15 boys football team competed in the Bill Turner Cup, a school based soccer competition for boys aged 15 and under. Having won the Area 1 Peninsula - North Queensland - Mackay region competition, they travelled to Brisbane, competing in two state quarter finals. The boys showed great endurance, courage, good humour and sportsmanship. When faced with overwhelming odds they rose to the occasion. They did not lose a game over normal time during the whole tournament and played with resolution, skill and a love of the game.

## St Colman's School, Home Hill KNOW, LOVE AND SERVE

AS PART OF their Mercy Charism, St Colman's School, Home Hill visited their local Hostel Home for the Aged. The students in years 5 and 6 visited the Home Hill Hostel twice this term and enjoyed interacting with the residents. Students prepared games and activities to engage with the residents and many just enjoyed the company and interaction with young people. The students always return to school with a sense of pride and accomplishment and both the residents and students are looking forward to their next visit.



## St Catherine's Catholic College, The Whitsundays FASHION RECOGNITION FOR ART STUDENTS

ST CATHERINE'S ART Department is enjoying some fantastic success this term. Year 10 student, Kloee Kendall, won the Calliope Catwalk Fashion Design Awards, in the wearable art category, competing against senior peers. A successful day was also had by three of our Art students who entered Wilmar Sugar Wearable Art Parade at the Reef Festival. Marina Van Blarcom received a very highly commended in the senior section (3rd place) and overall prizes were awarded to Conor Patullo for the Innovative Workmanship Award and Eloise Male, who won the Creativity Award.



## St Mary's School, Bowen MINI VINNIE'S SLEEP OUT

EIGHTEEN MINI VINNIES students gathered to learn about the plight of homelessness in our community. Their first mission was to walk to the Neighbourhood Centre with their donations of toiletry items to make up packs for the homeless and needy clients that drop in for a helping hand. Then they walked the five blocks back to school to indulge in a cup-a-soup and slice of bread. Students then found their position either inside or on top of their folded cardboard box bed. Students raised \$357.85 for the St Vincent de Paul Society.



"Intense love does not measure . . . it just gives."  
-Blessed Mother Teresa

# Love our **NORTHERN SCHOOLS**

## *St Peter's School, Halifax* **INDIGENOUS GARDEN OPENING AND BLESSING**

THE OPENING AND blessing of St Peter's School, Halifax, Indigenous Garden was celebrated early this term to coincide with NAIDOC Week. The Indigenous Garden project was commenced last year in partnership with the Ranger Class at Gilroy Santa Maria College. The school then received a grant which instigated stage two of the garden, under the guidance of Victor Bligh, our local Nywaigi Elder. The garden is a symbol of the Nywaigi influence in the local community and the school's respect for its culture, customs and story.



## *St Teresa's College, Abergowrie* **GOWRIE BOYS SPEAK UP AT INGHAM ARTS FESTIVAL**

STUDENTS FROM ST Teresa's College, Abergowrie competed at the Ingham Arts Festival this term, overcoming their nerves to deliver public speeches and bible reading passages in the local competition. The highlight was year 12 student Allan Wosomo receiving first place for the delivery of his speech, 'What is humanity's next great mission?'



## *Gilroy Santa Maria College, Ingham* **CHEMICAL ANALYSIS IN THE SUGAR INDUSTRY**

YEAR 12 CHEMISTRY students from Gilroy Santa Maria College, Ingham visited the Wilmar Victoria Mill laboratories. Students prepared their own sample of C type molasses and analysed it using the chromatograms from the high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) machine. They also had a 'question and answer' session with several chemical engineers. The excursion provided the students with a first hand chemical analysis experience within the sugar industry.

## *Catholic Education Week* **AMBASSADORS VISIT INGHAM**

THE FOUNDERS OF a world first mobile laundry service for the homeless, Lucas Patchett and Nicholas Marchesi, visited Ingham during Catholic Education Week to talk to students from Gilroy Santa Maria College and St Teresa's College, Abergowrie, inspiring future leaders to support social justice work in their community. Orange Sky Laundry aims to give homeless people the dignity of clean clothes and, in collaboration with other agencies, assist them to get back on their feet and into housing.



Love our

# TOWNSVILLE SCHOOLS



*St Clare's Catholic School, Burdell*  
**ALTAR SERVERS**

TEN CHILDREN FROM St Clare's Catholic School, Burdell have elected to participate in the altar server ministry. Father Giles has been the mentor of these students, patiently teaching the children the ritual. The students have been taking pride in making sure the Mass runs smoothly and they certainly proved themselves at the celebration of Mass on St Clare's Feast Day.

*Marian Catholic School, Currajong*  
**ECO WARRIORS**

SEVENTY STUDENTS FROM throughout the diocese came together to become superheroes for the environment as part of Catholic Education Week celebrations. Inspired by the Papal Encyclical about caring for our common home, the students engaged in a series of workshops focused around living sustainably. Students participated in climate change activities, and listened to guest speakers talk about Minke whale conservation, marine debris and how to reduce, reuse and recycle.



*Marian Catholic School, Currajong*  
**GREEN THUMBS**

YEAR 4 CLASSES have been developing their green thumbs in the vegie garden. The garden was planted as the students studied the Science Unit, Plants in Action. Starting with raised garden beds, the students dug fertilizer into the soil, tested the soil for acidity with a testing kit and planted seeds and seedlings. Harvesting the vegies has been exciting and fulfilling. The best part has been preparing the lettuce and tomatoes into a salad. It was yummy!!

*Southern Cross Catholic College, Annandale*  
**TOAST OF THE TOWN**

SOUTHERN CROSS CATHOLIC College, Annandale 'Teen Vinnies' students opened the Toast Room this year, an initiative of service to their community. Operating on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings, the students feed an endless supply of toast to any and all within the school community in need of some breakfast. These service-focused teens volunteer their time on these mornings to toast, butter and serve loaves and loaves of bread to fill hungry tummies. Special thanks must go to Brumby's Bakery at Annandale for sustaining the bread supplies.



*St Anthony's Catholic College, Deeragun*  
**MILESTONE YEAR**

ST ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC College has marked a decade at their secondary campus site at Deeragun. The Assisi campus was opened in 2006, and now accommodates 559 students, across Years 7 to 12.

Pictured are St Anthony's Catholic College Principal Barry Horner, Fr Giles Setter and inaugural College principal, John Nuttall, who joined with Georgina Tombs and Chloe Sibley to seal a time capsule to celebrate the occasion.



*St Anthony's Catholic College, Deeragun*  
**QLD CATHOLIC SCHOOLS MUSIC FESTIVAL**

CONGRATULATIONS TO ST Anthony's Catholic College, Deeragun who performed superbly at the Queensland Catholic Schools Music Festival. The Big Band was awarded the silver medal in the stage band section with plenty of competition from the Brisbane schools, as well as Ipswich, Emerald and Yeppoon. Students had the opportunity to rehearse at the Queensland Conservatorium of Music and take a tour through the facility.

*Ryan Catholic College, Kirwan*  
**LIBRARY CAMP**

TWENTY-ONE YEAR 4 students were rewarded with a camp in the school library to promote reading at Ryan Catholic College this term. The students were thrilled to have a special visit by local author, Tania Cox. The students were also extended and challenged to think about how science can enhance learning, create enjoyment and become a vehicle for the arts. The enjoyment and novelty of sleeping at school was an exciting opportunity that they will remember for a long time!

*Ryan Catholic College, Kirwan*  
**GEORGIA SET TO BE A TEACHER OF TOMORROW**

GEORGIA MCGRATH, FROM Ryan Catholic College is enrolled in the Certificate III in Education through RATEP (Remote Area Teacher Education Programme). This program aims to encourage Grade 11 or 12 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to a career pathway in Education. Georgia is being mentored by Indigenous staff and is excited to be giving young Indigenous students a great education.



# Love our TOWNSVILLE SCHOOLS



## St Joseph's School, The Strand BOORI MONTY PRYOR VISIT

STUDENTS FROM ST Joseph's School, The Strand were given a personal reading of 'Shake a Leg' by local author, Boori Monty Pryor. The children had fun recreating the stories through song, dance and painting. Students will continue to work in re-creating these stories into an illustrated book, as an extension to the visit.

## St Anthony's Catholic College, Deeragun GRANDPARENT'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

ST ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC College celebrated 'Grandparent's Day' with over 200 grandparents gathering for a special mass and picnic morning tea. Students created colourful drawings of their grandparents for display and 'thank you' posters were carried forward during the entrance hymn. It was a wonderful celebration of 'thanks' to all grandparents.

## Ryan Catholic College, Kirwan VISITORS FROM PAPUA NEW GUINEA

VISITORS FROM THE Catholic Diocese of Aitape, PNG have been enjoying their stay in Townsville exploring our city and attractions and visiting Ryan Catholic College, Kirwan and St Anthony's Catholic College, Deeragun. The Colleges welcomed Fr Bruno, Michael Mave (Youth Worker) and Maryjosephine, Delilah and Armella (students from St Anna's School, Aitape). This is the first time students and staff have been able to welcome visitors from Aitape, north-west Papua New Guinea. It marks a significant point in the relationship started with Ryan Catholic College and the Aitape Diocese in 2007 and continued in 2008 at World Youth Day. This relationship was further enhanced with Ryan Catholic College's inaugural trip in 2009. A group of 28 staff and students will be travelling back to Aitape in September 2015.



## Student Protection TRAINING VIDEO LAUNCH

THE FOCUS ON child safety in Catholic schools within the Townsville Diocese has been further enhanced with the production of a student protection video for staff and parents. The video talent includes local students and staff from agencies that support schools, to reinforce the importance of working together to keep kids safe. The video will be used in induction training for staff and will be available for parents and caregivers to learn more about our approach to student protection.

"Love God, serve God; everything is in that."  
-St Clare of Assisi



# Love our WESTERN SCHOOLS

## St Kieran's Catholic Primary School CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK CELEBRATIONS

THE ST KIERAN'S Catholic Primary school community fully embraced Catholic Education Week. As part of the celebrations, the 'Mini-Vinnies' group worked to develop a series of class service projects to help Good Shepherd Catholic Parish. St Kieran's Prep students created placemats for the local Parish drop-in centre, year 1 and 2 students visited Laura Johnson home residents and presented 'brighten your day cards', year 3 students prepared meals for the local watch house, year 4 students recorded persuasive pieces to be broadcast on a local Catholic radio station, RadioRhema, and year 5 and 6 students held a carwash to raise funds so they could purchase toiletries for the homeless that visit the Parish.



## St Francis School, Hughenden CSIRO SCIENTIST VISIT

ST FRANCIS SCHOOL, Hughenden celebrated Science Week with a visit from CSIRO Scientist in School Professor Rod Seppelt. Professor Rod spent some time in each of our classes conducting a range of experiments with all of our students.

## Mount Isa QUEENSLAND MUSIC FESTIVAL

THE NEWLY FORMED Mount Isa Symphony Orchestra and Combined Schools Choir performed with James Morrison, the John Morrison Trio, The Australian Voices, members of the Queensland Symphony Orchestra, pianist Ambre Hammond and vocalist Emma Pask during the Queensland Music Festival Event held in Mount Isa. The stunning song *Symphony of the Inland Sea* as premiered at this event.

## St Joseph's Catholic School, Cloncurry OPENING AND BLESSING

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC School officially opened its new junior secondary campus this term, worth \$3.96 million. The school community gathered, along with the Diocesan Education Committee to witness this important occasion. This development was made possible by the financial support of Cloncurry Shire Council, State Government, Community and Mining Grants, O'Sullivan family and the local school community.

## Good Shepherd Catholic College, Mount Isa CONGRATULATIONS OLIVIA WILKINSON



Congratulations to Olivia Wilkinson, Good Shepherd Catholic College, Mount Isa, who this week has been nominated by TAFE North Queensland for the Hutchinson Builders Award for Construction Student of the Year.

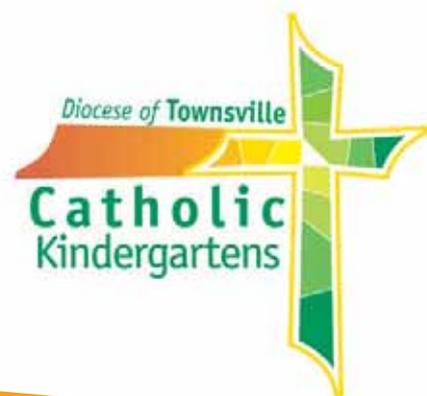


# CATHOLIC KINDERGARTENS ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN

PHONE: **1300**KINDERGARTEN

St Joseph's Kindergarten, North Ward | St Clare's Kindergarten, Burdell  
St Anthony's Kindergarten, Deeragun | Ryan Catholic College Kindergarten, Kirwan  
St Joseph's Kindergarten, Mt Isa | Columba Catholic Kindergarten, Charters Towers

St Mary Mackillop Early Learning Centre Kindergartens:  
Mundingburra, Rasmussen, Kirwan, Ingham & Mt Isa



Enrolment application forms are available from:  
Townsville Catholic Education Office  
or [www.tsv.catholic.edu.au/kindergarten](http://www.tsv.catholic.edu.au/kindergarten)  
or phone: **1300KINDERGARTEN**