

**Volunteers needed**

**TUCKSHOP**

WED 14 MAY—GLADYS, LEEANNE & 1 HELPER NEEDED  
 FRI 16 MAY—SUE, LEANNE, JESS & 2 HELPERS NEEDED  
 MON 19 MAY—RAQUEL, PAT, SHEILA & TASH

**FLEXISCHOOL ORDERING CLOSING TIMES**

WEDNESDAY - CLOSING AT 8:00AM FOR THE SAME DAY  
 THURSDAY—9:30AM FOR FRIDAY INCLUDES ALL BROWN BAGS FOR FRIDAY  
 \*LATE ORDERS WILL SUBSTITUTED AS PER MENU\*  
 MONDAY—8:00AM FOR THE SAME DAY

TUCKSHOP TUBS ARE NO LONGER KEPT OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOMS. ALL BROWN BAGS WITH CASH TO THE TUCKSHOP BEFORE THE FIRST BELL.

**UNIFORM SHOP**

2025 OPENING HOURS  
 MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY  
 8:00—8:30am OR 11:00am—12:30pm

**Playgroup**

GOOD COUNSEL PRIMARY SCHOOL PLAYGROUP

CATERING FOR CHILDREN - BIRTH TO 5 YEARS

FRIDAY MORNINGS 9:00 AM—11:00 AM  
 GOOD SAMARITAN HALL  
 (ACCESS VIA OWEN STREET)

COST: \$2.00 PER FAMILY

BYO: HAT, MORNING TEA & WATER BOTTLE

CO-ORDINATOR: ASHLEIGH GORDON-COOKE  
 0459 676 121

JOIN OUR 'GOOD COUNSEL PLAYGROUP' PAGE FOR MORE INFORMATION

**PARENT ENGAGEMENT MINI CONFERENCE**

SAT 31 MAY | CAIRNS | 9.00AM-3.30PM

**Anxiety.**

**REMINDER TERM FEES**

Term 2 fees have now been issued.

Please check your emails and spam/junk folder and if not received, contact Admin.

**BPAY** is now available for fee payments and is our preferred payment method.

You will find the BPAY information relevant to your account on the Account Statement in the lower right hand section. BPAY assures your payments are allocated directly to your account avoiding any errors.

The remittance statement/payment screen shot should then be emailed to:  
 accounts.innisfail@cns.catholic.edu.au

**PREP ENROLMENTS 2027**

Prep enrolments for 2027 are now underway, with many applications already received. **Any existing parents of students with younger siblings**, please ensure that you have enrolled your Prep student for 2027, if applicable. If you have a child that was born between 1 July 2021 and 30 June 2022 please go to the GCPS website and complete the Application for Enrolment online. If you have any queries, please contact the Office on 40 630 600.

**Watch Out—Cane Trains About**

A note for parents and teachers about Cane Rail Safety.

The 2025 cane crushing season will commence in June and MSF Sugar would like to remind parents and teachers of the dangers of children playing on or near cane trains.

Please make your children aware to stay safe and remember:

- Stay away from locomotives and cane bins
- Don't play around railway lines
- Never walk between cane bins
- Never go on a cane railway bridge
- Never walk behind a train—the driver will not see you
- If you have to cross the railway tracks, STOP and look both ways,
- LISTEN and only cross when it is safe

**CSPQ-Diocese of Cairns Parent Engagement Mini Conference.**

This important event will be held at St Augustine's Cairns Saturday 31 May 2025. 9am - 3.30pm.

I will be there to support the CSPQ organisation and our Engagement, Wellbeing & Learning team. There is also a short CSPQ-Diocese of Cairns Parent Body AGM on this day.

I would encourage you all to attend, support, share, encourage your team and/or nominate for a board delegate position if you can.

Register here <https://www.eventcreate.com/e/cspq-miniconf2025-cns>

If I can assist you in any way, please do not hesitate to reach out.

**GOOD COUNSEL PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER**

**SEEK, LEARN AND SERVE**

13 MAY 2025

TERM 2 Week 4

With a sense of the First Nations country upon which Good Counsel Primary is situated, where learning and ceremony have taken place over many thousands of years, we acknowledge the Mamu People and pay our respects to all Elders—past and present.

Dear Parents/Carers,

Last week the world paused as white smoke rose from the Sistine Chapel chimney and the bells of St Peter's Basilica rang out announcing the election of a new pope—Leo XIV.



Bishop Joe shared a personal reflection over the weekend about the news of our new Church Leader.

**Make Friends with the Poor: Bishop Joe Caddy Reflects on the Election of Pope Leo XIV**

Bishop Joe Caddy of Cairns has expressed his delight at the election of Cardinal Robert Prevost as Pope Leo XIV, highlighting a powerful message the new Pope shared during a meeting of new bishops last September.

Bishop Caddy recalled, "Last September, at a course for new bishops organised by the office of Cardinal Prevost, I was privileged to meet him and have some interaction. His final words to the new bishops at that conference resonated with me and have remained with me. He said, in wrapping up our meeting, that if we do nothing else as bishops, we should 'make friends with the poor.'"

Reflecting on this message, Bishop Caddy emphasised his confidence in Pope Leo XIV's leadership. "Pope Leo XIV will undoubtedly bring his own unique approach to the papacy, but I am sure he will continue in the spirit of both Pope Francis and the Gospel message of Jesus Christ, urging the Church to reach out to the peripheries and bring Good News to the poor."

The election of Pope Leo XIV by 133 Cardinal electors marks a new chapter for the global Catholic Church. As the 267th Successor of Peter, Pope Leo XIV is expected to continue the Church's mission of compassion, outreach, and service to the marginalised.

Last night 36 candidates (including 25 GCP students) celebrated their Sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop Joe presiding over the liturgy. Our students have been preparing for some weeks and will continue their journey as First Eucharist will be at the end of this term. We congratulate them and their families on this significant milestone.

On Saturday 31 May - 9am—3:30pm, the Diocesan Parents & Friends is hosting a Parent Engagement Mini Conference. It is a FREE event to support children's learning and wellbeing. Karen Young is the key note speaker—A Brisbane based psychologist, recognised as a leading authority on child and adolescent anxiety.

**Session 1**—Strengthening Children and Teens Against Anxiety.

**Session 2**—Building Emotional Regulation and Social and Emotional Wellbeing in Children and Adolescents.

**Session 3**—Let's Talk—Q&A

You may join for the whole day or as many sessions as you are able. Information is for parents/carers of all ages—Prep to Yr 12. Details are on the back page, and an online flyer is attached with registration details for catering and seating purposes.

Many thanks to all who attended our Mother's Day Concert last Thursday. Our wonderful staff prepared the students who, as always, stole the show with their poems and songs. It was great to see so many parents and grandparents stay for a cuppa and a chat. Special thank you to Mrs Donna Vecchio and her willing helpers who prepared the morning tea for all to enjoy.

**Raffle winners:**

- Jessica Tammiku
- Josie & Rowan Borg
- Heath Trainor
- James & Eliza Davison
- Tyler & Emily Canino

Regards, Liam



secretary@gcps.qld.edu.au  
 www.gcps.qld.edu.au

**OFFICE HOURS**  
 8:00 AM—3:00PM  
 Ph: 07 4063 0600

**POINTS OF INTEREST**

Page 2—  
 The Life of the School

**DIARY DATES 2025**  
 TUE 22 APRIL -  
 FRI 27 JUNE

**WED 21 MAY**  
**NATIONAL**  
**SIMULTANEOUS**  
**STORY TIME**



**WED 11 JUN**  
**SCHOOL**  
**OFFICERS**  
**DAY**





Life of the School...



Confirmation—4F Prayer Assembly and Sacrament as Mother of Good Counsel ...

Thank you Miss Teagan Forster, Fr Kerry, Bishop Joe and Mrs Donna Vecchio for the support given to all the children over the week.



2025	Term 2 (10 weeks)
Fri 16.5	SOCCER GALA DAY—WP
Tue 20.5	9:00am 6DS & 6S Liturgy of the Eucharist (Mass)
Wed 21.5	Simultaneous Storytime
Mon 26.5	2:00pm 3DW & 3M Liturgy of the Word
Wed 28.5	RUGBY UNION
Fri 30.5	National Reconciliation Assembly
Wed 4.6	SOFTBALL GALA DAY
Fri 6.6	Yr 1 Pentecost Prayer Assembly
Wed 11.6	SCHOOL OFFICERS' DAY
Thu 12.6	READERS' CUP
Fri 20.6	4WC First Eucharist Prayer Assembly
21/22.6	SACRAMENT OF FIRST EUCARIST Masses
Mon 23.6	GCP Field Events
Tue 24.6	GCP Ball Games & Tug-o'-war
Wed 25.6	Athletics Carnival Callendar Park
Fri 27.6	End of Term
2025	Term 3 (10 weeks)
Thu 17.7	GRANDPARENTS DAY
Tue 29.7	CEW MASS 10:00am MoGC Church
Fri 5.9	PUPIL FREE DAY (CTJ—STAFF)
Tue 10.6	Yr 4 Reconciliation MoGC Church
Fri 19.9	End of Term
2025	Term 4 (9 weeks)
Fri 24.10	SOCKTOBER MISSION DAY
Fri 31.10	WORLD TEACHERS' DAY
Tue 11.11	Remembrance Day
Thu 4.12	Christmas Concert
Fri 5.12	End of Yr Mass 9:00am



Last Thursday, our special Mother's Day morning tea was enjoyed by all.





# PARENT ENGAGEMENT MINI CONFERENCE

SAT 31 MAY | CAIRNS | 9.00AM-3.30PM

## Anxiety.

**All Catholic School Parents, Carers, Principals & School Staff in the Diocese of Cairns are welcome.**

This is a **free event** to support our children's learning and wellbeing.

**Venue: St Augustine's College, Cairns**  
Champagnat Room – C3. Draper Street Entry.

### KEY SPEAKERS

**Karen Young** - Brisbane based psychologist, recognised as a leading authority on child and adolescent anxiety.

*Session 1: Strengthening Children and Teens Against Anxiety.*

*Session 2: Building Emotional Regulation and Social and Emotional Wellbeing in Children and Adolescents. Session 3: Let's Talk - Q&A.*

**CES, Engagement, Wellbeing and Learning - Hannah Chapman & Brooke Daniels**  
*How Catholic Education Diocese of Cairns can help support families dealing with school anxiety.*

Join us for the whole day or come along to as many sessions as you can.

**Information for parents/carers of all ages - Prep to Yr 12**

Click on the link below for more details and to register

**<https://www.eventcreate.com/e/cspq-miniconf2025-cns>**

\*Parents from outside Cairns can apply to have travel costs reimbursed.

\*\*A short CSPQ-Diocese of Cairns Parent Body AGM will also be held on this day, as well as nominations called for the CSPQ Board delegate.



**CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENTS QUEENSLAND**  
Diocese of Cairns