



ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE TOWNSVILLE

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL

7 December 2018

Dear St Patrick's College Parents and Caregivers

St Patrick's College Townsville will begin 2019 with strong enrolments and a Board approved master plan to cater for growth and innovation into the future.

We look to 2019 with plans to consolidate the work that has been done to connect more closely to the Mercy charism on which the College is founded with a focus on strengthening our Mercy Girls in Action program. Grounding our girls in further understanding their responsibilities as Women of Mercy to be advocates for the poor and the most vulnerable is central to the Mission of the school. We will also turn ourselves to our responsibility as protectors of the environment looking to projects that will build awareness and action understanding that the degradation of the Earth is closely linked to the poverty of the people.

Mr Cameran Triffett will step into the College Leadership Team taking a strategic lead in establishing programs to further support student wellbeing and pastoral care. Mrs Lizzie Wood will also join the Pastoral Team, accepting the role of Head of Year 7 - a new position created to further support the transition of our newcomers, with a special focus on the particular issues they will face moving into secondary school such as new teachers, new friendships and new academic and co-curricular opportunities. We are also excited to introduce a new course for our Year 7 & 8 students, Healthy Fearless Women Project. Based on the Rock and Water program, this physical movement program develops confidence, executive functioning and self-regulation skills. There will be a whole school approach to the implementation of this program as most teachers have undergone training to support its success.

Academic growth and development remains an important priority and 2019 will see all schools in Queensland implement the new Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) system to our Year 11 students. Ms Amy Byrnes, our Director of Studies will be at the helm overseeing our move to this new, external system of assessment. We will also look to change our reporting structure with the introduction of Progressive Reporting which will alter end of Semester reports with regular feedback to girls and parents through our new online 'Learning Hub'. Alongside the implementation of Progressive Reporting the 'Learning Hub' will also give parents access to information through Parent Lounge and our girls will also have access to a new Learning Management System, which will help them organise their learning and assessment tasks. Our classrooms will also focus on ensuring our girls are future ready and Year 7 & 8 girls will also engage with a new subject, STEM Coding.

45 The Strand (PO Box 721) Townsville QLD 4810

Office | t (61) 7 4753 0300 f (61) 7 4753 0336 e office@stpatcollege.qld.edu.au
Boarding | t (61) 7 4753 0380 f (61) 7 4753 0336 e boarding@stpatcollege.qld.edu.au

www.stpatcollege.qld.edu.au

— EST 1878 —

An independent Catholic girls secondary day and boarding school in the Mercy tradition 

We look forward to further providing wonderful Arts opportunities in 2019 and we are very excited to be hosting the Combined Schools Musical, The Addams Family! We are also hopeful of engaging with Strand Ephemera further showcasing our Visual Arts talent. Apart from our Visual and Performing Arts opportunities, the College will continue to offer a broad sporting and extra-curricular program to increase our girls' physical activity and cultural, public speaking and technological engagement.

In the Boarding House there will be a continuation of emphasis on holistic experience, supporting the girls in activities to support their learning and opportunities to participate in extra-curricular activities within the College community and the wider Townsville community. We will continue our efforts to visit our boarding communities further strengthening relationships with families.

2019 will see the construction of the new East Precinct building which will see our campus further developed offering our girls an 800 seat auditorium to be used for assemblies, examinations, religious gatherings and a recreation area for our boarders as well as a state-of-the-art Library and nine new classrooms including specialist Dance, Drama, Music and Hospitality classrooms. There will also be an upgrade of the boarders' kitchen, and landscaping to provide beautiful, shaded outdoor eating areas and classroom breakout spaces.

Please note, in 2019, all camps – will be held in the last week of Term 2. This is **not a time** to extend the holiday vacation, and I would like to emphasise that attending school camps adds another dimension to the learning program and is very much a part of the school curriculum. Students are expected to attend camp and I ask that parents support the College with this initiative.

The new uniform must be worn by all students to the College in 2019. Girls must adhere to the correct wearing of the uniform and skirts must be worn to the knee. New students should also purchase the new College school bag. Please visit the Parent tab on the College website at www.stpatscollege.qld.edu.au for more detailed information regarding:

- Uniform
- Stationery & BYOD
- 2019 Term Dates
- Bus schedules

I would like to thank you all for the tremendous support you show to the College. When schools and parents work together, we can offer a consistent and united approach in encouraging our girls to be their best.

As the year draws to a close, I wish you and yours a holy Christmas and a happy new year. I look forward to seeing you at the Welcome Celebration at the Cafe by the Sea - Friday 1 February, 2019 at 5:00 pm to welcome the New Year.

Yours sincerely



PV SKERMAN
Principal