

## TOWNSVILLE CATHOLIC EDUCATION

ROMAN CATHOLIC TRUST CORPORATION FOR THE DIOCESE OF TOWNSVILLE

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# Media Release

**13 November 2024**

## **St Margaret Mary's College Students 'Rock the Chop' for Cancer Council**

25 Year 12 St Margaret Mary's College students will participate in the Cancer Council's Ponytail Project campaign this Friday, 15 November, immediately following the Seniors Graduation Ritual. In an inspiring display of solidarity, students will 'Rock the Chop,' cutting off their ponytails to raise funds and awareness for those affected by cancer.

The Ponytail Project campaign empowers individuals across Australia to make a tangible difference by growing their hair and donating their ponytails. All funds raised support essential cancer services, prevention programs, and ground-breaking research. These contributions fund vital services such as transport for cancer patients to medical appointments and sun safety initiatives for childcare facilities.

Principal, Kathleen McCarthy expressed her pride in the students' dedication to the cause. "I am incredibly proud of our students for their commitment and generosity. Their efforts not only contribute to vital cancer support services but also inspire our entire community to make a difference," she said.

Students have already raised over \$15,000 for this campaign, in addition to raising more than \$9,500 earlier this year for Relay for Life. The community's support and the students' hard work have significantly contributed to these impressive totals.

A representative from the Cancer Council will be present on Friday to accept the cheque and express gratitude on behalf of the organisation.

One of the participating students, Ellie, shared her thoughts on the initiative: "It feels amazing to be part of something that has such a positive impact on people's lives. Knowing that our efforts will help those in need is incredibly rewarding."

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Photography and video opportunities will be available this Friday, and interviews can be arranged with the event organisers, Year 12 students Ellie and Jade, as well as a representative from the Cancer Council and the School Principal.

The 'chop' is scheduled to take place between 10:30 and 11:00am at St Margaret Mary's

College, Hyde Park, following the Graduation Ritual for all senior students.

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