Catholic Education in the Rockhampton Diocese was very well represented at the Centenary Celebrations in Gallipoli this year. Nikki Scott, teacher St Patrick’s Catholic Primary School, Emerald and Theo Delaney, student Shalom College Bundaberg both being selected to travel to Gallipoli representing Queensland and their respective school communities.

When asked what this meant to her, Nikki Scott wrote the following in reflecting upon this unique opportunity; "In April last year, I found out that I was one of the lucky people who had been chosen to attend the Centenary of the ANZAC’s landing at Gallipoli, in Turkey. This event is something that I've wanted to attend since I was a teenager, when I learnt that many of my forbears had fought in World War 1.

To get a full understanding of the effect that the war had on my family, I've spent some time researching this. What I found was very intriguing: my Grandfather's father was one of 12 children (11 of which were boys). Of these 11 boys, 2 were exempt from the war, and the other 9 all took part in it. Of these 9, 3 died in various places - Jordan, France and at sea, en route to Australia. Other brothers were wounded whilst fighting, but survived.

I will certainly be thinking of these family members who died for our country on 25 April, when I attend the memorial ceremonies in Gallipoli. I'm very much looking forward to being at this special event, and having the opportunity to pay my respects to all of those brave people who gave up so much for us.

In his reflecting on the event Theo Delaney wrote the following: "In 2014, I was selected as one of 70 Queensland recipients of the Premier's Anzac Prize, the prize being a trip to Gallipoli and the Western Front, on the centenary of the Gallipoli landing. It will be an emotional experience for all involved, as we honour those who served their country in all wars and conflicts and those who did not return. I’m most looking forward to attending the Dawn Service at Gallipoli on Anzac Day, and visiting the Western Front, where my great grandfather served and where his brother was killed and is buried. I am proud to represent my community, my school and Catholic Education on this wonderful trip, and will cherish the memories forever."