Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Saint Mary’s,

It has been a great start to 2013, apart from the flooding which has affected a number of our staff and families. I would invite any families who have been significantly affected by flooding to please let me know. Brisbane Catholic Education is currently looking at ways of supporting these staff and families. Michael Kearney, who was our past Area Supervisor, is leading this project for BCE.

Over the past few days, Mrs Hallett and I have been working closely with Pursers Coaches to assess the effects of the flood on bus services. I apologise to any families who have been inconvenienced by bus route closures, but these have been absolutely necessary until flood damaged roads are given the all-clear for use by heavy vehicles such as buses. The safety of our students is the prime concern of both Pursers Coaches and Saint Mary’s. We will try to keep families informed about closed bus routes as they come back online. At the time of writing this newsletter, we still have no bus services for Wattle Camp and Mt Hope. Please contact Pursers for updates on 4168 1533.

At our Opening Assembly, on Wednesday, I spoke with students, staff and parents about the call of St Benedict for us to be “Heart people” ie. to live up to Benedict’s call for us to have a “Welcoming heart” and “To listen with the ear of our hearts.” I challenged our students to take special care of others who may be new, or struggling with returning to school.

Our new Year 3/4/5 playground has been a hit with our students. Its design encourages students to use balance, upper body strength, fine and gross motor skills and intellect to move through a number of challenging sections. This particular playground design also allows us to add new sections over time. Hopefully, if the rain keeps away, we can also finish setting up our cricket nets and rugby league / soccer fields. We are also in the process of marking out new handball courts and completing our indoor basketball court for students.

Over the holidays, we have also redeveloped our Year 2 to 7 classrooms by increasing computers from 24 to 36 machines and creating new built-in storage cupboards to house our new Science experimental kits.

In 2013, our student numbers have increased to around 400 students. This is a significant increase from the 290 that we were staffed on back at the beginning of 2012. We have a couple of our primary classes that are very full. We will do our best to make sure that these classes receive all the extra support that they require. Over the next couple of weeks, we will review these classes, especially in light of the BCE census which is due in early February. Last year, we were able to employ extra staff after this census. I would ask parents to be both understanding and patient in the next couple of weeks while we wait for the results of this census.

2013 will be the first year that we will actually have enough students in Prep-Yr 6 not to need composite classes. In 2012, the number of students in Prep-Yr 6 only gave us 6.3 teachers out of the required 7 teachers. Saint Mary’s should have had composite classes, but we have done our best to keep students in single year level classes. Our growth in student numbers not only provides us with extra staff, but also increased funding and educational opportunities for all.

I hope that 2013, brings you, your families and our Saint Mary’s community many blessings.

Yours in Christ

Mr Michael Nayler
Principal
Welcome back!
Welcome back to the start of what promises to be a very exciting year! It was wonderful to see so many new students yesterday and we welcome you in the spirit of St Benedict and the hospitality that was an important part of his life. The formal uniform was worn very well and I was very pleased to see so many students dressed appropriately for the first day of school.

I look forward to meeting more new students and parents over the coming term and developing the vital relationship needed for the success we wish students to experience at Saint Mary’s.

New beginnings
“Men often become what they believe themselves to be. If I believe I cannot do something, it makes me incapable of doing it. But when I believe I can, then I acquire the ability to do it even if I didn’t have it in the beginning.”
(Mahatma Gandhi)

Belief is crucial to success. Gandhi is saying that believe you can and the skills can be acquired as we go.

Many years ago a student I taught wanted an OP of 1 to get into University. In Year 9 this young lady was above average but not top of the class.

She placed a card with the number 1 above her desk in January of Year 12. That daily reminder helped her to focus on her goal and yes she did receive the top score possible. Getting an OP of 1 is not essential but the belief in herself was the reason she obtained this goal.

Teachers want the best for students and instilling belief is one of our main goals as educators of the next generation.

May you all have a wonderful year and please contact me if you have any queries about day to day operation of the school.

Mathematics/Science Tutorials
Mr Erwin and Miss Tucker will be commencing Maths tutorials in room 2 from 3-15 to 4-00pm next Thursday

The sessions are for students in years 8-12 initially but may be expanded if the need arises

God bless
Mr Sean Erwin
Deputy Principal

Welcome to our new school year.

School fees will be charged early next week and due for payment by 22nd February unless you have established a payment plan. Statements will be distributed by mail.

If you have any questions or concerns concerning your fee please contact me through the office. Communication is very important and we are here to help where we can.

Invoices were mailed out prior to the commencement of the school year for all Prep – Year 9 students. These invoices were for the compulsory workbooks as per the booklist. Students from Years 10 – 11 need to determine which workbooks they require for the chosen subjects from the booklist and pay for them at the Office.

The books will then be distributed by the Library.

As I said earlier, if you have any questions or concerns regarding anything financial, please do not hesitate to call me.

Kind regards,
Mrs Shirley Hallett
Business Manager

A warm welcome to all students and your families to the Saint Mary’s community for 2013!

We are looking forward to sharing in your child’s learning journey this year, and we look forward to your ongoing support. Primary teachers will maintain communication with you about all the exciting happenings in your child’s classroom. I’d encourage you to please keep lines of communication open with your child’s teacher throughout the year.

Formal uniform is now required to be worn by all students from Prep to Year 12 each Tuesday. For Primary students this means that girls will wear the uniform dress, and boys are to wear the College polo shirt with formal shorts. As leaders of our Primary students, Year 6 students are to wear the formal uniform of our middle and upper College. On their weekly sports lesson day, all Primary students are to wear the College polo and sport shorts/shorts. The formal uniform will be required for formal College events, and parents will be informed in advance.

The first major College event is our Swimming Carnival at the Kingaroy Pool. Prep will enjoy a water-fun morning at the College on this day. Further information for Prep parents will follow.

Years 1-3 will participate in rotational activities including swimming in the small pool and land activities during the morning session of the Carnival. Any child in Year 1 to Year 6 who wishes to swim in races should nominate to do so. Nomination forms and further information will be available soon. Only students in the 10 years age group and older, are eligible for the Wide Bay and South Burnett teams across all school sports.

Looking forward to a happy and successful learning journey with you all this year!

Kind regards
Miss Celia O’Connor
P-6 Coordinator

Consumables (e.g. workbooks) will be individually labelled and distributed to classes at the end of the week.

Students in Yr 7-12 will begin borrowing the textbooks they need for various subjects in Weeks 1 and 2. They will be required to bring their diaries to the library each time to record details of their textbook.

Normal library borrowing, including the Take Home reader Program and Lexile will begin in week 3. More information about this will be sent out in next week’s newsletter.

Kind regards,
Mrs Melanie Burr
Middle Years Coordinator

Hello all parents and families. My name is Allan Medlen and I have been appointed as Sports/HPE Coordinator to Saint Mary’s. I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible over the next 12 months. I will do my very best to ensure your children’s sporting concerns are met. I would also be grateful for any assistance from you when needed. Hope we have a great year.

While it is a very short first term it is going to be extremely busy both academically and sportingly. I intend to keep you all up to date as much as possible.

The Swimming Carnival is on Thursday 14th Feb at the Town pool. It will start at approximately 9.30am and all parents are invited. Whilst I will send home a detailed information sheet, I will give a brief overview here. This is a carnival where parental help is needed, so if you want to assist on the day please email me a.s.a.p. at amedlen@bne.catholic.edu.au

Years 1 to 3 will only be at the pool from 9am till 11am and will have a supervised swimming activity in the wading pool. Prep students will stay at school. All students will come to school first, rolls will be marked and then all will be bussed to the pool. All students should attend as it builds both spirit and character.

Years 4 to 12 will have one of 2 options. The first is for students who are...
not strong in the water. These will have 25m freestyle events only. The other option is for swimmers who wish to get points for their houses and for age championships. These students can swim 50m in some or all strokes. There will be relays as well. There will also be some novelty races.

Ribbons will be given out on the day, but Age Champions and House Champions will be recognised at the next assembly and on Awards Night.

Please ensure your child is Sun Safety Aware on the day. Use shade, hats, sunscreen and drink heaps of water. Sunscreen cream will be available all day at the recorders area.

For any elite swimmer, i.e. those who want to and are capable of competing at District and or Regional level, I will take your nominations for events etc. at the lunch break on the day. You need to provide best times for nominated events.

Besides this carnival, nominations for District (South Burnett) Trials take place at various venues on the 13th Feb. Nominations for these close on Thursday 6th Feb. I will take names for these a.s.a.p. and hand out all forms and information sheets. Please listen for notices and don’t get disappointed. The timelines for these are strict. The following are the Secondary school ones. I am still awaiting the District ones. I am still awaiting the Secondary Trials.

Secondary Trials
15 YRS BOYS & GIRLS TOUCH
- KINGAROY SHS
18 YRS BOYS & GIRLS TOUCH
- KINGAROY SHS
15 YRS BOYS & GIRLS
VOLLEYBALL - KINGAROY SHS
18 YRS BOYS & GIRLS
VOLLEYBALL - KINGAROY SHS
19 YRS BOYS & GIRLS SQUASH
- MURGON SHS
BOYS & GIRLS TENNIS
- KINGAROY TOWN COURTS
14 YRS BOYS CRICKET
- KINGAROY SS
19 YRS BOYS CRICKET
- TAABINGA SS
BOYS & GIRLS SOFTBALL
- DIRECT NOMINATION
15 YRS GIRLS CRICKET
- DIRECT NOMINATION
I hope this information has been helpful. More to come in next newsletter.

Yours in Sport
Mr Allan Medlen
Sports Coordinator

Music News
Instrumental Lessons
The school offers instrumental lessons (Piano, Guitar, Saxophone, Clarinet, Flute, Violin, Viola and Double Bass) to any student from Prep through to Year 12. If your child is interested in learning an instrument, please download a form from the College website and hand it in or contact Michael Scanlan through the school office to have a chat.

We strongly recommend that new students (particularly our Prep students) have a chance to settle in to the school before starting (Term 2 and beyond enrolments are more than welcome).

Yours Musically,
Mr Michael Scanlan
Music Coordinator

Tuckshop News
Friday’s extra choice menu
Morning Tea and Lunch Hawaiian Pizza
Muffin $3.50
Lunch Bag System Only Ham Pasta
Salad $3.50

Orders only - no orders will be accepted after morning tea on Friday. This week will be the last week for Friday’s extra choice menu.

We now stock Vaalia Yoghurt for $2.50.

Kind Regards
Mrs Michelle Davis
Tuckshop Convenor

Stop Drop and Go Zone
Just a reminder and to inform new parents that the parking area outside the front of the school is a designated Stop Drop and Go Zone from 2.45pm to 3.10pm Monday to Friday.

This means that you are not entitled to park and leave your vehicle in this area. You must stay in your vehicle and move up the queue as cars leave. Your child waits under the trees out the front of the school and when their car arrives in this zone and stops the child can get safely in the vehicle.

If you wish to walk in and collect your child from Prep (or any classroom) then you must park in the bottom car park (or elsewhere in the surrounding streets) and walk up.

The area out the front of the school is not a parking area from 2.45pm to 3.10pm Monday to Friday.

Also encourage your child to use both pedestrian crossings. There are children walking across the road in front of the school to get into vehicles parked on the other side of the road. They should walk down to the crossing and then up the footpath on the opposite side.

Thank you for your patience and consideration.

Kind regards
Ms Pam Radcliffe
Stop Drop and Go Coordinator

Good News Story
Congratulations to our year 12 student Stephanie Mumford. Stephanie left Australia on the 8th December and arrived back on January 26th. Stephanie had been on a Mission Trip to Korea. She spent 4 weeks in Korea and 2 weeks in Boot Camp with other mission groups from around Australia and New Zealand. Stephanie taught English from 9.00am to 10.00pm. Very long days! Steph had to live in a tent and do her laundry and bathing using only one bucket of water per day. What a wonderful experience and thank you Stephanie for sharing your story and living your life with a listening and generous heart.

Ms Pam Radcliffe
**Basketball Muster**

5th February 2013  
Kingaroy State High School Indoor Stadium  
6pm  
Players from 6 years and up and any skill level

After school **junior tennis lessons** will begin during the 2nd week of the school term. This year, classes will be on a Monday and will start **Monday, 4 February 2013** and will be held at the Murgon Tennis Courts, Gore Street, Murgon.

There are a few positions available for beginners aged between 6 and 9 years of age. Unfortunately, at this stage all other classes are full.

Lessons will be at a cost of $8.50 per child for a 45 minute class. Fees will be charged by term account payable by the 3rd lesson of each term. Wet days will either be re-scheduled or refunded.

Should you wish to book your child or children in for the term, please contact Leanne Sippel on either of the below listed numbers or via email.

**Phone – 4169 5930 or 0438 684 705**  
**Email – leannesippel@hotmail.com**

**Junior Cricket** training will commence Thursday, 31 January from 4.30 - 5.30pm

**Shorinjiryu Karate** is a discipline that advocates the development of a strong mind & body. Far from being a violent method of fighting, it teaches humility, with confidence & courage, respect for oneself & others, & self defence with respect for the value of life.

Shorinjiryu Karate is offered on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at the Anglican Parish Church Hall from 5.15 pm. Classes will commence on Tuesday, 5 February. Classes are $4 for all children up to 18 and $6 for adults over 18. Annual Membership is also required at a cost of $35 juniors and $55 adults.

If you wish your child to participate, please contact Leanne on 0438 684 705 or via email leannesippel@hotmail.com

**Kingaroy Touch Football Association**

Junior touch football training and **Senior touch football fixtures** are run on a Monday evening at Lyle Vidler Oval in Kingaroy during the school year. The SB region had significant numbers of students selected in Wide Bay school touch football teams during 2012. This was due to excellent coaching received by Bill and Leesa Johnston, and Kelly Payne. For anyone who would like their child/children to participate, or to submit a senior team, please contact any of the below coaches.

**For more information please contact:**  
Bill and Leesa Johnston 0427 237 071  
Kelly Payne 0407 582 309  
Katy Payne 0408 301 040

**Date Claimer…**

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<td>6th February</td>
<td>WHS Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>13th March</td>
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<td>14th February</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>28th February</td>
<td>South Burnett Secondary Swimming Carnival</td>
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