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

Last week, we had the wonderful news of the election of Pope Francis 1. He is already being tagged as “the people’s Pope”. Within the Catholic and wider community, there is a strong sense of hope that Pope Francis will continue his focus on the simple life and his strong “option for the poor” values, which has already been a part his first few days in office. I would invite all in our community to pray for Pope Francis and the whole Catholic Church during this exciting time of transition.

Next week, our Year 7 – 12s are on Camps and Work Experience. As part of our School Wide Positive Behaviour Program, we have let students know what following our Benedictine values would look like:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benedictine values on Camp</th>
<th>Benedictine values at Work Experience</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Be just - don't leave anyone out.</td>
<td>Be just - be honest, don't touch anything that is not yours.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be safe - follow all instructions.</td>
<td>Be safe - follow all safety instructions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be respectful - be polite to staff, instructors &amp; each other.</td>
<td>Be respectful - be polite to employers, fellow workers &amp; the public.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be responsible - Be on time, look after gear, help with group duties.</td>
<td>Be responsible - Be on time, do what you are asked to do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be your best - give new things a try.</td>
<td>Be your best - Always be on your best behaviour as you represent the Saint Mary’s community.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All of our students have also been reminded that serious misbehaviour on Camp or Work Experience will lead to parents being called to organise travel home. I would hope that this wouldn’t be necessary on these wonderful experiences.

I would like to congratulate our Futsal teams (13, 14 & Open Boys and Open Girls) for their incredible efforts against huge schools in the South East Qld Futsal Championships. Our 13 years boys made it through to the semi-final only to be narrowly knocked out by Assisi College. The 14 years boys only just missed out on moving through to the next round on a points count back. Congratulations to all of our teams and Mr Toms, Mr Perrett, Mrs Roberts and Tracey Clegg for supporting our teams. I am particularly grateful to Mr Toms who has brought about the great interest in Futsal.

I would also like to congratulate our String Ensembles and Mr Scanlan for their wonderful performances last weekend. The String Ensembles performed extremely well at St Patrick’s Day events at both Kingaroy and Kumbia. The crowds at both events were amazed at the talent of our students, especially as it was the first public performance for two of our students.

At last night’s P&F meeting, our P&F elected a new executive and approved over $8000 in valuable projects for our school community. Last week, we also saw a huge amount of educational equipment arrive as part of the P&Fs Woolworths Earn and Learn promotion. I would like to thank Woolworths, our P&F, the local community and our parents for supporting this wonderful project. I would like to thank the 2012 P&F executive and members for their incredible efforts for our community and also the 2013 P&F executive for the year of hard work ahead. I would like to thank the P&F and all of the helpers at last weekend’s Working Bee which achieved so much around the College.

Next term, I will offer another Street Retreat Experience for our Year 12 students. The Street Retreat is a voluntary program where students are invited to work with the poor and marginalised. They will work with a homeless van, hear from recovering drug, alcohol and gambling addicts and visit Brisbane’s largest homeless shelter. For many students this is a life-changing experience. The first of our Street
**From the Deputy**

**Prayer for the Day**

O God, shepherd and ruler of all the faithful, look favourably upon your servant Jorge Mario Bergoglio, Pope Francis I, whom you have set at the head of your Church as her shepherd; grant, we pray, that by word and example he may be of service to those over whom he presides so that, together with the flock entrusted to his care, he may come to everlasting life. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**School Photos**

A reminder to all students to wear their formal uniform tomorrow for school photos.

**Camps**

I remind parents and students of the strict guidelines that were discussed at meetings yesterday. Camps exist because of the generosity of staff who are prepared to leave their families and go away for 3 days with students, who they look after 24/7.

**APA News**

**Year 7 - 12 Camps**

Parents should note that all information about these camps has been sent home via students. The final date for late return of consent forms is tomorrow, Thursday 20th March.

Students have also been reminded that there are to be no mobile phones, iPods, computer games, cameras, additional food or lollies on any of the camps. We ask that parents assist us in this endeavour by overseeing the packing of all student items.

Parents should also note that our camps assume the best behaviour in our students. Serious misconduct can result in parents being asked to pick their child up from camp prior to the final day.

**Reports and Parent Teacher Interviews**

*Monday, 15th April* Reports and Parent Teacher Interviews (PTIs) for students in Years 7-12 are held on Wednesday, 24th April.

*Tuesday, 15th April* Reports and Parent Teacher Interviews in the Mary Knoll Centre.

**Equestrian News**

Nominations for Cow Horse Competition to be held on Wednesday, 24th April are due by Monday, 25th March.

**APRE News**

**Production comes to town – Iona Passion Play**

As advertised in various earlier newsletters (21st February and 6th March) this Friday students from Year 7-12 will attend the Iona Passion Play. The play starts at 11.30 and runs until 1pm. Students will be transported by bus to and from the Town Hall. No student is permitted to travel by any other means. It will finish about 1pm and all will return to the College for a late lunch and then attend period 6 classes as normal. The play depicts the last days of Jesus and although dramatic, it is suitable for the Year 7 students and older and is a rare opportunity to see this especially in our backyard.

**Dance for Justice**

Also on Friday we have our inaugural social to raise money and awareness for Project Compassion. The dance is being run by the seniors and has the potential to be a good event.

**Library Corner**

Library borrowing will end for the term this Friday, the 22nd March (this is for Lexile and take home reader too!). Please remind your child that all library books, Lexile books and take home readers are due back by next Wednesday at the very latest. Year 7-12 students please return any resources (except textbooks) that you no longer need by this date too.

**Lexile Awards**

Congratulations to the following students who have received Lexile awards!

- **Blue Award (3 books)** - Josee Currin, Kathleen Janz, Sam McCarthy
- **Red Award (5 books)** – Ryan Maudsley, Holly Stephens, Nicholas Kerkow, Anh Truong

**Bronze Award (10 books)** – Lachlan O’Kane, Addisen Hawks, Ainsley Moller, Patrick Frohloff, Sophie Weier, Isla Airs, Caleb Eadie

King regards,

**Mrs Melanie Burr**

**Teacher Librarian**

**Curriculum Corner**

**Year 9 Science**

This term, the Year 9 Science students have been studying Earth and Space Sciences, in line with the Australian Curriculum. In particular, they have investigated how common phenomena such as tsunamis, volcanoes and earthquakes occur. An important concept has been that these are natural events and can be understood in terms of plate tectonic theory. Also studied was the concept of continental drift, where the current seven continents are now known to have been one large land mass originally, called Pangaea. The students have found this an interesting and informative unit of study.

Mr Gary Curran

**Year 8 History**

Please note that there has been a change to the History assessment as recorded on the assessment calendar. The Year 8 students will now be sitting a History test instead of the Poster assessment. Please encourage them to revise their work (as explained in class) over the weekend for this test next Monday.

Kind regards,

Mrs Melanie Burr

**Year 7-10 Coordinator**

**P to Year 6 News**

Welcome to Week 8! Congratulations to all of our talented primary students who have trialled for various South Burnett sports recently. You have represented Saint Mary’s beautifully with your excellent behaviour and by playing fairly. Thank you students!

Congratulations and thank you to all students who participated in our P-6 Green Hat assembly last Friday for St Patrick’s Day! What wonderfully creative and amazingly original green hats we saw that day!!!

Students from our Year 4 and Year 5 classes are currently awaiting the beginning of our new shared class for 4/5 with teacher Mrs Arrell. We are excited to be undertaking this plan as part of the growth of our College.

Next week is our last week of Term 1. Years 7-12 students are away on their camps from Tuesday. Primary classes will be engaged in cooking, lab experiments, Easter activities, and setting up for our new Year 4/5 classroom.

On Thursday 25th March P-6 students will gather for our Holy Week Liturgy in the
Mary Knoll Centre. Starting time is 9am. Parents are most welcome to come along and join in our celebration. We will have our final P-6 Assembly immediately after the Liturgy.

Thank you to parents and carers for your ongoing support this term and we wish all families a wonderful Easter break.

May God smile on you and your family. Kind regards,
Miss Celia O’Connor
Prep - 6 Coordinator

**Tuckshop News**

**Friday’s extra choice menu**

**Morning Tea and Lunch**
Single Cheese Pizza $2.00

**Lunch Bag System Only**
Fish and Chips $5.00
Orders only - no orders will be accepted after morning tea on Friday.

A reminder that the tuckshop will not be serving red meat on Fridays throughout Lent. There will be alternatives including fish, salads etc. Piece of Fish $3.50

From this week the tuckshop is selling hot cross buns for $1.50 until the end of Term.
Kind Regards
Mrs Michelle Davis
Tuckshop Convener

**P&F News**

Parents and Friends,

Last night your P&F held their AGM for 2013 with elections raking place for the P&F executive.

The executive is as follows:
- President - Damien Martoo
- Vice President - Nicole Moller
- Secretary - Neil Mungall
- Treasurer - Fiona O’Kane
- P&F Rep to the Board - Susan Robertson
- Rep to the Diocese - Damien Martoo
- Volunteer Co-ordinator - Nicole Moller

Thank you to everyone who attended the AGM as well as the general meeting that followed.

We were blessed to have the head of P&F QLD Carmel Nash attend our meeting to give our committee some great ideas on how to structure grants and family involvement. Plans are well underway for this year’s fundraising events so keep posted for all the fun.

The P&F have had numerous requests for funding this year, and while we would love to support all of these last night we considered the most pressing request injecting an extra $8500 into our children's education.

The funding decision we made last night were as follows:
- $3,390 - 3 Fridges for Years 4/5, Prep and Year 1
- $250 - Chess Competition
- $2,000 - New Musical Instruments
- $500 - Tuckshop Equipment
- $630 - Academic Competitions
- $200 - Perpetual trophy for academic competitions
- $640 - Levelled reading books for the classrooms
- $740 - Table tennis table and equipment

Finally a huge thanks to everyone who was able to attend the Working Bee on Sunday, tidying gardens, mowing and getting form work ready for cricket nets.

Our school continues to look amazing which in turn creates a better environment to learn in.

God’s Blessings,
Mr Damien Martoo
P&F President

**Personalise Label Drive**

**SAVE 20% Storewide**
Use Promo Code: 20MADMARCH

Hi all. If you are getting ready for up coming school camps, why not order some iron-on tags and some personalised sticker to make packing a breeze!

Mrs Bronwyn Langford-Martoo

**Sticker Drive Coordinator**

**Counsellor News**

Signs your child may be struggling with change

As parents, we can sometimes watch anxiously as our children head off into new frontiers. It’s important that we give them positive messages about their ability to cope with the changes they are dealing with. And while we should monitor how they are going, with older children and teenagers, it’s important to give them some independence and a sense of responsibility appropriate to their age.

This kind of attitude will help build their sense of being able to cope with change.

Sometimes, however, there will be changes that our children struggle to adjust to. Or, there may be elements of the change that are causing undue distress. This is when we need to step in and take some action.

Signs your child or teenager may be struggling include:
- Avoiding social situations, wanting to stay home and not go to school or participate in normal activities
- Persistent low mood
- Sudden tearfulness
- Withdrawing from family relationships
- Problems getting to sleep, or regular wakefulness in the night
- Loss of appetite

The best way to assess whether you child is having difficulties adjusting to their new situation is to keep the lines of communication open. Really listen, in an engaged, non-judgemental way, without problem solving or advising. If your child communicates a worry or concern they have, try to tune in by say words like, ‘You seem really worried about that’ or ‘I can see that must have been pretty upsetting for you’ and try not to problem solve too early, particularly if they are wound up. If, after really listening, you believe there is a problem that needs addressing, try to help them figure out a solution that they think they could try.

by Michael Hawthorn
Psychologist and Director of Parentshop
Kind regards,
Mr Graham Turnbull
Guidance Counsellor

**Proston & Hivesville Area Families**

Proston and Hivesville area families with children commuting to Kingaroy schools, who wish to express interest in a school bus run to link/run to Kingaroy are asked to attend a meeting to be held at Hivesville Hotel on Monday, 25th March at 6.30pm. Should you not be able to attend please express your interest to amanda@bigpond.com. We hope to have representatives from bus companies to discuss feasibility and answer any questions you may have.

Kind regards,
Mrs Amanda Hetherington

**Futsal News**

Saint Mary’s Catholic College’s U13 Futsal team came tantalisingly close to making the Finals round of the recent South East Queensland Futsal Competition. Despite being possibly the smallest school in the competition, Saint Mary’s teams did extremely well against schools which were many times larger.

On Wednesday the 13th of March, four teams boarded a bus in the early hours of the morning bound for Brisbane. The four teams that went to the Australian Futsal Titles were the 13 & 14 year old boys and Open girls’ and Open boys’ teams.

Both of the Open teams were created on relatively short notice and came together as a team exceptionally well.

The 14 years boys began the day with three convincing wins against Maryborough SHS (9-0), Shailer Park SHS (8-1) and Westside Christian College (4-1). They then played an experienced Aldridge SHS side and were defeated 9-4.

The boys rallied and put their best efforts in against Corinda SHS only to be defeated...
5-1 after some brilliant passing goals by Corinda. The boys ended the day on a high with a 12-0 drubbing of Corinda SHS's second side. Overall the 14 years boys came equal second, but missed the next round on goal difference.

The 13 years boys went through their rounds undefeated. With fantastic team work and attacking skill they won against Maryborough SHS and Aldridge SHS to progress to knock out finals on Friday 15th March. The team then came up against Assisi College in a nail biter that went down to the final minutes. Assisi won the first half but Saint Mary’s showed incredible spirit to come back in the second half, getting to within one goal before Assisi closed out the match with a good counter attack. The final score was 6-4 with the 13 years boys knocked out and the much larger Assisi going through the Finals round.

The school is extremely proud of these players and their determination. I want to sincerely thank all the parents and care givers that have supported the Futsal program. Bring on the next competition!

Mr Wade Toms
Coach

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Date Claimer……..

20th March
SATS Interview Day

21st March
School Photo Day
Year 12 USC Visit

22nd March
Immunisation Clinic
SB Primary Winter Trials
Dance for Justice

26th March
Years 7-12 Camp Week
WB Netball Trials
WB 12yrs & Under Golf Trials
WB Secondary Winter Trials
SB Secondary Golf Trials
SB Primary AFL Trials

27th March
Year 2 Excursion - Ten Pin

28th March
Term One Completed
Good Friday

30th March
School Holidays

31st March
Easter Sunday

15th April
Term Two Commences

16th April
WB Basketball Trials
P&F Meeting 7pm
Whole School Assembly

17th April
WB Basketball Trials
Road Safety for Year 11

22nd April
Year 12 Street Retreat

23rd April
Year 12 Street Retreat
PC Assembly
ANZAC Liturgy

30th April
Parent Teacher Interviews
TLC Assembly