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

Sometimes as teachers, we meet students who say, “I don’t believe in Jesus” as though there is a question as to whether Jesus even existed. Of course, no reputable historian doubts the existence of Jesus of Nazareth. I know that in most cases what they are actually saying is “I don’t believe that Jesus is God”. The second, of course, is a question of faith and part of the challenge for Christian families and schools in helping our children to build a relationship with Jesus.

There are a number of Jewish and Roman writers (non-Christians) who mention Jesus in their writings. If Jesus had never existed, we would expect them to say just that, but instead they say:

Tacticus (Roman) writing about the fires in Rome wrote in 114AD: “….Nero created scapegoats and subjected to the most refined tortures those whom the common people called ‘Christians,’ hated for their abominable crimes. Their name comes from Christ, who, during the reign of Tiberius, had been executed by the procurator Pontius Pilate.”

Josephus (a Jew writing history for the Romans) wrote between 38 – 100AD: “When Pilate, upon hearing him accused by men of the highest standing amongst us, had condemned him to be crucified, those who had in the first place come to love him did not give up their affection for him.”

In the Jewish holy book, the Talmud entries in the 1st and 2nd Century AD say:

On the eve of Passover they hung Yeshu (Jewish name for Jesus) and the crier went forth for forty days beforehand declaring that "Yeshu is going to be stoned for practicing witchcraft, for enticing and leading Israel astray. Anyone who knows something to clear him should come forth and exonerate him." But no one had anything exonerating for him and they hung (crucified) him on the eve of Passover.

Suetonius (Roman) writing about 120AD: “As the Jews were making constant disturbances at the instigation of Chrestus (he misspelled Christ), he (Claudius about AD 50) expelled them from Rome”

There are a number of other references that you can look up for yourself including the writings of other Romans including Pliny the Younger and Lucian. While these writings confirm Jesus’ existence, none of these can prove that he is God. That of course, is a matter of faith.

I would encourage all of our families to celebrate the death and resurrection of Christ this Easter. Christians celebrate Easter as through Christ’s passion, none of these can prove that he is God. That of course, is a matter of faith.

For our Catholic families, details of Easter services are available at: http://www.stmarys.southburnett.biz/

Last week, we had many wonderful events including our School Photos, Dance for Justice and the Iona Passion Play which featured a number of our staff and students. I would like to thank all of the staff, parents and students involved in these events. This week, we have our Year 7 – 12 camps and work experience and P-6 Easter liturgy. I would like to thank all of our staff members who have put so much work into organising these extremely worthwhile events for our students. I am sure that our parents appreciate that our staff give their time freely to improve our students’ educational outcomes.

I would like to thank Matthew Jacob (Parent) & Tony Linnane (Groundsman) for their work in building our new cricket practice nets. The rain has held back a few of these sporting upgrades including our new multipurpose soccer, league and union posts for the top and lower ovals. I hope that all of these jobs will be ready for early term 2.

We also welcome Don Schmidhauser on board as our new Indigenous Literacy and
Year 7

Mrs Melanie Burr

wonderful holidays, and amazing things. Next term, students
will have had in Prep to Year 6.
Many wonderful activities have kept our
students working hard and enjoying their
learning. Our many new students have settled well into their classes and we're
very happy that you're part of our school
community.
I would like to take this opportunity to
terprest thank the Prep to Year 6 teaching
staff and our College School Officers for
their hard work and dedication. We are so
blessed to have such genuine professionals
caring for our children.
We would like to share with parents and
carers a little of what we enjoyed, achieved
and experienced in our classes this term.
Parents and carers are warmly invited to
join in our P-6 Holy Week Liturgy on
Thursday 28th March in the MRC. We will
aim to start at 9am.
Wishing you all a holy Easter and a safe
holiday. May God smile on you and your
family.
Kind regards,
Miss Celia O’Connor
Prep – 6 Coordinator

Tuckshop News
Volunteers

Volunteers will be contacted in early Term
2 to help out in the tuckshop.

New Menu Items
We are now selling Crazy Lemon drinks.
500ml $2.80
200ml $1.70
Kind regards
Mrs Michelle Davis
Tuckshop Convenor

Woolworths Earn and Learn

This year we will be participating in the
Woolworths Earn and Learn program.
Through this promotion we will be able to
get new educational resources for our
school and all we need you to do is shop for
your groceries at Woolworths.

From Monday 5th April to Sunday 9th June, we are collecting Woolworths Earn and Learn Points. You will get one Woolworths Earn and Learn Point for every $10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards). Place the Woolworths Earn and Learn Points onto a Woolworths Earn and Learn Points Sheet and when it’s complete, the Points Sheet can be dropped into the College Office or in the collection box located at Woolworths Kingaroy.

At the end of the promotion, we’ll be able to get some great new equipment. The range is extensive and offers lots of items ideal for our students – including resources for Maths, English, Science and some fantastic fun supplies for Arts and Craft, Sport and for our Library.

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

Personalise Label Drive

Kids school labels, wall stickers and school bags. Support the P and F by going to
www.brightstarkids.com.au, shopping and then at the checkout choosing St Mary's
Catholic College P&F Association.
See Bron Langford-Martoo for any more information.

Mrs Bronwyn Langford-Martoo
Sticker Drive Coordinator

Curriculum News

In line with our College priorities for 2013, the Australian Curriculum Phase 2 subjects
will become our next curriculum focus. In
2012 teachers across P-10 engaged in
numerous Professional Learning opportunities for the implementation of
ACARA. The Phase One subjects of
History, Mathematics, English and Science
are now fully implemented across our
College, with new staff recently introduced
to our College planning and assessment
expectations. P-10 classes will engage with
the Phase Two subject of Geography in Semester 2 this year.

As a team, we are committed to continuing
to develop consistent planning and practice in
ACARA, from Prep through to Year 10
for Saint Mary’s. With Chris Cook as part
of the team in 2012, and Gary Curran joining
the team in 2013, we have been able to
ensure curriculum planning, assessment, and reporting meet our needs as a College,
as well as fulfil ACARA
requirements. As part of the Curriculum
Team, Jenny Cross (Literacy and
Numeracy Coach) is able to assist our
teachers with the implementation of the
curriculum within their classroom practice.
She works with teachers in their classroom
to support their students’ preparation for
Naplan as well. With Pam Radcliffe (STiE)
and our Indigenous Support Teacher
(Term 1 Lauren Arrell), and from Term 2
Don Schmidhauser, students with specific
needs can be appropriately supported in
their learning under the new National Cur-
iculum.

Early in Term 2 Maureen Trusheim and
Graham Aker (BCE Education Officers)
will engage our staff in a twilight
Professional Learning session through
which our College Vision for Teaching and
Learning will develop. This will further
animate decisions about curriculum
organisation, teaching, assessment and
reporting of student learning, and how this
is enacted in our classroom practices.

Our aim is for Saint Mary’s teaching and
support staff to continue to demonstrate a
high degree of shared understanding of,
and commitment to, putting into practice,
the vision of our teaching.

Kind regards
Mr John Dalton
AP A
and Curriculum Coordinators:
Mr Gary Curran (10-12), Mrs Melanie Burr
(7-9) and Miss Celia O’Connor (P-6).
Prep to Year 6 Term Review

**Prep**
Term One was both a scary but fun time for our new little Preppies as they embarked on their new adventure into “Big School”. However after one week at school confidence had grown and we were ready to tackle the “Big Playground”. Throughout Term One our abilities have developed and we have been learning a lot of new and exciting things. We have had a strong focus on learning a new letter each week, counting to and from 10 (which we are really good at now), the introduction of sight words and learning about what we need to stay alive. The term has come to a close with a lot of fun Easter craft and learning about how Jesus died for us. Our favourite part of Term One has been meeting our big Year Six friends and doing buddy sessions with them each Wednesday afternoon. During this time we have completed a number of fun activities such as, making sock puppets, cooking, gardening, Easter craft, games and painting.

**Year 1**
Term One this year has seen the Year One’s working hard in all learning areas. Our main unit has been “Magnificent Minibeasts” and we have been exploring different types of prayer (music, song, action and meditation) and celebrations. We have been delighted to have seen so many minibeasts brought in from home! Our Numeracy lessons have been great fun, with lots of activities and games to help us learn. Our favourite area so far has been learning the count to 100 rap. In Literacy we have been learning how to write a recount, a retell and a minibeast information report. We have thoroughly enjoyed listening to fiction and nonfiction texts about minibeasts and even watched the Magic School Bus: Bugs. We did a great job at writing interesting facts about our chosen minibeast. The year is off to a fantastic start and we are looking forward to lots more great learning.

**Year 2**
Year two have made a great start to the school year. In term 2 some of our highlights as stated by the children were: skip counting, computers, our science unit on water, learning about frog life cycles and creating a class book, praying, learning the routines and rewards of silent reading, building our marble ramps, and of course one little cherub put his hand up and said his favourite time was “morning tea”.

**Year 3**
How time flies when you are having fun in Year 3! It was wonderful to welcome many new faces this year and we have more to come next term. Our focus areas in History were Australia; In the Beginning and Celebrations. We looked at Melting Moments through Science which the students really enjoyed. In Health we discussed safety both here at school and in the home. In Religion we identified the type of person Jesus was and who he would like us to be. As we have NAPLAN next term we have also been busy practising and preparing for these examinations. I hope you have a fantastic holiday break.

**Year 4**
Wow what a fast term! The students have worked very hard in all their learning areas. It has been exciting. We welcomed eight new students to the year four class at the beginning of the term. We also had the pleasure of Ms Madeline Griep, an American University practicum teacher joining us for six weeks. The students explored Healthy Lifestyles Choices, Plant Life Cycles, Antarctic Animals, Indigenous Australian Culture prior to Colonisation, Superheroes of the bible, Still Life drawing and watercolours and big daily doses of English and Maths. Our term isn’t over yet. This week the Year Fours have learnt about the principles of a fair test in Science. We put this in the context of Easter Traditions. We conducted egg experiments and while preparing hot cross buns we conducted yeast experiments. Thanks for a wonderful term everyone and a very big thank you to the students moving to the 4/5. You are all very special and will be very missed…lucky you are just next-door!

**Year 4/5**
We’re welcoming the students who have come from our large year 4 and year 5 classes who are now joined into a shared year 4/5 class. This week has been busy preparing the learning environments for our students in these year levels, to ensure equal learning opportunities for all. We warmly welcome Mrs Arrell into our Primary Team, as our year 4/5 teacher and wish our shared class all the best as they settle into their routines.

**Year 5**
This term we have loved T-ball for sport. We liked being able to let everyone have a go and play fairly. In Science we studied how animals adapt to their environment. History was very interesting because it was all about the early history of Australia. We wrote a narrative in English and that was great because we got to use our imaginations. Handwriting was also challenging but enjoyable. We have loved sharing the great board games that our school received from the Woolworths Earn and Learn. We love Battleship and Connect-Four!

**Year 6**
Year 6 has showcased a number of sporting heroes who made it into South Burnett teams this term. We congratulate Carmen, Mackenzy and Blake for making the South Burnett Touch Team. Blake also made the softball and football teams. Jed will be joining Blake on the footy field for South Burnett also. Tinh made it into soccer, and Nick made the tennis team. Good luck to these year 6 students for their games with South Burnett.

In class we have loved learning about earthquakes, tsunamis and volcanoes. Lachlan and Baxter made an awesome volcano and brought it in for the class to watch it erupt. In History we did a report on Sir Henry Parkes or Sir Edmund Barton. In Art we made masks and learnt about Op art and portraits. It was great fun. In Maths we did double-digit multiplication and investigated Rhymes to Riches. Religion has focused on Social Justice this term. We have watched Caritas stories showing how people in other countries need help so they can have their basic human rights. We have been preparing for our Holy Week Liturgy.

**Green Hat Day**
- Connect
- Earn and Learn
- Battleship
- Earn and Learn
- Connect-Four
The year 7 bike riders were tired, but survived their ride down the range despite a couple of mishaps - Mr Toms bruised his leg after slipping into a cattle grid when some of the kids unexpectedly stopped in front of him and Mr Dalton lost a wheel off the canoe trailer after crossing another grid. Final score
Grids 2, Saint Mary's 0.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27th March</td>
<td>WB Netball Trials</td>
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<td>28th March</td>
<td>Year 2 Excursion - Ten Pin</td>
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<td>29th March</td>
<td>Term One Completed</td>
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<td>30th March</td>
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<td>10th April</td>
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<td>15th April</td>
<td>Immunisation Clinic Catch Up at Kingaroy Council Chambers</td>
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<td>16th April</td>
<td>Term Two Commences</td>
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<td>22nd April</td>
<td>WB Basketball Trials</td>
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<td>23rd April</td>
<td>F&amp;F Meeting 7pm</td>
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<td>Whole School Assembly</td>
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<td>25th April</td>
<td>Road Safety for Year 11</td>
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<td>30th April</td>
<td>Year 12 Street Retreat</td>
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<td>31st March</td>
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<td>WB Basketball Trials</td>
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<td>26th April</td>
<td>Kingaroy Show</td>
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<td>27th April</td>
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<td>SB Secondary Cross Country</td>
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<td>WB Winter Carnival at Hervey Bay</td>
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<td>PC Assembly</td>
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<td>3rd May</td>
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<td>5th May</td>
<td>3,5,7,9 Testing</td>
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Year 10 Work Experience
Reports from Ms Sudull about Work Experience are extremely positive with employees greatly impressed with our Saint Mary's students.

Late nights and early mornings. The Year 8's are enjoying being challenged through the activities at camp.

Despite the weather being a little overcast, the Year 9's at Surf Camp are having a ball. It's great to see most kids standing on their boards. They have body boarding still to come later in the day.