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

It has been an incredibly busy, but remarkable week since our last newsletter with Cross Country, NAPLAN practice, ANZAC marches to name but a few events.

Firstly, I would like to share some of the student reflections that I have received back from our Street Retreat experience:

"It is amazing and you learn more about people…such as helping poor and homeless people and the importance of not wasting food….if there was another street retreat, I would absolutely go!"  – Tin Truong

"I learnt to appreciate what I have now and that you should always share with people who need it more…I was surprised by how much you learn…it was definitely worth it…I really think that you should consider doing it."

– Emma Magnusen

"The best thing was being able to talk to the poor and homeless at the Claver Cares van…the most challenging thing is to initially start to communicate….I learnt that there is quite a different reality in the world, that is often not seen over the media….allows you to have a look at things in the world that most people don’t get to see."

– Rixon Crane

"I wasn’t expecting to be overwhelmed by the genuine nature of the people that we met….I learnt that a lot of people are less fortunate for many reasons that are not their fault…I found the Moonyah visit the most interesting. It was extraordinary how the rehabilitation system works. It was also interesting to hear the stories of the recovering addicts.”  – Matt Guteridge

Secondly, some results from our recent Cow Horse competition.  It was a great privilege to see our Saint Mary’s students (part of 90 competitors) demonstrating their incredible rural and equestrian skills.

**Aggregate trophy (based on points divided by school size)**

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<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Age Group</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>5 - 9 Years</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>10 - 11 Years</td>
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<td>3rd</td>
<td>12 - 13 Years</td>
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<td>4th</td>
<td>14 - 18 Years</td>
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**Age Champion Riders**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Age Group</th>
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<tr>
<td>1st Vanessa Kissick  – Taabinga SS</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Shannon Hansen  – Taabinga SS</td>
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<td>3rd Sophie Grundy  – Taabinga SS</td>
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<td>1st Tayla McCarthy – Taabinga SS</td>
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<td>2nd Patrick Frohloff - Saint Mary's</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Jordan Young    – Kumbia SS</td>
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Thirdly, I would like to thank our parents, staff and students who supported our ANZAC day events. We had about a third of our students marching, which is an effort of which any school would be justifiably proud. A few of the many highlights from the marches were:

- Cr Kathy Duff’s congratulations for our Saint Mary’s contingent joining Hivesville dawn service.
- Our Equestrians following the veterans at the Yarraman march.
- Four brand new students turning up to the Cherbourg march in full uniform, the day before they officially started at Saint Mary’s.
Our students assisting wheelchair bound aged-care residents at Wondai.

Finally, I would like to thank Mr Medlen and his band of helpers for running a successful Cross Country and Mrs Jenny Cross and staff who have put a huge amount of work into NAPLAN preparations.

I would also like to encourage all parents and community members to invite prospective parents and students to our Open Night & Information session from 6 – 7.30 pm on Wednesday, May 15. It will give prospective families an opportunity to have a tour of the school and to hear the benefits of joining our Saint Mary’s family.

Yours in Christ
Mr Michael Nayler
Principal

From the Deputy

Mosquito Bites

When grace enters, there is no choice - humans must dance. W.H. Auden wrote those words and, beautiful as they sound, I wish they were true. When grace enters a room we should begin to dance but, sadly, more often than not we let some little thing, some minor mosquito bite, blind us to grace's presence.

I say this with sympathy, not cynicism. We all know how mosquitoes can ruin a picnic. Here's an example: You are celebrating your birthday in your back yard, having a picnic with family and friends. The weather is perfect, the sun is warm, the mood is mellow, and everything around and within you is an invitation to be joyful and grateful. This is "Sabbath" in the biblical sense: You are celebrating life, your birthday. You are healthy, surrounded by family and friends who love you, enjoying leisure, time off the wheel of work, all with good food and good drink. Grace has entered and everything is wonderful, time off the wheel of work, all with good food and good drink. Grace has entered and everything is wonderful, except for one thing, mosquitoes. As dusk begins to take hold they discreetly begin to infiltrate, inflicting a bite here and a bite there until eventually most everyone loses his or her focus and is preoccupied with keeping exposed parts of their flesh under vigilance. Eventually most of the good cheer and the gratitude evaporate and irritation at the mosquitoes effectively ends any inclination to dance. The picnic is brought down by a series of little bites!

We could all recount a hundred kinds of incidences of this sort. Given the complexity and contingency within our everyday lives, mosquitoes of some type are invariably present. There is some rain on every parade, some irritation in virtually every situation in life, and some element challenging pure grace within almost every moment of life. Life rarely comes to us pure, free from all shadow. That's why former spiritualities said that we are "living in this valley of tears". In our lives we never experience a moment of clear-cut, pure, joy. Everything comes with a shadow, a mosquito at the picnic.

And so it is not always easy to dance, even in the clear presence of grace. Mosquito bites can easily cause us to lose perspective, to lose the big picture, the one that would have us see and celebrate grace, even in the face of some minor irritation. A minor irritation can make us lose sight of a huge grace.

Today there is a rich spiritual and psychological literature that challenges us to try to live more fully inside the present moment and not let our heartaches about the past or our anxieties about tomorrow cheat us out of the riches of today. But, as we know, that is easier said than done.

Elements from our past - half-remembered lullabies from childhood, an almost forgotten face, a past love, humiliation on the playground deep in our past, a misstep that still haunts us, and a thousand other things from our past - impale themselves into our present. And the future, as well, colours our present as we anxiously worry about an impending decision, the meeting we must have tomorrow, what the doctor is going to tell us at our next visit, and how we will meet our next mortgage bill. The present moment never comes to us pure. And yet the challenge remains, an important and healthy challenge: Don't let the mosquito bites within life blind you to the larger presence of grace! One of my favourite spiritual writers, David Steidl-Rast articulates this challenge very strongly, though he does it by emphasizing the positive. Here's an example from his writings: "You think this is just another day in your life. It's not just another day; it's the one day that is given to you today. It's given to you; it's a gift. It's the only gift that you have right now, and the only appropriate response is gratefulness. If you do nothing else but to cultivate that response to the great gift that this unique day is, if you learn to respond as if it were the first day of your life and very last day, then you will have spent this day very well."

But that is a grace that does not come easily, it must be fervently prayed for. Mosquitoes will inevitably make their presence known at every picnic in our lives. That's a given. The challenge is to not lose sight of the larger presence of grace because of minor irritations. And it helps to keep one's sense of humour about this: I was trying to untie my shoe lace yesterday, a simple, rote act that I've performed blindly thousands of times. I tugged on a lace and, given how shoes are tied, it should be impossible for the laces not to open. But somehow a knot appeared instead! How can this happen? The answer lies in a simple, age-old, philosophical axiom: In the world of irritation there are no impossibilities, no limits of finitude, only infinite potentialities.

Small wonder humans don't always dance when grace enters.

RON ROLHEISER, OMI Speaker, Columnist and Author 2012-01-22

Anzac Day
Thank you to all the staff and students who attended the various services around the district. We were certainly well represented at many venues!

I would also like to commend Mr Perrett for the outstanding Anzac service we had at school last Wednesday. The photos of relatives that were on display made me realise how many of our school families have loved ones who have been killed in action or are serving currently to maintain our freedom.

We are truly a lucky country.

Maths Tutorials
Room 2 Thursday this week 3-15 to 4 pm.

God bless
Mr Sean Erwin
Deputy Principal

APRE News

Parish Celebration

There was a great support from our parish for the students who lead the mass on Sunday. We had nineteen students involved. Du and Danh Pham, Anh and Bao Truong served the altar, Samuel Erwin, Sam Perrett, Claudia Di Marco and Adi Howard read prayers, Robbie Vievers and Jackson Lucas did the readings, Kimberley Haydon, Jack Haack and Harrison Lucas took up the offertory and Olivia Davis, Sammi Rix, Kaitlin Ritchie, Abby Perrett and Rhani Lucas sung in the choir and Jack Campbell was a welcome. The students are a credit to the college, their families and themselves the feedback from parishioners is very positive.

Moya Haydon, a great supporter of our college and fabulously talented musician, always leads our students and the congregation in a lively celebration. Moya, Michael Scanlan and I are very keen to get a group of interested students to become permanently involved in the monthly mass.

We would aim to practice at the College on Wednesday afternoons from 2.10 to 2.40. If your student is interested in this please let me know at the College.

Warm regards,
Mr Martin Perrett
APRE

Library Corner

Lexile Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have received Lexile awards!

Blue Award (3 books)
Sammi Rix, Tennae Francis

Red Award (5 books)
Josee Currin, Kaitlin Ritchie
Great to see so many parents come along.

Participation and sportsmanship for our all primary students for your wonderful Week 7 Week 3 Year 8 Music

Check with his homeroom teacher if he/she sent home yesterday. Can you please check Assessment calendars for Year 7

Curriculum Corner Teacher Librarian Mrs Melanie Burr

Kind regards,

Closer to the date information about this will be provided.

The more a child reads, the stronger reader he or she becomes. Strong reading skills are essential to a child’s success in school and life. Our Book Fair encourages this success by offering students access to great books at affordable prices. Children are more likely to read books they personally choose. The wide variety of choices offered at our Book Fair ensures that there will be something for everyone!

Please join us to make this Book Fair the BEST our school has ever seen. I look forward to seeing you at the Fair!

Chess Competition
There will be a school chess competition (all ages) in Week 10 of this term. The overall winner will receive a trophy. A team of competitors will be taken to Maryborough in August to compete regionally. More information about this will be provided closer to the date. Kind regards,

Mrs Melanie Burr Teacher Librarian

Curriculum Corner
Assessment Calendars Assessment calendars for Year 7-10 were sent home yesterday. Can you please check that your child has brought one home or check with his homeroom teacher if he/she hasn’t.

Year 8 Music
Week 3 - Piano tasks (from last term)
Week 7 - Musicianship and Guitar Tasks (ongoing)
Week 8 - Dictation exam

Prep to Year 6 News
Welcome to Week 5! Congratulations to all primary students for your wonderful participation and sportsmanship for our College Cross Country yesterday! It was great to see so many parents come along. We love to see you at these special events. The very best of luck to our 10 years age champions who will go on to compete at South Burnett Cross Country next Tuesday.

Students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are currently undertaking practice for the upcoming NAPLAN testing in Week 5. Much preparation has gone into assisting our primary students to be ready for this testing period. Some children may exhibit some anxiety about the tests and we continue to provide the same reassurance and support at school, as parents are no doubt providing at home. Plenty of sleep and a good breakfast on testing days might also be helpful.

As the cooler weather is quickly approaching, please ensure that all track suits and jumpers are clearly named. Scarves and gloves in school colours are permitted. Any long sleeved shirts worn underneath the uniform should preferably be school colours, or not visible.

Don’t forget to pop down to the Kingaroy Show and see our amazing show display in the school pavilion this weekend. Thank you to everyone who has helped with the preparation.

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 Hawaiian Pizza $3.50 Lunch Bag System Only Spaghetti Meatballs $3.50

Orders only - no orders will be accepted after morning tea on Friday.

Kind regards
Mrs Michelle Davis Tuckshop Convenor

Vet News
One of our Restaurants in Kingaroy are looking for any hospitality students looking to gain experience. They are looking for staff to assist with functions. Must be available Friday and Saturday nights. If you are interested please see Mr Byrne for further information.

Have a great week.
Mr Larry Byrne VET Coordinator

P&F News
Next Meeting
The next P&F Meeting is 21st May at 7pm in the College Board Room. All welcome to attend.
Working Bee
Exciting news from the amazing P&F. The next P&F Working bee is Sunday 19th May. All you need to do is bring a wheelbarrow, shovel, rake, blower, line trimmer etc. and join the working bee from 8am to 12noon. Hope to see you all there.

Woolworths Earn and Learn
Don’t forget to collect your Woolworths Earn and Learn stickers. You will get one sticker for every $10 spent. Place the Woolworths Earn and Learn Points onto a Woolworths Earn and Learn sheet located at student reception. These sheets can be handed into the College Office or placed in the collection box located at Woolworths Kingaroy.

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

Personalise Label Drive
Kids’ school labels, wall stickers and school bags.
Support the P&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

Sport News
Netball Representatives
The Nanango and District Netball Association and Kingaroy Netball Association have combined to provide players for representative duties this season. The combined teams are representing both clubs in the Wide Bay Regional Competition in the 11 to 15 years age groups, and in the Queensland State Competition in the 13 to 16 years age groups. The following students from our College have been selected in the Representative side for this season: Whitney Eather, Bridget McDonald, Nangkita O’Brien, Rahab Murray, Cassandra Firman and Stephanie Arrell. All students played extremely well at Bundaberg on the weekend.

Cross Country
Really proud of the efforts of our P-6 groups today. They got into it in a really good way. Many thanks to the staff of these groups who did extra practices over the last 2 weeks. It certainly paid off. And cheers for getting their ages and houses done. Thanks to my year 10 HPE/MATHS class for acting as course marshals for the younger races - well done. Many parents attended to see their children run. Thank you for your support and the kids love it.

There were some very strong performances in our upper school divisions. Thank you staff for your efforts today, particularly our recorders, who had a busy day.

Age champions are given to 7yrs through to Open in Boys and Girls. These students will be recognized both on assem-
For your information:

You may use private transport if you choose. I will give out information sheets tomorrow ( Wed) at school. Please make sure these are returned quickly as read, understood and complied with. Best of luck to all competitors.

Results

HOUSE POINTS

1ST POLDING 347
2ND QUINN 322
3RD RUSH 283

BOYS AGE CHAMPIONS

8 years - Luke Green - (Q)
6 years - Harry Jeffs - (Q)
7 years - Mason Tones - (Q)

GIRLS AGE CHAMPIONS

8 years - Dana Gronbach - (R)
9 years - Maddison Sansby - (Q)
10 years - Nikita Pini - (Q)
11 years - Mackenzie Moller - (P)
12 years - Tessa Buzzo - (P)
13 years - Clare Adcock - (P)
14 years - Sarah Haack - (P)
15 years - Bridget McCarron - (Q)
16 years - Cassandra Firman - (Q)

Open years - Claire Anderson - (P)

While our younger age groups do not get age champions, here are our winners for 5, 6 and 7 year olds.

Congratulations to all, that had a go. It is what its all about, and I am proud of all that got into it. To walk is easy but to extend yourself is great.

Kind regards

Mr Allan Medlen
Sports Coordinator

For those who are interested....

South Burnett Autism Support Group

TRIVIA NIGHT

A Trivia Night fund raiser is being held to create awareness about Autism and help improve educational opportunities for autistic children, adults and families in the South Burnett.

Date: Saturday 15th June 2013
Time: 7pm start
Place: Kingaroy Town Hall - Glendon Street
Cost: $10 per person
Theme: Green!! - Come dressed in your favourite green ensemble, as an animal or think environmental etc.

A multi draw raffle will be held on the night with loads of great prizes to be won. Get together with family and friends to make up a table of 8 players or join a table on the night. Supper will be provided at half time but BYO drinks and nibbles to keep you going throughout the night.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL, to register and for further information, please call Melissa on 4162 5339/0427 691 017 or Tracey on 4162 9731 or email sbautismgroup@hotmail.com

KINGAROY TOUCH

Kingaroy Touch Association is conducting Level One and Two referee courses on Saturday 11th May starting at 8am at the T.J. O’Neil Oval. If you would like to upgrade or gain your referee training please contact Pat Williams on 0429 062 441

KUMBIA DEBUTANT BALL

Would you like to make your debut this year?

If so, please contact the Kumbia Debutant Ball Committee.

The Ball will be on Friday, 16th August 2013 at the Kumbia Memorial Hall, and intending debs will be accepted up until 31st May 2013.

Training begins on Sunday 9th June and will continue each Sunday until the ball. This may be your chance to make some new friends, learn to dance, and have a wonderful time at your own debutant ball!

All proceeds from the ball will go to the Cancer Council QLD.

Intending debs please contact Josie 4164 4884 or Gayle 4164 4175.
ANZAC Day Marches across the South Burnett.

Yarraman
Kingaroy
Wondai
Murgon
Cherbourg
Hivesville
Cow Horse
Competition
Nanango
Show Grounds

Saint Mary's Catholic College
South Burnett

If you wish for a caring atmosphere, professional staff and a community feel for your child to develop within, please contact our school office now.

OPEN NIGHT
15th May 2013
6pm to 7pm Displays and Demonstrations
7pm to 7.30pm Information Session

ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN
Prep & Year 8 in 2014
Saint Mary’s Catholic College
Prep to Year 12

We pride ourselves in offering:
* Seamless education
* Academic excellence
* State of the art facilities
* A strong community focus
* A broad and varied Senior Curriculum including Vocational Education
* An extensive co-curricular and sports program

Nurturing Excellence ~ Celebrating Success
Enrolment Forms available at the College Office or on our College Website.
10 Kent Street, PO Box 311, Kingaroy QLD 4610
Phone: 4162 2031 | Fax: 4162 1581
Email: pskingaroy@bne.catholic.edu.au | www.saintmarys.qld.edu.au