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

Last week, about 50 staff, parents and students gathered at the St Peter Claver Catholic Church in Cherbourg for our Indigenous Family BBQ. It was a great opportunity for our staff and parents to chat in the informal atmosphere of a BBQ. We will continue to try and have a function each semester (this one was postponed from semester 1), so that our Cherbourg and Murgon families can have a chance to catch up with staff, without the need to drive to school. At the end of the year, we will hopefully have our annual Indigenous Graduation BBQ at Cherbourg’s Uncle Bertie Button lookout again. I would like to thank Mrs Mathews, Mr Schmidhauser and all of the staff who helped to organise this great event, as well as our staff and families who joined us. At the BBQ, Aunty Daisy Carlo presented Frank McGregor, Nikita Kirby and Javon Saltner with their ACICC scholarships.

I would also like to applaud our P&F who are planning to meet in different communities and have so far met in Yarraman and Murgon. This helps to remind all of us that that we are a regional Catholic College serving the whole of the South Burnett community.

On Sunday, our College Captains Matthew Guteridge and Sam Watson represented our community at the Vietnam Veterans’ Day event at Memorial Park. I was extremely proud of Sam and Matt as they read a piece of Vietnam conflict poetry beautifully during the wreath laying ceremony. Our captains also had the opportunity to meet decorated Vietnam war hero, Mr Keith Payne VC OAM after the ceremony.

I would like to invite parents and carers who use Facebook, to join our Saint Mary’s Catholic College Facebook page. I try and put a few photos, sporting results, events etc. on there as I have a chance. It is more of a gentle advertisement for our College and events, rather than an informative page. During the recent QISSN carnival, I used the page to update parents of our team’s latest results.

On Monday night, we held our annual Campfire Story Night for P-6s. Once again, it was a magical evening for our students, parents and staff. I would like to thank Mrs Burr and all of the supporting staff for their tremendous effort in putting together such a fabulous night. Mrs Burr does an incredible job in promoting a love of reading throughout our College community.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, I will be away with our Year 11s on their Leadership Camp. This camp is designed to challenge our 2014 Seniors to better understand their roles as Seniors. Each year, we have taken our Year 11 students out for a couple of days to look at the nature of leadership; explain the voting and leadership selection process; to work on their Senior Statement of Commitment and symbol; and to explore team work. This year, we have been able to use our camp levy to make this an overnight event which should mean that we don’t lose the momentum of the process by going home.

Yours in Christ

Mr Michael Nayler
Principal
The Catholic Church is the largest non-government employer in Australia, with approximately 131,000 employees. 713,000 children are educated in the Catholic sector in Australia. There are 1,710 schools of which 95 are P-12 Colleges. Approximately 82,000 staff are employed in Catholic schools and Colleges, 11,000 in the Brisbane Archdiocese. ACU is the fastest growing, truly National University, with an increase of 42% in the last 3 years.

22,932 students attend ACU currently around Australia. ACU produces the largest amount of teaching and nursing graduates in Australia. The Catholic Church is well and truly alive in Australia! Did you know?

From the Deputy
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Next 2 days
Year 11 and 12 students do not have normal classes over the next two days. Year 11 students are heading to camp Duckadang for leadership preparation with Mr Nayler, Mr Curran, Mrs Radcliffe and Mr Richard. Year 12 students are sitting for a practice QCS exam (Mr Cook supervising) and other students are working or completing TAFE modules.

Some students have been requested to come to school and work with teachers as previously arranged.

Classes for Prep-10 students are as per normal during this time.

Perth Symposium
Last week Mrs Burr and myself, along with 110 other BCE employees, visited Catholic Colleges who have introduced Year 7 in to their high schools. Primary schools are now P-6 and the transition has been very positive, due to the large amount of consultation with parents and the wider community. Queensland will transition Year 7 in 2015. This will have little structural impact for P-12 Colleges like Saint Mary’s, although many great ideas were gained from visiting The Colleges like Ursula Frayne and St Norberts.

God bless
Mr Sean Erwin
Deputy Principal

APA News
Mr John Dalton
Assistant to the Principal - Administration

Prep to Year News
Swimming starts in Term 4. There will be a letter going home this week to inform parents of dates etc.

The Sacramental program parent information session starting with the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be in early September, around 2:00pm in the Media Room of the Library. If your child would like to begin the sacraments of initiation into the Catholic faith then please contact me at school, to register your child’s name. You will be contacted. Exact dates and times will be published shortly.

The Prep to Year 6 Celebration of Learning early morning breakfast will be held Wednesday morning 4th September. It is an opportunity for the parents to be with their child in their learning environment, for the students to show some of their work and to meet with other parents in celebrating their child’s learning. Breakfast is provided with Mr. Nayler as the Chief Cook. Brekkky starts at 7.30am and parents are invited to Brekkly Central (tuckshop eating area) for a hot breakfast. After brekkly the children will escort their parents to the delights of their classroom. The morning brekkly concludes at 8.20 (or earlier when parents are ready to leave) to ensure parents can get to work on time and classes start on time.

Stop, Drop and Go Zone
Just a reminder to parents about parking when collecting their child from the Stop and Go Zone outside the front of the school – please respect the rules of the zone and don’t leave your vehicle to go and collect your child. Keep the line of cars moving up. I regularly remind the children to keep checking the cars in case their vehicle has moved up to the top of the line.

Also it is very unsafe to park in the middle of the road and have the student run between the parked cars to the waiting vehicle. Not only is this not a safe practice but, it holds up the traffic. I can appreciate that it is very tempting to have a secondary student ‘make a dash’ to the slowed vehicle in the centre of the road but I would strongly encourage that safe road rules are followed.

Library Corner

Sports News
From the Guidance Counsellor
ST LEOS COLLEGE

St Leo’s is the Catholic Men’s Residential College set within the grounds of the University of Queensland, providing accommodation in 2013 for 213 young men, 82% of whom come from rural/regional Queensland and northern NSW. Enrolments for 2014 are being taken now.

The Rector Br Vince Skelly will visit St Mary’s Catholic College South Burnett on Friday 30 August at 12:30pm to meet with any Year 12 boys considering UQ as an option in 2014/2015. Subsequently, if those boys decide to enrol at St Leo’s, the meeting with Br Vince will count as the enrolment interview. Please see Mr Graham Turnbull for details.

Conducted by the Christian Brothers, the College provides for individual living within a Catholic academic community. Life at St Leo’s improves one’s chances of success at University. The achievement of St. Leo’s has been described by University administrators as “extraordinary.” St Leo’s residents perform above average in studies ranging from Medicine, Physiotherapy, Pharmacy, Science and Engineering to Music, Arts, Law, Education and Business/Economics.

With costs comparing favourably to a rented house, all meals catered, free car parking, high speed internet, rooms cleaned weekly and tutorials provided free in any subject required, a full sporting and cultural competition, the Leo’s gym, a tennis/basketball court and free access for Leonians to the UQ Swimming Pool, Track & Field, Tennis & Squash facilities, each resident is encouraged to study hard whilst enjoying himself in the young adult community of College life.

St Leo’s College residents are always encouraged to perform at the top level. Thus far in 2013, St Leo’s is competing in the Inter-College Cultural Competition and in the Sports’ competition. Cultural activities include Debating, Band, Chorale, Art and Chess. The Sports’ competition includes Swimming, Tennis, Cross-Country, Rugby, AFL, Soccer, Basketball, Rowing, Touch and Water Polo.

St Leo’s is a College of both the creative and performing arts. Original Australian works line the walls in the Dining Room; sculptures are placed in the College grounds. St. Leo’s has a grand piano, three upright pianos, music practice areas, full drum kit and electronic keyboard.

Upon entry, St Leo’s offers Music and Equity scholarships. For full details of St Leo’s scholarship program, see the website. The College website www.stleos.uq.edu.au provides more detail and pictures.

Mr Graham Turnbull
Counsellor

Music News
It was great to see a number of Saint Mary’s families come along to the Town Hall last weekend to support some of our students who were performing as part of Oliver!

If you haven’t seen it, consider coming along this Friday and Saturday (23/24 August) to watch the final performances – it’s a great show, and you’ll be supporting the local Arts community as well as our fantastic students! Performance times and ticket prices can be found on the back page of this newsletter.

Year 12 Fundraising
Year 12 Lolly Jar
Come and guess the number of lollies in the jar at the office. 50c a guess

Tuckshop News
Friday’s extra choice menu

Morning Tea & Lunch:
- $3.50
Lunch Only:
- $3.50

Mrs Michelle Davis
Tuckshop Convenor

P & F News

Kind Regards

Damien Martoo
P & F President

ROCK ON STAGE DVD

The Rock on Stage DVD is now available at the office for collection for those who have ordered and paid.
TAABINGA ROTARY CLUB
2013 BOOKARAMA
THOUSANDS OF BOOKS BROUGHT IN FROM OUTSIDE THE SOUTH BURNETT

WHEN: SATURDAY, 21 September 2013
       SUNDAY, 22 September 2013
WHERE: TOWN HALL, GLENDON STREET, KINGAROY
TIME: 9:00 am TO 4:00 pm SATURDAY, 9:00 am to noon SUNDAY
WHY: FUNDRAISING FOR KINGAROY MEALS ON WHEELS AND VARIOUS ROTARY PROJECTS

THOUSANDS OF PRE-LOVED BOOKS AT BARGAIN PRICES!!!
MOST BOOKS $1.00, $2.00 & $3.00,
BOX OF CHILDRENS BOOKS - $5
RAFFLE, SAUSAGE SIZZLE AND MORE

BOOK DONATIONS WELCOME
FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO DONATE BOOKS, PLEASE RING
DARRYL – 0408 718 843 or PAUL – 0447 485 246