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

**A Pearl of Great Price**

During the school holidays some members of our College Leadership team attended the Catholic Secondary Principals Conference in Melbourne. The title of this National conference was “Live in the Light…Open Your Heart…Sing a New Song.” We were privileged to hear from a number of internationally renowned speakers who provided plenty of inspiration for our religious leadership of Saint Mary’s. One of the speakers made an interesting reference to a parable from the Gospel of Matthew – the Parable of the Pearl of Great Price. In this parable, Jesus likens the Kingdom of heaven to a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it. Scripture scholars are divided on the meaning of this parable and come to various conclusions about what the pearl represents. Our speaker, Amy-Jill Levine, reminded us of the nature of the parables that Jesus told and his intention to challenge peoples’ thinking. She asked us to consider that the parable might be challenging us to determine our own ‘pearl of great price’. If we were to name it and become clearer about what is really important to us, perhaps we would be less focused on acquiring more and more of what doesn’t matter. Perhaps we would be less likely to sweat the small stuff, and instead focus our energy on what’s really of value in life. We might also become better able to love others, because we may come to understand what is most important to them.

As we commence a new school term, let’s take some time to reflect on what is truly important in our lives… on what is your own Pearl of Great Price… and what you are willing to sacrifice in order to put more time and energy in what you consider to be important and valuable.

Amy-Jill Levine is the author of “*Short Stories by Jesus: The Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi,*” and a professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at Vanderbilt University Divinity School and College of Arts and Sciences.

Over these school holidays, I also had the opportunity to watch our QISSN team in action in Rockhampton. As I mentioned in a newsletter at the end of last term, QISSN is an annual netball carnival that attracts many of Queensland’s finest independent secondary school teams. The girls were an absolute credit to the school. They came up against some very tough competition, but they never stopped trying their absolute best, right up until the end of the week. I received a glowing report from Mrs Marie Martin, Principal of Marist College, Emerald; one of the teams the girls played against was exemplary as well. Congratulations to all those students and staff involved!

There will be a few changes at the College this semester that I would like to make you aware of.

- Mr Allan Medlen decided to resign his position at the College at the end of last term. A new HPE teacher and Sports Coordinator will be appointed early in Term 3.
- Mr Neil Hutton is taking some leave for the remainder of this year. We wish him all the best for his break and hope he enjoys the time doing something different for a while. Miss Megan Schick will be joining us as Campus Minister for the remainder of the year.
- Mrs Melanie Burr has stepped down from her Middle Leadership position, but she will be staying on as a Teacher/Librarian. Mrs Angelique Arden has been appointed as the Middle...
Leader for Teaching and Learning in Years 7-10.

- Mrs Celia King will be taking some long service leave during Term 3. Mrs Nuala Black will be teaching the Year 4/5 class from Week 2 of Term 3. We will also be appointing a teacher into the P-6 Teaching & Learning Middle Leaders position in an acting capacity for this term.
- We will welcome Mrs Debbie Barry back to Year 1 at the beginning of this Term. We thank Ms Monique Leclercq for her work with the class in Term 2 and wish her all the best.
- There will also be some changes in our College office this term. Mrs Michelle Rutley is going to commence a newly created position in the office assisting with daily arrangements and general administration. Mrs Michelle Binding will move to the Student Services desk. When you come into the office you will also notice the beginnings of some changes in the physical layout of the space as we commence a plan to conduct some refurbishment of the College Office.

I am looking forward to the start of Semester 2. I hope that it will be an enjoyable and productive one for all of us.

God Bless

Mrs Angela Myles
Principal

Head of Primary News

Welcome back! What a busy term. Rock on Stage is Friday evening of next week. Everyone is very busy practising and making props, etc. It will be a wonderful evening. Parent Teacher interviews and the introduction of New Technology Units in the curriculum will keep us on our toes.

There is no P-6 Assembly until Friday of Week 3. The MKC is being used to prepare for our Garage Sale on this Saturday at 8.00am and Rock on Stage set up in Week 2.

It was lovely to visit all the classrooms this morning and welcome everyone back. To date, no plaster on any arms or legs! Well done!

Kind regards
Ms Pam Radcliffe
Head of Primary

APRE News

NAIDOC Week

Last week was officially NAIDOC Week. NAIDOC is the acronym for a committee that once organised celebrations and activities to recognise the importance of Aboriginal and Islander cultures (National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee). Today at the College we celebrated it in our unique way with a multidimensional approach. Uncle Eric welcomed us to country and led us in a traditional smoking ceremony outside in the Dreaming Garden facing the culturally significant Bunya Mountains. The College then proceeded to the Mary Knoll Centre where we were reminded by Mrs Myles of the significance of gathering on sacred ground and the theme of NAIDOC Week 2016: Song Lines. Our college captains revisited our call to national reconciliation, and we listened to the wisdom of Saint Paul writing to the Romans about right attitude and hope. The Yr 4, 5 and 6 classes performed a traditional Thursday Island Dance and then the community received a fire blessing from Uncle Eric.

As part of the ceremony, all new staff and students were asked to add their name to our Carpet Snake that represents the unity of our community and they did this to the sounds of the Paul Kelly classic, ‘From Little things,’ played by some of our resident guitar students lead by their mentor Grant Jepersen.

As part of the Year of Mercy and the call to pilgrimage by Pope Francis, we were joined by staff from Lourdes Hill Catholic College in Brisbane. These staff nominated to come to our region to experience the deep cultural connections our community is fortunate to have and we hope they enjoyed their time with us.

Study of Religion Trip

In the last week of last Term 2, the Senior Study of Religion Class did a two day excursion to Brisbane to experience and learn more about some other world religions. The senior curriculum is heavily immersed in various religions and a text book does not quite give the students

realise your dignity

The Year 12 SOR Class outside a large Taoist Temple
the awareness and exposure they need to truly grasp some of the core beliefs and practices of these religions. We plan to take the year 11 classes on the same trip before the end of the year, so they can relate and use the experience in the rest of their study for 2016 and into 2017.

New Campus Minster
This semester we welcome Miss Megan Schick as a member of staff as Campus Minister. Megan replaces Mr Neil Hutton while he takes well-earned leave. Miss Schick joined us on the recent SOR Trip and also at our athletics carnival at the end of last term. She brings a wealth of experience as a former youth minister and campus minister and the college can look forward to the great opportunities and support she will provide students and staff.

Rock on Stage 2016 - $2 entry fee
Next Friday night the College staff and students present the 2016 Rock On Stage. This year we are not selling raffle tickets or asking for donations from local business. This year there will be an entry fee of $2 for every person including students. This money will still be directly supporting Bacolod Kindergarten in the Philippines. Part of the entry fee will help send a load or two of old uniforms to the Kindergarten. I recently spoke directly with Sister Leonie Duenas, the Principal of the kindergarten and she said these uniforms would be very welcome and could be used in her community and beyond. The rest of the entry fee will make up a straight cash donation to them as it has in the past 7 years.

I look forward to seeing the depth of student talent and the ‘not so talented’ parent act. Mrs Suzanne Mungall assures me she has the trophy cabinet being sized up for their second piece of silverware but I assume she has overlooked the dare and dazzle of some of our new staff, Mr Ron Johnston, Mrs Katie Mangan and the very unassuming Ms Joanna Dunn to name a few.

Kind regards
Mr Martin Perrett
APRE

Office News
Term 3 Fees
Term 3 Fees Statements will be emailed to families next week. Term 3 fees will be due by Friday, 5th August. Should you wish to pay earlier, you may use the same reference details as shown on your Term 2 fees statement or contact the Finance Secretary, Briony Hoare. If you have any concerns regarding your account including instalment payments, please contact Finance Secretary, Briony Hoare in the office. While the College will accept payments by instalments, we do need to know the amount and timing of these payments and it’s preferred that these instalments be done via Direct Debit or BPay.

Kind regards
Miss Kym Schultz
Business Manager

Guidance Counsellor News
10 Tips To Tackle Unhelpful Thinking Patterns
www.generationnext.com.au

Have you ever been puzzled by a young person’s reaction to a good exam result, feel that they were exaggerating, or were jumping to conclusions?

By identifying thoughts and emotions, we can improve our mental health and resiliency. This can be a really helpful skill for young people to learn to reduce stress, regulate emotions and create more realistic expectations of themselves and others.

Unhelpful thinking styles can distort our view of reality, leading to distress and self-defeating behaviours that keep people ‘stuck’ in vicious cycles.

It’s important to remember that we don’t think negatively on purpose – and it can be hurtful and frustrating to tell a young person to ‘just stop thinking that way’, or assume that they’re blowing it out of proportion to seek sympathy or attention.

Our thoughts in response to situations are often so rapid we don’t even notice them, even as adults. This means that adjusting these responses is a challenge, but there are ways to do this and by encouraging young people to identify their unhelpful thoughts and emotions early, you are empowering them to develop tools to improve their mental well-being for life.

Tips to tackle unhelpful thoughts:
The first step is to become AWARE. Thought monitoring records can be a good tool to start with, as can MoodGYM to identify triggers and unhelpful thinking styles.

realise your dignity
Identify positive thoughts too – reinforce and use these more!

Challenge ‘should’ and ‘must’.

Encourage young people to mindfully acknowledge the existence of a distressing thought, and remind them that it’s just a thought and is neither good nor bad.

Examine ‘evidence’ for a belief, as we often exaggerate the negatives.

Sometimes an automatic thought can be true, but encourage them to reframe the thought to be less negative. For example, the statement ‘I’m not very good at Maths’ could be reframed as ‘Maths is not my strongest subject; there are other subjects that I am good at.’

Invite them to recall the positive things about themselves and what they do! Keeping a list helps to challenge future attempts to discount positive ‘evidence’.

Create a gratitude list – think of 3 things to be thankful for each day and add to this.

Encourage them to create a happy study space, using positive words, images, smells, sounds or statements that make them happy or calm.

Set REALISTIC tasks and deadlines.

**And remember to encourage:**
Personal time each day to do something they enjoy
Connecting with family and friends, not just through social media
Healthy eating, exercise and sleep routines

Kind regards
Mr Graham Turnbull
Guidance Counsellor

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**Library Corner**

Welcome Back to all our Avid Readers!
We start this week off with our normal borrowing and reading programs. Included below are the library borrowing days. Please ensure your child has their library bag with them on their library borrowing days and that they are returning their books and readers on their day.

- Prep A, Prep, B, Year 1A, Year 1B, Year 2 – Tuesdays
- Year 3 – Wednesdays
- Year 4, Year 4/5, Year 5 – Mondays
- Year 6A, Year 6B – Fridays

**2016 Premier’s Reading Challenge**

Once again this year, I am delighted to help P-7 students participate in the 2016 Premier’s Reading Challenge.

As well as being fun, the challenge aims to boost children’s literacy skills by encouraging students to read widely for pleasure and learning, develop their imagination and cultivate a passion for literature.

Research shows that young people who read for pleasure excel in a range of learning activities. Reading widely will bring untold benefits throughout their lives.

The reading period for the 2016 Premier’s Reading Challenge at Saint Mary’s started in May and closes Friday 26th August.

This year the Premier has challenged all state and non-state school students from Prep to Year 2 to read or experience 20 books, Years 3 and 4 to read 20 books and Years 5 to 9 to read 15 books. ‘Experiencing’ books can include shared reading, listening to stories, or reading picture books.

Students will have received a reading challenge record sheet and bookmark to help them keep track of the books they have read.
Every student who completes the challenge will receive a Certificate of Achievement signed by the Premier. It will be my great pleasure to present these certificates to students in Term 4.

For more information about Premier’s Reading Challenge, please visit: http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/readingchallenge/

You can play a big part in your children’s future by encouraging them to be part of this challenge.

Yours in reading
Mrs Melanie Burr
Teacher Librarian

Campus Minister News

Dear family and friends of Saint Marys Catholic College, I would like to introduce myself to you. My name is Megan Schick and I will be filling in for Neil Hutton as Campus Minister for the remainder of 2016. I hope I can be a blessing to this community while I am here and I hope I am able to meet some of you during my time. I will be continuing the endeavours that Neil led; Orana visits will occur as per usual and our first for this term will be Thursday week 2. Meals on Wheels will also continue for those students involved.

God bless and be assured of my prayers.
Miss Megan Schick
Campus Minister

Active After School Sports

Please be advised that there will be no Active After School Sports this term. Unfortunately the program for the funding has been reduced by the government to 3 terms per year. We will be eligible to re apply for funding in Term 4.

Year 12 Valedictory News

- Icy Cups 50c Big Lunch break in the Maryknoll Canteen
- Sausage Sizzle next Tuesday, 19th July.

Sausage Sizzle Order Form

Tuesday, 19th July 2016

SAUSAGES $1.50

Name_________________________ Year Level________

Number of Sausages_______

Sauce (Please Tick)

[ ] Tomato [ ] BBQ [ ] None

All money raised will go towards the Year 12 Valedictory Dinner.

Music News

Term 3

- Wednesday, 13th July NAIDOC Day (Senior Primary Choir and selected Guitar students)
- Wednesday, 13th July MacKillop Mass Rehearsal at St Laurence’s College, Brisbane (Selected students Yrs 9-11)
- Monday, 8th August MacKillop Mass at Cathedral of St Stephen, Brisbane (selected students Yrs 9-11)
- Saturday, 13th August Old Catholic Colleges Music Festival (QCMF) - College Orchestra and selected choir students (Yrs 4-6)
- Friday, 26th August SBMCS ‘Little Shop of Horrors’ Opening Night (Selected students performing)
Looking Ahead
This term, we have some great opportunities for our young musicians:

- **NAIDOC Day:**
  Starting with NAIDOC Day, the Senior Primary Choir will be doing the Torres Strait Island song, Sesere Eeye, and a group of College guitarists (including our wonderful Music Tutor, Mr Grant Jeppesen) will be joined by local R&B singer, Mr Clowry Kennell, in a performance of From Little Things Big Things Grow.

- **St Mary MacKillop Feast Day Massed Choir:**
  Continuing the tradition started in 2015, a selected group of students from Years 9 – 11 will participate in the 300-strong choir at the Cathedral of St Stephen in Brisbane celebrating the Feast Day of St Mary MacKillop. The Mass will be celebrated on Monday 8 August (our EKKA holiday), and a rehearsal will be held at St Laurence’s College on Wednesday 13 July (Day 2 of Term 3).

- **Queensland Catholic Music Festival:**
  The College Orchestra and a small group from the Senior Primary Choir will be competing at the QCMF, along with 11000 other students from Catholic schools around Australia. This is a big “first” for our College, and we look forward to the experience. More information coming soon!

Yours in music,
Mrs Jane Iszlaub
Music Coordinator

Tuckshop News

Friday Specials - Morning Tea and Lunch

Oven Baked Fried Rice $3.50 😊
Pulled Pork & Gravy Roll $3.50 😊

Please note: Due to supplier issues some stock will not be available for purchase. We will substitute where necessary.
Thank you for your understanding.

***There are NO Pies or Sausage Rolls sold on Fridays***

Volunteers:
Friday, 15th July: Amanda Kelly
Wednesday, 13th July: Kristene Baulch

If you have misplaced your menu, they are available from the office.

Donation of Goods
If you are able to donate any of the following items during the year, it would be greatly appreciated. Below are the main ingredients we use, however, any donations are more than welcome.

Self Raising Flour
Desiccated Coconut
Plain Flour
Brown Sugar
Caster Sugar
Small Tinned Pineapple Slices
Small Tinned Corn

These can be dropped into the Tuckshop on Monday, Wednesday, Friday or to the College Office.

Ordering and Payment
We now have two options for ordering: online and the paper bag system. For Prep to Year 5 students it is recommended that you use either of these systems.

Online Ordering System QKR (Quicker):
Your child’s online order will be sent to the tuckshop, where it will be printed out. The orders are filled and placed in the class baskets. Their baskets are collected at morning tea and lunch. You are not required to send in a paper bag once you have ordered online.

Paper Bag System:
Your child’s order will be placed in the tuckshop baskets in their classroom in the mornings. The baskets are delivered to the tuckshop and orders are filled. Their baskets are collected at morning tea and lunch. Please do not use sticky tape or staples when using paper bags for ordering. It makes it difficult to get the bags undone without tearing. Plastic bags are not
suitable for ordering, it is very difficult to place your child’s order inside them. Bags can be purchased from the tuckshop for .05c each.

Year 6 to Year 12 students are more than welcome to use either system. If using the paper bag system, students place their bag orders at the tuckshop before school.

**Do you know...**
That we sell **Sandwiches!** Our Sandwiches are made fresh to order, with your choice of fillings. They include ham, chicken, cheese or vegemite or salad.

This is available to order for second break only.

Have great week!
Mrs Michelle Davis  
Tuckshop Convenor

**P&F News**

Calling all Mum’s and Dad’s to participate in the Rock on Stage Parent’s Act. We are very light on numbers at the moment and would love to see more people join the fun. This is one of the best opportunities to embarrass your children!!! We have a lot of fun and a great way to meet some lovely people. If you would like to be a part of some major fun, contact Suzanne Mungall on: 0499527830.

Just a little heads up for the evening of Rock on Stage: the P&F will have a sausage sizzle operating on the night. We will be there from 5.00 - 6.00pm for sausage and a drink. Then during interval we will have small pizzas for sale.

Sausage on Bread: $2.00  
Pizza: $3.00  
Soft Drinks: $2.00  
Water: $2.00

We hope to see you there supporting one of our best nights on the school calendar!

As usual, if anyone needs to contact me, my number is 0419 766 141 or email sbrobbo@gmail.com.

God Bless,  
Mrs Susan Robertson  
P&F President

**Futsal News**

Futsal training has been cancelled this week due to the Maryknoll Centre not being available.

Kind regards,  
Mrs Cathy Gartner and Mrs Tracey Clegg  
Futsal Coaches

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**Rock on Stage Costumes**
Jen’s Party Hire may be able to help with your costumes for Rock on Stage.

Phone Jen on 0407 372 772  
Location: 13 Gooyong Street, Kingaroy

**Rock on Stage DVDs**
Rock on Stage DVDs will be available for purchase on the night.

- **$40 DVD**
- **$50 Blue Ray DVD**

Please see David Davies from Davies Video Productions to place your order. He will be located at the back of the Maryknoll Centre.
It has been a very exciting Term 2 in Year 4. It has been packed full of new experiences and engaging learning activities. Including watching performances, being in the Eisteddfods, camp, athletics carnival and rock on stage.

Term 2 saw Year 4 compete in their very first Music Eisteddfod. Not only did Year 4 sing various songs as part of the senior choir, but they also performed their violin pieces that they had been working on since last year. We enjoyed every minute of the Eisteddfod and are excited to be a part of next years.

During this term Year 4 experienced their very first camp. We spent three days and two nights out at Barrambah Outdoor Education Facility. Year 4 enjoyed learning in the outdoors and experienced some different activities as well as coming into contact with some interesting wildlife!

As Term 3 begins we now turn our attention to Rock On Stage! We are extremely excited about our theme and we are hard at work to make it the best it can be. Bring on the next two weeks!

Miss Alyssa Thomas
Year 4 Teacher.
Kingaroy Kindergarten

Children aged 3 - 5 years

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