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

We are currently celebrating Catholic Education Week. This is an annual event celebrated across Queensland. It is held to promote the special ethos of Catholic schools and to highlight the great things that take place in Catholic schools every day. It is our Catholic identity that makes our school different from others. It is essential, therefore, that we constantly ask ourselves what it means to be a Catholic school and to reflect on how we live this out each day.

The theme for this year’s celebrations is Opening Doors in the Year of Mercy. Catholic education strives to make a difference in the lives of those in our schools and in the wider community by challenging young people to live out the message of Jesus and to reach their full potential as compassionate, contributing, life-giving members of society. Pope Francis declared this year to be the Year of Mercy because he believes that mercy can change people’s hearts and transform our world. To be merciful is to show love, kindness and unbounded generosity to all. In the homily he gave when he announced the Year of Mercy, Pope Francis said, “The call of Jesus pushes each of us never to stop at the surface of things, especially when we are dealing with a person. We are called to look beyond, to focus on the heart to see how much generosity everyone is capable of.”

As we celebrate Catholic Education Week at Saint Mary’s Catholic College, each of us is challenged to see how we might be able to open a door of mercy for others; to ask ourselves who amongst us might be most in need of our love, compassion, generosity and forgiveness. Where do we need to have a change of heart in our relationships with others? Mercy is not easy, but it can be powerful, it can change lives, and it could change the world… if only we could all practice a little more mercy every day.

If you would like to read more about the Year of Mercy, you could go to one of the following websites:


http://dynamiccatholic.com/year-of-mercy/

Rock of Stage – thank you!

We certainly kicked off Catholic Education Week well with Rock on Stage last Friday evening. This event is a wonderful showcase of what the Saint Mary’s community is about. Enthusiasm, commitment and joy was evident in every single act. I cannot praise our staff and students highly enough for the positive way they took part in this community event. I also need to acknowledge the magnificent effort of our parents on two fronts – they not only looked after us with food and drinks, but they also entertained us with a brilliant performance of their own. Thank you to all involved in putting this together. I’ll be looking forward to seeing an even bigger and better Rock on Stage in 2017.

Indigenous Advisory Group

We are in the process of forming an Indigenous Advisory Group at Saint Mary’s. The purpose of this group will be to provide an avenue for the parents and carers of our Indigenous students to meet to discuss ways that we might be able to enhance the educational opportunities for these young people. The group will meet once per term. The first meeting will be held on Monday 15 August. If you would like more information, please contact me, or Nikita Law, Karen Bond or Amanda Erwin at the College.

God Bless

Mrs Angela Myles
Principal
Pilgrimage in the Year of Mercy

As part of Catholic Education Week and the Year of Mercy I invite all in our community to be part of a pilgrimage. Pilgrimage typically refers to a long journey to a sacred space. Many schools this year have invested lots of time and money for their staff and students to join a pilgrimage. Recently we had nine pilgrims from Lourdes Hill visit us on NAIDOC Day.

Pope Francis encourages us all to make a sacred journey. All members of our community are asked to make a personal pilgrimage (journey), one that requires little physical travel but certainly a cognitive and spiritual commitment. A pilgrimage is not a sightseeing experience; we are not meant to be tourists just riding the bus. A pilgrimage is a conscious interaction with the environment we are in.

All staff and students have been given a tiny paper door on which they are asked to write an intention, something they want to commit to or be part of. The intention might be to pray for someone, it might be to do something for another or to refrain from doing something. The purpose is to put front and centre in our minds the notion that we have a role in making this world a better place; we can influence the direction of our lives and also impact others by ‘taking on’ this concept of mercy. This is a pilgrimage of sorts, a journey to becoming a better person. The cumulative effect of this may not be tangible tomorrow or next week but will hopefully have a lasting effect on us and others we may influence.

On the front counter of the office is a large jar. As a parent or carer, if you would like to write an intention and have it added to our College Door of Mercy, place it in that jar and we will add them daily.

Kind regards
Mr Martin Perrett
APRE

Office News

Term 3 Fees
Term 3 Fees Statements have been emailed to families and will be due for payment 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. 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

Teenagers Are Unhappy As Ever – Is Social Media the Culprit?
According to a new study done by ChildLine, a child counseling group, today’s children are dealing with new pressures that stem from social media. ChildLine has found that the major concerns for children are self-esteem, unhappiness and loneliness. ChildLine found that the feelings of unhappiness tend to begin in pre-teen kids and carry on throughout the teenage years. Although more females than males reported feelings of low self-esteem and general unhappiness, that doesn’t mean that males weren’t affected at all. What’s causing these negative emotions? Children who sought help through ChildLine reported that the internet and social media was a huge part of their lives and one of the reasons why they felt so isolated.

What can parents do?
- ChildLine has also seen a huge increase in the number of counseling sessions that take place. This shows that children are willing and ready to reach out to help if it’s available. Parents should take this as an encouraging sign and do their part to help children with self-esteem and loneliness.
- Monitor your child’s social media usage and always be aware of what apps he or she is using. Check in frequently and ask them whether they have witnessed or been a victim of cyberbullying. If they have, don’t brush it off. Acknowledge your child’s feelings and help them move past the negativity by telling them that their worth cannot be determined by others.
- Limit the time that they’re allowed to use their smartphone or the computer. Try to get them involved with after-school activities or clubs that will take them away from social media. Or, try setting “no-phone zones” throughout your house. Prevent teens from using their phones during dinner or in their bedrooms. This will help them get more involved with the family.
- Teach children never to respond to cyberbullying. Sometimes, bullies are just trying to get a reaction from their target, and giving into what they want will give them even more power and control. Instead, teach your children to alert you or a teacher at school about cyberbullying.
- Talk to your teen’s school about the issue of cyberbullying. Some teens are under the impression that cyberbullying is not
serious, and this pattern of thought needs to be changed, one teen at a time.

Kids shouldn’t have to grow up in a world where they feel alone or unhappy, but with a little help from their parents, they may be able to overcome the negatives of social media. Hilary Smith – www.generationnext.com

Book Week 2016
In Week 6 this term (15th-19th August), we will once again celebrate Book Week! The theme is “Australia Story Country.” Australia IS a Story Country. Our stories come from all over: from our own indigenous people, from migrants and refugees who have come to live here, from books, movies and orally transmitted stories. Book Week this year is a time to encourage children to immerse themselves in a range of stories, to read them, listen to them, watch them, think about them, and go on to share them with others! We will have a Book Week Parade (Wednesday 17th August at 9am) where students can come dressed in green and gold/yellow (Australian Olympics Team colours). They will need to bring a book to the parade to share with their buddies afterwards. We will also have a Campfire Stories night (Wednesday 15th August) at 6.30pm – 7.30pm. In previous years, this has been a wonderful night for young and old in their pyjamas, onesies or night gowns! This year, we will continue this tradition. All are welcome! During this week, there will also be competitions, displays, guest reading and many other exciting activities.

Yours in reading
Mrs Melanie Burr
Teacher Librarian

Campus Minister News

Youth Mass – will be on Sunday the 21st of August at St Mary’s Church. Young people will be leading the music and be given different roles throughout the Mass. It is wonderful to celebrate the Mass with young people serving and attending. We hope to see you there.

Catholic Education Week – This week we are celebrating Catholic Education week “Opening doors in the year of Mercy”. At assembly we had a liturgy where each homeroom received a “door” and for the next 9 weeks they will be praying for each other and the community. The door will be displayed in the school for the week and intentions will be added to the door. You are welcome to add intentions to the door throughout the week, there will be a jar in admin that you, friends and family, can place your intentions in and we will place on the door. Intentions are anonymous.

Knitting Club – has been occurring during breaks at school, led by Mrs Lisa Atkinson. The ten students who have been attending have begun knitting a blanket for the residents at Orana Lutheran Complex and will present it to them later this year. If you have any wool to donate that would be greatly appreciated.

God bless you all.
Miss Megan Schick
Campus Minister

Year 12 Valedictory News
- Icy Cups 50c Big Lunch break on Thursday, 28th July in the Maryknoll Canteen
- Sausage Sizzle next Tuesday, 2nd August

Tuckshop News
realise your dignity
**Friday Specials**  
Available both Morning Tea and Lunch

Cheese’n’Bacon Pizza Rounda - $3.50  
Nachos - $5.00

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, 29th July: Amanda Kelly  
Wednesday, 3rd August: 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 $0.05 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&E News

A huge thank to all our wonderful dodgy Dancers. You did the parents act proud. Congratulations to the staff for your fantastic act. We will come back bigger and stronger next year! A big thank you to all our helpers who assisted with the BBQ and Canteen. Your help was greatly appreciated.

Calling out to all those wonderful volunteers who have said they would like to help or who were thinking of helping out at the Equestrian Event on the 4th of August. Please ring Susan and confirm if you can help. We are looking for people to help serve food on the day and help also with baking biscuits or cakes for morning and afternoon tea. If you can only help for an hour or so that is fine. We appreciate any time you can spare.

If anyone is interested in running the Father’s Day stall, please let me know. Suzanne is happy to buy the product, so it is just running the stall on the few days before Father’s Day.

God Bless,
Mrs Susan Robertson
P&E President

聖瑪利天主教學院

知識之夜

星期六，9月10日

6:30 pm起

聖瑪利燕諾中心

主題：離道及賽馬

輕食及飲品可出售。

$80 一張桌，8 人

最少參與者的年齡為18歲。

票務可從聖瑪利學院辦公室

或金嘉洛辦公室索取。

全部籌款將用於年12的雄辯晚餐和大學P&E。

香腸滋滋烤

訂單表格

星期二，8月2日，2016

香腸 $1.50

姓名_________________________年級_________________________

香腸數____________

醬汁（請選）

番茄☑ 肉醬☑ 没有☑

所有籌款將用於年12的雄辯晚餐。

實現你的尊嚴
WOW, what a fabulous first half of the school year... time really does fly when you’re having fun and Year 5 has been having plenty!

A busy first two terms has seen us participate in new and engaging learning experiences which include celebrations (ANZAC and Saint Patrick’s Day, Holy Week, Celebration of Learning), performances (Eisteddfod, Stig Wymass, Labyrinth in the Library) and sport (Dance Fever, Winter Sports Carnival, Athletics Carnival).

Term 3 started with a bang, with Year 5 students participating in NAIDOC Week celebrations and of course Rock on Stage. With a fabulous performance of Matilda, this year saw a combined Year 4, 4/5 and 5 act, sing, dance and perform their way into the top spot for their age division, taking out the winners’ certificate and the ever elusive prize of a Freddo Frog.

Looking ahead, Year 5 still have Catholic Week and Book Week celebrations and of course Year 5 camp to look forward to. Our unanimously agreed upon class goal for the remainder of the year is to ‘make smart choices, even when no one is looking’, and students are enthusiastic, united and determined about ensuring we reach this goal.

Mrs Katie Mangan
Year 5 Teacher
Kingaroy

Blue Light Disco

12 August 2016

6:00pm to 8:30pm

Kingaroy Town Hall
Glendon Street, Kingaroy

$5 entry

Prep to 14 years
High School ID must be shown

Proudly supported by:

Parents to collect children from INSIDE the hall (at any time)