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

Most parents will be aware that we have been discussing new uniform options over the past year with our College Board, P&F and Leadership team. I would like to acknowledge the great work of Amanda Jensen, our uniform shop convener who has worked with me to chase up uniform companies and designs using the suggestions of our College Board and P&F. Recently, we have introduced senior girls’ (Year 6 – 12) maroon slacks that have been very well received.

We would like to canvass the opinions of parents, students and staff on some of the designs. I have included some pictures of these designs in this newsletter and parents, students and staff are asked to respond to these designs via a survey at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/New_uniforms

On Friday, our seniors attended the funeral of Kathleen Burns (nee Carew) who was one of our first day students back in 1929. We received a couple of letters of thanks including:

I mentioned this to you after the Requiem Mass for Kath Burns, but just wanted to formally advise you of the admirable manner in which your students bore themselves, behaved and presented themselves at the Mass. It’s a credit to them and also to yourself for being a major catalyst in the improvement in student appearance and demeanour. Makes me proud to have a link with such a College. I think it is valuable for students to know they are being noticed, and their efforts appreciated! - Community member.

Sincere thanks to St Mary's Catholic College Principal, teachers & students for their guard of honour for my dear Mum yesterday. To be honest Mum would have asked what all the fuss was about but none-the-less she would have been very humbled and honoured by your gesture. I tried to thank each student individually, just to show them that it meant a great deal to our family. Mum was quoted recently by the Catholic Leader that she was very proud of what the school had become - Kay Dove (Kathleen’s daughter)

Next year, we will mark our anniversaries with a past student, staff and family weekend on Saturday, May 30 and Sunday, May 31, 2015. The plan for this weekend at the moment is:

- Sat, May 30: Nanango Races followed by dinner in Kingaroy.
- Sun, May 31: Thanksgiving Mass, tours, memorabilia, history displays and BBQ lunch at Saint Mary’s.

More than 80 past staff, students and parents have already registered their details at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SM2015 and I would encourage all in our community to share this address with any past community members they know. This will help us to keep everyone up to date with information on our anniversary events.

We had a concern raised by a community member about parents running late to pick up a younger child. The child was being looked after by their bus driver, so was in no danger. All of us can have this happen. If you realise that you are running late to pick up your child, please consider a couple of strategies:

- Contact the College before 4pm if child is at school or yet to catch their bus.
- Contact the bus company if your child is already on the bus.
- Contact another parent to see if they could look after your child.
I would encourage our parents and carers, like our bus drivers, to remain with any obviously unaccompanied younger students until they are picked up, especially if they are distressed and try and ring home for them if possible. This is something that we would like other parents to do for our own children.

Yours in Christ

Mr Michael Nayler
Principal

APA News

Reports and Parent Teacher Interviews
- Semester 1 Reports will be posted home during the holidays.
- If there are significant delays in the production of these reports, they will be sent home with students after the holidays.
- Parent Teacher Interviews will be held on Tuesday 29th July
- Information about how to book interviews using PTO (Parent teacher Online) will accompany the reports.
- Year 11 and 12 students will also receive additional information about their eligibility for the Qld Certificate of Education (QCE) and OP eligible students will receive an indication of their possible OP score.

Regards
Mr John Dalton
APA

APRE News

College Cultural Family Mass this Sunday
As usual the College will continue to take part in leading the Parish Mass this Sunday at 10 am. Importantly though, the music will be sung and performed by the Filipino choir to mark the occasion of Filipino Independence, June 12, 1898. Filipino revolutionary forces proclaimed the sovereignty and independence of the Philippine Islands from the colonial rule of Spain.

This is the flag that was raised at the reading of the Act in 1898 that declared independence from Spain, it remains their national flag.

There are many Filipino families actively involved in the parish and the community is a richer place because of them. To hear and join them celebrate at Mass last year was a privilege and the parish looks forward to this occasion again this year.

The relationship between the College and the parish is continuing to grow and I would encourage students to jump at any opportunity to be involved, and there are so many ways from reading or singing to serving refreshments after Mass. Fr Nigel, like Fr John before him, welcomes our input and loves having children involved where and whenever possible.

Reflection Days – Year 6 and Year 8
Next week the Year 6 students go to Bell for their first reflection day. The College provides all students from years 6-10 with time out of the classroom to spend to look more deeply at what it means to be Catholic, and Christian spirituality. The days have always been designed with a balance between fun activities, learning opportunity, story sharing and prayer. Last year the Year 6 class ventured to new territory, the Bell Catholic Church. If you have not heard or seen of the Church it is well worth a trip, even at the very least to see the biblical garden or the artwork done in the church. Much is represented in the art work and horticultural skills namely The Way of the Cross or Calvary, tribute to the first Australian Saint, Mary MacKillop, a memorial to the shepherds of Jimbour station, which the land was part of and Saint Francis of Assisi, who founded an order that worked with the poor and who was a great lover of Nature.

The church itself has the most extensive single and continuous art collection by the one artist that I have ever seen, and the artist is the tour guide. What an opportunity.

Year 8 students will attend a day prepared and run by Mr Neil Hutton and me. The theme is improving relationships focusing on conflict management. It allows students to reflect on their strengths and weaknesses and to give them a couple of skills to help them move forward in relationships. We use several Gospel messages to illuminate reality in the light of faith and God's plan for us.

Both days are compulsory.
Year 6: Monday 23rd June – formal uniform, own lunch and morning tea
Year 8: Tuesday 24th June – casual warm clothes with closed shoes, morning tea, sausage sizzle provided

God Bless
Mr Martin Perrett
APRE

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Wednesday Mass
The last Mass at the College for this term will be Wednesday, 25th June. There will be no Mass at the College during the school holidays (2nd and 9th July). 8.15am Wednesday morning Mass will resume at the College on Wednesday, 16th July 2014 (week 1 of Term 3).

Library Corner

Lexile Awards
Congratulations to the following students who have received Lexile awards!
Blue Award (3 Books) - Addisen Hawks
Red Award (5 Books) - Tom Pennell
Bronze Award (10 Books) - Samuel Schmidhauser

Book Fair
Book Fair is on in the Media Room this week!!
Book Fair Dates: 16th-20th June
Shopping Hours: 8am – 8.40am, 2.55pm – 3.45pm
EFTPOS, cash and online purchases available. Contact the library staff to enquire.

Chess Competition
This will take place next Wednesday afternoon at our college. The competition is open to Years 3 - 12 students.
Regards
Mrs Melanie Burr
Teacher Librarian

Curriculum News
Our Year 9 students have been trialling HotMaths this year, under the guidance of their Maths teacher, Mr. Dunbrack. They have individual logins and passwords to use this exciting resource both at school and at home. HotMaths is an interactive learning tool aligned to the student Maths textbook. Here is some information on this resource as taken from their website www.hotmaths.com.au

- Improves your maths performance by reinforcing the topics you are learning at school with unlimited access
- Provides an effective, inexpensive and world’s best home tutoring system that can be accessed anywhere you have the internet
- Makes maths meaningful and engaging with over 600 interactive investigations (widgets), 1000 worksheets, 25,000 images and almost 400 complete lessons
- Helps identify your maths weaknesses
- Builds your confidence as you succeed at each topic
- Encourages independent learning as you achieve at your own pace and level
- Helps you catch up on work missed if you are absent from school

Year 7 Sustainability Competition
Next week Tuesday (24th June), all our Year 7 students will participate in a collaborative Science project on sustainability. This competition will run for the entire day and will provide students with an engaging and exciting forum for new learning. In groups of four, they will plan, design and present a model of a house they consider to be sustainable. This will require general knowledge, problem solving, science, design, teamwork, presentation and reasoning skills. They will be assessed on these aspects by various teachers.
Thank you
Mrs Melanie Burr
Middle Years Curriculum Coordinator

Counsellor News
Following on from last week’s entry, the first of Cicero’s habits of mind was the illusion that personal gain is made up of crushing others. To begin with, the seesaw thinking that elevates personal gain as a result of crushing others betrays the infinite sense of things. It presumes that life and its resources are finite, and that there isn’t enough to go around, and therefore we can only secure our piece of the pie at the expense of others. This brutal definition of success (or survival when we are cornered) comes harshly out of a fear of scarcity and death. And while there are certainly things that are finite and scarce in this world, the deeper intangibles that hold them - like compassion and worth and acceptance - are infinite and abundant, even when we are cornered.

Cicero’s second habit is the tendency to worry. When we worry about things beyond our control, which is common, we are struggling with a lack of faith in the stream of life. We have somehow lost the ability to believe in rhythms outside of our will. This can lead us to

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a negative self-centeredness that adheres to a false sense of responsibility for everything that happens. When caught in this thinking, it's hard to regain perspective. We can sometimes spiral from 'I am responsible for keeping them happy' to 'if only I had called when I thought of it, she wouldn't be sick now.' Still, even knowing this, it's hard to drop our worry when overwhelmed. This is why so many traditions encourage meditation and prayer, for the safety of the moment is a hammock that can hold us, however we climb into it.

Thank you

Graham Turnbull
Guidance Counsellor

Girls Night In News

Girls Night In will be next Friday, 27th June from 7pm in the Library. Dirty Dancing will be screening. Please bring a plate to share. Tea and coffee will be available but please bring your own wine etc. if desired.

Thank you

Miss Kym Schultz

Tuckshop News

Friday specials are as follows:
Morning Tea & Lunch $2.00
Cheesy Garlic Bread

Lunch Only $3.50
Baked Ravioli

There are NO pies, party pies or sausage rolls sold on Fridays.

Volunteer Roster:
Friday 20th June - Jessica Langley
Wednesday 25th June - Rebecca Stokes
Friday 27th June - Jessica Langley and Rebecca Stokes

If you are unable to make your rostered tuckshop day please contact me at the College as soon as possible. Anyone wishing to donate a day or a few hours, even just once a term, please contact me at the College.

Just a friendly reminder that we only accept Australian currency.

A big THANK YOU to all those people who donated dry goods this week. It is very much appreciated. If anyone is able to donate Self Raising Flour or Condensed Milk it would be greatly appreciated.

Home Bake
Our cookies are now egg free.
Regards
Mrs Michelle Davis
Tuckshop Convenor

Classroom News

Year 8 Home Economics
This week: Recipe planner assignment due. Demo cook. Students are required to bring a workbook and writing equipment.

Next week: Cooking lesson Tuesday and Thursday. Students are required to bring a large container, workbook and writing equipment. No lesson on Wednesday.

Thankyou
Miss Angelique Cook
Home Economics Teacher

Active After School Sports News

This is the final week of the Active After School Community program. The program will run again next term with two different sports and new coaches.

Thankyou
Mr Wade Toms
AASC Coordinator

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On Friday, 20th June the Brisbane based Net Retreat team is facilitating a retreat for students in Year 8 to 12 at the College in the Maryknoll Centre. This starts at 2pm and will conclude at 9pm and dinner will be provided. Students can wear casual clothes if they choose to attend. Any interested students should register with Mr Perrett at the College Office. This is an Archdiocese initiative that the College is happy to host.

**Flowers and Plants Needed**

Next Thursday, there is a special celebration for the work of Mrs Jenny Cross as she retires from many years dedicated work at Saint Mary’s. If any parents, or community member have flowers or pot plants that they could bring in it would be much appreciated.

Please drop pot plants and ‘named’ buckets of flowers (so we can return the bucket) to the footpath outside the Maryknoll Centre before school Thursday morning.

Thanks so much.

Mrs Bronwyn Langford Martoo

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**Proposed College Uniforms**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep - Year 6 Girls’ Uniform</th>
<th>Years 7 - 12 Girls’ Blouses</th>
<th>Years 7 - 12 Boys’ Plain Striped Shirt</th>
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<tr>
<td>Checked or Striped</td>
<td>Checked or Striped</td>
<td>Plain Striped</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Sports Uniform</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years 7 - 12 Boys’ Plain Shirt</th>
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**Round 15**

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<td>Raiders</td>
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<td>Warriors</td>
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<td>Knights</td>
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<td>Byes: Panthers, Rabbitohs, Roosters and Tigers</td>
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**realise your dignity**