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

2014 is a special year for our community as it is our 85th year of primary education and our 50th year of secondary education in the South Burnett. Saint Mary’s Convent school began in 1929 with the Sisters of Charity teaching students in their convent until the school was completed in Sept 1929. The Good Samaritan Sisters who brought our community’s Benedictine Spirituality, then took over the primary school in 1934. This year is also their 80th anniversary.

In 1964, the Good Samaritan Sisters began teaching our first twelve Year 8 students in the primary school until Saint Mary’s secondary school was built on our current site. The new secondary school was Opened and Blessed on July 11, 1965 and the first students started the very next day. Sr Dolores Carroll, our first secondary principal turned 100 last year and had the Trade Training Centre named in her honour. This was very fitting, as Sr Carroll was passionate about eventually getting Manual Arts facilities at Saint Mary’s so that our students didn’t have to walk to Kingaroy SHS for their Manual Arts classes.

The land our school is on was given to the Kingaroy Catholic community by Dan and Bridget Carroll. Last year, in thanks for this gift, our community named the Daniel & Bridget Carroll Oval in their honour.

In 1990, the primary and secondary schools combined on our present site to form South Burnett Catholic College, now our Saint Mary’s Catholic College, South Burnett. Next year will be the 50th anniversary of secondary education and 25th anniversary of P-12 education on our current site.

Given such a history, we will need to carefully consider whether we celebrate these milestones this year, next year across both. We will keep you posted, but please let our past students know that we will be looking at gatherings for our past and present members of our Saint Mary’s family.

It is with sadness, that I let parents and carers know that our Year 6 teacher and parent Don Schmidhauser has resigned due to the pressures of trying to both teach full-time and run a family farm in trying rural conditions. We pray for all of our rural families who have firstly been battered by flood damage and now are facing drought. Mrs Amanda Erwin, our new ESL & Indigenous Literacy and Numeracy teacher, will begin working with our Year 6s while we look for a new Year 6 teacher. I would like to thank Mr Schmidhauser for his great work especially with our ESL and Indigenous students and great support of our College’s sports program.

We have had continual growth in numbers and are looking at having between 445 and 455 students this year. As with 2013, we will have to wait and see how many students return before we start looking at whether we may need more shared classes like our very successful Year 2/3s and Year 4/5s in 2013. As in 2013, the Brisbane Catholic Education census in a couple of weeks will determine if we need to hire additional staff as we have done for the last two years. I thank parents and carers in advance for their patience and understanding as we await our final numbers.

Neither Saint Mary’s nor I are driven by increasing student numbers for the sake of it. We are doing our best to cope with the great need in our community for our quality, Catholic education. Not all students have been able to be placed in 2014 and we have waiting lists in some year levels. Even allowing for some of the difficulties with increasing numbers, Saint Mary’s growth in numbers has allowed us to apply for a new Music Room, six new classrooms, administration and staff room improvements and two new Student Services rooms which will hopefully be built in 2015. As well as this, it gives us greater numbers of staff to offer even more co-curricular opportunities for our students. The opportunities for our students have increased dramatically over the last two years thanks to our increasing staff numbers.
Finally, I would like to remind all in our community that we are a Catholic school, not a “private” or “independent” school. As a Catholic school, we:

- are proud of our Catholic, Christian and Indigenous heritage and culture.
- serve all, but have a special place for the poor and marginalised in our community.
- operate on around 80% of the total funding of a State School student when our fees and government grants are added together. We are very proud of how far we stretch our limited budgets for the sake of our students.

I would like to welcome all new families to our Saint Mary’s family and look forward to meeting you at some of our many events across 2014.

Yours in Christ

Mr Michael Nayler
Principal

From the Deputy

Welcome back!
A warm welcome to new students and new families. I hope that your time here at Saint Mary’s is one of joy and successful learning. Welcome also to continuing students, may you all have a blessed 2014 and achieve much this year.

Uniforms
Thank you to all the parents who have purchased uniforms particularly black shoes. Just a reminder that ladies are not permitted to wear makeup. Earrings are supposed to be worn in the lower part of the ear and are to be very small. Please check the student diary for all uniform regulations. If you have any queries please contact your child's homeroom teacher and they will get back to you within 24 hours. Please feel free to ring or email if there is an issue with your child’s uniform.

Great Start
This morning was a wonderful beginning to the school year. The prayer and history powerpoint showed how important catholic schooling is and has been in the South Burnett for the past 85 years. It is a pleasure to be associated with a school that has a long and valuable history within our community.

Opening Mass
The College Opening Mass will be held in the Mary Knoll Centre on Tuesday, 4th February at 9am. All students will be required to wear formal uniform.

God bless
Mr Sean Erwin
Deputy Principal

APRE News

Welcome
Welcome to Fr Nigel Sequeira to our Parishes of Kingaroy and Nanango.

Prayer for Australia
Source of all love and joy, Father of Jesus and our God, to you belongs our gratitude. Your loyalty to us is unting and your love is beyond all measure. We thank you, Lord of Life.

When our continent was being created You thought of us and provided for us. When out land’s inhabitants were kangaroo and koala, jabiru and currawong, crocodile and yabbie, you created for our needs. We thank you, Lord of Life.

When we inherited this land, we used it recklessly and selfishly, but you did not give us up. Though, like tramps, we wander among our broken promises, shattered hopes, and empty prayers, you give us Jesus Christ, to seek and save the lost. We thank you, Lord of Life.

Though Australians become blinded by technology, misled by opinion-poll morality, hardened by greed, and captivated by lusts, through Jesus Christ you still come among us inviting us to reclaim our destiny as your very children. We thank you, Lord of Life.

God of Jesus, God of the Southern Cross and all who read its sign, make our nation your glory, Let us live to your glory, today And as long as this land shall last.

Bryce D. Prewer

God bless Australia!
Make us a people of Love, Joy and Peace!

This Weeks Mass Readings
1st Reading
Malachi 3:1-4

2nd Reading
Hebrews 2:14-18

Gospel
Luke 2:22-40

Children’s Liturgy
Children’s Liturgy is on the 2nd Sunday of each month at St Mary’s Church at the 10am Mass during the four school terms. Come and join us!
The next children's liturgy is on Sunday, 9th February at 10am.
All children are welcome to join in.

Mass Timetable
Please refer to the back page for the Mass timetable.
Thank you
Ms Pam Radcliffe
Acting APRE

APA News

Subject Selection
A reminder to all parents and students confirmation of subject selection will be sent home next week in the form of printed time tables. Any students who have any errors with timetable or subject selection should see Mrs Rutley at the Student Services desk, at the office as soon as possible. Mrs Rutley will refer any cases that require career or subject advice to me and I will interview those students.

Mr John Dalton
Assistant to the Principal

From The Office

2014 School Fees and Levies
The Term 1 accounts will be processed within the next fortnight and mailed out to all families. Families may wait for the invoice to pay the account on receipt of same or alternatively you can come in and pay Term 1 costs at the office now. If wishing to receive the 5% discount for paying the full year in advance full payment must be received by Friday 7th February 2014. Due to the large number of new families we have extended the cut off time to pay your fees in advance.

Families without a direct debit in place and wishing to use this payment method should contact the office immediately to start instalments now. The wider the time frame over which instalments are spread the smaller the instalment amounts. If planning to pay your account by Bpay instalments again please ensure that the College is aware this is your payment nominated method.

Miss Kym Schultz
Business Manager

Tuckshop News

Friday’s extra choice menu:

Lunch Only
- Oven Baked Fried Rice - $3.50
- Hot dogs - $3.50

A new menu for 2014 came home with your back to school pack last year. It is a yellow menu. If you do not have the correct menu please come and see Mrs Rutley at Student Services, desk at the office.

A gentle reminder of the donated food items listed on the menu, these can be sent into the College at any time throughout the year. Anyone wishing to donate their time in the Tuckshop please contact Mrs Michelle Davis on 4162 2011.
Any help is greatly appreciated.
Mrs Michelle Davis
Tuckshop Convenor

Counsellor News
Life Lessons from Albert Einstein
Albert Einstein offered us more than just the amazing theory of relativity and E=mc2. Through his persistence in his discoveries in science, Einstein shined a light on how each of us can do the impossible by hard work, experiencing failure, and valuing people. Even if you are not a scientist, you can apply these life lessons to your life today.

Simplicity
“If you can’t explain it to a six year old, you don’t understand it yourself.” – Albert Einstein

Creativity
“Creativity is contagious, pass it on.” – Albert Einstein

Hard Work and Failure
“The only sure way to avoid making mistakes is to have no new ideas.” – Albert Einstein
“You never fail until you stop trying.” – Albert Einstein

Live in the Present
“I never think of the future – it comes soon enough.” – Albert Einstein

Be Unconventional
“I never made one of my discoveries through the process of rational thinking.” – Albert Einstein

Imagination
“Imagination is the highest form of research.” – Albert Einstein
“I am enough of an artist to draw freely upon my imagination. Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world.” – Albert Einstein

Work Towards the Impossible
“Only those who attempt the absurd can achieve the impossible.” – Albert Einstein

Value People
“We know from daily life that we exist for other people first of all, for whose smiles and well-being our own happiness depends.” – Albert Einstein
“Life isn’t worth living, unless it is lived for someone else.” – Albert Einstein

Sharing
“Student is not a container you have to fill but a torch you have to light up.” – Albert Einstein

Be Open to Learning
“Learning is experience.

Everything else is just information.” – Albert Einstein

Do What is Right
“Always do what’s right; this will gratify some and astonish the rest.” – Albert Einstein

Institutional Music News
Welcome to 2014!
If you are interested in learning an instrument and haven’t returned a form to the office for 2014 tuition (I have a large pile from Term 4 last year), please complete the form attached to the newsletter and return it to the office by this Friday. I apologise for the short turn around, but it is there so our instrumental tutors can organise timetables for lessons to start next week. If you have more than one child wanting to learn an instrument, you can use the same form for all of them - just indicate which child is learning which instrument.

Thank you
Mr Michael Scanlan
Music Teacher

Indigenous News
Next Tuesday, 4th February at 10.40am Uncle Eric Law will be meeting with all Indigenous Students in Room 42 to discuss his role at the College and events that will be occurring in 2014.

Aunty Valerie Mathews and Mrs Amanda Erwin are also part of the Indigenous support team here at the College in 2014.

Sports News
College Swimming Carnival for students ages 10 years to 18 years will be held on Thursday, 13th February at the Kingaroy Aquatic Centre. This carnival is the first of two swimming carnivals this year and will determine which students are required for the South Burnett Team trials. Further details will follow next week.

Mr Allan Medlen
Sports Coordinator

Tutoring News
Tutoring for students in Years 7 to 12 will commence Thursday, 6th February 3pm to 4pm in Rooms 41, 42 and 43. Students will be able to commence assignments and receive help in Mathematics and Science. This tutoring is free and I thank the teachers who give up their time to assist students in their learning.

Mr Sean Erwin
Year 12 Mathematics Teacher

Wondai Proston JRLC
Wondai Proston JRLC will be holding a free Combine Sign On & Come & Try Rugby League Day on Sunday, 9th February hosted by NRL Development Officer Colin Huxtable from 10am to 12noon followed by a sausage sizzle.
Fee’s for 2014, $75 for the 1st child. All enquiries to Wally Knight 4169 0971.

Mr Graham Turnbull
Guidance Counsellor

Instrumental Music News
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