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

Firstly, I would like to congratulate all of our staff, students and parents who took part in last week’s wonderful swimming carnival. I would particularly like to thank:

Our House Leaders and cheer squads for creating such a great atmosphere.
All of our students who made an effort to get in and race or cheer for their team.
Mr Medlen and the staff and parents who worked behind the scenes to make the day run smoothly.
The Andersson family from Andersson’s Fruit Market for the donation of watermelons. There will be a full wrap up of the carnival later in this newsletter.

Saint Mary’s celebrates its 85th year of Catholic Education in the South Burnett.
Over the next two years, Saint Mary’s Catholic College, South Burnett will celebrate a number of important milestones. These celebrations will culminate with a gathering of past staff, students and families in 2015.

This year, Saint Mary’s celebrates 85 years since back in January 1929, four newly arrived Sisters of Charity turned a room in their convent into a primary school for our first 30 students. Classes continued in the Saint Mary’s Catholic Church until Saint Mary’s Convent school was built and officially opened by Archbishop Duhig in August 1929. The following year in 1930, 70 students were enrolled at Saint Mary’s Convent School.

The 3 acres of land for the original school and convent had been a gift from locals Daniel and Bridget Carroll. Last year, Saint Mary’s Catholic College recognised the Carroll’s generosity by naming our main oval the Daniel and Bridget Carroll Oval.

80 years ago, in June 1934, the Sisters of Charity were replaced by four Good Samaritan Sisters whose order was already running 17 other primary and four other secondary schools around Queensland. The Good Samaritan sisters are a Benedictine order and live by the Rule of St Benedict. It is these Benedictine values which are still at the heart of our College today. These values have been reinterpreted into our College’s modern Benedictine values of: Be Respectful; Be Responsible; Be Safe; Be Just and Be Your Best.

Saint Mary’s Convent School remained as a primary only school until 1946, when Sr. Mary Winefride briefly opened a secondary school to “an average of 12 boys and girls”. This only operated for four years before the secondary section closed and would remain closed until 1964, when Mother Mary Lucian (Principal of Saint Mary’s primary school) and Sister Mary Marius began a “high top” primary with the first cohort of twelve Year 8 students.

So in 2014, Saint Mary’s Catholic College celebrates its 85th anniversary of primary education, its 80th anniversary of the arrival of the Good Samaritan Sisters and its Benedictine values, and its 50th anniversary of continuous secondary education.

Saint Mary’s major celebrations will be held in 2015, for the 50th anniversary of the secondary school opening in 1965 on the current Kent Street site with Sr. Dolores Carroll as its Principal. Last year, to celebrate Sr. Dolores’ 100th birthday and her dream of Saint Mary’s having its own Manual Arts rooms, Saint Mary’s names its Trade Training Centre after Sr. Dolores. 2015 is also the 25th anniversary of the opening of the combined P-12 College which opened as South Burnett Catholic College back in 1990. Tom Lambert, the first Principal of the combined P-12 school has the College’s Performing Arts award named in his honour in recognition of his passion for performing arts.

The Saint Mary’s Catholic College community encourages all who have been part of the College’s last 85 years to register in preparation for next year’s celebrations. Past students and staff can leave their details online at https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SM2015 or by ringing the College on (07) 41622011.

Yours in Christ

Mr Michael Nayler
Principal
**From the Deputy**

Swimming Carnival
Congratualtions to Quinn House for winning the swimming carnival.
The participation rate by the students was amazing and the behaviour was fantastic. Thank you to Mr Medlen for the organisation of the whole day and the smooth running of the carnival.
Thank you to the staff and parents who assisted with timekeeping, judging, and supervision of students.
I look forward to the swimming carnival for Prep-6 in Term 4!

**Student Services – Mrs Rutley**
Can students please go to the student counter to hand in permission notes, signing in late and leaving early or reporting that a sibling is sick.
We have had students walk around to the front of the administration building to come to the front counter when it is student related.
The front counter is for parents and the general public. Thank you for your understanding.

**Head Lice**
There have been recent reported incidents of head lice. Please check your child and treat for head lice if necessary. When lice are reported while students are at school, parents are contacted immediately to take the child home till their hair has been treated.

**Behaviour Management Update – Uniform**
Congratulations to students for the excellent wearing of the Formal Uniform yesterday.
If a student is out of uniform for any reason the Homeroom teacher will speak with the student regarding correct uniform.
If there is a reoccurrence the homeroom teacher will speak with the student regarding correct uniform.
Ongoing issues such as make up and earrings will be dealt with by the homeroom teacher and pastoral care co-ordinator.

I hope this clarifies any issues with regard to Uniform.
Have a great week.
God Bless.
Mr Sean Erwin
Deputy Principal

**APRE News**
It's wonderful to see parents and staff and some students coming to the Wednesday morning 8.15 mass in the Media Room of the Resource Centre here at the college.
Everyone is welcome so please feel comfortable and come along and meet Father Nigel.

CARITAS fundraising will be running through Lent – 5th March to Friday 4th April when the school holidays commence.
Lent continues through to Good Friday 16th April. Easter Sunday this year is 20th April.
School commences Tuesday 22nd April.
Your child may be coming home with notes advertising various events that will be on offer to raise money for CARITAS. Some things discussed by the Student Representative Council (SRC) are – a dance P-12 (three sessions), icy cups for 50c etc.

There will be Mass at the church on Ash Wednesday 5th March at 5.30pm. The school will have a liturgy on that day and teachers P-12 will distribute ashes to the students in their Class/ Homeroom.
The 40 days of Lent is a time for reflection and prayer. It is also a time where we try to discipline ourselves as a reminder of what we are preparing for – the Resurrection of Christ on Easter Sunday.
In class students and teachers will be talking about alms giving (CARITAS) and self discipline and doing things for others. Today, it is not as strict as it used to be in church law. The only requirement now is no meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. You might remember as a child fasting on Fridays and before communion and no meat or meat products. Every Friday was fish for dinner and so on.
However, as a way of our school participating in this preparation through Lent and as a reminder to our students here at Saint Mary’s, there will be no meat products sold on any Friday during Lent. Maybe as a family you might talk about ‘giving something up’ during Lent, this could be: lollies, sugar in coffee, offering to do the chores of brothers and sisters, little things to act as a reminder and preparation for this most important time in the Liturgical Calendar.

This Sunday is the college led parish Mass – 25th February 10.00am at Saint Mary’s Church corner of Mary and Alford Streets Kingaroy. Year 6 and Year 9 are the classes welcoming and leading the readings etc. Everyone is welcome regardless of what year level – catholic or not – come along and be part of the spirit. There will be a light morning tea afterwards.

**APRE News and 11/12 Curriculum Co-ordinator**

Academic Excellence Competition
This year St. Mary’s Catholic College will organise an Academic Competition Excellence Award for students who compete in National academic competitions. The competition offers opportunities to highlight academic achievement in the College and allow students opportunities to extend and enrich their academic studies.
At Awards Night, there will be three prizes, each $100 for the overall achieving top student across all of the academic competitions at P-6, Middle School and Senior School categories. If there is more than one student winner, the prize will be shared.
The rationale for this are:
- Students will be able to experience academic situations external to the College
- Students can gauge their ability in comparison to students Australia wide and
- To offer Gifted and Talented students an opportunity to achieve on the National stage.

To this end, students will be awarded points as follows for each competition they enter:

1 point for Participation,
2 points for Credit,
3 points for Distinction and
4 points for High Distinction

These competitions will also form the basis of an Inter-House Academic Competition similar to the swimming, and athletics competitions. A trophy will be presented to the best House overall.

For your convenience, the University of New South Wales competitions times and costs are:

**ENGLISH (WRITING)**
16 June $18.70

**ENGLISH (SPELLING)**
17 June $12.10

**ENGLISH (ENGLISH)**
29 July $8.80

**MATHEMATICS**
12 August $8.80

**SCIENCE**
4 June $8.80

**HISTORY**
28 May $6.00

**COMPUTING**
29 May $8.80

We would ask parents and caregivers to encourage their students to become involved in the competitions.
Nomination forms for all these competitions have been given to students this week. Also, it is hoped that the Parents and Friends will subsidise the nomination fees for students who compete in many of the competitions. More details will be advised after this week's P and F meeting.
**Prep—Year 6**

**Celebration of Learning Breakfast.**
Each year Parents and students are invited to a Celebration of Learning breakfast. It was in Term 4 last year but this year we’re having it in Term 1. This is so that teachers, students and parents can mingle in a relaxed atmosphere and parents can see the classrooms etc. It is an opportunity for parents to have a quick chat to the teacher and if necessary organize an appointment if they want a more detailed conversation.

**Friday 14th March serving hot breakfast from 7.00am.** It is an expectation that parents leave by 8.20am so that the regular school day can commence.

**God Bless**
Ms Pam Raddcliffe

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**Curriculum Corner**

**Assessment Calendars**
Year 7-12 assessment calendars were sent home last week. Please contact your child’s homeroom teacher if your child hasn’t brought one home.

**Communication with subject/homeroom teachers**
If you wish to discuss any subject related issues e.g. homework or course outlines, please call the office and leave a message for the specific teacher. They will call you back when they are next available.

Your child’s homeroom teacher is the best person to contact if you are concerned about your child generally. They will refer on to Mr Toms (Yr 7-10 PC Coordinator) or Mrs Burr (Yr 7-10 Curriculum Coordinator) as necessary.

Thank you
Mrs Melanie Burr

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**Counsellor News**

**Fear and Anxiety in Children**
Children can fear situations or objects that adults don’t consider threatening. Anxiety and stress is a real issue for kids, even babies and toddlers. Take a child’s fears seriously and help them manage and overcome anxiety and stress. Teasing a child or forcing them to confront a fear will not help.

Parents teach their children to be fearful and cautious of specific dangers, such as fire or crossing the road. In these instances, anxiety can be useful, because it helps protect the child from harm. However, children can be fearful of situations or objects that adults don’t consider threatening.

The sources of fear may change as the child matures; for example, a fear of the dark or monsters under the bed may give way to fears of burglary or violence.

Tactics that don’t work include teasing the child for being afraid or forcing them to confront fearful situations.

Helping the child to deal with fear includes taking their feelings seriously, encouraging them to talk about their anxieties, telling them the facts and giving them the opportunity to confront their fears at their own pace and with your support.

Common fears for children of primary school age
As a child learns more about the world, the list of things they fear tends to grow.

Some fears are real and some are imaginary. Common fears include fear of the dark, burglary, war, death, separation or divorce of their parents, and supernatural beings (such as ghosts and monsters).

Suggestions for helping your child include:
- Let your child know that you take their fears seriously.
- Give your child truthful information on topics such as death or war, and let them know you are willing to answer any questions.
- Encourage your child to confront the object of their fear, such as dogs, one step at a time at their own pace. For example, perhaps start with pictures, then try a very small gentle dog that is tied up, so the child decides how close to get.
- Allow your child some control. For example, if they are afraid of intruders, make shutting and locking their bedroom window one of their night-time responsibilities.
- Daily routines and rituals give a child a sense of stability and security, and may ease general anxiety.
- Professional help
  - Sometimes a child is so fearful that it interferes with their daily life and play.
  - Professional help is advisable if you consider your child is particularly burdened with fears or phobias.
  - Where to get help:
    - Your doctor
    - Maternal and Child Health nurse
    - Child psychologist
- Kids Help Line Tel. 1800 55 1800

**Things to remember:**
- Sometimes children are afraid of situations or objects that adults don’t consider threatening.
- Making fun of the child or forcing them to confront their fear will only make things worse.
- You can help your child by taking their fears seriously and encouraging them to talk about their feelings.


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**Library Corner**

**Textbooks and Consumables**
Textbooks and consumables are being distributed to classes this week. Detailed information about the textbook hire scheme went out to Year 7-12 students last week. Below, for your information is the library process for overdue books:

**Overdue library books from 2013**
Please insist that your child returns all textbooks they may still have from last year. Several reminders as well as a final letter were sent home last year. Invoices for these will be sent home by the Business Manager soon. **Once invoiced, there can be no refunds even if books are returned.**

**Library borrowing**
Library borrowing has begun this week with an orientation session, including borrowing procedures and responsibilities of borrowers. The Take-home reader and Lexile Programs (detailed information will be sent home this week) has also started.

**Mrs Melanie Burr**
Teacher Librarian

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**Sports News**
Many thanks to the staff and students for their efforts in making the carnival a wonderful day. I was good to see plenty of enthusiasm from the swimmers.

For those that qualify on times, the South Burnett Swimming Trials will be on Thursday 27th of Feb (2pm-5pm). These students will be notified.

**2014 SWIMMING CARNIVAL RESULTS**
House Points -
- 1st Quinn -740pts
- 2nd Rush -608pts
- 3rd Polding -599pts

**Age Champions:**
- 10yrs Boys-Patrick Flynn
- 10yrs Girls-Addisen Hawks
- 11yrs Boys-Eathan Gates
- 11yrs Girls-Josee Currin
- 12yrs Boys-Lachlan Dolzan
- 12yrs Girls-Carmen Swedden
- 13yrs Boys-Nicholas Elliott
- 13yrs Girls-Deidre Murray
- 14yrs Boys-Alex Dunemann
- 14yrs Girls-Claire Adcock
- 15yrs Boys-Jackson Kelly
- 15yrs Girls-Sarah Haak
- 16yrs Boys-Hayden Yesberg
  - Ryan Jacobs
- 16yrs Girls-Rahab Murray

**Open Boys-Gabriel Crane**
**Open Girls-Samantha Hudson**

**South Burnett Representatives-Primary and Secondary.**
- Mackenzy Moller-12yrs Girls Cricket
- Taylor Armstrong-12yrs Girls Cricket
- Renae Irving-15yrs Girls Cricket
- Fletcher Brown-12yrs Boys Cricket
- Lyleton Brown-14yrs Boys Cricket
- Thomas Carney-14yrs Boys Cricket

**QISSN Netball**
Reminder that trials for the selection of this team are on Wednesday 19th Feb at the Mary Knoll Centre after school.

Because there were many interested it may require a couple of try outs.

**South Burnett Trials-**
The next lot of these are about a month away. I will be advertising the sports in a week or so. Please listen to home class notices and collect permission forms and information sheets from me.

**Mr Allan Medlen**
Sports Coordinator
**Tuckshop News**

Friday's tuckshop specials:

**Morning Tea and Lunch**

Roast Beef & Gravy Rolls - $3.50

**Lunch Only**

Potato Bake - $3.50

*There are no Pies, Party Pies and Sausage Rolls for sale on Fridays*

Thank you

Mrs Michelle Davis

Tuckshop Convenor

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**Uniform Shop**

A reminder to parents that all Uniform Orders must be paid at the time of purchase by cheque, cash or card. All other payment arrangements must be pre-approved by the Business Manager. Please don't send your child to the uniform shop without payment as we do not wish to offend or disappoint any students.

As our Uniform Shop is short on space, please only come into the shop if YOU are purchasing uniforms.

**VOLUNTEERS WANTED** for Uniform Shop. If you are able to volunteer a couple of hours of your time to assist in the Uniform Shop (Wednesday mornings), please contact the Office.

Thank you.

Amanda Jensen

Uniform Shop Coordinator

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**Career & Employment Transitions Coach**

Saint Mary's Catholic College, Kingaroy is seeking a suitably qualified and enthusiastic person to develop and coordinate programs to improve our students’ career and employment opportunities and outcomes (especially for our Indigenous students and those with special needs).

30 hours per week, term time position for the 2014 school year.

School Officer Level 4: $26.40 - $27.23 per hour.

Apply via [www.catholicjobsonline.net.au](http://www.catholicjobsonline.net.au), position no. 10871.

Closes 3pm Wed, Feb 26.

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**Calling all Men!**

This is an opportunity for men in our community to meet, discuss and enjoy each other’s company on Wednesday evenings restoring and manufacturing wood and metal products.

Qualified instructors demonstrating the use of all equipment.

Venue: Saint Mary’s Catholic College, Sister Dolores Trade Training Centre

Wednesday Evenings Commencing on the 26th February 2014

Time: 7.00pm to 10.00pm

Spaces are limited

Contact: Fr. Nigel Sequeira 4162 1958 or Mark Richard 0404851134 with your expression of interest.

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**QUOTA**

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY DINNER**

**GUEST SPEAKER**

**JENNY WOODWARD**

ABC TV NEWS AND WEATHER PRESENTER

**DATE:** 1st March 2014

**TIME:** 6:30 pm

**WHERE:** RSL Tobruk Room, Kingaroy

**PRICE:** $50.00 per person or $450 table of 10.

RSVP: 24th Feb 2014; Allene Otto - ph. 4162 5382 or allene.otto@bigpond.com or Wendy Tully - ph 41628485 or jwwoodsly@gmail.com

**Lucky Door Prize**

Progressive raffles

Proudly sponsored by South Burnett Regional Council and RSL

Proceeds to the South Burnett Private Hospital