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

This week I have been acting as an intermediary between the Principal of St Mary’s Primary School, Laidley and AgForce’s Drought Office to organise a delivery of hay and supplements to some of the South Burnett’s most drought-affected communities. St Mary’s Laidley has set up the Rural Connect Organisation and has raised over $10,000 so far to assist our struggling farmers. Adding the $900 we raised on Harmony Day to their funds, Rural Connect hope to make their first delivery in the final week of school. We realise that this funding is just a drop in the ocean, but hope, with AgForce’s help, to assist a few of the district’s most struggling farms. Rural Connect hope to continue to raise money through our 130+ Brisbane Catholic Education schools, so that they can provide even greater support for our struggling rural sector.

On our Facebook page, I had created a prayer which has reached nearly 400 people. Please feel free to join us in praying for rain.

Compassionate Father, we ask you to bless our drought-stricken communities with quenching, life-giving rain for: our struggling farmers, their thirsty and hungry animals, their withering crops, and for all of us who rely on our farmers’ hard work to supply our “daily bread”. Amen.

There are a number of events which deserve our thanks and recognition including:

- **Harmony Day**: On Thursday, we had a sensational Harmony Day celebration. It was wonderful to see so many students dressed up and involved the day’s activities. Thanks to our staff, students and parents who helped us to raise $900 toward drought relief. Thank you to Mrs Collins and her team for organising such a great day.

- **Saint Mary’s Parish Mass**: It was wonderful to see Saint Mary’s church nearly full on Sunday as we celebrated our College Mass. I would like to thank Mrs Radcliffe, the wonderful students who read so beautifully, our musicians and staff, student and parent supporters for making it such a great day.

- **Congratulations to Jaiden and Tennae Francis who both won gold medals at the Archery State titles earlier this year. We wish them all the best for the upcoming National titles.**

Next week we have our Year 7, 8, 9 & 11 Camps, our Year 12 Retreat and our Year 10 Work Experience. I am sure that parents and carers realise that these camps & events would not be possible without our dedicated staff who volunteer their time for these important events. I would again reiterate that these activities are not an “optional extra”, but are a vital part of the holistic education of our students. All students are expected to attend these activities and unless there is serious medical or family issues.

For students taking part in our camps, retreat and work experience, I have outlined just some of the ways they should behave in living up to our College’s Benedictine values. Students who consistently fail to live up to these values may be sent home from these activities at their parents’ / carers’ expense.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benedictine value</th>
<th>How might this look at Camp / Retreat / Work Experience?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Be respectful</td>
<td>Listen carefully to all instructions and follow all directions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be responsible</td>
<td>Make sure that you are where you are meant to be and doing what you are meant to be doing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be safe</td>
<td>Follow all safety procedures and do not muck around.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be just</td>
<td>Do not take what is not yours. Make sure that you give others a fair go.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be your best</td>
<td>Take up the challenge to be your best and give everything you are asked to do a go. Don’t give up.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Yours in Christ
Mr Michael Nayler
Principal
**From the Deputy**

**EASTERTIDE: Experience of Transformation**
The season of Easter is when we literally live in the mystery of our initiation into Christ's Body. The Eastertide Scriptures show us how to savour:
- the meaning of our baptism
- the richness of the community
- our mission to the world

Eastertide is when we live in the renewed energy of Christ risen and present in this world! It is thought that the name Easter is adapted from a pagan word *Eaastre* – a time when the end of the northern winter was marked by a celebration of the Teutonic goddess *Estour*.

The name could also have roots in the word east and be linked to the rising of our Christian Sun, Jesus.

Easter was often called the *Pasch* which means Passover. The timing of Easter coincides with the Jewish Passover – a time when the Israelites were able to flee their captors in Egypt. The date of Easter is determined by the first full moon after the Northern Spring Equinox.

During the Easter season, the first Reading at Mass is taken from the Acts of the Apostles rather than the Old Testament. This highlights the emerging Church as witness to all that God can do in the risen Christ who is present in the community.

So, we gain insight into our early beginnings. This Church is ever changing, ever renewed in us, when we are led and enlivened by the Spirit.

**Whip Cracking Competition**

On May 1, as part of the Cow Horse competition there will be Whip cracking at 2pm. There will be a novice competition where competitors new to whip cracking can compete and do from 1 to 5 tricks plus a minute of freestyle. There will also be a demonstration from experienced whip crackers who have competed before.

If you are interested please let Mrs Arrell or Mr Erwin know. Mr Paul Sims will judge the competition.

**APA News**

**Parent-Teacher Interviews and Reports**

**Term 1 2014**

Students should receive their Term 1 reports on Wednesday 23rd April (the first day of term 2). These reports reflect the first 8 weeks of the year only. A much fuller report will be issued at the end of each Semester, and will contain much more detailed information about student results and achievements.

Our Parent-Teacher interviews will be held for years from Prep to Year 12 on Tuesday 29th April from 3:20pm. Interviews will be of 10 minute duration.

The interviews are to be booked using the Parent Teacher On Line facility.

1. Go to the school’s home page [www.saintmarys.qld.edu.au](http://www.saintmarys.qld.edu.au)
2. Click the Parent Teacher Online link in the Quick Links
3. Enter your surname and PIN, provided on the attached slip.

This booking system will be available and on-line from 9:00am Thursday 23rd April. **Close time is 4-00pm on Monday 28th April** (the day before the interviews). Using this system you will be able to book the interview times that suit you best.

**Dance Fever Concert**

Parents are invited to attend the final Dance Fever sessions next Wednesday 2nd April, which will be in the form of a Concert in Mary Knoll Centre.

Have a good week.

**Mr John Dalton**

Assistant to the Principal

**APRE News**

This Sunday is the Fourth Sunday in Lent. First Reading - Samuel 16:6-13; Second Reading – St. Paul to the Ephesians 5:8-14; Gospel John 9:1-38

First Eucharist and Confirmation are being celebrated on Sunday 31st August 2014 with the Bishop saying Mass and performing the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. The parent information session will probably be Wednesday 28th May at 1.30pm and repeated that evening at 6.00pm here at Saint Mary’s. It is not necessary for your child to be present at this session. These sessions will be held in the media room of Saint Mary’s Catholic College.

A big thank you to the students of Saint Mary’s who offered and who helped out on Sunday – Kaitlin Richie, Fiona McNamara, Claire Walsh, Nic Erwin, Harrison Skinner and Jaymee Van Dyk, Elizabeth Watson and Kaitlyn Watson. There were a couple of year 10 boys there as well. I am sure they were singing up a storm. There were many students there on Sunday and I am happy to say that there were so many people at Mass that I couldn’t get to see who was there. A lovely morning mass.


Camps and Year 12 Retreat is happening next week. The teachers and students are preparing their mass or liturgy for their camp. It is an opportunity for teachers and students to take a moment in prayer and contemplate the face of Jesus and think about the coming resurrection of Christ on Easter Sunday.

I return to my role as STIE – Support Teacher Inclusive Education next term. I have been acting APRE for 6 months. I have really enjoyed being part of the Leadership Team and to be so involved in both the Religious Life of the school and the Religious Education of P-12. Louise Pace has done a marvelous job at the helm of Learning Support but I am looking forward to getting back to my office and working with the teachers and students.

Thank you

Ms Pam Radcliffe

Acting APRE

**Prep to Year 6**

This Friday is the final Prep to Year 6 Assembly for this Term. The next Prep to Year 6 assembly will be in week 2 on Friday 2nd of May. A big thank you to Lauren Arrell and Dallas Brown the Year 6 teachers and of course the students in their classes who run a well organized and topical assembly.

NAPLAN 3,5,7,9 Test is next term. The practice for the test is in week 2 of next term. It is a ‘real time’ test over three days with the 2013 papers and stimulus materials. The actual NAPLAN test is Tuesday 13th through to Thursday 15th May with the catch up day on Friday 16th May. More information will be going home re materials needed for the tests. If you have any questions or queries re the NAPLAN test then please contact Ms. Radcliffe (year 3 and year 5) or Mrs. Burr (year 7 and year 9).

With Year 7 to Year 12 away Wednesday, Thursday and Friday next week the place will be a little quieter and a whole lot bigger for the preps to year 6 students. It is an enjoyable time for the students and they get an opportunity to use some of the senior facilities for a bit of a ‘try out’. Mr. Julian Connelly one of the Secondary Science teachers will be giving Year 4 to year 6 students an opportunity to work in the Science lab along with the lab assistant Mrs. Barb Paterson.

Enjoy the holidays and have a Happy and Holy Easter break. We resume classes on Wednesday 23rd April. ANZAC Day ceremony is the next day in the Maryknoll Centre and Friday 25th April is the actual ANZAC Day and is a public holiday. This year marks 100 years since the start of the First World War – 1914 to 1918.

God Bless

Ms Pam Radcliffe

**Counsellor News**

**Teaching Students To Face Their Anxiety**

Teaching young women how to face their fears is succeeding in reducing anxiety and
Dorothea MacKellar Poetry Awards P-12
This year, everyone has the opportunity to enter the well renowned Dorothea MacKellar Awards. The Awards aim to inspire students across Australia to express their thoughts creatively through poetry and, by doing so, support the legacy of Dorothea MacKellar and her legendary poem ‘My Country’. Entries opened on March 1st and close on the 30th June. There are fantastic monetary prizes for each age category as an incentive for students to enter. Students can enter up to 3 poems each. They need to be no longer than 80 lines long. There is no set topic. Students can write about anything that inspires them. Poems from school age children can easily be submitted online at www.dorothea.com using the following details: login - password is students

Have a great week

Melanie Burr
Year 7-10 Curriculum Coordinator

Futsal News

On Wednesday our primary boys and girls teams represented the college at the South East Queensland Titles. The girls started off the day on a high winning 4-0 against Algester SS. In their second game it was a come from behind draw 2-2 against Springfield Central with Olivia Burchmann scoring in the final minutes. The next game the girls put together what they had learnt from the other games in a brilliant display winning against St Bernadines 3-0. That made them top of their group and they had to play the second placed team in the other group. Kimberly Park SS were stiff competition and neither team could manage to score. Kimberly Park got lucky when a deflection accidentally got past Mackenzie Møller who had been a champion goal keeper all day. Final score 0-1 an unlucky finish to the day.

Our boys were slow to get going in their first game and lost 4-1 to Grace Lutheran Caboolture. They then put some one two passes together to get well in front and hold the lead winning 5-1 against Springfield Anglican. The boys then played Nudgee College and lost 3-6. They boys then played the unbeaten St Bernadines and were given a master class on how futsal works losing 10-0. The boys learnt from that and got stuck into Calvary College tucking away 8 unanswered goals.

Well done to all players at their first tournament.

Cheers,

Wade Toms

7-10 Pastoral Care Coordinator
Saint Mary’s Catholic College

Active After Schools
Thank you to all the students who participated in the Active After Schools program this term. This week is the final week of activities for the term. The program will at this stage run again next term with Athletics and Softball. All dates and activities are subject to coach availability and may change before next term.

Hope to see you next term.

Wade Toms
**Performing Arts News**

On Friday, 14th of March 2014 dance students from year 10, 11 and 12 had the opportunity to take part in a full day workshop with the *Mega Jam Dance Company* from Brisbane. The concept of *Mega Jam* is to learn Hip Hop dance styles and other styles of Commercial Street dancing, in a fun and relaxed atmosphere. This experience was invaluable for students, as it enabled them to gain an understanding of modern cultural dance, solidify their confidence in practical abilities and further develop their performance-based skills.

Over the duration of the day the students worked tirelessly to learn a complete 3 minute dance routine that will be performed on the Rock on Stage night later in the year. We could not believe how well the students performed on the day and after the success of the workshop plan to continue to expand our relationship with the Mega Jam dance company in years to come.

The group will commence on Friday night March 28th from 7pm - 9pm and will be on once a month from that date. Tea, Coffee and Snacks will be provided. BYO Wine and Wine Glass if you desire.

For further information please contact Julia Byrne 0458636041

**Uniform Shop News**

All socks have arrived in all sizes.

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**Rotary Club of Kingaroy**

The Rotary Club of Kingaroy is proud to present a preview film evening *The Monuments Men* to raise funds for PolioPlus.

All proceeds go towards the eradication of polio throughout the world.

**Kingaroy Satellite Cinemas**

**Thursday, 27th March**

**Drink and Nibbles - 6pm**

**Movie Commences - 6.30pm**

**$20.00 per person**

Please contact Neil Black on 0408 246 815.
**Newsletter Request Form**

Please return this slip to the College Office

Name: ____________________________

I would like to receive my newsletter □ Electronically □ Paper Copy

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**Baked Relief South Burnett**

Baked Relief South Burnett has been created to allow us to do some baking for the farmers in the South Burnett who are doing it really tough at the moment.

The Baked Relief project encourages people to provide Anzac Biscuits and Fruit Cakes as they travel will and have a long shelf life. It is also great to have messages of hope attached to the containers as these messages bring so much joy and encouragement to desperate people.

The Little Chef Bakery, Fruit and Veg, Blake Street, Proston have kindly offered to be a drop off point and baking can be dropped off until 5.00 pm each Tuesday for delivery to Kingaroy every Wednesday for distribution. Alternatively, Alan Kerr from the Salvation Army has agreed to be a drop off point for any baking each Wednesday 9.00am—3.00pm at 44 Alford Street, Kingaroy.

Neville Radecker, The Salvation Army Rural Chaplain, will distribute the baking on his travels to drought-stricken properties. Please spread the word so we can get some baking donated for our local farmers.

*Check out the Baked Relief South Burnett facebook page!*

*YOUR SUPPORT FOR OUR SOUTH BURNETT FARMERS IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.*

Thank You

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**Cycling for Seizures Presents**

**A Purple Tie Affair**

**DATE: 29TH MARCH**

**VENUE: KINGAROY TOWN HALL**

**TIME: DOORS OPEN AT 5.30PM, EVENT STARTS 6PM.**

**PRICE: $300 FOR A TABLE OF UP TO 10 PEOPLE, OR 2 TABLES $500**

**CONTACT:** KIAYA ARMSTRONG: 0401616920 OR RACHEL NORDLING BAKER: 0455042855

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**School Dance**

**Theme: A Night At The Movies**

**Friday 28th March**

(Prep- 6) 5:30pm- 7:00pm

(7- 12) 7:30pm- 9:00pm

Food & Drinks For Sale On The Night.

Gold Coin Donation

Mary Knoll Center