Dear parents, carers and friends of Saint Mary's,

This week, Queensland's Catholic schools celebrate Catholic Education Week with the theme Engaging Minds. Igniting Hearts. Serving Others. Saint Mary's has a number of events across this week that highlights our students' many talents. Most notably amongst these are our Rock on Stage and South Burnett Equestrian Event. I challenged students at assembly this morning to remember to say thanks to our staff who give up so much of their time to support College events outside of their normal work hours. They do this without overtime or extra pay because they care for our students and community.

Last Friday night we held our Rock on Stage extravaganza. Our community can be justifiably proud that not only did our students, staff and parents perform with such pride and enthusiasm, but that we also raised almost $2000 toward supporting the Good Samaritan sisters' Bacolod Kindergarten in the Philippines. It was great to see so many parents and friends performing in the P&F act and beating our staff act for the first time in a number of years, despite a local paper report to the contrary. I had the great joy of helping our students off the stage and witnessing their incredible pride and beaming smiles. For me, that makes the whole event worthwhile. I would like to thank our staff, parents and students who helped prepare for the evening and give a huge thank you to our MCs, judges, P&F, Mrs Arden, Mrs Iszlaub, Ms Woodman, Mr Randall, Mr Perrett, Mr Bernardi, Mr Erwin and all of the other staff, parents and students who worked behind the scenes.

Last Sunday, we had our monthly Parish College Mass. It is wonderful to see so many of our staff, parents and students at this important celebration of our faith. I am very pleased to see so many students reading, singing, carry the Gifts and altar serving. I would invite all families who are looking to explore their faith to join our St Mary's and St Joseph's parishes for Mass. Mass times can be found at:


Our South Burnett Equestrian Challenge will be held at the Kingaroy Showgrounds this Thursday, July 30. This is a wonderful day and I would encourage parents and carers who are able to come along to check out this great day. I would like to thank our P&F for supporting yet another College event in a very short space of time.

It is wonderful to see our Choir and Orchestra performing under the tutelage of the talented Mrs Iszlaub. Members of our College Choir travelled to Brisbane to rehearse for the Mary MacKillop Feast Day Mass at St Stephen's Cathedral on Saturday, August 8. Our College Orchestra also performed our National Anthem at our College assembly during the week. I am very pleased to see the many ways our community draws the many gifts and talents from our students.

It was wonderful to read in the newspaper about Lannah and Carmen Sowden's success with their...
Show Cattle at the Limousin National Show. We wish them all the best as they head to the Ekka soon!

It is timely to remind all in our community that our College’s Student Protection Contacts are Mr Erwin (Deputy Principal) and Mr Turnbull (Counsellor) and I. If students, staff or parents have concerns about students at risk from harm, sexual abuse, neglect etc, then these are your first contacts at school. As the College’s Student Protection Contacts, we are able to direct concerns to the services most able to assist whether that is Police, Child Safety or the new Family and Child Connect services.

May the blessings of St Benedict and Saint Mary, Help of Christians be with you all.

Yours in Christ,
Mr Michael Nayler
Principal

Deputy Principal News
Gracious and Awesome God
Open our minds
May we know you are with us in all we do.
Open our minds to know, think and understand.
Gracious and Awesome God
Open our hearts
May we be signs of your love in our world today.
Open our hearts to love, appreciate and belong.
Gracious and Awesome God
Open our hands
May we make a difference for others.
Open our hands to serve, create and lead.
We make this prayer in the name of Jesus our friend and teacher.
Amen

Thank you
Thank you to Mrs Arden, Ms Iszlaub, Mr Perrett, Mr Bernardi and the BCT class for their magnificent effort in organizing and running the Rock on Stage night. All classes are to be congratulated for their amazing efforts. I would also like to thank the parents and staff who put together some great acts. Congratulations to the parents on a well deserved win.

Rock on Stage DVD’s can still be ordered through the office for $50.

Parking around the College
Please do not park in the bus bay located on Carinya Street at any time. It has been brought to my attention that some parents are parking in the bus bay in the morning and afternoon. This is a dangerous situation as buses are continually arriving and departing from the College at all times of the day.

I would also like to remind parents that the Stop Drop and Go Zone is 3 minutes only. Please do not leave your car unattended at any time, particularly from 2.30pm to 3.15pm.

Texting your son or daughter
Parents are reminded to contact their son or daughter via the College office. Students are not to use their mobile phones during the day. Students are to sign out from the College via Student Reception. Please do not text your son or daughter regarding arrangements for departing the College as rolls must be accurate at all times for workplace health and safety purposes.

God bless
Mr Sean Erwin
Deputy Principal

realise your dignity
Year 10 into Year 11 Information Night 7.00pm Wednesday, 12th August 2015 in the Maryknoll Centre

The end of Year 10 marks an important point in the academic life of students. It is the time when students elect to follow one of a number of academic pathways, which in turn lead to various career pathways.

Making good choices always relies on receiving accurate and current information.

For this reason, the College will be holding the annual Year 10 into Year 11 Information Night at 7.00pm on Wednesday 12th August in the Maryknoll Centre. It is a night where the most essential information about this issue will be presented. It is of high importance for both parents and students.

Program
7.00pm       Welcome
7.10pm       Qld Certificate of Education
7.20pm       Tertiary Entrance Statement
7.30pm       OPs and FPs
7.40pm       VET: Vocational Education
7.50pm       Possible Pathways
8.00pm       Selecting Subjects
8.10pm       Tertiary Prerequisites
8.20pm       Next moves (subject surveys and selection)
8.30pm       Conclusion

We look forward to seeing you there.
Regards
Mr John Dalton
APA

WHAT?
SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL - WINTER SLEEPSOUT
Why?
Raise money and awareness of homelessness in Australia
When?
Friday, 21st August 5 pm
Saturday, 22nd August 8.30 am
Where?
Maryknoll Centre
Who?
Any student with parent or carer / $10 per sleeper
Saint Vincent De Paul Winter Sleepout

On Friday, 21st of August, every student is encouraged to experience what it might be like to sleep rough. The College is going to have its first Winter Sleepout. The evening is registered and run in partnership with the state governing body and the local South Burnett conference.

The program includes some sleeping/rough team activities, information sharing, light meal (soup and bread), movie, light breakfast (toast and tea), debrief and a Liturgy of the Word.

Each participant is asked to donate $10, however all are invited to collect more. Official sponsorship documentation can be collected from me at the school for tax and accountability purposes.

To participate, all students must also have a parent or carer with them for the entire event. The reason for this is threefold:

- homelessness is not just ‘houseness’ it is as much about domestic relationships as it is about sleeping rough, parental involvement is paramount
- the awareness must be shared with families, students can experience and learn side by side with their parents and this brings the issue even deeper in the community
- because we are coeducational and opening it up to all ages, staff cannot be responsible for the wellbeing of all

I look forward to trying something new and sharing the experience with you. If you have any queries please contact me at the College.

Rock on Stage will rock Bacolod

Through the very generous donations from local businesses and families at the College, we raised $1906.90. This is the largest amount raised at the door since the event started many years ago. This goes directly as a cheque to Bacolod Kindergarten in the Philippines and I am looking forward to hearing from the Principal, Sister Leonie when she receives the donation. They have really suffered at the hands of typhoons in the past three years so this money will go a long way to improving their kindergarten. Please keep this little community in your prayers and thoughts as they rebuild with our help.

The winners of the raffles were:

A. Kerkow, D. Arrow, B. Haydon, A. Anderson, S. Carpenter, M. Bethke, J. Thomas, M. Patroni, A. Palm and T. Browne

Friday Mass

This Friday Year 2 and Year 5 will go down to the parish Church to celebrate Mass with Fr Nigel. Any parent or friend of the College is welcome to join these classes.

Kind regards

Mr Martin Perrett

APRE

Office News

Term 3 College Fees

Term 3 Fee Statements were sent out to families last week and are payable in full by Friday 7th August unless you have a formal payment arrangement in place. If you have any concerns regarding your College Fees, please don’t hesitate to contact Finance Secretary, Briony Hoare. Payments can be made at any time using BPay, EFT, Direct Debit, Cheque or Cash. 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

Library News

Premier’s Reading Challenge 2015

Students are reminded to record the books they have read into their Premier’s Reading Challenge forms. This challenge concludes at the end of August so there is plenty of time to meet the challenge. Please see your child’s class teacher if you require another form.

Book Week 2015

In Week 7 this term (24th-28th August), we will once again celebrate Book Week! The theme is “Books light up our World.” We will have a Book Week Parade (Wednesday 26th August) where students can come dressed as their favourite book characters. They will need to bring their book to the parade to share in reading afterwards. We will also have a Campfire Stories night (Wednesday 26th August) at 6.30pm – 7.30pm. In previous years, this has been a wonderful night for young and old in their pyjamas and gowns! This
year, we will add onesies to the dress code. All are welcome! During this week, there will be competitions, displays, guest reading and many other exciting activities.

Yours in reading
Mrs Melanie Burr
Teacher Librarian

**Year 7 to Year 10 Teaching and Learning News**

**Assessment Calendars**
Assessment calendars have been distributed this week. Please see Mrs Rutley if you need another one.

Regards
Mrs Melanie Burr
Year 7 to Year 10 Teaching and Learning Leader

**Music News**

**St Mary MacKillop Combined Schools Choir Rehearsal**
A group of ten singers have been selected to perform in a very special combined schools massed choir celebrating the Feast Day of St Mary MacKillop at St Stephen’s Cathedral.

On Monday, Lydia Penny, Nomi Baldacchino, Brianna Wilson, Kimberley Ross, Ernie Corbet, Lydia Ford, Madison Wintour, Grace McFarlane, Isabella Maddock, and Ally Labinsky travelled to the first (and only) rehearsal for the performance, which was held at St Laurence’s College in South Brisbane. They sang under the direction of Mr Anthony Young, who is a well-known choral conductor, pianist, and teacher. All singers sang beautifully in the rehearsal along with approximately 100 students from other schools. Also in attendance was our Executive Director for Brisbane Catholic Education, Mrs Pam Betts, who congratulated the students for their effort and musicality.

The students will be performing at the Feast Day Mass in the Cathedral at 10:00am on Saturday 8 August. Any families wishing to attend should contact me as soon as possible, as seating is limited to one person per singer.

**Orchestra’s First Performance!**
On Tuesday, the College Orchestra performed “Advance Australia Fair” at the whole-school assembly. The twelve musicians played wonderfully for a first performance, and again demonstrated the depth of talent within the student body at our College.

**Year 10 Flash-Mob Band**
A very fortunate group of listeners caught a beautiful rendition of Coldplay’s “Fix You” at the recent Rock On Stage. With little pomp and ceremony, several members of the Year 10 Music class performed an acoustic (unplugged) version of this classic rock song at interval, using only acoustic guitars and cajon (a wooden box-shaped drum). The Year 10 Music class is developing their knowledge of the rock music genre by focusing on the music of Coldplay, and I have to say, this is one of my favourite parts of the Music curriculum to teach. Stay tuned for further great performances by our talented Year 10’s.

Yours in Music,
Mrs Jane Iszlaub
Music Coordinator

**Visual Art News**
Creative Generations is on again! This is a state-wide competition for all Senior Visual Art students. Only the best of the best is chosen and the winners get their work hung at GOMA in Brisbane. Good luck to the students selected to represent the College at this year’s competition. To be entered the student’s work must display qualities of a VHA standard.

Richelle Bethke, Hannah Depper and Bridget Barkle are all waiting with baited breath to see who will chosen for the regional finals. Congratulations girls for being chosen to represent the College.

Regards
Mrs Bronwyn Langford-Martoo
Visual Art Teacher
A big welcome to Niketa Law who joins us from today as a school officer for the Indigenous Support Department. It is a pleasure to have you with us.

**Indigenous Literacy Day September 2**

We will celebrate Indigenous Literacy Day in September with book reading sessions in the library each lunchtime that week. We would encourage all students to attend. The book we will be reading is Terry Denton’s new book, The 65 Storey Treehouse. Terry Denton is an ambassador for the Australian Indigenous Literacy Foundation.

Further to this, Mrs Erwin will be reading a book each week in the library, starting this Thursday. We will be highlighting and reading books from a number of Indigenous authors for all students across all year levels. All students are welcome to attend. If you have any suggestions for books that you would like to be available in the library, please contact me at the College.

Have a wonderful week.

*Mrs Amanda Erwin on behalf of the Indigenous Support Department*

**Year 12 Valedictory Fundraising Events**

Throughout term 3 the Year 12 class will be holding fundraising events. These events are:

- **Thursday, 30th July** - Icy cups $1 and pizza slice $1.50. Located in the Maryknoll Canteen at Lunch time.
- **Tuesday, 4th August** - Sausage Sizzle. Sausage on bread and popper $1.50 each. Located in the Maryknoll Canteen at Lunch time.
- **Thursday, 6th August** - Baked goods 50c to $2 and cheerios in a cup with sauce $2 for 5. Located in the Maryknoll Canteen at Morning Tea and Lunch. Thank you to Mrs Karen Ford who is donating cupcakes.
- **Friday, 7th August** - Movie Night from 3.30pm in the Maryknoll Centre. Viewing HOME.
- **Tuesday, 11th August** - Sausage Sizzle. Sausage on bread and popper $1.50 each. Located in the Maryknoll Canteen at Lunch time.
- **Wednesday, 12th August** - Homestyle Bake Drive orders due into the College Office by 9am.
- **Thursday, 13th August** - Icy cups $1 and pizza slice $1.50. Located in the Maryknoll Canteen at Lunch time.
- **Thursday, 20th August** - Baked goods 50c to $2 and cheerios in a cup with sauce $2 for 5. Located in the Maryknoll Canteen at Morning Tea and Lunch. Thank you to Mrs Karen Ford for donating cupcakes.
- **Tuesday, 25th August** - Sausage Sizzle. Sausage on bread and popper $1.50 each. Located in the Maryknoll Canteen at Lunch time.
- **Thursday, 27th August** - Icy cups $1 and pizza slice $1.50. Located in the Maryknoll Canteen at Lunch time.
- **Friday, 28th August** - Movie Night from 3.30pm in the Maryknoll Centre. Movie to be confirmed.
- **Thursday, 3rd September** - Baked goods 50c to $2 and cheerios in a cup with sauce $2 for 5. Located in the Maryknoll Canteen at Morning Tea and Lunch.
- **Tuesday, 8th September** - Sausage Sizzle. Sausage on bread and popper $1.50 each. Located in the Maryknoll Canteen at Lunch time.
- **Thursday, 10th September** - Icy cups $1 and pizza slice $1.50. Located in the Maryknoll Canteen at Lunch time.
- **Tuesday, 15th September** - Sausage Sizzle. Sausage on bread and popper $1.50 each. Located in the Maryknoll Canteen at Lunch time.
- **Thursday, 17th September** - Baked goods 50c to $2 and cheerios in a cup with sauce $2 for 5. Located in the Maryknoll Canteen at Morning Tea and Lunch.

Thank you to Mrs Karen Ford for donating baked goods for our bake sales and Ryan’s Butchery Wondai for supplying the sausages for our sausage sizzles. All money raised will go towards to Year 12 Valedictory Dinner to be held at Cassis at Booie in November.

Regards

*Year 12 students*

**Whip Cracking News**

**Royal Queensland Show Australian Stockwhip Challenge - Friday 7th August**

The EKKA is just around the corner and the excitement is starting to build! I’m very impressed with the commitment shown by students as evidenced by their attendance on training days and their motivation to perfect their tricks and routines. The following is some information that you will need to know for the day.

- Students will need to make their own way to the EKKA.
- Students need to be organised for the day, eg. Whip cracking uniforms, whips and crackers, CLEAR safety glasses, etc. Clear safety glasses can be supplied on the day if availability is an issue.
- Car parking in immediate area is extremely limited (parking is not provided for performers). Please be advised to research parking options prior to your arrival. Public transport is recommended. Further detail, please see EKKA website (I find the Royal Brisbane Hospital Car park ideal)

realise your dignity
- Detailed maps can also be found on EKKA website at www.ekka.com.au
- Entry will be from 9am. Students will need to make their way to ‘Oval 2’ (see attached map) for assembly for a mandatory safety induction at 9.10am.
- Stockwhip Challenge and demonstrations will commence at 9.30am.
- Please see attached program for times of performances. Students need to be aware of their starting time and it will be stressed that failure to be present at their time slot will result in zero points for their performance. This is due to tight time restrictions on the day.
- Students will also be involved in school performance on the day. Please see attached sheet for demonstration times.
- Stockwhip Challenge will finish at 2.45pm, with presentations at 3pm
- Area to be departed by 3.30pm.

The following is a list of age groups and associated competition details for each group.
- Pee Wee – 30 second freestyle cracking
- Junior School – 5 tricks, 30 second freestyle cracking and accuracy
- Middle School – 10 tricks, 30 second freestyle cracking and accuracy
- Junior Secondary – 10 tricks, 1 minute freestyle cracking and accuracy
- Secondary – 10 tricks, 1 minute freestyle cracking and accuracy

Please find attached student names and age groups for the competition, as well as site map (located at the back of the newsletter) and competition schedule.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>START</th>
<th>FINISH</th>
<th>HOCKER</th>
<th>OUTSIDE AREA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.00AM</td>
<td>9.15</td>
<td>SET UP AND ORIENTATION</td>
<td>FRIDAY 7 AUGUST</td>
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<td>9.15</td>
<td>9.30</td>
<td>Winston Liesegang &amp; Samuel Erwin</td>
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<td>9.45</td>
<td>Louisa Frahm &amp; Alesha Clark</td>
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<td>10.00</td>
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<td>Olivia Grundy &amp; Zoe Hoare</td>
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<td>Dougie Hoare &amp; Jackson Kerkow</td>
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<td>10.30</td>
<td>10.45</td>
<td>Hanna Lipsett-Batts &amp; Molly Wernecke</td>
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<td>10.45</td>
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<td>Olivia Mogg &amp; Grace Hughes</td>
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<td>11.00</td>
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<td>Ben Ploetz &amp; Patrick Hughes</td>
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<td>11.15</td>
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<td>Isla Airs &amp; Elke Frecklington</td>
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<td>Milly Airs &amp; Meg Wernecke</td>
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<td>11.45</td>
<td>12.00PM</td>
<td>Tom Pennell &amp; Henry Bowler</td>
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<td>1200</td>
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<td>Jack Maudsley &amp; Darcy Williamson</td>
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<td>Cooper Pennell &amp; Nicholas Erwin</td>
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<td>1230</td>
<td>1245</td>
<td>Mackenzie Grundy &amp; Abbie Renouf-Dowdle</td>
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<td>1245</td>
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<td>Jorja Curran &amp; Steph Arell</td>
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<td>Katie Ryan &amp; Emily McAdam</td>
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<td>Casey Springhall &amp; Mia Shailer</td>
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<td>Julian Seng &amp; Kate Lipsett-Batts</td>
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<td>Pita Tidmarsh &amp; Charlotte Landherr</td>
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<td>Harry Tessmann &amp; Noah Woodhead</td>
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<td>2.15</td>
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<td>Gabby Wooler &amp; Olivia Frahm</td>
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<td>2.30</td>
<td>2.45</td>
<td>Music playing (whilst scores added)</td>
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<td>2.45</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>Whip Competition Presentations</td>
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<td>Whip Competition Presentations</td>
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realise your dignity
forward to seeing everyone there!

Bring your big smiles and enthusiasm.

**Week 3 Whip Cracking Practice**
- Tuesday - Lunch Time with Mr Sims (Competition practice)
- Wednesday - Morning Tea EKKA Performance (Prep A) and 3pm to 4.30pm EKKA Competition practices (St John’s Oval)
- Thursday - Lunch time with Mr Simms (Competition practice)

**Upcoming Whip Cracking Dates**
- Friday, 7 August - EKKA Royal National Australian Whip Cracking Competition and Performance (RNA Grounds, Brisbane 9.30am to 2.30pm at the Farriers and Blacksmiths Pavilion)
- Saturday, 22 August - Crackup Sister Workshop- SMCC Kingaroy
- Saturday, 3 October - Murgon Dairy Museum Festival Whip Cracking Performance
- Friday, 16 October - Chinchilla Campdraft Whip Cracking Performance

Whip Crackers EKKA practice will be held every Wednesday morning tea.

Regards
Mrs Lauren Arrell
Whip Cracking Coordinator

**Tuckshop News**

**Friday Specials**
Morning Tea and Lunch - Mini Dagwood Dogs $2.50
Lunch - Oven Baked Fried Rice $3.50

There are no party pies or sausage rolls on a Friday.

**Donation of Goods**
If you are able to donate any of the following items, it would be greatly appreciated.

- Self Raising Flour
- Caster Sugar
- Beef Stock Powder
- Small Tinned Pineapple
- Small Tinned Corn
- Tinned Whole Beets

These can be dropped into the Tuckshop on Monday, Wednesday, Friday or to the College Office.

**Price Increase**
Fandangles ice creams will be $1.60 from Term 3 onwards.

**Ordering and Payment**
For Prep to Year 5 students it is recommended that you use the paper bag system. Your child’s order can be place in the tuckshop baskets in their classroom in the mornings and this is then delivered to the tuckshop. Orders will be filled and returned to the classes at morning tea and lunch. This will ensure that they will have their lunch on time. 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 .05c each.

The paper bag ordering system is for Prep to Year 5 as well as High School. The high school students place their bag orders at the tuckshop before school.

**Slush Puppies**
Please make sure your child is aware that if they order a slush puppie, they must collect them from the tuckshop. They are not able to be put into the tuckshop baskets.

Have a great week.
Mrs Michelle Davis
Tuckshop Convenor
Nationally Consistent Collection of Data

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD)
Attached to this newsletter is the Parent Fact Sheet around the NCCD. Parents/Guardians wishing their student’s details not be included in the NCCD collection are to advise the school in writing by the 6th of August 2015.

What is the National Data collection?
The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (the national data collection) is an annual collection that counts the number of school students with disability and the level of reasonable educational adjustment they are provided with.

The national data collection will count students who have been identified as receiving an adjustment to address a disability under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (the DDA). The DDA can be accessed from the ComLaw website at www.comlaw.gov.au

Sacramental Program
There will be a Parent information session in the Board Room of Saint Mary’s Catholic College. This first session is a session about the sacrament of Reconciliation and the expectations of the children and parents when supporting their child entering this initiation process.

The candidate (Grade 3 or older) does not need to attend at this stage. There will be one session and this will be repeated.

Thursday 20th August at 1.30pm in the Board Room. Repeated that evening Thursday 20th August 6.00pm St Mary’s Hall.

Please bring $20 and a photo of your child. This is for the workbook and certificate and the photo for the pin board in the church. At this information session you will be given a schedule for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The Sign On Liturgy/Mass will be weekend 22nd/23rd August or Weekend 29th/30th August, either at the Saturday 6.00pm Liturgy/Mass or Sunday 10.00am Mass. You choose the best time and weekend. This is when the Parents and their child commit to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the 8 weeks preparation course.

Over the course of this preparation time there will be parts of the Mass that the children will be participating in during the Liturgy or Mass, for example, renewal of Baptismal Promises, Our Father, Sign of Peace etc. This is outlined in the schedule.

An activity afternoon is scheduled for Saturday 7th November 2.00pm to 4.00pm in the Saint Mary’s Parish Hall.

The celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be Saturday 21st November at 4.00pm in Saint Mary’s Church.

Please contact Pam Radcliffe at Saint Mary’s Catholic College on 4162 2011 for more information. Confirmation and Eucharist will be 2016 with preparation to begin in February/March 2016. Your child can ‘defer’ if you feel they are not yet ready for the final sacraments of initiation.

Sausage Sizzle Order Form

Tuesday, 4th August 2015

SAUSAGES $1.50

Name ____________________  Year Level ____________

Number of Sausages _______  Number of Poppers _________

Sauce (Please Tick)

Tomato  BBQ  None

All money raised will go towards the Year 12 Valedictory Dinner.

realise your dignity
PRIVACY NOTICE

Information required to determine the Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA) for schools

This notice is from the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA), to advise you that ACARA has requested your child’s school to provide ACARA with information about you and your child. Your school may disclose to ACARA information such as your child’s gender, date of birth, country of birth, background language, school, year level, Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage, Australian Citizenship or Permanent Residency Status with Visa sub-class number and arrival date in Australia, parental occupation, parental education and main language of parents.

This information is disclosed to ACARA under the ACARA Act 2006 for one or both of the following purposes:

- formulating national reports consisting of aggregated data on school performance; and
- assisting government to formulate policies in relation to education matters.

ACARA will not disclose this personal information to any third party. If you do not want your school to provide this information to ACARA, please advise your school within seven (7) days of receiving this notice.

Further information about ACARA can be obtained from the ACARA website at www.acara.edu.au.
2015 information for parents and carers

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The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (the national data collection) is an annual collection that counts the number of school students with disability and the level of reasonable educational adjustment they are provided with.

The national data collection will count students who have been identified as receiving an adjustment to address a disability under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (the DDA). The DDA can be accessed from the ComLaw website at www.comlaw.gov.au.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT FOR MY CHILD?
The aim of the national data collection is to collect better information about school students with disability in Australia.

This information will help teachers, principals, education authorities and families to better support students with disability to take part in school on the same basis as students without disability.

The national data collection is an opportunity for schools to review their learning and support systems and processes to continually improve education outcomes for their students with disability.

WHY IS THIS DATA BEING COLLECTED?
All schools across Australia collect information about students with disability. But the type of information currently collected varies between each state and territory and across government, Catholic and independent school sectors.

When implementing the national data collection, every school in Australia will use the same method to collect information. Therefore, a government school in suburban Sydney will collect and report data in the same way as a Catholic school in country Victoria and an independent school in the Northern Territory.

The information provided through the national data collection will enable all Australian governments to better target support and resources to benefit students with disability. The data will help schools to better support students with disability so that they have the same opportunities for a high quality education as students without disability.

WHAT ARE SCHOOLS REQUIRED TO DO FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY?
All students are entitled to a quality learning experience at school.

Schools are required to make reasonable adjustments, where needed, to assist students with disability to access and participate in education free from discrimination and on the same basis as other students.

These responsibilities are outlined in the DDA and the Disability Standards for Education 2005 (the Standards). The Standards require educators, students, parents and others (e.g. allied health professionals) to work together so that students with disability can participate in education. The Standards can be accessed via the ComLaw website at www.comlaw.gov.au.

WHAT IS A REASONABLE ADJUSTMENT?
A reasonable adjustment is a measure or action taken to help a student with disability access and participate in education on the same basis as students without disability. Reasonable adjustments can be made across the whole school setting (e.g. ramps into school buildings), in the classroom (such as adapting class lessons) and at an individual student level (e.g. extra tuition for a student with learning difficulties).

WHAT INFORMATION WILL BE COLLECTED?
Every year your child’s school will collect the following information for each student with a disability:

- the student’s level of education (i.e. primary or secondary)
- the student’s level of adjustment
- the student’s broad type of disability.

The information collected by schools will be provided to all governments to inform policy and
programme improvement for students with disability.

WHO WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?
The definition of disability for the national data collection is based on the broad definition under the DDA.

For the purposes of the national data collection, students with learning difficulties such as dyslexia or auditory processing disorder as well as chronic health conditions like epilepsy, diabetes or asthma, that require active monitoring by the school, may be included.

WHO WILL COLLECT INFORMATION FOR THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?
Teachers and school staff will identify the number of students with disability in their school and the level of reasonable adjustment they are provided based on:

• consultation with parents and carers in the course of determining and providing reasonable adjustments
• the school team’s observations and professional judgements
• any medical or other professional diagnosis
• other relevant information.

School principals are responsible for ensuring the information identified about each student is accurate.

HOW WILL MY CHILD’S PRIVACY BE PROTECTED?
Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all students and their families is essential. Personal details such as student names or other identifying information will not be provided to local or federal education authorities.


IS THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION COMPULSORY?
All education ministers agreed to full implementation of the national data collection from 2016. This means that all schools must now collect and report information annually on the number of students with disability in their care and the level of adjustment provided to them.

Information about the arrangements that may apply to your school in relation to this data collection is available from your child’s school principal and the relevant education authority or association of independent schools.

Even if your child’s information is not included in the national data collection, the school is still required to provide support to your child with education needs.

FURTHER INFORMATION
Contact your child’s school if you have further questions about the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability and how it may involve your child.


An e-learning resource about the Disability Standards for Education 2005 is freely available for the use of individuals, families and communities at http://resource.dse.theeducationinstitute.edu.au/
Saint Mary’s will be holding an RSPCA Cupcake Day on Tuesday, 18th August at morning tea in the courtyard. The money raised will go towards helping the RSPCA continue their work in helping sick, injured, abandoned animals and in community education.

If you would like to assist by donating cupcakes or other treats (all nut free), please bring them along to the Year 3/4 classroom (at the rear of the Library) on Monday, 17th August in air tight, clearly named containers or before 10am on Tuesday, 18th August.

The cupcakes will be sold for $1 to $2.

For more information please contact Mrs Bowles on 4162 2011.
Bake and Cheerio Sale

Thursday, 23rd July, 6th & 20th August and 3rd & 17th September at Morning Tea and Lunch located in the Maryknoll Canteen.

Come and try the seniors yummy baked goods and cupcakes donated by Mrs Karen Ford.

Baked goods 50c to $2
Cheerios with sauce $2 for 5

All money raised goes towards the Year 12 Valedictory Dinner.
Icy Cup and Pizza Sale

Thursday, 30th July, 13th & 27th August and 10th September
at Lunch time
located in the Maryknoll Canteen.

Icy Cups $1.00
Pizza Slice $1.50

All money raised goes towards the Year 12 Valedictory Dinner.