Eamon Hannan – College Principal

Welcome to the St Patrick's College community of 2011. The year has begun very positively which is a great tribute to a number of staff involved in preparations for the New Year. We offer a special welcome to all the new families and of course all Year 11 students and a number of new Year 12 students this year. I hope everyone has returned from holiday breaks refreshed and ready for a great year.

This year as we begin we are all very mindful of the recent tragedies that have been faced in the southern parts of our state. I am sure many of us watched the unfolding disasters in shocked disbelief. We witnessed and heard stories of unbelievable courage and heartache. We also saw Queenslanders and Australians rally behind those in need in a way in which it makes you proud to belong to this great nation.

Staff of Catholic schools in the region took up a collection for a Diocesan Flood Appeal on Friday. This appeal will target specifically those affected in the Rockhampton Diocese which takes in Bundaberg in the south and Longreach in the west and Mackay in the north and many flood affected areas in between.

Some of our staff have supported flood victims with counselling services in Brisbane. During the course of the term the students will be involved in efforts to assist the recovery which will take a very long time. It will be important that we continue to remember all these people who have been so badly affected in our thoughts, prayers and actions.

I hope everyone enjoyed a happy Australian Day yesterday. This newsletter is normally sent home with students every Wednesday of term. The newsletter is also available on the college website each week. Please note our college website can be viewed at www.stpats.qld.edu.au. In addition the newsletter can be emailed directly to you on request.

How parents can be involved in the college

There are a number of ways that you can become involved in the life of the college.

All interested parents are invited to the Annual General Meeting and Inservice of the College Board on Wednesday 2 February at 7:30 pm in St Pat's Hall Meeting Room, River Street. The College Board serves an important function, writing policies and having input into the finance and future planning of the college as well as acting as a sounding board for the principal.

All interested parents are also invited to the Annual General Meeting of the Parents and Friends Association on Wednesday 16 February at 7:00 pm in St Pat's Hall Meeting Room, River Street. The P & F meets monthly and is an opportunity for parents to have input into college life and assist the college with disbursement of the funds collected through the P & F levy.

We also have a Meet the Teachers and Success in Senior Schooling night coming up on Tuesday 15 February. The evening begins with a barbecue at 6:00 pm where parents have a chance to meet all the staff followed by a seminar at 7:30 pm in St Patrick’s Hall about ways to help your student achieve in their Senior studies.

The Opening Mass will be on Friday 11 February at 9:00 am. At the conclusion of the mass we will be presenting the McGarry Bursaries for 2011.

St Patrick’s Community

We welcome some new members of staff – on our teaching staff we have Ms Jodi Campion, Ms Natalie Pyke, Ms Nicole Graham, Ms Kerry Fetters, Mr Robert Sparks and Mr John Clarke. We have two new teacher assistants working in Learning support - Ms Samarla Deshong and Ms Karin Whelan.

Congratulations to Brooke Bugeja, Year 12 2010, who was the recipient of the Bid O’Sullivan Scholarship. The scholarship is offered by the Department of Education and Training to assist Year 12 students who have chosen teaching as their career and who have a permanent residence in an area of Queensland designated as rural or remote. The scheme provides financial assistance to the scholarship recipient while studying an approved pre-service teacher education program on a full-time basis at a Queensland Higher Education Institution. Each scholarship is valued at $20,000 (before tax).
Please keep Fr Danny Moore in your thoughts and prayers and please pray for the repose of the soul of his brother Mr Ned Moore who passed away in Ireland recently.

**Senior Results of 2010**
The Seniors of 2010 have continued to maintain the high academic standard of the college. One student received OP 2, six students received OP 3, nine students received OP 4 and ten students received OP 5.

This means there were twenty-six students receiving an OP in the 1 to 5 who are therefore eligible for McGarry Bursaries.

We are currently compiling a destination survey of our seniors. Academic results tell only half the story – we have a very large number of our students who obtained apprenticeships and full-time employment on completion of year 12 last year.

**Improvements and maintenance**
During the holiday period the library was refurbished. This has been a very big job and thanks go to Mrs Rose Christensen and Ms Jan Barnett and their teams of helpers who have made this possible. As I write we are still awaiting some furniture which has been delayed due to flooding in the south. In other areas of the school significant maintenance has occurred over the break.

**Fees and Concessions**
School Fees will be issued in the next few weeks. Those families who were entitled to fee concessions in 2010 need to reapply for concessions to continue in 2011. Please contact Mrs Deanna Hurley for the appropriate form as soon as possible. Those families who were paying for fees using direct debit will have to organise their payment unless they have a continuing arrangement. Once again please contact Mrs Deanna Hurley regarding any queries. Accompanying this newsletter is the 2011 Account and Discount Information Form. Could you please check that the details we have in our database for your family are correct. As well, we need you to complete the Students at Other Diocesan Schools section if you have any other students at Catholic schools in Mackay. We need this form returned to Reception as soon as possible, even if you do not have any other students at other Catholic schools.

Lesley Fraser: Assistant to the Principal – Religious Education

The people of Ancient Rome thought there were many gods, and the month of January is named after ‘Janus’, their god of doors and gateways, of beginnings and endings. In Rome, the temple of Janus had doors facing east and west for the rising and setting of the sun, the beginning and end of each day. Between those doors stood the statue of Janus with two faces, looking in opposite directions. As we start this New School Year, looking both backwards and forwards, we can think of the New Year as a gateway - an opening - to what we choose to do in the future. This new beginning is an opportunity to reflect upon the joys and challenges of what has gone before us, and to envision our hopes and dreams for the journey we now commence as the community of St. Patrick’s College. Once again we are drawn into the unknown. We do not know all the joys and sadness, the blessings and challenges that await us. And so we turn to our God and pray that God will bless us in all that we need for life in this coming year, both personally and as a community.

God of new beginnings, God of hope, be with us as we begin anew our journey, in this community of St Patrick’s. May those who are new to us find a warm and welcome space with us, may we enrich each other by our giftedness and presence. We pray that the hopes and dreams we hold in our hearts may be graced by your Spirit, that we may be empowered in our ministry for the sake of all whom we serve.

Amen.

We ask for your thoughts and prayers for all families new to the College in 2011. We wish you a warm welcome and we hope your time with us here at St. Patrick’s is rewarding and beneficial. To all those returning to the College, it is great to have you back with us.

**Investiture Mass**
Friday 11 February at 9.00 am
St Patrick’s Church

Followed by Morning Tea for parents, staff, bursary winners and student leaders in St Patrick’s Hall

As is the tradition at St Patrick’s College we will come together as a school community through the celebration of Mass on Friday 11 February. I hope as many parents and friends as possible will come along to be with the students and staff as we ask God to bless our endeavours during 2011 and we welcome our new student leaders and award the McGarry Bursary recipients. Parents are invited to join the student leaders; McGarry Bursary recipients and staff in the Hall for Morning Tea after the Mass.
Edna Galvin:  Assistant to the Principal - Curriculum

Uniform / Grooming 2011

Below is a copy of our uniform and grooming requirements. One of the reasons we are successful at placing so many students in traineeships and apprenticeships is this policy. Please be reminded that ALL students are to OWN and WEAR a hat. ONLY OUR SUPPLIER HAS THE CORRECT UNIFORM. (These are standard sizes and so alterations may be required to achieve the correct length, fit etc). Our uniform supplier is Uniform Solutions, Corner Alfred and Sydney Streets.

In 2010, we introduced a dress for female students who wish to wear it. Length is slightly below the knee.

Female Academic Uniform

- Shirt covering midriff
- Tie at top of shirt collar with all buttons done up
- Skirt to be on the waist and to the knee
- Jumper / track top / blazer
- Short white socks covering the ankle
- Blue or black stockings / tights may be worn
- Black leather lace-up traditional school shoes (no joggers; slip-ons; Mary Janes etc)
- Hat – to be worn to and from school and class as well as anytime student is in the sun
- One pair of small matching ear rings may be worn – one in each ear lobe
- No other piercing including tongue rings
- A simple Christian symbol on a plain chain may be worn inside the shirt
- A watch, a plain ring, a plain metal bracelet (no plastic bands)
- No makeup or coloured nail polish
- No tattoos of any kind
- Hair to be neat / adornments to be in college colours (ie white, gold, blue, red), cut / colour to be conservative and not to draw undue attention

Male Academic Uniform

- Shirt tucked in at all times
- Tie at top of shirt collar with all buttons done up
- Shorts / long pants to be worn appropriately
- Jumper / track top / blazer
- Long blue socks to be worn up at all times
- Black leather lace-up traditional school shoes (no joggers, slip-ons etc)
- Hat – to be worn to and from school and class as well as anytime student is in the sun
- No piercing of any kind including tongue rings
- A simple Christian symbol on a plain chain may be worn inside the shirt
- A watch, a plain ring, a plain metal bracelet (no plastic bands)
- No tattoos of any kind
- Hair to be neat. Long hair must be tied back. Cut / colour to be conservative and not to draw undue attention. Face needs to be clean shaven.

Senior students wear their academic uniforms for two full school years – they attend functions, mass, job interviews and senior graduation in these uniforms (it may be appropriate to have several).

Female / Male PE Uniform

Only students doing Physical Education / Recreational Pursuits need this uniform.

- Shirt (females may select loose or fitted)
- Shorts on waist
- White sports socks’ or white with college colours
- Sports’ shoes (cross trainers – no volleys, high tops, bright colours etc) with white laces (these to be appropriate footwear – the PE Coordinator reserves the right to refuse inappropriate shoes)
- Hat

IN ALL MATTERS OF UNIFORM AND GROOMING THE COLLEGE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ASK STUDENTS TO CHANGE OR ADJUST ASPECTS OF DRESS AND GROOMING.

Lesson Requirements

Please ensure that students have the correct equipment for all lessons. It is the 21st century and students have access to a huge variety of effective learning equipment which makes study and assignments a great deal easier to organise and present. Students should have a specific book for each subject plus every appropriate item of stationery. Electronic calculators, dictionaries, USBs etc are also of great assistance. Just a pen and pencil will not quite ‘cut it’. This year we have given all students a Classroom Etiquette Policy – please ask your student for a copy of this important information so everyone is aware of classroom expectations.
Results 2010
The results of our senior certificates, OP scores, school-based traineeships, apprenticeships, 2010 QCEs, extra curricular certificates and traineeships for our senior class of 2010 have been excellent. While many students are taking a gap year before taking up full time study, many are commencing full time university courses this year and others are entering trades, certificates and diploma courses while at full time work. Congratulations to all our OP students but particularly to the 34 students who received an OP between 1–6.

Mark Gibbs: Assistant to the Principal - Administration
College Rules
Because at the beginning of the year there is a potential for confusion over some of the procedures and regulations within the college it seems appropriate to post some friendly reminders.

Mobile phones, iPODs and similar devices may be brought to the college at the student’s risk. The college does not take responsibility for their security and recommends they be left at home. However, under no circumstances are they to be used during class unless as a legitimate resource checked with the teacher concerned for a specific situation (such as an oral presentation).

Students who are found to have the above items turned on in class (on silent is not acceptable) will have the item confiscated for 24 hours. If there are repeat offences, the college reserves the right to retain the item for longer periods.

Permission to leave the College at lunch is often sought regularly at the beginning of the year, particularly by Year 11 students. On rare occasions a student may supply a note from a parent requesting a lunchtime pass. The student must supply it to his/her first period teacher who will sign it and provide a dated leave pass which the student must carry with them until returning to the college, at which time they will leave it at Reception. The parent note must be left in Reception in the file provided before leaving the college. Students are also required to sign out and register times of arrival and departure.

This privilege is provided for students who may have, for example, business to complete in town. It is not intended that students will simply “go shopping” or have lunch elsewhere. It would be appreciated if parents did not provide permission notes unless the matter is of some importance.

Bianca Johnston - Cultural Coordinator
Welcome to 2011! This year will bring many exciting opportunities for students to be involved in the Arts’ at St Patrick’s College. It promises to be a very “creative” and fulfilling year as many students have already shown great interest in representing the college in the numerous different performance co-curricular activities. The walls of St Patrick’s College provide a strong and safe structure for students to explore their passions and interests, and to discover new interests. However, it is the student body that brings these walls to life.

This week, students have had the opportunity to sign up and register to participate in the Cultural Co-curricular activities. Such activities and co-curricular activities include (but are not limited to):
- Drama Club (rehearsal Monday afternoons 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm)
- Choir (rehearsal Tuesday mornings 7:00 am – 8:15 am)
- Percussion Ensemble (rehearsal Wednesday mornings 7:15 am – 8:15 am)
- Handbells (rehearsal Wednesday afternoons 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm)
- Stage Band (rehearsal Thursday mornings 7:00 am – 8:15 am)
- Debating (T.B.A)
- Public Speaking (T.B.A)
- Instrumental Ensembles (T.B.A)

Students are encouraged to listen to morning notices for meeting times and information. Rehearsals will commence in week 3.

Each year the college works towards a “main” Arts’ project. This year is no exception. This year the College co-curricular groups will tour to New Zealand to participate in the International Rhapsody Rotorua Festival and explore Auckland, Wellington and the snow! The tour will be held in July (departs 3rd July and returns on 12th July, 2011). Students will be receiving information throughout the week ahead. Students are encouraged to listen to morning notices for further information.
Please note: if your student is interested in this event / tour, they are encouraged to collect the Proposed Cultural Tour expression of interest form from Mrs Johnston, and return it to the College Office NO LATER Friday 28 January.

We look forward to celebrating and creating many cultural moments and memories throughout the year. Please note the proposed cultural calendar for 2011.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Music / Arts New Zealand Tour Deposit Due</td>
<td>21 February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music and Arts Camp at Halliday Bay Resort</td>
<td>3 – 5 March (depart 3:30 pm on Thursday 3 March)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-curricular Arts Semester 1 Membership Fee Due</td>
<td>4 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre Tour Concert and Display</td>
<td>3 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music / Arts Tour “Rhapsody Rotorua Festival”</td>
<td>3 – 12 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mackay and District Secondary Schools Choral Festival with David Lawrence</td>
<td>19 – 22 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-curricular Arts Semester 2 Membership Fee Due</td>
<td>29 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mackay Orchestra and Band Competition</td>
<td>August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mackay Eisteddfod</td>
<td>3 – 23 October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Awards Night “Showcase”</td>
<td>28 October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valedictory</td>
<td>14 November</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We congratulate and welcome Marcus McConnell as the 2011 Cultural Chair. Marcus will assist and chair the Cultural Committee which organises various cultural activities within the College.

If you have any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to contact the College or email me on bjohnston@stopats.qld.edu.au.

Brendon Brauer – Sport Coordinator

Coaching Staff Needed

2011 looks to be another successful year in sport after the success of many individuals and teams in 2010. The coaching staff for our 2011 teams is currently being finalised to ensure students are given a wide variety of opportunities to represent the college. Our coaching staff consists of both teaching staff as well as members of our college community. It is through the generosity of these individuals that we can continue to compete in many competitions, which allows us to experience a high degree of success. If there are any parents interested in coaching, managing or assisting one of our many teams, please contact Mr Brauer at the college on 4944 7220.

In the coming weeks, a number of our teams will commence training for their respective competitions. Coaches will hold sign on meetings to provide students with the details of the competitions including training and financial commitments. Students who sign on for a team must be committed to the team for the duration of the competition. This commitment includes regular attendance at training and the payment of fees. Interested players should give their names to the coaches/managers of these teams at the sign on meetings that will be held soon. Students who are absent when these meetings are held should give their names to the respective coaches as soon as possible.

National Basketball Titles (Ballarat)

In the first week of December 2010, the St Pat’s Open Boys Basketball team travelled to Ballarat to compete in the National Basketball Titles against some of the best schoolboy basketball team in the country. Our boys were placed 4th in Division One after 5 days of intense games. The college would like to acknowledge the efforts of both Ms Amarlie Carroll and Mr Chris Brown who prepared the team for this competition putting in many hours of training and organisational time to ensure the team was able to compete strongly at the carnival. The team was also well supported by some keen parents who travelled with the team and assisted the coaching staff where necessary.

Sports Trials

Trials for a number of Mackay District sporting teams will be occurring in the next few weeks. Students who are interested in attending sporting trials must ensure they return nomination forms to the sports coordinator by the due date. Late nominations will not be accepted. Students must also ideally collect nomination forms at both morning tea and lunchtime breaks.

Parents must be aware that students should attend school before and after sporting trials. On many occasions, trials are held in the middle of the school day. Students will need to sign out of the college if they are being taken to a trial by a parent. They will then need to sign in upon returning.

Mackay District 19 years Volleyball and Touch Trials

Trials for Mackay District 19 years Tennis and Volleyball teams will be held on Thursday February 4. Nomination forms for these trials are now available from Mr Brauer and will be available until Thursday of this week. Students should return their nomination form and levy to the college bursar by the end of lunch on Friday. Only students who are at a representative level in these sports should consider attending these trials.
Important Dates

3 February  Mackay District 19 years Volleyball and Tennis trials
15 February  Capricornia Swimming team nominations due
17 February  Mackay District 19 years Touch trials
3 March      Mackay District 19 years Rugby League, Soccer, Hockey and Basketball trials.

SUCCESS FOR ST PATS AT NATIONAL BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS (Ms Amarlie Carroll)

The St Patrick's Open Boys basketball team travelled to Bendigo at the end of 2010 to compete in the Australian Schools Championships which was held from the 6 - 10 December. This is only the second time that St Patrick’s College have competed at the Australian Championships and the boys certainly proved that they had what it takes to be successful at a national level. The team competed in Division One of the Under 20 age group which meant that they were giving away some age and, in most cases, height to their opponents. The boys played seven games in five days against schools from Queensland, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia. After the round games St Patrick’s were positioned third on the ladder which meant a play off for third and fourth against Trinity College, a South Australian team who boasted a 7 foot Australian representative player in their starting line up. It was a very close final and the boys put up a huge effort but could not contain Trinity and lost the final by 14 points. The team placed fourth in Division One and 12th overall in a competition fielding over 40 teams across five divisions. In 2009 the team also played division one in this competition and finished seventh proving that St Patrick’s is certainly starting to make a name for itself as a basketball school. Our boys were extremely competitive and finished the week with some of the largest winning margins and the narrowest losing ones in our division.

The Year 12 boys in the team were Brady Rutland; Brendan Shepherd; Ryan DiFilippo; Emmerson Edwards and Mitchell Cameron. Brady and Brendan were the team’s leading point scorers for the carnival and finished in the top 15 scorers for the entire competition at the end of the week. All of these boys were also part of the 2009 team and they have really helped to put St Patrick’s on the map in school basketball. As coach I am so pleased that I had the chance to work with these boys for two years as their dedication and commitment to training and the team never wavered. Alex Jokovich, Joshua Eacott, Callum Erickson and Nicholas Andrew were the Year 11 students in the team and they certainly added great depth to our side and this depth was one of the main reasons for our strong performances. We are looking forward now to 2011 and I am very fortunate to have these four boys back playing basketball for St Patrick’s again this year. The experience they have gained from Nationals will certainly help to strengthen the team in 2011.

I would like to take this opportunity to again thank our sponsors for their financial support, without this support trips such as this would be very difficult to organise. I would like to recognise the following businesses in this regard: Hastings Deering Aust Ltd; Shepherd Dudley Accountants; Taylor Solicitors; AFS Friendly Care Pharmacy; Sucrogen Australia Pty Ltd; Resthaven on Quarry and Debbie’s Seafood Pty Ltd.

Thanks must also go to Lorraine DiFilippo and Chris Brown for helping to manage the team at both the State Championships and Nationals in 2010. Their hard work contributed greatly to the team’s success. I would like to conclude by thanking the parents of the players; as a coach I consider myself incredibly lucky to have such a supportive group of parents who have an absolute passion for basketball. It is because of their support that St Patrick’s College has been able to move from a school that did not have basketball teams seven years ago to being placed 12th in the Australian School Basketball rankings at the end of 2010. This is an accomplishment that the St Patrick’s community can certainly be proud of.

CATHOLIC DEBUTANTE BALL

A reminder that the Catholic Debutante Ball will be held on Friday 27 May, 2011. Year 12 Debutantes and their partners need to be attending either St Patrick’s College or Holy Spirit College only. Further information regarding the ball will be distributed in Week 3.