Eamon Hannan – Principal

In the last three weeks we have been talking with students about focused study. Specifically how their brains and memories work. With Year 12 students last week we had an in depth focus on the skills of test taking with an eye to the QCS test in September but also with this set of very important exams starting on Thursday.

2013 Enrolment Process in Term 3

We are about to begin our enrolment process for 2013. All students from Mercy College will have already or will shortly receive information about this enrolment process. If you know of someone from another school interested in attending St Patrick’s College next year please ask them to contact the college office so that we can send them the appropriate information.

Dear Edwina – Musical at Mercy College

I encourage everyone to go to the Mercy College musical presentation of Dear Edwina. The show runs from Thursday (14/6) through to Saturday (16/6) at 7:30 pm with a matinee on Thursday at 11 am. Tickets are available from the Mercy College office 4969 4199 – Adults $25, Pensioners and Students $15.

Mercy Killing

Do you want to know what the Catholic Church’s position is on Euthanasia? On Thursday night Fr Nick De Groot and a medical panel will discuss what tends to happen in our final stages of life. What are the decisions that individuals and families have to make? What is the church teaching in this area? All are welcome to attend 7:30 pm Thursday (14/6/12), St Patrick’s Hall.

Exams

Students are reminded to follow all procedures for exams. Timetables were issued last week. Students doing work placement have specific evenings on which they need to do their assessment.
Ashlyn Neil competed on the weekend in the Pioneer Valley Country Music Festival. This was a great weekend with a lot of talent. Ashlyn has won a Scholarship into the CMAA ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC IN TAMWORTH which she will attend in June 2013.

Also Ashlyn won third place in the Song writing section. She wrote the song because last year while she was attending Mercy College, three students passed away in separate car accidents. The song is called FOREVER’S NOT ENOUGH. Ashlyn dedicated this song on the day to a friend Jayden Mifsud who passed away last week in a car accident.

Readings for Sunday
Reading 1 Ez 17:22-24, Responsorial Psalm Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16
Reading 2 2 Cor 5:6-10, Gospel Mk 4:26-34

Lesley Fraser - Assistant to the Principal: APRE

The power of children

Our Year 11 Religion and Ethics students as part of their assessment have just completed a multimodal presentation on a social justice issue. Some of the students were quite passionate about the issue they chose and looked at how we as a school community could help those in need. This reminded me of a story I read in my early years of teaching, it was about a Canadian student who went on to make a difference in the lives of others.

‘Never underestimate what children can do. Little steps, taken over the years, on a daily basis, show the power of children.’

- Theresa Kielberger, Craig’s mother

In 1995, a headline in a Canadian Newspaper caught the attention of 12 year old Craig Kielberger. The story told about another 12 year old boy who lived in Pakistan and who had been sold into child labour at age four. The boy had been murdered in Pakistan, after publicly speaking out about child labour.

Craig didn’t know what “child labour” meant. He wasn’t even sure where Pakistan was. But he knew about being 12 years old…and he couldn’t imagine living a life of forced labour and danger. And he wanted to help. Craig might not have money but he did have family and friends. He soon enlisted them to join his fight against child labour.

Today, Kielberger’s international program “Feed the Children” focuses on educational opportunities for kids around the world. It has built more than 450 schools, delivered more than 202,500 school and health kits to children, and provided health care centres and community funding to help more than 505,000 worldwide.

His work with “Feed the Children” has given Kielberger “a gift,” he says. “When I was in Thailand, I saw a street girl with an orange. She automatically took it and split it with her friend – no question about the matter.” What did that teach him? “God works through us.” Jesus said to the disciples, “…Amen, I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.” (Mt 17:20) Jesus came to bring freedom, as he says in the Gospel passage above. Sometimes the Gospel may feel confining. Actually, it’s just the opposite. Jesus isn’t a shepherd who confines the sheep in a pen. He is the good shepherd who calls the sheep out of the pen into wide-open, green pastures. Without realising it, I can get trapped in my schedule, my activities, and my possessions – penned in like sheep.

I need to “un-attach” myself from my schedule, activities, possessions, so that I can experience a refreshing sense of freedom. It’s like the feeling I get when I clean a closet, the garage, my office…and keep it clean. Consistently to give “off the top” brings that same sense of an uncluttered life, a sense of peace and freedom. Talk to the Lord about it. Hear him say:
“Nothing will be impossible for you.” Remember, never underestimate what you can do, you too could go on and make a difference in the lives of others.

Edna Galvin – Assistant to the Principal: Curriculum

Uniform
Enclosed are the uniform requirements. Please check your student to see if he/she is correctly attired as some students at present have the following uniform issues:

- Incorrect shoes – only leather lace up school shoes (not soft jazz style shoes allowed)
- No black socks
- Incorrect winter clothes – College jumpers/scarves are available at our second hand shop and our uniform supplier (Uniforms Solutions)
- There is no gym pant in our uniform, if students are cold they wear their academic uniform with tights (females) long grey trousers (boys)
- Only the correct school uniform is to be worn during the day – other sports and cultural uniforms are for those functions NOT for normal school wear.
- No make-up

We would be grateful if you would support us in our uniform and grooming policy. We do not wish to lose the good reputation our uniform has with industry and the community.

Thank you to all parents for the way most students have been wearing our uniform correctly. For those students in doubt about uniform regulations, I have set out below our expectations regarding uniform:

FEMALE ACADEMIC UNIFORM
- Academic dress to be worn over the knee
- Shirt covering midriff
- Tie at top of shirt collar with all buttons done up
- Skirt to be on the waist and over 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 – need to be visible; not ankle socks
- 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.

WRITTEN EXAM – ALL STUDENTS

During the exam block all students, with the exception of the Year 11 Industry Placement group, will be completing a written test. For the Year 12 QCS group this will be important practice for the Core Skills test as well as feedback to the QCS staff to see how the students are progressing. For ALL other students it is a most important check on their written literacy. The students have already undertaken a test on their reading literacy and this is the next step in collecting data to assist our students to write and communicate more effectively. Literacy remains a most important aspect of all workplaces – regardless of what technologies are invented in the future, literacy will remain a most vital life and workplace skill.

Exam Rules

As exams are just around the corner – please ensure that students are now increasing their study. Exam rules for Year 11 and 12 are quite strict. Students must be in attendance at the correct time or provide a medical certificate. The college exam requirements are as follows:

1. Read your exam timetable carefully and note all exams. This is YOUR responsibility.
2. Turn up in plenty of time – half hour before most exams or at 8.25 am for morning exams.
3. Wear full academic uniform.
4. Phone the college if you are going to be late or are ill. Illness will usually require a medical certificate to be presented when you return to school. You will still be required to complete the exam.
5. Bring all necessary equipment – spare pens, calculators, rulers, erasers, extra batteries etc in a clear container. You will not be allowed to borrow anything during the exams. Do not bring other materials into the exam.
6. When called over the PA, line up in classes in alphabetical order so that rolls can be marked. This order is also the order that you will sit in for the exam. Follow teacher directions.
7. Dispose of any study notes before you enter the exam room.
8. Once you enter the exam room you must remain silent and not communicate with any other student in any way. TO DISRUPT AN EXAM IS A SERIOUS BREACH OF THE COLLEGE BEHAVIOUR CODE.
9. During perusal, you may not write your answers, but, in some subjects, you may be able to write notes on the exam. Remember perusal means read thoroughly. not skim.
10. Read the whole paper during perusal and ask questions at that time.
11. Do not ask teachers how to answer questions – they cannot tell you and it wastes your valuable time.
12. At St Patrick’s you may not leave the exam room until the set time, ie the end of the exam.
13. No food is to be taken into exam rooms and water bottles must be kept on the floor.
14. If you wish to speak to a supervisor you must stand in your place. Do NOT raise your hand.
15. MP3s, iPods, Mobile Phones etc are strictly forbidden in the exam room at all times.
16. We are under State and National requirements for the qualifications gained by senior assessment including exams – these require the college to conduct exams under strict, secure, ethical conditions.
17. Rearranging an exam can only be done under very exceptional circumstances which **MUST** be disclosed to the Administration of the college – it is not desirable because of the reasons stated above.

18. **SCHOOL NOTICES** will be posted on noticeboards each day. Please check these for any important information.

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**Mark Gibbs – Debating Coordinator**

**Interschool Debating Report**

Last night St Pat’s Red gained the final place in the Apex senior secondary debating semi-finals when they defeated Holy Spirit Blue in an impromptu knockout debate. They successfully argued “that agriculture is more important than mining”.

The knockout was required because three teams tied on equal points in Pool A of the competition. Whitsunday Anglican (WAS) Grey won the “lucky draw” and went through to the semi-final.

Because the rules stipulate that the makeup of the semi-finals should ensure that different schools contest the final, the semi-finals will be as below.

**Venue:** St Patrick’s College Tuesday 10 July

**Seniors:** 7.30pm

- **Whitsunday Anglican School (WAS) Grey (aff) v WAS White**
- **St Pat’s Gold (aff) v St Pat’s Red**

**The topic is:** That service to the nation should be compulsory

**Juniors:** 6:30pm

- **Mercy White (aff) v Mercy Teal**
- **Mirani Gold (aff) v Mky North High School Blue**

**The topic is:** That the playstation has destroyed the playground.

Congratulations to all teams for achieving the semi-finals in what has turned out to be one of the highest standard and most hotly contested local competitions for some time.

**St Pat’s teams are:**

- **St Pat’s Red:** Emma Marsh, Ben Muscat, Siobhan Gibbs, Sheridan Scott

- **St Pat’s Gold:** Imagion Carlyle-Brauer, Caitlin Geoghegan, Sam Lenz, Megan Comben

The finals are always well prepared and presented and great entertainment. All members of the college community are warmly invited to attend. The students especially appreciate performing for an audience.
Handbell Workshops/Training

Last week, students of the Handbell ensemble participated in a Handbell Workshop with guest Clinician and Conductor, Debbie Rice. The St Patrick’s College Ringers explored the different techniques of ringing, musical styles and deconstructed current studied pieces.

Over the weekend, some of the college ringers also participated in the weekend handbell course “The HSA Handbell Musician Certificate” and “The HSA Handbell Directors Course”.

Congratulations to all students who were involved in the Handbell course and workshops. The College would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Carmel Daveson and the Handbell Society of Australasia for giving this opportunity to our College ringers. The Handbell team looks forward to sharing their musical experiences with family and friends in the near future.

CO-CURRICULAR ARTS MUSIC CAMP:

In week 2 of next term, a Music Arts Camp is being held from Thursday 19th – Saturday 21st July at Halliday Bay Resort. This is a great opportunity for students to get to know other students, prepare music and ensembles for upcoming events and celebrate the musical talent within our school community. Students are required to meet at St Patrick’s College by 3:30pm and be ready to depart the College by bus at 4:00pm to ‘Halliday Bay Resort’. (All students must travel together in the bus).

The camp will conclude with a concert at ‘Halliday Bay Resort’ at 2:30pm Saturday with light refreshments available from the beachside café / bar from 2:00pm. Parents/Guardians will be required to pick up child/children from Halliday Bay Resort after the concert (estimated time of finish is 3:30pm).

All students who are involved in the College Choir, Stage Band and Percussion Ensemble should have received this information. All forms (medical and permission forms) and payment are due by Friday 15th June. If you need any further information, please feel free to contact Mrs Bianca Johnston at the College on 49447200 or 0421440104.

CO-CURRICULAR ENSEMBLE UNIFORMS:

All students involved in the College Choir, Stage Band, Percussion and Handbell Ensembles MUST have their performance uniforms organised before next term. Choir members will require them in week 1 of next term.

**CHOIR Uniform Requirements:**

**Female students are required to wear:**

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**Blouse:** Poly-Shantung (Rich Red). Covered buttons down the centre front. Lining not necessary, however the garment will keep its shape better if lined. Perspiration shield essential.

**Skirt:** Micro crepe – navy. Darted or elastic-waisted. Lining not essential but definitely preferred. Kick-pleat high enough to allow movement. Comfortable fit. Must NOT be tight! (Length – 10 cm from the floor with shoes on)
Accessories:
**Shoes:** black with low heels (school shoes are fine). No high heels or strappy sandals. Black stockings, (essential), gold jewellery only and black or red hair accessories.

Patterns are available for loan at reception. Female Choir uniform material available at Needleworx, corner Sams and Willets Roads, North Mackay. Phone: 49421644

**Male students are required to wear:** the long black dress pants, a white long sleeve collared business shirt (with school tie), a school blazer with polished black school shoes and black socks.

**STAGE BAND, HANDBELLS and PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE Uniform Requirements:**
Students are required to wear long black dress pants, a long sleeve collared black dress shirt with enclosed black shoes and black socks. Performance accessories will be supplied when required.

**WHAT’S HAPPENING IN TERM THREE?**

**Tuesday 10th – Friday 13th July:**
Choir members will be involved in the Secondary Schools Choral Festival Workshop and Concert

**Tuesday 17th July:**
Stage Band perform at Matsura Welcome Function at MECC

**Thursday 19th – Saturday 21st July:**
Halliday Bay Co-Curricular Arts Camp (Choir, Stage Band and Percussion members)

**Friday 17th – 19th August:**
Mackay Orchestra and Band Competition (Stage Band, Percussion and Handbells)

**Sunday 9th September:**
Choir, Handbells, Percussion, Stage Band and music students perform at Holy Trinity Church Concert Series.

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**Brendon Brauer – Sport**

**Capricornia Cross Country**
St Pat’s students performed extremely well at the 2012 Capricornia cross country trials which were held at the Sarina Golf Course on June 4. The challenging Sarina course suited our students as they are familiar with the conditions following the Mackay District trials that were held at Sarina in May. Sophie Webb-Smith, Lachlan Pierpoint, Tomas Richards, Sean Nicoll and Dominic McDermott represented St Patrick’s at the trials following their performances at the Mackay District trials. Dominic and Lachlan have been selected in the Capricornia team and will now compete at the state titles in Maroochydore on July 22-23. Congratulations to all students who competed at the trials. St Pat’s results were as follows:

**16yrs Girls**
Sophie Webb-Smith (8th)

**16yrs Boys**
Tomas Richards (10th)
Sean Nicoll (12th)

**17yrs Boys**
Lachlan Pierpoint (6th)

**19yrs Boys**
Dominic McDermott (2nd)
Queensland Selection

Congratulations to Grade 12 student, Damien Van Der Berg and Grade 11 student, Lucas Nielsen who have been selected in the Queensland Squash team following the state titles that were held in Townsville last week. Damien and Lucas were members of the Capricornia 19yrs boys team that were the overall winners of the carnival. This is an outstanding result for two very talented squash players. Both students have now been selected in the Queensland team to play New South Wales and New Zealand in August in Grafton.

Important Dates

June 25  QISSN (Netball) and Confraternity Shield (Rugby League) Carnival
July 27   St Patrick’s Athletics Carnival

Netball Draw for Wednesday 20 June

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<td>MNSHS Eleven v Mirani Matrix</td>
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Deanna Hurley – Finance Officer

School Fees

Reminder letters were sent home yesterday reminding families that school fees are to be paid by Friday 22 June.
Students are asked to note the exam timetable below and see Mr Gibbs for alternative times if they have an exam clash. All students are required to be in attendance at least 15 minutes before the start of the exam with all materials. **All students are required in formal uniform. Exam materials must be in a clear plastic container.**

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**Term 2 Ends Friday 22nd June, students are required until then. (Only exception College requirements).**
Stay Safe at Cane Railway Crossings

Mackay Sugar on behalf of Racecourse Mill, Farleigh Mill, Marian Mill and Mossman Mill urges all motorists and residents to be alert when approaching cane railway crossings. Please be prepared for the increased cane train activity during the 2012 crushing season and stay safe!

For all community enquiries – contact Mackay Sugar Communications department on 07 4953 8339

Student Festival of Fashion

This event is ONLY open to high school students – so it’s all about you. Why not challenge yourself to make an entry over the holidays?

The theme this year is 150 years of fashion so make a design that reflects the style from a specific era (this is optional). There are categories for everyone from Fashion illustration, masks/headwear, wearable art, sewn designs and guys, we have a special category just for you.

The event will be held on Saturday 11 August at MECC. Details on the website www.studentfestivaloffashion.com.au or join us on facebook. Enquiries phone Rosemary 0414 354 920.
Family Drug Support Presents
“Stepping Forward”

Is someone in your family taking drugs and/or alcohol?
Are you looking for practical down to earth information and support?
Family Drug Support presents ‘Stepping Forward’ providing -
√ Clear and practical information sessions and
√ a safe place to share and to feel supported

There are two sessions on offer covering -

1. Stages of change for users and families
2. Basic communication – what works and what doesn’t

You are welcome to come to one or more sessions. Each is designed so that you will have something of value to take away to help you on your journey.

Sessions 1 & 2 will be presented on:

Date: Saturday 16th June, 10.00 am (Two 2 hour sessions with light refreshments)
Venue: St Vincent de Paul Society Function Room, Corner Juliet & Hamlet Streets Mackay
Cost: Free (donation welcome)

Bookings are essential – please call Dom FDS 0419 689 857

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2012 MACKAY CATHOLIC SCHOOL’S

Spring
Race Day
22 September 2012
1pm – 5pm
Ooralea Racecourse
Peak Downs Highway, Ooralea

Marquee Ticket – $50

Includes
Racecourse entry  •  Marquee entry
Glass of Champagne on arrival
Food  •  Live entertainment  •  Fashions on the Field
Lucky door prize
AND A GREAT TIME!

Tickets available from 16 July via the following schools –
Mackillop Catholic Primary  4955 3600
St Francis Xavier Catholic School  4951 1881
Emmanuel Catholic Primary School  4942 5999
St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School  4957 3333
St Anne’s Catholic Primary School  4956 7334
St Mary’s Catholic Primary School  4951 1743
St John’s Catholic Primary School  4959 2443
St Patrick’s College  4944 7200
Holy Spirit College  4969 2600
Mercy College Mackay  4969 4199

OF AT THE GATE

Join in the celebrations of the official opening of  Mackay’s Ooralea Race Track