Eamon Hannan – Principal

Students should be doing a lot of work at school and at home in the coming weeks. Year 12 students will have the QCS test next week. They have been well prepared for this series of exams. There are equipment requirements that students have for this test. Please ensure that students have the correct equipment for each session of the test.

Art Union for Cathedral Fund

People with outstanding tickets should recently have received a letter outlining the procedure if tickets have been mislaid. Tickets can be returned, purchased or declared lost. There is a tear off slip which we need returned to the college as soon as possible thank you.

Smoking and Young People

Recent reports in the media have suggested that as many as one in four Australian young people aged 13 – 18 are regular smokers. Smoking is a serious risk factor in a very broad range of illnesses ranging from the obvious throat and lung cancers to stroke, heart attacks and other cardiovascular disorders. The advantages of quitting are that the healing process begins almost immediately.

Some excellent resources from all around Australia about smoking and young people can be found at http://www.oxygen.org.au/

The following fact sheets might be useful for discussions at home.

- Effects of cigarette smoking on being active (PDF 497kb)
- Facts about smoking (PDF 474kb)
- Second hand smoke (PDF 492kb)
- The effects of smoking on the body (PDF 536kb)
- Tobacco and the environment (PDF 446kb)
- Tobacco and the law in Australia (PDF 450kb)
- What’s in a cigarette (PDF 618kb)
- Plain packaging. The facts (2.3MB PDF)

School Review and Improvement

Thank you to all members of the community who were involved in the very successful College Review processes. A special acknowledgement and thanks goes to our internal review team Mr Mark Gibbs, Ms Edna Galvin, Ms Jan Barnett and Mr Dean Andric. The review was however a whole of college effort and a reflection of work that has been put in over the last five years of the review cycle. Special mention must also be made of the valuable work of Mrs Jenny Staples in compiling the various reports and to Mrs Rose Christensen who oversaw the Work Place Health and Safety Audit aspect of the Review.

St Patrick’s Family

- We were saddened by the news of the accidental death of former student Conrad Sheedy on the weekend. His parents Terry and Robyn Sheedy are great supporters of the St Patrick’s community through their involvement in the Debutante Ball and in music ministry at parish masses. Please pray for Conrad and his family at this time.
- Please also remember the Haines family in your prayers. Zach Haines’ (Year 12) Grandfather passed away suddenly in Gympie recently.
- We were privileged to be visited by Matthew Swann, Senior of 2006, who proudly showed us his bronze medal from the London Olympics. Matthew is a member of the Kookaburras – the Australian Men’s Hockey team. (See photos on page ……)
- Congratulations to Zoe Westwood who won a Regional Creative Generation Excellence Award in Rockhampton recently.
- See also information regarding the Catholic Schools Race Day on 22 September. Marquee tickets are $50 and are available from the college office.
- There is also information regarding a workshop for parents with George Otero which will be held at Emmanuel Primary School on Tuesday 11 September.
Weekend Masses

**Walkerston**
- **Saturday Vigil Mass**
  - 6:00 pm St John’s
  - 7:30 am Eton

**Marian**
- **Saturday Vigil Mass**
  - 6:00 pm Holy Rosary
  - 9:00 am Mirani

**Northside Cluster**
- **Saturday Vigil Mass**
  - 6:00 pm St Joseph’s
  - 6:00 pm St Brigid’s
  - 7:30 am St Brendan’s
  - 9:00 am St Joseph’s

**Southside Cluster**
- **Saturday Vigil Mass**
  - 6:00 pm St Francis Xavier
  - 6:00 pm St Mary’s
  - 7:00 am St Patrick’s
  - 7:00 am St Therese’s
  - 9:00 am St Michael’s
  - 9:00 am St Francis Xavier
  - 9:30 am St Francis of Assisi
  - 6:00 pm St Patrick’s

**Handbells**

Four St Patrick’s students undertook the training and assessment for the Handbell of Australasia’s (HSA) Handbell Musician Certificate. They were trained and assessed by Mrs Debbie Rice who is the Executive Director of the World Handbell Committee and also a professor at the Concordiae University in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Debbie is a clinician, conductor and an international director of handbell festivals throughout the world.

The four students are Ekta Awal, Alexandria Mattinson, and Grace Schofield from Year 11 and Lydia Penner, Year 12.

As well as undertaking the Handbell Musician Certificate, Lydia Penner was trained and assessed as competent, for the Ringing Techniques subject / competency for the Handbell of Australasia’s Handbell Director Certificate. The other three subjects in the course are: conducting, theory of music and establishing and maintaining a handbell ensemble. These certified courses were devised and accredited by the HSA, only this year. So these students are part of HSA history.

We were privileged to have our handbell choir perform for the college assembly and are grateful for the dedication and support of Mrs Carmel Daveson who is our conductor but also president of the Australasian and Oceania Handbells Association. We also thank Mrs Margaret Browne who is assistant and manager for the St Patrick’s handbells.

**Sunday Readings**

**First Reading:** Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8, “...For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is to us, whenever we call upon him?...”  
**Psalm:** Psalm 15:2-5 “He who walks blamelessly,...

**Second Reading:** James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27, “...But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves...”  
**Gospel:** Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23, “…there is nothing outside a man which by going into him can defile him; but the things which come out of a man are what defile him...”

**Lesley Fraser – Assistant to the Principal: Religious Education**

Yesterday (28 August) was the feast of St Augustine who was born in 354 AD in the time of the Roman Empire, in what is now the North African country of Algeria. In his lengthy book called “Confessions”, Augustine tells us that he was influenced to become a Christian when, somehow, he heard God telling him to “take up and read”. Augustine started to read the Bible and discovered God. The example and prayers of his mother Monica (whose feast day it was on Monday) contributed to his becoming a Christian at the age of 33.

Augustine wrote these words: “Leave the past to God’s mercy, the present to his love, and the future to his providence.”

Let us pray:

Lord, we give you thanks for the assurance that the past can be left to your mercy, the present to your love, and the future to your providence. Help us to grow more aware of your loving presence, that we may live more authentically and proclaim by our words and actions the good news of the fullness of your love.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Diocesan Youth Festival**

Last weekend students across the Rockhampton diocese were given the opportunity to participate in the Diocesan Youth Festival in Rockhampton. The theme for this year’s festival was ‘Celebrating young people alive in the Church’. Several students from St Patrick’s College travelled to Rockhampton along with students from Holy Spirit College. Upon arrival at The Cathedral College, students were given the opportunity to get to know others including the two NET teams who were invited to participate. The weekend included a speech from Bishop Brian Heenan, with the message of ‘Love never fails, and God’s love for us is unconditional.’ Students enjoyed the enthusiasm of the NET teams during ice breaking games and during songs of praise. The students who participated in the weekend included: Jemma Rasink, Samantha Alsemgeest, Aindrea Fuller from year 11 and Emma Del Dot, Hannah Pace, Olivia Hove and Blessing Siphuma from year 12. On the Saturday night all the students were able to take part in the mass at St Joseph’s Cathedral, with Bishop Brian Heenan presiding assisted by Fr Andrew Chase. Emma gave the welcoming at the start of mass, Blessing helped with Offertory, and Jemma, Olivia, Hannah and Ms Fraser joined the choir providing the music for Mass. After dinner we were given the opportunity to have some reflection time in the cathedral, either
taking part in a prayer group, reconciliation with a priest, joining the Taize prayer, or taking some time to quietly reflect and pray.

On the final day students were able to hear a variety of testimonies from young people in the church including our own Father Andrew who gave an inspirational speech. After a long yet enjoyable weekend came the bus ride home. We thank Mrs Vicki Heggie from Holy Spirit College for driving us all to Rockhampton and back, with students claiming that the singing and dancing on the bus trip was one of the many highlights of the weekend. We all look forward to next year’s Festival.

Edna Galvin – Assistant to the Principal: Curriculum

QCS – TUESDAY 4 AND WEDNESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

With less than a week to go to the QCS Test, all students should have the following equipment. It is not wise to leave gathering this equipment until the day of the test, as inevitably there will be something you are unable to purchase. Please also ensure that you have new batteries in your approved calculators. Consult the instruction sheet from the Queensland Studies Authority that was distributed on Thursday 16 August. If students do not follow these instructions they could have their result in the QCS Test withheld and they may be ineligible for an Overall Position (OP). Please note that if students are unwell on the day a special medical certificate is required to be completed by the doctor. This form may be collected from the college office.

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Exam Stress
At this time of the year, with exams looming and assignments falling due with alarming regularity, many students may be feeling a little stressed. It may also be true that some of their stress is the result of a lack of confidence in their ability and they may feel that their progress is not matched by the time spent on their work.

Such feelings are part of the learning process, and hopefully will stimulate students to find ways to study more effectively. Sometimes a different technique can be powerful. Earlier in the year I outlined the Cornell study/notemaking method and saved it to the common student (I) drive in the folder STUDY HINTS. Many students have used it to good effect and I hope they will continue to do so.

Below is another ‘tried and true’ reading/study method that also requires the reader to engage actively with their material. Many students will have encountered SQ3R before, but a reminder might be timely.

SQ 3R reading/study method
Survey! Question! Read! Recite! Review!

Before you read, Survey the material:
- the title, headings, and subheadings
- captions under pictures, charts, graphs or maps
- review questions or teacher-made study guides
- introductory and concluding paragraphs
- summary

Question while you are surveying:
- Turn the title, headings, and/or subheadings into questions
- Read questions at the end of the chapters or after each subheading
- Ask yourself, “What did my instructor say about this chapter or subject when it was assigned?”
- Ask yourself, “What do I already know about this subject?”

Note: If it is helpful to you, write out these questions for consideration. (recommended)
This variation is called SQW3R

When you begin to Read:
- Look for answers to the questions you first raised
- Answer questions at the beginning or end of chapters or study guides
- Reread captions under pictures, graphs, etc.
- Note all the underlined, italicized, bold printed words or phrases
- Study graphic aids
- Reduce your speed for difficult passages
- Stop and reread parts which are not clear
- Read only a section at a time and recite after each section

Recite after you've read a section:
- Orally ask yourself questions about what you have just read, or summarize, in your own words, what you read
- Take notes from the text but write the information in your own words
- Underline or highlight important points you've just read
- Reciting:
  - The more senses you use the more likely you are to remember what you read
  - Triple strength learning: Seeing, saying, hearing
  - Quadruple strength learning: Seeing, saying, hearing, writing!!

Review: an ongoing process of looking back at your questions and notes.

Bianca Johnston – Cultural Coordinator

Co-curricular Cultural Group Rehearsals:
Over the next few weeks the co-curricular groups will be busy preparing their items for the upcoming local Mackay Eisteddfod. It is important for all students to attend EVERY scheduled rehearsal.

Please find below this weekly rehearsal schedule (Wednesday 29 August – Friday 7 September).
Wednesday 29 August  PERCUSSION  7:15 am
Wednesday 29 August  HANDBELL TRIO/QUARTET  Lunch
Wednesday 29 August  HANDBELLS  3:15 pm – 5:30 pm
Thursday 30 August  STAGE BAND  7:00 am
Thursday 30 August  FOLK GROUP  Lunch
Friday 31 August  NOVELTY  Lunch (PAC)
Monday 3 September  RATS OF TOBRUK SINGERS  Lunch
Monday 3 September  HANDBELL TRIO/QUARTET  Lunch
Wednesday 5 September HANDBELLS  3:15 pm – 5:30 pm
Wednesday 5 September HANDBELL TRIO/QUARTET  Lunch (11:45 – 12:20)
Thursday 6 September  STAGE BAND  7:00 am
Thursday 6 September  FOLK GROUP  Lunch
Friday 7 September  NOVELTY  Lunch (PAC)

Please note: there are NO rehearsals on Tuesday 4th or Wednesday 5th September due to the QCS exam.

Exam Block Eisteddfod Timetable:
Friday 14 September  NOVELTY  2:00 pm – 3:00 pm (PAC)
Monday 17 September  CHOIR  1:45 pm – 3:00 pm
Tuesday 18 September  NOVELTY  1:45 pm – 3:00 pm
FOLK  3:00 pm – 3:30 pm
Wednesday 19 September  PERCUSSION  1:30 pm – 3:00 pm
Wednesday 19 September HANDBELLS  2:00 pm – 3:30 pm
Thursday 20 September  STAGE BAND  2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Friday 21 September  NOVELTY  1:00 pm – 2:30 pm
FOLK GROUP  2:30 pm – 3:00 pm

All cultural members involved in the Eisteddfod groups must attend these compulsory rehearsals. Students are required to wear full academic uniform to these rehearsals.

EISTEDDFOD OWN CHOICE MATERIAL REMINDER:
(Music and Speech and Drama)
All own choice material must be submitted at the Eisteddfod office, Parish Hall, Cnr Gordon and Wood Street from Monday 17 September to Saturday 22 September (9:00 am – 2:00 pm). Competitors unable to submit Own choice material on these dates may forward their pieces by registered mail. No late own choice submissions will be accepted.

The College will submit all group entries; however individual performers must submit their own material. If you have any queries regarding this, please do not hesitate to see Mrs Johnston.

Rats of Tobruk:
Next Friday afternoon, the Rats of Tobruk Service will be held at Queens Park at 5:30 pm. Students from St Patrick’s have been asked to participate and lead the music. Singers will be required to attend lunchtime rehearsals (Monday 3 September at 12:50 pm) and organise college blazers. Students will be required to meet Mrs Janelle Agius at Queens Park at 5:15 pm wearing full academic uniform.

St Patrick’s College Musical Highlights Concert - Holy Trinity Church
On Sunday 9 September, students from the college choir, percussion ensemble, stage band and the handbell ensemble will come together to fill the Mackay Holy Trinity Church with beautiful music. Together with talented soloists, the musical students of St Patrick’s and Mercy College will highlight their achievements and efforts of 2012. This concert should not be missed! Come along and enjoy our talented students. Concert entry cost is $5.00 per adult. (Performers - free).

Below are the times that participating students need to be at the church please.
Handbells - rehearse from 1:00 – 1:30 pm
Choir - rehearse from 1:30 – 1:50 pm
Stage Band - rehearse from 1:50 – 2:10 pm
Percussion - rehearse from 2:10 – 2:20 pm
Soloists - rehearse from 2:20 – 2:40 pm
2.40pm - Stop all rehearsals
3.00pm - Concert commences
All students in the college choir **MUST** wear their Choir Uniform. All other students are required to wear performance appropriate black clothing.

At the conclusion of the concert, families, friends and participating students are invited to stay back and share in a celebratory afternoon tea in the church courtyard. All performers are asked to bring along a plate of food for this celebratory afternoon tea. The students and staff are looking forward to this event.

**Tony Druery – Visual Art Teacher**

Each year St Patrick’s College Visual Art students have the opportunity to be considered for the “Creative Generation Excellence in Art Awards”. This year three students Kate Tolo, Zoe Westwood, and Kaitlyn DePinto were submitted for consideration for works they created as part of their folio work. These works are currently hung at Rockhampton Art Gallery in the regional exhibition which opened last Friday evening. From this exhibition Zoe Westwood’s work was chosen to represent the Rockhampton region in the state exhibition to be held at the Gallery of Modern Art in Brisbane next year. Congratulations to Zoe for this honour and as part of her prize she will travel to Brisbane in the September holidays to undergo a series of artistic workshops with the other selected students. It has been a number of years since a St Patrick’s student has succeeded in this award. Unfortunately this program which has been running for at least 15 years is under threat for future years due to the recent state budget cost savings program. This would be a most unfortunate situation for the art students of Queensland.

Zoe Westwood’s work: “FETISH”

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**George Otero Parent Workshop**

**Parent Session**

**Date:** Tuesday September 11  
**Venue:** The Marist Centre – Emmanuel Catholic Primary School.  
**Time:** 7.30 – 9.00 p.m.

**Topic:** Creating Powerful Learning Relationships  
- Schools and Communities Working Together – A Partnering model of Education  
- Building Powerful Learning Relationships - School Culture / Student Wellbeing / Parent Culture/  
- Parent Connectedness – Growing the Capacity of Families to support Children’s Learning.

George Otero is an educational consultant who was born and raised in New Mexico. He has worked as a teacher, educator, international consultant, social entrepreneur, and author. He and his wife Susan, operate the Centre for Relational Learning based in Santa Fe, New Mexico where he has worked for many years. He has also worked in Australia and the United Kingdom as well as the United States. His work with schools and community leaders in transforming schools is an outgrowth of his twenty years creating and directing a multicultural community learning centre in Taos, New Mexico, attended by over 50,000 people. His approach utilises dance, play, dreaming, games, storytelling and an open inquiry process that builds community and stimulates learning and leadership. Through his work new ways for schools and communities to secure equity, inclusion, and social justice have emerged leading to transformations in relationships. His work in transforming schools is done one at a time by clarifying the issues and problems within the context of their communities.
## Term 3 2012 Year 11 & 12 Exam Timetable

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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Photographs from visit by Matthew Swann
Assuming the Presidency at the depth of the Great Depression, which had begun with the collapse of the New York stock exchange in 1929, Franklin D. Roosevelt helped the American people regain faith in themselves. He brought hope as he promised prompt, vigorous action, and asserted in his Inaugural Address, "the only thing we have to fear is fear itself." Also known by his initials, FDR, he was the 32nd President of the United States (1933–1945) and a central figure in world events during the mid-20th century, leading the United States during a time of worldwide economic depression and total war. He was the only American president elected to more than two terms, with the bouncy popular song "Happy Days Are Here Again" as his campaign theme, FDR defeated incumbent Republican Herbert Hoover in November 1932, at the depth of the Great Depression. FDR’s unfailing optimism and activism contributed to a renewal of the national spirit.

Following the example of his fifth cousin, President Theodore Roosevelt, whom he greatly admired, Franklin D. Roosevelt entered public service through politics, but as a member of the Democratic Party. In the summer of 1921, when he was 39, disaster hit when he was stricken with polio, which at that time was a disease for which there was no vaccine. Demonstrating tremendous courage, he fought to regain the use of his legs, but was only partially successful.

He was elected President in November 1932, to the first of four terms. By March 1933 there were 13 million unemployed Americans and almost every bank was closed. In his first "hundred days," he proposed, a sweeping program to bring recovery to business and agriculture, relief to the unemployed and to those in danger of losing farms and homes. By 1935 the Nation had achieved some measure of recovery, but businessmen and bankers were turning more and more against Roosevelt’s New Deal program. Americans had traditionally believed that government should never interfere in the economy, but Roosevelt came to believe that without government assistance, not just the American economy but capitalism itself was doomed. Even today, one of the major differences between the two main political parties in the US is the issue about whether or not the government ought to interfere in the economy. The Democratic Party are more prone to spend government money both for the public benefit and to ‘kick-start’ the economy. The Republican Party on the other hand prefer that government adopt a ‘hands-off’ approach to the economy. Roosevelt was appalled at the poverty and distress ordinary Americans were experiencing during the Depression years of the 1930’s and he responded with a new program of reform: Social Security, heavier taxes on the wealthy, new controls over banks and public utilities, and an enormous work relief program for the unemployed. (President Obama is a member of the Democratic Party)

When Hitler invaded Poland in 1939, he had laid the foundation for the US to remain neutral and thus keep the United States out of the Second World War. When France was defeated by Germans in 1940 and England came under siege at the hands of the Nazis, he began to send Great Britain aid. Britain was desperate for the US to join them in the fight against Germany, but the American public were determined not to be drawn into another war. The decision was taken out of Roosevelt’s hands when the Japanese launched a surprise attack on the American navy at Pearl Harbour on the island of Hawaii on December 7, 1941. From that point on he worked closely with Winston Churchill and Joseph Stalin in leading the Allies against Germany and Japan in World War II. On April 12, 1945, he died of a cerebral haemorrhage just as victory was in sight.
His music and his personality, fusing the styles of white country and black rhythm and blues, permanently changed the face of American popular culture. His following was immense, and he was a symbol to people the world over of the vitality, rebelliousness, and good humor of his country. President Jimmy Carter August 17, 1977

Presley’s rise to national attention in 1956 transformed the field of popular music and had a huge effect on the broader scope of popular culture. As the catalyst for the cultural revolution that was rock and roll, he was central not only to defining it as a musical genre but in making it a touchstone of youth culture and rebellious attitude. With its racially mixed origins—repeatedly affirmed by Presley—rock and roll’s occupation of a central position in mainstream American culture facilitated a new acceptance and appreciation of black culture. In this regard, Little Richard said of Presley, “He was an integrator. Elvis was a blessing. They wouldn’t let black music through. He opened the door for black music.” Al Green agreed: “He broke the ice for all of us.” Presley also heralded the vastly expanded reach of celebrity in the era of mass communication: at the age of 21, within a year of his first appearance on American network television, he was one of the most famous people in the world.

Prescription drug abuse severely compromised his health, and he died suddenly in 1977 at the age of 42. Presley is regarded as one of the most important figures of 20th-century popular culture. He had a versatile voice and unusually wide success encompassing many genres, including country, pop ballads, gospel, and blues. He is the best-selling solo artist in the history of popular music. Nominated for 14 competitive Grammys, he won three, and received the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award at age 36. He has been inducted into multiple music halls of fame. The audience response at Presley’s shows was fevered. Moore recalled, “He’d start out, ‘You ain’t nothin’ but a Hound Dog,’ and they’d just go to pieces. They’d always react the same way. There’d be a riot every time.” At many concerts National Guardsmen (soldiers) were added to the police security to prevent crowd trouble.

Presley’s name, image, and voice are instantly recognizable around the globe. He has inspired a legion of impersonators. In polls and surveys, he is recognized as one of the most important popular music artists and influential Americans. “Elvis Presley is the greatest cultural force in the twentieth century”, said composer and conductor Leonard Bernstein. “He introduced the beat to everything and he changed everything—music, language, clothes. It’s a whole new social revolution—the sixties came from it. Bob Dylan described the sensation of first hearing Presley as “like busting out of jail”

A New York Times editorial on the 25th anniversary of Presley’s death observed, “All the talentless impersonators and appalling black velvet paintings on display can make him seem little more than a perverse and distant memory. Elvis was... a genuine cultural force. ... Elvis’s breakthroughs are underappreciated because in this rock-and-roll age, his hard-rocking music and sultry style have triumphed so completely. Not only Presley’s achievements, but his failings as well, are seen by some cultural observers as adding to the power of his legacy.

Presley’s funeral was held at Graceland, on Thursday, August 18. Approximately 80,000 people lined the processional route to Forest Hill Cemetery, where Presley was buried next to his mother.
RELIGION

Shinto

The word *Shinto* means "the way of the gods." There is in Shinto a powerful sense of the presence of gods and spirits in nature. The essence of Shinto is the Japanese devotion to invisible spiritual beings and powers called *kami*. Shinto helped promote a very fierce attachment of the Japanese for their land because it promoted the belief that the Japanese islands were the very first divine creation. Shintoism teaches that no other land is divine, making Japan uniquely special in the world. Not surprisingly, Shintoism is not popular outside of Japan.

Worship takes place at one of the numerous shrines covering the country of Japan, although many Japanese have altars in their home to one or more of the large number of deities. The gods of Shinto are too numerous to lend themselves to a hierarchy, but the sun goddess Amaterasu is very highly revered.

Shintoism also promoted the doctrine that Japan is the country of the gods and her people are the descendants of gods. This concept of the divine descent of the Japanese people, as well as the divine origin of the land, has given rise to a conviction of superiority over other countries and peoples. Shinto however has had a very dark side – it was used by the Japanese government to reinforce the social and political order in the country, but also to justify acts of extreme aggression directed against other countries. When Japan moved into the modern era and started to industrialise from 1868 onward, Amaterasu - who until then was only revered in parts of Japan - was promoted to be the most important of the gods, and because of her new status, used to validate the role of the Emperor, not only as ruler, but as the high priest of Shinto. The political message of the story is that Japan is the way it should be, that its survival depends on maintaining the relationship between the Emperor and his people, and that the Emperor rules Japan because the gods want him to. This gave the Emperor, as her direct descendant, a divine right to rule not only Japan, but the whole world. Shinto played a very important role in supporting Japanese empire building and military aggression during the course of the twentieth century.

Shinto is not a way of explaining the world. What matters are rituals that enable human beings to communicate with kami. Kami are not God or gods. They are spirits that are concerned with human beings - they appreciate our interest in them and want us to be happy - and if they are treated properly they will intervene in our lives to bring benefits like health, business success, and good exam results. Shinto sees human beings as basically good and has no concept of original sin, or of humanity as ‘fallen’. Everything, including the spiritual, is experienced as part of this world. Shinto has no place for any transcendental other world – in other words no afterlife of any kind. Shinto has no scriptures, no commandments, no founder and no God.

PHILOSOPHY

Jean-Jacques Rousseau

François Furet has stated: "Rousseau may well have been the most far-sighted genius ever to appear in intellectual history, for he invented, or sensed, so many of the problems that were to obsess the nineteenth and twentieth centuries." In many respects Rousseau was to inspire Karl Marx and many others who came to believe that the way society had developed was profoundly wrong, in that the ownership or non-ownership of property created poverty and inequality in society as reflected in this graphic from the 1700’s.
Rousseau was a Swiss-born philosopher, writer, and political theorist whose works inspired the leaders of the French Revolution and the Romantic generation.

At the age of 37 Rousseau had what he called an “illumination” while walking. In the Confessions, which he wrote late in life, Rousseau says that it came to him then in a “terrible flash” that modern progress had corrupted instead of improved men. He went on to write his first important work, a prize essay entitled A Discourse on the Sciences and the Arts (1750), in which he argues that the history of man’s life on earth has been a history of decay. This Discourse is by no means Rousseau’s best piece of writing, but its central theme was to inform almost everything else he wrote. Throughout his life he kept returning to the thought that man is good by nature but has been corrupted by society and civilization. He did not mean to suggest that society and civilization were inherently bad but rather that both had taken a wrong direction and become more harmful as they had become more sophisticated.

In 1755 Rousseau had completed a second Discourse in response to the question: "What is the origin of the inequality among men and is it justified by natural law?"

In response to this challenge he produced a masterpiece. The argument follows on that of his first Discourse by developing the idea that natural man is good and then tracing the successive stages by which man has descended from primitive innocence to corrupt sophistication. Rousseau begins his Discourse on the Origin of Inequality by distinguishing two kinds of inequality, natural and artificial. The first arises from differences in strength, intelligence, and so forth, the second from the conventions that govern societies. It is the inequalities of the latter sort that he sets out to explain. He suggests that original man was not a social being but entirely solitary. Rousseau claims that original man, while admittedly solitary, was healthy, happy, good, and free. The vices of men, he argues, date from the time when men formed societies.

Rousseau thus exonerates nature and blames society for the emergence of vices. He says that passions that generate vices hardly exist in the state of nature but begin to develop as soon as men form societies. The introduction of property marked a further step toward inequality since it made it necessary for men to institute law and government in order to protect property. Rousseau laments the “fatal” concept of property in one of his more eloquent passages, describing the “horrors” that have resulted from men’s departure from a condition in which the earth belonged to no one. Civil society, as Rousseau describes it, comes into being to serve two purposes: to provide peace for everyone and to ensure the right to property for anyone lucky enough to have possessions. It is thus of some advantage to everyone, but mostly to the advantage of the rich, since it transforms their de facto ownership into rightful ownership and keeps the poor dispossessed. It is a somewhat fraudulent social contract that introduces government since the poor get so much less out of it than do the rich. Like Plato, Rousseau always believed that a just society was one in which everyone was in his right place.

The first man who, having fenced in a piece of land, said “This is mine,” and found people naïve enough to believe him, that man was the true founder of civil society. From how many crimes, wars, and murders, from how many horrors and misfortunes might not any one have saved mankind, by pulling up the stakes, or filling up the ditch, and crying to his fellows: Beware of listening to this impostor; you are undone if you once forget that the fruits of the earth belong to us all, and the earth itself to nobody. — Jean-Jacques Rousseau 1754
**ART**

**Vincent Van Gogh**

Vincent Van Gogh (1853-1890) is one of the most well-known artists in the world. Born in Holland, he was raised in a religious family with his father a minister. He followed his uncle into the world of art and became a dealer in England and France. After a time he lost interest in the trade and began to study theology with enthusiasm but mixed success. He was undoubtedly highly intelligent, and was multi-lingual, but he did not think that Latin was a language for preaching to the poor. It was while he was working as a missionary to a poor mining community that he began to develop an interest in people that was eventually expressed in his art.

In 1880 at 27 years of age, Van Gogh entered the Academie Royale des Beaux-Arts in Brussels, Belgium. The following winter in Amsterdam he fell in love, had his heart broken and began painting, initially with as little success as he had in his love life.

His first major work, *Potato Eaters (right)* was completed in 1885. While he was still having difficulty finding love, people began to notice his paintings. He devoted himself completely to his art, lived frugally and studied the work of artists such as Peter Rubens.

Unfortunately his paintings were difficult to sell for his entire life. His brother Theo was an art dealer and advised him that there should be more colour in his work, no doubt conscious the brightly hued style called Impressionism was fashionable while Van Gogh consistently used dark, earthy tones.

In 1886 he moved to Paris where he encountered some of the most avant-garde (new and innovative) artists including Gauguin, Barnard and Toulouse-Lautrec. As a result he used more colour, applied the paint with thick bold brushstrokes and painted all that surrounded him. He was still unable to sell many of his works.

He started a colony for artists in Arles in the south of France. While there he painted some 900 paintings including his famous Sunflowers. Unfortunately he was also hospitalised repeatedly for mental illness and general physical deterioration and eventually took his own life in 1890 at age 37.

The tragedy of Van Gogh’s story was that he was never fully appreciated in his own time, yet not long after his death the genius of his work was recognised and continues to be to this day.

**SCIENCE**

**Coal**

Coal is a combustible (able to be burned) rock that is formed from plant and animal matter. It is composed mostly of carbon (50-98%), hydrogen (3-13%) and oxygen, with lesser amounts of nitrogen, sulphur and other elements. There is also a small amount of water and some grains of inorganic matter that will not burn.

Coal is formed from accumulated vegetable matter that has been altered by decay and various amounts of heat and pressure over millions of years. The progressive transformation of coal is called coalification and, interlayered with other sedimentary rocks, it forms beds (also called seams) ranging from less than a millimetre to many metres thick. Coal is widely distributed across the world and occurs in all Australian states and the Northern Territory.
Coal is classified by rank, which is a measure of the amount of alteration it has undergone during formation. Beginning with peat it progresses to brown coal (lignite), sub-bituminous coal, bituminous coal and anthracite. The latter three are also known as black coal. The changes are due to a gradual increase in pressure and temperature that reduces the water content and increases the carbon content. Black coal is in greatest demand because of its purity and carbon content. Good quality black coal requires no refining apart from a specialist washing process. It is usually used in power generation.

The Industrial revolution that began in Britain in the early 19th century was fuelled by coal. In the 1950 and 1960s, petroleum became the most used fuel, but since the 1970s when the world realised that stocks of oil are not unlimited, coal again became a favoured fuel because of its relative abundance.

In open-cut coal mining, the rock covering the coal seam (overburden) is blasted and removed by large draglines and/or electric or hydraulic shovels and trucks. Once the seam is exposed it is blasted and scooped out for processing. Contemporary open-cut mines can reach a depth of at least 350 metres.

Underground mining is done by either the bord and pillar or longwall method. In bord and pillar mining, coal is extracted in a series of parallel tunnels (bords) cut at right angles by another series of tunnels. This isolates blocks of coal known as pillars which may be extracted in the next stage of mining.

Longwall mining results in large blocks of coal being totally extracted and the mine roof allowed to collapse behind the working face. Generally longwall methods result in higher productivity.

Estimates of the amount of world coal remaining vary, but it is generally agreed that there is enough to supply needs for at least 100 years. Australia has about 7% of the world’s economically recoverable black coal. In comparison, the USA has 31%, Russia has 22% and China 14%.

LITERATURE
Garth Nix

Garth Nix is an enormously popular author of science fiction, fantasy and horror novels for young adults. He was born in Melbourne in 1963 and spent his childhood in Canberra. He completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in professional writing and initially worked in the publishing industry, becoming a senior editor with Harper Collins in 1991. After travelling through the Middle-East and Asia he founded a Public Relations firm before a stint as a full-time writer. He then became a part-time agent before returning to full time writing in 2002.

His best known work is the Old Kingdom series (4 books), a fantasy saga that begins with the first book Sabriel (1995). Sabriel is set in a fantastic, magical kingdom. Sabriel’s father is The Abhorson, and is charged with ensuring the disturbed dead are laid to rest. The evil spirits against which he fights are devious, and to protect Sabriel he sends her to a non-magical land ‘across the wall’ to complete her schooling. However, eventually the parasitical spirits against which her father fights grow in such strength that he is forced to send for her. Desperate to find her father, and determined to save the Old Kingdom from destruction by the horrible forces of the evil undead, Sabriel discovers her own supernatural powers as she battles the evil forces.
Nix is a prolific writer as evidenced by the number of books he has produced in a relatively short career. His works also include:

The Keys to the Kingdom series (8 books)
The Seventh Tower series (7 books)
Very Clever Baby series (4 books)

In addition to these series he has produced over ten other books including Ragwitch (1990) Troubletwisters (2011) and Shade’s Children(1997).

If you are a fan of fantasy writing, check out Garth Nix. He’s Australian and he’s good.

Link for electronic copy of Knowledge Project Cross Word

ACROSS

2 Rousseau laments the ___ concept of property.
5 Elvis had a wide range of music genres including country, pop ballads, ___ and blues.
7 A revolution fuelled by coal.
9 ___ Nix is a popular author of science fiction, fantasy and horror novels for young adults.
11 Nix is a ___ writer as evidenced by the number of books he has produced.
12 One of Van Gogh’s most famous works.
13 One of the avant-garde artists that Van Gogh encountered in Paris.
15 ___ Van Gogh was a famous artist born in Holland.
18 The way of the gods.
19 A form of black coal.
22 A method of mining coal.
24 The ___ of Van Gogh’s story was that he was never fully appreciated in his own lifetime.

DOWN

1 Not God or gods but spirits that are concerned with human beings.
3 The sun goddess.
4 Mineral composed of carbon, hydrogen and oxygen.
6 Van Gogh’s first major work was the ___ Eaters.
8 Franklin Roosevelt assumed the Presidency of the USA at the beginning of the Great ___.
10 Gabriel’s father is the ___ in a Nix novel.
14 Home of Elvis.
16 Fifth cousin of Franklin Roosevelt; ___ Roosevelt was also president of the USA.
17 Quote of Roosevelt - “the only thing we have to fear is fear ___.”
20 Swiss born philosopher, writer, and political theorist whose works inspired the leaders of the French Revolution and the Romantic generation.
21 The decision as to whether the USA should enter WWII was taken out of Roosevelt’s hands when the Japanese attacked ___ Harbour.
23 Initials by which Roosevelt was known.
Solution to Week 18 Crossword

Knowledge Project Week 18
St Patrick's College

Solution:

DEPRESSION

GALLIPOLI

AMERICAN

LAISSEZ

INTELLECTUAL

THE TAN

GLUE

CHURCHILL

FREE

BLOWIN

SCIENCE

ZIMMERMAN

THORNS

GLUE

~ 17 ~
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Glass of Champagne on arrival
Food • Live entertainment • Fashions on the Field
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Emmanuel Catholic Primary School 4942 5999
St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School 4957 3355
St Anne’s Catholic Primary School 4956 1534
St Mary’s Catholic Primary School 4951 1743
St John’s Catholic Primary School 4959 2445
St Patrick’s College 4944 7200
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