Eamon Hannan – Principal

Students’ exams start on Friday this week. See the college website for a copy of the exam timetable if you do not already have one. Students should be at school doing exams or at home studying for their next exam. Students are not to be in the city centre or at Canelands unless transiting to and from school. Work placement students are reminded to attend exams on the evening of the day the rest of the class sits. Once again this information is on the exam schedule. Failure to sit an exam will require a medical certificate.

Rats of Tobruk
A number of students represented St Patrick’s at the Rats of Tobruk memorial service at Queens Park on Friday. Kate Tolo and Megan Comben were directors of the ceremony at which Federal, State and Local government representatives were in attendance. Members of the college choir sang God Save the Queen, O Valiant Hearts and Advance Australia Fair. John Hannan read part of the honour roll and along with Anthea Ford presented a wreath in remembrance. (see more pictures in Cultural report).

Holy Trinity Church Concert
On Sunday members of the college stage band, hand bell ensemble, percussion group and choir performed for a full church. The acoustics in the church whilst challenging for performers provided the large audience with a musical feast. Congratulations to Mrs Bianca Johnston and her performing arts team on a sublime concert. (see more pictures in Cultural Report).

Football (Soccer)
On Thursday night last week both St Patrick’s teams won their respective Grand finals. Full details are inside.

Catholic Schools Race Day
A reminder to all that September 22nd (the first Saturday of the holidays) is the date for the annual Catholic Schools Race Day. Tickets are $50 per person which includes entry to the Marquee, a glass of champagne on arrival, food, live entertainment, fashions on the field and the lucky door prize. All are welcome so if you are not heading away on holidays straight away make a great start to the holidays at this social gathering.

Protected Action
Thank you to all parents for your patience with regard to the protected industrial action last Thursday.

St Patrick’s Family
Congratulations to past student Cobi Crispin, who as a member of the Australian Women’s Paralympic Basketball team the Gliders, won a silver medal at the London Paralympics last week.

Readings for this Sunday
First Reading: Isaiah 50 : 5 – 9; Psalm: 114:1-6, 8-9; Second Reading: James 2:14 – 18; Gospel: Mark 8:27 - 35
A student in a religion class once asked me what “selfless action” meant. Instead of giving them a definition I told them a story which I will share with you today.

The story involves a wood chopper who was offered a fortune to chop wood by a researcher. The researcher said “Do you see that log lying there? Well I want you to go through the motions of chopping it – only you must use the reverse side of the axe, not the blade. You will be paid a hundred dollars an hour for that.” The man thought the researcher was crazy, but the money was more than he could earn in a year, so he started to work. Two hours later he came to say “Mister, I’m quitting” “What’s the matter? Don’t you like the pay you’re getting? I’ll double your wages!” “No thank you,” said the man. “The pay is fine. But when I chop wood I’ve got to see the chips fly!” The wood chopper took two hours to come to the realisation that what really motivated him was the personal satisfaction and the good feeling of doing something worthwhile. He discovered it was more important than a pocket full of money. Well the purpose of the researcher was to find the answer to the meaning of “Selfless Action”, he found his answer, - Action that is a gift of love and done for its own sake, not for any approval or profit or gain”. Selfless Action gives us an insight into what motivates normal people to do great things.

The Officers who went into the twin towers in New York on 9/11 to rescue their fellow human beings had such a gift. They volunteered and did so because they thought it was the right thing to do and certainly not for any gain on their part. Unfortunately, most of them sacrificed their lives. That’s selfless action at work. Why am I talking about selfless action today?

Tomorrow we will be attending a farewell mass to the Christian Brothers. Br Brian and Br Terry will soon be leaving the Mackay community to retire to Brisbane. This is a significant occasion for St Patrick’s College because we would not exist if it were not for the selfless actions of the Christian Brothers. Our school was established in 1929 (84 years ago) by the Christian Brothers who were inspired by their founder - Edmund Rice. I firmly believe Edmund Rice and the Christian Brothers also had the gift of selfless action. Over the past 84 years thousands of young men and women have gone forth from this college filled with an understanding of Christ’s vision and determined to transform the world in their own unique way. Tomorrow we will remember with gratitude the remarkable Christian Brothers reaching back to 1929, who taught and lived on this site where they prepared young men and women brilliantly for the role that lay ahead of them.

Let us pray:

O God, we thank you for the life of Edmund Rice.  
He opened his heart to Christ present in those oppressed by poverty and injustice.  
May we follow his example of faith and generosity.

Grant us the courage and compassion of Edmund as we seek to live lives of love and service.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

Farewell Br Brian and Br Terry you will be sorely missed:

May the road rise up to meet you.  
May the wind always be at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face,  
and rains fall soft upon your fields.  
And until we meet again,  
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.
Edna Galvin – Assistant to the Principal: Curriculum

QCS
Last week the students completed the Queensland Core Skills test and were an excellent group in terms of organisation and preparation. Our final practice test two weeks before the real test produced some very strong results. We thank the Year 12 QCS students for their hard work and we now begin training the Year 11 students for QCS 2013. Although recent newspaper reports have been discussing the end of the QCS Test, the government has made it clear that the QCS test WILL be held in 2013. NO decisions have been made beyond that date and if the QCS test is discontinued a similar scaling test WILL be needed to monitor school results.

QCS 2013 WILL GO AHEAD!
SCHEDULED FOR 3 - 4 SEPTEMBER 2013

QCS Writing Task
For part of last week I was involved with the team who prepare the training materials for the marking of this year’s Writing Task. Over a period of three days the team go over the paper, the criteria and standards used to mark the test plus read many student writing tasks to select the best examples to train the 200 plus markers when they arrive at the beginning of the September holidays to begin marking the 30 000 plus tasks. It is a very interesting and rewarding process. The work produced by students from all over Queensland is quite inspiring to read and a credit to the system we have in Queensland.

Next Step 2012
This report informs the school about the destinations of students from St Patrick’s College who completed Year 12 in 2011. This is, of course, an indicator of the successful outcomes of schooling. As usual, St Patrick’s College data is excellent – with nearly everyone at study or work. The university results are at an excellent level revealing that strong results in OP 1 – 9 is the key factor not 1 – 5.

Main destination of Year 12 completers from St Patrick’s College:
Main destinations for Year 12 completers for St Patrick’s College, Mackay School district and Queensland

Bianca Johnston – Cultural Coordinator

Holy Trinity Church Concert “A Musical Celebration”:
Congratulations to all the performers at the Holy Trinity Concert “A Musical Celebration”. On Sunday afternoon, students filled the church with beautiful music and enjoyed listening to the special guest pipe organist Mr Robert Covey. A number of people made this event possible. Thank you to Holy Trinity Parish for the use of this outstanding performance venue. Thanks to Mrs Carmel Daveson, Mrs Janet Jackson, Mr Lyle Denman and Mrs Renae Covey for their musical contributions to the concert. Thank you to Mrs Margaret Browne for organising the packing and transporting of equipment. Thank you to all the students for their outstanding efforts and we extend our thanks to the parents for their ongoing support and contributions. We look forward to presenting many more cultural highlights next term.
Rats of Tobruk Service:
Congratulations to Megan Comben and Kate Tolo who were joint directors at the Rats of Tobruk ceremony held last Friday afternoon. Congratulations also to John Hannan, Charles Langfield, Joshua Rillera, Shirley Chan, Anthea Ford, Lydia Penner and Isabelle Erba who participated and led the singing. The students represented the college with pride and dignity whilst harmoniously singing the National Anthem, God Save the Queen and the Anzac hymn “O Valiant Hearts”.

Exam block eisteddfod timetable:
All cultural members involved in Eisteddfod groups must attend these compulsory rehearsals. Students are required to wear full academic uniform to these rehearsals.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 14 September</td>
<td>NOVELTY</td>
<td>2:00 pm – 3:00 pm (PAC)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 17 September</td>
<td>CHOIR</td>
<td>1:45 pm – 3:00 pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 18 September</td>
<td>NOVELTY</td>
<td>1:45 pm – 3:00 pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FOLK</td>
<td>3:00 pm – 3:30 pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 19 September</td>
<td>PERCUSSION</td>
<td>1:30 pm – 3:00 pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 19 September</td>
<td>HANDBELLS</td>
<td>2:00 pm – 3:30 pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 20 September</td>
<td>STAGE BAND</td>
<td>2:00 pm – 4:00 pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 21 September</td>
<td>NOVELTY</td>
<td>1:00 pm – 2:30 pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FOLK GROUP</td>
<td>2:30 pm – 3:00 pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Co-curricular performance uniforms:
As the Eisteddfod commences week one of next term, it is important that students and families have organised performance uniforms. Below is a list of uniform requirements.

Choir:
**Female choir students** are required to wear:
- **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. Patterns are available for loan at reception. Female Choir uniform material available at Needlework, corner Sams and Willets Roads, North Mackay. Ph: 4942 1644.
- **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 enclosed dress shoes with low heels. No ‘high’ heels or strappy sandals, black stockings (essential), gold jewellery only and black or red hair accessories.

**Male choir 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, Percussion Ensembles and Handbell Ensemble:

- 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 if required.

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.

Brendon Brauer – Sport Coordinator

Open Touch Competition

Congratulations to Brauer’s Babes who recorded a comprehensive 8-0 win against Mercy College in the open girls touch competition. Brittany Anderson scored 5 tries for the team and she continues to provide excellent support for the girls whenever a break is made. Imagon Carlyle-Brauer caused problems for the Mercy defence as she consistently evaded the defence to set up scoring opportunities. The Babes are going about their business in this competition and will be well placed when the semi-final teams are announced. The Pussy Cats suffered a 6-5 defeat in their game against ‘The Rucking Team’ with Sophie Webb-Smith, Olivia Hadok-Quadrio and Molly Kelly being the standout players despite the team’s loss. Mr Druery is still quietly confident that his team can give the competition a real shake-up come semi-final time.

Open Boys Soccer Champions

Congratulations to the open boys’ soccer team who defeated Mackay North High School in last week’s grand final of the open boy’s football competition. This game was played at a very high level by both teams and despite the St Pat’s boys having the better field position it was still difficult to penetrate the North High defence. The boys scored the only goal of the game midway through the second half resulting in the boys successfully defending the Mackay Open Boys Interschool trophy. The game was played at Virgin Australia Stadium in front of an appreciative crowd of football enthusiasts. The college would like to acknowledge the efforts of the coach, Mr Joel Ikupu and manager, Mr Robert Sparks who prepared the boys well throughout the competition and instilled a sense of pride and spirit in representing the college in this competition.

Open Girls Soccer Champions

Congratulations to the Holy Pat’s Open Girls soccer team who defeated Mackay High School 6-4 in the grand final of the Open girls Interschool competition. This team is represented by students from Holy Spirit and St Pat’s as neither college was able to field a full team for the 2012 competition. The girls gelled well together throughout the season and despite Mackay High levelling the scores 4-4 with only 7 minutes remaining, the girls remained strong and clinched the game with two late goals. Co-coach, Mr Brian Smith was excited by the team’s win after the game looked likely to go to a penalty shootout.

College Sports Uniforms (Reminder)

A number of our college teams have now completed their competitions or will do so in the coming weeks. All students must ensure that they return all college sports uniforms to the team coach or Mr Brauer ASAP after the competition is completed. Failure to do so will result in a bill being sent out to pay for the replacement of these uniforms. These uniforms are often quite expensive. There are many netball skirts and bodysuits still to be returned.

Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 15</td>
<td>Gold Coast Suns Cup Open Competition (Girls)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 17</td>
<td>Gold Coast Suns Cup Open Competition (Boys)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 9</td>
<td>St Patrick’s College Sports Dinner</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Edie Weiss - Guidance Counsellor

Great Northern Cleanup:
Still not too late to sign on for an opportunity for students to do some community service! On Sunday 16 September from 8.00 am to 10.00 am we will meet on Riverside Drive (Cremorne) to help clean up the rubbish that accumulates along the bank of the river. This replaces the usual Clean Up Australia day held in March when it is often wet and very hot.

Mackay Sugar Apprentice Open Day – this Saturday:
Students considering an apprenticeship with a local company are invited to visit the Mackay Sugar Apprentice Open Day this Saturday (15 September), at Racecourse Mill (Peak Downs Highway) from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. Visitors can experience, first-hand, the sugar manufacturing process as they tour Racecourse Mill, and discuss apprenticeship or professional career opportunities with Mackay Sugar employees (including current apprentices and apprentice masters). Free Mackay Sugar sample bags will also be provided. Tour participants must wear long sleeves, long pants and closed in shoes (other safety wear provided).

QTAC Applications:
It is pleasing to see that many students who plan to go to university next year have put in their application with QTAC. QTAC handles all the university applications for Queensland, as well as some TAFE and other private institution courses at diploma level and above. The on-time closing date is September 28 and the cost is $34, which includes three free changes. After that date the cost rises to $84. So please endeavour to do it on time as I am sure there are other things you can do with $50!

I will be available all through exam block for advice, and I am happy to take inquiries from parents too.

Whitehouse Institute of Design holiday workshops (Brisbane):
Go to www.whitehouse-design.edu.au/courses/workshops/city-workshops to find out about a two day design workshops in Brisbane during the September school holidays.

Environmental Scholarship Scheme:
If you are a passionate environmentalist and wish to work in this area, you may be interested in applying for a Bayer Boost Environmental Scholarship. There is $5000 for year 12 students and $3000 for year 11 students available. They are to be used to work with an organization in either environmental research, field conservation or ecosystem restoration. Application forms are available at: www.BAYERboost.com.au and the closure date is the 30 September. Any questions see Mrs Guthrie HOD Science.
2012 MACKAY CATHOLIC SCHOOL’S

Spring Race Day

22 September 2012
1 pm – 5 pm
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 1861
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
Holy Spirit College 4969 2600
Mercy College Mackay 4969 4199

OR AT THE GATE

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