**Eamon Hannan – Principal**

This is the last newsletter for the term. Students on work placement have been going very well from all reports. On completion of this exam block our students and staff can enjoy a well-deserved break. A great deal always happens in Term 3 at St Patrick’s and this term has been no exception. It has been good to see the high level of student engagement which is characterised by students who whilst in the middle of this exam block still made time to visit St Francis’ Nursing home on Friday afternoon, participate in the Great Northern Clean-up on Sunday morning and also be involved in the St Patrick’s singers at mass on Sunday night.

**Farewell to the Christian Brothers**

On Thursday, Diocesan Education farewelled the Christian Brothers as the community moves permanently away from Mackay over the coming months. During the mass concelebrated by Bishop Brian Heenan and many local priests on Thursday, Br Brian Sorenson and Br Terry Kelly received the Irish Blessing and were applauded as they left the church. They and Br Ian Robertson who is the cluster leader from Brisbane represented over one hundred brothers who have served the Mackay community over the last 83 years. Miss Leesa Jeffcoat (Diocesan Catholic Education Director) made a presentation to the brothers. The college presented Br Terry and Br Brian with St Patrick’s spray jackets to remember us by (see picture below and page 6).

**Retreats**

Year 11 and Year 12 students will have retreats in the first week of ter. Students always get a lot out of these days. All students are to attend.

**Cathedral Restoration Art Union Tickets**

Please return slips regarding the Art Union Tickets to the college by the end of term.

**Enrolment Information**

We are finalising enrolments for 2013 in Year 11 and Year 12 this week. There are likely to be limited places in 2013. If you know of anyone considering coming to St Patrick’s College next year please encourage them to contact the college urgently.

**Catholic Schools Race Day**

Reminder the race day is this Saturday. Tickets available at Reception. See last page for details.
Lesley Fraser – Assistant to the Principal: Religious Education

As a Catholic school, retreats are at the very core of what we do and who we are, providing a time for students to focus on their spiritual lives. In the first week back next term, both the Year 11 & 12 students will be attending retreats on Thursday 11 and Friday 12 of October. The Year 11’s will be focusing on Leadership and the Year 12’s will be focusing on the future and how they can continue to develop their Christian spirituality once they leave school.

A narrow view of Christianity may be to relate it to what happens in Church. However, Christian Spirituality extends to the very heart of all our relationships and dealings with people; at home, in business and in all of life. To identify and develop ones Christian spirituality makes us fully alive and fully human.

Weekend Masses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Walkerston</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday Vigil Mass</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 pm St John’s</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 am Eton</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marian</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday Vigil Mass</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 pm Holy Rosary</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am Mirani</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Northside Cluster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Saturday Vigil Mass</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00 pm St Joseph’s</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 pm St Brigid’s</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 am St Brendan’s</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am St Joseph’s</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Southside Cluster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Saturday Vigil Mass</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00 pm St Francis Xavier</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 pm St Mary’s</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 am St Patrick’s</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 am St Therese’s</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am St Michael’s</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am St Francis Xavier</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 am St Francis of Assisi</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 pm St Patrick’s</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Christianity

In the home it is kindness:
In the business it is honesty;
In society it is courtesy;
In work it is fairness;
Toward the unfortunate it is sympathy;
Toward the weak it is help;
Toward the wicked it is resistance;
Toward the strong it is trust;
Toward the penitent it is forgiveness;
Toward the successful it is congratulation;
And toward God it is reverence and obedience.
Amen.

Details of the Retreats:

Year 11:

- The retreat is compulsory;
- It will be run by the Passionists from Brisbane;
- It will be a one day retreat and students will be allowed to wear appropriate casual clothes, (thongs are not allowed) on the day of their retreat. On the other day they are expected to wear their full academic uniform to school for QCS practice;
- Students with surnames starting with A – L will be on retreat in non-uniform on Thursday 11 October and working on QCS wearing their full academic uniform on Friday 12 October;
- Students with surnames starting with M – Z will work on QCS in their full academic uniform on Thursday 11 October and will be on retreat wearing non-uniform on Friday 12 October;
- The retreat and QCS practice will be held at school in normal school time;
- Normal school tuckshop will be available for lunches.

Year 12:

- The retreat on the 11 - 12 October is compulsory;
- It will be run by Michael Fitzpatrick;
- It is a two day retreat being held at school in normal school time;
- Students are to wear non-uniform; appropriate casual clothes (thongs are not allowed);
- Please bring a cushion to sit on;
- Bring some pens;
- Normal school tuckshop will be available for lunches.

May your holidays be filled with encounters with your God in the expected and unexpected.

God Bless
Lesley Fraser
Edna Galvin – Assistant to the Principal: Curriculum

OP / University Entrance
Just remember there are several important aspects of the OP to consider once it has been awarded – if the students completed university study in the first year after school and does well – their OP increases – on the other hand, if they do poorly it decreases. If you defer FOR A YEAR, your position is held only if no university study is completed otherwise the first rule applies. If you defer and apply for something else after a gap year the OP is converted to a Ranking, which is the same as the OP required for that course. If you apply to study at a university outside Queensland in your first year out of school they will convert your OP into a Ranking then. Some students think that the OP stays the same no matter what; and that the OP no longer counts after the first year – THESE ARE BOTH INCORRECT. Any questions please contact the College.

Sickness
If you are sick or involved in a family crisis during exams we just need the paperwork to ensure we have covered the student for Special Provision. Thank you to all parents and students who have already submitted this information. Reminder these senior exams take the place of external exams in other States and need to be SAT at the correct time unless exceptional circumstances exist. Going on holiday is not an exceptional circumstance. We also remind students that if they are required to be at school during normal school hours (8.30 am - 3.00 pm) during exam block that is their first priority – it is school time not holiday time or working time.

Bianca Johnston – Cultural Coordinator

Eisteddfod Own Choice Material Reminder: (Music and Speech and Drama)

All own choice material must be submitted THIS WEEK at the Eisteddfod office, Parish Hall, Corner Gordon and Wood Streets from Monday 17 September to Saturday 22 September between 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.

College Group Performances at the 66th Annual Eisteddfod
Throughout the first three weeks of term 4, students from the college will be involved in a number of events at the annual local Eisteddfod. We wish all students involved in the fields of Dance, Speech and Drama, Piano, Instrumental, Choral / Vocal and Irish and Highland dancing all the very best for their solo and group performances. We look forward to hearing of the successes of the talent within St Patrick’s College.

The college drama and co-curricular groups will be involved in performances on the following dates and times. The directors of each group will advise students of requirements and meeting times during rehearsals.

8:30 am - Monday 15 October
- Handbell Quartet (section 173) Instrumental non-electric Trio/Quartet Secondary Schools

1:00 pm - Tuesday 16 October
- Percussion (Section 179) Any Acoustic Instruments Small Group Secondary School Students
- Handbells (Section 179) Any Acoustic Instruments Small Group Secondary School Students
- Handbells (Section 184) Instrumental (excl. String Ensemble, Concert or Stage Bands) Groups Secondary Schools
- Stage Band (Section 183) Stage Band Group Secondary Schools

6:30 pm – Tuesday 16 October
- Handbells (Section 193) Open Any Acoustic Instrument Large Group
- Stage Band (Section 189) Any Instruments Large Group Open
- Percussion (Section 192) Open Any Acoustic Instrument Small Group
- Handbells (Section 192) Open Any Acoustic Instrument Small Group

6:30 pm – Monday 22 October
- Folk Group (Section 19) Folk Singing Group Secondary Schools
6:30 pm – Tuesday 23 October
• Choir (Section 13) – Novelty Chorus Group Secondary Schools

8:30 am – Thursday 25 October
• Year 11 and 12 Drama Classes - Choral Speaking Group Secondary Schools

8:30 am – Sunday 28 October
• Choir (Section 10) – Choral Singing (Hymn and Folk) Group Secondary Schools
• Choir (Section 6) – Choral Singing for Schools Group Open

PLEASE NOTE: All groups will recommence rehearsal as usual in the first week back of next term.

• Handbell Trio (Monday 8 October - Lunch)
• Choir (Tuesday 9 October - 7:00 am)
• Novelty (Tuesday 9 October - Lunch)
• Percussion (Wednesday 10 October - 7:10 am)
• Handbell Trio (Wednesday 10 October - Lunch)
• Handbells (Wednesday 10 October - 3:00 pm – 5:30 pm)
• Stage Band (Thursday 11 October - 7:00 am)
• Folk Group (Thursday 11 October - Lunch)
• Novelty Group (Friday 12 October – Lunch)

During the first few weeks of term 4, there will be extra sectional and group practices for each ensemble. Please watch this space for details.

Each Ensemble MUST have their performance uniform ready by week 1, term 4. Thank you for your assistance.

Date to Remember:

2012 Arts’ Showcase and Awards night
Date: Friday 2 November, 2012
Time: from 7:00 pm
Venue: St Patrick’s Hall

Edie Weiss - Guidance Counsellor

QTAC Applications:
Don’t forget to get QTAC applications in before September 28! If you are not sure what course to choose, put in anything and seek advice later, as you can change it.

Union College at UQ:
Union College is a co-educational residential college at UQ. They will be visiting on Tuesday 9 October (first week back) to talk to any students interested in staying there next year.

Busting the ‘OP only lasts a year’ Myth:
So many students are under the illusion that their OP result will only last a year, and then they will just get into university on mature age entry! Having heard that at least 5 times last week, I thought I should put the story straight.

Quoting from the current QTAC guide (page 30): ‘Year 12 results do not expire and will always be valid for a tertiary application, even if you finished year 12 many years ago.’

Technically the OP will be converted to a QTAC selection rank, OP 1 equivalent to Rank 99, OP 10 equivalent to Rank 81 etc. Any study after school can be used to generate another selection rank, which may be better or worse than the OP, but it does not change the OP. For example Certificate III or IV, diploma, one year of university study etc. There are many other ways in which a rank can be calculated depending on career circumstances, but in no case does just ‘getting older’ do the trick!
Great Northern Clean-up:
Thank you to the students and families who turned up on Sunday to help fill a huge skip with rubbish from the far bank of the river. It is a shame that we even have to have a day like this, but hopefully the students who turned up will be more mindful about how they deal with rubbish.

Brendon Brauer – Sport Coordinator

Gold Coast Suns Cup AFL Competition
Following last week’s assembly, permission forms were distributed to students who are interested in playing Australian Rules for the college in Term 4. Mackay AFL will be running this competition and have done so for a number of years. St Patrick’s has been very successful in recent years and the college is hoping to continue this success in 2012. St Pat’s will be nominating an open boys and open girls team in the competition that will commence in week two of term 4. Students who are still interested in playing in this competition but are yet to receive a permission form, must see Mr French at the start of term four so that our teams can be finalised. Mackay AFL development officers will be conducting some skills sessions for our teams early next term.

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.

St Pat’s Sports Dinner
The college Sports Dinner will be held on Friday 9 November. Tickets will be on sale from the college office early in term 4. The dinner will be held at the Souths Leagues Club again in 2012. This is sure to be an enjoyable evening where we acknowledge the achievements of both students and the coaching staff of our many teams. All family and friends are welcome to attend this very important event. Students are reminded to check the information on the college sports noticeboard to ensure they will be acknowledged at the dinner for their representative selection.

Important Dates
October 15      Gold Coast Suns Cup Open Competition (Girls)
October 17      Gold Coast Suns Cup Open Competition (Boys)
November 9      St Patrick’s College Sports Dinner
Mass of Thanksgiving and Farewell to the Christian Brothers
As the sun sets, the wonderful experiences shared by another St Pat’s South Africa trip become memories to be treasured forever.
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 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!