Welcome to the St Patrick’s College community of 2013. The year has begun very positively which is a great tribute to a number of staff involved in preparations for the new year. We offer a special welcome to all the new families and of course all Year 11 students and a number of new Year 12 students this year. I hope everyone has returned from holiday breaks refreshed and ready for a great year.

As we begin we are aware that there are many schools and colleges within our diocese who have been flood affected this week and our thoughts and prayers go out to them.

The newsletter this year will be available on the college website each Wednesday afternoon. We will also email parents the current newsletter each Wednesday.

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

- The Opening Mass will be on Friday 8 February at 9:00 am. The investiture of our college leaders takes place at this mass. Upon conclusion of the mass we will be presenting the McGarry Bursaries for 2012.

- We also have a Meet the Teachers and Success in Senior Schooling night coming up on Tuesday 12 February. The evening begins with a barbecue at 6:00 pm where parents have a chance to meet all the staff followed by a seminar at 7:30 pm about ways to help your student achieve in their Senior studies. The venue for both the barbecue and seminar is St Patrick’s Hall on River Street.

- All interested parents are also invited to the Annual General Meeting of the Parents and Friends Association on Wednesday 6 February at 6:00 pm in St Patrick’s College Board Room, in the Administration Building on the corner of Gregory and River Streets. The P & F meets monthly and is an opportunity for parents to have input into college life and assist the college with disbursement of the funds collected through the P & F levy.

- All interested parents are invited to the Annual General Meeting and Inservice of the College Board on Wednesday 6 February at 7:30 pm in the St Patrick’s College Board Room, in the Administration Building on the corner of Gregory and River Streets. The College Board serves an important function, writing policies and having input into the finance and future planning of the college as well as acting as a sounding board for the principal.

St Patrick's Community
In early December last year we were saddened to hear that Mrs Sally Morgan (former APRE at St Patrick’s) and Mrs Sharon Wrench (mother of Rachel Year 12) passed away. Please remember Sally and Sharon and their families in your prayers.

We welcome three new members to our teaching staff – Mr John Boumford (Acting Head of PE), Mrs Cathie Williams (HOD of Business) and Mrs Maria Blakey (Business teacher).
Weekend Masses

Senior Results of 2012
The Seniors of 2012 have continued to maintain the high academic standard of the college.

Four students received OP 1,
Four students received OP 2,
Five students received OP 3,
Five students received OP 4,
Seven students received OP 5
Thirteen students received OP 6.

Students receiving an OP in the 1 to 5 range will be eligible for McGarry Bursaries if beginning tertiary education this semester.

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

Improvements and maintenance
During the holiday period there was a great deal of maintenance done around the college.
Major cabling work has been carried out in the classrooms in preparation to upgrade classroom technology using grant money from the National Secondary School Computer Fund (NSSCF). Mrs Rose Christensen is to be credited with excellent work in getting the college ready for the new year.

Fees and Concessions
School Fees will be issued in the next few weeks. Those families who were entitled to fee concessions in 2012 need to reapply for concessions to continue in 2013. Please contact Mrs Deanna Hurley for the appropriate forms as soon as possible. Those families who were paying for fees using direct debit will have to organise their payment unless they have a continuing arrangement. Once again please contact Mrs Deanna Hurley regarding any queries.

Mass Readings for this Sunday
Reading 1 Jer 1:4-5, 17-19, …Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,...
Responsorial Psalm Ps 71:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 15-17…Be my rock of refuge, a stronghold to give me safety….
Reading 2 1 Cor 12:31—13:13 or 13:4-13 …Love is patient, love is kind…
Gospel Lk 4:21-30…”Amen, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own native place….

Readings are available online at http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/020313.cfm. A great resource to understand and reflect on these readings can be found at Living Space which can be found at http://livingspace.sacredspace.ie/OC041/.

Lesley Fraser – Assistant to the Principal: Religious Education

As we start this new school year, looking both backwards and forwards, we can think of the new year as a gate - an opening - to what we choose to do in the future. This new beginning is an opportunity to reflect upon the joys and challenges of what has gone before us, and to envision our hopes and dreams for the journey we now commence as the community of St Patrick’s College. Once again we are drawn into the unknown. We do not know all the joys and sadness, the blessings and challenges that await us. And so we turn to our God and pray that God will bless us in all that we need for life in this coming year, both personally and as a community.

Lord of New Beginnings, Stretch our souls and move us into new awareness of the human family, their needs and their longings.

Make these into our needs, our longings so we move more confidently from our small selves to a deeper sense of community where our resolutions reflect our interdependence.

Help us recognize the possibilities you have offered to us as a people, so we can commit to practice the Hope that happens when we gather gratefully in your Name and we hold up to you this fragile, precious world.

Grant us all the grace in this year ahead to sow the seeds of justice and to gather peace in our day. Amen.

Southside Cluster
Saturday Vigil Mass
6:00 pm St Francis Xavier
6:00 pm St Mary’s
Sunday
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
We ask for your thoughts and prayers for all families new to the College in 2013. We wish you a warm welcome and we hope your time with us here at St. Patrick’s is rewarding and beneficial. To all those returning to the College, it is great to have you back with us.

An Open Invitation to the St Patrick’s School Community

As is the tradition at St. Patrick’s College we will come together as a school community through the celebration of Mass on Friday 8 February commencing at 9:00 am at St Patrick’s Church. I hope as many parents and friends as possible will come along to be with the students and staff as we ask God to bless our endeavours during 2013 and we welcome our new student leaders and award the McGarry Bursary recipients. Parents are invited to join the student leaders; McGarry Bursary recipients and staff in St Patrick’s Hall for Morning Tea after the Mass.

Investiture Mass
Friday 8 February at 9.00 am
St Patrick’s Church
Followed by Morning Tea for parents, staff and student leaders in St Patrick’s Hall

Edna Galvin – Assistant to the Principal: Curriculum

Welcome

Welcome to all our students and parents to 2013 at St Patrick’s Senior College. We are very happy with both the academic and vocational students’ results from 2012. Our tracking data plus the Next Step information indicates that both our 2011 and 2010 students have been very successful in university results and employment figures. The staff members are certainly very keen for another successful year in delivering effective senior curriculum.

Subject Changes

Please attend to these by the end of this week so classes can be finalised.

Queensland Core Skills

Those non-OP students not sitting the Core Skills Test must return the required form before they can join the Prepare for Work group. Reminder some employers prefer the students to have a result on this test – so make the decision wisely as it can also be a pathway to university if the student changes their mind about further study.

Uniform

Please ensure the uniform is worn as indicated at all our enrolment procedures. There is no discussion about these – they are simply to be followed as one is required when following the dress code in a place of work. As a reminder, our uniform requirements follow:

Please read the following information very carefully.

Some adjustments have been made to our academic uniform – ONLY OUR SUPPLIER HAS THE CORRECT UNIFORM. (These are standard sizes and so alterations may be required to achieve the correct length, fit etc). Our uniform supplier is Uniform Solutions, Corner Alfred and Sydney Streets.

Please purchase your WINTER uniform ahead of time – ORDER YOUR JUMPER AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR. You must have a winter uniform.

FEMALE ACADEMIC UNIFORM

- Academic dress to be covering the knee
- Shirt covering midriff
- Tie at top of shirt collar with all buttons done up
- Skirt to be on the waist and covering the knee
- Jumper / track top / blazer
- Short white socks covering the ankle – but not an ankle sock
- Blue or black stockings / tights may be worn
- Black leather lace-up traditional school shoes (no joggers; slip-ons; Mary Janes etc) – Workplace Health & Safety / School rule
- 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

~ 3 ~
- 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, light blue, red, silver, yellow, orange, dark blue, black, cream), 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 grey trousers (for winter and formal occasions) to be worn appropriately
- Jumper / track top / blazer
- Long blue socks to be worn up at all times with shorts (under knee, not mid-calf)
- Short black socks to be worn with long grey trousers
- 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 when doing practical work only.

- 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
- Hat
- 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. Shoes will be checked when the students begin the subject to ensure Workplace Health & Safety requirements have been met.) Do not purchase expensive coloured shoes.

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

**Bianca Johnston – Cultural Coordinator**

Welcome to 2013! This year will bring many exciting opportunities for students to be involved in the Arts’ at St Patrick’s College. It promises to be a very “creative” and fulfilling year as many students have already shown great interest in representing the college in the numerous different performance co-curricular activities.

The walls of St Patrick’s College provide a strong and safe structure for students to explore their passions and discover new interests. However, it is the student body that brings these walls to life.

This week, students have had the opportunity to sign up and register to participate in the Cultural Co-curricular activities. Such activities and co-curricular activities include (but are not limited to):

- Drama Club (rehearsal Monday afternoons 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm)
- Choir (rehearsal Tuesday mornings 7:00 am – 8:15 am)
- Percussion Ensemble (rehearsal Wednesday mornings 7:15 am – 8:15 am)
- Handbells (rehearsal Wednesday afternoons 3:00 pm – 5:30 pm)
- Stage Band (rehearsal Thursday mornings 7:00 am – 8:15 am)
- Debating (T.B.A)
- Public Speaking (T.B.A)
- Instrumental Ensembles (T.B.A)

Students are encouraged to listen to morning notices for meeting times and information.
Each year the college works towards a “main” Arts project. This year is no exception. In 2013 the college co-curricular groups will tour to the USA (Los Angeles and New York) to participate in an Arts Educational experience and share their talents and entertain audiences in both cities. The tour will be held in June / July school holidays (departing 22nd June).

Students will be receiving information throughout the week ahead. Students are encouraged to listen to morning notices for further information.

Thank you to the number of students who have paid their deposit. Please note: if your student is interested in this event / tour, students are encouraged to collect the Tour package and forms from the college office as soon as possible. The tour party MUST be finalised by Friday 8 February.

We look forward to celebrating and creating many cultural moments and memories throughout the year. Please note the proposed cultural calendar for 2013.

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**Proposed Dates for 2013**

*(Please note these events / dates are yet to be confirmed)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>Term 3</th>
<th>Term 4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1 - Thursday</td>
<td>9 June</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>Monday 7 October – 27 October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 1 - Friday</td>
<td>June</td>
<td>8 September</td>
<td>Friday 1 November</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week of 4 February</td>
<td>End of term 2 (June)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 21 – Saturday 23 February</td>
<td>22 June – July</td>
<td>Mackay Orchestras and Band Competition</td>
<td>Mackay Eisteddfod</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 March</td>
<td>May or July</td>
<td>8 September</td>
<td>Possible Cultural and pre – eisteddfod concert</td>
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<td>Cultural showcase and Awards Night</td>
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Student Tour meeting (C23)  
Co-curricular Sign up (C23)  
College Cultural Co-curricular groups and Activities commence.  
Arts Beginnings Camp  
Co-curricular Arts Program Membership Due  
Possible Cultural and pre-tour concert  
Drama Comedy Night  
Pre tour concert  
USA Arts Tour  
Choral Festival and workshops  
Mackay Orchestras and Band Competition  
Possible Cultural and pre – eisteddfod concert

Please note these proposed dates and events in your diary and yearly calendar. Performance attendance is compulsory.

We congratulate and welcome Heidi Blomfield as the 2013 Cultural Chair. Heidi will assist and chair the Cultural Committee which organises various cultural activities within the college.

If you have any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to contact the college or email me on bjohnston@stpats.qld.edu.au.
Work Experience

All Year 11 and 12 students who study four (4) or more non-OP subjects will participate in the Work Experience program this term from 18 - 28 March. Applications will be given to students in Week 1, and must be returned by Friday 8 February (Week 2).

If your son/daughter is non-OP but studies less than 4 non-OP subjects, or they are overlooked when applications go out, they will need to obtain an application from the office.

If your son/daughter has a school based Traineeship / Apprenticeship, they do not require an application and will work the two weeks with their employer. The college will contact the employer to confirm this.

The urgency for applications to be returned is due to the fact that a large number of students will be requiring placement. Whether students receive their first preference relies on whether students return their application early to enable a suitable placement to be found. All applications are sent to MRAEL and their subsidiary company MRSILS will locate a suitable placement and provide the college with documentation. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to Mr Will Cassells or Mrs Margaret Browne.

Scholarship Winner – Olivia Hove

Congratulations to Olivia Hove, Year 12 2012, who was awarded a complete scholarship through Le Cordon Bleu Australia to complete a Bachelor of Business majoring in International Restaurant Management. Le Cordon Bleu Australia has a presence in some 20 countries with more than 40 international schools attended by 20,000 students annually. Students are taught by Master Chefs, of which the majority come from Michelin-starred restaurants or are winners of prestigious competitions and titles such as Meilleur Ouvrier de France. They pass on their knowledge of classic French cuisine and modern international culinary techniques to their students. Well done Olivia!

ACCOUNT AND DISCOUNT INFORMATION FORMS

Term accounts will be distributed in the coming weeks and to enable us to calculate your eligible level of discount on your 2013 school fees, the Account and Discount Information forms MUST BE RETURNED IMMEDIATELY to the college office. It is extremely important that you complete this form as tuition discount for each term in 2013 depends on this form. Even if you do not have any students at other Catholic schools, please check the data in Section 1, complete Section 2 and have your student return to Reception as soon as possible.

TUCKSHOP VOLUNTEERS

Our Tuckshop Convenor, Mary Vassallo, is still looking for more volunteers to assist in the tuckshop. If you have any spare time and would like to help, please phone Mary on 4944 7226 or 0438 166 403. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

William Cassells - Diocesan Vocational Education and Training Coordinator
Earn and Learn – Woolworths stickers

Thank you to all parents and students who supported our Woolworth Earn and Learn campaign last year. Below is a picture of some of the books and equipment that we were able to purchase with our stickers.

Mackay Catholic Debutante Ball
24 May 2013

Information / Application Forms will be available for intending debutantes and their partners, after a short meeting on Wednesday 6 February at 1:00 pm in the Common Room (Room B2).

A compulsory debutantes’ / partners’ / parents’ meeting will be held at St Patrick’s Hall, River Street, on Sunday 17 February, from 10:30 am – noon.