Dear Fellow Community Members

We have had another industrious and Spirit filled week at the College. Last Friday the Prep – Year 6 classes welcomed and blessed their Classroom Covenants. The Classroom Covenants are the culmination of three weeks of intensive education, familiarisation of routines and ‘getting to know you’ activities that help set up classroom success for the teachers and students for the rest of the year. The Covenant is a promise that the students and teachers keep with each other with the support of the rest of the College, to make sure education can occur in all of the children’s experiences at school.

Thank you to all the families who came to the Middle Years meeting last night. Meetings such as these are held throughout the year and it is an important information sharing exercise as well as a pastoral one. Families are welcomed to find out what is happening in your children’s section of the College as well as a dialogue with your children’s teachers. It is also a great evening to catch up with other community members and make some new Franciscan friends. We strongly urge you to attend these meetings throughout the year as they are one of the best means of communication we have with each other.

We would like to invite you to a family picnic day that we will be having at the College on the 1st of March. Families are invited to come along and have some relaxing time with each other and to meet some new friends. School leaders will organise some games for the younger children and you are all welcome be at home in the school’s environment. We look forward to seeing you all there from 11.30a.m. to 2.30p.m. on the bottom oval if you are available.

This week the children who have registered at St Maximilian Kolbe parish will begin their sacramental programmes. Children who are in Year 3 (turning 8 this year) are invited to learn the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Communion. There are classes for older students for children who may have missed these sacraments. You are invited to attend the 9.30 a.m. mass with the lesson commencing afterwards.

The Year 12 students have been away this week at the Edmund Park camp site at Laidley. As the Senior student leaders for the College in 2014, it is vital that the Year 12s come together as a team and ensure that the College is a better, happier place for their passing through. All the work they do on camp is designed to develop their interpersonal skills, their teamwork but in particular, their Franciscan leadership qualities to ensure they lead their fellow students in line with the framework of our College values. Apart from the election of Family Group leaders taking place on Friday, the seniors will do lots of planning to ensure our carnivals and celebrations have the special touch of the class of 2014. They will be a very tired bunch of teenagers who arrive back at 3.00pm Friday after all that thinking, planning and High Ropes activities.

Tricia, Mark and Rob
Dear Mum and Daughter
You are invited to St Francis College’s International Woman’s day. High tea with guest speakers
When: 7th of March 2014
Time: 1:20 pm—2:55 pm
Where: St Francis College Hall
RSVP: RSVP: Christine Rolfe
(Teacher) 3849 4800 or email
crofe@bne.catholic.edu.au
NEWS FROM THE SPORTS DESK!

Family Group Swimming Carnival -
Which family group will take out the swimming crown in 2014?!?!
One of the most important events on the Term 1 sporting calendar is the Family Group Swimming Carnival which will be held on Friday 28 February at Springwood Aquatic Centre. It is a normal school day and all students are expected to attend. Permission forms have been sent home. It is always a fun day with not only competitive swimming but also synchronised swimming and the famous hat competition! Parents are welcome to attend.

Hats, Hats, Hats!
To ensure your son/daughter is protected from the sun and to avoid any possible skin damage all students in the school must have a college cap for HPE classes and to wear at lunch if wanting to play on the oval. College caps are available at the uniform shop.

Shoes, shoes, shoes!
To avoid any injuries and long term damage to knees and/or ankles students are required to wear sports shoes/joggers with laces during HPE lessons. Many students are wearing slip on shoes which are not appropriate for HPE and may result in injury.

2014 QISSN TEAM
Congratulations to the following girls who have made the 2014 QISSN Team who will compete in June at the Gold Coast.

Congratulations
Taylor Bristowe Lisa Makaohi Ashley Salaivao
Angel Posiano Tayla Koria Arihia Matagisala
Borany Meas Nadia Nathan Jessica Sua

Congratulations to Melissa and Samantha Schmidt who have qualified for the Little Athletics State Championships which will be held in Cairns next month. We wish them the best of luck and look forward to hearing how they go!

Other news...
There is always a lot happening in Sport so keep your eyes peeled on the newsletter and sport notice board for updates.

Head, Heart, Hands...

Miss Allam
Sport & HPE Co-ordinator

Positive Behaviour for Learning Year 7-12

As part of Positive Behaviour Support we are teaching appropriate behaviours to students each week. These behaviours follow our school rules:

**Respect Self**

- Laptops must be charged at home.
- Bring laptops to all lessons
- Passwords are private
- Social networking sites are not for school use.
- Laptops are only to be used in class when instructed by teacher
- Back up your work.

In Middle and Senior years (7 to 12) students who continuously display these behaviours are awarded with a GOTCHA! One GOTCHA is selected each Friday at year assemblies and the student is rewarded with a voucher.

**Respect Others**

**Respect the Environment**

This week’s focus is on **Laptop Rules**. The behaviours we are asking the students to demonstrate are:

**GOTCHA WINNERS FOR WEEK 2**

Year 7: Naomi Matagisala
Year 8: Hannah McKenzie
Year 9: Faith Jones
Year 10: Nikkita Abrams
Year 11: Shanae Beauchamp
Year 12: Nick Scarponi

Congratulations and keep up the good work!

Miss Martinez
St Francis College
Family Picnic
All parents, caregivers and their families are warmly invited to come together and celebrate with us, our College community, in a Family Picnic day of welcome, friendship, fun and community building.

WHEN: Saturday March 1st 2014
TIME: From 11:30am – 2:30pm
WHERE: St. Francis College Oval
WHAT: Bring your own – picnic food and drinks, chairs, rugs
Some shelters will be available and older students will provide some games and entertainment for the younger ones.

See you there!!!!!
Term 1 is certainly moving ahead at great speed! It’s hard to believe that next week we will be at our half way mark already!

Our Middle Years classes are settling in to their routines and showing great leadership by wearing their school uniforms with pride. Year Sevens are becoming more familiar with our wonderful Franciscan tradition and history through the expertise and experience of Mr Mark Fogarty.

‘Mr Fogarty visited us today to talk to the year 7’s about St Francis – the person and St Francis – the school. He was very knowledgeable and informative and we learnt a lot about the previous years of our school, how the Hermitage came about, the relationship with St Francis in our grounds and buildings and the relationship between St Francis and our house groups.’

No doubt this encounter with a real life learning experience will provide students with a deeper understanding and appreciation of the beauty and rich history that makes up our St. Francis College community. Thank you Mr. Fogarty!

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT: Thank you to all parents and caregivers who were able to make it to our Parent Information Night on Tuesday. It was great to see so many there. Follow up information regarding the issuing of laptops / i-Pads will be sent home once plans and processes for these have been finalised and confirmed.

Get in the Game Get Started: Get Started is one of three funding programs that comprise the Queensland Government’s Get in the Game initiative to support sport and recreation at the grassroots level. Get Started assists children and young people who can least afford, or may otherwise benefit from, joining a sport or recreation club.
Online Voucher Applications are now open and are allocated on a first come, first served basis. Applications close on April 30th 2014 or earlier if the allocation is fully subscribed. This is a great opportunity for getting our students involved in a club sport and to become actively engaged with their peers in some physical activity. For further details and application forms to get started visit: www.nprs.qld.gov.au/getintheengame

**CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY:** This year Clean Up Australia Day is on Sunday March 2nd 2014. The Clean Up Australia Schools Day is to take place on Friday February 28th. We will be encouraging all students and staff to do their part during this week by paying particular attention to waste and litter in our playgrounds and making sure no rubbish is left on the grounds. This is in line with our focus on our College Goal related to Environmental Sustainability. If you would like to participate in a Clean Up event in your local area go to www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au to find details.

**Some dates for your Diary:**

*Friday February 28th:* Family Group Swimming Carnival; Clean Up Australia Schools Day

*Saturday March 1st:* St. Francis Family Picnic – 11:30 am – 2:30pm,
College Oval, BYO

*Sunday March 2nd:* Clean Up Australia Day


**How much Television viewing should I allow my child to watch if I want them to succeed at school?**

There is growing evidence to suggest that any TV viewing for children under the age of two impairs their ability to concentrate. As children develop, a small amount of television viewing is positively associated with academic achievement. A nine year old shouldn’t watch more than one and a half hours per day. A thirteen year old shouldn’t watch more than one hour a day. Bad news for those of you with older children! At 17 years of age the optimal amount of TV viewing is half an hour per day. While there is no real evidence on the amount of time spent playing computer games, it is a good idea to keep televisions and computer out of children’s bedrooms.

We look forward to seeing many of you at our Family Picnic on Saturday March 1st where we can, together, celebrate our ‘year to be seen’.

Sr. Lee
Projects Abroad is one of the leading international volunteer organisations, sending volunteers to over thirty different countries on five continents, currently at a rate of 8,000 per year. Volunteers take part in a variety of worthwhile overseas placements working in partnership with local communities. Projects Abroad will be holding an Information Session at the Bleeding Heart Gallery, 166 Ann Street, Brisbane from 6.30 pm – 7.30 pm on Tuesday 25 February.

Online Information Sessions are free interactive sessions which allow you to get a better idea of the opportunities with Projects Abroad. You can attend this free online seminar from anywhere in the world simply by clicking on the link (emailled to you upon registration) and logging on through your own computer. It is being held on the same evening, Tuesday 25 February.

Reservations can be made here: http://www.projectsabroad.com.au/more-info/meet-us/

LATITUDE 2015 APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

Applications are now open for students interested in embarking on a volunteering placement in a new culture and community during their gap year next year. Latitude is the original gap year organisation, having supported young Australians on worthwhile and challenging placements for over forty years. Placements are available within our region in Asia/Pacific, or further afield in the UK, Europe, the Americas and Africa. The Latitude website runs through all the details and includes an Application Form for students to download. The application deadline for all placement options this year is Friday 27 June.

TUTORS WORLDWIDE

This organisation handles the recruitment of gap tutors for a good number of schools in the UK. Full information regarding the recruiting program may be found at www.tutorsworldwide.org. Completed candidate application forms and referee support forms must be at the office in New Zealand by 11 April, 2014. Interviews are held during late April, May and June, 2014 and allocation of places are usually confirmed before the end of July 2014.

CAREER INFORMATION BOOKLETS

Whether you’re a secondary school student, an undergraduate at university, a careers advisor or a parent, this section is a great place to browse information on many different industries and employment sectors. Snapshots of many key industries provide information on salaries in related jobs, employment trends in the industry and what type of work you can expect if you pursue a career in the area. Some of the profiles also contain GCA’s Careers In… booklets, which are free to download or can be purchased in hard copy via the online shop. These booklets provide students at any stage of their study with information to help in the transition to a full-time graduate position. This information includes career paths, profiles of people working in related fields, further study options and lists of additional resources and organisations that can advise on career options in the particular discipline.

Download the following booklets from http://www.graduatecareers.com.au/

Mrs Jeanette Maxwell
Careers/RTO Manager