7 August 2015

Leadership Team News

Catholic Education Week ‘Engaging Minds, Igniting Hearts, Serving Others’

Last week we celebrated Catholic Education Week with the main focus of the celebrations in Brisbane, the Festival of Catholic Education in the precinct of the Cathedral of St Stephen. A group of our student leaders attended as well as some teaching staff. A very special treat for ALL present was a dance performance by a group of our students. There were many comments by other school leaders about the exemplary way our students conducted themselves in public and the respect they showed others at the celebration.

There were more than a thousand students from throughout the Archdiocese, who joined together in the three days of discovery – of the history of the Catholic Church in Brisbane; of the work of various Church agencies; and of the joy of learning a diverse range of skills and concepts.

God has given us many good things to celebrate and as we celebrated Catholic Education Week, we were reminded to recognise that God is amongst us in our laughter, our words, our actions and in our sense of wonder and enjoyment of life as we strive to ‘engage minds, ignite hearts and serve others’. At St Francis College, it is easy to recognise that the Spirit of God is amongst us through the many moments that we share each day and in those that we see and feel in our hearts by the warm welcomes and kindness shown by others that give us a sense of belonging. Catholic Education Week reminds us that living the message of Jesus is simple if we endeavour to show genuine love and kindness in the everyday. This helps us all to grow as people and to grow as a community through the simple things that we all do and say. As Pope Francis reminds us in a simple, yet very powerful message that, ‘If we want to feel good, then we must act well, with kindness and dignity.’

Visible Learning

We are currently gathering data and analysing results regarding students’ perspective about their learning at St Francis College. This information is being used to further inform how we deliver the teaching and learning in our school. As part of the Visible Learning initiative we have interviewed and viewed video of students discussing their own learning and what they perceive is good learning at St Francis College. This is very much in the theme of never being complacent but improving wherever possible what we do here at the College and endeavouring to support our students to accomplish great things.

St Vincent de Paul ‘Can’ Appeal

Thank you very much for the generosity you have shown with sending in cans of food and donations for the St Vincent de Paul Appeal. Our College has been collecting cans of food and small donations and we ask you to continue this generosity. Your support makes a big difference in the lives of those in need in our community.

Feast of Saint Mary MacKillop of the Cross

Catholic Education Week leads well to the upcoming Feast of Saint Mary MacKillop of the Cross. We celebrate the feast day of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop on August 8. St Mary is Australia’s first saint and is also the patron of the Archdiocese of Brisbane. She serves as an inspiring example to all to work for the marginalised and the needy and to ‘never see a need without doing something about it’.

Mary MacKillop was born in Melbourne in 1842 and died in Sydney in 1909. She took the religious name Mary of the Cross and responded to the isolation of colonial families as she pioneered a new form of religious life to provide education for their children. She and her fellow sisters shared the life of the poor and the itinerant, offering special care to destitute women and children. Mary is remembered for her eagerness to discover God’s will in all things, for her charity in the face of calumny and for her abiding trust in God’s providence. (From: Praying with St Mary- Ways to Pray Calendar, 2015)

Mr Julian Cotter (Head of Campus P-6)
On behalf of Tricia, Les and Julian

Staff News

Welcome to the World

Emma-Jane Allam and her husband Ash are the very proud parents of a beautiful baby boy - Sebastian Albert Smith. Weighing in at 5lb 14ounces. 52cm long. Born on 29th July at 2.14am. Emma and Sebastian are both doing well.
Virginia Brady and her partner are very proud parents to a beautiful baby boy, Kasen Brady was born on the 16/7/2015 weighing 9 pound 1 ounce. Everyone is doing well.

**Staff Profiles**

**Kathleen McAnulty**

This week **Kathleen McAnulty** is Super Star No.1

- Kathleen most admires her Mum.
- Emma Blair and Martina Cole are her favourite authors

**Nicole Carter**

**Nicole Carter** is Super Star No. 2

- Nicole’s favourite place to visit is Canberra.
- What Nicole likes most about St Francis College is that every day is different.

**Songs of Peace**

Come and hear the sound of peace from Indigenous Australians and Pacific Islanders. Listen to the voices of youth and community leaders.

**Learning and Teaching News**

**Peace March 2015**

Reminder P-6 Peace March (including year 8’s) is on Friday 14th August. Feast Day of Saint Maximilian Kolbe. Information letter has been sent home.

**Assessment Calendars Semester 2 (Years 6-12)**

Assessment calendars were sent home with students this week. Students should transfer the due dates to their diaries and then put the hard copy of the calendar on the fridge at home or above their study desk so they can keep track of when assignments are due. A copy of the calendar is attached for parents.

From time to time we need to make changes to due dates due to unexpected interruptions to learning. The latest version of the assessment calendar is stored on the student workspaces for students to access and on the College website under the curriculum tab for parents to access.

**Reminders re procedures for submitting assignments and absence from assessment.**

An outline of our procedures regarding submitting drafts and final assessment tasks and what to do if your student is absent for assessment is attached.

**Monitoring of failure to submit drafts and assessment tasks**

- Middle Leaders are responsible for ongoing monitoring of students who fail to submit drafts and assessment tasks.
- A database for recording all failure to submit drafts and assessment task letters home is kept.
- Both Curriculum and Pastoral Middle Leaders will monitor patterns in student behaviour. Where failure to submit is an issue relating only to a particular subject, the Curriculum Middle Leader will follow up. Where a student is experiencing difficulty submitting drafts and/or final assessment tasks across a number of subjects, the Pastoral Middle Leader will follow up. Communication between both groups and with teachers and parents will help to reduce the incidence of failure to submit over time.
- Monitoring from Semester 1 has started and you may be contacted where we have ongoing concerns about your students’ failure to submit tasks on time.

**Applying for extensions**

Extensions are only available for illness, family or personal crisis, or attendance at high level sporting events. Application for extension forms are available from the office and should be applied for in advance where possible.

Absences due to illness need a letter from a parent (year 7-10) or a medical certificate (Years 11/12). If there is difficulty obtaining a medical certificate parents should contact the school for advice. For personal or family crisis the student should see their year level coordinator or the College counsellors. For high level sporting events students need a letter from the organising body or Ms Allam’s signature on the form.

Technical difficulties are not a reason to ask for an extension. Students should hand write their assignment and hand in to
the teacher on the due date if they experience such difficulties. Absence due to family holidays is not reason to apply for an extension. Students should hand all assignments in before they leave or email them to the teacher on the due date. The Queensland Government makes it quite clear that students are expected to be attending school or participating in school supported activities every designated school day unless they are ill.

Parental support
We look forward to parents’ support for the procedures. We can only support students in their learning and in improving their results if we have evidence of what they have learnt from their assignment and exams. Students experiencing difficulty understanding the work need to seek assistance from their teachers. Homework club is a great help to students, with teachers available to assist students on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons until 4pm. Students sometimes have difficulty in managing their time and leave assignments until the last minute. Parents can assist students in managing time by regularly referring to the calendars and ensuring students are keeping up.

The ongoing monitoring of students and their submission of assessment will help us to keep track of how your student is going across their subjects. While one instance of not submitting an assignment on time is regrettable, a pattern of not submitting over time is of great concern and we will arrange to meet with you and your student to discuss ways to help your student submit all their drafts and assignments on time.

Ms Carole Hardy (Assistant Principal Curriculum: 6-12)
Terrific Tie Dying, Beneficial Bras & Mini Me in Home Economics
It was a wonderful Semester 1 for students studying Home Economics. It was back to the 1970s with the tie dying of t-shirts and ‘volleys’ for the Year 9s; creating mini me dolls for the Year 10s and the Year 11 & 12s had the brief of designing a garment that would support women suffering breast cancer. The wonderful time students had with their learning is clearly evident in the products they produced.

Mrs Christine Rolfe (Technologies Faculty 7-12)

Pastoral News
Parenting Ideas
I am amazed at what children can do when given the opportunity and encouragement.

Positive Behaviour 4 Learning
Positive Behaviour 4 Learning: Years 7-12
As part of Positive Behaviour Support we are teaching appropriate behaviours to students each week. These behaviours follow our school rules:

### Respect
- Respect Self
- Respect Others
- Respect the Environment

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

- 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.

Mrs Claudia Crow (P-12 Student Services Learning Support)

Culture and The Arts
Samoan Language Class
Starting Monday 10th August 2015, the Samoan Language Class will start from 1.25pm--1.55pm.

Because of the increasing number of students, we have decided to run these classes during lunch breaks on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. These classes are open to any student who is interested to learn Samoan Language, Music/Songs, Dances, Crafts and our Stories. There are limited spaces and first enrolled will be given the opportunity first.

Please be advised we request a Samoan Language Enrolment Form for every student that attends these classes. The forms are available from the Administration Office and there is no cost for these classes, and are available to St. Francis College students only.

If you have any further enquiries in regards to the Samoan Language Class, please do not hesitate to ring the school or speak directly to Miss Koleta Galumalemana.

Fa'afetai
Koleta Galumalemana

Sports Update
Welcome
Welcome to Mr Harry Norris who will be taking over the 7-12 Sports Program Leader position whilst Ms Allam is on maternity
Primary Divisional Athletics Carnival

Last Wednesday, 35 primary students represented St Francis College at the Division B Beenleigh Athletics Carnival. All students were excellent on and off the track showing exceptional behaviour and achieving great results. Overall, 13 students made it through to the Championship day on Friday which displayed the best of the best athletic talent from all over Beenleigh. The team also WON the Division B percentage trophy!!!

Congratulations to the following students who competed at the Championship day:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Place</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 Year Olds</td>
<td>Julia Manao Maiava</td>
<td>Shot Put</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Charity Vaimili Toalepai</td>
<td>100m, 200m, Shot Put</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Shairon Eremugo</td>
<td>100m, 200m, High Jump</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jack Spencer</td>
<td>100m</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dylan Sootaga</td>
<td>Shot Put</td>
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<td>Mannaseh Pur</td>
<td>High Jump, 100m</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Year Olds</td>
<td>Courage Adjlolo</td>
<td>High Jump</td>
<td>3rd</td>
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<td>Losa Niumata</td>
<td>Shot Put</td>
<td>3rd</td>
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<td>12 Year Olds</td>
<td>Jasmine Shearer</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Faraimo Tafola</td>
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At the Championship day all students were exceptional and showed great sportsmanship. The following students were successful in achieving a top 3 position and will now represent Beenleigh District at the upcoming Pacific District trials. Congratulations!!!

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<td>1st, 1st, 1st</td>
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Athletics Training

Athletics training has begun to prepare for Athletics season. High School training will commence on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3pm till 4pm and will focus on throws and jumps. Please see Mr Horn if you are interested. Primary training will be conducted during lunch times. Make sure you check the sports notice board to see training times. Come along and get ready for the Athletics season!

NRL Junior Carnival

A team of 12 Year 3 Students will be competing at the NRL Junior Carnival which will be held on Wednesday 26th August 2015 at the Helensvale Hornets JRLFC. The purpose of this event is to introduce the game of Rugby League to boys and girls in Grades 3 & 4 with the main emphasis of the day placed on having Fun. Please see Mr Sione if you are interested in playing on this team.

Keep an eye on the sports noticeboard for upcoming events and information.

Senior Sports News

Last Friday the 7-12 students had their Family Group Athletics Carnival. It was a great day for Athletics and all students were dressed in their family group colours ready to support their family group. All students did their best and competed in as many events as possible.

Tuesday assembly this week the age champions were presented with their medals.
SECA Week 9 this week
Our last week of games in the SECA winter sport competition is Thursday this week. A full report will be in our next newsletter.

Ms Jordan Litzow and Mr Harry Norris (Sports Program Leaders)

Library Happenings

Chess Challenge
Our Term 3 Chess Challenge is continuing in the library at lunchtimes. The students stay in the competition until they win four games and then they go into the finals. Currently there are three players in the finals. Here, Jacob and Jasper are trying to outplay each other.

Book Week
We are celebrating Book Week from 24-28 August. The national theme for Book Week this year is Books Light up our World. A theme that reminds us how books and reading can brighten up our lives and shine a light into far off places and take us to far away times both past and future. Books can show us things we have never seen before and show us the familiar in a new light.

Some of the activities planned for Book Week include a colouring-in competition for P-2, a poster comp. for years 3-6, guest readers and a Readers’ Cup. On the Wednesday we will be holding our dress-up day. This year the students are asked to come as a character from a Where’s Wally book. If coming as Wally or Wenda and a striped top cannot found, a white top with a bit of red or a red top with a little white would be fine. So apart from the baddie, Odlaw, anyone wearing a red and white top should just blend in with everyone else just like the characters in the books. These pictures might give you a few ideas for a costume.

Mr John Roberts (Teacher Librarian)

Special Events

St Francis Festival Update
Every year in Term 4, the College holds its St Francis Festival. This is a day of fun activities as well as a celebration of the many gifts and talents within our College community.

This year’s festival will be held on Friday, 23rd October - Week 3 of our final term!

This year we would like to introduce a Second Hand Toys and Second Hand Clothing Stall. Unfortunately we can’t offer this without the support of parent volunteers to lead these stalls. It would be such a shame not to include these stalls. Please contact me if you are able to help. Stalls work best when you have at least 2 or 3 friends to lend a hand and share the load.

I am on leave from Friday 31st July until Monday 17th August. During this time I can be contacted by email on kmcintosh@bne.catholic.edu.au. Alternatively, please leave a message with Nicole Carter in the Office.

Book Stall
Assistance is also needed in running the Book Stall. Margaret Jacques would love to hear from you. Please leave a message at the Office if you are able to help. With thanks!

Ms Karen McIntosh (Communications, Events and Facilities Manager)
Careers Corner

Transition to Work Program

On the last week of Term 2 the Non QCE students went on an excursion on the 23rd June 2015 to PFD at Lytton and Greenbank RSL for lunch. This was an excellent opportunity for the student to see the many career and job opportunities that make a successful Business.

First stop was PFD and we were welcomed by Keith Taylor, Grant and staff. The students had a tour of the business and they got to see how it operates from the beginning to the end. Then Keith and Grant Nelson delivered a presentation to the students on real life out in the work force and what employers look for when they are looking to employ someone.

Then they headed to the Greenbank RSL for a delicious lunch and a tour of the many areas of a Club. They also had a surprise visitor, Michael Hancock from the Bronco’s and gave a very inspirational talk to the year 12’s.

Here is what some of the Year 12’s said about the day!

Work Experience Procedures

Year 11 and 12’s studying a Certificate course at school will be required to attend Work Experience during Term 3 and Term 4.

Miss Kaitlyn McNamara (Careers/VET Coordinator)

Community News

Zest for Life is a Wellbeing Festival

The Festival will host over 30 stalls, food vendors, live entertainment, an art exhibition and interactive workshops! Attendance at Zest for Life is free and will promote community support, mental health and wellbeing. For more information please click on the flyer.

SFC Community Hub

Parent Support Group Invitation

Come and have some morning tea and have a cuppa and a chat, meet other parents and receive some information about finding resources to help with your journey.

Have Fun and Be Healthy

Come join us for ideas on Healthy Eating and different Physical Activities.

Yoga for Littlies

Come join us on Tuesday mornings between 9:15am and 10:00am. For all children between the ages of 3-5 years old. Mum and Dad can join in too.

Parish News

Date Claimers

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>7th August</td>
<td>First Friday at 7pm Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>8th-14th August</td>
<td>St Maximilian Kolbe Parish Mission</td>
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<tr>
<td>11th August</td>
<td>Care &amp; Concern Healing Mass at 10.45 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th August</td>
<td>Feast of St. Maximilian Kolbe 9.00 a.m. Mass</td>
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