

St Mary's College Gunnedah Newsletter

May 2018 Edition



MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Staff, Students and Friends,

St Mary's College is a professional learning community, focused on faith formation and learning. Our shared belief is that every student and teacher, can achieve high standards, given the right time and the right support.

Recently the staff attended professional development on Implementing Restorative Practices in the College. Restorative practices focus our attention on the quality of relationships between all members of the school community. They are based on the belief that when relationships are harmed they can be repaired. Restorative practices assist one to learn from one's mistakes, reconcile one's differences and resolve problems with others. The restorative practices are based on our five pillars of respect.

- Respect for oneself.
- Respect for others - especially those who are different to us.
- Respect for the environment and for College property.
- Respect for the sacred and the prayer life of the College.
- Respect for the Learning environment in the classroom - not disrupting the learning of others.

Staff are currently reviewing our behaviour management processes to reflect these practices.

The Years 7-10 reports this semester will have a new format. Each report will include a written comment by the Year Supervisor and there will be a number of outcomes in two categories - Approaches to Learning and Areas of Learning for each subject. The report will also have A,B,C,D or E for each subject studied, clearly defined against specific learning standards. The College welcomes any feedback on these changes.

Mr Quirk would like me to pass on his thanks to the College community for their thoughts and prayers for his recovery from surgery. He is making good progress.

On Tuesday, our student leaders represented the College at the Catholic Schools Week Mass celebrating the Year of Youth. I'll conclude with the Prayer for the Year of the Youth that was Commissioned by Bishop Michael Kennedy.

Lord,

In this year of youth, be with young people as they strive to do your work.

Guide them, to follow Jesus' example of compassion and mercy.

Help the youth to reach out to those in need in our schools, families and in our global communities.

Lead young people to peaceful solutions in conflict, to forgive and to make choices that reflect your love.

May your Church continue to share the joy of your Gospels with all people.

Amen.

Catherine Martin

Acting Principal



UPCOMING EVENTS

- 6 June - Arts Alive in Sydney
- 8 June—Pupil Free Day
- 9 - 10 June - St Josephs Centenary
- 13 June - School Photo Day
- 25 - 29 June - Year 10 Work Experience
- 3 July - Year 11 2019 Subject Information Night
- 6 July—Last day of Term 2
- 23 July—First day of Term 3
- 31 July & 1 August - Parent Teacher Interviews Year 7-10

#RAMPITUP

R = Respect

A= Accountability

M= Maturity

P= Participation

Let us Pray.

“The fact is, God loves us even more than we love ourselves. He believes in us even more than we believe in ourselves. He is always “cheering us on”; he is our biggest fan.” - Pope Francis, WYD 2016 Closing Mass

#RAMPITUP

St Mary's Year 11 Students kicking Goals in 2018



CAREERS EXPO

The Northwest Regional Careers Expo in Tamworth held on Wednesday, 16th May was attended by nearly 40 St Mary's College Year 10, 11 & 12 students. This annual event provided by the Rotary Club of Tamworth First Light enabled students from across the region to have access to over 90 exhibitors from many industries, higher education institutions, local businesses and the services sector and the Australian Defence Force. It enabled our Year 10 students to gain a valuable insight into a wide range of interesting and varied career pathways.



IMPORTANT CAREER DATES

- 7 June—Tamworth Ag Careers Expo (Farrer)

www.tamworthagriculturalcareersexpo.com.au

- 25—29 June—Year 10 Work Experience
- 25 July—UMAT Examination

THANK YOU

A big thank you to all the College Community that purchased pies in our Pie Drive. The funds will be used by students attending the Catholic Immersion Program at the end of the year.



CAREERS NEWS CONTINUED

Entry to Medicine School Workshop

One of our Year 12 students recently attended the Entry to Medicine information night held by the University of Newcastle Department Of Rural Health at Tamworth and found it very informative and helpful. The entry processes and programs were discussed and current medical students spoke about their pathways to medicine. Tips were also given for the interview process and the UMAT exam. Practising for the UMAT was stressed to prospective students. The evening also covered positive approaches to manage stress during the HSC. Further information for those intending a medical career can be found at:

<https://ama.com.au/careers/becoming-a-doctor>

Interesting Reading:

Subject Selection for current Year 10 students

Here is a guide for Year 10 students choosing their Year 11/12 subjects.

<https://www.careerfaqs.com.au/news/news-and-views/navigating-subject-selection-in-year-10>

This website lists questions to consider when selecting HSC subjects for those wishing to attend university.

<HTTPS://WWW.MATRIX.EDU.AU/SUBJECT-SELECTION-GUIDE-FOR-YEAR-10-STUDENTS/>

AUSTRALIA'S BOOMING INDUSTRIES – SEEK

SEEK has revealed the Australian industries that boomed in the last 12 months. This website looks at the data and speaks to industry experts about the trends that will shape the year ahead. See the occupations here:

<https://insightsresources.seek.com.au/australias-booming-industries>

10 SKILLS NEEDED BY 2020 AND BEYOND

The world is changing at such a rapid pace with new technologies, advancements in science and all areas of STEM. To survive and have longevity in your future career will require you to develop personal qualities that will stand you in good stead to face the brave new world you will embrace.

<HTTPS://WWW.CAREERFAQS.COM.AU/NEWS/NEWS-AND-VIEWS/THE-10-SKILLS-YOU-LL-NEED-BY-2020-AND-BEYOND>

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday, 7th June

Tamworth Agricultural Careers Expo at Farrer

www.tamworthagriculturalcareersepo.com.au

Friday, 1st June

Registrations for **UMAT** close (Undergraduate Medical and Health Sciences admission test)

<https://umat.acer.edu.au/register>

Friday, 15th June

CSU MyDay (Bathurst)

Monday, 25th June - Friday, 29th June

Year 10 Work Experience

Thursday, 5th July

University of Newcastle Schools visit day

<https://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/schools-visit-day>

SPORTS NEWS

IMPORTANT SPORT DATES

- Monday 4th June
NSWCCC Teams
Tennis Bathurst
- Wednesday 6th June U14
Rugby League and Dio
Netball Armidale (Year
7/8 & 9/10)
- Friday 15th June
NSWCCC Cross Country
Eastern Creek
- Wednesday 20th June
NSWCCC Touch Penrith
(Travel Tuesday 19th June)
- Friday 29th June NSW
Netball Gala Day
Tamworth

Don't forget to check the Catholic Schools Sports Services website for details of other representative sporting opportunities - www.csss.nsw.edu.au

Cross Country

The last day of Term 1 saw the annual Cross Country run with all students either running or walking the course earning points for their House. This was the first House competition for the year and saw the Year 11 House Captains keen to ensure the results were accurately recorded on the day. Full results are shown below.

2018 St Mary's College Gunnedah Cross Country Results

	Mercy	McAuley	Loreto	Lourdes	Total
Year 7 Boys	60	36	99	156	351
Year 7 Girls	44	174	72	115	405
Year 8 Boys	36	100	135	55	326
Year 8 Girls	108	70	59	37	274
Year 9 Boys	33	130	34	78	275
Year 9 Girls	4	76	3	43	126
Year 10 Boys	32	36	110	42	220
Year 10 Girls	7	5	81	5	98
Year 11 Boys	0	0	0	0	0
Year 11 Girls	3	41	2	76	122

•Year 12 were away on retreat

•Many Year 11 students assisted with the recording of results at the finish line

Overall House Points

	Mercy	McAuley	Loreto	Lourdes
Boys	161	302	378	331
Girls	166	366	217	276
Total	327	668	595	607

CROSS COUNTRY PHOTOS



PINK STUMPS DAY PHOTOS



SPORTS NEWS CONTINUED

Winners of the John Hickey Trophy 2018

Winning House - McAuley

1st Boy - Charlie Lawrence

1st Girl - Annalise Martin

Year Level Winners

Year 7 Vitoria Sardinha and Meysades Sullivan

Year 8 Charlie Lawrence and Hayley Rankin

Year 9 Aaron Osmond and Annalise Martin

Year 10 Lewis Martin and Sophie Williams

Year 11 Clariese Ryman [no Year 11 Boy competed]



Pink Stumps Day

On the last day of first term it has become tradition that we run our Cross Country before lunch and then hold our Pink Stumps Day during lunch and last period to raise funds for the McGrath Foundation. With so many of our families being impacted by breast cancer it has become a cause that is well supported and also gives both staff and students an enjoyable way to end the term and build school spirit. While the students may have won the cricket game what was more important was that a total of \$1,136.65 was raised on the day for the McGrath Foundation. Thanks to everyone who contributed towards the day either through monetary donations or simply by entering into the spirit of the day and remembering those less fortunate than ourselves.

Lunch-time House Sports Competition

Lunch-time House competitions began this week with the first sport being Volleyball. Students had the opportunity to play in the Senior team [Years 8 - 12] or the Junior team [Year 7 and 8]. Seniors played on Tuesday while Juniors played on Thursday. Houses are awarded points for participation as well as points won on the court. Next week will see the playoffs for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th for the main points.

It is hoped that students will take this opportunity to be involved in the House Sports and be active during lunch breaks. Other sports to be included in the competition include basketball, soccer, netball and league tag. The competition will run during Terms 2 and 3 on selected days with students advised at the start of the week what sport will be played on what day that week.



AND MORE SPORT NEWS....

Dio Cross Country

The Armidale Diocesan Cross Country was held in Gunnedah on Friday 11th May with the course meandering along the Namoi River Walk as well as Namoi and Donnelly Fields. Competitors from St Philomena's Moree, Holy Trinity Inverell, O'Connor College Armidale and McCarthy College Tamworth joined St Mary's College students in the various events for different ages with competitors to finish in the vying top six in their age group to be eligible to go on to the NSWCCC Cross Country Championships. Nine students from St Mary's qualified to go through to the NSWCCC Cross Country at Eastern Creek next month.

Adam Farquhar 1st 12 Boys

Lachlan Straney 1st 13 Boys

Ashton Harris 1st 15 Boys

Holly Miller 1st 17 Girls

Dylan Stubbs 2nd 12 Boys

Nick Shortis 3rd 14 Boys

Vitoria Sardinha 3rd 13 Boys

Brock Paull 4th 15 Boys

Mesaydes Sullivan 4th 12 Girls

A big thank you to the Year 11 SLR students who assisted as Course Officials as well as to the many parents and grandparents who were present to support their children on the day

Tennis

The Armidale Diocesan Tennis Day was held in Gunnedah on Friday 11th May. Students participated in both singles and doubles matches on the day with schools having teams of two players in both the Boys and Girls divisions. St Mary's dominated the day with Andrew & Aaron Osmond winning the Division 1 Boys event. Andrew Osmond was the winner of the Boys Singles. Cooper Wilkinson & Ben Northey-Baldwin won the Division 2 Boys. Shaylee Curran-Martin & Steph Eveleigh won the Division 1 Girls. Maya Gallagher & Chloe Dorrington won the Division 2 Girls.

The St Mary's teams will now go on to the NSWCCC Teams Championships to be held at Bathurst on Monday 4th June.

Thanks to the Gunnedah Tennis Club for the use of the courts and the Clubhouse facilities on the day especially to Craig Louis for organising the venue.

Golf

Friday 11th May saw the Armidale Diocesan Golf Day held at Gunnedah Golf Club. Entries were up on the previous year with students and staff from Holy Trinity Inverell, O'Connor College Armidale and McCarthy College Tamworth joining three players from St Mary's College for the competition. Local course knowledge proved to be an advantage with St Mary's winning most of the prizes on the day.

Congratulations to -

Angus Renton - Winner Scratch Event

Lachie Adamson - Runner Up Scratch Event

Caleb Dorrington - Winner of the Nett



AND EVEN MORE SPORTS NEWS...

The St Mary's team of Angus Renton, Lachie Adamson & Caleb Dorrington were winners of the Team Event.

Thanks to the Gunnedah Golf Club for allowing us the use of the course and the clubhouse facilities on the day. Special thanks to the Pro Shop staff, Luke Ryan and Kobe Harris and to Peter Vernon for their assistance on the day with running the event.

Soccer

St Mary's had three teams competing in the Dio Soccer Gala Day at Inverell on Wednesday 23rd May. The Open Boys team played two games on the day drawing 0 - 0 with McCarthy College Tamworth and losing 1 - 0 to the eventual winners O'Connor College Armidale. All the boys had an enjoyable day and played well with limited preparation.

The Open Girls team also played two games on the day with a 0 - 0 draw with eventual winners McCarthy College Tamworth and a narrow 1 - 0 loss to O'Connor College Armidale. It was a case of what could have been with several near misses at goal on the day.

The Junior Boys team played four games on the day. The boys showed improvement each game although fatigue played a part in their final game. While the team scored plenty of goals on the day thanks to some good individual performances teamwork in defence was found wanting at times leading to the opposition scoring more goals resulting in a loss. With a young team this year they can only get better with more experience and training.



LIBRARY NEWS

Snapshot of lunch time in the Library - Thursday, 17th May, 2018



- Reading
- Playing Chess
- Computer games
- Listening to Music
- Study
- Playing Cards
- Researching
- Talking



School Libraries

Supporting learning and teaching for everyone

LIBRARY NEWS CONTINUED

"Libraries should be the beating heart of the school, not mausoleums for dusty books"



- Stephanie Harvey, 2018



Library Opening Hours

Every morning - 8 am (except Wed.)

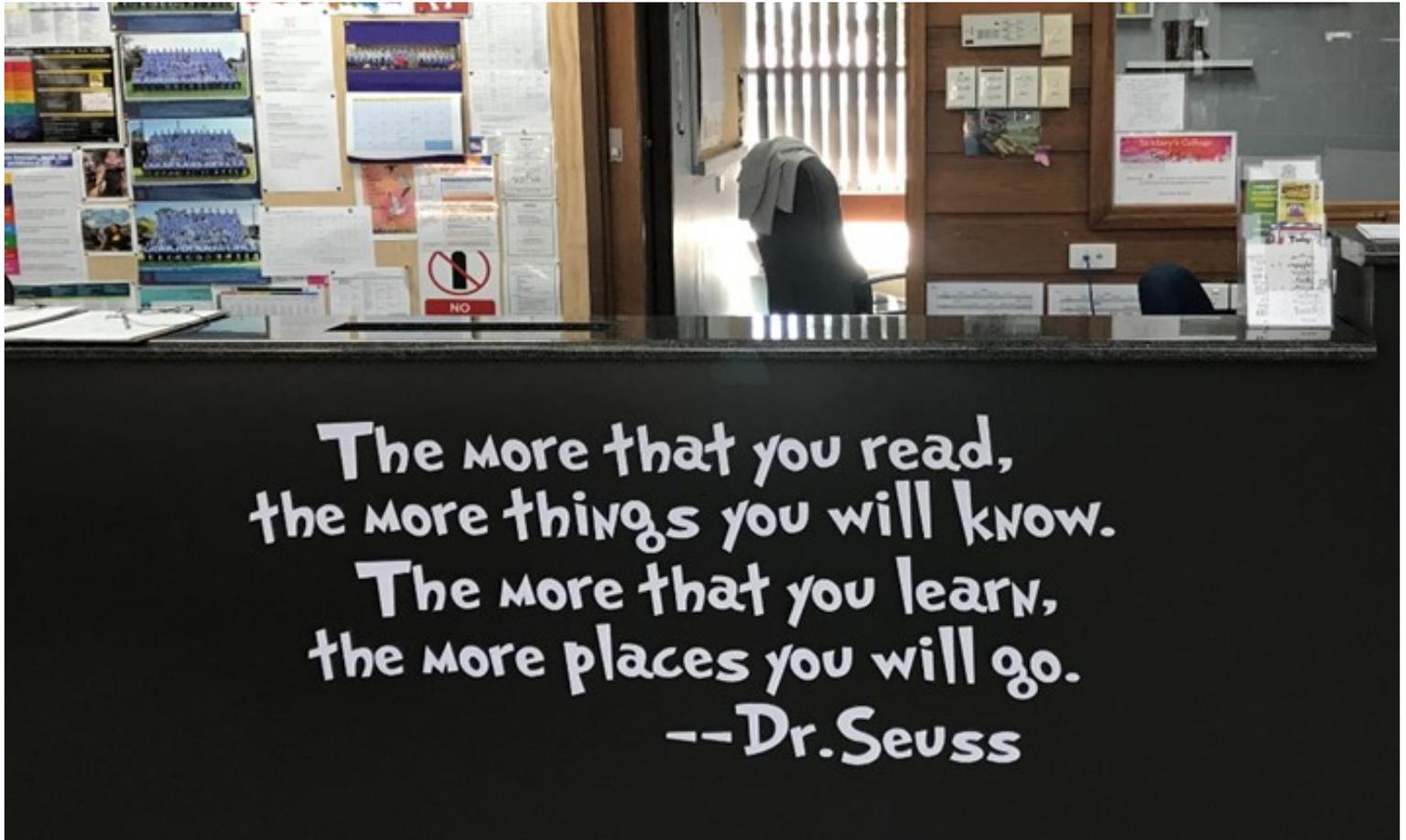
Second half of lunch - 1.50 to 2.10

Homework Centre - 3.30 - 4.30

I am currently trying to organise John Heffernan to visit the College and speak to the senior English students about creative writing in Term 3 during their lesson time. I am hoping he will share some of his insights into writing and the joy of reading with our regular lunchtime students.

John Heffernan has written about thirty books for a range of audiences from early readers to young adults, in a range of genre that includes realistic fiction, fantasy, science-fiction, and picture books.





LITERACY BLOCK TERM TWO

This term in the Years 7, 8 and 9 Literacy Block, the classes were reshuffled. The Term Two focus for most students is Narrative, Persuasive and Explanatory writing and the key elements of these styles. Year 7 started LLI (Levelled Literacy Intervention) this term and the remaining students were streamed into two mixed ability and one extension class, thus creating four small groups. For students in Year 8 there is a LLI class and two streamed classes. The LLI students will be re-evaluated before the end of term, to assess their progress in the program. The Year 9 students in the LLI program have been re-tested and from this nine students were moved to one of the streamed literacy classes. The streaming of all grades was based on formative tasks completed during Term One. Similar tasks will occur throughout this term.

Thank you for your continued support in this initiative as we are seeing improvement in many of our students literacy skills across the board. We also take this opportunity to encourage each student to continue to read outside school hours, as the benefits are great.

Millie Woolaston and Moya Ryan

WINGHAM BEEF WEEK

Congratulations to all the students who attended Wingham Beef Week.

St Mary's were successful in winning the champion unled steer from 100 entries!!

The steer, named Tiny Teddy was a 804kg milk tooth Belgium blue x Limousin.



HSIE Faculty

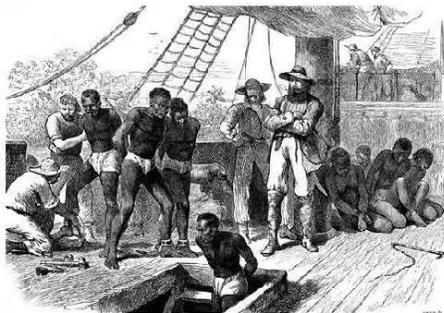


Year Seven Geography

Students are in the final stages of the unit Place and Liveability. Building on the previous topic, students have been watching closely the volcanic activity from the Kilauea Volcano in Hawaii.

Year Eight History

Students are in the final stages of their Viking unit. Students will begin a comparison unit between the Vikings and Polynesian exploration.



Year Nine History

Students have started their new unit on the Movement of People. Students will look at the Industrial Revolution, convict transportation, the slave trade and the resettlement of migrants in Australia.

Year Ten History

Students have just begun their new unit on the Rights and Freedoms. Students will undertake a comparative study between the US and Australia investigating the historical rights and freedoms denied to particular groups, the response and the lasting legacy.



Year 11

Ancient History: We are currently investigating the ancient site of Persepolis located in southern Iran. It was once the centre of the Persian empire and contained a number of monumental structures. We are also beginning our Historical Investigation (Due early term 3) where each student researches a topic of interest and presents a source-based response. Our focus is improving our writing and use of sources to support our argument.



Business Studies: We are currently working on the Business Management topic. To assist with revision, students are encouraged to complete multiple choice and short answer responses on all the relevant topics and write drafts for the Marketing section of their Business plan.

Work Studies: Students are just starting their new topic Personal Finance.

Legal Studies: Students will soon be finishing examining the civil and criminal court systems in NSW before moving onto law reform. Next assessment task will be in Wk 8 - Case Study
To assist with revision, keep up to date with the required readings, summary notes and glossary sheets

Year 12



Legal Studies: Students are working on their responses to World Order issues which involves examining recent conflicts such as Afghanistan War, Iraq War, Syrian conflict, East Timor, North Korea and South China Sea. The will be an assessment task in Wk 6. To assist with revision, ensure summary notes are up to date. Also complete past questions for Crime under exam conditions and submit them for feedback

Business Studies: Students have just begun the unit on Human Resources. To assist with revision, complete summary sheets for each dotpoint and ensure Finance Case Study is completed.

Modern History: Students are currently looking at the course of the Conflict in Europe, Battle of Britain, Bombing of Germany, Operation Barbarossa and the Battle El Alamein. Students are also preparing for their assessment task Week 9. Students are reminded to submit written responses (plans or paragraphs) regarding to assist in their planning and consolidation of the topic content.





All parishioners and friends are invited to be present at Mass in the newly refurbished Church to commemorate the centenary of the laying of the foundation stone by Bishop O'Connor in 1918.

The celebrations will begin with Mass at 9.30am, on Sunday, June 10, 2018,

in our beautifully designed Church dedicated to St Joseph.

After Mass and the official unveiling of a commemorative plaque by Bishop Michael Kennedy DD, everyone is invited to enjoy a sausage sizzle and refreshments on the Church lawns.

A centenary booklet has been published and will be available for \$10 on the day.

For catering purposes please advise the Parish office of attendance. Phone: 6742 0200 or email: gunnedahparish@armidale.catholic.org.au