From the Principal

A Niggling Sense that More is Possible

In life we can go from day to day, doing good things, ensuring deadlines are met, grateful for the opportunities we have and vowing to be even better people tomorrow. Lots of us do that and it’s a good thing. In the process we develop a pretty good intuition. We seem to implicitly know how to approach each day. We know when we’ve done a good thing and we know when we could do better.

The same can be said for our kids. Take their approach to schoolwork for example. Ask them how things are progressing and they can tell you—or at least the can tell themselves. They know if they’re being conscientious or if they’re being slack or lazy. They know if they understand or if it’s all a bit confusing. They know when they’re being slapdash and when they are being methodical and thorough. They know when they’ve gone above and beyond and when they have not. They know they’re learning and they can also have a niggling sense that more is possible. Yet it can be difficult to know just what to do to make that next incremental, positive difference.

A focus on making the implicit explicit can help! It is one thing to vow to spend more time and effort on improving writing, it is quite another to specify particular aspects of writing for targeted strategy. Sentence structure, or cohesive ties, or incorporation of referenced evidence, or logical sequencing of ideas. If the focus needs to be on improved recall of knowledge then there are strategies to enact, involving for example, active presentation and representation of ideas in multiple modes – notes written by hand, colour coded, on card, mnemonics, ideas spoken out loud or recorded, knowledge questions pre-empted and responses practised. Great learning is clearly identifiable. It is visible.

Visible Learning

What does good learning look like? What are the characteristics of an effective learner?

These are among the questions that are being asked of our students and teachers at Mary MacKillop College. One of our College goals for 2015 is to introduce the community to Visible Learning, part of the Brisbane Catholic Education DELT (Delivering Excellent Learning and Teaching) strategy. We are currently in the process of amassing quantitative and qualitative learning data using a variety of collection instruments. Teachers have completed a Mindframes survey with a focus on their understanding of learning dispositions and potentialities. Students will shortly complete surveys in relation to feedback on learning and the impact of various teaching approaches. A randomly selected group of students will take part in some focus group conversations designed to elicit their perspective on learning. We are also in the process of analysing specific achievement data in school-based assessment as well as in standardised testing. The Mary MacKillop Visible Learning project is being facilitated by Mr Wayne Chapman (Deputy Principal – Director of Studies), Mr David Crewe, Mrs Cheryl Bowring, Ms Sally Carr and myself.
This edition of News and Views goes live just as our Year 7 and 9 students finish the last of the 2015 NAPLAN tests. The data from these tests is important information about learning achievement. We will be studying the NAPLAN data in conjunction with a range of school-based data and qualitative information to evaluate and inform ongoing curriculum planning. Our students are to be commended for their calm and focused attention to the rigours of the NAPLAN tests.

Students, Parents and Teachers Together
It was wonderful to welcome so many families to the recent Parent – Teacher meetings. Students, parents and teachers alike have spoken of the profound value of these conversations as a source of shared understanding of learning progress and as a motivator for ongoing, targeted learning. All participants learn in these conversations. Above all, the student comes to a greater understanding of her learning successes and ongoing challenges, the support available to her and the shared trust that exists in her ability to grow as an autonomous and capable learner.

Community Council
Parents and staff gathered last week for the second Community Council meeting of 2015. Those present learned about Moodle, the College's Learning Management System. They heard from our College Captains, Kayla Lawson and Casey Miles, and had the opportunity to comment on the draft of our updated Anti-Bullying Policy. Minutes of the meeting are available now on the College website.

A Resilient Life
A resilient life is not an impenetrable fortress.
A resilient life is more like a calm, deep river
That soothes the suffering soul within us and in those around us.
J Kullander Mastering the Art of Resilience.

I recently came across this quote in Joyce Rupp’s new book Fly While You Still Have Wings and Other Lessons My Resilient Mother Taught Me. The book is Rupp’s tribute to her own mother. It might just as well be a tribute to any mother who has lived her motherhood with passion and authenticity and therefore with a deep commitment to the other. The quote reminds us to err on the side of quietude in lieu of demonstrative dramas; on the side of openness and responsiveness rather than on steely bravado. To all the Mums who show us how to live through all of life’s challenges – thank you and bless you!

Christine Clarke
Principal

We acknowledge the traditional custodians, the Turrbal people.
MARY MACKILLOP COLLEGE OPEN DAY 2015

SUNDAY 31 MAY 10.00am – 1.00pm

You are invited to bring your family and friends to have a tour of the College, enjoy the entertainment and meet the staff, students and families of Mary MacKillop College.

Parental assistance required on the day with BBQ and Sausage Sizzle.
Please contact the office if you are able to give some time.

Ph: 3266 2100 Email: mmc@mmc.qld.edu.au

ENROLMENT INFORMATION EVENING

WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 5.15pm - 6.30pm

Enrolments 2016-2019 NOW OPEN Mary MacKillop College Yr 7-12

Mary MacKillop College invites families to an Information and Enrolment Evening on Wednesday 20 May at 5:15pm in the Josephite Cultural Centre, 126 Buckland Rd, Nundah.

Come along and meet our new Principal and learn about the wide range of outstanding academic, cultural, sporting and service opportunities on offer.

A Mary MacKillop education inspires hope and builds confidence in young women who have a passion for lives of justice, respect and peace for all.

For further information please phone us on 32662100, email mmc@mmc.qld.edu.au or visit www.mmc.qld.edu.au

Enrolment applications for Year 7 2016 should be lodged by the end of May.
From the Deputy Principal - Director of Students

Cyberbullying

Bullying incidents are no longer limited to the playground or on the way home. Technology, as wonderful as it is, is now providing more and more avenues for cyberbullying: a pervasive merciless form of bullying. Reports indicate that nearly 43% of kids have been bullied online. 1 in 4 has had it happen more than once; 70% of students report seeing frequent bullying online; over 80% of teens use a cell phone regularly, making it the most common medium for cyberbullying and 81% of young people think bullying online is easier to get away with than bullying in person. These statistics represent a clear trend with cyberbullying having taken root in society. (nobullying.com)

While you can’t control every aspect of technology, below are some ideas that can help combat cyberbullying. Below are some suggestions from Dr. Joan Simeo Munson, a psychologist who specialising in helping parents.

What Parents Can Do to Prevent Kids from Cyberbullying

- **Don’t assume anything.** Don’t assume that your child will never participate in cyberbullying, or that they wouldn’t dream of joining in with “those mean kids.” The truth is that all kids, even the kindest ones, can get swept up in the moment when a group is viewing a threatening video on YouTube or reading a nasty post on Facebook.

  The difference between cyberbullying and traditional bullying is that a child may feel greater empathy or embarrassment if they are witnessing someone being hurt right in front of them. With cyberbullying, the harmful acts may not seem “real,” as the child is so removed from the actual situation. This, plus the impulsivity of all kids, makes it much easier for even the nicest children to hit the “send” button.

- **Communicate…a lot.** The best way to combat cyberbullying is to have regular conversations with your child about it and to discuss concrete examples. Too often, kids think posting an embarrassing photo of someone or making a snide remark is funny, without thinking through the consequences or the feelings of a peer. They may not even define what they are doing as a form of bullying.

- **Make your expectations very clear.** “I expect you to not join in if your friends are posting mean things online. If they are bullying someone on Facebook, I expect you to tell me about it, and we can decide what to do.” Making your children aware that you will not tolerate their involvement in bullying anyone is an important parenting skill.

- **Don’t ignore the technology just because you don’t understand it.** Many parents do not oversee the role technology is playing in their child’s life because they don’t understand it. However difficult you may find technology, this is not an excuse to let your child loose in the world of social media. If you don’t understand the latest devices or don’t know about the social media kids use (Snapchat, Instagram, Twitter, etc.), start talking to someone who can help you. This can be your child, one of their friends, or someone at your local library who teaches technology. The point is, children are several steps ahead when it comes to technology and social media, so it is up to us parents to be on their heels in order to understand what they are doing.
From the Deputy Principal - Director of Students cont.

Anti Bullying Policy
Bullying has no place at Mary MacKillop College. We believe that in order for students to learn to the best of their ability and to extend personal growth, they must have a safe and friendly environment. The Pastoral team has recently updated the College’s Anti-Bullying policy. This policy will be accessible online via the new website.

Nutrition and School Lunches
Proper nutrition promotes the optimal growth and development of our young women. Eating a healthy breakfast is associated with improved cognitive function (especially memory), reduced absenteeism, and improved mood. As a College community we recognise the importance of good nutrition to learning outcomes and we actively promote the importance of a healthy breakfast as the foundation for beginning each day. Thank you to the staff members and students who gave freely of their time to prepare and serve breakfast to our Year 7 and 9 students each morning before their NAPLAN test.

Good Nutrition and school preparedness doesn’t end with breakfast. A healthy snack at morning tea and a nourishing lunch not only makes our students healthier, but also results in fewer absences, improved application and less behavioural problems.

Every student has the potential to do well in school. Recently there have been an increasing number of students without lunches, some simply because they have forgotten to bring their lunch. Please ensure your daughter has her lunch with her and that it is a balance of healthy choices.

Open Day
Reminder: Students will be dismissed between 1.00pm and 1.30pm on Friday 29 May to assist with the preparation for Open Day (31 May). Student Leaders, Justice Representatives, House Counsellors and students nominated by teachers will be required to attend in full College uniform on Open Day. Other student volunteers are welcome.

This day is a wonderful opportunity for friends and relatives to visit the College, to witness the depth of the College curriculum and talent. We welcome enrolment enquiries on this day.

New date for College Dance
The College dance has been rescheduled to Friday 31 July. All wrist bands purchased for the original date (1 May) will be honoured. Thank you to all the parents who initially volunteered to supervise at the dance. We look forward to your continued support in July.

Narelle Dobson
Deputy Principal - Director of Students
From the Deputy Principal - Director of Studies

Parent Teacher Interviews
It was lovely to see so many parents in attendance at the Parent Teacher Interviews last Tuesday evening. Participation in these interviews has grown over the past four years with the 2015 round involving a 31% increase in booking numbers in relation to the same interview round last year.

Strong partnerships between school and the home have enormous potential in positively impacting upon student progress. The room was buzzing with productive conversations aimed at moving all young women to be their very best.

NAPLAN
Our Year 7 and Year 9 Students have now completed National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) testing for 2015. The NAPLAN tests assess student literacy and numeracy at this point within their educational journey. Students will receive the results of their NAPLAN between August and September.

In terms of feedback for parents and students, our College assessment and reporting processes provide a rich and diverse snapshot of each student’s learning progress. Students receive timely and meaningful feedback at each assessment opportunity. Parents receive formal feedback concerning Achievement Standards, Application and Conduct at each Reporting opportunity. The end of semester Academic Report provides more detailed performance data and commentary on each subject area.

QCS Test Practice
The Year 12 QCS students continue to demonstrate a positive, thoughtful and committed approach to the QCS preparation program. As the weather becomes cooler it is important that the students maintain their very good standards of punctuality and dedication.

All QCS students will sit full, two day QCS practice tests on Monday June 22 and Tuesday June 23. All students who wish to sit the QCS must be in attendance at these practices. These papers are marked and the feedback forms the basis for the Term 3 program.

End of Semester Exams
The end of Semester Assessment Block is only four weeks away. It is most important that all students have clarity around their assessment loads for the semester, their due dates and a strategically planned program of study for examinations that will take place in Assessment Block.

During Assessment Block the College operates under an alternative timetable where each subject receives an extended block of time to undertake assessment and enrichment activities.

The timetable and Exam schedule will appear on the College website within the next two weeks.

Wayne Chapman
Deputy Principal - Director of Studies
From the Assistant Principal Religious Education and Mission

Sorry Day
I am enjoying working as acting APRE and Mission, while Mrs Rodden is on leave during Term two. Throughout the year, our students represent the College in a number of events which give witness to our commitment to social justice and standing with the marginalised. We celebrate in joy and reflect with sorrow on the lives of others, both past and present. This Term we commemorate National Sorry Day on May 26 and join together to speak out against injustices to Indigenous people and speak up for reconciliation. On May 29 we will be holding a prayer service lead by Indigenous students and Mrs Fletcher’s House Group. This is an important week for all Australians to remember and to renew our commitments to reconciliation.

Women’s Craft Initiative
The KWISS women’s craft initiative is underway. The first of our afternoons was held last Friday. We would like to extend a big thankyou to Mrs Anita Packwood (mum of Kildair in Year 7). Girls were introduced to the techniques used in quilting. Mrs Packwood had organised fabric, applique designs, needles and thread for each student and we soon had the hang of blanket stitch, well nearly. The girls will continue working on their pieces over the next two weeks and we will meet again to complete them. Mrs Gina Koplick our Tuckshop Convenor also attended and will help us turn our quilt pieces into pillows. It was a lovely way to learn new skills and share ideas and stories. Our next workshop is Henna Drawing, which is proving to be very popular.
From the Assistant Principal Religious Education and Mission

Mass on Mondays at 7.00am

You will notice that there is a letter from Father Bernie Gallagher attached to this newsletter. Father Bernie, Parish Priest of Nundah, has extended an invitation to all students and families to attend Monday morning mass at 7am at Corpus Christi Church. We would encourage you to consider this opportunity to share in the Eucharist and spend time in prayer and reflection at the beginning of a busy week.

Year 10 Retreat (16th & 17th July)

Year 11 Retreat (15th to 17th July)

Details and any payment required is to be completed by Friday 15th May on www.trybooking.com

Consent forms to be handed in to Student Reception ASAP

Cheryl Bowring
Assistant Principal Religious Education and Mission
Captain’s Corner

Term 2 JJAMM themes are stewardship and reconciliation. The Student Leadership Team is working in conjunction with the Environment Committee and other students to raise awareness and to support these themes in our community.

Clothing Swap

The Environment Committee has organised a Clothing Swap that will take place on the 14th and 15th of May. The Student Leadership Team is assisting the committee with the promotion of this event and will also help on the days the event will take place. The aim of this initiative is to raise money for the Kedron Brooke Revegetation program. This organisation focuses its efforts on removing feral weeds from the brook and replacing them with natives that would have grown there 100 years ago. The Environment Committee will be collecting clothes, shoes, shirts and bags from students at the school and will set up an OP Shop like scenario where students can pick an item and trade a gold coin for it.

Million Paws Walk

The Student Leadership Team is also supporting fellow senior Celine Dettmann in her efforts to raise funds for the million paws walk. All of the money raised will go towards the RSPCA and into re-homing abandoned and abused dogs. In addition to supporting her fundraising efforts, students are invited to participate in the walk that will be held at Southbank on the 17th of May. Thousands will gather with their dogs and walk together to raise awareness for this incredible cause. The College is also putting together a small team of girls to walk their dogs in the school colours wearing the school ribbons.

These two amazing initiatives link our College to its deep roots of stewardship and bring the JJAMM theme to life within our community. They also help the students of MMC to continue to break the cycle of neglect.

Sorry Day

This term’s theme of reconciliation is also going to be highlighted in daily college life. There will be a Sorry Day Assembly on the 15th of May that will recognise and pay respect to the traditional Indigenous Australian custodians of this beautiful country. The presence of strong Indigenous Australian connections in our College engenders pride in our nation’s heritage. The Student Leadership Team is honoured to contribute to the celebration of Indigenous Australian culture at Mary MacKillop and we can’t wait to continue to help make the students of this school aware of Indigenous Australian struggles and we hope to break those discriminative cycles in the future.

The Student Leadership Team has also organised to have the traditional MacKillop minutes music replaced with Indigenous Australian music during National Reconciliation Week, the 27th of May to the 3rd of June. As National Sorry Week comes to a close on the 3rd of June, the Student Leadership Team’s Day Without initiative will begin; a day without technology.

Kayla Lawson and Casey Miles
College Captains
From the Justice Captain

K.W.I.S.S
Knowledge, Wisdom, Inspiration, Skill, Story

WOMAN’S CRAFT CIRCLE

Well ladies, the time has come!

This term marks the beginning of the new KWISS Club. If you want to learn new craft skills, interact with fellow MMC students and wise women then come along to the craft circle!

We have some lovely women who will be teaching crochet, quilting, beading, henna, Indian jewellery and knitting. Anyone and everyone is able to come along. Your grandma, grandpa, mother, father, sister, brother, aunty, uncle, cousins...EVERYONE is welcome!

8th May (Friday): Anita Packwood-Quilting
18th May (Monday): Bindu Rajendren-Henna
1st June (Monday): Margaret Branbrick-Crochet

Can you give us your time and wisdom?

Please email Cassie (cpaulke@mybce.catholic.edu.au) before the first session if interested and mention what session you would like to come along to.

Cassandra Paulke
Justice Captain
Dear Families of Fitzroy.

I trust your celebration of Mother’s Day was a blessed one. There are however many whose mothers are no longer physically present, but whose spirit will always be close.

During our House Assembly last week, the young women of F4 led us in prayer to honour the significant female role models in our lives.

I would like to share those sentiments:

A role model is defined as a person whose behaviour or success is or can be, emulated by others – especially by younger people.

At MMC we take pride in our young women and see ourselves as role models for each other.

We give thanks for women across the world whose leadership, resilience and resourcefulness in raising families, resisting despair and embracing new livelihoods is transforming their communities to challenge poverty.

We give thanks for women who have confronted warring powers, challenged violence and whose lives, directed by necessity, are moved by compassion.

Blessed are you, gracious God, who has created women in your image.

A candle was lit to acknowledge some of the attributes of all women in our lives.

Compassion  Selflessness  Courage  Passion

Honesty  Inspiration  Generosity  Unconditional love

May we see God revealed in the women in our lives – in their constancy of love, their readiness to forgive and their warm and tender embrace.

The month of May is traditionally known as the month of Mary – the mother of Jesus. We can look no further for a role model than her.

Blessings for the weeks ahead.

Mary Hilton
Pastoral Leader – Fitzroy House
McCormack House will be celebrating McCormack Day with a March for the MacKillop Foundation on Friday 22 May. Our House is committed to celebrating House spirit and providing inclusive activities for all students that add meaning and value. This Walkathon will take place at Boyd Park. It is a full HOUSE event and all are expected to participate.

The length of the circuit is 5 kilometres which equates to 8 laps around the running track. There will be treats along the way and lots of fun to be had.

All students are asked to seek sponsorship. This is when they are supported and encouraged to walk the distance and are given a sum of money in exchange. All students who raise a minimum of $10 go into the draw for a stack of vouchers and prizes. There are other great prizes too for the student who raises the most money and the HOUSE team with the most spirit as represented by their theme and costumes.

The students will be treated to a BBQ lunch and an ice cream at the end of the event.

Please support this fundraiser by encouraging your daughters to ask family, friends, neighbours and your work colleagues to sponsor them and help reach their prize target.

People can either sponsor your child on a per lap basis or they can choose to sponsor them a set amount.

In the interest of safety, please ensure that your daughter only seek sponsorship with parental supervision and only from people they know.

Aime Culpeper
Pastoral Leader - McCormack House
This year our goal as house captains has been to focus on a house that feels like family. So this week we celebrate National families week which is celebrated every year between the 15th and the 21st of May, thousands gather to celebrate National Families Week. This year’s theme is ‘Stronger Families, Stronger Communities’. It is a time to celebrate with family, friends, and share in the enjoyment of activities within the wider community. It is a time to celebrate the meaning of family and to make the most of family life. National Families Week coincides with the United Nations International Day of Families on 15 May. This day is observed by the United Nations to mark the importance that the international community places on families as the most fundamental units of society, as well as to show concern about their situation in many parts of the world. We hope this week is one for family for our house and the Penola ladies.

**Congratulations**

Last week at our house assembly we congratulated the students within our house who have achieved success both in the academic and sporting arenas. Students were awarded certificates and prizes for Academic Achievement (A’s in all subjects for all criteria), Academic Endeavour (all As for application and conduct) and top 10 place in the inter-house cross country. Congratulations to all these students. We wish the girls who will be representing our College in the CaSSSA cross country in the coming fortnight all the best. We hope those who did not receive awards on this occasion are striving to improve for Term 2.
From The Heads of House cont.

Year 12 Lunch
Last week we as year 12 group had a shared lunch with Ms Richardson. We spent time together reflecting on Term 1 and planning for the remainder of the year. It was so nice to see the energy and enthusiasm of our Year 12 peers and we look forward to a productive Term 2 and sharing some of ideas with you all in the coming weeks.

Uniforms
At our last house assembly we heard from our College Captain Kayla Lawson, who spent some time reminding us about the importance of wearing our College uniform with pride and showing us the do's and don'ts of the MMC uniform. As the weather gets a little cooler this is a reminder to all Penola ladies about wearing our uniform with pride on all occasions. We ask for the support of families in ensuring all students are meeting the College expectation.

Carli O’Halloran and Lauren Timms (Penola House Captains)
Ms Richardson
Pastoral Leader - Penola House
From the Music Department

Welcome!
The new term is well underway in the music department! Over the holidays there have been some staffing changes. And as such I would like to very warmly welcome Ceri Jones to MMC as our String Tutor and String Ensemble Director. Ceri has a wealth of knowledge both as a professional performer and educator and has joined us most recently from teaching Werribee Secondary College in Victoria. We wish her all the best as she settles in here in Brisbane and at Mary MacKillop College.

String Lessons and String Ensemble
String Ensemble has commenced at the new rehearsal time of Tuesday Morning. A reminder to be on time so that rehearsals can commence at 7.30am. String lessons have also commenced for the term on the new day of Tuesday. Thank you for your commitment to these rehearsal and lesson changes!

Music Soiree
All private music students have been formally invited to perform at the Music Soiree on Thursday May 21st (Week 5). By now, students will have received an invitation from their music tutor and should be working on the piece they have selected to perform at the Soiree. Although this is not a compulsory event for students to perform at, it is an amazing opportunity for students to set a performance goal and showcase what they have been working on during their lessons. Whether it is 8 bars or a whole song, we want to hear it! Family and Friends are invited to this event and it would be great to have an audience for our girls to perform for. Details are as follows:

When: Thursday May 21st, 5.00pm-6.30pm
Where: Drama Room (down the amphitheatre, under the hall)

Music Showcase
All Extra-curricular music groups are performing at the Autumn Music Showcase. This is an opportunity for all students in music ensemble to showcase the music they have been working on during Terms 1 and 2. There will be a raffle and supper provided on the night. Details are as follows:

When: Thursday May 28th 6.00pm-8.30pm
Where: The College Hall
GOLD COIN ENTRY FEE + Lucky Door Prize

A Call for Donations
With the Music Showcase coming up, we would like to express a call for donations for items to be raffled off on the night. Examples include (but are not limited to) gourmet non-perishable food items (tins/biscuits) to be put together in a hamper, wine or gift cards. Each small donation counts and is appreciated. Raffle items can be brought to your daughter’s ensemble rehearsal for collection.
From the Music Department cont.

Date Claimers
May 21st – Music Soiree, Private Music Students
May 28th – Music Showcase, Extra-curricular Ensembles
May 31st – Open Day, All Extra-Curricular Ensembles, Selected soloists
June 6th – Virginia State School Fete, Concert Band, Rock Band, Vocal Attack

Bree Cohen
Music Coordinator

From The Careers Office

1. Diploma of Business
   The Diploma of Business provides students with a broad understanding of contemporary business practices. Careers Australia has partnered with leading universities to ensure diploma graduates can receive credits for like tertiary qualifications, reducing the time and cost of further studies.
   
   Current Ranking: Successful completion of a Diploma of Business earns students a QTAC ranking of 82
   
   Recommended Year Levels: Years 11 & 12
   
   Delivery: In school delivery, approximately 3 ½ contact hours per week
   
   Duration: 4 – 7 Terms
   
   Funding & Payment Options: VET Fee Help is available for Australian Citizens. Flexible payment plans are also available.
   
   Ask your school’s Career Guidance Counsellor or VET Coordinator how you can complete a Diploma of Business while you are still at school.

2. School Based Traineeships
   There are a large number of school-based traineeship opportunities in Hospitality and Business (Retail Specialisation). Details are listed on the Careers Noticeboard. Please make an appointment with the Careers Office if you wish to apply. These opportunities are for Year 11 rank students.

Mrs Aime Culpeper
Careers Counsellor
Vocation and Training Coordinator

Mrs Beverley McPherson
Careers Assistant
From the Japanese Department

Going Sushi
Year 8 and 12 Japanese students enjoyed a visit to Nundah Village and watched the sushi chefs working in the open kitchen of Edo Sushi Restaurant. The chefs were preparing a variety of traditional Japanese dishes that included gyoza (fried dumplings), various sushi styles including makizushi (sushi rolls) and nigiri. The girls were able to try their hand at using chopsticks (o-hashi) and quenching their thirst with the popular Japanese imported soda drink – Ramune. The distinctive Ramune bottle has a marble stopper that upon being opened falls through to the neck of the bottle which makes for an interesting conversation over the evening meal at home or an inventive percussion instrument.

Leighton Gilmour
Japanese Teacher
From the Australian Brain Bee Challenge

Australian Brain Bee Challenge – Congratulations to Meaghan Wood!

Recently Meaghan has made the massive achievement of winning a place to compete in the state finals of the Neuroscience competition, the Australian Brain Bee Challenge. She competed in the first round against 1100 students from 65 schools to make it into the top 170 students. She will be competing against other students from across the state to go into the national championships. The contest will take place at the University of Queensland where the state finalists will be given an exclusive tour of the world-class facilities at the Queensland Brain Institute (QBI) and meet with renowned scientific researchers at the Institute. Meaghan told us that she is really excited to have the experience of going to UQ and is hoping to get into the next round. She has enjoyed the experience of Brain Bee because she “like(s) learning about Neuroscience and the brain. It’s pretty complex but it’s a lot of fun to learn about.” This competition is an amazing experience which will take place on the 21st of July at the University of Queensland.

Year 7 Field Trip

On Friday May 8, Year 7 Science students were involved in a day of Biology field studies to support their classroom studies in Ecology and Classification. They travelled by bus to Shorncliffe, Dowse Lagoon, Deagon Wetlands and Scarborough to visit a variety of ecosystems in the Brisbane area. They were very excited to see organisms such as brittles stars, nesting lorikeets, eight different kinds of alga and kookaburras in their natural environment. They will be using their images and information to classify organisms and look at relationships between indicator species, biodiversity and human impact on ecosystems.

Anita Grisaffi
Science Teacher
From the Sport Department

FAQ

With the next trimester of CaSSSA sport starting on the 20th of this month and netball’s QC Cup on the 19th May, I would like to take this opportunity to go over a few questions that seem to frequently come up.

When do I find out about trials?

The dates and times for trials are made known to all students through the daily notices. So it is important that your daughters make an effort to read through these each day, especially if they have put their name down for a sport.

When do I know if I have made a team?

Names are posted on outside of Mr Messer’s office and on the Sports Noticeboard once trials have been run and the team to be put forward is determined.

Can I place my name down for more than one sport for CaSSSA?

No and this is for 2 reasons:

- As spaces for teams are tightly contested, you may ‘bump’ out another student who is going for that team
- If you have your name down twice it requires changing of team rolls if you decide to play with one team and then change your mind.

Can I change my Wednesday elective (in-school) sport?

You are able to change freely in the first 2 weeks but after this point then you can only change if there is a medical reason and the presentation of a signed parental letter. Many sports have limited numbers and they fill fast, so there is limitation in where students can move to.

What is the process for trials? What do I need?

Trials are games that are held in order to rank your ability against those other interested in trying out for the sport. As places are limited it comes down to who has the most commitment, skill, ability and focus for the team. So players are expected to come and show themselves in a good light for the selection. You need to bring; sports uniform, non-marking sports shoes, water bottle, hat as well as any sport specific gear (shin pads, hockey stick etc).

It is extremely important for students that have put their name down to commit to the trials, training and 8 games that each season entails. If a student chooses to change her mind about a sport she has nominated in she must inform Mr Messer ASAP. One student may be the difference in numbers between us fielding 2 teams or 1 in that age group.
From the Sport Department cont.

How does MET NORTH sport fit into the school?

MET NORTH is an independent sporting competition that the College is part of. It is up to the student to keep an eye on necessary dates for trials, championships, competitions etc. Most trials for regional sports will be placed in the daily notices and the paperwork has to be obtained from Mr Messer and accompany the girls to their trials. It is to be filled out and signed off by Mrs Clarke prior to the day of trials. As this is independent competition there will rarely be an attending staff member at MET NORTH events. Also it is important to note that while any student is free to trial at a MET NORTH level it is recommended that they at least play in a high level of representation for their chosen sport.

I hope that by answering some of these common questions this may have covered some questions that either your daughter has asked or you have been thinking about.

Matthew Messer
Head of Sport
From The Resource Centre

Library / English Competitions, Mother’s Day and Harry Potter Quiz

We still have a number of writing, public speaking, digital storytelling and poetry competitions running in the library with the opportunity to win cash prizes! Well done to those girls who have entered in the Writ4fun competition. Winners will be announced on 20 May and a certificate of excellence for outstanding student achievement is now proudly on display in the library! Please listen to the daily notices and see Mrs Strickland in the library or your English teacher for more information and entry forms.

Sunday, 10 May was Mother’s Day. To celebrate the day, the Library Committee hosted two competitions where students had to match the MMC staff mother to her correct baby photo and favourite book/s and where year 7 and 8 girls had to answer questions relating to the history of Mother’s day and famous mothers in books. Mother’s Day bookmarks and chocolates were awarded to whose entries had the most correct responses. Thank you to students who participated. We also had a display of book titles featuring mothers. Check out the display of MMC staff mothers with their correct baby photos and favourite books in the library this week!

On Tuesday 26 May at lunchtime, the Library Committee will host a Harry Potter quiz based on the popular books by J.K. Rowling which have all been made into films. Stay tuned for further details in the daily notices, in house group and assembly by the Library Committee leaders! Great prizes to be won!
From The Resource Centre cont.

New Titles
Don’t forget to come to the library and visit the Research and Resource Centre Information Moodle page and Oliver home page to check out the new fiction and non-fiction titles available for you to borrow as well as details of upcoming events, competitions and displays in the library! We currently have the display of some of the Children’s Book Council of Australia’s Shortlisted Book of the Year Award recipients in the Older Readers and Younger Readers categories and some new non-fiction titles on display in the library including some of the ‘Issues in Society’ books which are very useful for student assignments in a variety of subject areas including the Humanities and SOR.

eBooks and Audio Books
Students can now also borrow ebooks and audiobooks by finding the title in our Oliver catalogue, clicking on the BCE Digital library web address and entering their library code (the ‘s’ code on their student ID card) to download the ebook to their netbooks. Senior students are also encouraged to join both the State Library of Queensland online and become a borrower of the University of Queensland library for wider access to resources for research. See Mrs Strickland in the library for assistance.

Melinda Strickland
Librarian

Madonna Riggall
Library Aide/Book Hire Convenor

We acknowledge the traditional custodians, the Turrbal people.
From Joeys

Tuckshop Roster
Monday 18th May - Kym Shirley and Jess Leeson
Tuesday 19th May - Penelope McCarthy
Wednesday 20th May - Daisy Rajendran
Thursday 21st May - Ginny Kennedy
Friday 22nd May - Rebecca Hanlon

Monday 25th May - Irene Lata and Joanne Clements
Tuesday 26th May - Debbie Lindblom
Wednesday 27th May - Denise Olsen
Thursday 28th May - Veronique Taylor and Rebecca Hanlon
Friday 29th May - Rebecca Hanlon

Gina Koplick
Tuckshop Convenor

Community Noticeboard

STUDENT TRAVEL REBATES
Semester 1, 2015

Bus Fare Assistance
• Does your child attend a school outside the Brisbane City Council boundary?
• Does your family spend more than $33/week* on fares to and from school (* $25/week if you hold a concession card)?
• Does your child travel on a publicly available bus not owned or associated with the school?

Students with Disabilities
• Does your child have a verified disability that requires transport assistance to and from school?
• Has your school’s learning support teacher assessed your child’s travel capability rating as ‘semi-independent’ or more dependent?

Visit our website to see if you qualify for financial assistance to help with the cost of transport and apply at www.schooltransport.com.au by 31 May 2015.
Late applications cannot be accepted.