Welcome to our 2014 academic year and a very warm welcome to all our new students and families who have joined the St Mary’s College Community. We have begun the year with 52 new Kindergarten students and 76 new enrolments from Year PP-12. This is most encouraging as we continue to build our numbers providing enhanced opportunities for all students. A number of students are newly enrolled from remote communities in the Kimberley. We have welcomed students from the communities of Frog Hollow, Wyndham, Glen Hill, Hall’s Creek, Beagle Bay and Lombadina. We look forward to a long association with all new families.

This year promises to be a very busy year. Our Year 12 students have already attended their Retreat and I thank Brian Kane for his work in organising this important faith experience for our students. The retreat began on Thursday with a pilgrimage walk led by Fr Matt Digges from the Nulungu Chapel on the senior campus to the Our Lady Queen of Peace Cathedral. All Year 12’s observed complete silence along the pilgrimage and Fr Matt led prayer at significant sites along the walk. Following the pilgrimage, Mass was held in the Cathedral and students then experienced a range of activities at the Broome Camp School. My thanks are extended to Fr Matt Digges, Brian Kane, Katrina van de Water, Michael Lake and Mark Ross for organising such a meaningful experience for our Year 12’s.

We welcome the following new staff to St Mary’s College.

Adrian Bratovic  Secondary Middle School Coordinator
Mary-Anne Bratovic  Secondary English Teacher and Academic Enrichment Coordinator
Brad Carmody  Secondary Pathways Coordinator
Rowena Puertolano  Secondary Social Worker (Part-time Term 1)
Elizabeth Kent  Secondary School Psychologist (Part-time)
Talisha Russell  Primary ATA (Term 1)
Trisha Francis  Primary ATA
Dale Birch  Primary ATA (Term 1)
Robyn Yahya  Secondary Library (Term 1)
Lisa Sharratt  Secondary teacher (Part-time Term 1)
Narelle Lane  Secondary teacher (Part-time term 1)

We welcome back Nikki Farrell to Year 3 from her maternity leave. Fr Ernesto has recently been appointed to Diocese of Alotau-Sideia in the Milne Bay Province of Papua New Guinea. We thank Fr Ernesto for his great work as Primary Chaplain and wish him well for his new appointment. Abhaya and Yasmin Yapa have decided to return to Perth and we thank them for their long association and commitment to St Mary’s College and the community of Broome. We wish them both well for the future.

Staff Commissioning Mass - This Saturday evening our staff will be attending the Commissioning Mass at the Our Lady Queen of Peace Cathedral. Commissioning Masses are held in the first weeks of each academic year throughout the state for all 159 Catholic schools in Western Australia educating some 72,000 children.

Parent Information Evenings
A number of parent information evenings will be held in the coming fortnight. I strongly encourage all parents and guardians to attend these important information sessions. This is also a great opportunity to meet 1:1 with your child’s teachers and staff.

Year 7 parent Information Evening – Tuesday February 11 at 5.30pm on the Secondary campus.
PP, Year 2, 4, & 6 Parent Information Sessions – Tuesday 18 February at 6.00pm on the Primary campus.
Year 1, 3 and 5 Parent Information Sessions – Wednesday 19 February at 6.00pm on the Primary campus.
Year 11/12 Parent Information Evening – Wednesday February 19 at 5.30pm on the Secondary campus.

Lord God,
At the beginning of this new year teach us to be your hands and feel where we are,
At the beginning of this new year teach us to love as you love us
At the beginning of this new year teach us to pray for those in need
So that You are honoured and glorified
Amen
Welcome back to all our students and a very warm welcome to those students and families who have joined our community this year. The year has started off very well and thanks to all students and families who had made an extraordinary effort to ensure that all students are well prepared with uniforms and necessary equipment. It was fantastic to see all the Secondary students on assembly looking fabulous and keen to start the year. As a reward for the awesome start to the year, students will be provided with a Hotdog for lunch next Friday 14th February.

HOMEWORK CENTRE is operating in the Library every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 2.30 till 4.30pm. All students are welcome and encouraged to attend. A staff member is on hand to help with homework or assignments. Students will sign in and out of the Library so that parents and caregivers can check on attendance if required. All students are strongly encouraged to make use of this facility and help. Students do not have to attend every day but the Library and staff assistance is available when they need it.

Our bell times have changed this year. Wednesday is now the day when Pastoral Group will be extended rather than Tuesday (as in past years). Another change for Wednesday is that students may wear the SMC sports uniform rather than the formal uniform. Students must wear the correct SMC shorts (dance tights and other shorts are not acceptable).

HATS. In the tropical climate experienced in Broome students need to be wearing hats when out in the sun. If students choose not to wear a hat they will need to ensure that they are sitting in the shade at Recess and Lunch. Students have been reminded that they must be at school ready for PCG at 7.45am and they must be punctual to every class. Being organised and ready for all classes is important so that trips to lockers for forgotten items are not necessary.

PARENT DROP OFF AND PICK UP. Parents and caregivers are reminded that the Port Drive entrance to the school is only our School buses. The driveway is quite narrow and the busses have strict timetables, so any delay can be quite costly. Parents are encouraged to drop students off and pick them up from the Guy Street car park as this is a much safer option.

Year 7 parents and caregivers should have received notice of the Information night next Tuesday 11th February at 5.30pm in the H & T Room (same building as the new Uniform Shop). This meeting is to give you an opportunity to meet your child’s Pastoral Care teacher and subject teachers and answer any questions or concerns you may have about secondary schooling at St Mary’s College. Light refreshments and snacks will be served at the end of the evening. We look forward to meeting you then!
Welcome Back!
What a wonderful way to start a school year. Seeing so many families throughout the school assisting their little ones to settle in was truly beautiful. Please keep coming in and sharing your child’s learning, we love having you on the primary campus. It was delightful to see the students return and move to their new classrooms with such enthusiasm and big smiles, as always there were a few nerves from some to start with, everyone seems to have settled in nicely as the days go by. Thank you to the staff who busily prepared their classrooms so that the students felt welcomed and motivated to commence the school year. If you or your children require any support at the commencement of this year, please see Classroom Teachers or myself to assist.

We would like to reward our students for the awesome start to the year, students will be provided with a Hotdog for lunch next Friday 14th February.

New Students
Welcome to our new students and families, it is great to have so many families choosing to join our school community. We trust that you feel welcomed and enjoy your time at St Mary’s College. Please make sure that you make a time to meet with child’s classroom teacher so that we can get to know your child’s individual needs.

Maternity Leave
We had two teachers return from holidays with some exciting news to share with our community. Miss Julia and Miss Jennifer have both shared that they are expecting their first child. We are so happy for Julia and Brad and Jennifer and Alex and we wish them every happiness as they prepare for parenthood. We have advertised these teaching positions and we will advise when these positions are filled.

Primary Leadership Team
Our Primary Leadership Team has a new look for 2014 and are full of enthusiasm and excitement to support students, staff and families. Please make sure that you contact any of the team members if you require support or further information for your children. We are confident that these structures and personnel along with our sensational staff will be able to achieve wonderful things for all involved on the primary campus.

Yoshi Hunter – Student Wellbeing Officer
Sara Burroughs – Faith Life and Religious Education & Student Support
Helen Green – Students with Disabilities Coordinator
Keryn Moase – Curriculum Coordinator
Carpark
Our Car park continues to be an area of the campus that requires patience and support to ensure that all of our students are coming and going in a safe manner. We are aware that this area is particularly challenging during the wet. We ask that families continue to follow the systems in place to ensure smooth transition times.

Student Assessment
You may notice some different staff in teaching your children’s classes over the next few weeks, or alternatively withdrawing students individually. This is to allow your children to be individually assessed in a number of learning areas. This data is collected to best meet the individual learning needs of your children. This year we will also be collecting data that attempts to measure students standardised assessment potential. As a school we have made a commitment to complete all data by the end of week five, we believe that this will enable us to use data to inform our teaching and learning, as well as inform parents. Please discuss arrangements for assessment with your child’s classroom teachers.

Parent Information Evening
In Week Three we will be holding our Parent Information Sessions for classes. We ask and expect that all families attend. These meetings are an important way of finding out what is happening in your child’s classroom and helps to build quality home school partnerships. These partnerships between the school community and the home are imperative as they ensure that your children feel safe, secure and valued. Your presence at Parent Meetings demonstrates that you value their education and want to support them in this huge part of their lives. We look forward to seeing you on:

- **Tuesday 18th February** – Years PP, Years 2, 4 & 6
- **Wednesday 19th February** – Years 1, 3, & 5

Medical Information
Letters and required forms have been sent home with students that we have recorded on our system as having a medical condition. Can you please make sure that if you have not received paperwork that you contact the Primary Office immediately. Those families that have received paper work home, please complete as soon as possible and return to school. It is imperative that our student medical information is correct and up to date so that we can best support all students in our college. Thank you for your support with this important process.

Anaphylactic (Allergy) Aware School
A reminder that our school is Anaphylactic Aware, promoting awareness and requesting understanding from parents/carers in the preparation of their child/ren’s lunch and recess snacks. Please avoid nuts and nut based products such as Nutella spread, Fruit and Nut mix and muesli bars. Please be aware of seafood based products, in particular shellfish and be aware with egg based products. We appreciate your support in keeping all our students safe whilst at school.

Parent Handbook - 2014
The 2014 Parent Handbook can be found on our School Website in the Parent Information section. Our College Website has all the up-to-date information about our College. Please take the time to have a look and keep up to date with parent information.

Primary Campus Hours Reminder
A reminder that the school gates open from 7:30am. Classrooms from Prep Primary – Year 6 are opened at 7:45am and Kindy by 8:00am. Please note that duty of care does not commence on the school grounds until 7:30am.

Welcome Morning Tea
Thank you to our P&F and Yoshi for arranging such a lovely morning tea. Thank you to parents that popped into our ‘Welcome to 2014 Morning Tea’. It was wonderful way for parents to celebrate and/or commiserate dropping off their children on their first day. We look forward to doing this more regularly as an informal way to spend time together as a community.
First Week Fun on the Primary Campus
WELCOME — NEW STAFF 2014

Ms Liz Kent — Secondary School Psychologist (Part time)

Ms Rowena Pertollano — Secondary Social Worker (Part time) Term 1

Mrs Lisa Sharratt — Secondary Teacher (Part time) Term 1

Mr Adrian Bratovic — Secondary Middle School Coordinator

Mrs Mary-Anne Bratovic — Secondary English Teacher & Academic Enrichment Coordinator

Mr Brad Carmody — Secondary Pathways Coordinator

Ms Talisha Russell, Primary ATA Term 1

Mr Dale Birch, Primary ATA Term 1

Ms Trisha Francis Primary ATA
Exciting happenings at St. Mary’s Primary this term!

On Mondays and Thursday afternoons this term from 2.15 to 3.15pm we will be running the Active After-school Communities (AASC) program. This Australian Government program is run by the Australian Sports Commission and provides opportunities for primary school children to participate in free sport and other structured physical activity, after school.

This term a diverse and dynamic AASC program has been put together for children to enjoy including softball, table tennis, and swimming. The activities focus on increasing physical activity and improving skills in a fun, safe and inclusive environment.

To ensure children can take advantage of this excellent opportunity, we encourage parents to allow them to participate for the full hour and to pick them up after the program concludes.

If you would like further information on the AASC program please contact Edmund Connor, Primary Campus, PE Coordinator.

YEAR 8 VACCINATION PROGRAM

Immunisation consent forms have gone home with all year 8 students this week. Forms need to be returned to school by FRIDAY 21ST FEBRUARY. Dates for immunisations are still being negotiated with the schools but will be within two weeks of the forms return.

An information leaflet accompanies the consent form and explains what diseases are covered by the immunisations.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU TICK YES (Green Box) or NO (Red Box) ON THE CONSENT FORM TO INDICATE IF YOU WANT YOUR CHILD TO RECEIVE THE IMMUNISATION OR NOT.

Vaccinations received in term one will be for HPV (Human Papillomavirus) and Varicella (Chickenpox) only.

If your child does not require the Varicella vaccination because they have already had Chickenpox, they may be vaccinated with the Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccination, depending on supplies available.

Further vaccinations will be done in term two.

If you require further information please contact Sue Castellarin, School Health Nurse on 9194 2337.
PARENTS AND FRIENDS

St Mary’s College Parents and Friends
Meeting Dates 2014

TERM 1
Parents and Friends Meeting         Tuesday 4 March
Parents and Friends Meeting         Tuesday 1 April

TERM 2
Parents and Friends Meeting         Tuesday 6 May
Parents and Friends Meeting         Tuesday 3 June
Parents and Friends Meeting         Tuesday 1 July

TERM 3
Parents and Friends Meeting         Tuesday 6 August
Parents and Friends Meeting         Tuesday 2 Sept.

TERM 4
Parents and Friends Meeting         Tuesday 28 Oct.
Movie night                          To Be Confirmed
Parents and Friends and School Board AGM To Be Confirmed

School Banking
School banking starts again next Thursday in front of primary reception at 7.30am. The P & F are looking for parent helpers to go on the roster. If you can help or for further enquiries please contact Melissa Coggan on 0403952278 or email melissacoggan@gmail.com

UNIFORM SHOP
NEWS

Sports shorts are now available in all sizes.

JUBUDAH for KIDS

It’s about Feelings’

Jubudah for Kids is a program for ‘kids’ aged 5 to 12. They’ll learn about feelings from the five main groups:

SAD
MAD
GLAD
SCARED
LONELY

Kids from all schools are welcome.

They will receive:
~ skills to identify feelings
~ tools to manage them (setting boundaries, respectful communication
~ building confidence and self esteem)
~ understanding that all feelings are ok!

They'll also meet Zac and Rose, the Jubudah puppets, and do meditation, colouring and singing.

Zac says ‘It’s what we do with our feelings that get us into trouble’.

When: Wednesdays during school terms ~ 2.30pm to 3.30pm
How Much: $15 per ‘kid’ or $20 for two
To register:

Call Shannon on 0409 935 391
Or email pctrans@bigpond.com

Year 11 and 12 James Bond Ball—28th February, tickets on sale NOW at Main Reception .