I am so pleased to say our students have settled extremely well into the new school year at St Mary’s College; in particular I am delighted to see our new students, families and staff members have adjusted well to their new school, and I look forward to a successful academic year.

Enrolments - Our current enrolment of 658 students, Kindergarten to Year 12 also includes 45 boarding students. I am also encouraged by the way in which our students from remote communities have adapted to school at St Mary’s College. They are taking the challenge and adjusting to life away from their home and family and are to be congratulated on their positive attitude towards their new school. The students are well supported both here and at the Broome Residential College. In particular we thank Ms Jennifer Cambridge, Mr Jack Reagan and staff from the Clontarf Academy, our very valued Aboriginal Teaching Assistants (ATA’s) Ms Rose Bin Swani, Ms Carlene Smith, Ms Helen Howard, Ms Kristine Van and her staff at the Residential College and all of the students and teachers for making their transition to St Mary’s College so successful.

Staff – On Saturday 8 February our College staff attended the Commissioning Mass celebrated by Fr Matt at Our Lady Queen of Peace Cathedral. My thanks to Fr Matt and all staff involved in the preparation for our Commissioning Mass. Since our last newsletter we farewelled staff member Amarah Treacy. Amarah worked on the secondary campus as part of our administration team. We wish Amarah well and look forward to continue working with her as a parent at the school.

Information Evenings - The Parent information evenings on the two campuses have been very successful. Thank you to the parents/guardians who were able to attend and to the teachers for making themselves available to advise our parents and ensure them that we work together to achieve a common goal. It was a pleasure to meet the families of the students at our school.

Disputes or complaints in a Catholic School - The Catholic Education Commission of WA Dispute and Complaint Resolution policy was implemented in 2002 and provides a process that must be followed by all Catholic schools when addressing issues of dispute or complaint. A brochure on how to deal with a dispute or complaint in a Catholic school is available at both offices. All issue of dispute or complaint must be addressed in the first instance at the school level.

After School Homework/Study Centre - is again operational on the secondary campus in the Library from 2.30-4.30pm every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. This facility has been made available for students to complete homework or study. Peer to peer tutoring has been acknowledged as a very effective way to study and it is a commitment by our staff to help raise the academic standards of our students. A teacher will be available every afternoon on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays to supervise and help out where needed. Please be aware that this is for study and homework only – it is not for socialising and students need to be engaged in meaningful work. Your child may wish to use this every day or only one day a week. If you wish your child to make use of this opportunity, please be sure you have registered your permission with the College, so that both parties are aware that your child is to be in the Library.

Follow the Dream Program - St Mary’s College continues its relationship with the Polly Farmer Foundation jointly with the Catholic Education Office, to support the Follow the Dream Program – ‘Walarba Bugarri’. This program is designed to provide academic support to the most capable and motivated Indigenous students from years 7-12. Providing tutoring lifts the academic standards across the school and enhances the school’s culture of success. Tutoring is available Monday – Thursday 2:20pm – 4:20pm.

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February/March

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary Book Fair</td>
<td>Week commencing 24th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 7 Camp</td>
<td>26-28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 11 &amp; 12 Ball, Cable Beach Club</td>
<td>28th</td>
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<tr>
<td>P and F Meeting</td>
<td>4th</td>
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<td>Labour Day Public Holiday</td>
<td>3th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ash Wednesday Mass</td>
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Jesus,
You always welcomed little children when you walked on this earth. Teach me to have a childlike trust in you. To live in the knowledge that You will never abandon me.

If God were trying to tell me something, would I know?
If God were reassuring me or challenging me, would I notice?
I ask for the grace to be free of my own preoccupations and open to what God may be saying to me. Amen
Students have settled in well and many have established routines which enables them to be organised and ready for classes. Some students are still “finding their feet” and struggling with getting organised and arriving at class on time. It does take some time to get used to combination padlocks and being organised for three classes at the start of the day but being at school early and knowing what subjects you have each day makes things so much easier.

Students and parents are reminded that in Broome every student should be wearing a hat when out in the sun. It has been fantastic to meet so many parents at the recent Year 7 and Year 11 & 12 information evenings. For parents in all other year levels, if you have any questions please contact your child’s Pastoral Care Advisor (PCA). All PCA’s should have been in contact with families just to fill you in on how your students have started this year. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the PCA.

Our Year 7 Cohort of students are preparing for their school camp next week. All medical and associated permission forms should have been returned to the College by now. The students and their teachers are off for 3 days to the fabulous facilities at Broome Camp School. I’m sure they will have a wonderful time and look forward to hearing some stories and sharing some photos in our next newsletter. If you have any questions regarding this camp please direct them to Mr Adrian Bratovic, our new Middle School Coordinator.

As part of our start of year processes all families have been asked to check contact details so that we are sure we have accurate information. A general excursion permission form was also sent home and this needs to be completed and both forms need to be returned by next Friday February, 28th. I know this can be a tiresome process, especially for new families who have just completed enrolment paperwork but it is easy to make an error and it is best to check that our data is accurate.

Our Parents and Friends Association, which does some amazing work around the College, have also requested some information and Volunteers for projects around St Mary’s. This data will be passed on to the P&F and I’m sure you will be contacted to lend a hand! The first P&F meeting for the year will be held on Tuesday 4th March in the Staffroom on the Secondary campus at 7.00pm. It would be fabulous to see some new faces at the meeting and you need not worry – the AGM was last year!

Our Senior students are polishing their dance moves and gathering their finery in preparation for the annual Senior Ball being held next Friday. It is sure to be a fabulous night. Thanks to Upper School Coordinator Mr Mark Ross and his band of senior students and other helpers who have helped to contribute to this “007” themed event.

The wet weather does seem to have improved for the moment, but students do need to be aware that in wet weather there are many places that they can go on the secondary campus and stay dry. The Library is open every lunchtime and students are welcome to visit. Most walkways are covered and students should be able to get to class without getting too wet. Common sense means that students should not be out on the oval or the basketball courts whilst it is raining.

**FROM HEAD OF SECONDARY**

Aboriginal School/Parent Agreement – the community partnership between Aboriginal families and the College which is designed to benefit our students and families, is being finalised and families will be receiving copies in the coming weeks.

College Board - The first College Board meeting was held on Wednesday 12 February. Our Board members demonstrate their selfless attitude by volunteering countless hours of their time — preparing for meetings, attending meetings, school functions and events and making decisions about finance and other critical issues.

Parents and Friends - I also encourage parents/guardians to come along to our first Parents and Friends meeting on Tuesday March 4. The Parents and Friends committee are an active and committed group of parents who support our school. I understand people have many commitments and may not have time to spare, but if parents aren’t able to be involved on the Committee, then they might like to volunteer their time in helping in some other way, even if it was in just something small or helping at one of our events during the year.

Thank you – to students, parents and staff for offering a supportive and positive attitude to the new school year. We are off to a great start. I invite you to participate in our school events, visit our school, and become involved in the St Mary’s College community.

Photo right: Commissioning Mass, new staff Mary Anne Bratovic, Adrian Bratovic, Fr Matt Digges and Brad Carmody.

Di Popovich
**Class Masses**
Last week we celebrated our first class Mass for the year with Fr Matt at Nulungu Chapel. The Year 6H Mass was celebrated with Year 6D and Year 2B. It was great to have some parents joining us. This week Year 4R will be celebrating Mass with their buddies and classes. We welcome all parents to join in these Masses at Nulungu Chapel at 9:00am on Fridays.

**Assembly**
We had a fabulous start to our 2014 Assemblies with Year 4E setting the scene with the theme ‘Team Work’. Well Done to Year 4E, Miss Elaina and Mr Sonny. It was pleasing to see so many parents present to support their children as they performed and received Merit Awards recognizing their efforts. This Friday we have our Year 5 students presenting our first Gospel Assembly for the year. Thanks to the Year 5 students along with Miss Josie, Miss Michelle, Mr Tim and Mr Joseph for their hard work.

**Parent Teacher Information Evenings**
What a wonderful response to the start of our school year. It was so lovely to have so many parents attending our Parent Information sessions. Thank you for your support and commitment to working with us for the best of your children in our care. I am sure you will agree that the teachers did a fantastic job in preparing and presenting the evenings, a huge thanks to teaching teams for their dedication.

**P&F First Meeting for 2014**
Tuesday March 4th is our first P&F Meeting for the year at 7pm in the Secondary Staffroom. The Parents and Friends Incorporated is a fabulous way to contribute to the community of St Mary’s College. I encourage all parents to consider coming along, you will be warmly welcomed.

**Kiss ‘n’ Drive**
We are trying really hard to ensure that our Kiss and Drive is effective, easy and stress free for everyone. This area has a great potential to be able to swiftly and safely drop off your children. Please make sure that if you are taking your children to their classrooms or order lunch that you please park in the carpark. We trust that with everyone’s cooperation morning and afternoons can be safe and enjoyable for all. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

**Active After School Activities**
Active After School activities are commencing this week. We have had an overwhelming response to children wanting to be a part of this program. Due to the high demand, we are currently trying to source alternative options. Please be patient whilst we make sure that all students are able to access these wonderful opportunities.

**Extra Curricular Activities**
These will commence in Term Two, our staff are so busy arranging wonderful learning opportunities for your children in classrooms that they require this time to prepare. Further information will be coming home shortly regarding these and once again we are looking at ways to cater for the high demand surrounding these opportunities.

**Communication**
We believe that by parents/caregivers working with the school, we can achieve great things for your children. Please make sure that if you have any concerns regarding your child that you speak directly with their classroom teacher. If you require any further information or support please make a time to see a member of the Primary Leadership Team. We would prefer to know how we can support you and work through any concerns as they occur. Thanks for your support with the communication.

**Kidsmatter**
Towards the end of 2013, SMC Primary campus commenced conversations with the KidsMatter team to look at implementing some of these structures and resources to St Mary’s College. It is hoped that many of the wonderful things that we already do can be supported in this way. An important aspect of this journey is having a parent representation on this committee. If you are interested in supporting us in this journey please see Coby asap. We are really wanting some parents to support us with this, please consider joining our team. For further details - www.kidsmatter.edu.au.

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**Primary SRC and House Captains 2014**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Head Boy</td>
<td>Daniel Ralph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Girl</td>
<td>Lani Pigram</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Head Boy</td>
<td>Jonas Rocke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Head Girl</td>
<td>Holly Newton</td>
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<tr>
<td>O’ Brien - Pindan</td>
<td>Emma Pipe</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Katelyn Parriman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rice - Gold</td>
<td>Zaid Cahill</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Isaiah McKenna-Paino</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barbier - Blue</td>
<td>Jack Canavan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Isabel Austin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward - Green</td>
<td>Lauren Christie</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Keiran Foley</td>
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Dear Parents / Caregivers

Welcome to the start of 2014 academic year in Catholic Education.

To the families who have joined our system for the very first time in 2014 I offer you a very warm welcome. I’m delighted that you’ve chosen to send your son or daughter to one of the 161 Catholic Schools operating across our state from Kununurra to Esperance.

To all who are returning to Catholic schools, welcome back.

Our schools rely on the contribution of staff, students and parents working in partnership to build a successful Catholic community. As a working parent and father of five children I understand first-hand the time pressure that you are under every day. Within the context of your busy work and family life, if every member of our school community could share just a little of their time and talents, our schools would be all the richer for it. You can contribute by nominating to become a member of the Board, joining the P&F, volunteering to be a class representative, helping out at the annual sports carnival, doing a shift at the canteen or helping with school reading rosters. Every contribution makes a difference to your child’s education.

This year will continue to be a period of positive growth for our system. Two new schools are opening in Hocking and Baldwins which will take our total numbers to 161. The decision to build new schools is the result of extensive planning over many years and is always in response to parental demand for a quality Catholic Education.

Over the coming years we have plans to build a number of additional schools across Dioceses in WA. The development of a new school community is exciting and challenging and is a visible sign of ongoing renewal for our system.

We have recently defined our Strategic Directions for the next three years which is encapsulated in the acronym LEAD – learning, engagement, accountability and discipleship. Over the coming years you will hear and see many references to LEAD as we work to embed it in every aspect of our schools. I encourage you to have a conversation with your school staff about what LEAD means to them and how they are working to bring it to life in a very practical way in the classroom.
Over time we will produce some short video messages which we will place on our website and regular stories that showcase examples of schools bringing LEAD to life in their context. 2014 will also see some important changes to how we communicate with parents and schools. I encourage you to regularly visit our website to stay up to date with news, events and our latest videos. As always I welcome your comments and feedback which you can direct to communications@ceo.wa.edu.au.

As a system, Catholic Education is committed to providing positive learning environments where every child will grow to their God given potential, committed to working for justice and centred on the person and teachings of Jesus Christ.

Pope Francis encourages us to share our Good News story with others. In one of his many talks at World Youth Day, he said “I want you to make yourselves heard in your Diocese, I want the noise to go out, I want the Church to go out onto the streets”. I hope you join other members of your school community to enable our Good News story to flourish.

I wish you and your children the very best for the 2014 academic year.

God Bless

Tim McDonald
Executive Director

Sisters St John of God – Opening of the Relationships Exhibition on Monday 17th

This year the Relationships Exhibition also included a special blessing and first ringing of the bell from Beagle Bay and a special blessing for a major new exhibit which is a model of the first St Mary’s school building built in 1912, with the first classes in 1912. It is a ‘too scale’ model and looks exactly like that first building.

Six St Mary’s College students represented the College at the exhibition opening and blessing including our two Year 7 students from Beagle Bay, Elizabeth Cox and Oseyhan Monk O’Meara; Year 11 students Tessa Jaffrey, Jada Hunter, Billy Deegan and Angus Matthews.
Several students have been actively participating in our new Student Engagement program this term. Thank you teachers and ATA’s for supporting the program also.

The program encourages good school attendance, promotes self-help skills and provides social emotional learning opportunities. Some of the activities to date have included cooking, art and craft activities (including jewellery making), fishing and reading.
Welcome to our 2014 Kindy stars!
SMC GRADUATES TAKE ON THE NATION

Several of our graduated students are taking NAISDA (Sydney) by storm! Studying dance full time at a professional dance college for Indigenous students may sound like fun, but to the group from Broome, they know it's all hard work.

Lillian Banks, Kaupa Pitt, Dan Pearson, Rika Hamaguchi and Soleil White have all proven that your dreams and goals can be achieved through hard work. Each of these students is taking on a gruelling study regime for the next three to four years to become professional artists. They will study cultural traditions from across Australia blended with a variety in dance genre (Hip Hop, Ballet, Contemporary, Jazz and Traditional art forms). Rika Hamaguchi is in her final year of study and working towards her Diploma in Dance. In the middle of this year, Rika will be seconded for work with a professional dance company, to complete her studies. Soleil White hopes, that after her studies she will be instrumental in establishing her own Kimberley Indigenous Dance Company and give back to young people her home town and across the Kimberley.

The future for these students looks very bright and with their attitude for excellence, continuing beyond our College grounds, and we wish them all the best in their progress and success.

Ms Vicki (Dance Specialist)

Business Manager

Ms Angie Gannon

Dear Parents and Guardians

Welcome back to the 2014 school year. The first Term fees will be going out at the end of this week. Any parent that has a Centrelink Card please call into Secondary Admin so we can take a copy of your card. This gives you a large discount on Primary school fees and some parents could be eligible for the Secondary Assistance Scheme.

If you have any queries please feel free to contact me by phone or call into the Secondary Admin any-time next week.

Angie Gannon, 9194 9507
PRIMARY BOOK FAIR!

It’s Book Fair time again! The Primary Library will once again be overflowing with books and students, parents and friends are all invited to come in, browse and choose a book or two to buy. There is an amazing range of books and activity kits to choose from and prices will suit every budget. The children will have the opportunity to look during library classes next week from Monday 24th to Friday 28th February. They will bring home a ‘wish list’ of books they would really like to own. The following week, the Fair will be open to everyone after school from Tuesday 4th to Thursday 6th March. Please come along and buy a book to encourage your child on their reading journey.

Sale Times: Tuesday 4/3 – Thursday 6/3 2.15 – 3.30 pm.

Year 4 – Australian History studies

Demi Bowden in Year 4R built a magnificent replica of the Endeavour with her Dad at home. Year 4 have been studying Australian History in class.

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.
Reminder—first meeting for 2014 is Tuesday March 4.

School banking has started on Thursday mornings in front of Primary reception at 7:30 am. P & F are looking for volunteers to help with the school banking. The more people we have to assist the less often people need to be rostered on. Please contact Melissa Coggan on 0403952278 or email melissa.coggan@gmail.com.

Becoming Catholic

During Lent classes will be conducted for adults considering becoming Catholic.

For more information phone Fr Matt on 0427715853

Registrations for our After School Programs are now open

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Art Stars Mondays</th>
<th>Yoga 4 Kids Tuesday</th>
<th>Art Stars Wednesday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Start Date</td>
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<td>15/21/4</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Cost</td>
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Registrations are taken on a first come, first served basis. Places are only secured once payment (EFT receipt number by email) and registration forms are received. Methods of payment are cash or cheque (in person) or Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) via the internet. PLEASE NOTE: BROOME CIRCLE DOES NOT HAVE EFTPOS

A warm welcome back to our Follow the Dream students for the 2014 school year. As the program continues to flourish, it’s pleasing to report on how well our graduates from 2013 are going. Two students are at university, one on a cadetship, a couple in full time employment and many are doing traineeships or further studies at TAFE. We wish them all well.

2014 promises to be another productive year, tutoring has already started after school and is available Monday – Thursday 2:20pm – 4:20pm. Many Middle School students are trying the program for the first time. I encourage all new students to complete an application form as enrolment interviews will take place over the next few weeks.

This week we were privileged to have a guest speaker, Ray Garrett, from The University of Western Australia talk to our students and discuss opportunities including camps and seminars available through UWA’s outreach program.

Other forthcoming events this year include: The Port Smith Camp (7-9), Year 10 Worlds of Work Program, and our Tertiary Tour (10-12) to Perth.

For more information about the program and if you require an application pack please contact Mr Paul Woodbridge
Woodbridge.paul@cathednet.wa.edu.au.