Parents, caregivers and friends, welcome back to Term 2 at St Mary’s College. I hope that you are all rested and invigorated after the Easter season and the school holidays. Our first week has started very well and everyone seems to be have settled happily into school life once more. A big welcome to new families, we hope that you will have a smooth transition into our school community.

Staff News – This term, we welcome a number of people new to our staff. Miss Aretha Hill, one of our Year 12 graduates from 2013 will work as an ATA in Pre Primary, new primary teachers Miss Rebecca La Rocca and Mr James Ryan, Mr Murray Johnson, Grounds, Maintenance and D&T Technician. We also welcome back Mrs Annette Bedford. For the next ten weeks Ms Mia Hall and Ms Roslyn Butcher, student teachers from Notre Dame University, will be completing their teaching practicum at the primary campus. We welcome them and hope that this time at St Mary’s will be an enjoyable and worthwhile experience for them. On the secondary campus, we welcome Ms Orin Casey who has taken on the position of Science and Maths teacher and thank Ms Danielle Sanders for teaching English during Weeks 1 & 2 while Mrs Mary-Anne Bratovic is on leave. Please keep Mary-Anne, Adrian and Lily in your prayers as Mary-Anne commences her chemotherapy treatment at the beginning of next week. Mrs Vicki Thompson is away on long service leave until week 3. We wish Miss Vicki an enjoyable and restful holiday.

Easter Reflection - Once more our secondary performing arts students presented a beautiful prayerful and moving recital of the Easter story. This presentation was supported by the primary choir accompanied by visually stimulating images which truly captured the meaning of Easter. We had some special guests join our parents in the audience which included the Director of the Catholic Education Office WA, Dr Tim McDonald and other staff from the Perth office.

Anzac Day Ceremony – On Friday April 25, five of our students, Simon Hill, Alicia Gould, Lani Pigram, Holly Newton and Daniel Ralph proudly represented St Mary’s College at the ANZAC Day Dawn Service. Thank you students and also to the parents who brought the students to Bedford Park. This day is an important date on all Australian’s calendars. It’s an opportunity to remember the significance of the sacrifice made by many who have come before us. For some of us, the day links us to relatives and is a day to remember.

Head of Secondary new office location – Mrs Di Popovich has re located her office to the Student Services block at the Guy Street entrance. Parents who need to make contact with Di can still do so by calling the main administration as normal. Di’s presence will be a great asset to the Student Services office and I thank Di for initiating this change.

Project Compassion - To date St Mary’s College has raised almost $13,000 towards the annual Project Compassion drive. The generosity of our school community is to be celebrated and I congratulate and thank each of you for giving to such a worthy cause.

Feast Day – Throughout our rich Catholic past we know that Mary the mother of Jesus has many feast days. We will be celebrating our College Feast Day and the Feast of Mary Help of Christians on Friday 23 May. We invite you to begin our celebrations with a Mass at 8.15am and join in a shared morning tea after Mass. We are asking for some parent help on this day to assist with the activities, stalls and lunches. If you are able to help between 9:30 and 1:00 please email my PA, Anthea Demin at demin.anthea@cathednet.wa.edu.au or call her on 9194 9502.

PRAYER FOR ALL MOTHERS
Lord Jesus,
Today we want to pray for all mothers;
For those who are happy and those who are crying;
For the ones that are strong and the ones that are weak;
For those who are loved and those who are rejected;
For those who are living on earth and those who have gone to live beyond death.
Bless them all, Lord.
Give to each what each deserves, for mothers deserve only the best of love and fullness of life.

Amen
My how the time has flown! It is one year ago today that I arrived in Broome, exhausted from the flight from Queensland but excited to finally be here and take on the challenging role of Head of Secondary at St Mary’s College in Broome. My introduction to all things Broome was the North West Expo which occurred in my first weekend in town. It was a really great way to see what Broome had to offer and I was very pleased to see the contributions that St Mary’s students and staff were making to the event; however I do remember it was terribly hot inside the BRAC buildings. It seems I bought the unseasonal rain with me and the first couple of weeks were quite wet.

In no time at all I was into the swing of things here at SMC – the Senior Ball, NET retreat, NAPLAN testing and Parent Teacher interviews – all within the first two weeks! The busy start to my time here was probably a good thing – it meant that I was too busy to contemplate why I ever made the move to Broome!!

I need to thank all the members of the SMC community who have helped me to make it through the past twelve months. It has not been all smooth sailing and without the help and support of so many people – staff, students and families I’m not sure that I would have made it through. The many small gestures, offers of help, smiles and support have meant a lot to me and my family. I am so pleased that we made the move to the wonderful west and I hope that we can continue to “live the dream” here in Broome for many more years to come.

FROM HEAD OF SECONDARY

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PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS: Next Wednesday 7 May from 2.30 till 7.30pm in the Library and H&PE rooms. Interim Reports for all students will need to be collected from the Library by Parents/Guardians. Booking sheets for interviews were posted at the end of last term. Students are welcome to accompany parents to the interviews. If parents wish to make direct contact with Teachers to request interviews, email is often the best method of communication.

NAPLAN: Testing will occur for Years 7 and 9 from May 13 to May 15. Students are being well prepared for this in their English and Maths classes. Students (and parents) should not be overly concerned about – it is simply an instrument to measure progress at this particular time.

NET Retreats: Once again we are privileged to have the support of the National Evangelisation Team to run retreats for each of our year levels during Week 3.

UNIFORM: with the cooler weather on its way, it might be a good idea to search out school jumpers/jackets to make sure they still fit and get along to the uniform shop if a new one needs to be purchased before it gets too cold. Some students are not wearing correct footwear. Canvas shoes simply do not provide adequate protection or the support that growing feet need.
We have had a lovely first week back on Primary with our students. Seeing happy children returning to school, makes you remember what being in schools is all about. We celebrated Easter and commemorated Anzac Day over the holidays, so there have been a lot of big events to discuss with students.

New staff
This term we welcome Miss Aretha Hill and Mr Din Hunter as Aboriginal Teaching Assistants in Year PPST and Year 1M respectively. We also welcome back Mrs Annette Bedford and Miss Talisha Russell to Year 6. Mr James Ryan commenced in the role as Classroom Teacher in Year 3J. Ms Yvette Molyneux has started working with groups of students in our Special Education Needs Centre. Miss Rebecca LaRocca has arrived in Broome and will be completing some transition and handover with Ms Jennifer and Mr Prince, ready to work with our Year 2J class in Week Five. We welcome these staff and thank the community for making them all feel so supported and welcome.

Parent Teacher Meetings
This Monday and Tuesday we are asking all parents/caregivers to make a time to meet with Classroom Teachers. Notes have been sent home with choices of times. Please contact your child’s classroom teacher or the front office if you are still to make a time. It is a very important opportunity to meet with teachers to discuss how your child is going at school. It is imperative that teachers meet with all parents. Thanks for your support of these meetings.

Parent Communication
Teachers will be sending home notes over the next two weeks highlighting important events in your child’s year level and outlining curriculum focuses for the term, reminders, expectations, as well as anything else that may be useful to keep you up to date with class happenings. Please check your child’s bag and read through this when it arrives home.

Sacrament of Eucharist
This term we will be celebrating students First Holy Communion in our Parish. Predominantly these students are from Year Five at SMC. Wednesday evening, May 7, we will commence this journey with our Parent Information Evening. This will be held at the Nicholas Emo Centre at 6pm. Families are asked then to attend the Enrolment Mass at 6pm on Saturday evening.

Prayer Boxes and students setting up
This term we have introduced Prayer Boxes into each of our classrooms and in other spaces around the school. These sacred spaces have been set up in classrooms with students. It is wonderful for students to have these spaces as a focus and they have taken great pride in the setting up. Thanks to Miss Sara for arranging this fabulous resource for us.

FROM HEAD OF PRIMARY

Ms Coby Rhatigan

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NAPLAN
In two weeks time our year 3 and 5 students on Primary will be completing the NAPLAN Assessment. These assessments are important as it provides our school with the focus areas for future improvement and allows us to review our strengths as a College. These assessments provide a snapshot of your child’s learning and all children should be encouraged to try their best, but do not feel worried about the “test”. If you require any further information and support regarding NAPLAN for your child please see your child’s teacher or alternatively Miss Keryn or Miss Coby.

Prac Students
This term we welcome Ms Roslyn Butcher to Year 1M to complete her final practicum and Ms Mia Hall to Year 4R to complete their School Experience One. It is wonderful to welcome these ladies to our school community for the term and we hope that they enjoy their time with us, learning from our committed teachers.

Positive Behaviour Support
On the last day of Term One, teachers focused on our behaviour management systems. They researched the best way to support all students with their behaviour and how to celebrate the students who always do the right thing. We also looked at how to explicitly teach the particular skills we would like to see developed in all students at the College. Our focus skills that we will be teaching and celebrating are: With listening Hearts we be the best we can be at St Mary’s we: Be Kind - Be Responsible - Be Respectful.

Students will receive recognition for displaying these skills through caught tokens, and will be celebrated individually as well as working towards a primary campus positive incentive goal/s. Please discuss this further with your children. We will continue to develop this and will keep parents regularly informed. We have been so impressed with the enthusiasm and the way in which the students have already embraced this.

EnVision Numeracy
Last Monday whilst the students enjoyed an additional day of holidays, the staff worked very hard at learning all about our new teaching and learning program for Numeracy. We have selected EnVision Teaching to ensure that our students are accessing Australian Curriculum in a topic driven teaching and learning sequence. This program offers teachers a guide for differentiation and teaching to a students point of need. There is a strong focus on open ended problem solving and investigation. Staff also set non negotiables for good Numeracy Instruction on Primary Campus, please come in and see our fabulous teachers and students in action during Numeracy Dedicated Time. It is really exciting to have consistent language and approaches in place across year levels for our students. Please ask your students about how they are finding the new Numeracy resources in their rooms.

Rock and Water
One of the programs that we have been trialing and implementing on Primary Campus over the last two terms has been Rock and Water. This program is well known approach to supporting students and staff to interact through physical/social teaching. Physical exercises are constantly linked with mental and social skills. The program leads from simple self-defense, boundary and communication exercises to a strong notion of self-confidence. The program offers a framework of exercises and ideas to assist boys and girls to become more aware of their purpose and motivation in life. We had 15 St Mary’s staff from as well as several staff from other schools around the West Kimberley. The support from the Sisters of St John of God has allowed for a facilitator to be flown in from Perth to work with the group of thirty participants. We looked forward to our staff facilitating this powerful program with our primary students to support their wellbeing. Photographs below of staff training at the Rock and Water Program.
VET and Careers News

VET students have made a great start to their training in Term One with the Dance and Hospitality students demonstrating their skills at community events and school functions. The boys attending Automotive, Aquaculture, Construction and Plumbing training are learning and applying a variety of trade skills in their assessment projects which will give them a great head-start into an apprenticeship when they complete Year 12. The students in Health Services training at Notre Dame have completed their Certificate II units of competency and are now undertaking Certificate III training with an emphasis on demonstration of skills in a two-week clinical placement later this year.

The Universities Roadshow takes place on Monday May 5. This is a great opportunity for students to explore University courses and chat directly with staff representing Western Australian universities. With several students interested in careers in the armed forces, it is timely that Defence Force Recruiting staff will be visiting the College on Wednesday May 14. On Tuesday May 20, the Commonwealth Bank are presenting a series of sessions for Year 10 and 11 students focussing on money management, understanding taxation, pay and banking processes. This is particularly important for our students as many are starting to engage in part-time work – and are enjoying the financial benefits, of course!

Year 10 students are beginning to explore Work Experience opportunities, this will take place in the final week of Term Three. Students and parents are reminded that although all Year 10s will engage in the program during this scheduled week, Work Experience may take place at any time by arrangement with employers, parents and teachers.

Please speak to Mr Aidan if you would like to discuss any VET or Careers issues.

Mr Aidan
VET and Careers Coordinator

Year 11 Aspire trip to Perth

In week ten of Term One, eight Year 11 students went to Perth to visit Universities, the program was run by the Aspire UWA team. The students travelled to Perth with other students from other Kimberley schools. They stayed at Point Walter and as well as visits to five Universities in Perth, they were involved in many fun activities, including high ropes and trampolining. It was a great opportunity for our students to visit Universities, find out about various options available for post school education, and make new friends from schools around the Kimberley. The students were a credit to the school in both behaviour and attitude and found it an excellent opportunity to discuss their ideas about their future.

Mrs Carrie-Ann Philips

Comments from students:
Aspire is a great opportunity and presents you with choices – Washule
The Aspire trip was an amazing experience; we made new friends and explored five different universities – Anita
Aspire was fab – Grace
West Kimberley Primary Interschool Swimming Carnival

The West Kimberley Interschool Swimming Carnival was held at the BRAC on April 3. Under the guidance of Anielle Rocke who had trained the team for 3 weeks in the early mornings at BRAC, St Mary’s was ready for a huge day. It started off incredibly, with Year 3 Talia Wilkinson smashing a longstanding record in the very first race of the day, wiping more than 5 seconds off the previous record in the 50m Freestyle with a time of 38.13 seconds. She went on to break 2 other records, the 25m Backstroke and the 25m Breaststroke – well done Talia!

Congratulations must go to the whole team for their dedication and team spirit – all swimmers gave their absolute all and each one deserves praise and recognition. In the end Roebuck Primary was once again too strong overall but St Mary’s finished a clear second which is a marvellous effort. It was amazing to see the improvement in technique and confidence which the training sessions instilled into the competitors, so again a huge thank you to Anielle for facilitating these sessions. A big thank you also to Natalie Newton who was the official starter on the day; she did an amazing job. Congratulations to the following individual medal winners:

**Gold:**
- Year 3 Champion Girl – Talia Wilkinson
- Year 4 Champion Boy – Nathan Ralph
- Year 6 Champion Girl – Lauren Christie

**Silver:**
- Year 5 Champion Boy – Blair McKay
- Year 6 Champion Boy – Daniel Ralph

**Bronze:**
- Year 7 Champion Girl – Breanna Scott

Mr Edmund
Primary Sports Coordinator

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**Anzac Day Dawn Service**

St Mary’s College were represented at the Dawn Service on April 25, by five students and accompanying staff.

Our students laid a wreath at the War Memorial on behalf of the College.
La Salle College’s 60th Anniversary Community Mass and Open Day will be held on Sunday 22 June from 10am to 3pm. As part of this event the College would like to display significant items of memorabilia from over the years (photographs, publications, anniversary items, uniforms of De La Salle College). If you are able to assist with the use of these items, please call the Community Relations Department on 9449 0635 or email communications@lasalle.wa.edu.au

Kimberley Athletics Club

Training at St Mary’s College Secondary Oval Tuesday and Fridays 4:30 to 5:30. (Ages 12+)
Mother’s Day is next Sunday May 11. Tickets for the Mother’s Day raffle will be sent home on Monday May 5. We ask that you return the tickets and money to school by 8am on Friday May 9 to Primary or Secondary Reception. There are some great prizes on offer all have been kindly donated by the following businesses and I encourage you to support the businesses that support our school.

1st Prize Broome Whale Watching Tour for 2 adults and 2 children $435
2nd Prize Sun Studio hire valued at $200 (great for birthday parties)
3rd Prize Broome Adventure Company Turtle Kayak Marine Eco Adventure $135
4th Prize The Pearle Resort Massage Voucher Value $120
5th Prize L’Occitane gift pack $38

Raffle will be drawn Friday 9th May, 2014 - Primary campus

Our next P and F meeting will be held on Tuesday the May 6 at 7pm, in the Secondary staff room. It was great to see new faces at our last meeting and I encourage anyone who is interested to come along.

Rose Mitchell
Chairperson
P & F.

Smarter than Smoking Girls Football

St Mary’s College Girls Football team travelled to Derby to compete in the Smarter than Smoking Girls Football competition on Wednesday April 9th.

Captain Clarissa Churchill, and vice-Captain Natasha Lawford led the St Mary’s College team through the day undefeated against Broome Senior High School, Derby District High School and Fitzroy Valley High School. St Mary’s took out the Smarter than Smoking Girls Football competition for 2014. Congratulations to all the girls for their amazing efforts and pure determination to secure a well deserved win! Congratulations also, to Clarissa Churchill who received the Participation and Leadership Award.