Dear parents, guardians and friends, I hope you enjoy this review of our very busy two weeks that have just passed.

Feast Day
A very important day for St Mary’s College is the celebration of our College Feast Day which was held on May 23, the Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians. The day commenced with our Feast Day Mass celebrated by Fr Matt Digges and Fr Marcelo Parra. Students, staff, parents and members of our school community all came together to celebrate this special Mass. Following the Mass, guests, parents and community members enjoyed morning tea, after morning tea all students were involved in a range of fun activities before having lunch together in their House Groups. As always, on feast day students and staff enjoyed coming together to embrace the spirit that is St Mary’s College. Thank you to all staff who worked hard to make the day so enjoyable and a special thank you to all the mums who volunteered their time to help on the day.

Sorry Day
On Monday May 26, the anniversary of Sorry Day, a number of secondary and primary students attended a ceremony at the Stolen Generation. The students met with Aboriginal people from Broome and surrounding communities and were privileged to hear Dr Mark Bin Bakar, Chairperson of the Stolen Generation and ex Nulungu student, speak about the great importance of Sorry Day in our Australian communities.

Staffing
This week we welcomed Rebecca La Rocca as our Year 2 teacher. We farewelled Mrs Jennifer Foster who began her maternity leave and wish Jennifer and her husband Alex our very best wishes for their exciting time ahead as they begin their family. Slade Sibosado will now be working full time with the Clontarf Academy. Slade will be working mainly with the Year 7 – Year 9 students. We also welcome teaching practicum students, Tara Credlin, (Health and PE) and Bindi Wijayaratne (English). Both Bindi and Tara will be on the secondary campus. Tara and Slade are both past students of St Mary’s.

Parent Community Partnership Launch
Last Thursday’s launch of the School Community Partnership was an opportunity to officially recognise the importance of this new agreement and also an opportunity for many of our Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students to share their talents with us. Thank you to all students and families who attended this event. Year 6 student, Katelyn Parriman did an admirable job as Master of Ceremonies for the evening accompanied by Aboriginal Engagement and Well Being Officer, Yoshi Hunter.

As a school community we can be very proud of the effort and achievements of our Aboriginal students both past and present. In essence, a school Community Partnership Agreement sets out a shared understanding between our parents/caregivers, our students, our staff and key stakeholders from within the school like the Follow the Dream Partnership for Success and the Clontarf Football Academy. The agreement sets out how we can all work towards improving the educational outcomes for our Aboriginal students. This agreement will also now become part of each enrolment interview for Aboriginal students and a copy will be displayed in the foyer of each campus. Thank you to all of our students and staff from the Learning Areas of Art, Hospitality and Music who were able to showcase their talents for guests at the launch. Thank you to our Aboriginal Teaching Assistants for their preparatory work of the agreement since the inception at the end of 2012, and for their commitment to the launch and their great hospitality meeting parents on the night. Thank you to Carlene Smith for her outstanding artwork that now is the ‘face’ of the St Mary’s School Community Partnership Agreement. Our two outstanding speakers for the night were also ex-students. Mandi Dia who is our College Board Chairperson, delivered a heart-warming speech about having high expectations from a parent’s perspective. Erica Bernard, School Community Consultant at the Catholic Education Office in Broome gave us a valuable insight into the importance of School Community Partnerships and the benefits to our students learning outcomes.

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**FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

Michael Pepper

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**June**

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Father of Heaven and earth, hear my prayer and show me the way to peace. Guide each effort of my life so that my faults and my sins may not keep me from the peace You promised. May the new life of grace You give me through the Eucharist and prayer make my love for You grow and keep me in the joy of Your Kingdom. Amen
Exam Week

Exam week is next week for our Senior students. Year 11 and 12 classes will not be held during this time. Students are only required to come to school when they have an exam scheduled. A parent information letter was posted home outlining our expectations for all students during this time. The Library will be operating as study centre if students are at school and do not have an exam. All morning exams commence at 8.00am and afternoon exams at 12 noon. Students are expected to be at the H&PE room 15 minutes prior to the start of the exam. Some Year 10 students will also be involved in exams and they have been given timetables.

College Photos

Photos for Secondary students will take place on Friday June 13. Envelopes have been sent home with students this week. Family photos can also be arranged by collecting an envelope from Students Services Reception. Envelopes and payment need only be returned on the actual day of photos.

Homework Centre

Due to numerous staff commitments to other after school activities we have made the decision to operate the homework centre only until 3.30 each afternoon Monday to Wednesday. We apologise for any inconvenience that this may cause families. This change will commence on Tuesday June 3.

Uniform

Thank you to all the families and students that make the effort to ensure that students are appropriately dressed and ready for school every day. It is important that correct footwear is worn. Canvas shoes do not offer the sort of support that young feet need and they are not appropriate for wearing to school.

Semester One is drawing to a close and staff are busy in all year levels finalising assessments and preparing reports. It is important that all students are at school every day and ready for learning. It is very important that parents and caregivers keep the College informed if there are issues that impact on student learning or attendance.

I am very fortunate to be accompanying Miss Jen and Miss Kristine on the East Kimberley trip next week and I am looking forward to meeting the families of some of our Residential College students.

FROM HEAD OF SECONDARY  
Di Popovich

Primary Inter-School Cross Country

On Wednesday our Primary students and Year 7’s competed in the Primary Inter-School Cross Country Carnival. Thank you to staff members Edmund Connor, Joseph Davies and supporting staff and parents who assisted in preparing our team. We had outstanding performances from all students competing and I take this opportunity to congratulate and thank each student who ran in the carnival. Please see the results and medal winners later in this newsletter.

Genazzano Exchange to the Kimberley

This coming weekend four Year 9 students and two teachers will arrive from Genazzano College in Melbourne. They will be spending a total of three weeks in the Broome and the Kimberley. A highlight for the exchange is spending time in classes on both primary and secondary at St Mary’s College. This is a great opportunity for all of our students to make meaningful connections with students from Genazzano College. Thank you to Jennifer Cambridge for her work in the organisation to host our exchange visitors.

Indigenous Hip Hop Project

Students from St Mary’s College have been involved this week in an Indigenous Hip Hop Project. On Wednesday and Thursday our students were treated at the school to an insight into the project with an outstanding presentation of dance by the Indigenous Hip Hop Team who were sponsored by Broome Regional Aboriginal Medical Service (BRAMS). The project will deliver a 30 second TV commercial including writing, recording, filming and editing as well as a dance / music video. We thank the Indigenous Hip Hop Team and BRAMS for making this event possible at St Mary’s College and congratulate all of the students involved for their outstanding participation. Thank you to Rani Middleton for coordinating the program throughout the week.

Year 11/12 Examinations

Next week our Year 11 and 12 students will be completing their Semester 1 examinations. This coming long weekend will be an important time of final examination preparation and study and we wish our Year 11 and 12’s well in their exams.

New Arrivals

We welcome new students who have joined us over the past two weeks, including students from Wangkatjunka and Warmun remote communities. Congratulations to Julia and Brad Durack on the arrival of their baby girl, Riley Durack on the May 20.

Condolences

We extend our sincere condolences to the Josh and Madeleine Bell and family (St Mary’s College  primary parent and staff member currently on leave) following the passing of Madeleine’s mum, Sharon Aron in Victoria.
Last week we celebrated ‘Our Lady Help of Christians’ as our College Feast Day. We focused on Mary during the month of May and the amazing way that she inspires us all. Students participated in activities with Secondary students celebrating our College feast and the importance of Mary in our College story and tradition.

Sacrament of Eucharist

Our Year Five students continue on their Sacramental journey preparation for their First Holy Communion. Their special day is getting closer and the Parish Sacramental Team have been planning fabulous activities and learning opportunities for these students. Please keep Saturday June 15 in your calendars to join our Parish community in this celebration.

School Photos

In two weeks time we will be having our School Photos for 2014. Photos will be held on June 11 and 12 on Primary Campus. Envelopes have been sent home, please return these to your child’s classroom teacher as soon as possible. Family photo envelopes are available from the Office.

Kindergarten Enrolments

It is that time of year again when we start to plan for 2015! If you have a child that wishes to attend St Mary’s College Kindergarten in 2015 please collect an Enrolment package from the Front Office or via our website to complete an Enrolment Form. We will be holding Interviews later this term. If you require any further information regarding Kindergarten Enrolments please contact the College.

Cross Country

Last week our primary students participated in our Cross Country. They have been training hard for the event and it was wonderful to have students participating with such enthusiasm, commitment whilst demonstrating such fabulous team spirit. A huge thanks to Mr Ed for all his efforts in organising this event and ensuring all the students had such a great time. On Wednesday some of our students represented the College at the Cross Country Interschool event and did a wonderful job to come 2nd overall. Once again a huge thanks to Mr Ed for his organising of this opportunity for our students. Thanks to the parents and caregivers that came to support students.

Eagles Cup Football

Throughout this term some of our students have been coming together on a Wednesday afternoon to train for Football. Their hard work and commitment is now paying off and the team have started playing against other schools in Broome as part of the Eagles Cup Football competition. Thank you to all the boys for representing our school and a special thanks to Mr Ed, Mr Joseph and Mr Sonny for coaching our SMC team.

Religious Education Reporting Session

This week teachers on primary attended a session on reporting in the area of Religious Education. It was a great opportunity for staff to examine the assessment of this learning area and identifying the content we teach and the catechesis that we do each and every day within our College community. Thank you to Jo Harris from the Catholic Education Office for facilitating this opportunity with staff.

Report Moderation

Primary teachers have had the opportunity to attend sessions facilitated by the Broome Australian Curriculum English group. These sessions have allowed staff to network with Broome schools to explore moderation of curriculum standards. Reports will be given out to parents by the end of this term, please as always make a time to see your child’s teacher if you would like any further information.

National Quality Standards

We have recently undertaken the process of working through the National Quality Standards for Early Childhood as a school. The Early Years team from Catholic Education Office visited the primary campus and were impressed with the fabulous things happening in our early years. As a school we will be completing a Quality Improvement Plan for our years K-2. It is fabulous that we are already meeting so many of the standards and are excited about implementing changes to support further development in this area.
The Fremantle Dockers Girl’s Football Carnival

This carnival aims to promote Australian Rules football to girls in Years 5 to 7, by providing an atmosphere of inclusion and fun, girls who may be too shy or scared to join in other football teams with boys are encouraged to learn about this great game of ours. The Carnival, in its second year, was held at St Mary’s Secondary Oval.

The other Broome primary schools participated, providing an opportunity for girls to mix and socialise with girls from other schools. The first half of the morning was spent doing some fun exercises and activities with the footballs which built up their skill level. After recess the girls were split up and they played some games against each other. It was great to see the camaraderie and spirit in which the games were played.

A huge thank you to Michael Farmer and the girls from the Broome Girls Academy for making the day possible and well done to all of our students who attended!
Interschool Basketball Competition

St Mary’s College Year 7-10 students participated in the Interschool Basketball Competition held at the Broome Recreation and Aquatic Centre last Thursday. Both teams made it into the Grand finals after winning all of their games. St Mary’s College unfortunately was defeated by Bidyadanga in both finals. A huge thank you to Nicole from PCYC who volunteered her time and coached the girls basketball team on the day. Well done to all the competitors for their fantastic attitude and competitive spirit on the day.

FRIDAY 30TH MAY
PCYC
4pm ONWARDS
FOOD PROVIDED

After school Maths and English coaching program at the Community Resource Centre

P: (08) 9193 7153  F: (08) 9193 7154  W: broome.crc.net.au

Sorry Day May 26

A group of students and staff from both the Primary and Secondary Campuses visited the Stolen Generations to celebrate this significant day with the local community.
Follow the Dream Students visited the Woodside Energy Offices and were treated to an interesting presentation about career opportunities in the oil and gas industry. The students learnt about traineeships and cadetships open to them, as well as residential scholarships available at St Catherine’s College, affiliated to a number of universities in Perth.

Students from Year 10 -12 were eager to find out about the many jobs on offer and we were lucky enough to be joined by Neil Jarvis CEO of the Graham Polly Farmer Foundation. Follow the Dream is looking forward to the Year 10 students working with the Worlds of Work program early in Term 3.

Year 9.3 English

The story “Jimmy and Pat Meet the Queen” by Patsy Lowe and Jimmy Pike has been the catalyst for a series of paintings and captions completed by the 9.3 English class in a unit on narratives.

The connections that the students made with this story were particularly compelling as the students in this class are mostly also Walmajarri people, as is Jimmy (Jimmy Pike) in the story. The themes of land ownership and native title claims were very relevant to the class, in view of their personal connection to this country.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS

The next P and F meeting which is on Tuesday the 3rd of June at 7pm in the secondary staffroom.

From the Canteen—thank you staff and mums for your help in the canteen on Feast Day. Debbie & Canteen staff.
Yagarrbanyjin Ngan-ga – Sharing Stories

My story begins half way through term one when I was offered the position as Teacher-Librarian at St Mary’s College on the secondary campus. I was entrusted with the task of making the Library a welcoming, engaging and productive working space for staff and students. It was a challenge I was happy to take on!

The facelift began with cleaning, tidying and sorting. After discovering that students were not the only bodies occupying the old couch, a new couch, some arm chairs and beanbags were purchased and have contributed to the creation of a Quiet Reading Corner, complete with a Young Adult fiction collection. This new area has been really popular with students and often filled with avid readers at lunch times.

Earlier in the term we received two boxes full of brand new books from the Indigenous Literacy Foundation. The quality of works in this collection is exceptional as is the natural ability of Indigenous authors to share their stories. Works from authors such as Dylan Coleman, Charmaine Papertalk-Green, Samuel Wagan Watson, Laklak Burarrwanga and Deborah Bird Rose inspired me to create a display that would showcase the depth of talent among indigenous writers. My thanks goes to Ms Coco for helping me with the translation of Sharing Stories into the Yawuru language and giving this display the title of Yagarrbanyjin Ngan-ga.

I have also commenced an Author In Focus series and the first author on my list is Morris Gleitzman, the highly praised author of titles such as Boy Overboard, Two Weeks With The Queen, and the series Once, Then, After and Now, four books that in Gleitzman’s own words are his ‘imagination trying to grasp the unimaginable’ and tell the stories of young children surviving the Holocaust.

Although the task is not yet complete, the upgraded library facility, many classes use the space to study, research and discuss. There is still a way to go and I will continue to work toward the vision I have of an accessible, highly functional, engaging and welcoming resource information centre for St Mary’s College. I encourage staff, students and parents to visit the library and share ideas via the Suggestions Box, and welcome anyone who is able to volunteer some of their time to assist with the day-to-day processes of a busy secondary library centre.

This is the beginning of my story as part of the St Mary’s family and one that I feel privileged to share with you all.

Mrs Carmel Pratley,
Secondary Teacher-Librarian.

Former Student Makes State Team

Former St Mary’s College and West Kimberley Academy Clontarf student Francis Watson has made the final team to represent Western Australian at the State U/18 National Football Titles in May, June and July this year. Games will be played in Western Australia, South Australia and Victoria in a revamped format from previous years.

Francis, originally from Balgo community, moved to Broome in 2012 to school at St Mary’s College and board at the Broome Residential College. He joined the Clontarf West Kimberley Academy whilst he was here and became an integral leader both at school and around the Academy. He left Broome for Perth last year to complete Year Twelve at Clontarf Aboriginal College. This gave him the opportunity to play Colts football for the Claremont Football Club where he impressed last year and has continued his good form this year.

We wish Francis all the best for the carnival and his football career.

Jack Reagan
WKA St Mary’s College
Certificate I and II Hospitality

We recently had a visit from two Chefs (Andrew and Jake) who demonstrated to the Certificate I and II Hospitality students food preparation and presentation techniques, making Lamb Kofta with Greek Salad. Many thanks go to Mr Alex and his son Andrew for all your hard work to get the Master class together.

Secondary Campus Parents/Guardians

Students are to be dropped off and picked up at Student Services – please do not use the main Administration of the College at the Port Drive Entrance.

The Bus companies who pick up the students are having trouble on a daily basis parking their buses to let students off and on – this is a safety issue for the students if they have to move in between vehicles to get to the bus – thank you for your cooperation.

Uniform shop - all families

With the onset of cooler mornings, winter jackets are in stock - $40.00 each.

If any parents have second hand uniforms in good condition we would love to have them – please drop to the Uniform shop or the Secondary Admin office. Thanks,

Angie Gannon, Business Manager

Fotek Photos — June 11-13, 2014

The forms for school individual and class photos have been sent home this week. If you wish to have siblings photos, you can collect a form from Ms Margie in Primary Reception or Ms Renee in Secondary Student Services.
