

# newsletter

**Principal:**

Deidre Young

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## Principal's Message **Issue 4: 15 March 2019**

### DATE CLAIMERS

**Thursday 21 March**

Year 7 Immunisation

**Monday 25 March**

MacKillop House Celebration

**Thursday 28 March**

NAPLAN Online

Co-ordinated Test

**Wednesday 3 April**

St Mary's Visit

Year 5 Gala Day

**Friday 5 April**

Last Day of Term One

Easter Liturgy

Interhouse Cross Country

**Tuesday 23 April**

First Day of Term Two

**Wednesday 15**

**to Friday 17 May**

Year 8 Camp

**Accepting Enrolments for**

Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 for 2020

On Friday, we had a lovely opportunity to gather as a staff to farewell and thank Mr Steve Nykvist, Foundation Staff Member, 2017 – 2019. Across the two years of Steve's time at McAuley College, he has held two substantial roles of Grounds person and Bus Driver. We are grateful to Steve for the work he has done to establish these key functions across our school, always doing his work with great pride and concern for our school.



The students presented a gift of a magnolia tree to Mr Nykvist. A magnolia tree was planted by the earliest Sisters of Mercy when they first arrived in Australia. This tree still exists today in its original home outside 'Adderton', All Hallows School. The tree is representative of the values of hope, strength and beauty... and it was in gifting this tree to Mr Nykvist, that we pray that

Steve, his wife Sue and their family are gifted with these values.

Mr Nykvist was also presented with a Mercy Cross, handcrafted by our very clever Mr Way, as a reminder, always, of the significant part Steve played in our story and that he is, and always will be part of our family.

*Blessed be your boots Mr Nykvist.*

Please read below a small message of thanks from Mr Nykvist –

*Hi Everyone*

*Good bye to all the staff and students at McAuley College. Today was my last day at McAuley College Beaudesert as a member of staff.*

*I decided it was time for me to move on to another adventure in my life. I apologise to those who I didn't get to speak to before I left this morning or during the last two weeks but please be assured that I have enjoyed your friendship and support since the very first day of the new College opening. Thank you for the good times and memories. Thank you for the lovely morning tea and the lovely gifts and good wishes from everyone. A special thank you to Ava and Darcy.*

*I wish the College well as it continues to grow. I wish all staff and students good health and happiness in their lives and successful and rewarding careers.*

*Cheers and God Bless  
Steve Nykvist*

It has been wonderful over the past week to engage in conversations with our prospective students and their families for Year 7 2020. We are certainly in a very strong position with our enrolments and we encourage our current families to be attentive to completing an Enrolment Application if you have a son or daughter for Year 7 2020 or 2021.

On Tuesday evening, we welcomed over 40 families to engage in our Parent Engagement – Information Technology. The evening was delivered in three key parts: Ways of Communicating; Ways of Working and Ways of Learning. Key messages to our parents included; The portal is a key mode of communication, Educate and moderate the use of technology with your son or daughter and the laptop as a powerful learning device across the curriculum.



Much has been happening across the last fortnight, and so I hope you enjoy reading about them in this newsletter. With only three weeks to go, I remind parents of the importance of each day AT school. Every day, right up until the last day, is aimed at providing valuable learning experiences for each and every student. We thank you for your support by ensuring your child takes the first, necessary step to success at school...

**“EVERY STUDENT, ON TIME, EVERY DAY”**

In Mercy,  
**Deidre Young**  
Principal

### International Women’s Day – Friday 8 March

McAuley College was well represented across three key functions on Friday to celebrate International Women’s Day. Mrs Parkins and I were lucky to attend the Zonta Luncheon and hear key note speaker, Kay Tommerup. As we move to introducing our Senior Schooling, it was timely to hear Mrs Tommerup speak of the changes to the diary industry since deregulation in the early 2000’s, and how her family ‘rebranded’ their way of working. What amazing families we have in our local area, primary producers, who provide wonderful examples and possible pathways for our students into the future.



As well, Mr Darcy will speak in his article about his morning at the inaugural Brisbane Catholic Education event. And finally, four staff and eight of our students enjoyed the hospitality of our Mayor Greg Christensen at the early morning breakfast at The Centre.



*On Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> of March myself, seven other McAuley College students and four teachers went to the Beaudesert International Women's Day breakfast. As we found our seats, we noticed a goodie bag all about the Scenic Rim and a coffee body scrub. We had an amazing breakfast and then listened to inspirational speeches by Jemma Wilson and by Erica Bartle.*

*Jemma Wilson, who is an off-road motorcycle racer. She really inspired me so much because she said to do what makes you happy even if people think that it's a boy thing and don't believe in you, you must believe in yourself. Jemma also told us about when she started, how she got to where she is and what she is doing after she retired.*

*Erica Bartle is the co-owner of Outland Denim. This company employs Cambodian women who have been stolen and sold for slavery. This speech inspired me so much as in Australia we are so lucky, we don't need to be worried to just to walk down the street. She had so many stories about women she employs, women who are disadvantaged and need money to send back to their families. Erica and Jemma were so inspiring.*

*Thank you to McAuley College for giving us this opportunity, I really enjoyed my morning.*

*Charlie Campbell (Year 7)*

On Friday, eight McAuley College students were lucky enough to go to the International Women's Day breakfast. To start off with, we were treated with a buffet breakfast catered by the Vintage Pickle. Afterwards, we listened to speeches from two very inspirational young ladies. Jemma Wilson, a professional motorcycle rider, talked to us about her life and how far she has come in her career. It was a motivational speech and she told us to never give up on our dreams and to keep pushing for women's rights in sports which mostly have male dominance. We then listened to Erica Bartle who is the creator of Outland Denim. Outland Denim is a company which employs young women who don't have enough money to provide for themselves and their families, and then pays them living wages to be seamstresses. This was a thought-provoking speech showing how much we can do to help unfortunate people. The International Women's Day breakfast was an inspiring and good time.

Grace Cahill (Year 8)

### Student Voice – Across the Scenic Rim

Across this week, students in Years 7, 8 and 9 have been asked to contribute to a Youth Cultural Mapping exercise for the Scenic Rim. It has been well received by our students as an opportunity to have a voice in how our local area responds to their needs. Next term we will welcome a representative from the Goat Track Theatre Company to further unpack student responses, and get a greater depth by exploring the data from the survey.



*“I think it is a very good way to express our thoughts and how we feel about what is happening in our region” – Sam Blyton*

*“It’s exciting to engage in this survey. We don’t see a lot of changes in Beaudesert so it is great to see the council looking for a positive change in the future” – Veronica Wilson*

*“It’s good that we can have our voices heard and action can be taken in the community for future generations” – Anna Brandon*

Look at this little cutie...  
**Campbell Richards** is growing up fast and sporting his “McAuley’s Got a Baby” jumpsuit. Go Campbell.



Congratulations to Kal Mulgrew who received the Sacrament of the Eucharist last weekend at St Mary’s Church.

## AN INVITATION



BRISBANE ARCHDIOCESAN P&F COUNCIL  
 PARENT EVENING & AGM 2019

### ‘How to Stay Connected to Your Children, School & Church’

AN INVITATION TO ALL CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENTS IN THE BRISBANE ARCHDIOCESE TO ATTEND A PARENT EVENING

THIS IS A FREE EVENT  
 ON THURSDAY 28 MARCH 6 PM - 8.30 PM  
 AT ST MARTIN’S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, CARINA

6-7 PM - LIGHT DINNER, BEER & WINE,  
 TEA, COFFEE & DESSERT

7 PM GUEST SPEAKER - Br. Damien Price

7.45 PM - A CONVERSATION ABOUT PARENT ENGAGEMENT  
 Carmel Nash OAM  
 P&F COUNCIL AGM

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS EVENT  
 AND TO REGISTER CLICK HERE:  
<http://www.cvent.com/d/k6q8h1>



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**BELIEVE...In action**

**Ash Wednesday and our 2019 Lenten Appeal**

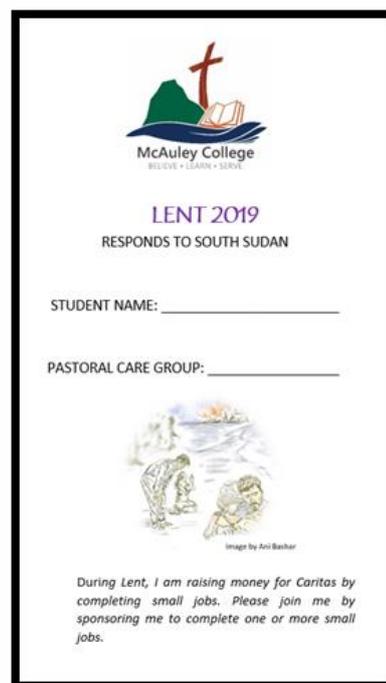
Ash Wednesday signals the commencement of the Church’s season of Lent. Ash Wednesday takes place 46 days before Easter Sunday and is observed by Catholics around the world. Ash Wednesday traces its roots back to the second century when people would wear ashes as a sign of entering a period of reflection and penance. It retains this symbolism and significance today. On Ash Wednesday last week our Year 7 students ventured across to St Mary’s Parish to celebrate the Ash Wednesday Mass with students from St Mary’s Primary school. Our Year 8 and 9 students participated in an Ash Wednesday liturgy at the College.



Following Ash Wednesday, we enter the Church’s liturgical season of Lent. During Lent there has more recently been a greater focus on the promotion of good works. This starts with our words and actions with those closest to us. It also is a time to consider those members of the human family that are experiencing suffering. Caritas Australia’s annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal, Project Compassion, is an example of the promotion of good works that help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. **This year McAuley College will join in the Caritas Africa Emergency Appeal – South Sudan.**

The region of Sudan has been beset with internal conflict for decades. Even after the independence of South Sudan in 2011, fighting has continued in both countries. In December 2013, conflict in parts of South Sudan escalated significantly, and thousands of people have been displaced. The Caritas network has been working in South Sudan to help those who have been affected by the conflict by providing the most basic needs of survival in clean water, food and shelter. The support of Caritas really is a matter of life and death for the people of South Sudan.

All McAuley College students should have by now **invited parents to sponsor them**, in order to raise money as their response to the South Sudan crisis. The notion of generosity is a traditional Lenten observance and also assists in developing a sense of solidarity with people in great need. Each student at McAuley College has a **sponsorship card** for family and friends to sponsor them in completing small jobs in order to raise money for the appeal. The emphasis is on building a sense of solidarity through giving of their time and energy to assist those in need, specifically the South Sudanese people. The amount of sponsorship is up to the family and not the primary focus of the appeal. Please ask to see your child’s sponsorship card and assist your son/daughter in this appeal. **More information on the crisis in South Sudan can be found here:** [Caritas - South Sudan](#)



David Harris, **Assistant Principal – Religious Education**



All student **absences that are planned outside of the school holidays** must be applied for in advance. The College has a set application form that is to be submitted to the Principal. The **McAuley College Request for Student Absence Form** can be downloaded from the Parent Portal. In addition to the Principal’s approval, this form provides advice on school work and/or assessments that may be missed during an absence.

## LEARN...In action

Last week was a rather busy and involved just a bit of driving around Brisbane. Monday was the first Senior Leaders Day for Assistant Principals and Deputy Principals at the O'Shea Centre in Wilston. The focus of this meeting was the new Queensland Certificate of Education and ATAR system for the Senior Phase of Learning. There was much discussion about first impressions of the new system and some of the benefits and challenges our colleges have encountered thus far in Term One. We also engaged in discussions around timetabling and reporting, specifically a forum about what we wanted to see in a new reporting system that BCE is beginning to develop to meet the new requirements for Years 11 and 12.

Tuesday saw our College Secretary, Mrs Deirdre Parkins, and me working at the BCE's Schools Services North centre at Northlakes to set up our current reporting system for our Term 1 Progress Report and our Semester 1 Reports. As the college grows this becomes a bigger job as we have more classes to configure. However, by day's end, we had all classes configured for Years 7 to 9 for both reporting periods as well as setting up PTO (Parent Teacher Online), our online Parent/Teacher/Student Conference booking program. More details about both will be available in our next edition of the newsletter, closer to the end of term.

Friday I had the privilege of representing our college at BCE's inaugural International Women's Day Breakfast. This event was held at Hillstone at St Lucia Golf Club in Brisbane's inner Western suburbs. It was a wonderful experience to attend this inaugural breakfast. In doing so one gets an understanding of just how large Brisbane Catholic Education really is. The theme of this year's breakfast, "Balance for Better", was divided into a panel discussion and a keynote speaker. The panel was comprised of guest speakers Angela Lynch, CEO of the Women's Legal Service Queensland; Ernst & Young partner Jenny Parker; UQ Emeritus Professor Maree Smith, Director of the Centre for Integrated Pre-clinical Drug Development; and Advanced Care Paramedic and health consultant Hanna Hoswell, a recent graduate from Mt Maria, College Mitchelton.



The keynote speaker was Anne-Marie White, a former secondary school teacher turned journalist. Anne-Marie talked about her life as a female sports journalist in a male dominated world and her struggles to get better media coverage for women in sport. Her innovative and enthusiastic approach to achieving this earned her many professional accolades, including a Prime Ministerial Award for 'Outstanding Media Coverage' for her contribution to women in sport.

Anne-Marie encouraged the audience to be better role models for the young women in our care each day. She reminded us that it's not always about winning. It's about trying to be the best we can. Anne-Marie focused on the acronym **TRY – The Real You**. In other words, always being true to yourself in everything you do. She also reminded us that when we try, our aim is to be the very best version of ourselves. One of Anne-Marie's greatest influences as a journalist has been to increase the coverage mainstream media gives to women's sport.

As I mentioned earlier, Anne-Marie White was at one stage a teacher at Downlands College in my home town of Toowoomba. I had the opportunity to chat with Anne-Marie at the end of the breakfast and discovered that she was indeed the same “Mrs White” who had taught my sister Christina when she was a student at Downlands. As I departed the breakfast I was left wondering if the “Mrs White” whom my sister so frequently spoke of as a student was the person who had encouraged her to take on the world as she has. Today my sister runs a successful personal training business, runs classes at several gyms in Brisbane’s western suburbs, is office manager for a chiropractic business as well as a wife and mother. Our world is truly very small and on our life’s journey we encounter the most amazing and influential people.

Michael Darcy  
**Deputy Principal**

## ***PASTORAL NEWS***

Last Tuesday, the Year 9 cohort participated in a Retreat day at The Centre, Beaudesert. The day was run by the NET team, a youth ministry group who travelling around Australia. The theme of the day was ‘peer pressure’ where students focused on both positive and negative pressures in their lives as well as how to deal with pressure.

The NET team ran a range of high energy games and activities throughout the day that students very excitedly participated in. Students also participated in small group discussions with group leaders where they were able to engage in the topic of peer pressure in a more intimate setting. After a sausage sizzle lunch and play at Jubilee Park, the day ended in prayer and reflection with members of the NET team engaging in prayer with individual students.

From all accounts, the Year 9 students had a fantastic day and very much enjoyed engaging with the NET team in a range of ways. It was fantastic to see how well behaved and involved all students were across the day.

McAuley College would like to **acknowledge and thank the Scenic Rim Regional Council** for their generous in-kind grant for use of The Centre for Arts and Culture for our Year 9 Retreat Day.

Ashleigh Beattie  
**Pastoral Leader, Years 9 & 10**





### Year 8 Camp

Our Year 8 students will participate in their first McAuley College school camp on May 15 – 17. Students will have the opportunity to engage with a range of activities designed to build personal and team-work skills. These include Mountain Biking, Initiatives Course, Flying Fox and Milk Crate Climb. Active experiences will also be balanced by opportunities for personal reflection as well as a shared Mass on one evening.

The camp will be facilitated by *Adventure Alternatives* at their Woodford property on the Sunshine Coast.



Early next week, parents will receive a Parent Permission Slip via email the usual way. This will include an information letter and a packing list. The letter will also include a link to our personalised camp web page, which has been set up by *Adventure Alternatives*. Parents must click through to this site and complete the Medical and Dietary Form for your child.

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Please note that there is no additional cost to parents for this camp.

Please contact Mr Borg if you have any questions about our upcoming camp.

We look forward to a wonderful camp experience!

**Christopher Borg**  
**Pastoral Leader Year 7 & 8**



## Curriculum Development News

### All Things Ag at McAuley College

Full speed ahead for all things agriculture at McAuley College. I am very excited to announce that our Grant Application was successful, and we are officially a Gateway to Industry School. This welcomed funding will be utilised to resource the Agricultural Studies Program commencing in Semester Two of this year and to integrate agriculture in other subjects and co-curricular opportunities, offered by the College. Already a substantial 47% of our Year 9 cohort have signed up for this hands-on program. As well as joining the Gateway community, on 6 March our inaugural Greenhouse was erected which was welcomed by Principal Mrs Deidre Young, Agricultural Science Teacher Mrs Tenille Brimson and Mrs Donna Johnston the Curriculum Development Leader. Watch this space for all things Ag at McAuley College.



**Donna Johnston**  
Curriculum Development Leader

### Sports News



On Wednesday this week, I had the pleasure of taking 34 students to the SECA swimming carnival. Although being hectic at times, the students conducted themselves extremely well. It was great to see our "senior" students assisting the younger students and first timers, including myself. It was a big day with lots of events

crammed in, including the Mega relay, where a student from every age group competes. McAuley College students were not concerned they were competing against teams that had 16 and 17 year olds. They did their very best and performed well above expectation.

We took out the percentage trophy for the third year running, performing 200% better than the school in second place. This is a great achievement and I'm sure we will be back again next year to retain this trophy. Special mentions to Sam Blyton and Anna Brandon who placed on the day. Also to those students who stepped in at the last minute to help out. Thank you.



On Saturday 2 March a team of “Happy Chappies” headed out to Boonah to compete in the Chappy Challenge, a 5km Fun Run. It was an early start but well worth it to see how well out students performed and represented the college. A great effort by all those who participated.



On Thursday this week, Mr Moriarty is taking away a team of boys to the Titans 9's. Although we have participated in Rugby League previously, this will be the inaugural McAuley College team Rugby league team. We wish them the very best of luck.

We had some great news from students who have been to Pacific Districts representative trials. Emmy Heit has been selected for Netball and Hannah Brown was selected for Soccer. A great achievement.

In other sports news, Jack Dennis, Bryce Teese and Anthony Lossie made the South East Soccer Team and will play in U13's State Titles in May. Josh Brown and Corbin Kaminski trialed for the U14's.

With the Cross Country fast approaching, could any parents who are available to assist on the 5 April please email - [jway@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:jway@bne.catholic.edu.au).