



Above | King of the Pacific Festival, Steve Price "Pricey" with our girls at the T150 parade on Sunday 5 June.

ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE TOWNSVILLE

— EST 1878 —

# Newsletter

TERM 2 | WEEK 10 | 2016

JUBILEE  
YEAR of  
*Mercy*

## Upcoming Events

Friday 17 June  
WINTER GALA

Saturday 18 June  
College uniform sale  
9am-3pm

Monday 11 July  
Academic Conferences  
1pm-3pm &  
4pm-7pm

Tuesday 12 July  
First day of Term 3

Mon 18 – Fri 22 July  
Mulkadee Youth Arts  
Festival

Sun 24 – Sat 30 July  
Catholic Education Week



We finish the semester in a whirl of exams, reporting and for some students, work experience. As I write this newsletter, we are preparing for the Inaugural Winter Gala. It promises to be a great event and we are thrilled that we will be joined by so many past pupils, families and friends of the College. It will provide a wonderful forum to launch our Women's Career Network.

I would like to thank each and every one of the students who volunteered their time on Sunday 5 June to march proudly for this College, as a part of the T150 Townsville Pacific Festival Parade. It was a wonderful celebration of our rich history and exciting future, allowing the opportunity to show the community our new uniform for 2017.

I would like to take this opportunity to farewell Mrs Natasha Walker - Head of Faculty, English, Arts and Languages who will take Maternity Leave until the end of the year. We wish her all the best for the safe arrival of her new baby. Best wishes must also go to Miss Katherine Murphy who will be getting married during the mid-year vacation. Our prayers and thoughts are with them both during this exciting time in their lives.

Finally, I would like to wish all of our families a restful and regenerating break. Girls should use this time to reflect on their achievements to date and consider where their energies may need to be directed in the next semester. It is also a good time to give thanks for all that is good in our lives.

"If the only prayer you said in your whole life was, 'thank you,' that would suffice."  
— Meister Eckhart

God Bless,  
Paulina

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## FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

### SEMESTER ONE REFLECTION

Teachers and students at the end of any semester should take time to reflect on what has occurred and consider ways to improve next semester. Certainly I have witnessed a sense of accomplishment and at times disappointment with students I have met regarding their academic progress. I take the time to remind them that learning is life-long and should be seen as a journey not an end result.

To enable excellence within and for ourselves and in realising our potential, it is critical we take an honest account of what we are doing and perhaps at times not doing to help ourselves along the way. If we were to view life like an exciting road trip and the vehicle we use to take us on that road trip is education and learning, then we must acknowledge that there can only really be one driver in control of the actual vehicle.

Therefore, students must own their own learning journey by:

- Taking responsibility for maintaining their vehicle (Regular check-ups and check ins with teachers),
- Ensuring the correct fuel is used (Good nutrition, exercise and sleeping habits)
- Getting to know and study the vehicle manual (Enjoy learning a range of concepts and topics),
- Learning and practicing how to drive the vehicle efficiently and effectively
- Adhering to the road rules (Understand the purpose of schooling and how it provides you with choice and opportunity for life beyond school)
- Taking time to stop (Weekend down time and holidays) to enjoy the wonderful view and attractions along the way.

In all seriousness though, it is almost too easy to say, I will work 'harder' next semester, but what each student needs to do is ask themselves - what will 'working harder' look like? How would their parent/guardian teacher know they are working harder?

If organisation and time management are an area of weakness for you then perhaps constructing a term-time study timetable and making it visible to others will help to ensure you are more accountable and stick to it. It is always best if you clarify tasks and seek assistance early. Pastoral Deans and teachers can help you develop effective note taking skills or even how to mind map topics to help you understand the much needed links in the learning. Consolidating, studying and note taking are practical skills that can be honed and mastered. Fortunately, there is a plethora of resources available online with useful tips and strategies. These include most university website and more general study skills sites. Some examples are:

General Study Tips & Topics:

<http://www.deakin.edu.au/students/study-support/peer-learning/year-11-and-12-study-skills>

Study Tips for Examinations:

<http://www.uq.edu.au/student-services/learning/studying-effectively>

Managing exam anxiety:

<http://w3.unisa.edu.au/counselling/examanxiety.html>

Procrastination:

<http://w3.unisa.edu.au/wellbeing/SkillsforGoodHealthDoWell/ProcrastinationandTimeManagement.html>

However, at the end of the day we are all individual and need to prototype various methods to discover our preferred style when navigating our life road trip.

I trust that all of our students will enjoy a safe and relaxing winter break and I look forward to seeing our young women return next term organised and ready for the challenges ahead.

**Amber Hauff**  
Deputy Principal



## FAITH & IDENTITY

### CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY - Comfort the Sorrowful

How do we stand in solidarity with those experiencing sorrow?  
When one is at their most vulnerable, what can we do?  
“Shared joy is a double joy; shared sorrow is half a *sorrow*.”



### What can you do?

Remember that to listen and give understanding, attention often provides the greatest comfort.

**SAY** a little – but listen more

**STAY** a while (but not too long)

**PRAY** a lot

### SONY FOUNDATION CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY CAMP

We have now finalised the program of events for our Campers. Lots of fun activities have been organised for the Gala Day and we are now seeking sponsorship to assist in their delivery.

Activities include:

- Slushies (Slushie Machine)
- Soft serve ice creams (Soft serve machine)
- Fairy Floss
- Sausage Sizzle
- Dunking machine
- Merry-go-round
- Jumping castle
- Petting Zoo
- Pirate show (costumes and props)
- Show Bags (fillers)

How can you help?

While we have sourced many of these items, you might like to sponsor that activity by putting some money toward the cost. You may know someone who has this equipment and wouldn't mind donating it on the day. If you are interested in helping out, please contact me via the College office on 4753 0301.

### AUSTRALIAN MERCY SECONDARY SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION STUDENT CONFERENCE (AMSSA)

St Patrick's College has the opportunity to send two Year 11 students to the AMSSA Student Conference in Sydney during the September holidays (24-28 September). The girls will have the opportunity to build friendships, share ideas and connect with other like-minded students. The cost of the accommodation, meals, and all activities will be included, the student only needs to cover the cost of the flights to and from Sydney. If your Year 11 student is interested in applying to attend, they can collect an information letter from the office.

### CHANGE OF DATE:

Our Mercy Day celebrations will take place on Monday 12 September 2016. This will begin with our Mercy Mass followed by Mercy Outreach Activities and will conclude with our Mercy Works Fun Activities.

*(This was originally in the calendar for the Thursday 1 September.)*

Anne-Marie Hammond  
Director of Faith & Identity



## ACADEMIC NEWS

As we approach the holidays I hope our students take a well-earned break from their studies. Term Two has been very busy for students in between assessment tasks, NAPLAN, exam block and QCS Trials and no doubt students are starting to feel drained. Over the holiday period students are encouraged to recharge their batteries and return to the College with a positive attitude towards their studies, as well as some new learning goals to allow them to continue to have success in their academic progress. Our Year 12 students will begin their final semester of schooling when they return from the holiday break, it will be a very busy time for them particularly with QCS and they need to ensure they are feeling energised when they return.

### SEMESTER ONE REPORT CARDS

A reminder that the Semester 1 reports will be distributed throughout the holidays. These reports are an indicator of academic achievement throughout Semester 1. The reports will provide a grade for assessment that has been undertaken throughout the semester, as well as feedback from subject teachers. If you do not receive your daughter's Semester 1 report in the mail during the holidays, please contact the College office.

### ACADEMIC CONFERENCING

Academic Conferencing (Parent-Teacher Interviews) will be held in week 1 of **Term 3 on Monday 11 July 2016**. These meetings will be held between 1pm and 3pm; and 4pm and 7pm. Academic conferencing is invaluable and allows parents to meet their daughter's teachers, as well as discuss the progress of their child. How to make interviews and student specific log-on details will be provided with the Semester 1 Report.

Parents and carers will be able to make Academic Conference bookings from Friday, 24 June. These bookings will close on Thursday, 7 July. If you have any queries or questions in relation to making these interviews, please contact Louise Simmons [lsimmons@stpatcollege.qld.edu.au](mailto:lsimmons@stpatcollege.qld.edu.au)

### SUBJECT SELECTION INFORMATION EVENING

A Subject Selection Information Evening was held on Monday, 13 June for all Year 8 students (progressing to Year 9 in 2017) and Year 10 students (progressing to Year 11 in 2017). This information session discussed the nature of subjects offered and the factors influencing subject choice. Subject Selection Forms and online selections must be completed by Friday, 15 July (week 1, Term 3).

Parents, carers and students are encouraged to discuss their subject choices and pathways with their teachers, Heads of Faculty, Pastoral Deans, Ms Catherine Rentoule (Head of Careers/Vocational Education) or myself via email [abyrnes@stpatcollege.qld.edu.au](mailto:abyrnes@stpatcollege.qld.edu.au). For those students who did not attend the evening, subject information packs will be mailed to students. It is important that these documents are reviewed and discussions held in relation to subject choices and pathways. The curriculum handbook can also be located at <http://www.stpatcollege.qld.edu.au/academic-life/years-7-8/>

### ACADEMIC AWARDS ASSEMBLY

Following from Semester one reporting, the College will hold its Academic Awards Assembly on Friday 29 July (week 3, Term 3) at 11am. Students who are receiving an award will receive an invitation for this event with their Semester 1 report. These awards recognise the academic achievements of students based on their results in their various subjects.

### SUBJECT CHANGES

Students are reminded that if they wish to make subject changes to their current subjects, they can collect a subject change form from student reception. Parents, carers and students are encouraged to review their Semester One Report Card to determine whether subject changes are required. All subject change forms must be submitted by Friday, 22 July (week 2, Term 3). If parents and carers wish to discuss subject changes, they should consult their daughter's current teacher or contact myself via email [abyrnes@stpatcollege.qld.edu.au](mailto:abyrnes@stpatcollege.qld.edu.au).

## COLLEGE NEWS

### SUPPORTING THE DROUGHT ANGELS

Year 11 Home Economics students have been studying malnutrition. As part of the unit, the girls became aware of the current crisis of the Queensland Drought and its impact on farmers, with many cases of third world malnutrition now being diagnosed amongst farming families who are living in poverty as a result of the drought. To give back to those who feed us, the students held a bake sale with the help of the Mercy Girls in Action, and also offered nutritious lunches for sale as part of a nutrition awareness day. Profits from these events totalled \$500 which is being donated to Drought Angels, an organisation helping farmers through this crisis. We would like to thank all staff and students who supported the events and to those who also made donations. The money will certainly go to good use!



Above | Year 11 Home Economic students involved in the fundraising efforts to support the Drought Angels.

### YOUNG LANGUAGE AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

On Monday 30 May, students from St Patricks College participated in the Young Language Ambassador Program at James Cook University. Many students “young language ambassadors” from across North Queensland (Years 5 to 12) were selected to represent their schools and participate in the YLA conference. The students also presented a Ted Talk style speech about inspirational experiences and the importance of language education.



Above | Taiko drummers performing at the James Cook University Young Language Ambassadors Conference.

### STATE HONOURS ENSEMBLE PROGRAM (SHEP) – YOUNG CONSERVATORIUM OF MUSIC, GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected for the SHEP Townsville program, to be held this weekend.

- Emma Burling
- Jacinta Downward
- Georgia Espig
- Mae Meekin
- Kayla Rogers
- Maddison Winks

The program consists of intensive workshops run over three days in the areas of voice, strings, and wind ensemble. The weekend promises to be an exciting event for music students, where musicians are challenged and inspired to improve their skills, while getting to know other young players and singers from the Townsville region.

Congratulations girls! We are looking forward to hearing your performance! A final concert will be held at 1.00PM on Sunday 19 June at Ryan Catholic College, Kirwan.

## CAREER NEWS

**YEAR 12 COHORT NEWS** Students are encouraged to login to their Student Connect Account and complete the QCE Planner programme to see for themselves whether they are on track to receive their QCE. <https://studentconnect.qsa.qld.edu.au/>

**QTAC APPLICATIONS OPEN 5 AUGUST:** In early Term 3 the College will conduct a 'How to Apply' workshop.

**UMAT Reminder:** Information on the UMAT External Exam - UMAT is developed by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) on behalf of the UMAT Consortium universities. The test is used specifically to assist with the selection of students into the medicine, dentistry and health science degree programs at undergraduate level at the universities listed below:

<a href="#"><u>The University of Adelaide</u></a>	Medicine, Dental Surgery
<a href="#"><u>Charles Darwin University</u></a>	Clinical Sciences
<a href="#"><u>Curtin University</u></a>	Medicine
<a href="#"><u>Flinders University</u></a>	Clinical Sciences/Medicine
<a href="#"><u>La Trobe University</u></a>	Health Sciences in Dentistry/Master of Dentistry, Oral Health Science
<a href="#"><u>Monash University</u></a>	Medicine
<a href="#"><u>The University of Newcastle/</u></a> <a href="#"><u>University of New England</u></a>	Joint Medical Program
<a href="#"><u>The University of New South Wales</u></a>	Medicine, Optometry
<a href="#"><u>The University of Queensland</u></a>	Medicine (provisional entry), Dental Science
<a href="#"><u>University of Tasmania</u></a>	Medicine
<a href="#"><u>The University of Western Australia</u></a>	Medicine (assured entry), Dental Medicine (assured entry)
<a href="#"><u>Western Sydney University</u></a>	Medicine

\*Please note that at select institutions international students may be exempt from taking UMAT. TEST DATE: 27th July 2016  
You will find all the details on the following website: <http://umat.acer.edu.au/>

### TAFE NORTH - OFFERINGS FOR THE CERT III FREE GUARANTEE PROGRAM FOR 2017.

Cert III Education Support/Cert III Community Service/ Cert III/ Cert III in Early Childhood and Care/ Cert III in Individual Support/Cert II Kitchen Operations/Cert III Hospitality/Cert III Horticulture or Cert III Agriculture.

**JAMES COOK UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE DAY** is the first Wednesday in Term 3 – 13 July. All Year 12 students will attend the University Experience Day with other Year 12 students from around the region.

**YEAR 10 COHORT NEWS:** Over the holidays as your daughter selects her subjects and Pathway for Senior Schooling. If they need further information with regards to careers, please have them log onto [www.skillsroad.com](http://www.skillsroad.com). and access their career profile. The more information your daughter has about different career pathways the more informed choice she is going to make in selecting her senior subjects and which pathway she is more suited to – OP Pathway or Selection Ranking Pathway. QTAC Prerequisite 2019 Guide has been emailed to all Year 10 students for download. For further information please email [crentoule@stpatcollege.qld.edu.au](mailto:crentoule@stpatcollege.qld.edu.au)

# Newsletter

Term 2 | Week 10 | 2016



Above & Right | Our students in the T150 Townsville Pacific Festival Parade.



Above | Enjoying sushi making (and eating)!



Left | Junior print makers

## NATIONALLY CONSISTENT COLLECTION OF DATA ON STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY – 2016

The following provides information about the school's involvement in the *Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on Students with Disability*. If, after reading this, you would like to discuss this further please contact Ms Camilla Robson.

### What is the NCCD?

All Australian governments have agreed to work together to implement an annual national data collection on school students with disability. This data collection process has been in place since 2013. All Australian schools since 2015 and will now have commenced their plans for the data collection required in 2016.

### What information will be collected?

Every year your child's school will collect the following information for each student with a disability: The student's level of education (i.e. primary or secondary), the student's level of adjustment the student's broad type of disability. This data collection reinforces the actions required of schools under the National Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005. The significant difference with this collection is the use of a broader definition of disability than the one currently used to identify and allocate resources for students with a disability in our educational systems. As a result of this shift in the definition, we believe that more students in our community may be considered eligible for identification in the data collection. This legislation mandates schools and education systems to make, where appropriate, reasonable adjustments for all students with a disability.

### What is an adjustment?

An adjustment is a measure or action taken to assist a student with disability to participate in education on the same basis as other students. Adjustments can be made across the whole school setting, in the classroom and at the individual level. Some students with disability, at particular stages during their time at school, may not require any personalised adjustments beyond the quality differentiation that teachers provide to all students on a day-to-day basis. Differentiation occurs when teachers use a variety of teaching strategies to cater for reasonable adjustments for students with disability. Differentiation is recognised as a part of good teaching practice.

### What will this mean for my child?

Determining the level and type of support needed for an individual student is not a new activity for Australian schools. However, the information provided by this particular data collection will enable all Australian governments to better target support and resources to assist students with disability in both government and non-government schools.

### What is the benefit for my child?

The aim of the national data collection is to collect quality information about school students with disability in Australia. This information will help teachers, principals, education authorities and families to better support students with disability to take part in school on the same basis as students without disability. The national data collection is an opportunity for schools to review their learning and support systems and processes to continually improve education outcomes for their students with disability.

### Further information

Information will be recorded in such a way to be sure that no child can be personally identified at a state or national level. Student names will not be collected centrally by the Queensland Catholic Education Commission or Federal Government. The information collected by schools will be provided to all governments to inform policy and programme improvement for students with disability. It may assist in improving funding commitments from the Commonwealth Government for all students with disability. Further information can be found at the website including parent/carer factsheets. <https://www.education.gov.au/fact-sheets-and-resources-national-data-collection>

### What do I need to do?

This information is provided to all parents and carers of students in our school via the Newsletter to inform them of our participation in the 2016 data collection. If, after reading this information, you would like to discuss this further with the school staff, please speak with Camilla Robson, Head of Learning Support and Enrichment.