



Above | Students from Ignatius Park College and Townsville Community Learning Centre joined us to launch the Sony Foundation Children's Holiday Camp, taking place in September this year.

ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE TOWNSVILLE

— EST 1878 —

# Newsletter

TERM 2 | WEEK 6 | 2016

JUBILEE  
YEAR of  
*Mercy*



## Sony Children's Holiday Camp

I am delighted to announce that we have been successful in our application to host the very first Sony Children's Holiday Camp in Townsville. Ignatius Park College and the Townsville Community Learning Centre will join us to host the Camp which provides senior students with the opportunity to care for children with special needs over a three-day period, in what will be a life-changing experience for many of them.

## Upcoming Events

Thu 26 - Sat 28 May  
*What's New Pussycat?*  
Combined Catholic  
Colleges Musical  
Townsville Civic  
Theatre

Mon 6- Fri 10 June  
Year 10-12 Exam Block

Monday 13 June  
Subject Selection  
Evening

Thursday 16 June  
College Photos

Friday 17 June  
Winter Gala

Friday 17 June  
Last day of term

The Camp will take place at the beginning of the September school holidays, at our Boarding House and students will be involved in caring for the children and running activities for them. They will be supported by a team of teaching and medical staff.

For some of the children or 'campers' who will join us, this may be their very first sleepover away from home. For their parents, it will provide much needed respite, if just for a few days.

Our girls and the boys from Ignatius Park College will be required to submit an application to be considered for a role as a 'Companion' for the Camp. They will then have time in the lead up to the Camp to learn how to care for young people with disabilities. The Sony Children's Holiday Camp will provide another opportunity for our girls to live out Mercy in Action. For three days, they will need to focus solely on another person who will require their undivided care and attention. They will need to be selfless, kind, compassionate and patient. It will be a rich experience; challenging, rewarding and transformative.

## NAPLAN

Congratulations to our girls in Year 7 and 9 for the way they conducted themselves during NAPLAN Testing recently. They approached the test in a calm manner keeping its significance in perspective. The publication of these results does put pressure on schools to make students do practice tests over and over again, and while we familiarised the girls with the types of questions that they may have encountered, we maintain that the best indicator of student achievement is reflected in the assessments they take part in during their classes which are based on the material that they have been taught.

God Bless, *Paulina*



## FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

### TOWNSVILLE PACIFIC FESTIVAL PARADE – SUNDAY 5 JUNE 2016

I am very excited to announce that the College has been successful in being accepted to participate in the T150 4TOFM Pacific Festival Parade on Sunday 5 June 2016. We will be using this opportunity to commemorate the role St Patrick's College has played as part of the rich history of Townsville. We are currently using Facebook to see if past students have any old uniforms to feature in this parade. If you do have some or know someone who might be willing to lend them for this event, could you please contact the College on 4753 0300?

I will be sending out further information in the coming weeks asking for student volunteers to be a part of this event. It will be an amazing once in a lifetime opportunity for our current students to proudly showcase our rich history through the ages.

### RESPONSIBLE DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP – A HOLISTIC APPROACH

Australian social researcher Mark McCrindle describes Generation Z (Those born between 2009 and 2015) as a generation *'who have only known a wireless, hyperlinked, user-generated world where they are only ever a few clicks away from any piece of knowledge.'* With this in mind the College is committed to exploring and understanding the issues faced by our young women in the context of social media use. The challenge we face as parent/guardians and educators is in finding the balance between the benefits and risks for technology use.

#### *Finding Balance in the College*

At St Patrick's College, we are acutely aware of our role in helping our students understand safe online practices. Through our Pastoral care program and in our day to day dealings with the students, we focus on building young people's capacity to recognise and deal with risks online in order to foster their resilience and help them leverage the positive aspects of their technology use. This holistic approach highlights risks, whilst celebrating the opportunities technology continues to offer. This is how the College seeks to develop skills in our young women to navigate their highly connected world.

#### *Finding Balance at Home*

Parent/guardians continue to be a critical influence in ensuring that teenagers practice responsible digital citizenship and engage in online activities safely. The challenge for parents is in understanding the various dimensions of digital citizenship and the emerging issues facing their daughters in the cyber world. Fortunately there is a plethora of support and information available. Cybersmart is a national cyber safety education program managed by the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) as part of the Australian Government's commitment to cyber safety. The program is designed to meet the needs of children, young people, parents and teachers. An example of a useful resource developed through this program is the [Parent Guide to Online Safety](#). This practical, issue-focused resource provides information and advice for parents of children of all ages. It covers a range of key issues including:

- Cyberbullying
- Social Networking
- Mobile Phone Safety
- How much is too much time spent online?

It is always important to recognise that while our children may be technically proficient on various devices and in using the Internet, it is still vital that we all continue to talk openly with our young women about online safe practices.

### DATE CLAIMER: RAISING CONFIDENT DAUGHTERS SEMINAR 3: "MISS SELFIE" MONDAY 22 AUGUST, 5.30PM-7-PM

After the enormous success of the last interactive seminar Miss Moody: Mad, Bad & Sad, we are pleased to remind the community that the next seminar is all about online behaviour. Topics that will be discussed include:

- "Like" Yourself First: The impact of social media on self-esteem
- The Instagram Illusion: The impact of portraying a distorted and unrealistic reality of one's life
- The Social NOTwork: How social media is changing the way we think about adolescent relationships
- Clicking on Consequences: Why teenagers can't always think ahead about consequences (neuroscience of adolescence)
- Relationship Status: It's Complicated. Talking to young women about healthy, safe relationships (safety planning, boundary setting, keeping communication open)



## FAITH & IDENTITY

### CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY - Counsel the Doubtful

*How often do you not know what to do, what direction to take?  
Doubt and uncertainty can cripple us.  
And all that is needed is someone who will listen.*

**What can you do?** We are challenged to:

- Walk with those who may seek our counsel
- Encourage, to speak truthfully
- Offer unwavering support.

### MERCY MINISTRIES PILGRIMAGE

On Thursday 19 May we walked in Pilgrimage with our Mercy Partners – Mater Health Services North Queensland and Mater Community Services (Loreto and Villa McAuley). Our beautiful choir enhanced the experience with their lovely voices. Look for photos on our Facebook page and in our next newsletter.

### SONY FOUNDATION CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY CAMP

Applications are now in and we are going through a discernment process to select the Year 11 companions. These girls will have their first training session on Sunday 29 May. We had a large number of applicants and while they won't all be able to be companions, they will all have a part to play in the success of the Camp.

### YOUTH CHOIR

On Saturday 28 May our Youth Choir will be singing at the 6.00pm mass at St Josephs Church. I strongly encourage our day students to attend with their 'Boarding Sisters'. Singing practice will begin in the church at 5.00pm - all are welcome.

**Anne-Marie Hammond**  
Director Faith & Identity

## MERCY GIRLS IN ACTION

I would like to bring to your attention a video I stumbled upon on YouTube titled, "*First world problems read by third world people*". As the name suggests, it is about people in developing countries reading out first world problems against the backdrop of their reality. It provides a stark contrast between what we in developed countries perceive as problems, compared to their reality of poor infrastructure, little housing, education, clean water and lack of health care in poverty stricken communities.

We often take for granted the things that we have easy access to, and tend to overlook the fact that there are millions of people throughout the world who don't have access to basic necessities.

If anyone is interested in joining Mercy Girls in Action, we have meetings every Friday at 1pm in BO3. Youtube Video: First world problems read by third world people (<https://youtu.be/k3HrkQaPHAA>)

**Alana Krause**  
Mercy Girls in Action Member



## ACADEMIC NEWS

### NAPLAN

Congratulations to our Year 7 and 9 students who participated in the 2016 NAPLAN tests. The students are to be commended on their positive attitude throughout the three days of testing. Students were prepared with the correct equipment, were on time to each session and showed true determination in attempting these tests. The results from these tests are anticipated to be received in early September.

### YEAR 10, 11 AND 12 EXAM BLOCK

Year 10, 11 and 12 students have received a copy of their Semester 1 Exam Block Timetable. These were emailed to students and a hard copy was also provided in their Pastoral Care groups. The exam block timetable is also available at <http://www.stpatscollege.qld.edu.au/academic-life/assessment-exams/>

Semester 1 exams will begin on Monday, 6 June 2016. Students must attend all exams in their full Academic College uniform. If a student does not have exams during exam block or only one exam on a particular day, they are permitted to complete individual study at home. However, the parent/carer must advise the College by 9am on the day of these arrangements. Year 11 and 12 boarding students will be permitted to return to the Boarding School for individual study, however, Year 10 students must complete study in the assigned classrooms. If students are absent for any exams they are reminded that they must request special provisions and if it is for medical purposes, provide a medical certificate.

If parents, carers or students have any further questions in relation to the Semester 1 Exam Block Timetable, please contact me via email [abyrnes@stpatscollege.qld.edu.au](mailto:abyrnes@stpatscollege.qld.edu.au)

### ACADEMIC CONFERENCES

Academic Conferences will be held on Monday 11 July. This is a student-free day and the travel day for boarding students. Information relating to the booking of Academic Conferences will be enclosed with the Semester 1 Reports which will be distributed during the June/July school holidays. Please save this date in your calendars.

**Amy Byrnes**

**Director of Studies**



## PASTORAL CARE

As we enter the half-way mark of Term 2 and approach the last four weeks of semester one, all students are feeling the increasing pressure of having assignments, assessment tasks and exams approaching. A variety of support strategies and structures are put into place to support students during these times of additional pressure. Many teachers offer tutoring at lunchtimes and teachers will offer additional support and time for students when requested.

We continually encourage students to use their diaries as an important organisational tool. We encourage students to balance their lives; sleeping well, eating healthy foods, ensuring physical activity is included each day, spending quality time with family and friends and using electronic devices, especially phones, responsibly. We regularly talk to the girls about maintaining a positive mindset; noticing when they might be stuck in negative thoughts and being grateful for the smallest of things.

Please encourage your daughter to communicate with you about how she is going. Please also encourage her to communicate with her teachers and/or Pastoral Deans if she requires additional support so that she can meet the learning expectations of each subject and enjoy school life to the fullest.

**Benita Bowles**

**Director of Pastoral Care**



## BOARDING

### CONGRATS TO OUR YEAR 7s

This week I would like to start off with a very big commendation to our youngest boarding students. As a group, our Year 7s have been displaying very high levels of personal organization skills, pride in their appearance and team work. They have been working together and supporting each other to ensure they are awake on time, that their hair is neat and tidy, they are dressed in their full and correct academic uniform complete with very shiny shoes (which they help each other polish each morning). In a time where society places so much value on “outer beauty” and “looks”, it is easy for young women's self-esteem to be damaged and stunted by this unnecessary pressure to “be beautiful” and to have their sense of self-worth limited to how they look, or even worse, how they think other people think they look. Of course the challenge as care-givers of our boarding students is to balance these ideas of looking a certain way to fit in, alongside instilling a sense of pride in personal appearance, pride in representing the college and abiding by College rules and expectations in regards to dress code and uniform standards. Sometimes the pressure of “looking good” and “fitting in” results in students wanting to wear make-up, shortening the length of their skirt, wearing jewellery, coloured socks, or strange and interesting hairstyles! So it is very heartening to see these Year 7s, our newest and youngest boarders, changing perceptions by making such a positive effort in their appearance - and very importantly, supporting their peers in being well-presented for school, with their focus being on self-respect, respect for College rules and personal pride.

**CULTURAL DANCE GROUPS** As always we have been busy with many different recreational and sporting activities. Recently our Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal dance groups travelled to Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School in Ingham to perform at a large community fete. The girls did an amazing job of representing their culture, their communities, their families, the College and themselves as strong, talented women. The audience were very grateful for the enriching cultural experience the students shared with them and it was certainly a bonus that the girls also got to do an impromptu performance with the students from St Teresa's College, Abergowrie.



Above | Our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander dance groups performed at the fete at Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School in Ingham recently.

**WEEKEND LEAVE** While we offer a variety of recreational and sporting activities on afternoons and weekends, many boarders are lucky enough to have family or friends in Townsville, or visiting Townsville, so they get the opportunity to go out on Weekend Leave. This time away with family and friends is very important and the College is supportive of this special time for our students. However, in order to ensure our duty of care to all of our students, it is vital that parents, students and host friends/families understand and adhere to the policies and procedures for weekend leave, to ensure student safety. This term a number of students have been returning late from leave, have not been escorted back to the College by host families, hosts have not arrived with photo identification and students have not been completing leave documentation properly or in a timely fashion. In order to process leave and avoid disappointment please ensure we work together to adhere to the weekend leave procedure. For any information or clarification regarding weekend leave please don't hesitate to contact myself or Betty Grant in the Boarding Office.

**END OF TERM TRAVEL** As the end of term is approaching it is timely that families are making travel arrangements for the last day of school. If your daughter has her travel booked by Abstudy, please be advised these bookings are currently being processed and as we receive the student itineraries, we will be in contact with families to pass on those travel details. For families who organize travel, please ensure you contact Betty Grant no later than **Friday 27 May** with your travel details. This will allow time to organize transportation required between the College and bus or train terminals or the airport. School finishes on Friday 17 June and Term 3 commences on Monday 11 July.

## SCIENCE NEWS

### SCIENCE CAMPS

Applications are now open for the following Science camps:

#### Indigenous Australian Science and Infrastructure Development (SID) Winter School:

When: 27 June to 1 July

Where: Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane

Who: Indigenous students in Years 10, 11 and 12

Cost: FREE – accommodation, transport, meals and activities all paid for

Applications close: 20 May 2016

#### InspireU Health Sciences camp:

When: 3 to 8 July

Where: University of Queensland, Brisbane

Who: Indigenous students in Years 11 and 12 who are OP eligible

Cost: FREE – accommodation, transport, meals and activities all paid for

Applications close: 3 June 2016

#### The Engineering Link Project:

When: 18 & 19 July

Where: James Cook University, Townsville

Who: Students in Year 11 & 12 who are currently studying both Mathematics B and Physics

Cost: \$77 for the program only, OR \$155 for the program, 1 night dorm accommodation and meals, OR \$225 for the program, 2 nights' dorm accommodation and meals

Applications close: When all available spaces have been filled

### STEM TREK

The next STEM Trek information evening is on Monday, 23 May at 6:30pm at the College in room A03. STEM Trekkers and their Parents/Carers must attend to receive important information and updates about our trip. There are only four months to go!

## JAPAN CLUB



Left | Japanese and Music teacher, Miss Emi Miyoshi prepared a tea ceremony for the girls during Japanese Cultural Club. The group meet weekly. If you are interested, please see Miss Miyoshi.

## CREATIVE ARTS

### VISITING ARTISTS

We were thrilled to welcome artists from the Yarrabah Arts & Cultural Precinct, Ms Philomena Yeatman and Ms Michelle Yeatman who are highly acclaimed artists in pottery, weaving and painting. The artists visited the College to work with our visual arts students who thoroughly enjoyed the experience.



ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE TOWNSVILLE

# Winter Gala 2016

LAUNCHING THE CAREER WOMEN'S NETWORK

PAST STUDENTS, PARENTS AND FRIENDS  
ARE INVITED TO JOIN US

*The St Patrick's College Career Women's Network will be launched at the inaugural Winter Gala.  
Past students, parents and friends of the College are warmly invited to attend.  
The event will honour past pupils and create connections with current senior students.*

## DETAILS

The Winter Gala will be held on Friday 17 June at Rydges Southbank Convention Centre from 6.30pm  
Tickets includes drinks and canapes on arrival and a three course meal (cash bar)

Guest speaker is past student (1993) Ms Bridget Woods, Executive Manager Tourism & Events, Townsville Enterprise  
Entertainment is by Groove and a silent auction will take place, with funds raised directed to the  
Women's Career Network

## TICKETS AND INFORMATION

Tickets are \$85 per person (an online booking fee applies)

Bookings can be made through Townsville Tickets who are a supporter of this event via a donation of  
ticket booking fees to the Women's Career Network

To book tickets please visit [www.townsvilletickets.com.au/event/2570](http://www.townsvilletickets.com.au/event/2570)

## ARE YOU A PAST STUDENT?

Would you like to register your details for our Alumni database?

Visit [www.stpatscollege.qld.edu.au/alumni](http://www.stpatscollege.qld.edu.au/alumni)

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE YOUR STORY?

Email us a high resolution photograph and details of your graduating year and career.

We are looking to feature stories of past students who have worked/are working in all industries and professions.

Email us at [alumni@stpatscollege.qld.edu.au](mailto:alumni@stpatscollege.qld.edu.au)

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE YOUR CAREER EXPERIENCE?

Register your details as a mentor for our Career Women's Network. Visit our website for more information

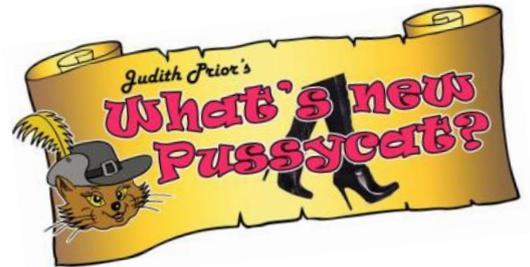
[www.stpatscollege.qld.edu.au/alumni](http://www.stpatscollege.qld.edu.au/alumni)

**TICKETS NOW ON SALE - [WWW.TOWNSVILLETICKETS.COM.AU/EVENT/2570](http://WWW.TOWNSVILLETICKETS.COM.AU/EVENT/2570)**

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### COLLEGE MUSICAL - WHAT'S NEW PUSSYCAT? TICKETS NOW ON SALE 26-28 MAY

Tickets are on sale for the combined colleges musical, What's New Pussycat? St Patrick's College students together with St Margaret Mary's College and Ignatius Park College students will be performing at the Townsville Civic Theatre, 26-28 May. For tickets call the Ticketshop on 4727 9797 or book online at [www.ticketshop.com.au](http://www.ticketshop.com.au)



### MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS MASS & LUNCHEON

Organised by Catholic Women's League, Townsville Diocese - 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2016  
Mass at Holy Spirit Church 10am followed by lunch in Ignatius Park Hall  
Cost of Lunch \$23 - numbers required. Phone or Text Ellen on 0428 636 066

### CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME PROGRAM

A six week course to allay fears, misconceptions, and give updates of faith practices, designed for lapsed Catholics returning to practice their faith, will be offered at the Spirit Centre Hall, adjoining Holy Spirit Church, 400 Ross River Road Cranbrook at 7.00pm on Tuesdays, from 14th June - 19th July. Phone Holy Spirit Parish 47791404 for information and registration.

The Ann Roberts School of Dance  
A Tribute to T150 Celebrations  
Pas de Quatre  
Disorient Express  
Graduation Ball  
Les Sylphides  
Miss Roberts' Dream  
Riverway Arts Centre  
June 16th, 17th, 18th  
Tickets available at TicketShop

Mary MacKillop Parish  
Under the patronage of St Mary of the Cross (MacKillop)  
FANS FOR FANS  
COMMUNITY CONCERT  
Enjoy a feast of Music from classical to modern,  
all age groups and styles.  
All proceeds go towards purchase of fans for the church.  
Date: SUNDAY, 5 JUNE  
Time: 3:00 - 5:00pm  
Venue: Holy Trinity Church, 43 Ross River Rd, Mundingburra  
Tickets: \$10 per adult, \$5 per child, \$20 family: \* 2 adults + 2 children  
Available from Parish Office, St Joseph's Primary School or at the door.  
Afternoon Tea shared afterwards  
Contact: Parish Office 4775 7688 or Pria D'Souza 0403 557 972