Dear Parents, Friends and Carers,

It’s Graduation Day 2014. Every year I am overawed by the passion, the bonds and the love that is displayed on this day. Our Year 12 students have left with great dignity and respect. The ceremony was also once again so meaningful and a blessing on our community.

The wonderful support shown by parents, carers and family members to be in attendance on this special occasion is a sight to behold. There was standing room only again this year and we certainly need to buy some more chairs for our Year 7 students next year. Fiona Baker and Rachelle Pinese have mastered the final days of Year 12 and the send-off today was again outstanding.

The speeches from Bree Thomas and Sam Roff were tear jerking reminders of the depth and breadth of talent, love, care and sense of belonging that is St John’s. The previous night we farewelled the seniors at Mass in the MPC and the speech from Hannah McNaught and Fr. Graham’s homily were again finely tuned pieces that remind us of our roots in Christian Catholic Education and the in the values of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan Order.

I love it when it all comes together. These are the days that speak to you of the success of all the hard work by parents and teachers; these are the days of great pride as we honour and celebrate completion, achievement and awesomeness; these are those precious moments in life that we remember with fondness and connectivity. Well done Johnnies!

Tonight we will all meet again at the Graduation Formal. Here we will have an opportunity to do our final farewells and to relax in the company of so many like-minded people in our school community. I would like to thank Rachelle Pinese for all her amazing and extraordinary efforts to make Year 12 such a smooth transition for most our kids. Rachelle will relinquish her role at the end of the year as Year 12 Coordinator and it has been five special years. Thank you Rachelle, for your obvious passion, dedication and love of your profession.

Meanwhile, Year 11 students are in the middle of their exam week. We always finish off their year with a couple of days of QCS test practice so that we can gather data for their most important final year of school in 2015. The year 10 group are also flat chat at completing assessments and they too will finish at the end of next week after their Dance Night next Thursday. The Year 8 and 9 students will finish on Thursday 4th December.

This week we finally put the finishing touches on the new staff enlistment for 2015. I am excited to announce the following staff who will become members of the St John’s community: Michael Crockford, Henning Kunkerenken, Claire White, Megan Anning, Natashia Ogbourne, Rosanna Potter, Alexandria Atkins, Bridget Ashton, Rob Charlton, Kristin Medveczky and Ken Kiernan.

Next week we will farewell our seven students and three staff who will travel to Lombok University, Indonesia, for a two week immersion program. This is an amazing opportunity for our young people and Margaret Norris has been the driver behind this great trip. We hope it will strengthen our Indonesian ties and the numbers who select the Indonesian language in the senior years.

Reports will be sent out soon and if you are worried by any comments take a glance at these comments that could surely have been made about Jesus if were at school in our modern era:

“This boy has a very unhealthy tendency to form gangs. He has organized twelve of his friends into a gang and is seen constantly in the company of the children of publicans and sinners. He needs to be more selective in his choice of friends. Also, he should learn to keep his hair at a tidy length and not wear sandals with the school uniform.”
Finally, a reflection for us all about what education should be and what I hope it is here at St John’s:

Throw in our Gospel, Good Samaritan and Catholic values and you are working towards developing young people of character, intelligence and faith. This faith can be best expressed in the parable of the Good Samaritan.

The parable makes a provocative statement as Jesus challenges us to “go and do the same” – go and be a good neighbour to all those who struggle, who are different, in need and who is the “other”. Being neighbour is the journey of a lifetime – it is challenging and life enhancing for those who take up the challenge – “If you hear his voice harden not your hearts” (Hebrews 3; Psalm 95) (Who is My Neighbour p7)

Chris Gold
Principal
ATTENTION ST JOSEPHS PARISHIONERS WHO ATTENDED 9.00AM MASS ON SUNDAY 16TH NOVEMBER

On behalf of Fr Graham we have been asked by Sunshine Coast Public Health to distribute the attached letter and fact sheet to St Joseph's families.

The attached letter and fact sheet is in relation to a confirmed case of measles for a participant who was in attendance at the 9:00am mass on Sunday 16th November.

The attachments indicate steps to be taken for those at risk of infection or vulnerable to the disease viral disease. Particularly babies who may not have yet been immunised.

The additional information is: People who have been born after 1965 and who are sure they have not been vaccinated with a measles vaccine can obtain an injection of immunoglobulin from Nambour Clinic Family Medicine on Sydney St, Nambour on Friday afternoon or Saturday morning before 10 am. The phone number for Nambour Clinic is 5441 1455.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

St John’s College, Nambour

Year 5s, 2014, from Stella Maris and St Joseph’s will visit St John’s College to experience a day at our secondary school. Stella Maris visit on Monday 1 December and St Joseph’s on Tuesday 2 December. This cohort will be starting Year 7 in 2016.

Year 5s will arrive by bus with their teachers at approximately 9.30am and will be at St John’s till 1.00pm. Students are asked to bring their morning tea or they can make a purchase from our new tuckshop. A lunch of sausage on bread and a juice will be provided for them.

St John’s College is a Catholic secondary learning community established by the Good Samaritan Sisters in 1940. St John's is well known for excellence in academic pursuits, dramatic and musical presentations, sporting success in rugby, netball, cross country and athletics and community service programs. Some unique features of the school are its pastoral care program, inclusiveness of students with disabilities, staff - student relationships, energetic Parents & Friends
Term 4 Fees Now OVERDUE

Thank you to all the parents/guardians that have paid school fees or have a payment plan in place.

Term 4 School Fees are now overdue. Please note if you have not made prior payment arrangements with Danielle Twomey or myself please contact the office on Monday to do so. Overdue notices and letters have been issued. We provide a number of payment options including:

- Credit Card and Cash/Cheque facilities
- Direct Debit payment plans
- BPAY
- Other alternative payment plans

Please Note

The School Fees are our major source of funding for your children’s education. Currently we have in excess of $500,000.00 outstanding, which, as you can imagine impacts directly on the provision of services, programs and upgrades to facilities for your students. We therefore ask that you make payment on any outstanding fees for this or prior years and/or establish a payment plan in order to make regular payments.

Financial Difficulty

If you are experiencing financial difficulty please contact us in the office to discuss. All matters are confidential and there are a range of options available through Brisbane Catholic Education in relation to applying and receiving fee concessions. Please note that it is much easier for us to speak with you early regarding your financial situation than not informing the College at all.

Thank you

Kim Harrison
Business Manager
07 54415666

USC Options, Your Q&A Day

This year USC Options has been extended to an all-day affair happening on Friday 19 December. USC will be open from 9.00am to 5.00pm, so you can choose a time that best suits you to get your questions answered.

When: 9.00am - 5.00pm, Friday 19 December
Where: USC Sippy Downs campus

Come along to:

- take a campus tour with a USC student ambassador
- talk to staff about your QTAC preferences, the admissions process, fees and scholarships
- talk to program advisors about your preferred degree
- find out about your accommodation options
- attend a special seminar ‘Surviving the first year of uni’

Register now for your campus tour and preferred seminar time at usc.edu.au/options.
End of Year Report from the P & F President Damien Quinn

It is with much pride and joy that I write this farewell to the Seniors of 2014. I pray that they remember the faith community and gospel values unique to St Johns College. I particularly thank the parents that have made the sacrifice to allow their teenagers to be part of our community. As a parent of a year 12 student, I particularly thank those who have helped in so many ways and particularly for their contribution over the past few years at the Welcome BBQs.

At this time of year I would also like to give thanks to our dedicated teaching staff and support staff. During our monthly Tuesday P&F meetings I have become acutely aware of how hard working our staff are and of course 2013 - 2014 has been extra ordinary with huge amounts of planning for the future. I particularly appreciate the efforts of Mr Gold, the Administration and our Business Manager Kim Harrison. As a parent with daughters in year 7 and 9 in 2015, I look forward to a double big welcome BBQ in 2015 and I thank all families for their ongoing support with a “new” slightly larger version of St Johns College in 2015. Already I have enjoyed the new buildings for Arts week and for the final year 12 Drama performances.

Part of this year’s contribution by the P & F have included:

- The welcome BBQ catering for about 410 people
- Ongoing bus contributions
- Contributions to major undercover building/roof play areas to complement the open space between the ‘new’ Year 7 building with the demolition of the old tuckshop and water tower.
- Fundraising $6000 through the parent, school and staff involvement at the Sunshine Coast Show gates
- BBQ Cooking and Serving for the Annual Sports Awards Night
- Contributions of funds to build a new altar (made from local timbers) coming from the liturgy group of 2014 to be used for future masses and liturgies and marking the 75th anniversary year
- Assistance with planning for extra social parent involvement in 2015 such as the 75th Anniversary Ball and Other Parent Social and Support Activities in 2015
- Various donations to students for national representations for sports, and for Catholic Youth Faith Development and Spiritual Activities

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank members of the P&F team and the parents ‘who step up’ at any occasion to make things happen with fun, fellowship and enthusiasm. These people make it all the more worthwhile giving up Tuesdays to monthly meetings. I must particularly thank P&F Secretary Meg McNaught, Vice President Peter Lynch, and Mike Primmer Treasurer (also Kate Russo unofficial Facebook parent supporter and reporter) and Tracy Langford (Chaplain) who helps bridge communications between the school and parent community at the P&F meetings.

Date Claimers Needing Parent Support:

- We will need more help for the double intake of Year 7/8 for the welcome to parents peer helper afternoon early in 2015 – venue St John’s College, Thursday 5 February 2015
- The 75th Anniversary Ball – venue Caloundra Civic Centre, Friday 31 July 2015
- 2015 Show Gates support as the Sunshine Coast show will feature the 100 Anniversary of ANZACs evening ceremonies as part of the evening events – venue Sunshine Coast Show

Have a well deserved break and enjoy your family over the festive season and summer.

Yours in Christ

Damien Quinn
Dear Students and Parents,

It is getting to the time of year when lockers are being emptied. Over the Christmas break each locker is cleaned ready for the start of the New Year.

Please ensure all text books & library books are returned and any personal items are taken home.

Due to time constraints, any items left in locker will be considered not wanted and disposed of.

Kind regards
Kim Harrison
Business Manager
Summer Reading Club
Discover a world of adventure

Dodge danger, outwit your arch nemesis and journey beyond your wildest imagination with your favourite authors. There are great prizes to be won and fun adventure activities along the way.

Step 1. Register online or at your local library branch.

Step 2. Read five books and record them in your Reading Log.

Step 3. Submit your Reading Log online or take it back to the library for a chance to win great prize packs.

The more you read, the more entries you get.

Prizes include: Adventure Time prize pack, BIG Craft Box prize pack, ALPHA Marble Maze prize pack, LEGO Minecraft prize pack and a bookstore voucher.

Sunshine Coast Libraries
Registrations open Saturday 13 December 2014
5475 8989 or www.library.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au
Are you a young entrepreneur?

Sell your original creative products in our Y-shop.

Expressions of interest are sought from creative young adults aged 10 to 25 year of age to be part of Sunshine Coast Libraries annual summer youth market.

Every Saturday morning from 29 November 2014 to 20 December 2014, Sunshine Coast Libraries are allowing young creators to set up shop for two hours in the library of their choice.

We provide the space and the tables, you provide the merchandis. This is your chance to showcase your talent make some money and get your business started.

Register your interest at any Sunshine Coast Library or online at www.library.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au

www.library.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au
07 5475 8989
ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY
CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2014

The Christmas Appeal aims to provide much needed help from practical assistance to food hampers, emotional support, toys and gifts for children, individuals and families so they too can experience the joy of Christmas. Your donation will assist people doing it tough this Christmas.

Each PC group have been given a Family to Adopt.

Vinnies Christmas Appeal 2014 Gift Suggestions

Last year, with your generous support, the St Vincent de Paul Conference in Nambour was able to give out more than 70 Christmas Hampers, bringing the joy of Christmas to those who otherwise would have had a very unhappy day. This year the Good Samaritan Youth Conference (made up of St John’s and St Joseph’s students, parent and staff) are coordinating the Hampers in collaboration with Nambour. The cost of each hamper this year will be between $100-$200.

We are appealing for your help again this year.

Hampers will be distributed on the 18th December from St Joseph’s Primary School Hall.

There are also envelopes available for those who would prefer to donate cash. Donations of $2 or more are tax deductible. Please include your name and address if you wish a receipt.

If you care to donate items other than food here are some ideas.

Food: Juice, soft drink, savoury and sweet biscuits, nuts, chips, long life custard, tin fruit, minces pies, Christmas puddings, bonbons, gift bags, tin fruit.

For men: Toiletry packs (containing razors, shaving cream, shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothbrush and toothpaste), clothing vouchers, shoes, thongs, bags/backpacks and gift cards (e.g. Target, JB HiFi, Kmart, Big W, Cotton On)

For children and teens: Plush toys, rattles, clothes, building blocks, books, art and craft supplies, board games, sporting equipment, movie vouchers and gift cards (e.g. Kmart, Big W, Cotton On, Typo, Smiggle, Rebel Sport)

For women: Toiletry packs (containing shower gel, shampoo/conditioner, body lotion, deodorant, toothbrush and toothpaste), make up kits, bags, clothing vouchers, gift cards (e.g. Kmart, Big W, Cotton On, Body Shop)

Please contact Tracey Langford (0417 071 168) if you would like to help with the hampers.
Thank you all so much.

“Be kind and love, for love is your first gift to the poor”

Blessed Rosalie Rendu 1786-1856
Farewell and good luck to all our creative Arts students (Visual Arts, Drama and Music).

Thanks, you guys made the Arts in the school special this year.

From  Mrs Thompson, Miss McCaul (Visual Arts)
      K.K.M (Drama)
      Mr Wilson (Music)
**UNIFORM SHOP and TEXT HIRE**

**PLEASE NOTE NEW OPENING HOURS**

**WEDNESDAY 8.00am - 3.45pm**

and

**THURSDAY 8.00am - 3.45pm**

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## Contact Details

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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## Pastoral Co-Ordinators

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## Heads of Department

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