

TERM 1
2014

Diocese of Townsville

Catholic
Education



THIS EDITION OF OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IS DEDICATED IN LOVING MEMORY OF THE LATE MOST REV BISHOP MICHAEL PUTNEY, BISHOP OF THE TOWNSVILLE DIOCESE, 2001-2014.

OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

DIOCESE OF TOWNSVILLE

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DIRECTOR'S WELCOME

Dear parents/carers, families and friends

The beginning of our 2014 school year has been an emotional time, with our much loved Bishop Michael Putney losing his battle with cancer and passing away peacefully in the early hours of Friday 28th March. We have dedicated this edition to Bishop Michael as he was such a huge part of the life of our schools. It is difficult to imagine life without his guidance, enthusiasm, spirit and deep faith, however we can take comfort in the many beautiful memories and pieces of wisdom that he imparted during his 13 years as Bishop of the Townsville Diocese. In the centre pages of this magazine you will find a collage of photographs of Bishop Michael with our students and staff over the years.

It is important for you all to know how much Bishop Michael loved our schools. One of my most heartfelt memories was last year during our staff professional development event, the Year of Grace Gathering at the Townsville Entertainment & Convention Centre. Following Mass, Bishop Michael walked back into the arena where he received a spontaneous standing ovation that lasted for minutes, from more than 1000 of our teachers, principals and staff. In the days before his death, Bishop Michael attended a gathering of students at Holy Spirit School, along with the visiting Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Paul Gallagher. Students from most of our Catholic schools gave presentations about their school communities, in dedication to Bishop Michael. He was deeply moved and emotional on that day and you could clearly see the love he felt for our schools. Bishop Michael Putney was dearly loved by so many and he is deeply missed.

Another emotional time for our Diocese was the farewell of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan from Hughenden. The Sisters have served the Hughenden community for 113 years, with 99 Sisters living in the town over that period. Sister Ita and Sister Patricia have been at St Francis School since 2005 and were deeply loved. It was an emotional goodbye with many memories shared. We thank Sr Ita and Sr Patricia for their years of dedication to our Catholic school in Hughenden.

We have also had many happy times during the term in our Catholic schools and this magazine is another testament to the vibrancy of our school communities.

God's blessings

DR CATHY DAY
DIRECTOR

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"The gospel of Jesus should be the driving energy of a Catholic school. It is a very public and explicit imperative to promote the common good. A good Catholic school is a school for the common good."



GET READY FOR MULKADEE 2014!

Dance North's Creative Development Facilitator, Jeremy Poi, has been visiting Catholic schools around the Diocese in the lead up to Mulkadee 2014. Jeremy and Tracey Poi will once again lead our dance workshop for this year's event.

BELOW | Jeremy is pictured with students at St Francis School, Hughenden.



FAREWELL TO THE GOOD SAMARITANS - HUGHENDEN

In what was a heartfelt and emotional weekend of ceremonies and events, the St Francis School community and the Hughenden community farewell the Sisters of the Good Samaritan after 113 years of service. During this time, 99 Sisters have lived in Hughenden. Sr Ita Stout and Sr Patricia Comerford have been a beloved part of our St Francis School community since 2005, offering their gentle wisdom and pastoral care to the children and families.

Bishop Michael Putney attended the official farewell ceremony at the school to thank the sisters for their dedication and commitment.



ABOVE | Bishop Michael Putney, Cathy Day, Sr Patricia, Sr Ita and students.



RELIGIOUS LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

PAPAL NUNCIO'S VISIT

TOP | Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Paul Gallagher visited Townsville in March to attend Bishop Michael Putney's annual dinner and the launch of his book, *My Ecumenical Journey*.

During his visit, he met with students who presented him with presentations on their school communities.

- 1 | Archbishop Paul Gallagher with students from St Patrick's College, Townsville.
- 2 | Archbishop Paul Gallagher with students from Ryan Catholic College, Kirwan.
- 3 | Archbishop Paul Gallagher with students from Ignatius Park College, Cranbrook.
- 4 | Archbishop Paul Gallagher with students from Good Shepherd Catholic Community School, Rasmussen.
- 5 | Archbishop Paul Gallagher with students from Southern Cross Catholic School, Annandale.
- 6 | Archbishop Paul Gallagher with students from St Peter's School, Halifax.
- 7 | Archbishop Paul Gallagher with students from St Clare's Catholic School, Burdell.
- 8 | Archbishop Paul Gallagher with students from St Teresa's College, Abergowrie.
- 9 | Archbishop Paul Gallagher with students from St Anthony's Catholic College, Deeragun.
- 10 | Archbishop Paul Gallagher with students from St Joseph's Catholic School, Mundingburra.
- 11 | Archbishop Paul Gallagher with students from Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School, Ingham.





RELIGIOUS LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

PROJECT COMPASSION 2014

Catholic schools in the Townsville Diocese joined in to launch Caritas Australia's annual Project Compassion campaign on Shrove Tuesday, before feasting on pancakes as the first fundraiser for the appeal.

Ash Wednesday marked the beginning of the Lenten period.

TOP | Students from Catholic schools at the Townsville Diocesan launch of Caritas' Project Compassion appeal, 2014.

RIGHT | Students from St Joseph's School, the Strand with materials promoting the aid work undertaken throughout the world with funds raised through Project Compassion.



THE GOOD SAMARITAN SPIRIT

The year has begun well for the St Margaret Mary's College community, with a variety of prayer and liturgical experiences bringing to life the Good Samaritan spirit.

The Year 12 students were commissioned as the College leaders in front of their families and college community at Mass early in the year; YCS members were presented to the St Mary MacKillop parishioners at Mass recently; the students in the Sacramental program attended their Rite of Enrolment and the newest Maggies, along with their families were welcomed in their own Rite of Welcome and family social evening.

An Easter liturgy will draw the term to a close in a most fitting way - reminding us that we are resurrection people and a community of faith, hope and spirit'.

LEFT | Students from St Margaret Mary's College.



ASH WEDNESDAY AT MARIAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

TOP | Ash Wednesday was celebrated at Marian Catholic School with a whole school prayer celebration led by Year 2 students and teachers. Everyone was reminded that during Lent we do not use the word Alleluia, so we put it in a box to quietly sleep until the joy filled time of Easter.



'GOD FIRST' AT ST JOHN BOSCO SCHOOL, COLLINSVILLE

A week of celebration took place at St John Bosco Catholic School in Collinsville to celebrate the Feast Day of St John Bosco.

School principal Karen Casey said, "We aim to put "God First" every day just like St John Bosco and the Sisters of Mercy who founded our school."

ABOVE | Students celebrate the feast day of St John Bosco.

PRAYER AND WORSHIP AT OUR LADY OF LOURDES SCHOOL

Throughout Term 1, students, staff and families have come together to celebrate and pray for special feast days and occasions including the feast days of Our Lady of Lourdes Feast day, St Patrick, St Joseph and Ash Wednesday. Children from St Mary MacKillop Early Learning Centre joined the students for Mass on Ash Wednesday.



OPENING SCHOOL MASS AT SOUTHERN CROSS

ABOVE | Southern Cross Catholic School celebrated our opening Mass as a special celebration of who we are as a faith community. It was particularly nice that we had a number of our parents, grandparents and extended families join us. Pictured are Fr Joshy and Mrs Parnell during the Mass.

BACK TO GOD AT ST KIERAN'S

At St Kieran's Catholic School, Mount Isa, we have adopted the theme "Back to Basics" in all areas of life, including spirituality. Our theme is "Back to God". Our focus is the contemplation of the return our hearts to God. This has been a great focus in Lent.

SMOKING CEREMONY FOR ASH WEDNESDAY



LEFT | The students at St Michael's School, Palm Island participated in several liturgies in Term 1 including Ash Wednesday.

Mr Archie lead the school in a smoking ceremony which took the place of the Penitential Rite because it is traditionally used to cleanse and purify. We all walked through the smoke into the church to begin our liturgy. Ashes from the fire were then blessed and used to mark our foreheads. Each class was given a Project Compassion box and a purple candle for Lent.



EARLY YEARS & PRIMARY

JUST LEADERSHIP

TOP | Students from Townsville Catholic primary schools gathered at Good Shepherd Catholic Community School to participate in the annual Just Leadership Day presented by Caritas Australia.

CELEBRATING ST PATRICK'S DAY



ABOVE | Students from St Patrick's School, Winton, celebrated St Patrick's Day with a Mass followed by a day of fun with a costume parade, dancing, jokes and much more.



ABOVE | Students from St Colman's School, Home Hill, celebrated St Patrick's Day and also honoured St Colman, an Irish Saint.



ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER LEADERSHIP AT HSS

Year 7 students at Holy Spirit School have formed a cultural leadership group. One of their first projects is to learn about the school's bush tucker garden, *Yamini's Trail* - named after the rainbow serpent. The students will guide younger classes through the trail to help generate a deeper understanding of local Aboriginal culture.

ABOVE | Year 6 students learning about *Yamini's Trail*, the bush tucker garden at Holy Spirit School.

RYAN'S DEFENCE CLUB

Almost fifty children of defence families belong to the Defence Club at Ryan Catholic College. Defence Transition Aide, Nikki Blackwell and Year 4 teacher Amanda Jones started the club to give students another method of support that is both informal and fun.

The club aims to provide the students with a place that they can go and participate in games and activities with other students and staff who are familiar with defence life. The students will be given opportunities to write/email parents who are deployed or away on course, enter Defence competitions and create art works for display.

RIGHT | Samantha and Sarah Tarleton enjoy the Defence Club at Ryan Catholic College.





GROWING TOGETHER AT ST COLMAN'S

This year is the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family. This year's theme for Year 6 and 7 students at St Colman's School is Growing Together. As a Catholic school family with a Mercy tradition, we encourage students to embrace the mercy values so that we love one another and grow together as a family. Our 2014 leaders chose to illustrate the leadership qualities they aspire to on class banners. The students were presented with their senior badges at a school Mass.

TOP | *St Colman's School leaders.*

A SENSORY GARDEN FOR ST JOSEPH'S

A sensory garden has been established at St Joseph's Catholic School, Mundingburra, through a \$500 grant from the Reef Guardian School's Ripple of Change initiative. The garden has been planted with a range of herbs, flowering shrubs and succulents that allow students to explore their environment using all five of their senses. The garden provides a quiet, welcoming area that students can visit when they need a break.

RIGHT | *Students from St Joseph's Catholic School, Mundingburra, Rose Johnson, Alice Di Bella, Abigail Mazzer and Ella-Blu Sale taste some of the herbs in the Sensory Garden.*



ST FRANCIS, HUGHENDEN ACTIVITIES



ABOVE | *Students enjoyed a visit from CSIRO scientists.*



ABOVE | *Happy faces at the swimming carnival.*

HEALTH & WELL-BEING AT MARIAN

This year at Marian Catholic School, the teachers are implementing the draft version of ACARA's Health and Physical Education Curriculum. Each lesson provides opportunities for students to engage in learning activities that are enjoyable, challenging and physical. These activities teach students how they can enhance their own health and wellbeing. The teachers and students have found the curriculum to be exciting and fun, with students showing an increase in participation and enthusiasm towards physical activity at school.

LEFT | *Students at Marian Catholic School participating in health and physical education activities.*



ABOVE | *Students working with the worm farm.*



FOCUS ON SECONDARY

BURDEKIN CATHOLIC HIGH AND MARIST COLLEGE

Burdekin Catholic High School's student leaders - Brendan Montfia, Annette Higginson, Joel Jenson and Gabriella Dal Santo - visited Marist Ashgrove College in Brisbane in January. The purpose of the event was to meet the leaders of all Marist Schools in Queensland, to share their thoughts and beliefs with the hope of becoming better leaders in the image of Marcellin Champagnat. Students participated in whole group activities, liturgies, masses and team building exercises. This was an effective time to reflect on the Burdekin Catholic High School motto, One in Christ. They returned home with a renewed mindset on how to approach leadership for 2014.

TOP | Burdekin Catholic High School leaders with Marist Ashgrove College leaders.



COLUMBA MUSIC STUDENTS ATTEND STATE HONOURS ENSEMBLE

Congratulations to Columba Catholic College students William Brennan, Dominic Brennan and Shannon Day who have been selected to attend the State Honours Ensemble Program in Cairns. This is run by the Conservatorium of Music at Griffith University and has world class directors of concert bands, choirs and string ensembles working with students intensively over a weekend. The weekend concludes with a performance demonstrating what they have learnt over the three days.

ABOVE | Columba Catholic College's music students.

SPORTING BURSARY

Burdekin Catholic High School student, Aliza Fabbro, was presented with a sporting bursary by the Member for Dawson, George Christensen. The Bursary recognises her past achievements and will assist her with future development as an outstanding sportswoman. Aliza achieved the outstanding distinction of representing North Queensland in three sports - basketball, softball and touch - as well as representing Queensland in basketball, travelling recently to an Australian carnival in Perth.

BELOW | Member for Dawson, George Christensen with Burdekin Catholic High School student, Aliza Fabbro.



NATIONAL CODING SUMMER SCHOOL

St Margaret Mary's College Year 12 student, Romany Montgomery attended the National Coding Summer School at the University of Sydney in January. Romany learned a new coding language (Python) and created a social website www.wordbyword.net.au. The experience cemented her decision in pursuing a career in information technology.

RIGHT | St Margaret Mary's College Year 12 student, Romany Montgomery.





REAL LIFE LAW

Year 11 students from St Patrick's College Townsville visited the Townsville Law Courts to learn about the law in the real world.

Having been studying the legal system for several weeks, they readily identified the courtroom participants, understood the terminology and discourse, and followed the legal arguments.

The students were also shown the Supreme Court where they undertook the roles of defendant, witness, jury, Bailiff, Prosecution and Defence lawyers and judge.

TOP | St Patrick's College students visited the Townsville Law Courts to support their legal studies.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL

Students from Catholic secondary colleges attended the Australian Catholic Youth Festival in Melbourne in December.

The Festival is a national gathering of Catholic young people established by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference.

It exists to provide young people with opportunities to deepen their relationship with Jesus, be empowered to be disciples in the world today and encounter and celebrate the vitality of the Church in Australia.

BELOW | Students from St Margaret Mary's College, Olivia Taylor, Jacinta Corkeron, Sharnathi Jayawardhana and Maddison Jones attended the Australian Catholic Youth Festival.



YOUNG CHRISTIAN STUDENTS (YCS) NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Students from Catholic secondary colleges attended the Young Christian Students National Conference in Adelaide. The biannual event consists of developing the YCS campaign for the next two years and also sets the direction for YCS locally, at a Diocesan level and nationally.

Each Diocese was asked to elect one or two people to be part of the national executive team. The Townsville diocese elected Christy Forrest from Ryan Catholic College as executive representative and Zara Cavalot from St Margaret Mary's College as deputy executive.

ABOVE | Secondary students at the Young Christian Students National Conference in Adelaide.



LEARNING & TEACHING

TECHNOLOGY TEAM AT ST FRANCIS

TOP | The St Francis School, Ayr Technology Team was established with the aim of focusing on using advanced Information Technology applications, providing demonstrations in the library and assisting with the maintenance of various classroom devices. Technology is certainly a passion for many of our students and when listening to the students it is clear that they enjoy the activities occurring within the meetings. The team work under the direction of Ms Rachel Lane.

MINI IPADS FOR TEACHERS @ SCCC



As a way of cultivating partnerships with parents, teachers of Prep – Year 6 classes at St Catherine's Catholic College have been provided with mini iPads to facilitate class blogs. The Class Blogs are regularly updated with activities and events that occur throughout the day/week.

Teachers have found the mini iPads are also useful for assessment. Unlike the shared iPads, with these as classroom devices, teachers can develop and store activities and assessment tools to suit a different multifaceted platform.

LEFT | Year 3/4 class teacher, Sophie Smith with her class mini iPad.



NUMERACY COACHES AT ST PETER'S

St Peter's School in Halifax has welcomed Katrina Wooton and Ann Wuth as their numeracy coaches for 2014. Both ladies have been assisting teachers in developing effective Mathematics sessions that specifically target the individual needs of each student. Ann Wuth is currently on the Learning Area Panel for Mathematics and works as a curriculum developer at Holy Spirit School. Katrina Wooton, also of Holy Spirit School, is a Role-M facilitator and has supported both teachers at St Peter's in the implementation of his program.

ABOVE | Ann Wuth and Katrina Wooton with children at St Peter's School, Halifax.

TRADE TRAINING CENTRE OPENS AT BCHS

The Burdekin Catholic High School Trade Training Centre was blessed by Bishop Michael Putney and officially opened by Member for Dawson, Mr George Christensen during Term 1. The Commonwealth Government made a significant grant of \$975,000 towards the overall cost of \$1,066,000.

The Trade Training Centre is a flexible training facility aimed at delivering skill training for the building and construction industry that meets the needs of school age students and the wider community.

The Centre will deliver qualifications in construction to address skills shortages in the trades of bricklayer, carpenter, carpenter and joiner, fibrous plasterer, joiner, painter and decorator and wall and floor tiler. The facility is designed to meet the needs of Burdekin Catholic High School as a registered RTO and provide a suitable facility for partner training organisations such as the Barrier Reef institute of TAFE.

RIGHT | Bishop Michael Putney blessed the Burdekin Catholic High School Trade Training Centre during the official opening in Term 1.





TOP | Teachers at St Francis School, Hughenden celebrate the arrival of their new laptops.

ACCELERATED LITERACY 2014

This term a new group of teachers began the Accelerated Literacy program, a way of teaching literacy and English, especially to students with diverse social, cultural and linguistic backgrounds.

Teachers from Gilroy Santa Maria College, Ingham; Good Shepherd Catholic College, Mount Isa; St Teresa's College, Abergowrie; and St Michael's School, Palm Island attended the first two days in Term 1. This will be followed by three more days of theoretical training over terms two and three. Teachers will also receive practical support with in-school mentoring and support over the year.

The group's trainer, TCEO Senior Education Officer, Jennifer Wills, says literacy is vital for all students to have strong choices for their futures. "Accelerated Literacy aims to equip teachers with a way to teach all students to be literate at an age appropriate level," Jenny said.

The group was fortunate to have Professor Gracelyn Smallwood give a powerful address on the importance of teachers knowing the history of our country, and of developing a good understanding Aboriginal and Torres St Islander students, families and communities.

BELOW | Teachers participated in the Accelerated Literacy program for 2014.



THE AFTERNOON BYTE



ABOVE | Holy Spirit School music teacher, Sue Laing, participates in The Afternoon Byte.

Patricia Lonergan, ICT teacher at Holy Spirit School, facilitates The Afternoon Byte, a weekly session of professional learning for staff.

On Monday afternoons, staff members gather for a quick bite of afternoon tea before working with colleagues and mentors to further develop their ICT skills. The session is self-paced and the learning is geared towards each person's needs.

THE POWER OF THE WORD

Best known as the voice of Blinky Bill and the radio program, How Green is My Cactus, Robyn Moore spoke to teachers and staff at both Good Shepherd Catholic Community School and Southern Cross Catholic School in Term 1. Robyn's address, The Power of the Word, equipped teachers with the tools to change the way we think and to empower us to enjoy our work. She also spoke about how we can deal with conflict and enhance our lives both at work and at home. Her humour, energy, inspiration and heart-warming stories about her role as Patron of the Make-A-Wish Foundation were extraordinary. Those who attended felt inspired and ready to face the challenge of a new year.

RIGHT | Robyn Moore presented to teachers at Good Shepherd Catholic Community School and Southern Cross Catholic School.





STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

DISABILITY IN-SERVICE

A number of disability in-service days were delivered by members of the Student Support Services team during February and March. Information was provided on the following disability areas: Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Intellectual Impairment (II), Speech Language Impairment (SLI), Hearing Impairment (HI) and Social Emotional Disorder (SED).

These professional development days were an opportunity for teachers and school officers to further develop their understanding about such disorders and to consider practical classroom strategies to assist students with particular needs in their classes.

TOP | [L-R] Ligia Learmonth (Teacher, St Margaret Mary's College), Megan McQuade (Guidance Counsellor, TCEO), Dr Elizabeth Jacko (Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist, Child and Youth Mental Health), Shon Denby (Teacher, St Clare's Catholic School), Kellie Burton (Guidance Counsellor, TCEO), Lesley Hutton (Guidance Counsellor, TCEO) and Tracey Nioa (Teacher, Ignatius Park College).



WELCOME TO THE TEAM

As Education Qld Advisory Visiting Teacher (AVT) services will cease in 2015, Townsville Catholic Education has employed Advisory Visiting Specialists to continue to work with and support students who experience hearing impairment, physical impairment and/or vision impairment.

Elyce Lynam, an accredited Occupational Therapist, joined the team in November 2013 as our AVS for physical impairment and vision impairment. We welcome Elyce to the Student Support Services Team. Anna Chandler is the AVS for hearing impairment.

CUED ARTICULATION TRAINING

BELOW | Prep - Year 2 teachers and JCU Speech Pathology students attended Cued Articulation training in Term 1, with Irene Peters (Townsville Catholic Education Speech Language Pathologist).





TOP | Students at Southern Cross Catholic School demonstrate their commitment to the National Day of Action against Bullying.

NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION AGAINST BULLYING

Many Catholic schools across the Townsville Diocese participated in events to mark the National Day of Action Against Bullying on Friday, 21st March.

This annual day provides a focus for all schools to say "Bullying. No Way!" It is an opportunity for schools to strengthen their existing everyday messages that bullying and violence at school are not okay, at any time.

For more information visit www.bullyingnoway.gov.au

STUDENTS OF ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE WORK AGAINST BULLYING

Year 12 students at St Patrick's College Townsville have taken up the issue of bullying in schools, using the state-wide anti-bullying week as an initiative within the College.

Patty's girls took up the Australian Government cyber safety initiative to focus on cyber bullying.

The slogan, "Don't turn a Blind Eye to Bullying", was used to create a poster that now appears throughout the College as a reminder to students to support each other.

During Anti-Bullying week, Year 12 students wore t-shirts printed with the slogan.

The whole College engaged in a session on anti-bullying and senior leaders organised inclusive lunchtime games.

Through the process of understanding and dealing with bullying, the students have learned skills and attitudes which will support them well beyond their school years.



Due to the ever growing Student Support Services team, the team relocated during term 4, 2013 to an office extension of TCEO, based in Mundingburra. Lyn Horner delivered a beautiful blessing of the new office.

ABOVE | The Student Support Services staff with Cathy Day and Lyn Horner.



ABOVE | Students from St Patrick's College wearing t-shirts promoting the slogan "Don't turn a Blind Eye to Bullying" during Anti-Bullying week.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF MOST REV. BISHOP MICHAEL E PUTNEY

CELEBRATING HIS LOVE OF OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS DURING
HIS 13 YEARS AS BISHOP OF THE TOWNSVILLE DIOCESE







NEWS FROM OUR TOWNSVILLE SCHOOLS

WINDGATE COMMUNITY CUP

TOP | Students from Good Shepherd Catholic Community School participated in the inaugural Windgate Cup, a rugby league match with children from Rasmussen State School. The event is sponsored by The Windgate Group, developers of a housing estate in Rasmussen. Several of the NQ Cowboys representatives attended the event which was a great local community celebration.



FIRE UP TOWNSVILLE!

ABOVE | On Friday, 7th March, the children at St Joseph's School, The Strand "fired up" in support of the Townsville Fire by dressing in red. Not only did they paint the town red they also supported Project Compassion by donating gold coins to the cause.



BOUND FOR SPAIN

LEFT | Gabby Bogdanek, a Year 7 student at Southern Cross Catholic School in 2013, has been selected for the Australian Under 13 Years Futsal Team.

Gabby will now represent Australia in Spain in November at the world championships.

ST MARY MACKILLOP EARLY LEARNING CENTRES - 10 YEARS!

The St Mary MacKillop Early Learning Centres have been supporting the North Queensland community for ten years. There are now six centres, located in Kirwan, Mundingburra and Rasmussen in Townsville, as well as on Palm Island, in Ingham and Mount Isa.

Supported by Townsville Catholic Education, the centres offer quality child care and early learning programs for babies through to children of five years of age. Kindergarten programs are also offered, with wrap around care available, making this a convenient option for busy parents.

Enrolment applications are welcomed. Please call your nearest centre for further information or visit www.tsv.catholic.edu.au/earlylearning

RIGHT | Children from the St Mary MacKillop Early Learning Centre, Ingham.





NEW UNIFORMS FOR SMMC

St Margaret Mary's College introduced their new uniforms in Term 1, the first major change to the College dress in a generation.

SMMC Deputy Principal Catherine Whittaker wore the former uniform when she was a student at the College. "The old uniform was wonderful, I wore it for five years in my time at SMMC, but the 50th anniversary of the College, celebrated last year, was seen as the ideal time for an update," Mrs Whittaker said.

The new uniform marks the beginning of the next half century and revisits the original school colours of royal blue, light blue, white & gold.

TOP | *St Margaret Mary's College students in the new uniforms, designed during the College's 50th anniversary celebrations in 2013.*



NEED FOR FEED

During the Christmas holidays, Ryan Catholic College ran the Diabetes Queensland cooking program, Need For Feed. Ryan Catholic College was the first school in North Queensland to host this program.

The program is available for students from Years 7 to 10. The innovative, hands-on cooking program provides students with the opportunity to master their culinary skills and confidence in the kitchen whilst enhancing their understanding and enjoyment of healthy foods. The program is designed to improve students' confidence and skills in preparing healthy food, and in the long term, contribute to curbing the rise of type 2 diabetes and other chronic diseases.

Students learnt a range of skills – cooking, cleaning up, setting the table, socializing, working as a team, reading recipes and following directions.

ST CLARE'S MAGICAL READING SHOW

On Tuesday, March 11th, the students at St Clare's Catholic School were treated to an entertaining performance by the White Wizard as he presented his Magical Reading Show. From talking parrots, to clever spiders, the action was non-stop. Students and staff were involved throughout, with lots of magical tricks and riotous laughter to be heard.

The show was organised as part of St Clare's Reading Blitz this year to ensure every child develops a love of reading. The overall message of READ TO ACHIEVE was shared with fun and enthusiasm.

BELOW | *St Clare's Magical Reading Show.*





NEWS FROM OUR BOARDING COLLEGES

There are three Catholic boarding colleges in the Townsville Diocese, offering support to families in rural and remote communities. Our boarding colleges are St Patrick's College in Townsville (all girls, Years 8-12), St Teresa's College in Abergowrie (all boys, Years 8-12) and Columba Catholic College in Charters Towers (co-educational, Years Prep-12 with boarding offered from Year 4).

TEAM SPIRIT IN GOOD SAMARITAN DORMITORY COLUMBA CATHOLIC COLLEGE

The one event that promotes team spirit at Columba is the Inter-house swimming carnival and this year was certainly a step up. The senior girls in the Good Sam Residence created spirit within the dorms by encouraging their "sisters" to support their teams by dressing for the occasion in their relative colours. This was also a great way to form friendships between the senior and junior girls.

We look forward to participating again next year.

TOP | Boarders Natalie Keough, Hannah Keough, Jinneecka Hookey, Brylee Meehan & Megan Keough dressed up ready to cheer their House Team on during the Columba Catholic College Inter-house Swimming Carnival.

MY KITCHEN RULES AT COLUMBA'S GOOD SAM RESIDENCE

One of the initiatives for this year in the Good Sam Residence at Columba Catholic College is to teach the girls life skills. The focus this term has been on cooking. It has been one of their favourite activities as the end result is ultimately eating what has been cooked. The girls choose what they would like to cook and often they cook the Saturday night meal and desert with the occasional afternoon tea of cup-cakes.



RIGHT | Boarder Caitlin Grotjahn is pictured cooking her cup-cakes. Caitlin finished her primary schooling at St Patrick's in Winton.

NEW BOARDERS WARMLY WELCOMED AT ST TERESA'S

New boarders were again warmly welcomed to St Teresa's College in Abergowrie at the start of the term. Parents and carers can keep up to date with events and activities at the college by connecting through Facebook, YouTube and Twitter [#gowrieboys](#)

RIGHT | Senior students, Rennarl Connolly, Joshua Sagigi, Benaniah Kamenai, Terry Waia and Vernon Armstrong at St Teresa's College in Abergowrie acted as tour guides for the new students arriving at the boarding college this year.

FAR RIGHT | Former student of Good Shepherd Catholic Community School (Townsville), Joequan Seden is being welcomed at St Teresa's College by Residential Secretary, Merelita Lido.





NEWS FROM OUR WESTERN SCHOOLS

GOVERNOR'S VISIT TO HUGHENDEN

TOP | The Governor of Queensland, Ms Penelope Wensley AC, visited the students at St Francis School, Hughenden in Term 1.

Pictured with the Governor are school captains, Justin Corney and Danielle Sladden, along with principal, Glenda Scrase.

COLUMBA'S STUDENT LEADERS

The Columba Catholic College community gathered on Tuesday, 10th February, for the Opening of the School Year and Induction of Student Leaders' Celebration of the Word. The theme of this year's liturgy was We walk in Faith, Hope and Love. During the Liturgy the 2014 Year 6 Leaders, Year 7 House Leaders, Year 12 School Captains, Prefects, House Leaders and all Year 12 College Leaders were presented to the College community. Various members of the College community including the Senior Leadership Team, Staff, Parents and Students were commissioned. The Year 12 College Leaders also declared their 2014 pledge which was written during one their leadership sessions.

BELOW | Columba Catholic College 2014 College Prefect Team: Cheyenne Bethel, Jessica Bryant, Lara Burns, Billy Mitchell, Martin Brennan, Gemma Kyle, Thomas Harrison and Shannon Day



"OLDEN DAYS" AT ST JOSEPH'S CLONCURRY

In Term 1, the Year 3 students at St Joseph's Catholic School, Cloncurry, learned about their community and particularly what their school was like at the beginning of the 19th century. The students and their teacher Miss Campbell dressed up in period clothes and took part in activities such as handwriting using chalk and slate, cooking damper and churning butter, playing marbles and sewing. Miss Campbell described the day as being a great success. "This has allowed the children to experience things that students in the 'olden-days' would have experienced, and will help strengthen their understanding of our local history - while having fun at the same time."



ABOVE | Miss Campbell and students dressed in period costume.

1RAR BAND TOWNSVILLE VISITS MOUNT ISA



The students at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School were privileged to have the 1RAR Army band from Townsville visit and perform during Term 1. Following the performance, all woodwind, brass and percussion students had the opportunity work with the band at the Mount Isa School of the Air. Students worked with one of the Army musicians, learning posture, technique, reinforcing notes, breathing and tone production.

LEFT | The 1RAR Band Townsville performed for students at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Mount Isa.

ST JOSEPH'S GLOVED UP TO CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA!

RIGHT | On Friday 28th March, staff and students at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Mount Isa, participated in the National Clean-up Australia in Schools Day. According to our sources, we are the only school in the district where every student and staff member is actively involved in cleaning up their patch.





NEWS FROM OUR NORTHERN & SOUTHERN SCHOOLS

CHINESE NEW YEAR

Students in Year 2/3 at St Colman's School, Ayr are learning about celebrations in Australia and around the world.

Birthdays, Christmas, Easter, Australia Day, St Patrick's Day, Queensland Day and New Years are some of the celebrations they are investigating. Part of this unit is to look at the symbols, emblems and flags that represent these celebrations including the Australian flags and Coat of Arms.

When investigating New Years, students compared their own experiences to those of children celebrating Chinese New Year.

TOP | Year 2/3 students at St Colman's School with the Nian puppets they made for Chinese New Year.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL



LEFT | A number of students from St Colman's School, Home Hill participated in the Combined Small Schools Swimming Carnival held in Ayr.

A number of students received Age Champion honours for their efforts and some were selected to represent the school at the Webber Shield Carnival the following week.

Each student tried their best and represented the school well at each of the swimming carnivals.

MINI VINNIES

BELOW LEFT | Fr Abraham officiated at the commissioning of the St Mary's School Mini Vinnies students, who will volunteer their time to visit the residents at the Murroona Gardens Nursing Home.

BELOW RIGHT | The Mini Vinnies team for 2014 at St Francis School, Ayr.





RIPPLES OF CHANGE AWARD

Katie Finch from the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority presented St Catherine's Catholic College with the Ripples of Change Award for 2014. This award is through Reef Guardian schools, a program that encourages schools to commit to the protection and conservation of the Great Barrier Reef.

This year St Catherine's will be implementing a new environmental action plan on the Manresa Campus. The money from the Ripples of Change Award will go towards two main projects - creating vegetable gardens and planting a wetlands.

The aim of the first project is to create sustainable vegetable gardens that will be utilized by students in Science, Home Economics and Learning Enrichments programs. The gardens will be fertilized using compost created from food scraps that would usually be binned. The scraps will be broken down using a worm farm and then used as fertilizer.

The wetlands project will help educate students about this type of ecosystem, including investigating abiotic and biotic factors in the environment, especially regarding native plants and animals.

Students are excited to get involved in these projects and looking forward to increasing the environmental awareness within the school community.

TOP | Katie Finch (Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority) presents St Catherine's Catholic College with the Ripples of Change Award.



ABOVE | St Francis School, Ayr was presented with a \$500 Ripples of Change grant during Term 1. The grant will be used to create artworks about keeping the reef clean and safe.



PRIME MINISTER'S MEDAL

LEFT | Congratulations to Year 2 student Danielle Napier from St Mary's School, Bowen on receiving the Prime Minister's Medal as a 2013 NAIDOC Week winner.

Danielle entered in the NAIDOC week colouring-in/short story competition and was one of fifteen recipients who received this award in Queensland. Danielle received her medal at assembly during Week 2.

BURDEKIN'S AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

Burdekin Catholic High School students were recognized at the Burdekin Australia Day Awards.

Alicia Kirk (*TOP RIGHT*) received the award for Junior Citizen of the Year and Junior Sportsperson. Alicia represented the Burdekin in four different sports, was selected in NQ teams in two different sports and gained selection in a QLD team. Throughout 2013, Alicia volunteered over 88 hours of service to the community, coaching and refereeing junior basketball teams. She was a demonstrator and coaching assistant for Burdekin Basketball Coaching Clinics and worked in the canteen as well.

Amaia Licciardello (*BOTTOM RIGHT*) received the Junior Cultural Award for her outstanding community involvement in Burdekin cultural activities. She had lead roles in many 'Burdekin Singers' musicals, showcased her abilities in the Burdekin and Townsville Eisteddfods, and performed in numerous local events, including singing the national anthem for the 2013 Cabinet Meeting held in the Burdekin.

