Principal’s Message

Each year, Ms Pam Betts, Executive Director of Brisbane Catholic Education (and past student of Our Lady’s) focuses on a theme. This year the theme is ‘treasuring our story’. As we come to the close of Term 1, there has been and is, much to treasure!

Our Story began with Jesus!

This week is the holiest week of the Church’s year. In the lead up to Easter, many Churches will focus liturgies around the Stations of the Cross. Why do we honour the journey that led to the Cross? It is a way of sorrow and pain, a journey that includes the crucifixion of Jesus.

This Way is pictured in Catholic Churches everywhere illustrating events along the path Jesus journeyed. Stations are stopping places – to pause of change direction, to rest or refuel, to stop and remember. Jesus stopped to rest under his heavy burden, to connect with loved ones, to accept help. Jesus stopped to refuel physically and spiritually along the Way of the Cross so that he could move closer to what seemed impossible. Jesus’ Way creates a map for our own Ways of the Cross. Life’s journey may be plagued with pain, darkened by the death of our hopes, yet brightened by new life as the final destination.

Our Story – the Australian Story – continued with St Mary MacKillop

Mary MacKillop knew the darkness of death of hopes as she encountered difficulties with the Church hierarchy and her own short-term excommunication. Last Saturday, however, we celebrated with the Sisters of Saint Joseph, the sesquicentenary (150 years) of the foundation of the order and the Sisters reflected as part of the Mass in at the Cathedral on: “Little did either of us then dream of what was to spring from so small a beginning.” From the humble beginnings of bringing education to poor rural children in Penola has sprung a congregation that now ministers throughout Australia, New Zealand, Peru, Brazil, Ireland and East Timor.

Our Story – the Queensland Story – continues with changes to Senior Schooling

There has been much media coverage about the significant changes, announced by the Queensland Government, to senior schooling in recent times.

This week, the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) has provided advice to schools updating the most recent developments and decisions.

The new senior assessment system will start with students entering Year 11 in 2018. These are the current Year 9 students. They will be the first to receive an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) instead of an OP when they graduate from Year 12 in 2019.

As well as the move to an ATAR, the new system will use both school-based assessment and common external assessment. Already, the QCAA has put in place practices to ensure quality and comparability of school-based assessment. Work will continue in this area.

The Queensland story for senior education is 40 years long with the system having 100% school-based assessment. In the new system, subject results will be based on a student’s achievement in three (3) school-based assessments and one external assessment that is set and marked by QCAA. This is a reduction in assessment – emphasizing quality over quantity.

Because of the type of learning associated with Maths and Science, the external assessment will contribute 50% to a student’s overall result. In most other subjects, the external assessment will contribute 25%. The school-based
assessments will not be scaled by the results of the external assessment when calculating a student’s subject result.

Work continues on the calculation of the ATAR. Student’s subject results will only be used (no Queensland Core Skills Test). Development of a process of inter-subject scaling is yet to be finalized by the Senior Secondary Assessment Taskforce. As further information is released to schools, we will advise the direction. Be assured that this is a focus for our Curriculum Team at Our Lady’s as we plan for the introduction of this system in 2018.

An Our Lady’s Treasure!

Congratulations to Ad Altiora Place – under the leadership of Mrs Maureen Twomey and supported by Mr Hai Le and Ms Michelle Hayward, our library is listed in the Queensland libraries honour list! We thank this great team for their dedication to providing excellent support to our girls. We continue to push forward in developing programs for reading, digital literacy, critical thinking and research skills.

Nearly 600 students, teachers, parents, principals, library staff and other members of the community nominated more than 200 school libraries across Australia. There was a good mix of government, Catholic and independent; K-12, primary and secondary schools, and supporting materials included drawings, stories, quotes and photographs showing how much these libraries are valued."


AND

"New report shows the impact of teacher librarians on student outcomes. At the same time as announcing the 2015 Great School Libraries, FAIR has published a new report on the impact of school libraries and teacher librarians, focusing on the three areas where libraries make a unique contribution – reading, digital literacy, critical thinking and research skills."


Great work Ad Altiora Place!!

Shalom

Paula Goodwin
Principal

Teaching and Learning

It has been a very busy term—filled with much joy and laughter as we welcomed the Year 7’s and other students at varying Year levels into our College. There have been camps, sleepovers, the Opening Mass and the New Families BBQ, swimming carnivals and special academic assemblies. Students have completed their first sets of exams and Term One reports have been finalised. It is now time to take a break—to reflect and rejuvenate—ready to leap back into learning in Term Two.

Term Two brings a fresh opportunity for students to engage with their learning at Our Lady’s College. Integral to this renewal are the Parent / Teacher / Student Interviews held on Wednesday May 4. During this time, important discussions should focus on what your daughter can do to plan for growth throughout the term in her studies, as well as other areas of life. It is important that these interviews are seen as more than just a “catchup on grades”, but rather a discussion about skills and attitudes required for real and measureable improvement to occur and how these can be supported in the home to achieve maximised results for all students.

Reports Online

Recently, the capacity to be able to publish student reports securely to the Parent Portal has become available for BCE Schools. This facility means that reports can now be distributed to parents without the usual delays resulting from printing, processing and using Australia Post. This secure site ensures that parents have access to their daughters’ reports (as a family) in the one location. A copy of the report can be downloaded and stored for more permanent record keeping by parents. The Parent Portal has the ability to store two previous reports for parents to view and print if necessary. Scholarship applications will be simplified with electronic copies of reports available for Year 12 students as well.

Semester Two Report for 2015 is available now for parents and the Term One Interim Report 2016 will also be available electronically from the last day of Term One. Paper versions of the Term One Interim Reports will still be posted with a letter outlining the changes to report printing in time for the End of Semester One Reports in June.

Importantly, Semester One 2016 End of Semester Reports will only be published electronically via the Parent Portal. Parents who do not have access to the internet will be able to request a printed copy instead. Parents who need assistance accessing the Parent Portal can make contact with the College.

2016 Next Step survey

The Queensland Government is conducting its annual statewide survey of all students who completed Year 12 in the previous year. The Next Step survey is a brief, confidential survey that gains a comprehensive picture of the employment, study and life choices made by Queensland school completers in the year after they finish Year 12.

Between March and June, all our students who completed Year 12 last year can expect to receive instructions to complete a web-based survey or a telephone call from the Queensland Government Statistician’s Office to complete the survey. Please encourage them to take part. If their contact details have changed, please assist the interviewer with their updated details or forward the survey to their new address so they can participate.

Thank you for your support of the Next Step survey in 2016.

Further information on Next Step is available online at www.education.qld.gov.au/nextstep/ or on toll free telephone 1800 068 587.
It has been a busy term with the usual start of the year activities finding their place in what has felt like 9 very short weeks. There have been camps, sleepovers, the Opening Mass and the New Families BBQ, swimming carnivals and special academic assemblies. Despite the hectic pace of the term there has been much joy and laughter filling the halls of the College and it is great to see the Year 7 students beginning to feel at home amongst the other students and in the school grounds. It is now time to take a break—to reflect and rejuvenate—ready to leap back into learning in Term Two.

Over the holidays please support your daughters to truly reflect and rejuvenate. Help them to note the success they experienced in the first term. Encourage that reflection to move outside the area of grades and into learning techniques, study habits, motivation etc. Also support your daughter in examining her social interactions and note if there are areas that she should feel proud of or areas that she may need improve on before returning next term. In addition to this reflection, remember to also encourage rejuvenation. Support your daughter in stepping away from social media for some time each day. Instead encourage that she makes time to interact with people, nature, stories through film or print and to embrace some physical activity. All of these habits should assist your daughter in making the most of the break and should see her return to school motivated to do well in Term 2.

Happy Easter, I hope you have an enjoyable and safe break over the holiday period.

Dona Archer
Assistant Principal
Student Wellbeing (Acting)

This calls us to do likewise, even in the midst of troublesome times when we tend to focus on our own needs.

We have to offer healing rather than inflict pain, we have to open our hearts to truth and we have to see through our own troubles to reach out to others and offer forgiveness.

Holy Week began with the journey of Palm Sunday and we have to continue the full journey with Jesus, through his Passion and death and to his Resurrection.

PHOTOS

College Photos will be taken in Term 2 on the 5 and 6 May. Information regarding ordering and costing has been sent to you via email and copies of this can be found on the parent portal.

The Photo sessions include PC group photos and individual photos as well as some College groups. For students in Year 10-12 it is recommended if you have a new dress uniform, to wear instead of the older dress and skirt.

A schedule will be put out at the start of next term.

TEMPLE EXCURSION

This week Year 11 students were given their permission forms for the visit to the Chung Tian Buddhist Temple. This is an opportunity for the girls to explore sacred spaces and practices of other religions. If the forms haven’t already been returned, please do so. A copy is on the parent portal if the original copy has been lost.

In God’s love,

Linda Brandenburg
Assistant Principal
Religious Education

HARMONY DAY

This week we celebrated the feast of St Joseph and Harmony Day. We acknowledged Joseph’s refugee status and ‘put up our hands’ to show our support for those seeking refuge in Australia today. Many girls proudly paraded the fashions from their varied cultural traditions in a tribute to the cultural diversity that is our gift at OLC. A shared pizza lunch was a fitting way to celebrate and also raise funds for Caritas.

IGNITE LAUNCH

Ignite Launch is taking place on Saturday 30 April at Warner Brothers Movie World. Ignite Launch draws over 300 young people for a full day of rides and attractions followed by dinner,
a dance party, live worship concert and a short inspirational talk introducing Jesus and his call for us to impact our world with love. For more information check their website. Ignite Youth Launch

PROJECT COMPASSION

Project Compassion boxes were collected for the last time today.

Thank you for supporting us this year as we celebrate 50 years of Project Compassion. You are helping to empower the world’s poorest children, women and men with vital learning and renewed hope.

Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia!

HOLY WEEK CEREMONY

On Tuesday the Liturgy Committee modelled the service leadership of Jesus by cleaning the shoes of their fellow students (in lieu of washing their feet). Today the senior drama class led us in a reflective presentation of the Holy Week story as seen through the eyes of a child. The girls helped us reflect effectively on the story of Jesus’ passion and the significance of his death on the cross.

PRAYERS PLEASE

We rejoice with our guidance counsellor, Anna Wallace, and her husband, Scott Witheridge, who were married last weekend. May their marriage be blessed with long lasting love.

May you experience the blessings and joy of Easter,

Kay Holmes

Campus Minister

Guidance Counsellor

The holidays are the time to reflect on the year so far and think about what went well and what you would like to do differently. Take the time to set some new goals for term two, get organised, relax and do things that are important to you.

In Term 2 Jo Bassett from Headspace Woolloongabba will be running wellbeing programs with our Year 8, 9 and 11 students. Headspace is a government-funded organisation that provides free and confidential counselling and services for young people. The wellbeing programs are designed to build awareness, knowledge and skills that:

- Offer protection from mental health issues
- Build resilience
- Assist people from recovering from mental illnesses

The topic for the Year 8 and 9 students is “Less Stress and More Joy: A campaign to living a happier life” and will focus on understanding obstacles to happiness, managing stress, and creating goals. The program for Year 11 students is “Less Procrastination and More Success: A guide to making goals work for you” and will address procrastination, making positive changes, creating goals that work, and taking sustainable action towards goals. I will share more information about the pastoral programs next term.

Wellbeing Information and Resources

Free and confidential counselling service for young people. Headspace provides support, information and advice for young people aged 12-25 years. There is a headspace centre in Woolloongabba and Inala. Drop in or telephone one of the centres to make an appointment. The Woolloongabba centre also has a Youth Only zone where you can chill out.


Career Information and Resources

Brisbane Careers and Employment Expo

The Expo provides information for school leavers to choose career pathways and improve their employment prospects. There will be interactive seminars, apprenticeship and traineeship opportunities.

Friday 27 and Saturday 28 May 2016


Start QUT

High-achieving Year 12 students have an opportunity to extend their studies in their final year of school by completing one or two university units. On successful completion students will receive credit for these units that counts towards a related bachelor degree at QUT.

Applications open on the 1 March and close in May.

https://www.qut.edu.au/study/high-school-levels/
FEAST in 2016

Future Experiences in Agriculture, Science and Technology (FEAST) is a 5-day residential program designed to inspire and inform high school students of the range of science careers in these industries.

The camp is on during the June school holidays. Registrations close 24 April 2016.
http://www.science.uq.edu.au/feast

Wishing you all a safe and happy Easter and holiday! Till next time,

Anna Wallace
Guidance Counsellor

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Sport

It has been an exciting few weeks for Sport at the College.

Firstly our Swimming team competed at the Inter School CaSSSA Shield competition. After a nourishing 7am breakfast cooked by our Leadership team and House Leaders, the team departed for the Brisbane Aquatic Centre, Chandler in good spirits. All age groups performed well throughout the day against some strong competition in an exciting (and noisy) atmosphere. I am pleased to announce that Our Lady’s College won the aggregate trophy for the first time in a number of years and that our 12 and under team were awarded the third place ribbon for their “mighty” efforts. All the hard training over the previous months resulted in this success and all swimmers left the Chandler centre with heads held high and a spring in their step. We are hoping to build on this success for 2017 and training will begin again in term 4. Well done everyone!

We now turn our attention to Cross Country and students have already begun training on Thursday afternoons. Our Carnival takes place early next term at Yeronga Park where the Inter School team will be chosen to represent the College at the Inter School CaSSSA competition in May at Limestone Park, Ipswich. Good luck to all runners.

Continuing with our sporting success, I am pleased to announce that Esther Abiya (year 7) came a close 5th in the State Athletics 400Metres at the weekend – an amazing achievement! Also several of our students trialled for the Met East AFL team and two were selected. Congratulations to Sarive Zena and Nyohmi Stephenson (1st reserve). As our sports program continues to grow we are hopeful that more of our students will trial for Met East in other sports and represent the College at a higher level.

Our Netball program also begins in term two in preparation for the QC Cup, which takes place in May. Students have already signed up and trials will take place in week 1 next term. We are hoping for another good tournament following the success of our Open team last year.

Finally, Wednesday Sport continues to flourish with an increasing number of students participating in Volleyball, AFL, Cricket and Touch Football. We continue to have a number of successes across all sports and we are already into week 5 of our first sports trimester. Whilst success is always good, the benefits of being active are far reaching and I encourage our students to be involved at whatever level they are comfortable with. There are many opportunities available throughout the year in a number of wide ranging sports. Please keep up to date with our fixtures on the College portal.

John Boumford
HPE & Sports Middle Leader

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Year 10 News

Term 1 Year 10 Camp 2016
Year 10 Camp: “From Our Comfort Zone to Our Courage Zone”

In Term 1 the Year 10 girls eagerly set off to an outdoor adventure based camp with a program of challenging activities planned that would take them “from our comfort zone to our courage zone”.

Maranatha Camp in Yandina on the Sunshine Coast situated amongst the bushland of the Mapleton Forest and Wappa Falls on the Maroochy River was their home for 3 days.

The adventure activities of the camp, including high rope courses, flying fox, abseiling, river rafting, the tower of tremble, the leap of faith and the possum pull, were collectively the most challenging, exhilarating and terrifying camp activities the girls’ had ever undertaken.

With little complaining (much) the girls bravely faced each heart pounding activity the instructors presented to them. The sounds of girls screaming as they swung through the air on the flying fox, leapt from a suspended plank in the leap of faith or navigated the high ropes commando course, were drowned out by the cheers of encouragement from the girls and staff on the ground, willing each other on.

They truly went from their comfort zone to their courage zone and have come back a different group of girls. Having the courage to overcome some of the obstacles placed before them at school will now be so much easier.

Thanks must go to the staff that accompanied the Year 10 girls and involved themselves in all the challenging activities on offer. The PC team including Kate Brims, Gordon Stacey, Graham Hockless, Celeste Amos and College counsellor Anna Wallace certainly made these camp days lots of fun, building stronger
pastoral care relationships with the girls and providing them with a memorable camp experience.

Celeste Amos  
Year 10/11 PC Middle Leader

Ad Altiora Place:

Ad Altiora Place

‘more than just a library - a learning centre of information, instruction, immersion, inquiry and innovation’.

Author’s Visit – This week we welcome author Lynette Noni to our College. Lynette will be presenting to our Year 11 students on Thursday 24 March. More information about Lynette Noni can be found at her website http://lynettenoni.com/

AAP BookChat - Our book club meets face-to-face each term and also holds book discussions and sharing of book reviews through our group on GoodReads (https://www.goodreads.com/). The titles we are currently reading for discussion in Term 2 are The Ocean at the end of the Lane by Neil Gaiman and The Girl Most Likely by Rebecca Sparrow. Our Term 2 meeting will be held on Monday, 16 May.

Reader’s Cup 2016 – A dedicated team of students from Year 7 and 8 have nominated to be part of the team for the Reader’s Cup competition this year. The students will begin reading the allocated books this week in preparation for the competition which will take place on Wednesday 15 June at 6.00pm at Brisbane Boy’s Grammar.

Digital books and audio books Our College library has a wide range of digital books and audiobooks available for students to borrow using their school laptops. Any student who is unsure of how to access and downloads these books can visit the library during break time for assistance. A brief tutorial on how to access this digital collection usually takes about 10 minutes.

Laptops – All students are reminded to ensure that their laptops are in good repair. Any issues with batteries, software or physical damage need to be dealt with as soon as the issue appears. Repair services are available before school and during break times.

BCE Connect – Now available BCE Connect is our new mobile app now available free from the app store for your mobile device. The app gives you mobile access to the parent portal including that latest news and announcements. Parents can log into the portal via the app and notify the college of absences or detail changes while on the go. If you need any assistance in setting up or using the app please contact Maureen Twomey by email at mtwomey@bne.catholic.edu.au

Follow Our Lady’s College on Twitter @OLC4103 for the latest updates, news and information.

Follow Our Lady’s College Instagram – olc4103

Maureen Twomey  
Teacher-Librarian/eLearning Middle Leader

Japanese Department

A Taste of Japanese at UQ for Year 12

On Friday 19 February, the Year 12 Japanese class attended A Taste of Japanese at the University of Queensland. Staff and students of the Japanese department of the School of Languages and Cultures presented a program of stimulating activities and mini classes for Year 12 students of Japanese. About 100 students from 13 schools participated in activities which included the UQ Great Race, games, language learning sessions and conversations with UQ staff and students. Our students thought it was a great opportunity to utilise their Japanese language skills to interact with other high school students of Japanese and explore further Japanese studies.

Di Kelly  
Japanese Teacher

Yoshiwara 2016 Homestay

Students from Yoshiwara High School will be visiting with us again this year from 18 July to 5 August.

We are looking for host families for these students. Please open the link below for further information.

Parents & Friends News

P & F Working Bee

We will be holding our first Working Bee for the year on Sunday 17 April, commencing at 8.00am – 12.00noon.

The purpose of this working bee is to plant out the new Home Economics vegetable garden.

Please come along and help us green our school.

For further information please contact either myself (0433 845 307) or Jacque Boon (0412 443 020).

Or register your interest by emailing the College – sannerley@bne.catholic.edu.au

The next P & F meeting will be held on Tuesday 19 April, commencing at 7.00pm

Steve Weier  
President – OLC Parents & Friends

Past Pupils News

Attached please find your invitation to Our Lady’s Past Pupils Association Fashion Parade to be held on Sunday 17 April at 2:00pm in the College Hall. For further details please click on the link below.
## Important Dates and Deadlines

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<td>End of Term 1</td>
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<td>25 March - Friday</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<td>25 March – 8 April</td>
<td>School Holidays</td>
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<td>27 March - Sunday</td>
<td>Easter Sunday</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 April – Monday</td>
<td>Term 2 begins</td>
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<td>13 April – Wednesday</td>
<td>Rd 6 AFL/IC/SVB/JT (draw on website and Parent Portal)</td>
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<td>15 April – Friday</td>
<td>Spirit Day</td>
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<td>16 April - Saturday</td>
<td>Rd 6 Tennis (draw on website and Parent Portal)</td>
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<td>17 April – Sunday</td>
<td>Past Pupils Fashion Parade from 2:00pm Parents &amp; Friends Working Bee 8:00am – 12:00noon</td>
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<td>18 April – Monday</td>
<td>Inter-House Cross Country</td>
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<td>19 April – Tuesday</td>
<td>Parents &amp; Friends Meeting 7:00pm</td>
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## Absentees

**Please Phone:** 07 3426 8095 prior to 9.00 am daily  
**Email Link:** www.ourladysoftherising.qld.edu.au  
**Absentee Email:** absenteeOLC@bne.catholic.edu.au  
**Or via the Parent Portal**