



Mr Ian Margetts
Principal

21st February 2020

Principal's Report

Last Friday I had the opportunity to talk about Valentine's Day with the students. Fr Valentine (now Saint Valentine) was a priest in Rome at the time of Emperor Claudius II. The story goes that Emperor Claudius, urgent to recruit soldiers for his armies, decreed that all weddings be suspended so as to encourage more single, unfamilied men to serve in combat. Seeing the anguish of the young couples forbidden to marry, St Valentine allegedly performed secret weddings in defiance of the Emperor.

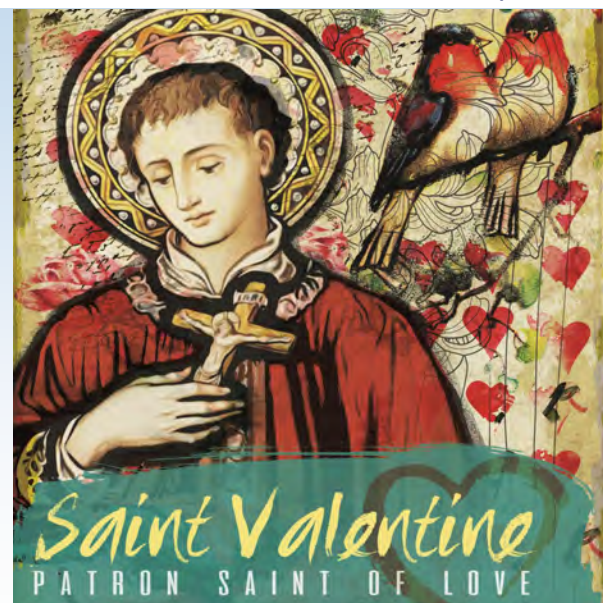
Another legend holds that while awaiting his execution, St Valentine restored the sight of his jailer's blind daughter. On the eve of his death, he is reported to have penned a farewell note to the young girl signing it, "From your Valentine". (taken from <http://www.acmfc.org.au/st-valentines-day-2013/>)

Whilst Saint Valentine is the Patron Saint of engaged couples, happy marriages, and love, at assembly we spoke of how we celebrate the Great Love, Jesus. Jesus invites us to join him in an everlasting covenant; an eternal love that is reflected in the love of each and how we treat each other.

Students were asked to reflect on 'How do we say yes to God's love?. Perhaps by;

- Looking out for others
- Being a peace maker
- Being respectful of each other
- Being kind
- Helping those in need

Our Year 11 students are leading the way in supporting those in need. Many students have requested permission to raise money for Project Compassion. 'Project Compassion is Caritas Australia's annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal. Millions of Australians come together in solidarity with the world's poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity' (<https://lent.caritas.org.au/#>). The first of these fundraisers is on this Friday evening when a group of Year 11 students are organising a Valentine's Disco in Mercy Hall.



On Tuesday evening a small but keen group of staff and former students gathered to hold the first organising committee meeting for the 2021 Centenary Celebrations. We hope to have dates and a program out to the community in the coming fortnight. If you are interest in joining the committee or receiving updates please email

msbcentenary@cns.catholic.edu.au

Last week we celebrated our Opening Mass. During our mass we had the opportunity to come together in community and give thanks for the gift of education. There is an old adage, 'it takes a village to raise a child' so with this in mind, and with this new school year ahead of us, we acknowledged during this time that staff, parents and families, community members and the students themselves have very important roles to play. The staff of the College were asked to place the young people of this school at the heart of their work and of their professional lives; the parents, and families, were asked to stay engaged with their children during this time of secondary schooling so that we can work together in every way possible as they accompany and guide their young people on their journey to adulthood; the community was asked to continue to support this important work that begun almost 100 years ago by the Mercy sisters and which continues today; and finally the students were asked to be full of hope, open to everything the school can offer them, and be ready to grow into young men and women whose lives are enriched and fulfilled by knowing that we all support you and believe in you. Education is a journey and in our mass we asked God's blessings on us all on this very important journey.





We also acknowledge our Year 12 Captains during this time. We wish the following student all the best in their important student leadership roles;

- College Captain - Nathan Everett
- College Captain - Chelsea Petersen
- College Vice Captain - Hamish Burnett
- College Vice Captain - Des-Ziair Shorey-Collins
- Boarding Captain – Yarus Blanket
- Boarding Captain – Tanisha Vincent
- Boarding Vice-Captain – Timmothy Lyall
- Boarding Vice-Captain - Jessica Gagai

And finally, our scholarship recipients received their due acknowledgement. These students were;

- Liam Hedges – Sr Mary McHugh General Excellence Scholarship
- Megan Trezise – Sr Mary McHugh General Excellence Scholarship
- Becky Purt - Sr Pam Murray Performing Arts Scholarship
- Meenakshi Riber – Sr Pam Murray Performing Arts Scholarship
- Johnny Yuen – Sr Mary Randle Year 7 Academic Scholarship
- Dakota Dunford – Colleen and Frank Sims Academic Scholarship



Prior to the commencement of Mass, we had the opening of the Judith Koehler Memorial Yarning Circle. We were very pleased that that Jude's family members, Romy and Michael are able to be here for the occasion. Jude certainly had a unique ability to connect with all students, whether from the local area, Cape, Gulf, NT or the Torres Strait and we hope that this circle will provide staff with a venue to continue Jude's legacy of connecting with students and support students to connect with each other. We acknowledge and thank the College P&F for their financial and organisational support of this project.

Looking forward to another busy fortnight ahead!

Ian Margetts—College Principal



Assistant Principal - Student Wellbeing Report



During this coming fortnight students will be learning about responsibility and what that looks like in different situations.

When students are at MSB they are responsible for being punctual to class, prepared for the learning process to begin, productive while they are in class and polite with the staff and students around them.



Mr Dan Niemerg



We want them to take control and responsibility for their lives and what is best for them and those around them.

It is the human experience of being able to control our own life with our thoughts, feelings, words and actions. We want all students to understand that they hold the ability to make the best of every situation they find themselves in as long as they respond responsibly.

**Dan Niemerg - Assistant Principal
- Student Wellbeing**

HEALTH CLINIC NEWS

Dear Parents and Students,

Every year Mount St Bernard College in partnership with Mulungu Mareeba Primary Health Care offer hearing screening to every student attending the college. Hearing plays a huge role in a child's learning and we at Mount St Bernard College want your child to have the best learning possible.

Chantal Hunter is a Health Practitioner who works for Mulungu and travels to different Tableland schools to perform the hearing testing. The hearing screening is a free service and runs out of the health clinic during school time. If you wish for your child not to have their hearing tested, please contact the Mount St Bernard health clinic on 40 961 501. Chantal Hunter will be at MSB on the following dates for screening:

Yr. 7 & 8 – 26th February

Yr. 9 & 10 – 11th March

Yr. 11 & 12 – 18th March



Dear Parents and Carers,

On the 17th of March, students in Year 7 and 10 will be receiving the following immunisations at Mount St Bernard College Health clinic:

- ◆ Yr. 7 students will receive 1 of 2 needles for HPV (human papillomavirus) & a booster for diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough (they will have the 2nd HPV vaccine later in the year)
- ◆ Yr. 10 students will receive a booster vaccine for Meningococcal

The health clinic will need all consent forms back by the 11th March in order to organise the correct amount of vaccinations. If you have a child in Yr. 7 or 10 and still do not have a consent form please contact the health clinic and talk to either Leisha or myself on 40 961 501.

Thanks,

Stef Henebery - College Nurse

Assistant Principal - Mission Report

College Opening Mass

Monday 10th February 2020

The Founder of the Sisters of Mercy, who went on to found MSB, was known to say: *"We should be as the compass that goes around its circle without stirring from its centre. Our centre is GOD, from whom all our actions should spring as from their source"* (Catherine McAuley). And so our custom at the start of each year is to gather as one MSB family (students, staff, parents and friends of MSB) in prayer with God, our Centre and Source. In doing so, we also offer thanksgiving for what blessings we have and we dedicate all that we will achieve this coming year.



Deacon

Particularly special parts of every year's Opening Mass include: the commissioning of student leaders (College and Boarding Captains and Vice Captains); the presenting of student scholarships; and the welcoming of new staff. It is always wonderful when parents are able to join us for these special moments; many of whom proudly supporting their son/daughter as they are presented with their leadership badge or scholarship. Naturally, though, most parents are unable to make it to these events due to long distances or work commitments and we recognise that.

Musically, this Mass saw the restoration of an important part of MSB heritage which had become somewhat forgotten in recent years: the singing of *The Mount St Bernard College Song* for our opening hymn. Past generations of MSB students had sung this song with much gusto and pride; but, sadly, in recent years the song had almost disappeared. Written between 1949 and 1950 by MSB students, Sheila McLaughlin and Mary Marsh, it had over the decades become a veritable anthem rallying students and past students across the decades. "You couldn't imagine MSB without the College Song" would be a sentiment held by many alumni.

Also sung with great vigour was our closing hymn *Go Make A Difference*, which includes a reference to the MSB motto: *Let Your Light Shine*. Our Opening Mass for 2020 was indeed a re-centring on who we are and our mission.

Particular thanks go to the staff and students involved with music (instrumental and choral) and who carried out various roles through the Mass.



Year Twelve Retreat

Wednesday 12th – Friday 14th February 2020

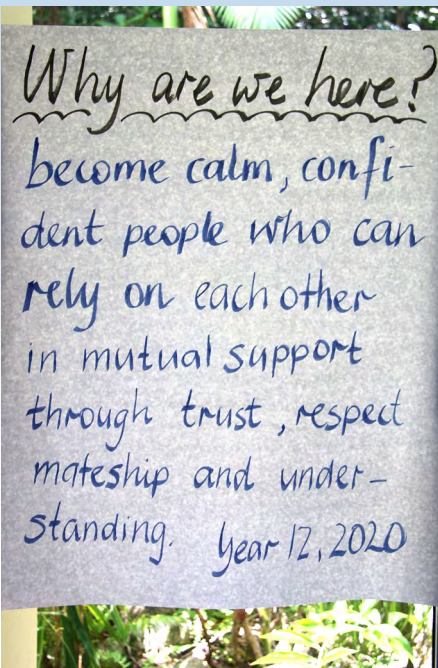
While on Monday at our Opening Mass we commissioned those students who take on special roles of leadership this year as Captains or Vice Captains; on Wednesday-Friday of that same week the Year 12 students went away as a whole group to focus on their shared role as leaders of the College. Whether they have a badge or not, each and every senior student carries the responsibility of leadership across the College. In the Chapel, it is significant that our youngest students (Year 7) sit opposite and facing our senior students (Year 12), for the Year 12 students are expected to set the example to all their younger fellow students. And so, over 12th-14th February the Year 12 students took time away from the College to explore what leadership at MSB means and to commit to concrete ways they can live that out each day.

Central to who we are at MSB is the example and spirituality of Catherine McAuley, the founder of the Sisters of Mercy who built and served MSB for most of its history. With such a legacy to draw upon, Year 12 students explored various aspects of Catherine's example and spirituality (ie: the "Mercy Charism"). At MSB, we have summarised that to five key values: **Community, Respect, Mercy, Excellence, Wisdom**. The Year 12s spent some time unpacking what these might mean for them and how they might look across different parts of MSB life.

They also took time to reflect on the examples of various world leaders – both good and bad – throughout the ages, and distilled from their examples a list of desirable leadership characteristics for MSB.

Equally as important was the many opportunities to just simply spend time with one another and have fun with each other. Coming to know one another better is invaluable for building a stronger cohort.

God bless the Senior Class of 2020 and may each student in his or her own way make a valuable contribution to MSB this year and thereby enable others to **Let their light shine**.



Ash Wednesday

Wednesday 26th February 2020

This coming Wednesday (26th February) is the start of the great and holy season of Lent. Traditionally, Lent is a season of renewing our relationship with God and one another through increased prayer, fasting and almsgiving (charity). Ash Wednesday is the beginning of Lent and includes the ritual of receiving blessed ashes on our foreheads as we are invited to **“turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel”**. For those who are less religious, it is a ritual way of **turning a new leaf** and **resolving** to make a positive contribution to one’s own life and the lives of others, inspired by Gospel values.



The College will gather for reflection, prayer as we commence this period of prayer, fasting and almsgiving in the Chapel on Wednesday morning, where we will also receive the blessed ashes as a sign of our fresh start.

At this Ash Wednesday liturgy, we will also launch our annual **Project Compassion** campaign. Each year, Project Compassion raises much needed funds for vital aid and development projects for the world’s most poor and vulnerable. This year’s focus projects include supporting:

Rain water tanks and emergency food for domestic violence shelters in Papua New Guinea.

Primary industry skills to enable villages in Malawi to support themselves.

Train-the-trainer workshops in remote Australian indigenous communities to empower locals in building better communities.

Training disabled women in India with work skills to liberate them from an otherwise certain lifetime of poverty.

As the ashes are placed on the foreheads of students, staff and other visitors this year, we will say the following words as a personal challenge to each person in light of our Project Compassion: **“God is Love – go transform your world with Love.”**

During this Lent, may we all re-commit to living lives grounded in **Love** – after all, Jesus himself said that this is the whole of the law of God summarised in one word.

Deacon Michael Lindsay - Assistant Principal - Mission

Deputy Principal - Curriculum & Administration

In 2020 students will remain firmly focussed on applying the GRIT principle to learning, whether that be within the confines of a classroom or in the playground. This simple formula provides students with steps for achieving their personal learning goals. Students are encouraged to set goals that are clear, achievable and intentional and then exercise resilience, courage and perseverance to overcome pending challenges.

Through this, students are encouraged to focus upon their own personal growth and the 'little things' which have contributed to it.



Mr Matt Brauer

In 2020 MSB boasts a variety of junior and senior subject offerings, in order to cater for all areas of student interest and ability. Students have been guided and supported in their transition into new subject areas and encouraged to make informed decisions around their choices. Some preliminary diagnostic testing was used by teachers to support decision-making and ensure student class placement was responsive to their needs.

Students displayed exemplary persistence when completing these tasks and should be commended.

Matt Brauer - Deputy Principal - Curriculum & Administration



PARENT & CARERS CONTACT DETAILS -

ARE YOUR DETAILS UP TO DATE?

Parents please logon to the Parent Portal and check all your details are correct at the following link then select My Details.

<https://extranet16cns.bne.catholic.edu.au/parent/msb/Pages/default.aspx>

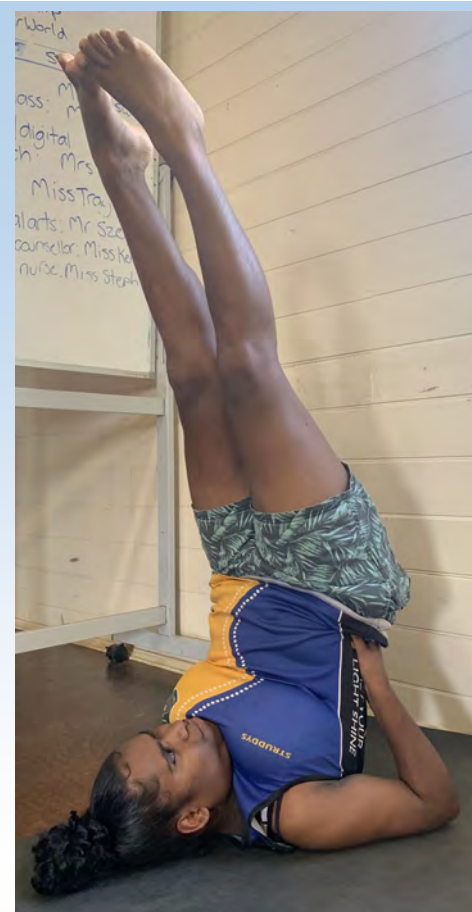
Alternatively email msb.office@cns.catholic.edu.au or phone 4096 1444 to advise.

We want to ensure we have the most current contact details .

The Mount St Bernard 2019 School Magazine and 2020 College Calendar have been mailed home. Enjoy.



Residential News



YOGA WITH MISS TRAY—Last year, Miss Traylea completed a Certificate of Teaching at Knoff Yoga, Cairns. She is currently teaching the 'Level 1-Discovery Syllabus' to staff and girls from MSB.

Miss Traylea wanted to share her passion for yoga philosophy, ethics and lifestyle. "It is my wish, to encourage students to seek new ways to deal with life's struggles, stress, anxiety or depression. We all need alignment in our life and the yoga mat is the perfect place to start!"



2020 SCHOOL PHOTO DAY - FULL FORMAL UNIFORM

NQ School Photography

PO Box 5620 Cairns QLD 4870
Ph: 4035 5388
Fax: 4035 6865
email: info@nqsp.com.au
website: www.nqsp.com.au



NQ School Photography will be taking our school photographs on:

Monday 24th February

Order online at www.nqsp.com.au using shoot key: **C8AUZ2DQ** or return the paper form your child will receive to our photographers on the day. Sibling photos can be ordered online or by paper form at the school office.

NQ School Photography

4/90 Aumuller St, Portsmith
PO Box 5620 CAIRNS QLD 4870
Ph: 07-40355388
email: info@nqsp.com.au
website: www.nqsp.com.au

Senior Art Assessment

Unit 1: Community Markets - LOGOS

Students in Year 11 & 12 Visual Arts in Practice have completed their first piece of assessment for 2020. They developed designs in their visual diary, photographed their drawings and used Photoshop to render the images. Students learnt how to use the 'tools palette' in Photoshop to manipulate images and add text. Check out the wonderful designs by our future graphic artists. –Miss Tray



Ms Traylea Sexton

Step 1: Tahnee Stewart's drawing
in her visual diary



yerramp

Shennelle Roughsey



Emily Pedler



Kathy Richardson



Annatania Escott



Jakayda Schrieber



Tanisha Vincent



Anita Richard



Desphina Tomsana



Heidi Luke

SPORTS NEWS

Welcome to 2020,

The sport district trials are ramping up this week with a number of students trying out for a spot on the Tablelands district team. The sports on offer are volleyball, rugby league, touch and netball. Students interested in these sports have placed their name down, turned up to the meeting and attended or are about to attend trials. It is a great achievement to be selected into a district Tablelands team and/or Peninsula team for their sporting talents. MSB is proud of their sporting achievement.



Mr Ryan Mawdsley

Sporting trials and selected students who have made the district team—Well done students!

Volleyball	Rugby League (Girls)	Touch	Rugby League (Boys)	Netball
12/02	18/02	Coming up—19/02	Coming up—21/02	Coming up—21/02
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Rona Enosa-Joe * Charlie Naawi * Tahmana Misick * Doriah Tamu * Tayiesha Warria * Ranietta Mareko * Jonomick Lui * Fransica Bob * Micfreda Kiwat * Tony Harry * Peter Mauga 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Dailah Pearson * Zoe David-Sabatino * Jessica Gagai * Jacinta Lyall * Nahema Nelson * Desphina Tomsana * Anita Richard * Ashley Mudu * Rona Enosa-Joe * Janasie Bani * Taree Manuel * Pele Lui * Rose Mene * Sannah Pearson * Micfreda Kiwait * Lizikerah Luffman * Millanna Whap * Fransica Bob 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Gideon Larry * Yarus Blanket * Jonomick Lui * Daliah Pearson 11A * Zoe David-Sabatino * Sinevah Mari 9A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Yarus Blanket * Nathan Everett * Gideon Larry * Quency Babia * Kevin Maitie * Troy Walker * Cleon Doughboy * Jaukai Dempsey <p>@ Davies Park, Mareeba 10am-2pm</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Hiedi Luke * Annatania Escott * Sophie Jonsson * Blossom Turner * Teline-Anise Harris * Teri-Lee Shepherd * Becky Purt <p>@ Davies Park, Mareeba 10am-2pm</p>
All students above made the Tablelands team. Peninsula trials: 02/03 @ PCYC Edmonton	All students above made the Tablelands team. Peninsula trials: 09/03 @ Stan Williams Park	Selection unknown	Selection unknown	Selection unknown



EXCITING NEWS!:

Senior girls team won the Karyn Murphy Cup 9-a-side rugby league on Tuesday 18th of February. Excellent team work shown by all the girls and thanks to Mr Hussey for coaching. Team will advance to next stage of competition in Cairns on the 13th March.

Art Excursion to the Historic Village

Senior art students visited the Herberton Historic Village as artists last week. This visit was stimulus for research, art experimentation and photography. The concept 'Art as Lens' encouraged students to focus on 'people, place and unusual objects'. Students were delighted to go back in time to a 1920's classroom with no lights, fans or air-conditioning , no technology, very strict visible rules and the dreaded cane. They even discovered how to write on a slate.

A highlight was watching the blacksmith create weird and whacky sculptures by bending steel using heat and tools. The girls particularly loved the Toy Room and Automobiles. More photos to come as students undertake senior assessment tasks. – Miss Tray - Middle Leader The Arts

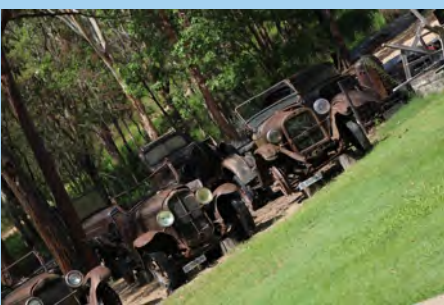
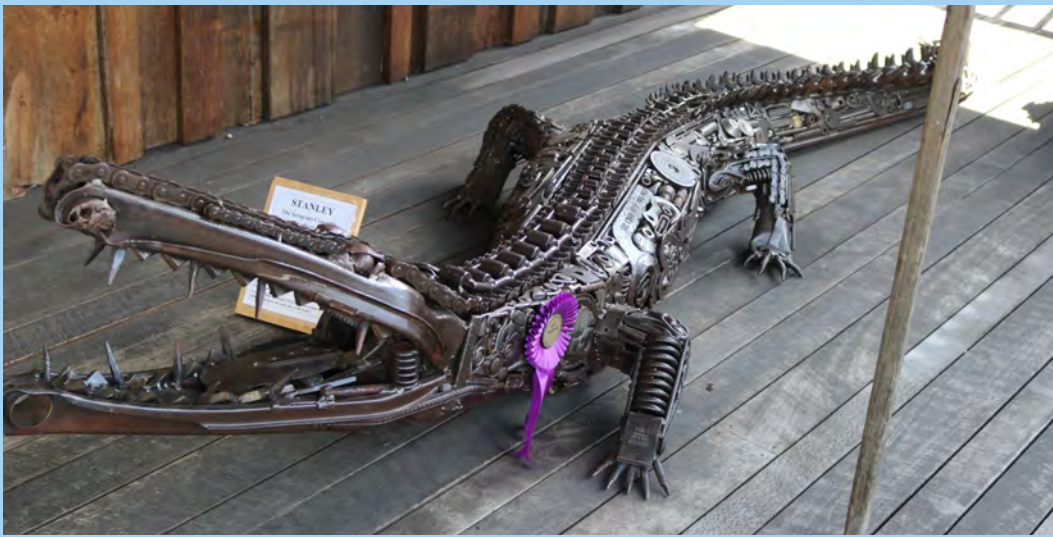


Ms Traylea Sexton



Jessica Clauss Photographs
by Zoe David-Sabatino
and Stacey Edwards.





P & F MEETING - TUES 3RD MARCH 5PM COLLEGE BOARDROOM



The College Parents & Friends Association is looking for parents or carers to join in 2020. We would welcome your ideas and involvement in the college community. To register your interest please email: hobrien1@cns.catholic.edu.au

OR IF INTERESTED, PLEASE RING HILLARY O'BRIEN ON PH: 4096 1485

Upcoming Events 2020

Mon 24 Feb - *School Photo Day*

Wed 26 Feb - *Ash Wednesday All Parent and Carers welcome 8.35am in Mercy Chapel @ MSB*

Mon 24 Feb - Fri 28 Feb - *Certificate II Rural Operations Training Block Week @ MSB*

Wed 26 Feb - *Year 7 Geography Excursion - Tinaroo Dam*

Sat 29 Feb - Sun 1 March - *Boarders Leave Weekend*

Mon 2 March - *Year 10 No Straws Excursion - Cairns*

Thurs 5 March - *MSB Cross Country*

Fri 6 March - *Year 9A Herberton Historic Village Excursion*

Tues 10 March - *Years 11 and 12 Biology Excursion - Cairns*

VOLUNTEER @ MSB

Come along and Volunteer at Mount St Bernard College.

Join us to share your skills to inspire, help and create positive experiences for our students to discover more about their community and world.

Please email dbooth@cns.catholic.edu.au or phone 4096 1444 to discuss.

"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before beginning to improve the world"

- Anne Frank



SPORTS BURSARY

Are you a Year 11 or 12 athlete competing at a state, national and/or international level?
We have two \$650 bursaries available.

APPLY AT TRC.QLD.GOV.AU
APPLICATIONS CLOSE 13 MARCH 2020

See Bursary Guidelines before applying.

